



Art Lines *online*



September

Welcome to Art Lines online, the Arkansas Arts Council's monthly e-newsletter.

Register Now for ArtLinks 2007 in Rogers

The Arkansas Arts Council will present its annual statewide conference on the arts, *ArtLinks 2007: Connecting Commerce and the Creative Community*, Oct. 21-22 at the John Q. Hammons Convention Center in Rogers. Registration forms for *ArtLinks 2007* are available at www.arkansasarts.org/artlinks or by calling the Arkansas Arts Council at (501) 324-9766. The early bird registration fee for the two-day conference is \$140 by Oct. 5. Registration fee is \$170 after that date.

ArtLinks 2007: Connecting Commerce and the Creative Community will feature workshops, keynote addresses, and panel discussions that examine the link between culture and community development. Rebecca Anderson, executive director of HandMade in America in Ashville, N.C., will be featured as the keynote speaker. On Oct. 22, she will present *Boosting Economic Development with Artistic Resources* and participate in a panel discussion on *The Emergence of the Creative Community*.

Jonathan Katz, CEO of the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies, will discuss the public value of the arts. He will be joined by Stuart Rosenfeld of Regional Technology Strategies Inc. to discuss the initial results of their survey on creativity in the Natural State. Funded by the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation, the Arkansas Creative Economy Project is a multi-year project to identify the state's creative assets and effectively turn them into sustainable advantages for communities and businesses, as well as economic and career opportunities for residents.

Renowned metal artist Robert Ebendorf, the Carol Grotnes Belk Distinguished Professor at the East Carolina University School of Art and Design, will present a workshop on *Creating a Profession as an Artist*. Ebendorf is a member of the National Metalsmiths Hall of Fame and serves on the Board of the National Endowment for the Arts.

Panel discussions on Oct. 21 will look at the role of the arts in communities in Arkansas. Arts administrators and community leaders from around the state will discuss various types of interactions that cultural organizations have with their communities and will address the economic benefit of the arts.

Other highlights will include presentation of the 2007 Governor's Arts Awards and the recognition of the Individual Artist Fellowship recipients during the Governor's Arts Awards Luncheon.

ArtLinks 2007: Connecting Commerce and the Creative Economy is presented by the Arkansas Arts Council in collaboration with Main Street Rogers.



Rebecca Anderson,
executive director
of HandMade in
America



Jonathan Katz,
CEO of the
National
Assembly of
State Arts
Agencies



Renowned metal
artist Robert
Ebendorf

Now Accepting Arts in Education Mini-Grant Program Applications

The Arkansas Arts Council is offering K-12 schools and community organizations an opportunity to participate in the Arts in Education (AIE) Mini-Grant program. The grant program will provide funding to bring artists listed on the Arts in Education Artist Roster into the classroom or into an after-school or summer program to present a one- to five-day hands-on, curriculum-based or character-centered artist residency.

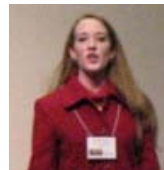
The Arts in Education Mini-Grant program will also allow schools and organizations the opportunity to present a one- to five-day teacher's professional development workshop in curriculum-based arts activities either in conjunction with, or instead of, an artist residency. Applicants may receive a maximum of \$1,500, using established AIE program rates for artist fees, travel, meals, lodging and supplies. Applicants must show a 1:1 match of cash and/or in-kind contributions. All Arkansas schools and community organizations will be able to apply. Schools and organizations in rural and underserved communities who have not had access to one of the Art Council's AIE grant programs are especially encouraged to apply.

Applications are now available for residencies occurring between October 2007 and August 2008. For more information, contact Cynthia Haas, Arts in Education program manager, at 501-324-9769 or cynthia@arkansasheritage.org, or visit our web site at www.arkansasarts.org/grants.

Arkansas High Schools Invited to Compete in National Poetry Recitation Contest

The National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation will again present *Poetry Out Loud*: National Recitation Contest for high schools nationwide. The Arkansas state finals will be conducted by The Arkansas Arts Council in partnership with the Arkansas Literacy Councils Inc. and the Arkansas Department of Education. *Poetry Out Loud* is a program that encourages high school students to learn about great poetry through memorization, performance, and competition. Starting in late September 2007, schools in each state are invited to participate in classroom and school-wide contests, advancing to the state competition March 1, 2008. State champions will advance to the national finals, to take place April 27-29, 2008, in Washington, DC.

Poetry Out Loud seeks to foster the next generation of literary readers by capitalizing on the latest trends in poetry — recitation and performance. The program builds on the resurgence of poetry as an oral art form, as seen in the slam poetry movement and the immense popularity of rap music among youth. *Poetry Out Loud* invites the dynamic aspects of slam poetry, spoken word, and theater into English, speech and communications classes. Through *Poetry Out Loud*, students can master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about their literary heritage.



Hannah Eakin,
Arkansas's 2007 Poetry
Out Loud state
champion

"Learning great poetry by heart develops the mind and imagination," said Dana Gioia, chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts "It isn't just an arts program. By immersing themselves in powerful language and ideas, the students will develop their ability to speak well, especially in public. This is a skill they will use in the workplace and the community for the rest of their lives."

"The public recitation of great poetry," said John Barr, president of the Poetry Foundation, "is a way to honor the speaker, the poem, and the audience all at once *Poetry Out Loud* brings new energy to an ancient art by returning it to the classrooms of America."

"The Arkansas Arts Council is pleased to partner with the Arkansas Literacy Councils Inc. and the Arkansas Department of Education to offer *Poetry Out Loud* to Arkansas schools," stated Joy Pennington, Arkansas Arts Council executive director.

The Arkansas Arts Council to implement local programs, offer free curricular materials

The NEA and the Poetry Foundation have each contributed \$500,000 towards the 2008 *Poetry Out Loud* program in support of materials, grants, prizes and the national finals. With this support, the Arkansas Arts Council is inviting all public high schools statewide in Arkansas to participate in the contest.

Additionally, the NEA and the Poetry Foundation will provide state arts agencies with free, standards-based curriculum materials for use by participating schools. These materials include print and online poetry anthologies, a program guide to help instructors teach recitation and performance, and an audio CD featuring well-known actors and writers such as James Earl Jones, Anthony Hopkins, Alyssa Milano, and N. Scott Momaday. Program materials are available for download on the new website, www.poetryoutloud.org, which offers additional resources.

How to get involved in *Poetry Out Loud*

High school teachers who are interested in participating in *Poetry Out Loud* should know that the program requires less than two or three weeks of class time. Participating schools are expected to run their program between September and February. The Arkansas Arts Council will hold its final contest on March 1, 2008, at the William F. Laman Public Library in North Little Rock. The national finals will take place April 27-29, 2008, in Washington, DC.

To participate in the official *Poetry Out Loud* program, Arkansas high schools need to contact the Arkansas Arts Council at 501-324-9766 or info@arkansasarts.com. Schools will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Schools not enrolled in the official program may conduct their own contests using the online resources.

***Poetry Out Loud* Prizes**

Students who participate in the official *Poetry Out Loud* program may be eligible to compete in the state and national finals next April and May. Each winner at the state level will receive \$200 and an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, DC, to compete for the national championship. The state winner's school will receive a \$500 stipend for the purchase of poetry books. One runner-up in each state will receive \$100, with \$200 for his or her school library. *Poetry Out Loud* will award a total of \$50,000 in scholarships and school stipends at the national finals, with at least a \$20,000 college scholarship for the *Poetry Out Loud* National Champion.

For further information on *Poetry Out Loud*, visit www.poetryoutloud.org.

Arkansas First Lady Ginger Beebe Launches 2008 Arkansas Artist Calendar

To benefit the Governors Mansion Association, First Lady Ginger Beebe launched the *2008 Arkansas Artist Calendar*, featuring art from throughout the state, with a reception and book signing at the Clinton School. Also in attendance were artists George Wittenberg, whose painting "Central High" is featured in the calendar, and Vicki Kovaleski whose piece "Waiting for the Clinton Library," is also featured. The calendar contains a total of 88 works of Arkansas art. It can also be purchased online at www.arkansasigma.com or by calling the Governor's Mansion at 501-324-9805. Cost of the book is \$20, plus postage and handling.

Funding Available for Arkansas Creative Economy Proposals

With support from the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation, Regional Technology Strategies, Inc (RTS), is awarding a small number of grants aimed at expanding the creative economy in Arkansas communities. The grants will support new or expanded activities aimed at making the connection between economic development and arts and culture.

RTS defines the creative economy as “the enterprises and people involved in producing and distributing goods and services in which the aesthetic, intellectual and emotional engagement of the consumer gives the product value in the marketplace.” Thus the creative economy is not confined to what is traditionally thought of as “the arts,” but also includes other economic activities, such as manufacturing that incorporates high levels of design.

The grants are part of a three-year study RTS is conducting on the creative economy in Arkansas. RTS' first year report is available for download at www.rtsinc.org/new_web/pubs2/Arkansas_final.pdf and www.arkansasarts.org. All applicants are encouraged to read the report.

Small Works on Paper 2007 Moves to Searcy

The 2007 Small Works on Paper juried exhibition will be moving to Searcy on September 11, 2007. The exhibition will be on display at Harding University at 915 E. Market Avenue. Admission is free and the exhibition will remain on view through September 22, 2007. Hours of operation are Monday - Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

New Artists Selected for the Arts in Education Roster

The Arkansas Arts Council welcomes nine new artists for the 2007/2008 Arts In Education Roster. They are:

Jennifer Lacour
Crafts
Kenner, LA

William Worden
Music
Shirley, AR

Ruthann Curry Browne
Theater
Conway, AR

April Gentry-Sutterfield
Theater
Little Rock, AR

Colleen Means
Theater/lighting design
El Dorado, AR

Kay Thomas
Visual arts
Texarkana, AR

Alicia Grullon
Multidisciplinary – photography and theater
Riverdale, NY

Genine LaTrice Perez
Multidisciplinary – theater, music, folk arts, creative writing
North Little Rock, AR

Mary Sanders-Overton
Multidisciplinary – visual arts, design arts, crafts
West Fork, AR

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.

For additional information or to view the roster, visit www.arkansasarts.com/programs/aie.

Deadline for Arts on Tour Roster Applications Approaching

Visual and performing artists or art groups seeking inclusion to the 2008 Arkansas Arts on Tour (AOT) roster are encouraged to apply by September 28, 2007.

Produced each year, the on-line AOT roster lists a broad spectrum of Arkansas's finest musicians, storytellers, theater troupes, and other performers, as well as visual artist workshops and art exhibitions available for touring within our state. The current roster and the AOT artist application form may be viewed online at the Arkansas Arts Council website at www.arkansasarts.com/programs/arts_on_tour/.

The Arts on Tour program is designed to reimburse non-profit organizations such as festival sponsors, schools, churches, civic organizations and other presenters who book artists listed on the roster. The Arkansas Arts Council

reimburses presenting organizations up to 40 percent of the cost of the AOT artist's performance fee.

An independent panel chooses new roster artists each year through an audition/interview process. Selection is based on the quality of the artists' work and on a demonstrated ability to tour in Arkansas. To be eligible for the Arts on Tour program, individual performers or visual artists must maintain a primary residency in Arkansas; ensembles or groups must be Arkansas based.

For additional information, contact Grant Programs Manager Jess Anthony at 501-324-9768 or by email at jess@arkansasheritage.org.

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Funding for the Arkansas Arts Council and its programs is provided by the State of Arkansas and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.



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