

PUBLIC VALUE

In September, Ohio Arts Council grant recipients Steven Bogнар and Julia Reichert accepted an Emmy for "Exceptional Merit in Nonfiction Filmmaking" for their documentary "A LION IN THE HOUSE" on stage in Los Angeles at the 2007 Emmy Awards. "A LION IN THE HOUSE" tells the story of five Cincinnati families, each of whom has a child fighting cancer. They began the film after their daughter, as a teenager, survived a battle with cancer. The following excerpt is from Steven and Julia's letter to the OAC:

"We only had a few seconds to accept the award, to make our speech before the orchestra music began to rise. But in that moment, we said a strong and sincere THANK YOU to the Ohio Arts Council for their belief and support across the eight years it took to make this film."

LION is an independent production, and at first, we were scraping by to afford the gas money to Cincinnati. The first, crucial grant for this documentary came from the Ohio Arts Council. The OAC's support, both financial and moral, gave us the confidence to keep going, to believe in the story we had set out to tell.

With the OAC grant we received, for \$9606, we leveraged major grants from the Lance Armstrong Foundation (\$150,000), the Independent Television Service (\$500,000) and the Centers for Disease Control (\$330,000). With it, we were able to employ over 20 Ohio residents AND create a professional production that has proven competitive on a national stage. In addition to winning the Emmy, the film premiered at the Sundance Film Festival, screened on national PBS, received rave reviews in USA Today, People Magazine, the Wall Street Journal and TV Guide, and won awards at top film festivals around the world. YET it was the EARLY, CRUCIAL DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT from the Ohio Arts Council that paved the way for this future success.

The Ohio Arts Council has had a profound impact on the quality of life for all of us. It has kept people like us in Ohio, in communities we love, rather than seeking potentially more lucrative pastures on the East or West Coasts.

When we travel, we're asked on a regular basis how we can be filmmakers yet live in Ohio. We just smile, and try to explain how lucky we are to receive the support we have. And almost immediately, we find ourselves talking about the Ohio Arts Council, and the support it has given us across three decades of our work.

THANK YOU.

Sincerely,
Steven Bogнар & Julia Reichert



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 Stephanie Dawson at stephanie.dawson@oac.state.oh.us. Thanks for reading.

Jami Goldstein, Interim Director,
Public Information Office
Stephanie Dawson, 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.

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artsPerspective

FALL 2007

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NEW BOARD MEMBERS



Susan Saxbe, Chair of the Ohio Arts Council Board

Governor Ted Strickland recently announced the appointments of Susan Saxbe of Columbus, Tom Schorgl of Cleveland, Lois Rosenthal of Cincinnati, and the reappointment of Geraldine Warner of Cincinnati for a term ending in 2009 to the Ohio Arts Council board.

Susan Saxbe has been appointed the new chair of the Ohio Arts Council board, after the resignation of Susan Sofia. She is a self-employed fine arts consultant in Columbus and was formerly an arts consultant for Winning Images. Tom Schorgl is president and CEO of the Community Partnership for Arts and Culture

in Cleveland. Lois Rosenthal is co-director of Uptown Arts and a former consumer columnist for The Cincinnati Enquirer. Geraldine Warner has been a member of the Ohio Arts Council board since 1997 and has served as a board member for several arts and community organizations in Cincinnati.

Other current board members include: Sheila M. Markley Black, Vice Chair

(Canton); Martha Appel Burton (Portsmouth); Barbara Gould (Cincinnati); Sharon Howard (Dayton); Charlotte P. Kessler (New Albany); Martha S. MacDonell (Lima); Jeffery Rich (Dublin); Barbara S. Robinson, Chair Emeritus (Cleveland); Mary T. Wolfe (Perrysburg); Neal Zimmers (Dublin); Senator Kevin Coughlin (Cuyahoga Falls); Senator Capri Cafaro (Hubbard); Representative Josh Mandel and Representative Tyrone Yates (Cincinnati).

FAREWELL SENATOR CLANCY!

The Ohio Arts Council wishes Senator Clancy farewell as she retires from the Senate to pursue employment with the Hamilton County Court System. We'd like to thank her for her highly commendable representation of Southwest Ohio and her dedication to supporting the arts. It will be truly difficult to fill her shoes.

During her 10 years in the statehouse, Senator Clancy has been a supporter of the arts and served on the Ohio Arts Council Board in 2001 and again in 2003.

Congratulations and best wishes for your retirement from the legislature, Senator Clancy!



Senator Clancy

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NATIONAL
arts & humanities
MONTH

October is National Arts and Humanities Month, a month-long celebration that provides hundreds of exciting opportunities for Ohioans to participate in and appreciate the arts. Organized nationally by Americans for the Arts, arts organizations across the country will recognize the importance of the arts in our communities.

The OAC has urged artists and arts organizations to participate in National Arts & Humanities Month by planning activities to honor the cultural heritage and arts in communities throughout the state. Many organizations are offering discounts on tickets throughout the month of October or have selected a special event to celebrate National Arts & Humanities month. People interested in taking advantage of these special offers can visit www.ArtsinOhio.com and click on the special National Arts & Humanities month logo to see a list of activities taking place in October.

We are blessed to live in a state where the arts play such an important role in strengthening families, building communities and enhancing economic and tourism development. Please join the Ohio Arts Council in celebrating the power of the arts every month of the year.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE EXCEPTIONAL ARTS EXPERIENCES AROUND OHIO THIS FALL:

October

Sept 30 – Oct 13 Playhouse Square has selected two Easter Island artists for a three-week residency in Cleveland. In cooperation with a Cleveland performance organization, Inlet Dance Theatre, the residency will focus on Playhouse Square's after-school program which brings young people (ages 14 – 18) from around Cleveland together each weeknight in small workshop settings with opportunities for group performances. During the residency their learning and activities will focus on learning the arts, culture and traditions of Easter Island.

October 5, 2007 In today's world innovation and technology go hand in hand. The leading figures in the dot com revolution used skills of creativity and imagination to bring about tremendous change in society. Do the arts still have a role to play as we educate our kids for the world of tomorrow?

Burns Hargis will discuss the role of innovation and creativity in society on Friday, October 5, 2007 at 8 p.m. Hargis is a founder of Oklahoma Creativity, a statewide initiative for innovative thinking and action. He is also vice-chairman of the Bank of Oklahoma and a former candidate for Governor of Oklahoma. The event will be held at the Capitol Theatre in the Vern Riffe Center for the Arts in downtown Columbus, 77 S. High Street and is free and open to the public.



The Lopez Brothers are Andes Manta: Traditional Music From the Andean Highlands. Photo courtesy of Annie Tiberio Cameron

November

November 2 - 14 Andes Manta will be performing for the 10th statewide International Music and Performing Arts in Communities Tour (IMPACT). Fernando, Luis, Bolivar and Jorge Lopez make up Andes Manta. Natives of the Ecuadorian Andes, playing more than 35 traditional instruments, Andes Manta provides a rare opportunity for cultural understanding between the people of South and North America. Andean music has survived 500 years of European occupation, making it one of the few authentic prehistoric cultures.

Free IMPACT performances will be held November 2-14, 2007 around Ohio in Bellefontaine, Troy, Jackson, Steubenville, Greenville and Newark. Please refer to our Web site www.oac.state.oh.us for exact schedule information.

November 8 *New Horizons* will open at the Ohio Arts Council's Riffe Gallery. It features work by 11 Ohio artists who participated in the Ohio Arts Council's domestic residencies program within the last 10 years. *New Horizons* brings together a range of work — from painting to sculpture to fiber arts — that was either created at the residency or grew out of the residency experience.

Curated by Sara Johnson, director of the Southern Ohio Museum, *New Horizons* includes work by the following Ohio artists: Mary Jo Bole (Columbus), Paul Emory (Zanesville), Gerry Fogarty (Yellow Springs), Julie Friedman (Medina), Linda Gall (Zanesville), Laura Lisbon (Columbus), Tony Luensman (Cincinnati), Laura Sanders (Columbus), Thom Shaw (Cincinnati), Todd Slaughter (Columbus) and Douglas Unger (Peninsula)

New Horizons opens November 8 at 5 p.m. with a reception from 5-7 p.m. Admission is free. The curator will give a free guided tour of the exhibition to the public on Friday, November 16 from noon – 1 p.m.

GOVERNOR'S AWARDS DATE CHANGE

Please note the date for the 2008 Governor's Awards for the Arts in Ohio and Arts Day Luncheon has changed and will now be held Wednesday, April 16, 2008 at noon at the Columbus Athenaeum in downtown Columbus, Ohio. Tickets are \$50 and include lunch and a dessert reception. All proceeds go to the Ohio Citizens for the Arts Foundation. The Governor's Awards for the Arts in Ohio and Arts Day Luncheon are presented by the Ohio Arts Council and Ohio Citizens for the Arts Foundation.

Awards are given for Arts Administration, Arts in Education, Arts Patron, Business Support of the Arts, Community Development and Participation and Individual Artist. Winners will receive a work of art by Ohio painter Betsy DeFusco at a public ceremony during the Governor's Award luncheon.

BUILDING CULTURAL DIVERSITY INITIATIVE

The Building Cultural Diversity Initiative is a new program reflecting the OAC's belief that public investment in culturally diverse arts organizations and emerging art professionals ensures that Ohio citizens can experience a rich, diverse and vibrant cultural life. The Initiative supports the development and viability of arts organizations whose mission, programs and staff are representative of Black/African

American, Appalachian, Asian/Pacific Islander, Hispanic/Latino, American Indian, or other culturally specific perspectives.

The program also supports arts organizations in the training of emerging minority arts administrators. The OAC supports this work by providing current information and resources when appropriate; maintaining a searchable database of screened, preferred consultants; and remaining as

flexible as possible with our assistance. The grants are competitive and the OAC recommends that organizations contact their regional program coordinator before submitting an application. Program coordinator information is available on the staff page of the OAC Web site www.oac.state.oh.us.