

PUBLIC VALUE

In January 2008, the Ohio Arts Council launched Take pART an application 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 art 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 Judy of Delphos, OH.

This is a story of a small town in rural Ohio that celebrates a 50 year old tradition each fall - Canal Days. Five years ago, a small group of artists decided to display their artwork in the museum front window. It went over with moderate curiosity and one purchase.

The following year, we obtained a larger gallery, added an opening reception with music - everyone loved it!

By the third year, we exceeded expectations - in size of venue and artwork. A former furniture store allowed us to use their huge Main St. showroom. That was our first juried and judged exhibit. We had many community sponsors who donated funds for the awards. The opening night reception overflowed with over 200 people there - abuzz with the delight of seeing the fabulous artwork!

2008 will be our fifth year for Canal Days Artfest - and we look to expand and add another dimension. We are inviting artisans to set up their booths on a street connecting the Bank to Main Street - an ArtWalk! We will have artists demonstrating their work and a children's tent with face painting, and arts & crafts.

Our handful of artists have just formed a new organization - the Miami Erie Canal Council for the Arts. This was to offer arts in the community with other events and to involve more of the community. This will not only bring in more folks to help in many ways; but as an outreach to them and finding out the needs of the community. Opening up this new visual art venue has stimulated many people in so many ways - and we hope to continue doing so.



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.

Public Information Office
Jami Goldstein, Interim Director
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.

Visit Us on the Internet
www.oac.state.oh.us

Ohio Arts Council
727 East Main Street
Columbus, OH 43205-1796
614/466-2613

For TTY/TDD use Ohio Relay Service
1-800-750-0750

Ted Strickland
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artsPerspective

SUMMER 2008

Published by the Ohio Arts Council

OAC STAFF AND BUDGET REDUCTIONS MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JULIE HENAHAN

Budget Reductions:

As announced on April 22, the Ohio Art Council's (OAC) Fiscal Year 2008/2009 biennium budget has been reduced 10 percent. This reduces the original appropriation of \$24,976,322 by a total of \$2,497,632 for a new appropriation of \$22,478,690 for the biennium.

The Ohio Arts Council's primary goal was to minimize the impact this cut would have on grantees. Therefore, this cut was executed in three ways: 1) reducing programs which had remaining balances, or unallocated funds, 2) by reducing the agency's administrative budget, and 3) by cutting existing grants.

All unpaid grants in the following programs were reduced by 7.68 percent: Sustainability, Arts Access, Arts Innovation, Arts Learning—Arts Partnerships, Building Cultural Diversity Initiative, Capacity Building, Individual Creativity—Artists and Communities, International Partnership and Traditional Arts Apprenticeships. Individual Creativity Excellence Awards originally recommended for

\$5,000 were reduced to \$4,000 and those originally recommended for \$10,000 were reduced to \$8,000.

Staff Reductions:

This budget reduction, combined with no increases in the personal services line for the agency in more than eight years, reductions in the OAC's basic state portion of NEA funds, and increasing salary, health care and benefit costs have forced the agency to reduce its number of full-time employees in order to maintain a balanced budget.

Thus, it is with great regret that we announce the layoffs of four highly valued OAC staff members and the subsequent elimination of their positions. The employees being laid off and the four positions eliminated are: Donna Sue Groves, Southern Ohio Field Representative, Lacey Luce, Riffe Gallery Marketing Specialist, Nancy Vincent, Receptionist, Sally Winter, Northern Ohio Field Representative.

The last day of work for these staff members was June 2, 2008. In addition the contract for Appalachian Arts Program Field Consultant, Caroline Pierson, was not renewed after May 31, 2008.

OHIO ARTS COUNCIL ANNOUNCES JUNE BOARD MEETING

Members of the Ohio Arts Council Board will meet Monday June 30, 2008 at the Ohio Arts Council, 727 E. Main Street in Columbus. The business meeting will be held from 1 - 3:45 p.m. and is open to the public.

The Council Board will review grant recommendations for the Individual Creativity program—Artists and Communities and Traditional Arts Apprenticeships; Arts Access; Arts Innovation; the Arts Learning program—Arts Partnerships and Artists in Residence; and the Sustainability program (over \$1.5 million) and Sustainability program (under \$1.5 million).

The Board also will receive updates about the Ohio Arts Council Building Cultural Diversity Initiative and the National Endowment for the Arts Poetry Out Loud Recitation Competition.

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SUMMER IMPACT TOUR

NEW RIFFE GALLERY
EXHIBITION

OHIO POETRY OUT LOUD
WINNER AT NATIONAL FINALS

TAKE pART

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Kevin Cary, grants office director and Irene Finck, program coordinator; Percent for Art and Traditional Arts Apprenticeships programs have accepted an Early Retirement Incentive. Their last day will be August 29, 2008. The duties assigned to these positions will be condensed and redistributed to other employees with the necessary experience and expertise to handle them and who already have similar responsibilities.

This is an incredibly difficult position for a small agency to be in, to lose such valuable

THE INTERNATIONAL MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS IN COMMUNITIES TOUR PRESENTS

MAMADOU DIABATE: GRAMMY NOMINATED MASTER OF KORA

The International Music and Performing Arts in Communities Tour (IMPACT) will present the Summer IMPACT tour featuring Mamadou Diabate Ensemble in July. Mamadou Diabate is a Grammy nominated master of the kora, the ancient 21-string West African Harp. He leads the Mamadou Diabate Ensemble which includes himself on the kora, Balla Kouyate on balafon, Ibrahima "Kolipe" Camara on percussion and Mawuena Kodjovi on bass.

Free IMPACT performances will be held July 12-24, 2008 in Columbus, Put-in-Bay, Bryan, Millersburg, Ironton and Chillicothe. For more IMPACT information, visit www.oac.state.oh.us, call Dan Katona at 614/995-1662 or dan.katona@oac.state.oh.us.

The Ohio Arts Council and Ohio Arts Presenters Network began their unique partnership bringing international arts to communities in 1998 in order to reach audiences in non-traditional venues.

people, some of whom have been with the OAC for a very long time and are not only colleagues, but friends as well. The OAC will continue to play a vital role in the future health of the arts and culture as maintaining a strong cultural environment is crucial to revitalizing the state's economy and fundamental to maintaining a high quality of life for Ohioans. Thank you for your continued support of for the arts in Ohio.



Columbus, July 12, 7 p.m.
Central Community House, 1150 E. Main St
614/252-3157 ext 128

Put-in-Bay, July 15, 7 p.m.
Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial, Downtown Put-in-Bay
419/285-2832

Bryan, July 18, 7 p.m.
Downtown Bryan, One Courthouse Square
419/636-0773

Millersburg, July 19, 7 p.m.
Court House Lawn, 1 E. Jackson Street
330/674-3955

Ironton, July 22, 7 p.m.
Mains Rotunda at Ohio University Southern,
1804 Liberty Avenue
740/533-4600

Chillicothe, July 24, 7:30 p.m.
Majestic Performing Arts Center Courtyard,
45 E. Second St.
740/772-2041

THE OHIO ARTS COUNCIL'S RIFFE GALLERY EXPLORES MIDWESTERN VISIONS OF IMPRESSIONISM



Otto H. Bacher's
Mary Holland Bacher

The Ohio Arts Council's Riffe Gallery will present *Midwestern Visions of Impressionism: 1890 - 1930* from July 31 - October 12, 2008.

Curated by Christine Shearer, executive director of the Massillon Museum, this exhibition takes a fresh look at the American Impressionism movement through the paintings of 33 artists born or raised in the Midwest and working between 1890 and 1930.

In addition to bringing attention to the often overlooked talent of Ohio, Illinois and Indiana, *Midwestern Visions of Impressionism* explores where these artists fit within the larger context of American Impressionism and how their regions informed their painting.

Artists in the exhibition: John Ottis Adams, George Adomeit, George Ames Aldrich, May Ames, Otto H. Bacher, L. Clarence Ball, Karl Albert Buehr, V.J. Cariani, William Merritt Chase, William Clusmann, Charles Dahlgreen, Frank Virgil Dudley, Maude Eggemeyer, William J. Forsyth, Alexis Jean Fournier, Marie Goth, Frederick Gottwald, Carl Graf, Louis Oscar Griffith, Lucy Hartrath, Emil Jacques, Karl Kappes, Lewis Henry Meakin, Pauline Palmer, Louis Ritman, Ada Walter Shulz, Adolph Shulz, Otto Stark, Theodore Clement Steele, John Henry Twachtman, Will Vawter, Abel Warshawsky and Edward K. Williams.

Midwestern Visions of Impressionism: 1890 - 1930 opens Thursday, July 31 with a tour of the exhibition by curator Christine Shearer from 5 - 6 p.m. and a reception from 6 to 8 p.m. Shearer will lead a second tour of the exhibition from noon - 1 p.m. on Friday, August 1. Riffe Gallery events are free.

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. Admission is free. Gallery summer hours are Tue., 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Wed. and Fri., 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Thur., 10 a.m. - 8 p.m., Sat. and Sun. noon-4 p.m. Closed Monday and state holidays. Visit www.riffegallery.org or phone 614/644-9624 for more information.

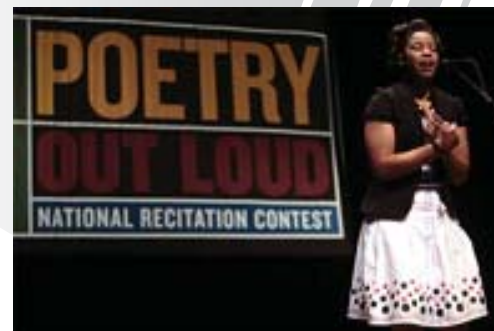


Photo courtesy of USA Today

Ohio's Poetry Out Loud winner, Rachel Chandler, recently competed at the Poetry Out Loud: National Recitation Contest in Washington, D.C. Rachel did very well, placing in the top eight in her division. She was among 52 state champions from around the country who participated in the third national poetry recitation contest, sponsored by the National Arts Endowment and the Poetry Foundation. Visit the Poetry Out Loud Web site at www.oac.state.oh.us to learn more about this year's state contest and view photos of the contestants.