

VSA arts of Ohio

e-Voice

January 2010

Greetings

Happy New Year from the Board of Directors of VSA arts of Ohio! 2010 ... I like the sound of that ... 2010 ... like a count down to something big. For VSA arts of Ohio 2010 is big. There are so many exciting events and programs happening for our constituents and all Ohioans! Please take a moment to mark your calendar with the following dates and events.

Accessible Expressions Ohio

February 20, 15th annual Accessible Expressions Opening Ceremony, Westerville Community Center, 350 North Cleveland Avenue, Westerville, Ohio - Free and open to the public

Careers in the Arts

February 20, 1:00 - 3:30 pm, Careers in the Arts Workshop, "Telling Your Story," Westerville Community Center, Westerville, Ohio - to register call 614-241-5325

Accessible Theatre

Partnering with three organizations in Ohio, VSA arts of Ohio will support education and accessibility components for the following theatre productions:

April 12, *Nobody's Perfect*, Stocker Arts Center at Lorain County Community College, Elyria- to order tickets call 440-366-4040

April 13, *Nobody's Perfect*, and Theatre Vision Day, the Franciscan Center at Lourdes College, Sylvania- to order tickets call 419-824-3986

April 24, *Pierce to the Soul* and Ohio Alliance for Arts Education 2010 Virtuoso Awards, Vern Riffe Center, Columbus - to order tickets call 614-224-1060

Young Soloists

May 1, 8th Annual Evening with the Young Soloists, Vern Riffe Center for Government and the Arts, 77 South High Street, 31st floor, Columbus, Ohio - to order tickets call 614-241-5325

We regularly add programs and opportunities to our calendar so please bookmark www.vsaohio.org as one of your web favorites. With your calendar updated we're sure you'll have lots of opportunities to participate in the programs hosted and supported by VSA arts of Ohio. Exciting content and accessibility updates are planned for vsao.org in the coming year. As always, we welcome your input into our programs and your participation in ways that are meaningful for you. If you are interested in volunteering we're eager to have your name and contact information so please give us a call at 614-241-5325. If you are interested in supporting our programs and want to make a donation of resources (materials, expertise, funding) we also welcome your generosity. 2010 is sure to be a fabulous year for us all and we appreciate your support of our mission: VSA arts of Ohio is empowering people with disabilities, creatively and inclusively, through the arts.

Until next time, Donna Collins, Secretary, Board of Directors, VSA arts of Ohio

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From VSA arts of Ohio

Congratulations to 97 Ohio artists accepted into Accessible Expressions Ohio 2010 Exhibition and Tour!

This year 113 pieces of art by 97 Ohio artists of all ages and abilities will tour the state of Ohio as part of the AEO 2010 tour. In December 149 pieces of art were submitted in the youth, emerging, and professional artists categories. The quality and diversity of this year's call for entries was impressive! Many thanks to our three adjudicators: *Eva Ball, OSU Urban Arts Space*; *Ginny Baughman, Westerville artist*; and *Charles Rowland, Westerville artist*, who met at the Westerville Community Center to determine which pieces would be selected - no easy task. The AEO 2010 tour will include 13 youth art pieces by 10 artists; 79 emerging art pieces by 72 artists, and 21 professional art pieces by 15 artists. Thank you to everyone who submitted such impressive artwork!

Accessible Expressions Ohio 2010 Exhibition and Tour is already scheduled to visit the following sites, but more sites are needed! Call Erin at 614-241-5325 today to bring AEO to your community.

February 20 - March 26, Westerville Community Center, Westerville
June, Vern Riffe Center for Government and the Arts lobby, Columbus
June, Canaday Center, University of Toledo, Toledo
July - August, Ohio Statehouse, Columbus
September - December, Beck Center for the Arts, Lakewood
October - November, Sandusky Artisans, Sandusky

A Day of Arts for All - Saturday, February 20

VSA arts of Ohio will present three exciting events that celebrate and promote the arts and all creative abilities. Join VSA arts of Ohio at the Westerville Community Center (350 N. Cleveland Ave., Westerville OH 43082) for the following:

11:00 am - 12:30: Accessible Expressions Ohio 2010 Opening Ceremony

12:30 - 3:00: CVS Caremark Sights & Sounds of the Arts Festival

1:00 - 3:30: Careers in the Arts Professional Development Workshop (registration is required for this workshop, call 614-241-5325)

All events are FREE and open to the public, more details will be sent out soon!

An Evening with the Young Soloists Performance and Silent Auction Fundraiser - Saturday, May 1, 2010, 2:00pm - 5:00pm, Columbus

Join VSA arts of Ohio in recognizing three outstanding musicians at the 8th annual *An Evening with the Young Soloists Performance*. This ticketed event will be held at the Vern Riffe Center for Government and the Arts in Columbus and includes food, drinks, and a silent auction fundraiser that supports VSA arts of Ohio programming and operations. To purchase tickets please call 614-241-5325.

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Artist Technology and Information Center (ATIC)

The ATIC is a dedicated computer station in the VSA arts of Ohio offices that is available for use by artists of all abilities to learn to use technology, create websites, research opportunities, complete online grant applications, or simply update a resume or cover letter. Call 614-241-5325 to schedule time with the ATIC and receive one-to-one coaching with Derek Mortland, artist services coordinator.

VSA arts of Ohio Receives Accessible Theater funding from the National Endowment for the Arts!

Funding from the National Endowment for the Arts, Challenge America, grant program will allow VSA arts of Ohio to work with organizations throughout the state and nation to support high-quality accessible theater opportunities for hundreds of individuals across the state in 2010. This grant supports educational and accessible components for performances of The Kennedy Center and VSA arts produced and critically acclaimed *Nobody's Perfect* [<http://www.kennedy-center.org/programs/family/ontour/road.cfm>] in Elyria and Sylvania, and CATCO's *Pierce to the Soul* [<http://www.catco.org/seasons/2009-2010-season/pierce-to-the-soul>] in Columbus. A press release with additional details will be available soon.

From VSA arts

International Collaborative Art Project - What is Disability?

Join people from around the world and send in a postcard documenting your interpretation of disability. Find the template and create a visual representation of your experiences, impressions, and perceptions by visiting this hyperlink: <http://www.vsarts.org/PreBuilt/showcase/gallery/exhibits/calls/PostCardProject/>. The postcards will be displayed during the 2010 VSA arts International Festival in Washington, DC. The only cost is a stamp! We're looking for people of different cultures, ethnicities, geographic locations, and abilities. You do not have to consider yourself an "artist" to participate. **Deadline February 5, 2010.**

The VSA arts Apprenticeship at the Williamstown Theatre Festival

For the fifth year, VSA arts will partner with the renowned Williamstown Theatre Festival in Williamstown Massachusetts, for the VSA arts apprenticeship in Summer 2010. This program provides unique insight into the world of a professional theatre for undergraduate and graduate students with disabilities, ages 19-24. Every summer the Williamstown Theatre Festival Apprentice Program offers classes in acting, voice and movement, as well as discussions and master classes with notable professionals. Selected apprentices will have all expenses covered by VSA arts. Official rules, guidelines, and application are available at www.vsarts.org/williamstown. **Deadline February 25, 2010.**

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2010 VSA arts International Festival

From **June 6-12, 2010**, VSA arts-the premier arts and disability organization-will bring together artists, educators, researchers, and policymakers with disabilities from around the world for a multicultural celebration of the arts and arts education. Held in celebration of the 20th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Festival will be held in Washington, DC and feature a dazzling array of visual, performing, literary, and media artists. The guest list includes more than 2,000 people, including VSA arts' 54 international affiliates, its U.S. network, and audience members from all corners of the globe. Read more about the Festival by visiting <http://www.vsarts.org/x5992.xml>.

News

Congratulations to the Ohio State School for the Blind for their performance at the 121st Rose Parade!

The 32 band members, who range from age 13 to 24, and are assisted by 36 seeing assistants who help them stay in formation, made the Buckeye State proud as the first ever blind marching band to perform in the Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, California. This talented group of musical students shined next to bands from across the country. Read media coverage from the Los Angeles Times (1/1/10)

[http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-blind-band1-2010jan01_0_5187673.story] and Pasadena Star News (12/30/09) [http://www.pasadenastarnews.com/ci_14096870].

You can also click visit the band's Tournament of Roses Journal & Gallery, which includes a video of the group performing at Disneyland; use this website:

<http://www.ossb.oh.gov/assets/Flash/PhotoGallery/RoseParade/Gallery.php>.

Congratulations to the OSSB Marching Panthers!



Photo credit: Ohio State School for the Blind website,
<http://www.ossb.oh.gov/MusicNews.php>.

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National Endowment for the Arts' First Round of Grants Announced, 12/8/09,

"National Endowment for the Arts [NEA] Chairman Rocco Landesman is pleased to announce the first round of NEA FY 2010 grants, which are the first grants awarded under his leadership. In total, the Arts Endowment will distribute \$26,968,500 to support 1,207 projects nationwide through the following funding categories: Access to Artistic Excellence, Creative Writing Fellowships in Prose, and Challenge America: Reaching Every Community Fast Track. In addition, the NEA's New Play Development Project will continue for another year. 'I am thrilled that we are able to help art work in this country through more than 1,200 projects across this country. We are supporting projects that have great works of art at the heart of them; that work to inspire and transport audiences and visitors; and that create and retain opportunities for artists and arts workers to be a part of this country's real economy,' said NEA Chairman Rocco Landesman." For more information visit <http://www.arts.gov/news/news09/Announce12-09.html>.

President Obama Announces More Key Administration Posts

The White House announced on December 16, 2009 President Barack Obama's intent to nominate a number of individuals to key administration posts, including 8 individuals to the National Council on Disability. To read the press release visit <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/president-obama-announces-more-key-administration-posts-121609>.

Opportunities

Grants for Individuals – Artists with Disabilities Access Program, Ohio Arts Council, rolling deadline

Developing an artistic career is a long-term process that requires various types of assistance at different times. The Ohio Arts Council (OAC) recognizes that artists with disabilities often face unique challenges to advancing their artistic practice. The Artists with Disabilities Access Program (ADAP) provides funding that enables artists with disabilities the resources to further their artistic development. Applications for awards up to \$500 are due the second Friday of each month. Artists interested in applying to the Artists with Disabilities Access Program are strongly encouraged to contact the OAC accessibility coordinator via telephone at 614-995-5440 or through the Ohio Relay Service at 1-800-750-0750 to initiate the application process. If necessary, accommodations in the application process will be made. For more information visit the Ohio Art Council's website, <http://www.oac.state.oh.us/grantsprogs/guidelines/ADAP.asp>.

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Ohio Arts Presenters Network – Request for Proposals – Professional Development workshops for 2010 Conference in Columbus, Deadline January 29

OAPN is looking for Professional Development workshop proposals for the 23rd Annual Showcase Conference in October. These workshops will be held throughout the conference and will consist of either a one or two hour session. Attendees will consist of presenters, arts administrators, artists, agents and consultants. The conference committee will be interested in “hot topics” and other pertinent subjects to the attendees. Please submit your ideas by emailing Jodie Engle at jodie@oapn.org by Friday, January 29. Include a title along with a possible speaker, a short description (100-150 words) and identify the preferred length of the session. These ideas will be taken to the conference committee and a decision will be made in the upcoming weeks.

White House Fellows Program, Deadline: February 1, 2010

The White House Fellowship is one of the nation’s most prestigious programs for leadership and public service. Each year, 11-19 exceptional young men and women are selected to spend a year in Washington, D.C. to gain first-hand experience in the process of governing the nation at the highest levels of the Federal government. Candidates need to be promising young leaders who are excelling early in their careers and are committed to leadership and public service. Thus, this is not for students but rather for individuals already into their careers. Applicants must be U.S. citizens, have completed their undergraduate education and be working in their chosen professions. Visit <http://www.whitehouse.gov/about/fellows/> for more information.

In Our Own Words Contest from The Ohio Foundation for Music Education

The Ohio Foundation for Music Education (OFME) is committed to innovation and creative approaches to fundraising for the long-term support of music education in Ohio. Our newest campaign, “In Our Own Words” will focus interest on sustaining support for music education by empowering students from across Ohio to build their own message and take it to the world. Persons or groups wishing to enter the video contest must download an entry form available as a .pdf file on the OFME Web site. Videos will be accepted from anyone, but the contest includes four categories based on the spring 2010 enrollment: K-, Grades 6-8, Grades 9-12, College. Students need not be music students, but the message is all about why music education is important in Ohio schools. As far as creativity, the sky is the limit. Email video@omea-ohio.org with questions.

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2010 National Art Education Association National Convention, April 14 – 18, Baltimore, MD

Join with K-12 art educators, administrators, professors of art education, museum art educators, college students, and artists from around the globe for the premier professional development opportunity for visual arts educators! Engage in a selection of hundreds of sessions, tours, and hands-on workshops. Learn about the latest advances in teaching resources, classroom supplies, and techniques from an extensive variety of exhibitors. Be inspired by the outstanding museums, studios, galleries, and more in Baltimore! This year's theme, Art Education and Social Justice, explores the role of visual arts and education as vehicles of social equity and agency in today's increasingly visual culture. Join with colleagues in delving into this topic while gaining an immeasurable professional development experience! For more information about the schedule and how to register, visit <http://www.arteducators.org/news/national-convention>.

Resources

New website: Healing Thresholds

The redesigned Healing Thresholds autism therapy Web site has launched. The biggest change to the site is that all information is now organized into 1000+ therapy topics. Each topic shows the relevant fact sheet, if there is one, plus research, news, and comments on that subject. Each of these topic pages is designed to be a great starting point for understanding the autism therapy topic. Visit the new <http://autism.healingthresholds.com/> and read the article about "Teaching Music to Children with Autism," <http://autism.healingthresholds.com/research/teaching-music-children-autism-understandings-and-perspectives>.

New International Web Accessibility Guidelines

The World Wide Web Consortium, an international community that sets standards and guidelines for the internet, has established new Web Content Accessibility Guidelines by the Web Accessibility Initiative: <http://www.w3.org/WAI/>. Not only could this help you make your own web site more accessible, but it is also a great resource to share with other cultural and community organizations. It includes a report that makes the case that an accessible web site makes good business sense: <http://www.w3.org/WAI/bcase/resources.html> and a quick guide for making your web site accessible: <http://www.w3.org/WAI/WCAG20/quickref/>.

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Arts & Disability in Ohio Calendar

Jan. 8, 2010, "The Horse Boy," a film about autism, inaugurates Wex@Gateway, Columbus

This new ongoing programming by the Wexner Center Film/Video program on two screens at the newly christened Gateway Film Center. The Horse Boy chronicles Rowan and his parents' journey across the vast, wild landscape of Mongolia while delving into the world of autism itself, the relationship between humans and animals and between different cultures and different ways of being (autistic vs. normal, or "neuro-typical"), and the nature of healing. Audiences hear the varied theories on autism from the experts in the field. For more information visit <http://www.wexarts.org/fv/gateway/>.

Jan. 28th, 6:00 to 7:30pm, Tactile Color Workshop, Columbus

Tactile Color artist SallyB will lead a hands-on workshop, demonstrating the process of creating quilted fabric pictures. Learn how to make patterns, select fabric, stuff the picture, quilt the shapes of colors, and mount the image. Participants will make a basic picture and gain the understanding of how to proceed with the creation of more complex quilted pictures on their own or with a group. For more information visit <http://uas.osu.edu/program/tactile-color-workshop-sallyb>. Tactile Color is on display through February 5th and showcases the artwork of SallyB, who creates touchable fabric interpretations of master works, bringing the two-dimensional art world directly into the hands of the viewer. The project began as a way to bring significant artworks to the blind or those with low vision, but has become a genuine example of universal design and a wonderful experience for everyone.

Feb. 5, 2010, Summer Fellowship Program

The Columbus Foundation's new and exciting Summer Fellowship Program links college students and nonprofit organizations. The Fellowship program seeks to create mutually beneficial work relationships and stimulate interest in the nonprofit sector. Ten nonprofit organizations will receive a grant to provide a stipend for the student Fellow. Students will gain first-hand knowledge of the local nonprofit community, while area nonprofits will be able to increase capacity to conduct important short-term projects. Student applications are due February 5, 2010; learn more by visiting http://www.columbusfoundation.org/find/fellowship_program/index.aspx.

Feb. 7, 2:30 - 4:00 est, Free Webinar: "The U.S. Access Board: An Insider's Look"

The U.S. Access Board leads the development, advancement, and implementation of accessibility requirements with rulemaking responsibility under the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Architectural Barriers Act, Section 508, and the Telecommunications Act. You may not be aware of the many activities of this small independent Federal agency and the services it provides to the public. This session will provide an inside look at the Board's rulemaking efforts, enforcement of the ABA, research and training programs, and its plans for the future. If you are looking for helpful resources and guidance on accessibility, this session is for you. Visit www.accessibilityonline.org to register.

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

We invite comments on the new 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.

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