

MAY-JUN
2011



HAPPENINGS

ARTS AND EDUCATION COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Circus Flora Celebrates 25 Years

This year, St. Louis' beloved one-ring circus, Circus Flora, will celebrate its 25th anniversary with a brand new show called *Vagabond Adventures* June 2 through June 26 under the big top tent in Grand Center. Ivor David Balding, the artistic director and producer of Circus Flora since its inception, recently sat down with *Happenings* to talk about the new show as well as some of his adventures since joining the Circus a quarter century ago.

How do you plan to celebrate the 25th jubilee year of Circus Flora?

We're performing a star-studded show and bringing back some of the best acts from the past as well as incorporating new ones.

Tell us a little about *Vagabond Adventures*. What can audiences expect?

It's set on a magnificent showboat called the *Floating Palace*, which was a real circus venue that traveled up



and down the Mississippi River before the Civil War. The plot centers on finding stowaways on board, who dream of becoming circus performers. They discover a plot to steal the showboat and take it to Argentina. Through the stowaways' heroic efforts, the *Floating Palace* is saved, escaping the treacherous waters of the Gulf of Mexico, and brought back to delight the audiences of St. Louis.

How do you keep your energy level up for each performance night after night?

Like a lot of theater and art, we are doing this because it's what we love to do. That's what gets us. When we all get together and the show begins, the energy starts to flow.

When you create a show, what elements must be a part of the production?

There's got to be opportunities for good clowning and for animal acts.

What particularly excites you about this year's show?

Right now, probably because they just arrived, I'm really excited about our riding act. The bareback riders juggle to each other while standing on the backs of cantering horses. We also have an exciting new dog act.

What has been the highlight or greatest accomplishment of your 25 years with Circus Flora?

That we've become a beloved St. Louis institution. I also am thrilled at our collaboration with the St. Louis Symphony (the two performed together in January). I'm pleased that we are finally recognized as theater and that Edward Jones is our title sponsor.



Circus Flora (Circus Arts Foundation of Missouri) is an Operating Grant recipient of the Arts and Education Council. For more information visit www.circusflora.org or call 314.289.4040.





KEEP ART HAPPENING

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Letter from the President



Dear Friends: Winter is finally over and we can start to enjoy spring and the myriad of fairs and festivals that go along with the season. From visual art at Laumeier Sculpture Park to live theater at Forest Park, the St. Louis region has dozens of unique arts and culture events to enjoy throughout May and June. Even better, many are completely free. Be sure to check out the Know-and-Go Discount Calendar for a complete listing.

We have some new faces at the Council that I would like to introduce. Terri Leyton, the Council's new Director of Development, is responsible for all aspects of fundraising including corporate, foundation, and individual giving, major gifts, and planned giving. Brent Bradley is the Council's new Marketing and Communications Manager. Brent will manage the development and implementation of the Council's annual workplace giving marketing campaign, coordinate all e-based and social marketing initiatives, and manage the website.

I also am pleased to tell you the Council has launched two new additions to its website www.KeepArtHappening.org. The first, a new giving portal which provides you the ability to easily and securely make contributions, including the capability to conveniently set-up recurring donations on a monthly, quarterly or annual basis. We've also launched an interactive planned giving tool which provides gift calculators where you can enter your own information to view gift plan scenarios and an online will planner.

I encourage you to visit our website and take advantage of these new additions so that together, we can keep art happening.

Cindy

Cynthia A. Prost, President

GUEST COLUMN

By Timothy O'Leary



The story goes that when Winston Churchill was asked to reduce arts funding for the war effort, he replied to a finance minister, "Good God, man, then what are we fighting for?"

I love that story, not just because I am a Churchill nut, but because it's how so many people in this community feel about the organizations we're lucky enough to have in St. Louis. I am always moved that so many thousands voluntarily send generous contributions to "keep art happening."

Art sometimes delights and entertains, and sometimes it gets us to think about important topics that can be otherwise hard to talk about. Opera Theatre's 2011 festival season sets out to do both.

Mozart's Don Giovanni offers us the tale of Don Juan, who has 1,003 lovers in Spain alone but gets his due when he refuses to seek forgiveness. Donizetti's The Daughter of the Regiment has heartwarming hilarity and opera's most famous high C's - nine of them in a row. Debussy's Pelléas and Melisande is a love story often compared

to an Impressionist painting because of its subtle eroticism and beauty.

And The Death of Klinghoffer by Pulitzer Prize-winning composer John Adams is among the most moving, if controversial, modern masterpieces. Described by Newsweek as "a work that fires the heart," this retelling of the 1985 Achille Lauro hijacking deals courageously with ideas that are as contemporary as when the opera premiered twenty years ago: the tragedy of hatred leading to terrorism, the senseless murder of an innocent person, and, ultimately, the common humanity of ordinary people of all faiths and nationalities.

Opera is every art form combined into one—a somewhat absurd but mysteriously powerful way to tell a story. Opera Theatre's commitment to a varied repertoire and the highest artistic standards drew visitors from 47 states and 10 countries last season. I hope you'll be among them this season, and I thank you for making it possible!

Timothy O'Leary is the general director of Opera Theatre of Saint Louis, a Sustaining Funding recipient of the Arts and Education Council. For more information visit www.experienceopera.org or call 314.961.0644.



Shakespeare Festival St. Louis Showcases New Program on Bullying in St. Louis Area Schools

As Shakespeare Festival St. Louis gets ready to raise the curtain on its 2011 production of *The Taming of the Shrew* in Forest Park in late May, the festival's educational touring company is winding down an extensive three-month run of both a mini-play of *Shrew* and *Cruel to be Kind*, which centers on bullying. This original 50-minute play was inspired by William Shakespeare but written by Chris Limber, the Festival's director of education.

"There are some elements of bullying in *The Taming of the Shrew*," explained Limber, "and with bullying being of such great concern in schools today we felt it was a pertinent subject to tackle."

Set in the year 1599, *Cruel to be Kind* opens with Shakespeare furiously at work on his new play *As You Like It*, which contains several characters who torment and intimidate. Shakespeare uses these characters during a rehearsal of *As You Like It* to enlighten one of his young apprentices, Oswaldo, who is a terrible bully himself. Through Oz's journey and throughout the play, the student audience is exposed to several types of bullies and their menacing behavior.

Typically after the play, an hour-long *Bullies & Boundaries* workshop occurs where members of the Bard touring company and students discuss options to deal with bullies. They role-play pretending to be the bully and the bullied as well as the bystander who witnesses the activity. "Empowering bystanders to report or to diffuse the situation is as important as understanding the behaviors and motivation that lead to bullying in the first place," Limber noted. He also distributes a resource guide and exercises to teachers so they can continue the discussion and



Michael Perkins as Shakespeare, Antonio Rodriguez as Orlandin, Jessica Shoemaker as Penny and Khnemu Menu-Ra as Oswaldo © 2011 Anna Blair



Elana Kepner (member, Actor's Equity Association) as Mrs. Bundle and Khnemu Menu-Ra as Oswaldo © 2011 Anna Blair

address concerns with students after the actors depart.

"One of the goals of the workshop is to raise empathy in students, so they can be more compassionate and understanding with one another," said Limber.

Actress Elana Kepner, who portrays

Landlady Bundle in *Cruel*, said students often ask why her character is so mean to her daughter. "We talk about how Mrs. Bundle is stuck in a role (of landlady) that she probably didn't enjoy and took it out on her daughter," said Kepner. "Through the workshop, we are able to make the point that bullying doesn't just take place on the playground. It can happen at home. Teasing younger siblings can be another form of bullying. Sometimes we hear kids say they feel as if their parents are bullying them."

By May 20 when *Cruel* wraps up, these actors will have performed the play before more than 26,000 students at dozens of private and public schools in the bi-state area, including the entire freshman class of 1,600 students at the Hazelwood School District.

Shakespeare Festival St. Louis is an Operating Grant recipient of the Arts and Education Council. For more information visit www.shakespearefestivalstlouis.org or call 314.531.9800.

Your Money at Work

Impact on Individuals

The Arts and Education Council funds more than 70 arts and arts education organizations in the St. Louis area, which in turn enrich the lives of millions of people by exposing them to music, theater, dance, film, literary arts, visual arts and outreach programs. Two of these people are Ana Jennings of Kirkwood and Makensie Howe of Arnold.

Jennings suffered a spinal cord injury at age 18 and now uses a wheelchair. She now performs with the DisAbility Project, an acting troupe that operates under the auspices of That Uppity Theatre Company, which is funded in part through a Project Grant by the Arts and Education Council.

"We're a pretty different group of actors," says Jennings of the DisAbility Project. "You just don't see a lot of people with disabilities performing on stage. But this opportunity to act and create art has given me the chance to show people that disabilities aren't all that scary. We have feelings and thoughts and we interact, just like most of the rest of the world."

Founded 14 years ago by area residents Joan Lipkin and Frank Cohen, the DisAbility Project aims to raise awareness about disabilities, diminish bigotry and promote inclusion. The troupe is comprised of about 20 disabled and non-disabled members, ranging in age from 18 to 70. The project has performed for approximately 85,000 people to date.

Howe, who is now 17, began dancing when she was 3. In sixth grade she realized she wanted to devote herself to ballet. So at age 12 she auditioned for Alexandra Ballet and was accepted. In early March, she danced the title role

in the company's performance of the romantic ballet *Paquita*, drawing rave reviews.

"I have learned so much at Alexandra," says Howe, referring to the dance company that receives some of its funding through a Project Grant from the Arts and Education Council. "They are very strict there, but they have instilled a sense of dedication and motivation and respect in me that carries through to everything in my life, not just dance."

Her hard work there has paid off.

Howe recently learned that she earned a spot with the prestigious Houston Ballet's II apprentice company. This summer she will head to Houston for an intensive training program and then join the company in the fall.

That Uppity Theatre Company and Alexandra Ballet are Project Grant recipients of the Arts and Education Council. For more information visit www.uppityco.com or call 314.534.1454 and www.alexandraballet.com or 314.469.6222.



Makensie Howe
Photo by Tynetta Chastain



Ana Jennings

Council Launches New Online Donation Portal

The Arts and Education Council has launched a new giving portal on its website www.KeepArtHappening.org in conjunction with Network for Good, an online donation processing service for nonprofit organizations. The new online portal allows you to easily and securely contribute to the Council which in turn provides much-needed support, in the form of grants, to St. Louis area arts and arts education organizations.

A key new feature of the portal provides you with the ability to conveniently set-up recurring donations on a monthly, quarterly or annual basis. With this option, you may consider increasing the amount of your annual contribution with

the ability to space out your pledge payments throughout the year. Most importantly, you will find that establishing recurring donations is automated and hassle-free. You will receive automated confirmation receipts for each transaction.

The Arts and Education Council annually assists approximately 70 nonprofit arts and arts education organizations which provide music, theater, dance, film, literary arts, visual arts and outreach programs for both children and adults throughout the St. Louis metropolitan area.

Network for Good, founded in 2001 by AOL, Cisco and Yahoo!, has processed over \$450 million in donations for more than 70,000 nonprofits.

PLANNED GIVING: NEW ONLINE TOOL AVAILABLE

The Arts and Education Council's Arts Legacy Society recognizes supporters who make planned gifts to the Council in their estate plans which ensures the stability of the Council for future generations.

The reason for making a planned gift to the Council may be different for each donor — to honor a loved one or to ensure St. Louis' legacy of artistic excellence. Whatever the motivation for your gift, a planned gift can give you the assurance that you are being a good steward of your assets by increasing the benefits for yourself, family members, and the organization receiving the gift.

Planned giving is the process of making a deferred charitable donation in a manner that can financially benefit both the donor and the organization receiving the gift. What sets planned giving apart from a regular charitable contribution is that the actual contribution occurs some time in the future. Today you are deciding how and when that contribution will be made.

To assist you with planned giving, we have launched an interactive planned giving tool on our website at www.KeepArtHappening.org which describes the many types of planned

gifts available. There you can enter your own information to view gift plan scenarios and benefits. An online

wills planner is also available providing you a step-by-step guide to planning your estate.

If you wish to learn more about planned giving visit www.KeepArtHappening.org or contact Terri Leyton, director of development, at Terri-L@KeepArtHappening.org or 314.289.4003.

Frequently Asked Questions about Planned Giving

What are some types of planned gifts?

Bequests, charitable remainder trusts, life insurance beneficiary designation, named endowment, designated beneficiary of an individual retirement account or other pension plan.

What are the benefits of planned giving?

Besides the direct benefit to the Council, the benefit to you is usually a reduction in income taxes. Planned giving can be used to reduce your current and future income taxes, much like a regular charitable contribution. Quite

often a planned gift is used by your estate trustee to reduce or eliminate your final tax burden.

Is there a minimum gift?

No. All gifts are welcome and will benefit arts and arts education organizations throughout the St. Louis bi-state area.

How do I amend my will to include a gift for Council?

An online wills planner is available at www.KeepArtHappening.org providing you a step-by-step guide to planning your estate. We are happy to work with you and help ensure that your wishes are clearly stated.

MAY-JUN
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KNOW AND GO DISCOUNT CALENDAR



***2 FOR 1 & SPECIAL DISCOUNTS** Please present your Arts and Education ARTS Card at the ticket counter or box office in order to receive a discount. The 2-for-1 offer is for two people only per card; whether it extends to more than two persons is at the discretion of the participating organization. ARTS Card holder discounts are not recognized by electronic ticket outlets and may not be used to purchase subscription tickets. Expired ARTS Cards will not be accepted. **For up-to-the-minute calendar additions, see the Calendar on our website: www.KeepArtHappening.org.**

Create your own personal itinerary of events by visiting www.KeepArtHappening.org.

ON-GOING DISCOUNTS WITH THE ARTS CARD

JAZZ AT THE BISTRO offers 2-for-1 admission with the ARTS Card to most of its 10:15 pm performances. For details call 314.289.4030 or visit www.jazzstl.org

ST. LOUIS SYMPHONY offers a 10 percent discount on most of its Orchestral Series concerts with the ARTS Card. For details call 314.533.2500 or visit www.stlsymphony.org

MAY EVENTS

HOT CITY THEATRE

Intelligent Life

WHEN: Through May 14; Thur-Fri, 8 pm; Sat, 3 & 8 pm; Sun, 7 pm

WHERE: Kranzberg Arts Center, 501 N. Grand Blvd., St. Louis

COST: \$25

DISCOUNT: \$15 admission with the ARTS Card

Set in the basement of a tenant house in Utah, *Intelligent Life* tells the farcical tale of extraterrestrial, peyote-driven enthusiasts, self-titled "Utah Alien Chasers." This ramshackle group discovers a mud-stained little boy in a dinosaur costume who may or may not be an alien. What is certain is that the boy has a genius level IQ and telekinetic powers that are beyond this world! 314.289.4060 or www.hotcitytheatre.org

THE BLACK REP

Black Pearl Sings!

WHEN: Through May 15; Wed-Thurs, 7 pm; Fri-Sat, 8 pm; Sat-Sun, 3 pm

WHERE: Grandel Theatre, 3610 Grandel Square, St. Louis

COST: \$35-\$47

DISCOUNT: 2-for-1 admission with the ARTS Card

Jailed in a Texas prison, Alberta "Pearl" Johnson has little hope for release and even less for reconnecting with her missing daughter. That

is until Susannah Mullally, a song collector on a mission to record pieces of African-American culture, overhears Pearl singing while on a visit to the prison. Through her music, Pearl has the unexpected opportunity to earn her freedom and search for her daughter. 314.534.1834 or www.theblackrep.org

RIVER STYX

Kevin Prufer and Jane O. Wayne

WHEN: May 2; Mon, 7:30 pm

WHERE: Duff's Restaurant, 392 Euclid Ave., St. Louis

COST: \$4-\$5

DISCOUNT: 2-for-1 admission with the ARTS Card

The poets will read selections from their recent work. 314.533.4541 or www.riverstyx.org

DON'T MISS

ART FAIR AT LAUMEIER SCULPTURE PARK

WHEN: May 6-8; Fri. 6-10 pm; Sat, 10 am-8 pm; Sun, 10 am-5 pm

WHERE: Laumeier Sculpture Park, 12580 Rott Rd., Sunset Hills

COST: \$8 adults, \$5 children 6-11; free for members and children under 6

DISCOUNT: None

Choose from a variety of creative and original works of art from 150 artists across the country. Available for sale are works in sculpture, clay, painting, mixed media, fiber, jewelry, photography, wood and more. 314.615.5283 or www.laumeiersculpturepark.org

OPERA THEATRE OF SAINT LOUIS

Don Giovanni, The Daughter of the Regiment, Pelléas and Melisande and The Death of Klinghoffer

WHEN: May 21-June 26

WHERE: Loretto-Hilton Center, 130 Edgar Rd., Webster Groves

COST: \$25-\$120

DISCOUNT: 2-for-1 admission with the ARTS Card for evening performances in Sections 2 and 3

From slapstick to romantic fantasy; dark comedy to contemporary tragedy, the 2011 season proves you can expect the unexpected at Opera Theatre. The plays are performed in repertory. For a performance schedule and more information, call 314.961.0644 or www.experienceopera.org.

THE BLACK REP

The Montford Point

WHEN: May 25-June 26; Wed-Thurs, 7 pm; Fri-Sat, 8 pm; Sat-Sun, 3 pm

WHERE: Grandel Theatre, 3610 Grandel Square, St. Louis

COST: \$35-\$47

DISCOUNT: 2-for-1 admission with the ARTS Card

The day of July 10, 1993 marks a special moment for Robert Charles Wilson. Fifty years ago he enlisted to become a Marine at Montford Point. He proudly served his country in WWII at Iwo Jima and after exiting the service trained as a classical opera singer. But his only shortcoming in life was separating from his wife, Gwen, when she refused to chase his dream of becoming a famous singer. With their only son R.C. in town to celebrate the anniversary of his father's enlistment, this day brings a wave of memories back to Robert, along with a few unexpected turns in this world premiere theater event. 314.534.1834 or www.theblackrep.org

DON'T MISS

SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL ST. LOUIS

The Taming of the Shrew

WHEN: May 27-June 19; nightly except Tues, 8 pm (pre-performance starts at 6:30 pm)

WHERE: Shakespeare Glen in Forest Park

COST: Free

Purchase a picnic or bring your own; bring low-back chairs or blankets or rent a chair for a nominal amount. Nightly green show entertainment includes musicians, jugglers, dancers, lectures and a mini-play that introduces the character and plot to children of all ages. 314.531.9800 or www.shakespearefestivalstlouis.org

DON'T MISS

DANCE ST. LOUIS *Spring to Dance*

WHEN: May 26-28

WHERE: Touhill Performing Arts Center,
UMSL Campus, One University Blvd., St. Louis

COST: \$10

DISCOUNT: None

Don't miss this fourth annual 'Best of the Midwest' dance event over Memorial Day weekend. Roughly 10 different dance companies perform each night, including members of the Joffrey Ballet, Martha Graham Dance Company, Dance Theatre of Harlem, Hubbard Street 2, James Sewell Ballet and Chicago Human Rhythm Project's BAM! For a complete listing of companies performing each night and times, call 314.534.5000 or visit www.dancestlouis.org

FLORISSANT FINE ARTS COUNCIL

Big Band Patriotic Salute

WHEN: May 30; Mon, 7 pm

WHERE: Florissant Civic Center Theatre,
Parker Rd. at Waterford Dr., Florissant

COST: \$8 adults; \$6 seniors/students

DISCOUNT: 2-for-1 admission with the
ARTS Card

The Florissant Fine Arts Council and the City of Florissant continue the series of Big Band concerts featuring Gary Dammer on trumpet and 17 of the St. Louis area's finest musicians in their annual Memorial Day Patriotic Salute. 314.921.5678 or www.FlorissantMO.com

JUNE EVENTS

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY EDWARDSVILLE

Xfest

WHEN: June 1-4; Wed-Sat, 7:30 pm

WHERE: Metcalf and Dunham Hall Theatres,
SIUE Campus, Edwardsville, IL

COST: \$12-\$28

DISCOUNT: \$3 off \$15 tickets and
\$2 off \$12 tickets with the ARTS Card

SIUE's second annual experimental theater festival, Xfest 2.0, welcomes five theater companies from across the nation to entertain, inspire and spark creativity on campus and in our community. The festival includes performances, a key note speaker, family-friendly shows and workshops, and two never before seen, world-premier performances. 618.650.2774 or www.siu.edu/xfest

NEW JEWISH THEATRE

The Immigrant

WHEN: June 1-19; Wed-Thurs, 7:30 pm;
Sat 8 pm; Sun 2 and 7:30 pm

WHERE: Wool Studio Theatre, JCC Staenberg
Family Complex, 2 Millstone Campus Dr.,
Creve Coeur

COST: \$26-\$36

DISCOUNT: \$5 off with the ARTS Card

This is the (mostly true) story of two Eastern European Jews who immigrated to a small Texas town in 1909. When Haskell ends up in Hamilton, Texas, he discovers that he is a stranger in a strange land as the town's only Jew. He must struggle to hold onto or recapture his sense of culture, family and a place in the world. Playwright Mark Harelik's loving portrayal of his grandparents' tale is a touching search for both personal and cultural roots. 314.442.3283 or www.newjewishtheatre.org

CIRCUS FLORA

Vagabond Adventures

WHEN: June 2-26; Fri-Sat, 2 & 7 pm; Sun, 1:30
& 5:30 pm; Tue-Thurs, 7 pm; Wed, 10 am
(no matinee Fri June 3)

WHERE: Big Tent in Grand Center, in the
parking lot adjacent to Powell Hall, St. Louis

COST: \$8-\$44

DISCOUNT: \$5 off Fri-Sun with the ARTS Card

For the 25th anniversary season, Circus Flora whisks patrons away for a thrilling adventure on a riverboat down the Mississippi River with *Vagabond Adventures*. Set on the Floating Palace, a real circus venue that traveled up and down the Mississippi River before the Civil War, *Vagabond Adventures* reunites circus stars from the last quarter century. Highlights include the Flying Wallendas, the St. Louis Arches, the Flying Pages and everyone's favorite clown, Giovanni Zoppé as Nino, along with many exciting new acts, including the Olate Dogs' amazing tricks and the Riding Donnet's spellbinding horsemanship. 314.289.4040 or www.circusflora.org

STAGES ST. LOUIS

A Chorus Line

WHEN: June 3-July 3, Tues through Sun
with matinee and evening performances

WHERE: The Robert G. Reim Theatre,
111 S. Geyer Rd., Kirkwood

COST: \$35-\$55

DISCOUNT: 2-for-1 admission with the ARTS
Card for Tues-Thurs evening performances

Telling the triumphant and heartbreaking story of a group of young dancers auditioning for the chorus of a Broadway musical, *A Chorus Line* speaks eloquently to anyone who's ever put himself on the line to land a job. With an unforgettable score that includes "I Hope I Get It," "One," and "What I Did For Love," *A Chorus Line* is a celebration of the music, movement, and emotion of musical theater. 314.821.2407 or www.stagesstlouis.org

DON'T MISS

ART & AIR

WHEN: June 3-5; Fri, 6-10 pm; Sat, 11 am-10 pm;
Sun, 12 - 5 pm

WHERE: 475 Lockwood Ave., Webster Groves

COST: Free

Art & Air, a one-of-a-kind fine art fair, is set among the beautiful park setting of Eden Theological Seminary, in the heart of historic Webster Groves. It showcases many kinds of art, while offering food, music performances and unique creative activities for the whole family. 314.968.6500 or www.artandair.com

RIVER STYX

Hungry Young Poets Series

WHEN: June 20; Mon, 7:30 pm

WHERE: Duff's Restaurant, 392 Euclid Ave.,
St. Louis

COST: \$4-\$5

DISCOUNT: 2-for-1 admission with the
ARTS Card

Young artists will read selections from their recent work. 314.533.4541 or www.riverstyx.org

DON'T MISS

HISPANIC FESTIVAL

Fiesta in Florissant

WHEN: June 25-26; Sat, 10 am-10 pm;
Sun, 11 am-9 pm

WHERE: Knights of Columbus Park, Lindbergh
Blvd. and Washington St., Florissant

COST: Free

Annual Latin festival with folkloric dancers, music, piñata, children's pavilion, Hispanic arts and crafts, food and drinks. 314.837.6100 or www.hispanicfestivalstl.com

Who We Support – 2011 Grantees

Thanks to our generous donors, the Arts and Education Council is able to support these Grantees in 2011.

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St. Louis Storytelling Festival
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Jazz St. Louis and the City of Chesterfield Receive Missouri Arts Awards

Both Jazz St. Louis and the City of Chesterfield (Chesterfield Arts) were recipients of the 2011 Missouri Arts Awards presented by the Missouri Arts Council in February.

Established in 1983, these awards honor individuals and organizations that have made profound and lasting contributions to the cultural and artistic climate of the state. Each year, Missouri Arts Award nominees are reviewed by a committee of citizens from throughout the state who are knowledgeable, experienced and highly respected in the arts.

Six awards were given out this year. Jazz St. Louis was awarded outstanding Arts Organization and the City of Chesterfield (Chesterfield Arts) was heralded in the Creative Community category. In addition, Juan Williams Chavez of St. Louis was recognized in the Individual Artist category.

Jazz St. Louis is an Operating Grant recipient of the Arts and Education Council. For more information visit www.jazzstl.org or call 314.289.4030. Chesterfield Arts is a Project Grant recipient. For more information visit www.chesterfieldarts.org or call 636.519.1955.

The Monsanto Fund and the Arts and Education Council Award Grants to Rural Communities

The Monsanto Fund, in collaboration with the Arts and Education Council, has awarded \$16,000 in grants to eight arts and arts education programs dedicated to bringing top-quality artists and entertainers into the classrooms and performance venues of the region's rural communities. Thanks to the generous support of the Monsanto Fund, people living in the counties and rural communities surrounding the St. Louis metropolitan area have the opportunity to enjoy quality arts and cultural performances and programming, ensuring that the arts remain accessible to all.

"The funds from the Monsanto Rural Community Arts Education Program



MONSANTO FUND

are invaluable to these communities, providing them with access to arts and cultural events and programming that may otherwise go unfunded," said Cynthia A. Prost, president of the Arts and Education Council.

With these grants, the Monsanto Fund and the Arts and Education Council will provide direct support to arts and arts education projects whose reach extend to rural communities

within the bi-state, 16-county reach of metropolitan St. Louis, bringing life-enriching arts experiences and opportunities to children, teens, and adults; including at-risk, disadvantaged, economically-challenged and underserved populations.

"The Monsanto Fund is pleased to collaborate with the Arts and Education Council to provide cultural experiences and quality arts education to students in rural communities, where many of our area farmers live," said Deborah Patterson, president, the Monsanto Fund. "We believe in supporting farmers and their families and in providing unique educational opportunities to students in these communities."

2011 Monsanto Rural Community Arts Education Program Grantees

Gateway Center for the Arts - Located in Washington, Missouri, the Gateway Center for the Arts, a community based organization, offer individuals of all ages, abilities and socio-economic status the opportunity to participate in the visual and performing arts.

The Hettenhausen Center for the Arts - The Hettenhausen Center for the Arts at McKendree University in Lebanon, Illinois strives to nurture creative and critical thinking by exposing students and the greater Southern Illinois community to influential, diverse and innovative artists and speakers.

Highland Arts Council - The Highland Arts Council in Highland, Illinois actively promotes the arts in and around the community of Highland, through a variety of activities and projects. The Council provides a showcase for local artists and an educational opportunity for many members of the community to be exposed to the arts.

Jacoby Arts Center - The Jacoby Arts Center located in Alton, Illinois fosters the artistic development and economic success of artists and expands accessibility to the arts through programs that promote education, participation and exploration.

O'Fallon Arts Commission - The Arts Commission in O'Fallon, Illinois was established to promote and encourage public programs; to further the development and public awareness of and interest in the fine and performing arts; to facilitate the identification and preservation of the cultural heritage of the city, and to act in an advisory capacity to the city in connection with the artistic and cultural development of the city.

Raintree Arts Council - The Raintree Arts Council is a community arts organization serving Pike and Lincoln Counties in east central Missouri and creates programs and services that provide experiences for individuals to participate and experience the arts.

Sullivan Patrons of the Arts - Located in Sullivan, Missouri the mission of the Sullivan Patrons of the Arts is to support and promote the visual, fine, and performing arts in the community, to increase the cultural opportunities in the area, and to provide scholarships and other opportunities to local youth and area artists.

Warren County Fine Arts Council - The Council's mission is to provide all of the citizens of Warren County, Missouri with the opportunity to experience a variety of arts both in schools and throughout the community.

River Styx Offers Writing Workshops

By Richard Newman

I wish someone had thought of it when I was a high school kid with dreams of being a writer. It would have saved me several years and spared the world a great many terrible poems and stories.

In a time of teacher layoffs and furloughs and cutting back of extra-curricular activities, what's a high school student who wants to write supposed to do? He or she could sign up for River Styx's Medinah Workshops for High School Students. No one else in the area offers anything like it—workshops and

Medinah Workshops for High School Students
June 7-30, 2011
Tues and Thurs, 10 am – 12 pm
Centene Center
for Arts and Education

tutorials in poetry, fiction, and creative non-fiction led by the editors of River Styx magazine. Workshops are held twice a week, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 am – 12 pm. In addition to hands-on, roll-up-your-sleeves attention to a writer's work, the workshops also include guest readings, presentations, and craft lectures. The program is offered in the Centene Center for Arts and Education

and costs \$200 per individual. Some scholarships are available.

River Styx is a Project Grant recipient of the Arts and Education Council. To sponsor a scholarship or for more information visit www.riverstyx.org or call 314.533.4541.

Richard Newman is the author of two full-length poetry collections, Borrowed Towns and Domestic Fugues. His poems and stories have recently appeared in Best American Poetry, Boulevard, Crab Orchard Review, The Sun, and many other magazines and anthologies. He reviews books for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch and has served as Editor of River Styx, St. Louis's premier literary magazine, for 16 years.

Arts and Education Council Welcomes New Staff

TERRI LEYTON

The Arts and Education Council is pleased to announce the appointment of Terri Leyton as the Council's new director of development. At the Council Leyton will be responsible for all aspects of fundraising including corporate, foundation, and individual giving, major gifts, and planned giving.

Leyton was most recently at the Central Institute for the Deaf where she served as the director of development and focused on corporate and foundation relations, grant writing and annual giving. Previously, she served in a variety of positions in the Office of Alumni & Development Programs at Washington University in St. Louis including director of regional cabinet programming in the office of major gifts and capital projects, director of the reunion class gift program, and associate director of annual giving. Leyton has also worked for numerous

nonprofit organizations including the National Council of Jewish Women-St. Louis Section, the Miriam Foundation, Central Reform Congregation, the Chautauqua Institution in New York, and the National Organization for Women in Washington, D.C.

Leyton holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in journalism and political science from George Washington University and a Master's degree in nonprofit management from Washington University in St. Louis. She is a board member at Crown Center for Senior Living and a member of the Association of Fundraising Professionals.



BRENT BRADLEY

Brent Bradley has joined the Council as its new marketing and communications manager. At the Council, Bradley will manage the development and implementation of the Council's annual workplace giving marketing campaign, coordinate all e-based and social marketing initiatives, and manage the website.

Bradley comes to the Council from Brown Shoe Company where he was a marketing planning specialist for Famous Footwear, and formerly, a marketing specialist for Dr. Scholl's. There he aided the re-launch of Dr. Scholl's brand identity, served as a liaison between the marketing and creative teams, and developed social media plans. Bradley has also

held marketing positions at Webster University's Career Services office, and at the Arts Council of Indianapolis where he developed area artist opportunities as well as agency e-newsletters.

Bradley holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in art history from Indiana University's Herron School of Art and a Master's degree in marketing from Webster University. He is a member of the American Marketing Association and the Social Media Club-St. Louis.



Circle of Giving

January 16 – March 15, 2011

The following donors have made gifts that enable the Arts and Education Council to invest in arts organizations and enhance the cultural life of the St. Louis metropolitan community.

\$10,000 and above

Schnuck Markets, Inc.

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Mr. and Mrs. Walter J. Galvin

\$2,500 - \$4,999

Ms. Barbara B. Goodman

Mrs. Hilda P. Jones

Switch

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Ms. Mary V. Atkin

Mr. and Mrs. Irl F. Engelhardt

Mr. Terrance J. Good

Ms. Cary D. Hobbs

John Burroughs School

Mrs. Ellen M. Martin

Ms. Cynthia McCafferty

Ms. Eileen K. McLoughlin

Ms. Patricia Redington

The Regional Arts Commission

Mr. Paul K. Reuter and

Dr. Janet Brown

Mr. and Mrs. Jerry E. Ritter

St. Louis Children's Choirs

\$500 - \$999

Mr. and Mrs. James G. Berges

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Centerpoint Energy -

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Mike and Mary Harris

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence P.

Katzenstein

Mr. Robert J. Morrison and

Ms. Rebecca A. McGill

The Repertory Theatre

of St. Louis

Ms. Janice Seele

Mr. and Mrs. Allen D. Soffer

Mr. Marc Thayer

In Memory

Andrew Baur

Former Arts and Education Council Board Chairman Andrew N. "Drew" Baur passed away on Sunday, February 20, 2011 at age 66.

Mr. Baur served as chairman of Southwest Bank of St. Louis and held a similar position with Country Bank of St. Louis. He was also a former president and chairman of Commerce Bank of St. Louis and Mercantile Trust Co., N.A.

Beyond his banking career Mr. Baur helped organize the original ownership group that purchased the St. Louis Cardinals from Anheuser-Busch in 1996. He served as a director of the Cardinals as well as the team's treasurer until his death.

Mr. Baur also had great passion for the arts and for giving back to his community. In addition to the Arts and Education Council, Mr. Baur was on the boards of the St. Louis Regional Chamber & Growth Association, KETC, the Muny, St. Luke's Hospital and was commissioner emeritus of Tower Grove Park. He also served as chair of the National Kidney Foundation and was recently involved with Autism Speaks.

The Council joins the St. Louis community in mourning the loss of an exceptional businessman, civic leader and philanthropist.

Tributes

Tributes are a unique way to support the Arts and Education Council while honoring family and friends. Contact the Council to learn more.

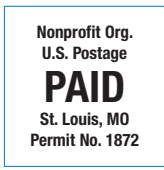


Official Airline of the
Arts and Education Council

Thank you to our donors who help preserve St. Louis' legacy of artistic excellence and enrich its cultural community.



Centene Center for Arts and Education
3547 Olive Street
St. Louis, Missouri 63103-1014



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AMERICANS
for the **ARTS**

Council President Cynthia A. Prost Elected to Americans for the Arts' Private Sector Council

The Arts and Education Council is pleased to announce that President Cynthia A. Prost has been elected to the Private Sector Council of Americans for the Arts, the nation's nonprofit organization for advancing the arts.

"It is an honor to be elected to join such an esteemed group of arts leaders. I look forward to working closely with the Private Sector Council to increase private sector support for the arts in St. Louis, as well as providing guidance as others work to do the same in their own communities," said Prost.

The Private Sector Council represents the Private Sector Network - a segment of the professional members of Americans for the Arts who have as their goal increased private sector support for the arts. The Council helps develop and implement private sector advocacy programs, and serves as leaders to other local arts agencies seeking to connect with the private sector.