

ALTERED STATES AT THE RIFFE GALLERY



Barry Andersen, *Sheep and Standing Stone, Avebury England 2002*, digital pigment print, 16" x 20"

The Ohio Arts Council's Riffe Gallery will present *Altered States*, May 11–July 9, 2006.

Altered States features more than 100 photographs that explore altered states of reality through digital and hand manipulation.

This survey of photographic manipulation by local and regional artists celebrates diverse approaches to photography—from hand manipulation to subtle fabrication to total abstraction. In examining different perceptions of reality, *Altered States* references where photography has been and where it may be going with the advancements in digital technology.

Altered States comes to the

Riffe Gallery from the Cincinnati Arts Association's Alice F. and Harris K. Weston Art Gallery.

The exhibition is co-curated by Dennis Kiel, associate curator of prints, drawings and photographs at the Cincinnati Art Museum, and Dennis Harrington, director of the Weston Art Gallery.

A free opening reception will be held in the Riffe Gallery on May 11, 5–7 p.m.

The Riffe Gallery is supported by Ohio Building Authority. Media sponsors include Alive, CityScene, Movie Media, Ohio Magazine and Time Warner.

More information on this and upcoming exhibitions is available at the Riffe Gallery Web site at www.riffegallery.org.

16,699 ARTS-RELATED BUSINESSES IN OHIO EMPLOY 86,209 PEOPLE

The 2006 Creative Industries report offers a research-based approach to understanding the scope and economic importance of the arts in Ohio. The creative industries are composed of arts-centric businesses that range from nonprofit museums, symphonies and theaters to for-profit film, architecture and advertising companies.

Nationally, there are 548,000 businesses in the U.S. involved in the creation or distribution of the arts that employ 2.9 million people—4.3 percent of all businesses and 2.2 percent of all employees. The creative industries have remained strong in comparison to business trends nationally. Between 2004 and 2006, a time when total number of U.S. businesses dropped 0.2 percent, arts businesses decreased just 0.12 percent. Similarly, while (con't page 3)

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“Your generosity enables the [Cuyahoga Community] College again to continue to present outstanding artistic programs to diverse audiences in the greater Cleveland community. Both personally, and as President of the College, I am truly grateful for your commitment.”

—Jerry Sue Thornton, Ph.D.

“I am proud to live in the State of Ohio, where the arts are valued. There is nothing more important to the health of an organization than general operating support and the arts in Dayton are thriving because of your continuing support.”

—Lou Mason, board member, Victoria Theatre Association

“This year represents the tenth anniversary season for the Columbus Children’s Choir, and we gratefully acknowledge the continued support of the Ohio Arts Council and the State of Ohio in helping us achieve a decade of artistic excellence.”

—Jennifer Gleichauf, Development Director

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U.S. REPRESENTATIVE PATRICK TIBERI HOSTS NEA AT WORKSHOP FOR CENTRAL OHIO NONPROFIT ARTS ORGANIZATIONS



U.S. Rep. Patrick J. Tiberi of Ohio’s 12th Congressional district and Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Dana Gioia held a news conference on Wednesday, February 22 to provide an update on the Arts Endowment. The news conference was held in the Palm House at the Franklin Park Conservatory in Columbus, hosted by executive director, Paul Redman. Local arts and civic leaders attended including Ohio Arts Council Executive Director Wayne Lawson.

The workshops that followed was geared toward leaders of nonprofit arts organizations interested in applying for Arts Endowment grants. The workshops gave them a better understanding of federal arts funding opportunities and processes and were part of the Arts Endowment’s outreach to Ohio. The workshop was led by NEA Deputy Chairman Tony Chauveaux.

This year, the National Endowment for the Arts marks its 40th anniversary of leadership in the arts. The NEA is a public agency dedicated to supporting excellence in the arts, both new and established; bringing the arts to all Americans; and providing leadership in arts education. Established by Congress in 1965 as an independent agency of the federal government, the Arts Endowment is the largest national funder of the arts, bringing great art to all 50 states, including rural areas, inner cities and military bases.

For more information about the National Endowment for the Arts, call 202/682-5400 or visit www.arts.gov.



Left to Right: Paul Redman, Executive Director, Franklin Park Conservatory; Congressman Pat Tiberi; Wayne P. Lawson, Executive Director, OAC; Dana Gioia, Chairman, NEA

2006 GOVERNOR'S AWARDS FOR THE ARTS IN OHIO



Governor's Awards Winners with Governor Bob Taft

The Governor's Awards for the Arts in Ohio ceremony was held in conjunction with Arts Day, March 29, 2006. Keynote remarks were made by Governor Bob Taft.

Award categories and recipients included: Arts in Education, Jack Louiso (Cincinnati); Community Development and Participation, Southern Ohio Museum and Cultural Center (Portsmouth); Arts Administration, Nannette Maciejunes (Columbus); Arts Patron, David K. and Georgia E. Welles (Toledo); Individual Artist, Steven Bognar (Yellow Springs); Business Support of the Arts, Park National Bank (Newark). The Irma Lazarus Award was given to Erich Kunzel, Conductor of the Cincinnati Pops Orchestra. The award honors the memory of Irma Lazarus, who made countless contributions as an arts patron, advocate and leader in the development of state funding for the arts in Ohio.

More information about the Governor's Awards for the Arts in Ohio, including a full list of past winners, is available on the Ohio Arts Council Web site at www.oac.state.oh.us/events/GovAwards/.

ARTS RELATED BUSINESSES (CONT.)

employment nationally fell 5.6 percent during the same time period, arts employment dipped just 3.7 percent. The source for this data is Dun & Bradstreet, the most comprehensive and trusted source for business information in the U.S.

As of January 2006, Ohio is home to 16,699 arts-related businesses that employ 86,209 people. These arts-centric businesses play an important role in building and sustaining economic vibrancy. They employ people, spend money locally, generate government revenue and are a cornerstone of tourism and economic development.

For more information about the Creative Industries Report, visit www.AmericansForTheArts.org.

NEW STRATEGIC PLAN IN THE WORKS

The Ohio Arts Council is currently developing its 2006-2009 Strategic Plan. The plan is being developed by the Ohio Arts Council board, staff and constituents from around the state and is scheduled to be completed by July 1, 2006. Six major goals are identified:

GOAL 1 Invest in Ohio's Rich Cultural Resources

GOAL 2 Communicate the Value of the Arts

GOAL 3 Help citizens of all ages learn and thrive through the arts

GOAL 4 Encourage and facilitate widespread participation in the arts

GOAL 5 Foster vibrant and healthy communities through the arts

GOAL 6 Sustain and cultivate strategic partnerships that broaden support for the arts

As a state agency, a critical part of our strategic planning process includes gathering input from the citizens of Ohio. The Ohio Arts Council is seeking comments about the current draft of the plan using an online survey tool.

Participate in the Ohio Arts Council survey by typing the following link into your browser: www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=372321890114. The survey is open through 5 p.m. on Friday, April 28, 2006.

If you are interested in more information or have questions about this survey please contact Gregg Dodd at gregg.dodd@oac.state.oh.us or call 614/466-2613.

NEW NGA ISSUE BRIEF OUTLINES STATE SUPPORT FOR READING INITIATIVES

At a time when the demand for highly literate workers is escalating, rates of literary reading in America are suffering from sharp declines. Fewer than half of adults read literature in their leisure time, according a survey by the National Endowment for the Arts. Rates of reading have been dropping for at least two decades; at the current rate of decline, literary reading will virtually disappear in half a century.

A new issue brief from the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices (NGA Center) finds states across the country are actively working to increase reading and participation in literary activities. States have recognized that engaging citizens in these activities yields multiple benefits, such as promoting life-long learning to improve workforce skills and increasing civic engagement and community identity. The brief, *State Efforts to Promote Reading and Literary Activities*, provides a variety of policies and programs states can use to enhance the individual and community benefits of reading.

To meet the increasingly important demands of a knowledge-based economy, workers proficient in reading, writing, problem solving and creative thinking are essential. The brief suggests these skills are required for most of today's high-growth jobs. Anticipating such needs, some states invest in reading programs that use literature to enhance productivity and help professionals address complex workplace issues.

"Governors can do much to create a culture of readers and stress the importance of lifelong learning," said John Thomasian, NGA Center Director. "Further, governors understand the benefits state economies gain by encouraging analytical and creative thinking."

Reading and literary activities also offer civic benefits to states and communities. Research indicates that readers are more likely to vote, volunteer and actively engage in community life. States can take advantage of these corollary benefits through programs that engage citizens and create opportunities for literary involvement and appreciation.

State Efforts to Promote Reading and Literary Activities outlines a number of existing state resources and funding streams-including arts and humanities councils, state offices of tourism, workforce development departments, literary centers, health departments and state libraries-and the innovative ways states have engaged them to encourage literary activities. It is the fifth in a series of issue briefs documenting how the arts can help states achieve economic development goals. The series is produced by the NGA Center, with cooperative agreement funding from the National Endowment for the Arts and research assistance from the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies.



Ohio Arts Council

artsPerspective

Published by the Ohio Arts Council

This newsletter aims to keep Ohio's key decision makers informed about the work of the state's arts agency. We'd like this to be a two-way communication. If you have comments about the OAC's involvement in your district or area of expertise please send them to Kathy Burgan at the address below. Thanks for reading.

Gregg Dodd, *Public Information Director*
Jami Goldstein, *Communications Manager*
Kathy Burgan, *Editor*

We're Building Ohio Through the Arts

The Ohio Arts Council is a state agency that funds and supports quality arts experiences to strengthen Ohio communities culturally, educationally and economically.

The Ohio Arts Council is an equal opportunity employer.

Visit Us on the Internet

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