



Art Lines *online*



June 2009

Welcome to The Arkansas Arts Council e-Newsletter!

Now Accepting Entries for 2010 *Small Works on Paper* Exhibition

Wouldn't it be nice to have your art work admired all over Arkansas?

Now is your opportunity to enter your art in the 23rd annual *Small Works on Paper*, a juried art exhibition sponsored by the Arkansas Arts Council. The exhibition travels throughout the state for one year.

The deadline to enter submissions for the 2010 *Small Works on Paper* is July 24. You must be a member of the Arkansas Artist Registry to be eligible, but you can join the Registry for free at time of entry.

You may enter up to three works of art on paper of any medium (no larger than 24x24 inches). Works must have been completed within the last two years.

Up to \$2,000 will be available for juror-selected purchase awards, which become part of the *Small Works on Paper* permanent collection.

The fee is \$10 per entry, or \$25 for three entries.

Artists whose work is selected for the *Small Works on Paper* exhibition will be notified of results in September 2009. The 2010 exhibition opens at the Searcy Art Gallery in January 2010. Suzanne Bloom, professor of art at the University of Houston, will be the juror.

For additional information or to request an entry form, contact Cheri Leffew, special events/program manager, at (501) 324-9767 or e-mail cheri@arkansasheritage.org. The entry form is also available on the Arkansas Arts Council website at www.arkansasarts.org/programs.

Call for Entries



Small Works on Paper

23rd Annual Juried Exhibition

Sponsored by the
Arkansas Arts Council

Entry Deadline July 24, 2009

Next Stop for *SWOP*: Little Rock

Speaking of *Small Works on Paper*, the next stop on the 2009 tour is at the Arkansas Studies Institute at 401 President Clinton Avenue in downtown Little Rock.

The exhibition will arrive at the Arkansas Studies Institute on Friday, July 10, and will remain on display until Saturday, August 15.

An opening reception will be held from 5-8 p.m. on Friday, July 10, during 2nd Friday Art Night.

Admission is free and hours of operation are

Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m. The exhibition will be located in the main gallery.

Now in its 22nd year, *Small Works on Paper* is presented annually by the Arkansas Arts Council. It showcases up to 40 small-sized visual works (no larger than 24x24 inches) by Arkansas artists in a year-long traveling show throughout the state.

More than 300 entries were submitted for this year's exhibition, which was juried by Edwin Pinkston, professor emeritus at the Louisiana Tech University School of Art.

For more information on *Small Works on Paper*, visit www.arkansasarts.org, e-mail cheri@arkansasheritage.org, or call Cheri Leffew at (501) 324-9767.



Dancer By The Lake by Kimberly Boyd Vickrey of Jonesboro is one of the featured works in *Small Works on Paper*.

Arkansas Arts Council Makes the News

A program funded by the Arkansas Arts Council was recently spotlighted by an Arkansas news station.

Today's THV, Little Rock's CBS affiliate, featured a segment on its newscast about how a grant from the Arkansas Arts Council is helping sick patients at the Arkansas Children's Hospital in Little Rock.

The story featured an interview with artist Hamid Ebrahimifar, a member of the Arts Council's Arts in Education roster.

Hamid is teaching art to patients at Arkansas Children's Hospital, thanks to an Arts in Education Residency Grant from the Arts Council.

To learn more, click [here](#) to watch the video.



Sean Elkins (left), a patient at Arkansas Children's Hospital, works with artist Hamid Ebrahimifar on an art project.

Sean Elkins displays the cardboard train he created.

Last Call: Arts in Education Artist Roster Applications

Due July 10

Just as Hamid is teaching art in the video above, you, too, can share your art knowledge and expertise with children.

We are now accepting applications through July 10 for the Arts in Education artist roster. Performing, literary or visual artists who are interested in working with teachers and students in schools or after-school/summer programs are encouraged to apply.

The Arts in Education Artist Roster features artists available for participation in the Arts in Education residency program. The program places professional artists in Arkansas schools and communities to work directly with teachers and students, to demonstrate their art forms and share their ideas, creativity and talents.

Applications must be hand-delivered or postmarked no later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday, July 10. For more information, contact Cynthia Haas, Arts in Education program manager, at (501) 324-9769 or e-mail cynthia@arkansasheritage.org. Applications are available at www.arkansasarts.org.



Artist Spotlight: Rodney Block

RODNEY BLOCK

By day, Rodney Block is a medical supply salesman; by night Rodney is a real music lover ... both literally and figuratively.

Rodney and his band, The Real Music Lovers, recently released their debut album, *Outside the Box*. Based in Little Rock, Rodney and The Real Music Lovers are members of the Arkansas Arts Council's Arts on Tour roster.

A classically trained instrumentalist, Rodney first started playing the trumpet in the sixth grade. While the trumpet is his first love, he grew up playing a variety of instruments in his childhood church in Dumas, Ark.

An Arkansas native, Rodney graduated with a communications degree from the University of Arkansas at Monticello and then moved to Kansas City, where he honed his horn skills by playing in some of the city's premier venues, such as the Grand Emporium, Plaza III, Blue Room and Liberty Hall.

Inspired by Miles Davis, he has shared the stage with such notable artists as Dave Hollister, Jonathan Butler, Claude "Fiddler" Williams, Wynton Marsalis and Angela Hagenbaugh.

After soaking up the jazz culture in Kansas City for 10 years, Rodney moved to Little Rock to be closer to his family in Dumas. Since then, he has become a local favorite on the Little Rock music scene.

Rodney and his band perform a unique blend of traditional jazz, gospel, hip-hop, Bebop, funk and soul for private and corporate events, as well as wedding receptions, parties and gigs at night clubs. Rodney plays trumpet and is backed by Oliver Thomas on bass, Sam Carroll on piano and Michael Chandler on drums. Although Rodney and his band mostly play in Arkansas and other states, in September Rodney and his band are journeying to Brazil for a series of gigs.

Inspired by the recent national successes of Arkansas vocalist Kris Allen and Arkansas fashion designer Korto Momolo, Rodney said he, too, would like to make it big. "I think it's time for more talented artists from Arkansas to be recognized," he said. "Our goal as a band is to gain some national notoriety and represent Arkansas on a national level."



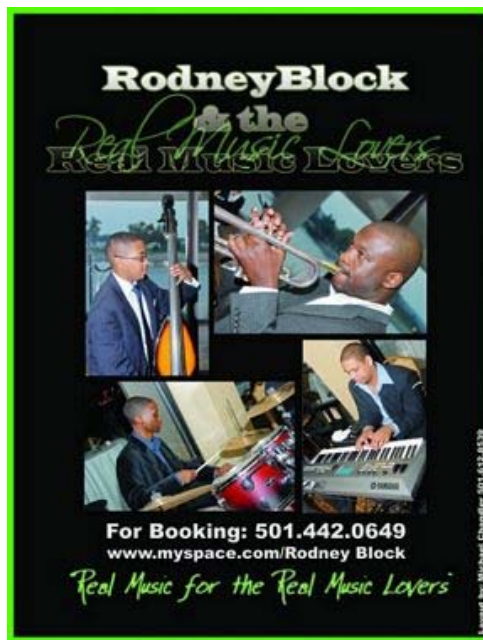
Rodney said he is impressed with the music scene in Little Rock. "It's grown quite a bit in the last couple of years. I've lived here for seven years, and I've seen a revival of live bands and music in Little Rock," he said. "It seems like every week there is a new band popping up. There is a lot of great talent here."

Outside the Box contains 11 songs: 10 originals and a Miles Davis cover. The album also contains vocals from some local singers.

"There is a little something for everyone on this CD," said the 30-something musician. "There's traditional jazz for the jazz heads, smooth R&B, smooth jazz, hip hop and ballads."

The CD is available for purchase on the band's MySpace page and will soon become available on iTunes and Amazon. Fans can also purchase the CD at the band's live shows, or by e-mailing Rodney at rodneyblockmusic@gmail.com.

If you would like to learn more about Rodney and his band, click [here](#) to visit his Arts on Tour page. To find out where he and the band will be performing, visit the band's MySpace page at www.myspace.com/rodneyblock.



Funding for Latino Artists and Organizations Offered Through NALAC

The National Association of Latino Arts and Culture (NALAC) announces the fifth funding cycle for its grant program, the NALAC Fund for the Arts (NFA).

Through the NFA, NALAC has awarded more than \$523,000 to Latino artists and organizations in four years. The NFA was created to support the work of Latino artists and organization by providing funding for projects, programs and artist fellowships.



The deadline for submitting a proposal to the NFA is July 13, 2009.

For more information on the NFA grant program, visit the NALAC website at www.nalac.org, or e-mail grantmanager@nalac.org.

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