

Greetings

While summer may be full of lazy days, there are many exciting events to discuss! First, I recently had the opportunity to attend the VSA International Conference in Washington, D.C. Not only did I see amazing presentations, displays, performances and shows; I met dynamic people making a difference in the worlds of art, education, and disability. I was especially moved to be in our nation's capital as it geared up for the 20th anniversary of the Americans for Disabilities Act. We heard from some of the original legislators of the 1990 law as well as people in the White House, Department of Education, and many diverse organizations working today for continued advancement and inclusion. To witness the progress of this legislative action as well as advancements in the education of students with disabilities, I am invigorated by the momentum of opportunity, respect and equality for all!

In Ohio there are many ways to be involved in the continued recognition, celebration, and efforts for access and inclusion - several are listed in the Resources and Opportunities sections. VSAO is also supporting a new project - a mural that celebrates this momentous legislation and looks ahead towards even greater inclusion. This mural will be constructed by Ohio artists with a variety of abilities and from across the state - they will gain important professional development experience and make valuable connections with peers. Those who have been affected by the ADA in any way can speak with authority and are equality's best advocates. This beautiful 6 foot tall and 30 foot wide mural will tour Ohio to continue raising awareness - it is available to visit your community, so please contact our offices today.

At VSA Ohio we work to make the arts and arts education more accessible to all Ohioans by connecting them with resources, opportunities, and services. If you would like to support our work please consider sending a donation. I wish you all the best and look forward to continued efforts toward our shared goals.

Sincerely,
Allison Dickey
president, VSAO board of directors

From VSA Ohio

Public Opinion Poll for Arts, Culture and Entertainment, part of the Ohio Arts Council Strategic Planning Process

Do you have an opinion on the state of the arts in Ohio? Now is the time to speak out. The Ohio Arts Council (OAC) is conducting a statewide arts, culture and entertainment opinion survey. The goal of this survey is to learn more about how the OAC can best meet citizens' cultural needs, and the results will be used as part of the OAC's strategic planning process. What do you think the state of Ohio should be doing to advance the arts? Survey results will be reported in the aggregate (individual responses will be anonymous), and the OAC will provide an executive summary of the results once analysis of those findings is complete. Share your thoughts by taking the survey, and then forward it on to your friends, family and colleagues. Click here to take the survey:

<http://ohioartssurvey.questionpro.com/>

ADA Mural Unveiling, July 26, Ohio Statehouse

VSA Ohio invited Ohioans of all abilities to submit artwork reflecting on their experience with the Americans with Disabilities Act. A number of artists are working together to create a mural inspired by the entries and designed by master artist, Kong Ho (www.kongho.com). The 6 foot tall x 30 foot wide mural will be unveiled at the Ohio Statehouse during the ADA celebration. Join us to see the mural, meet the artists, celebrate the advances made over the past 20 years, and look forward to the work ahead. The event's ceremony will begin at 11:45 on the West Lawn (alternate rain location is the Atrium).

Be Table Sponsor at the 20th Anniversary of the ADA Celebration, July 26, Ohio Statehouse

Join the Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission and many others to Celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act! Your organization can reserve a table for \$40 and share information, resources, and opportunities with everyone in attendance. To reserve an information table visit www.vsao.org and download the table sponsor form or call VSA Ohio at 614-241-5325.

Bring the ADA Mural to your community!

After its display during the celebration at the Ohio Statehouse, the ADA Mural will tour the state of Ohio to raise awareness and advocate for arts and disability issues. The mural is made up of 6 panels 6' h x 6' w and will bring an important message to your constituents, employees, and guests. The length of display can be negotiated. Contact Erin at 614-241-5325 today to reserve the mural.

Accessible Expressions Ohio 2010 Catalog Now Available Online

View the catalog of images from 95 Ohio artists with disabilities and the 112 works on tour throughout Ohio. Much of the art is available for sale - to purchase a piece of art call 614-241-5325. The catalog is available for download in pdf format on the VSAO website:

http://www.vsao.org/homepage/AEO%202010_Catalog.pdf.

Become a fan of VSA Ohio Facebook!

Visit www.facebook.com to get and stay connected to VSA Ohio activities and events, network with other VSAO artists, and spread the word about VSAO's work and mission.

Congratulations to....!

_Dancing Wheels July 1st marks the beginning of this renowned company's 30th season! The company celebrate by looking back at some of the momentous events in the past, and looking toward the future with excitement as they continue to bring unprecedented access to the arts for all people of all abilities!

_Derek Mortland, VSAO artist services coordinator, who was featured in the June 4, The Late Starter Musician, blog. Read the article at

<http://latestartermusician.com/blog/2010/06/04/relearning-the-guitar-after-a-spinal-chord-injury/>.

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Have a success story about your art or your community? Share it with us by emailing info@vsao.org or calling 614-241-5325.

From VSA

Contours of Inclusion: Inclusive Arts Teaching and Learning

The second edition on Contours of Inclusion includes two case studies from organizations that received Arts Connect All funding from the MetLife Foundation and two case studies from the VSA Communities of Practice. Forwarded by Bill Henderson, principal of William W. Henderson Inclusion School, Contours of Inclusion gained praise by Assistant Deputy Secretary of the Office of Innovation and Improvement at the U.S. Department of Education as a leading model of exemplary inclusive arts teaching and learning practices. Contours of Inclusion is also available on the VSA homepage www.vsarts.org. If you would like additional hard copies of the publication, please email Kim Willey, Evaluation and Outcomes Coordinator, at knwilley@vsarts.org.

Search the Living Research International Database for educational research on arts and disability

The LRI embodies VSA's commitment to the on-going development of understanding surrounding the educational impact of the arts. The summaries of relevant information, along with the research submission and review process, provide a gateway for knowledge exchange. Utilize this great resource by visiting <http://livingresearch.vsarts.org/admin/index.cfm>.

Announcing the 2010 VSA Apprentices at the Williamstown Theatre Festival

VSA is happy to announce the 2010 VSA apprentices at the Williamstown Theatre Festival, Nathaniel Barber and Nicole Kelly! Nathaniel and Nicole will work and take classes with over 60 other apprentices this summer, learning about the different aspects of running a professional theater company. Read more at www.vsarts.org/x1625.xml.

Opportunities

Visual Arts Fellowships, deadline July 30

The Greater Columbus Arts Council (GCAC) and The Columbus Museum of Art (CMA) encourage and support cultural development in the Columbus area. In this capacity, GCAC and CMA have partnered to present the 2010 Individual Artists Fellowship Program. The program provides unrestricted grants to artists of outstanding talent and ability who currently live in the City of Columbus and/or Franklin County, and have done so for at least one year. The following categories will be considered for the 2010 Visual Arts awards: Crafts; Photography; 2-D Visual Arts; and 3-D Visual Arts. The application is now available at <http://www.gcac.org/grants-services-for-artists/>. For more information e-mail Ruby Classen at rclassen@gcac.org.

Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council Seeks New Members, deadline July 31

The ODDC is currently seeking applicants for membership terms beginning in October 2010. Openings this year are for 2 individuals with a developmental disability and 1 parent or guardians of children with a developmental disability. Read more about requirements, term, opportunity, and application process by visiting <http://ddc.ohio.gov/new%20membership.htm>.

ASCAP Foundation Grant, deadline for letter of intent is August 1

The ASCAP Foundation accepts Letters of Intent from 501(c)(3) organizations engaging in music education and talent development programs that are consistent with the mission and objectives of The ASCAP Foundation and that support music education programs for aspiring songwriters and composers. The average grant is between \$1,500 - \$3,000 and is made on an annual onetime basis. The average grant is approximately \$2,500. For more information, visit www.ascapfoundation.org/grants.html.

Institute on Disability Seeks Artists for its 2011 Calendar, deadline July 30

Are you an artist looking for an opportunity to get your work noticed? Do you know someone who is an artist and might be interested in such an opportunity? Every year since 2000, the Institute on Disability at the University of New Hampshire has produced a calendar that features 13 original works of art. These highly anticipated calendars are distributed each year to thousands of people around the world who are connected to the IOD's mission of strengthening communities and ensuring full access, equal opportunities, and participation for all persons. The IOD is currently inviting artists to submit artwork to be considered for its 2011 Calendar. For more information visit <http://iod.unh.edu/6-24-10.html>.

Resources

ADA Anniversary Toolkit now available

The Southeast ADA Center is pleased to announce the release of the - 2010 Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Anniversary Tool Kit on <http://adaanniversary.org/>. Together with our Affiliate Networks and Partners, ADA Ohio has accomplished significant results toward voluntary ADA compliance. The Tool Kit captures collective achievements and offers informative materials designed to help you plan and publicize your ADA activities during the ADA Anniversary and throughout the year.

Nationwide Research Study on NCLB and Art Education Released

Supported by a grant from the National Art Education Foundation, a nationwide study titled "NCLB: A Study of Its Impact on Art Education Programs" has been released. Read the report: http://www.arteducators.org/research/NCLB_Proj_Report_2-10.pdf.

Marketing Strategies @ NAMPRadio

How can your arts organization find the most innovative ways to market your programs? Bookmark your browser to NAMPRadio, a monthly podcast series by the National Arts Marketing Project at www.ArtsMarketing.org. NAMPRadio covers arts marketing, technology, and audience development topics-all led by specialists in the field. NAMPRadio is a program of Americans for the Arts.

Public Funding for the Arts: An Outline for Securing Local Public Sector Funding for the Arts

During these tough budget and economic times we must find creative alternatives for continued support for the arts throughout Ohio's communities. In addition to meeting with your legislators on a regular basis, advocates should consider using tools such as the Ohio Citizens for the Arts resource, *Public Funding for the Arts: An Outline for Securing Local Public Sector Funding for the Arts*, to discover the potential for local funding sources. Local initiatives have had great success in Ohio and throughout the nation. These initiatives start with well-organized and transparent advocacy efforts. Today's economy challenges all of us to think more critically and to develop additional ways of doing business to ensure the success of the arts for all Ohioans. Download the resource here: http://www.ohiocitizensforthearts.org/pdf/Local_Public_Sector_Funding_for_the_Arts.pdf.

Job Accommodation Network

The Job Accommodation Network (JAN) is the leading source of free, expert, and confidential guidance on workplace accommodations and disability employment issues. Working toward practical solutions that benefit both employer and employee, JAN helps people with disabilities enhance their employability, and shows employers how to capitalize on the value and talent that people with disabilities add to the workplace. For more information visit <http://askjan.org/index.html>.

That's HandiC_ap

This video, produced by the Northwest Institute for Social Change, profiles students with disabilities who are successfully breaking through the barriers of "HandiCrap" to find their productive place in the workforce. View the video at www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cw8VClKn8sI.

Accommodating People with Cognitive Disabilities in the Workplace, On-Line Educational Tool

This online education tool developed by the DBTAC-Great Lakes ADA Center will provide the audience with an enhanced understanding of people with cognitive disabilities, help them make sense of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and legal responsibilities related to people with cognitive disabilities, and provide them with tools that can be applied in the workplace when addressing accommodations for people with cognitive disabilities. This tool is specifically designed for:

_An employer considering hiring someone with a disability

_An employer with employees that experienced a disability and want to return to work or may be up for a promotion

_A person with a disability or who knows someone with a disability who is trying to figure out employment options.

Access the module at

www.adagreatlakes.org/Presentations/CognitiveDisabilities/slides.asp.

News

Institute of Museum and Library Services Unveils 21st Century Learning Campaign

ArtDaily.org, 6/21/10

"The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) has announced a national campaign aimed at engaging museums, libraries, and civic leaders in meeting the 21st century learning needs of their communities. The national campaign, 'Making the Learning Connection,' is intended to help communities assess their needs and contribute to a shared vision for 21st century learning. It includes an eight city workshop tour, a national contest, new online tools and resources, and a series of interactive webinars." Read more at <http://bit.ly/bBVe9F>.

Opinion: Supporting Arts Education is Essential, Zanesville Times Recorder, 6/6/10

Donna Collins, executive director of the Ohio Alliance for Arts Education, wrote the following in a guest column on the importance of arts education in tough economic times:

"Education in the arts prepares students for careers. Americans for the Arts reported in 2009 that nationally there are 612,095 businesses in the U.S. involved in the creation or distribution of the arts that employ 2.98 million people-4.3 percent of all businesses and 2.2 percent of all employees. The arts mean careers and business. The arts are recognized as a core subject, which places arts education at the same level of importance as language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, and foreign languages." Read the rest of the article: <http://bit.ly/cFJAvZ>

Healthcare.gov Launched July 1

The White House Disability Group announced the launch of a new online tool to connect consumers with information and resources to help them access quality, affordable healthcare coverage. To learn more about the launch and the site, visit the Whitehouse Blog at www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2010/07/01/announcing-healthcaregov.

Top Ten Companies for People with Disabilities, inclusionRX from Diversity World, May 2010

Diversity Inc has recently released its 2010 list of the 'Top Ten Companies for People with Disabilities.' Some of the criteria used for indentifying these companies include: recruiting programs for people with disabilities; work/life and other accommodation benefits; diversity-awareness training that addresses people with disabilities; employee-resource groups for people with disabilities and/or caregivers; and communications, such as web sites and other materials, that feature employees with disabilities.

<http://www.diversityinc.com/article/7347/The-2010-DiversityInc-Top-50-List/>.

Disability Matters talk radio with Joyce Bender

Disability Matters with Joyce Bender is one of the first international talk radio shows with real-time captioning focused on the employment and empowerment of people with disabilities. Hear prominent disability leaders such legislators and private sector senior executives. The show airs on the VoiceAmerica Channel

(<http://www.voiceamerica.com/voiceamerica/vshow.aspx?sid=1315>) every Tuesday from 2pm - 3pm est. Toll free number is 866-472-5788.

The EyeWriter, Helping People With ALS To Create Art Using Only Their Eyes, Laughing Squid, June 22, 2010

"The EyeWriter (<http://www.eyewriter.org/>) is an amazing collaborative project that is helping empower people suffering from ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease), by allowing them to create art using only their eyes. It was orginally developed for Los Angeles graffiti artist [Tony Quan aka Temp One](#), who was diagnosed with ALS in 2003 and who can now makes digital art using The EyeWriter which has been projected on the side of buildings."

Arts & Disability in Ohio Calendar

July 1 - Sept. 30, Accessible Expressions Ohio on display at Ohio Statehouse

The AEO tour will be on display at the Ohio Statehouse, 1 Capitol Square, Columbus, OH 43215. Hours are Monday - Friday, 7:00am - 6:00pm and Saturday - Sunday, 11:00am - 5:00pm. For more information please call 614-728-2696.

July 17, Art & Clay on Main Grand Reopening, Lancaster

The new home of Blue Shoe Arts will celebrate with family oriented activities beginning at 10:00am. Enjoy food, a clown, music and a special discount of 10% off any ceramics project. Then at 6:00pm, the lights go down, the music slows and Date Night begins! Impress someone special with your creativity or just come in and enjoy the music, the food and your own beverages. Art & Clay on Main is located at 150 W. Main Street, Lancaster, OH 43130. Call 740-653-1755 for more information.

July 20, 2:00 - 3:30 est, Webinar: ADA Update: 20th Anniversary of the ADA

Mark the historic 20th anniversary of the ADA by joining this audio conference and listen to representatives of the Federal Agencies present an update on their litigation, technical assistance and enforcement efforts over the past year, including highlights of

accomplishments over the past 20 years. Participants will have an opportunity to pose questions. Speakers from Americans with Disabilities Act Division and Disability Rights Section of the Civil Rights Division, US Department of Justice. For information on how to register visit <http://www.ada-ohio.org/>.

July 22, Michael Kaiser hosts Arts in Crisis Tour, Cleveland

Arts in Crisis: A Kennedy Center Initiative is a program designed to provide planning assistance and consulting to struggling arts organizations throughout the United States. President Michael M. Kaiser is traveling to all 50 States to assist organizations in need. Attend this session at The Hanna Building at Playhouse Square, 1422 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH. This event is sponsored by The Cleveland Foundation. For more information call Playhouse Square at 216-771-4444.

July 26, ADA Anniversary Celebrations, Columbus and other

The Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission is hosting a celebration of the 20th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. On Friday, July 26, the Ohio Statehouse will be the setting to hear from elected officials, see the beautiful ADA mural painted by Ohio artists with disabilities, see photo projects by Ohioans with disabilities, enjoy live entertainment and learn more about services when you visit information displays and booths. Other celebrations are planned throughout the state. Read the ORSC flyer about the celebration in Columbus and around Ohio at <http://www.rsc.ohio.gov/pressroom/PressRoomDocuments/ADA%20Celebration.pdf>.

August 7 - 28, Accessible Expressions Ohio on display at ROYGBIV gallery, Columbus

53 works from the AEO tour will be on display at ROYGBIV a gallery for emerging artists. An Artists reception will be held on Friday, August 6 at 7pm and a separate Opening Reception will be held from 7:00-10:00 pm on Saturday, August 7 during the Short North Gallery Hop. Located at 997 N. High St., Columbus, 43201, ROYGBIV's gallery hours are Wed-Fri 3:00 - 6:00pm and Saturday 1:00 - 5:00pm. For more information visit www.roygbivgallery.org/.

July 6 - Oct 2, Alan Price: Immersive Environments, 2005-2010, OSU Urban Arts Space, Columbus

See the work of Alan Price as he showcases his work at the OSU Urban Arts Space from July 6 - Oct 2. Price creates interactive virtual environments using stereoscopic displays, touch screens, and other alternative forms of interaction and presentation. The exhibition includes installations ranging from images of the surreal to explorations of how we navigate the border between physical and artificial environments, designing simulations of both the real and the imagination. Free and open to all. For more information visit <http://uas.osu.edu/exhibition/alan-price-immersive-environments-2005-2010>.

Nov 16-18, 2010 OCALI Conference, Columbus

Register or sign up to volunteer today for the nation's premier event in autism, assistive technology, and low-incidence disabilities. This year's event will be held at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. Visit www.conference.ocali.org/ or call 614-410-0995 for more information.

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Empowering individuals with disabilities, creatively and inclusively, through the arts.

VSA Ohio is a member of the international network of VSA, an affiliate of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. VSA is creating a society where people with disabilities learn through, participate in, and enjoy the arts. Funding for VSA Ohio is provided by VSA, the Ohio Department of Education, the Ohio Arts Council, the National Endowment for the Arts, Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council, individual, and corporate sponsorship.

Please forward and share the VSAO e-Voice. Anyone can subscribe by sending contact information to info@vsao.org.

We invite comments on the VSAO e-Voice newsletter. Share your experiences of participating in events around the state or offers suggestions for future stories. Email your feedback to info@vsao.org.