

**Winter 2006**

# *Avenue to the Arts*

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**VSA arts of Ohio**  
77 S. High St., 2nd Fl.  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
614.241.5325  
614.241.5329 Fax  
info@vsao.org  
www.vsao.org

The newsletter of VSA arts of Ohio, an affiliate of VSA arts, an international organization affiliated by the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

## **Closing time: the AEO tour holds its closing event**

Celebrating the end of a wonderful year, Accessible Expressions Ohio traveling visual arts exhibition held its final showing of exquisite artwork created by artists with disabilities on Saturday, December 10, 2005. The closing event was held at the Beck Center for the Arts in Lakewood, Ohio and included a silent auction of the featured artwork. Thanks go out to the hosts Kate Mulgrew and Tim Hagan who contributed immensely to the closing exhibition's success. For a schedule of the 2006 tour, please go to page 7.



## **Its About Time!**

Working with the theme entitled "Its About Time!", VSA arts of Ohio answered First Night Columbus' call to create a clock for display in Veterans Memorial in downtown Columbus. The clock was created by artist Diane Medve and students from Maria Angel's class at Fort Hayes Metropolitan Education Center. The students used VSA arts of Ohio holiday greeting cards to decorate the base of the clock, and used metallic hands to complete their own theme of "The Hands of Time". The project was a great experience, and VSA arts of Ohio was happy to help celebrate the new year with First Night Columbus.



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## Letter from the Executive Director

*From Kimberly C. Murray, Executive Director*

*Tuesday, January 25, 2006, was a special day. It was special because this was the day that the judging occurred to select VSA arts of Ohio's Young Soloist for 2006. We listened to entries that made the judges say, "Not this year, maybe next year" and entries that made the judges say, "Bless her heart for trying." And then we heard them. Those entries that left the judges speechless, and finally one which made them declare, "That's him, that's our winner" as they threw their hands in the air with excitement.*

*These are the days that make the computer freeze ups, falling signs, and jammed copiers unimportant. These are the days that make all the copying, labeling, editing, typing, phone calls and prioritizing worth doing. These are the days that make me say, "This is why I come to work for VSA arts of Ohio."*

*Another of these days was in February. The opening ceremony of the Key's Accessible Expressionns Ohio exhibition on February 11, was a day that left me emotionally exhausted, yet fulfilled. Witnessing the glow on the artists' faces as they saw their work on display, watching them beam with pride as they showed off their certificates, and seeing one of them speechless as he realized the prize was for him. You can't bottle, buy, or translate into words the emotion that was on display. You can only be there to savor it.*

*February 11 also marked the beginning of my fourth year as the Executive Director of VSA arts of Ohio. It's a year I'm looking forward to enjoying!*

*Sincerely,*

*Kimberly Murray, MS*

### Arts Integration Workshop

Attention to all teaching artists, this workshop is for you! This workshop is an excellent opportunity to learn skills in planning, presenting, and evaluating arts-integrated lessons. The workshop offers a wealth of information that will help you to succeed in educational environments. If you are a teaching artist who works or wants to work in the educational field, you will gain valuable knowledge from this event. It will be held on Friday, March 10, 2006, from 10 am - 4 pm with a 9:30 registration. The workshop will take place at the Vern Riffe Center for Government and the Arts on the 31st floor. Please contact Lea Pearson for registration information at: 614-224-1060 or [lpearson@oaae.net](mailto:lpearson@oaae.net).

## AIA Update

The Adaptation, Integration, and the Arts program has had a successful year, and is continuing to grow. AIA connects students to the world of art within the classroom. This program has excelled in promoting creativity and enhancing the learning experience. The program is made possible by support from the Ohio Department of Education, Office for exceptional Children. The following schools currently participate in the AIA program:

<p><b>Dalton HS</b> <b>Dalton Local District</b></p> <p>Principal: Scott Beatty Teacher: Robin Evans-DelCiappo Artist: Cinda Motter</p>	<p><b>Hanby Art Magnet</b> <b>Westerville District</b></p> <p>Principal: Jan Fedorenko Teacher: Miriam Herrick Artist: Linda Vogley</p>	
<p><b>Beech Grove Elementary</b> <b>Tuslaw District</b></p> <p>Principal: Renee Magnacca Teacher: Carol Roger Artist: Bryan Turbyfill</p>	<p><b>Highland Elementary</b> <b>Sylvania District</b></p> <p>Principal: Drew Wiltse Teacher: Cindy Bandfield Artist: Stefanie Harasta Advisor: Jan Revill</p>	<p><b>Holmesville Elementary</b> <b>Southeast Local District</b></p> <p>Principal: Barb Long Teacher: Angelina Oberlin Artist: Jennifer Miller</p>
<p><b>Deshler Elementary</b> <b>Columbus City District</b></p> <p>Principal: Stephanie Bond Teacher: Mary Ballard Artist: Diane Medve</p>	<p><b>Liberty Elementary</b> <b>Lima City District</b></p> <p>Principal: Dave Shanks Teacher: Crystal Miller Artist: Don Hurless Arts Coordinator: Mike Huffman</p>	

The AIA program has proved to be an excellent addition to classrooms throughout Ohio. If the program interests you and you would like to bring it to your school, please contact Dennis Cannon at: [dcannon@vsao.org](mailto:dcannon@vsao.org) or call 614-241-5325.

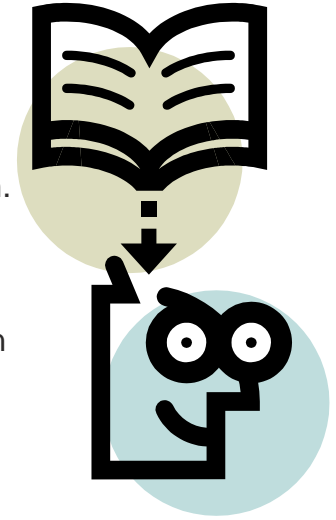
## Governer's Award 2006

The Governor's Awards for the Arts in Ohio is a statewide program that showcases and celebrates Ohio artists, arts organizations, arts patrons and business support of the arts. Winners are selected in six categories - Arts Administration, Arts in Education, Arts Patron, Business Support of the Arts, Community Development and Participation and Individual Artist. The primary mission of the Governor's Awards for the Arts in Ohio is to increase public awareness of the economic, educational and cultural value of the arts in our state. Over 800 artists, legislators, business leaders, arts managers, board members and patrons from every corner of the state attend the ceremony. The Governor's Awards for the Arts in Ohio is held in the spring each year. The 2006 event will be held March 29, 2006 at 3:30 p.m. in The Capitol Theatre in the Vern Riffe Center for Government and the Arts, 77 South High Street in downtown Columbus. For more information please contact the Ohio Citizens for the Arts Foundation: 614-221-4064 or [info@OhioCitizensForTheArts.org](mailto:info@OhioCitizensForTheArts.org)

## Workbook Now Available

In the last issue of Avenue to the Arts, we reported on the September 19th forum: *Careers in the Arts: Exploring Inclusive Ways for Artists With and Without Disabilities to Build and Enhance Their Careers*. As a result of this forum, a workbook containing the learned results of the day is now available.

The *Careers in the Arts Resource Workbook* includes a listing of the barriers identified during the forum as well as the tools and a vast listing of resources to help overcome these barriers. People at all stages in their career will benefit from this important publication. Items covered in the workbook include: a self-assessment, tools to develop basic employment documents and more advanced topics including creating your own business plan. Resources of local and state organizations who can provide additional help and information are provided for each topic. Copies of the *Careers in the Arts: Resource Workbook* are available to individuals for \$15 and organizations for \$25. To order a copy or for additional information please contact VSA arts of Ohio.



### Transformation

Transformation is an art exhibition that will feature artwork from artists with disabilities in June 2006. The theme asks artists to reflect on a significant moment in their lives that has resulted in a greater comprehension of themselves and their art. Transformation is a terrific opportunity for artists with disabilities to display their artwork. There is no entry fee and any artist 22 and over with a disability can enter. The deadline for entries is Friday, March 24, 2006. For an entry form or more information go to: [www.vsarts.org/transformation](http://www.vsarts.org/transformation)

### Calling all Playwrights!

The VSA arts Playwright Discovery Award is encouraging middle and high school students to observe how disability affects their lives and the lives of others, and to write a script based upon this theme. The author may write from personal experience, an experience of another person, or in the life of a fictional character. Two scripts will be selected for professional production or staged reading at The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. The deadline for entries is April 14, 2006. For more information go to: [www.vsarts.org](http://www.vsarts.org)



## Accessible Expressions Ohio Tour

As the 2005 Accessible Expressions Ohio tour ended, preparations for the 2006 tour were underway. The call for art for AEO 2006 was answered by the submission of 90 entries by 69 artists. The artwork was judged in late December to select which entries would be displayed on the tour. It is an understatement to say that this year's tour is magnificent. The featured artwork displays a level of talent that is truly astonishing. The opening event was held on February 11, 2006 at Xavier University's Gallagher Student Center. The Tour is continuing throughout the state of Ohio for the rest of the year. See the Calendar for tour dates and locations.



### Touring Exhibit Available

NYC based artist Hilary Cooper is interested in touring her exhibit 'Divided Portraits: Identity and Disability'. Her art urges people to break through the perception that divides the able bodied from the disabled. She draws inspiration from her personal experience in a wheelchair when she broke her neck in 1995. 'Divided Portraits' will be shown at VSA arts of Colorado's Gallery during February and March of 2006. For more information, please contact Hilary cooper: hilcoop@hotmail.com

### ADA Conference

On April 17th and 18th 2006 the ADA is holding its annual conference entitled: Multiple Perspectives On Disability Access & Inclusion . The conference is designed to help bring about positive changes in education, business, public and social service. The conference is offering over 25 sessions for you to attend. The sessions range from disability compliance to disability studies. The Full program and registration can be found at:  
<http://ada.osu.edu/conferences.htm>

### International Art Exhibition Seeking Entries

The Brian Ayers Memorial Art Exhibition is hosting its tenth annual art exhibition in Boone, North Carolina, and seeks entries from artists age 10-19 with learning disabilities. The Exhibition will award twenty \$50 prizes and fifteen \$20 gift certificates from Cheap Joe's Art Stuff. There is no entry fee, and the deadline is May 8, 2006. The exhibition will run from May 23 to June 18, 2006. Visit the Bryan Ayers Memorial Art Exhibition web site, [www.LDArt.org](http://www.LDArt.org) for an entry form.

### Mobility International USA Seeks Applications

MIUSA is a non-profit organization devoted to supporting opportunities for people with disabilities in international exchange, leadership development and volunteer service. The organization is currently accepting applications to take part in an international exchange program in the summer of 2006 in Tokyo, Japan. Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing as well as those who have a visual impairment, mobility impairment, non-apparent disabilities or any other type of disability are encouraged to apply. To download an application form go to: [www.miusa.org](http://www.miusa.org)

## 3rd Annual Young Soloists

Please join us for this fabulous affair on Wednesday May, 17 at the Vern Riffe Center for Government and the Arts, 77 South High Street in Downtown Columbus, on the Studio One Theatre & Rotunda Level. The program from 7:30 - 10:30 PM, is hosted by Cabot Rea of NBC4, and includes: a performance by this year's three young Award Winners, a silent auction, a buffet of heavy hors d'oeuvres and recognition for two special awards recipients. For those who are not familiar with the Young Soloist event, it is a performance featuring musicians with disabilities from within the State of Ohio.

### This year's winners:



1st Place: **Steven Yee** Pianist, age 14, Cincinnati  
 2nd Place: **Erin Byrne** Vocalist, age 22, Alliance  
 3rd Place: **Clayton Kennedy** Drummer, age 17, Loveland



Honorable Mention: **Eboni Bays-Holley** Vocalist, age 10, Columbus

### Bodies of Work

Bodies of Work is an unprecedented event held in Chicago, a festival showcasing disability arts. The festival aims to explore and celebrate the contributions of artists with disabilities. It will be a ten day citywide festival featuring visual and performing arts which will showcase the superb talents of artists with disabilities. If you wish to enjoy a variety of performances, exhibitions, and much more then you should attend. The festival will take place April 20-30 2006. For more info go to: [www.bodiesofwork.org](http://www.bodiesofwork.org)

### Arts Business Institute

The Arts Business Institute is holding its annual workshop at Hocking College, Nelsonville, Ohio on April 1 & 2. The workshop offers artists the opportunity to learn how to:

- Price for Retail & Wholesale
- Design an Effective Booth
- Take Images that Win Juries
- Establish Gallery Relationships
- Explore Web Marketing... and more!

To register now, please visit:  
[www.artsbusinessinstitute.org](http://www.artsbusinessinstitute.org)

### National Endowments for the Arts

The NEA organization is offering funding for projects that will help children to learn appreciation, knowledge, understanding of, and skills in the arts. The projects must provide participatory learning and engagement of students with skilled artists, teachers, and art. Also, funded projects must ensure the application of national, state, or local arts education standards. This is a fabulous opportunity, with awards ranging from \$5,000 - \$150,000! For more details, go to: <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&oppld=7757>.

### Fresh A.I.R. Gallery

The Fresh A.I.R. Gallery located in downtown Columbus seeks artists that have a mental illness, are in recovery from a substance abuse disorder, or artists whose art incorporates these subjects. The Selected artwork will be a part of the 2006 Exhibition season. The goal of the exhibition is to break down the stigma of mental illness and substance abuse. For more information, please visit [www.southeastinc.com](http://www.southeastinc.com).

## March

**1-31- Key's Accessible Expressions Ohio 2006**

**Location: Inner I Gallery, Xenia , Ohio**

**Contact: Amelia Shaub/Jodi Hill, 937-376-3996**

**29- Arts Day 2006**

**Location: The Vern Riffe Cener for Government and the Arts, Columbus, Ohio**

**Contact: The Ohio Citizens for the Arts Foundation, 614-221-4064**

## April

**1-30- Key's Accessible Expressions Ohio 2006**

**Location: Brecksville Art Center, Brecksville Ohio**

**Contact: Winnie Flynn, 440-526-6232**

**27-28- A Toledo Celebration**

**Location: Toledo, Ohio**

**Contact: Sherrie Shipman, 419-478-8502**



## May

**1-30- Key's Accessible Expressions Ohio 2006**

**Location: Dublin Arts Center**

**Contact: Jessica Fagan, 614-889-7444**

**12- Very Special Arts Festival**

**Location: Berea Fairgrounds**

**Contact: Jerry Devis, 440-892-8012**

**15- VSA arts of Ohio Festival**

**Location: Lake Metroparks**

**Contact: Jim Meadows, 440-585-3041**



**17- An Evening with the Young Soloists**

**Location: The Vern Riffe Cener for Government and the Arts, Columbus, Ohio**

**Contact: VSA arts of Ohio, 614-241-5325**

## June

**1-31- Key's Accessible Expressions Ohio 2006**

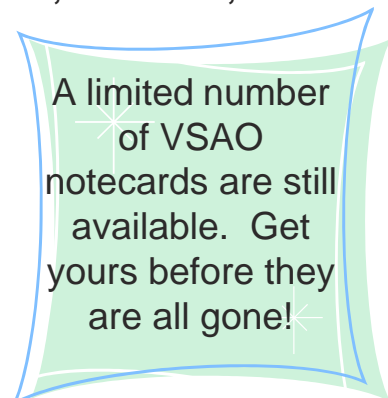
**Location: Sandusky Artisans**

**Contact: Joey Supina, 419-621-9377**

**18-26- Romeo and Juliet w/ Renegade Garage Players**

**Location: Pendleton Heritage Center**

**Contact: Lin Laing, 513-241-2600**





*Promoting the creative power in people with disabilities.*

77 South High Street, 2nd Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215

Phone: 614/241-5325

Fax: 614/241-5329

E-mail: [info@vsao.org](mailto:info@vsao.org)

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Printing of *Avenue to the Arts* made possible through generous the support of



## THANK YOU

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VSA arts of Ohio would like to thank all the people who have donated time and money towards VSA arts of Ohio programming during the second half of 2005.

Carol Agler  
Peter Ahern  
Delores Angelini  
Mike Armstrong  
Benny Bonano  
Frank Bruno  
Margaret Burley  
Erin Byrne  
Norma Capocci  
Joanne Caputo  
Fachtna Carey  
Patrick Carroll  
Jim Chapple  
Lori Ann Clary  
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Thomas A. Stanton  
David Taggart  
TD Walsh  
Triangle Stamping  
Warren Wheeler  
Susan Witt  
Susan Witten  
Karen Wood  
Sue Zake  
*and all the volunteers that commit their time year round to presenting VSA arts of Ohio events.*