

VSA arts of Ohio e-Voice October 2009

Greetings

VSA arts of Ohio is excited to welcome two new folks to our team! Both are enthusiastic and eager to contribute to VSAO programming and operations.

Liz Celeste, Event Coordinator

Having grown up in Columbus - I never thought I wanted to return. I moved to North Carolina to complete my undergraduate education in Anthropology at Wake Forest University. From there, I volunteered as an Americorps member for two years with Habitat for Humanity in California and Mississippi. But in 2006, my parents convinced me to return to Ohio to help on my father's campaign for state representative. It was during those first few months back in Columbus that I met my husband and applied for graduate school at Ohio State. This summer I completed a Master of Arts degree in Arts Policy and Administration from OSU and gave birth to our beautiful baby boy, Milo. I have come to realize that Columbus is not as bad as I made it out to be! I am deeply committed to the arts and accessibility and am thrilled to be a part of the VSA arts of Ohio team. I look forward to contributing to the success of the organization's annual events and hope to meet you soon! Liz will coordinate the Accessible Expressions Ohio Opening Ceremony and An Evening with Young Soloists Performance; her email is lceleste@vsao.org.

Morgan Green, Intern

I am an Art Education student at the Ohio State University interested in seeing how a nonprofit works, from the day-to-day tasks to the overall impact it has on the community. I am particularly interested in VSA arts of Ohio because I have recently begun working with artists with disabilities. I am passionate about the arts and hope to see what VSAO has to offer to the arts community and people with disabilities. I'm grateful to be a part of such an organization and can't wait to help out in any capacity that I can.

From VSA arts of Ohio

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 with disabilities 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.

Call for Entries: Accessible Expressions Ohio 2010

Accessible Expressions Ohio is a visual arts exhibition and statewide tour adding to the

richness of cultural diversity in Ohio. Artists of all ages and abilities are invited to submit photographs for adjudication; winners are announced in January. Artwork will be exhibited at an opening ceremony on February 20 and a second adjudication is conducted to determine 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners in youth, emerging and professional artist categories, as well as Best in Show; winners receive a ribbon and cash prize. Following the opening ceremony, the artwork is divided into tours and travels to sites and special events throughout Ohio. Sales of artwork are encouraged throughout the tour. *Entry form available on www.vsa.org; **Deadline December 1.***

Call for Entries: Young Soloists 2010

Outstanding vocal and/or instrumental music students with disabilities under the age of 25 are invited to participate in the Young Soloists 2010 event. Participants must submit a CD recording and demonstrate outstanding talent through an adjudicated review process by professionals in the field of music. All entries will be forwarded to the National Young Soloists Contest sponsored by VSA arts in Washington, DC. The three selected Ohio Young Soloists will be featured in a live audience performance in the Spring of 2010. *Entry form available on www.vsa.org; **Deadline December 1.***

Call for Entries: EsSence Playwriting

This Call for Writing invites students, ages 11-18 years, to interpret their world through the use of creative writing in the form of short works of fiction, nonfiction, and poetry. Writers may use their own experience for inspiration or base their writings on fictional events. Students submitting writing must have a disability or a connection to people with disabilities. Read more about the contest [here](#) [hyperlink]. **Deadline November 20.**

News

Ohio Rehabilitation Services Commission - Needs Assessment Survey

RSC is seeking your input as they develop the agency's strategic plan and state plan to maximize services to Ohioans with disabilities. This year's survey is a cooperative effort between RSC, the Ohio State Independent Living Council and the Brain Injury Program. Click [here](#) [hyperlink] to find a link to the Consumer, Employer, and Community Rehabilitation Partner surveys.

Helen Keller Statue Unveiled at Capitol

A bronze statue of Helen Keller was unveiled at the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday as lawmakers praised her as a trailblazer and an inspiration for those with disabilities. "Some are still dismissed and cast aside for nothing more than being less than perfect," Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Kentucky, said at the unveiling ceremony. "The story of Helen Keller inspires us all." Read the CNN article [here](#) [hyperlink].

Leonard Cheshire Creature Discomforts Campaign

By combining the real voices and experiences of people with disabilities, with the creativity of Aardman Animations, Creature Discomforts explores the barriers and attitudes faced by people with disabilities every day. View these fun and thought-

provoking animations by clicking [here](#) [hyperlink].

"I Can" Public Service Announcement Now Available on YouTube

This flagship public service announcement (PSA) was produced specifically for the Campaign for Disability Employment's What Can YOU Do? campaign. It features seven real people - not actors - with hidden and obvious disabilities, demonstrating what they "can do" on the job when given the opportunity. Intended for television broadcast, we would like to see this PSA and its inspiring message distributed as widely as possible. We invite you to share it with others so we can all remember that at work, it's what people can do that matters. Watch the "I Can" PSAs [here](#) [hyperlink].

Opportunities & Resources

Teaching Artists on YouTube

The Association of Teaching Artists is posting links to teaching artists YouTube videos on its website, including videos from Michael Freeman, Tunde Afolayan, Alvin Ailey and more. To view these videos, visit www.teachingartists.com.

The Artistry of Water

The Artistry of Water is a FREE, cross-disciplinary resource that encourages students to think critically about the connections between the visual arts and science-specifically, the study of our most important natural resource: water. The educational resource profiles artist Gregory Burns, who is paralyzed as a result of polio and incorporates his experience with both disability and water into his works of art. Designed for grades 6-8, The Artistry of Water addresses United States national standards in science education and arts education. Visit www.vsarts.org/artistryofwater.

Grants for Arts Teachers

The Surdna Foundation Arts Teachers Fellowship program is accepting applications for grants for arts teachers of up to \$5,500, plus a \$1,500 donation to the chosen fellow's school. Through the Surdna Arts Teachers Fellowship Program, fellows will design individualized courses of study that provide both immersion in their own creative work and the opportunity to interact with other professional artists in their fields. Deadline November 13. For more information click [here](#) [hyperlink].

Center for Applied Special Technology (CAST) Launches National Center on Universal Design for Learning website

CAST is establishing the National Center on Universal Design for Learning to provide leadership to the growing field of Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and to build the capacity of organizations to implement UDL through information dissemination, communities of practice, and technical assistance. The Center has a virtual presence through a website that is a "go-to" resource on UDL providing information resources for teachers, UDL advocates, researchers, and parents. Initial core content has been posted, including the redesigned UDL Guidelines with supporting research references. In addition to the research references, you will find teacher-friendly resources and examples that illustrate the UDL Guideline checkpoints. The website is designed to

grow and CAST will be adding content gathered from the field as well as materials developed in-house. <http://www.udlcenter.org> [hyperlink].

Arts & Disability in Ohio Calendar

Now - Feb 6, 2010 - Tactile Color, Urban Arts Space exhibition, Columbus

Tactile Color 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. Read more [here](#) [hyperlink].

Nov 6-7, Ohio SIBS Conference, Columbus

The 9th Annual Ohio Adult Sibling Conference Ohio SIBS: Special Initiatives for Brothers and Sisters will be held November 6-7 at the Columbus Marriott Airport Hotel. This unique gathering is unlike anything else in the United States. Only at the Ohio SIBS conference can adult brothers and sisters of people with MR/DD gather together to hear directly from MR/DD professionals, educators, politicians and other Adult Siblings. The conference is an opportunity to share information, ideas and family experiences. For more information and to register, click [here](#) [hyperlink].

Nov 7, DEADLINE - Call for Presentations, 10th Annual Multiple Perspectives on Access, Inclusion, & Disability: Future History

The Tenth Annual Multiple Perspectives conference continues a decade of community exploration of disability as an individual experience and social reality that cuts across typical divisions of education & employment; scholarship & service; business & government; race, gender & ethnicity. The conference will be held April 27-28, 2010. For submission guidelines click [here](#) [hyperlink].

Nov 7 & 8, Blue Shoe Arts Annual Open House, Carroll

Come spend time browsing in the gallery, watch artists work in the studio, enjoy light refreshments, and look for something handmade and special for yourself or family and friends. Free parking at the Opportunity Center, 4465 Coonpath Road, NW, Carroll, OH; for more information call 740-756-7874.

Nov 17th, 2-3:30 EST, Legal Update: Review and Analysis of Key Concepts under the ADA

The courts and federal agencies are shaping the ADA through their decisions and settlements. This session will review key issues that are currently before the courts and analyze the trends. Discussion will include some of the trends in case law at the lower courts which may have an impact on decisions at all levels, including issues that may find their way to the Supreme Court. For information on how to register visit <http://ada-audio.org/>.

VSAO Accessible Expressions Ohio 2009 Tour

Nov 2 - 24, Andrew's House, Delaware

Nov 2 - Dec 31, McGraw Hill, Columbus
Now - Dec 31, The Beck Center, Cleveland

VSAO Offices

Nov 11, closed for Veterans Day
Nov 26-27, closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

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Linda Johnson, Administrative Assistant
Liz Celeste, Event Coordinator
Morgan Green, Intern

Please forward and share the new 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.