

VSA arts of Ohio

e-Voice

February 2010

Greetings

I have had the good fortune of being associated with VSA arts of Ohio for the last 10 years. Initially, a colleague of mine with Key Bank and another VSAO board member, Tom Kromer, introduced me to the organization and told me how fulfilling it was to be involved. Because I work fulltime in business, I found that I was spending little if any time enjoying the arts, despite having a keen interest. VSAO turned out to be the perfect venue for me to become involved with an inclusive arts organization that touches so many lives. I can remember attending my very first VSA arts of Ohio festival in Kettering, Ohio, and making art with children with disabilities who thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to express themselves creatively. It was so inspiring and one of the reasons I continue my involvement to this day.

I welcome you all to see, make, hear, and experience a Day of the Arts for All on Saturday February 20 at the Westerville Community Center. You can also enjoy the impressive musical talents of this year's three Young Soloists - Brittany, Steven, and Macy - on May 1 in Columbus. These fun and inspiring events are just some of the ways VSA arts of Ohio works to empower individuals with disabilities, creatively and inclusively, through the arts. I'm looking forward to enjoying these great art experiences and hope to see you there.

Sincerely,
Connie Page
President-Elect, VSA arts of Ohio Board of Directors

From VSA arts of Ohio

A Day of Arts for All - Saturday, February 20, Westerville

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

1:00 - 3:30: Careers in the Arts Professional Development Workshop (call 614-241-5325 to register for this workshop)

All events are FREE and open to the public. For more details visit www.vsaoh.org.

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 Exhibit. For a roster of participating artists and current tour sites visit VSAO's homepage (www.vsaoh.org).

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Be an Accessible Expressions Ohio 2010 Tour Site!

The AEO 2010 Tour visits sites throughout the state during the year to build awareness of all abilities and provide participating artists with statewide exposure and the opportunity to sell their work. The length of each exhibit and number of pieces on display is flexible. VSAO works with each site to arrange installation and deinstallation dates and provides a curator to handle the art work. AEO tours to community centers, libraries, offices, galleries, and wherever you want to display art and talent. For more information on how to bring AEO art to your community this year contact Erin at 614-241-5325 or ehoppe@vsao.org.

VSA arts of Ohio announces the 2010 Young Soloists of the Year!

1st Place - Brittany Goble is a 16 year old junior from Waverly and an active member of the Waverly High School Music Department. Brittany has diabetes and is a vocalist.

2nd Place - Steven Yee is an 18 year old senior from Cincinnati attending the School for the Creative and Performing Arts. Steven has Retinoschisis and is a pianist.

3rd Place - Macy McClain is a 19 year old senior from Bellefontaine attending the Ohio State School for the Blind. Macy has been blind since birth and is a flutist.

Congratulations to these talented musicians and thanks to all who submitted entries! The Young Soloist award recognizes outstanding musicians and vocalists with disabilities under the age of 25 with cash prizes and an opportunity to perform in front of community members and advocates. The winners were selected from a call for entries disseminated in the fall and adjudicated by three Ohio musicians and music educators. For more information about the Soloists read the press release on www.vsao.org.

An Evening with the Young Soloists Performance and Silent Auction Fundraiser - Saturday, May 1, 2010, 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.

From VSA arts

The VSA arts Apprenticeship at the Williamstown Theater Festival

For the fifth year, VSA arts will partner with the renowned Williamstown Theater 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 Theater 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 Playwright Discovery Call for Scripts

The VSA arts Playwright Discovery Program invites middle and high school students with and without disabilities to take a closer look at the world around them, examine how disability affects their lives and the lives of others, and express their views through the art of playwriting. The winning play will be professionally produced or staged at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. The winning playwright receives \$2,000 and a trip to Washington, D.C., to see his or her play performed. Deadline April 15, 2010. For more information visit <http://www.vsarts.org/x244.xml>.

2010 VSA arts International Festival, June 6 - 12

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 <http://www.vsarts.org/x5992.xml>.

Congratulations to the **Dancing Wheels** company in Cleveland who was selected as a featured performer during the festival! Visit the Dancing Wheels website: <http://www.gggreg.com/dancingwheels.htm>.

News

Ohio Arts Council releases new regional structure for organization grant programs

The Ohio Arts Council (OAC) has adopted a new regional structure to provide support for organizational applicants to OAC funding programs. The structure is based on the Ohio Department of Development's 12 Economic Development regions. Changes are effective immediately and affect this spring's fiscal year 2011 applications. Read the press release and download copies of the new regional map and 2010-11 guidelines on the OAC's website: <http://www.oac.state.oh.us/News/NewsArticle.asp?intArticleId=533>.

Ohio Alliance for Arts Education Launches Statewide Arts Education Analysis

"The Ohio Alliance for Arts Education (OAAE) announced today that it is launching a research effort to measure arts education in Ohio's schools. OAAE, along with its partners the Ohio Arts Council and Ohio Department of Education, will distribute the Ohio Arts Education Survey to school principals statewide on March 15, 2010. The information collected through the surveys will build on prior studies carried out between 1989 and 2004 and will create a snapshot of the current status of arts education in Ohio's schools. Read the January 25, 2010, PR News wire by visiting <http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/ohio-alliance-for-arts-education-announces-new-research-opportunity-82622522.html>.

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Americans for the Arts unveils new National Arts Index

The National Arts Index is a highly-distilled annual measure of the health and vitality of arts in the U.S. using 76 equal-weighted, national-level indicators of arts activity. Findings include trends in organizational capacity, changes in personal participation and creation, nonprofit vs. for-profit, funding, education, and more. This report covers an 11-year period, from 1998 to 2008. You can find more information on AFTA's new webpage:

http://www.americansforthearts.org/information_services/arts_index/001.asp.

Audio slideshow: Photography by [People with Visual Impairments]

How can you use a camera if you can't see? Over 30 blind and visually impaired adults from the UK, Mexico and China have been trained in sensory photography techniques to create and experience photos... Read more from the January 20 BBC Magazine article [here](#).

Opportunities & Resources

2010 Youth Leadership Delegate Application Available

The Ohio Governor's Council on People with Disabilities invites future community leaders to attend the annual Youth Leadership Forum for students with disabilities. 40+ high school juniors and seniors with disabilities will be selected to attend the exciting, fun, educational four-day training program which includes a meeting in the Governor's Office, tour of the State Capitol, and exciting programs with community leaders and celebrities. Visit this website:

<http://www.gcpd.ohio.gov/> to obtain an application, postmark by February 12.

Grants for Individuals - Artists with Disabilities Access Program, Ohio Arts Council

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. Accommodations in the application process are available if necessary. For more information click here: <http://www.oac.state.oh.us/grantsprogs/guidelines/ADAP.asp>.

Showcase your artwork at the 2010 NAEA National Convention, deadline February 28

Calling all art teachers! Your help is needed in an effort to collectively celebrate the diversity and changes that our country has seen in recent times, Artsonia will be creating a one-of-a-kind gallery of student artwork based on the conference theme "Art Education and Social Justice." The 2010 NAEA National Convention will be held in Baltimore, Maryland.

Organizers are hoping to collect at least 5,000 pieces of artwork. To submit entries visit www.artsonia.com, create a log-in, and click on the NAEA "Art Education and Social Justice" call for artwork link.

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Professional Development Fun for Emerging Leaders of Color, deadline March 1

Applications are now being accepted for the Americans for the Arts' Professional Development Fund for Emerging Arts Leaders of Color. A total of five Joyce Fellows from the Great Lakes Region (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin) will be selected to participate in this program. Fellows will receive stipends of \$3,000 to support their attendance at the 2010 Americans for the Arts Half-Century Summit (Baltimore, MD), 2010 National Arts Marketing Project Conference (San Jose, CA), and the 2011 Arts Advocacy Day (Washington, DC). In addition, fellows will have special opportunities to meet field leaders, connect with mentors, and receive individualized career coaching. For more information visit http://www.americansforthearts.org/networks/emerging_leaders/009.asp.

Big IDEAs: Newsletter from the National Dropout Center for Students with Disabilities (NDPC-SD), Think College January Newsletter, January 12, 2010, "Big IDEAs is NDPC-SD's quarterly newsletter, which addresses current issues in dropout prevention and school completion. It features evidence-based dropout-prevention and recovery programs from around the nation as well as information about past and upcoming NDPC-SD events. Big IDEAs is available via electronic subscription by clicking here: <http://www.ndpc-sd.org/contact/bigIdeasSubscribe.php>.

The 411 on Disability Disclosure: A Workbook for Youth with Disabilities

This workbook "is designed for youth and adults working with them to learn about disability disclosure. This workbook helps young people make informed decisions about whether or not to disclose their disability and understand how that decision may impact their education, employment, and social lives. Based on the premise that disclosure is a very personal decision, the Workbook helps young people think about and practice disclosing their disability. The workbook does not tell a young person what to do. Rather, it helps them make informed decisions about disclosing their disability, decisions that will affect their educational, employment, and social lives." For more information and a copy of the workbook visit the National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability's website: <http://www.ncwd-youth.info/411-on-disability-disclosure>.

Arts & Disability in Ohio Calendar

Feb 11, Ohio State School for the Blind Marching Band Presents Pasadena!

The OSSB marching panthers are back in Ohio and sharing stories, photographs, and videos about their trip to the Rose Parade. The band will perform in newly cleaned uniforms and thank its benefactors, uniformed marching assistants, and all the people who supported this history-making trip. The event will be held in the school's auditorium from 6:30 - 8:30 pm. For more information call 614-752-1152 or visit <http://www.ossb.oh.gov/> to read more about the band and its performances.

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Feb 16, 2:00 - 3:30 pm, ADA-Ohio Webinar, Aging Workers with Disabilities: Implications for Employers

The aging workforce is likely to result in increasing numbers of workers with disabilities. By the year 2010, this group will account for 44% of the working age population (20-64), and the number of people with disabilities between the ages of 50 and 65 is predicted to double. Disability management and accommodation policies and practices readily lend themselves to addressing the challenges employers will face with an aging workforce, and the increasing prevalence of disability that these demographics bring. Join this session for a discussion of the practices associated with maximizing the productivity of an aging workforce and contribute to aging worker retention. Free attendance is offered in Columbus (email adaohio@aol.com), Toledo (email Lisa Justice at ljustice@abilitycenter.org), Cleveland (call 216-696-2716, ext. 129), and Lancaster (call 740-689-1494). For other registration information visit <http://ada-audio.org/>.

April 21, 2010 Governor's Awards for the Arts and Arts Day Luncheon

Registration now open for the 2010 Governor's Awards for the Arts in Ohio and Arts Day Luncheon! The luncheon will be held at noon on Wednesday, April 21, 2010 at the Columbus Athenaeum in downtown Columbus. Six winners were chosen for the 2010 Governor's Awards for the Arts in Ohio. Awards will be presented at the luncheon ceremony honoring winners and members of the Ohio Legislature hosted by the Ohio Arts Council and Ohio Citizens for the Arts Foundation. Register today by calling Ohio Citizens for the Arts at 614-221-4064 or clicking here: <http://www.oac.state.oh.us/events/ViewPublicEvent.asp?ID=218>.

April 27th & 28th, Multiple Perspectives Conference, The Ohio State University's Columbus Campus

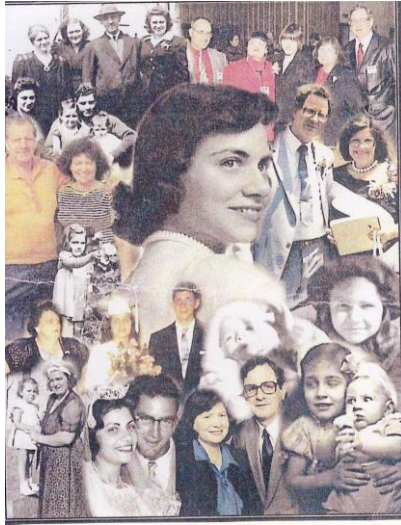
The Multiple Perspectives conference continues a decade of community exploration of disability as an individual experience and social reality that cuts across typical divisions of education & employment; scholarship & service; business & government; race, gender & ethnicity. This year the conference is celebrating its tenth anniversary while the second decade of the ADA is coming to a close refreshed by amendments. "Future History" was chosen as this year's theme; the conference features The Ken Campbell Memorial Lecture on Disability Policy, "Leveraging the ADA's 20th Anniversary: Transforming Disability Policy" by Andrew Imparato, AAPD and an array of sessions. Registration is now open; updates and program information can be found at <http://ada.osu.edu/conferences.htm>.

May 13, VSA arts of Ohio\Cleveland Area Service Division Festival, Berea

The VSAO/Cleveland Area Service Division began presenting festivals in 1981 and the theme of this year's festival will be "The Arts along the Midway." The day will include performances and hands-on art activities that provide an opportunity to integrate the arts into the education of children and adults with and without disabilities. This year's festival will again be presented at the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds; for more information call 216-344-1761.

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Tribute to Marlene Kernsman



Marlene Kernsman co-founder and former coordinator of the Cleveland Area Service Division passed away on January 17, 2010. In the early 1980's Marlene and associate Grace Bailey organized a committee to form the Very Special Arts program in Cuyahoga County. Marlene was a long time educator and worked for many years at The Cleveland Health Museum. With her association at the museum the committee hosted annual festivals at this site. The first events ran for several days along with an evening program for adults. Each festival began with a VIP kick-off honoring individuals with and without disabilities. The festival eventually became a day event and continued under Marlene's direction until recent years. The festival expanded to other locations in Cuyahoga County including The Beck Center, The Cleveland Play House, NASA and the current location at the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds.

For the last several years Marlene continued to be involved in registration and coordinating facilities for the annual VSA arts festival. In addition, she worked to fund raise for the event. Marlene's vision and passion for the festival was an asset to the community. Her commitment and dedication to the service division will be greatly missed. The 2010 festival will be named in Marlene's honor. She was a resident of Concord Township and is survived by her husband Ed, daughters Debbie of Columbus and Patty of Concord.

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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, Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council, the National Endowment for the Arts, and individual and corporate sponsorship.