

PUBLIC VALUE

In January 2008, the Ohio Arts Council launched the Take pART special page on our Web site that invites Ohioans to participate in a statewide conversation about the arts. Whether through a memorable concert or play, a favorite teacher, an engaging book group or a popular sculpture in your community, the arts play a part in everyone's life.

The following story was submitted by Lisa of Ashtabula.

I would like to start by saying that the Ashtabula Arts Center has been an absolute Godsend! Our 7 year-old son has Asperger's syndrome, an autism spectrum disorder. He lives in a fantasy world most of the



time and while he is highly intelligent he has few if any friends and is very awkward. Except when he is on stage. The theatre is the only place Nathan ever seems truly happy. So I type

this with tears in my eyes and much heart felt gratitude for the Ashtabula Arts Center for giving my son a place where he truly feels comfortable in his own skin. He's not judged there. He's accepted for who and what he is, an eccentric, emotional little boy with an intense love of musical theatre. I wish there were programs specific to children with Asperger's syndrome in our community. I've seen him transform from this strange, awkward, uncomfortable little person to a confident, talented, proud young man. I am sure many other children like Nathan could benefit in the same way. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

OHIO ARTS COUNCIL APPROVES 480 GRANTS TOTALING \$7,876,540

At a public meeting on June 30 the Council Board approved the first round of grants for fiscal year 2009. The Ohio Arts Council will award 480 grants totaling \$7,876,540 to support arts organizations and arts programs across Ohio. The Board reviewed 549 grant requests totaling \$16,730,852. Recommendations to the Board were made by advisory panels that reviewed applications throughout the spring.

Organizations that receive OAC funds are required to match state tax dollars with additional public and private funds. On average, for every state tax dollar invested, \$45 is raised in matching funds by recipient organizations.

For more information specific to this round of grant announcements please contact Stephanie Dawson at 614/728-4475 or stephanie.dawson@oac.state.oh.us



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.

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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
www.oac.state.oh.us

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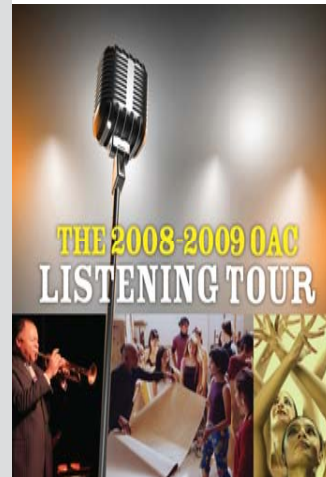


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FALL 2008

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THE OHIO ARTS COUNCIL BEGINS LISTENING TOUR



The Ohio Arts Council is hitting the road this fall to find out what Ohioans value about the arts, creativity and their communities. The OAC's Listening Tour will travel to seven communities this fall and an additional seven in the spring discovering what creativity means to elected officials, arts professionals and citizens in large and small communities across the state.

A small group of staff from the OAC will lead three meetings in each town to discuss the arts, other issues and aspirations for the residents' communities. During the morning meeting OAC staff members will meet with elected officials and

community leaders; the afternoon meeting will be held with members of the arts community and educators; and the evening town hall meeting will bring people from all backgrounds together to discuss the arts and its impact in their community.

Information gathered from this tour will provide the agency with a better understanding of a broad range of Ohioans' needs, including communities that have traditionally been underserved by OAC's public funding, and assist the agency in developing the 2010-2013 Strategic Plan and the State of the Arts Report II.

Communities to be visited this fall include: **East Liverpool** on Oct. 15, **Youngstown** on Oct. 16, **Marietta** on Oct. 22, **Coshocton** on Oct. 23, **Archbold** on Nov. 12, **Toledo** on Nov. 13 and **Chillicothe** on Nov. 19. The Listening Tour will resume in the spring with visits to the following cities: Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton, Kent, Mansfield and Wapakoneta.

For more information please contact Jodie Engle at 614/728-4409.

2009 GOVERNOR'S AWARDS FOR THE ARTS IN OHIO NOMINATIONS OPEN ONLINE!



Do you know an artist whose work makes a considerable impact on his/her community? Can you think of an individual who has shown visionary leadership to an arts organization? Is there someone in your community who has made extraordinary advancements to arts education in your schools and local programs? You should nominate this person or organization for a 2009 Governor's Award for the Arts in Ohio.

The Ohio Arts Council is now accepting nominations for the 2009 Governor's Awards for the Arts in Ohio. The annual awards are given to Ohio individuals and organizations in recognition of outstanding contributions to the arts statewide, regionally and nationally. Deadline for nominations is Tuesday, October 14, 2008. For more information contact Jodie Engle at the Ohio Arts Council at 614/728-4409 or e-mail jodie.enge@oac.state.oh.us.

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GOVERNOR APPOINTS NEW BOARD MEMBERS



Clockwise from top left: Chuck McWeeny, Louisa Celebrezze, Karen Bell and Dr. Steve Allen.

Governor Ted Strickland recently announced the appointments of **Dr. Steve Allen** of New Albany, **Karen Bell** of Columbus, **Louisa Celebrezze** of Columbus and **Charles McWeeny** of Athens and to the Ohio Arts Council

board. McWeeny has been appointed to the board to complete a term ending in 2012, after the resignation of Lois Rosenthal, Cincinnati. McWeeny is the dean of the College of Fine Arts at Ohio University and an accomplished ceramic artist. The other newly appointed board members will serve five year terms, ending in 2013. Allen is the C.E.O of Nationwide Children's Hospital and a professor at The Ohio State University in the department of anesthesiology. Bell was recently appointed the first associate vice president for arts outreach at The Ohio State University's College of the Arts. Louisa Celebrezze is a licensed social worker and serves as a board member of the Friends of Early Music. Other current board members include: **Susan S. Saxbe**, Chair (Columbus); **Sheila M.**

Markley Black, Vice Chair (Canton); **Martha Appel Burton** (Worthington); **Barbara Gould** (Cincinnati); **Sharon Howard** (Dayton); **Charlotte P. Kessler** (New Albany); **Mary Lazarus** (Columbus); **Jeffery Rich** (Dublin); **Tom Schorgl** (Cleveland); **Ginger Warner** (Cincinnati) and **Neal Zimmers** (New Albany); **Senator Kevin Coughlin** (Cuyahoga Falls); **Senator Capri Cafaro** (Hubbard); **Representative Josh Mandel** (Lyndhurst) and **Representative Tyrone Yates** (Cincinnati). **Barbara S. Robinson** (Cleveland) will continue as a non-voting member in her position as chair emeritus.

OCTOBER IS NATIONAL ARTS & HUMANITIES MONTH



October is National Arts & Humanities Month (NAHM), a celebration of our nation's diverse array of arts and culture. To celebrate, some of the Ohio Arts Council's grantees will be hosting special events designed to foster artistic growth. These events, held throughout the month of October, will help com-

munities realize the impact that the arts have upon our lives and the world we live in. During October, arts organizations throughout the nation are encouraged to reach out to their communities in exciting ways. Whether this means shining the spotlight on new artistic movements or honoring a cultural heritage, the OAC wants to help artists and their supporters reach out to those around them. In order to make this celebration of the arts more accessible, discounts for certain events will be offered and a diverse calendar of events that will appeal to many tastes.

One of the keys to a better understanding of our culture lies in the arts. Creative self-expression and innovative thinking are essential for the healthy growth of youth, individuals and communities.

For ideas on how you can celebrate NAHM visit the OAC's Web site at www.oac.state.oh.us.

Information concerning NAHM activities, such as date and location, can be found at www.ArtsinOhio.com.

FALL RIFFE GALLERY SHOWS: MIDWESTERN VISIONS OF IMPRESSIONISM: 1890 – 1930 AND THE OHIO WATERCOLOR SOCIETY 31ST ANNUAL EXHIBITION 2008

October 18, 2008 is the last day to visit the Ohio Arts Council's Riffe Gallery exhibition *Midwestern Visions of Impressionism: 1890 – 1930*. This show takes a fresh look at the American Impressionism movement through the paintings of 31 artists born or raised in the Midwest and working between 1890 and 1930.



Day in May by Elise Newman, 2007

The Ohio Watercolor Society 31st Annual Exhibition 2008 opens November 6 with a reception from 5 to 7 p.m. Juried by Alvaro Castagnet, an artist and teacher, this exhibition features approximately 60 original paintings. A Uruguay native, Castagnet has earned an international reputation painting, teaching and judging watercolor exhibitions. Castagnet will lead a tour of the exhibition on November 7 from noon – 1 p.m.

Additionally, demonstrations will be held:

- **November 16**, 2-4 p.m. Triple Play Homer Hacker, Carolyn Ross Hibbard and Karen LaValley share the spotlight as they paint from a live model.

- **November 23**, 2-4 p.m. *Getting the Dogs Out of the Kennel* with Judy Anderson will demonstrate how to take an unsuccessful painting from bland to grand.

- **December 7**, 2-4 p.m. *Working Through Creative Blocks* with Sharon Stolzenberger will show how to create a mixed-media piece using techniques such as stamping, image transfer, collage, acrylic and drawing.

All Riffe Gallery events are free.

The Ohio Arts Council's Riffe Gallery will also hold a Family Day Workshop on Sunday, **November 9, 2008** from 2 – 4 p.m. at the Riffe Center, in the Capitol

Theatre lobby, third floor. Riffe Gallery staff will help students age 6 – 17 explore water media through flowers, fantasy and family favorites. Registration begins October 16 and ends October 28. Register online at www.riffegallery.org.

The Ohio Arts Council's Riffe Gallery is located in the Vern Riffe Center for Government and the Arts, 77 S. High St., Columbus, OH. Hours are: Tuesday 10 – 4 p.m.; Wednesday – Friday 10 – 8 p.m.; Saturday noon – 8 p.m.; Sunday noon – 4 p.m. The gallery is closed Monday and state holidays. Admission is free.

Visit www.riffegallery.org or phone 614/644-9624 for more information.

ANN HAMILTON RECEIVES DISTINGUISHED HEINZ AWARD



Photo Courtesy of Heinzawards.net

Ann Hamilton, a professor at The Ohio State University's College of the Art, recently received the Heinz Award in the Arts and Humanites, a \$250,000 prize.

Hamilton's installations have been captivating audiences worldwide for several decades with their unconventional materials and provocative nature. Hamilton, who has been a professor for over 20 years, received a B.F.A. in textile design from the University of Kansas and an M.F.A. in sculpture from the Yale University School of Art.

Since 1994 the Pittsburgh-based Heinz Family Foundation presents the awards to people who make significant contributions in the arts and humanities; the environment; the human condition; public policy; and technology, the economy and employment

Hamilton won the Ohio Arts Council's Governor's Award for Individual Artist in 2005.

The awards will be presented at a private ceremony in Pittsburgh on Oct. 21.