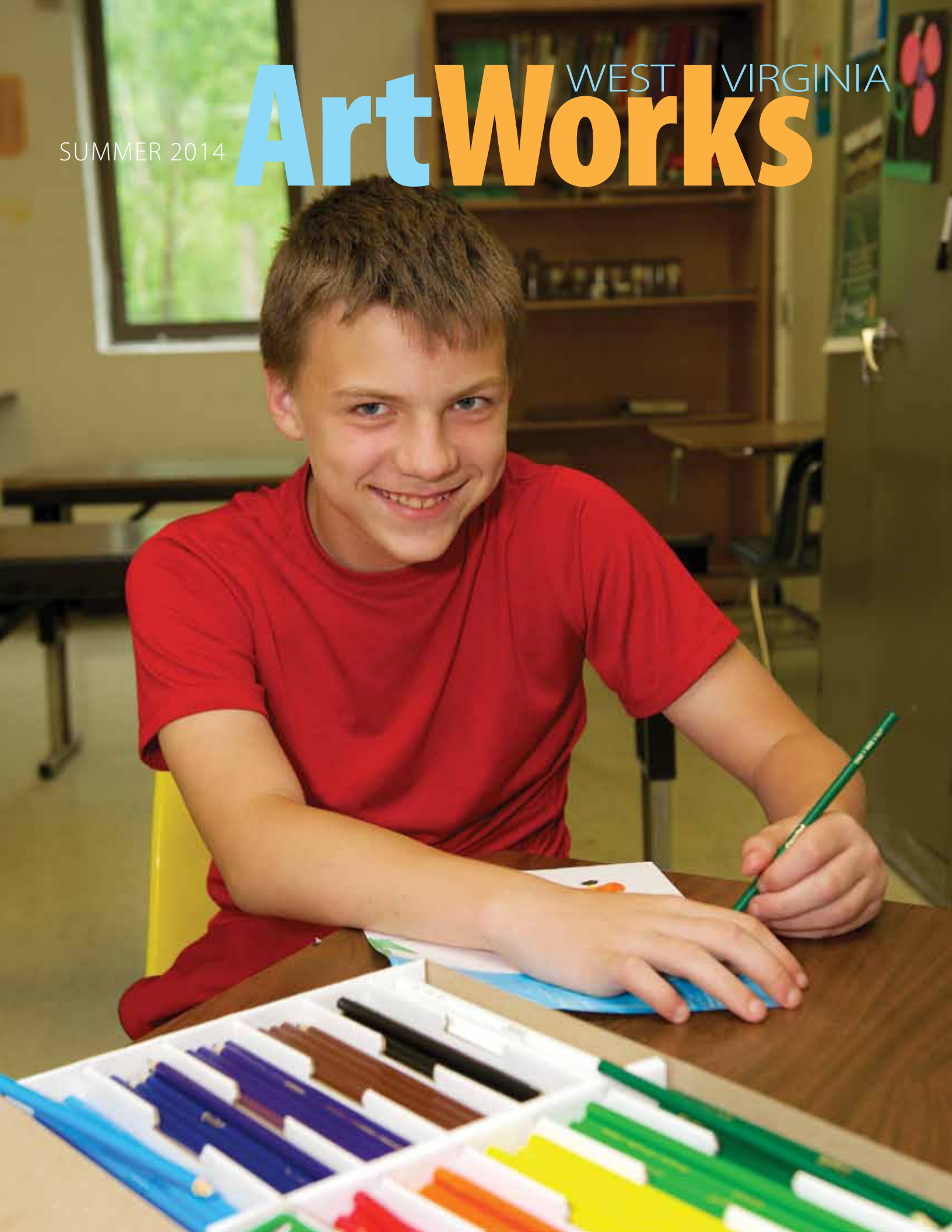


SUMMER 2014

WEST VIRGINIA ArtWorks



ArtWorks WEST VIRGINIA

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SUMMER 2014



State of West Virginia
Earl Ray Tomblin, Governor



**West Virginia Department of
Education and the Arts**
Kay H. Goodwin, Cabinet Secretary



**West Virginia Division of
Culture and History**
Randall Reid-Smith, Commissioner

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DEADLINES FOR SUBMISSIONS

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www.wvculture.org/Arts



All publications and application forms are available in alternate formats.

Renée Margocee Named New Director of Arts

West Virginia Division of Culture and History Commissioner Randall Reid-Smith, with the support of the West Virginia Commission on the Arts, appointed Logan native Renée Margocee to serve as the Director of Arts for the division.

"I am pleased to have Renée join the division's management team," said Commissioner Reid-Smith. "She approaches every project with thoughtful attention to the details and an understanding of the goals that our agency has set for its arts programs. She will be instrumental in helping to expand the Arts Section's role of reaching more young artists and encouraging them to pursue their interests in art."

As director, Margocee administers the state's arts programs, which include arts administration services as well as state and federal grants for West Virginia arts organizations, individual artists, schools and

communities. Margocee has been with the division since 2010 when she was hired to coordinate the individual artist's grant program.

"Renée brings the experience of a practicing artist, exceptional organizational skills, a love of our Mountain State, a sense of fair play and a quiet dignity to her role as director of the Arts Section," said Commission chair Susan Landis. "She appreciates the talents of her co-workers as well as those of the members of the Commission on the Arts. Most of all, she is dedicated to supporting arts organizations, individual artists, arts-in-education initiatives and arts patrons as we work to enhance the cultural and economic base of West Virginia."

Margocee studied literature and ceramics at Marshall University, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English literature. She went on to study ceramics at West Virginia



University before establishing her first studio in Elkins. After moving to Charleston, Margocee organized Charleston's first open ceramic studio at the Annex Gallery.

"With collaboration as a core operating tenet, I look forward to working with the many talented and vital artists and arts organizations in West Virginia. Collectively, we can ensure the arts remain an important part of West Virginia's cultural identity" Margocee said.

A Message from the Editor



After nearly a year's hiatus, *ArtWorks West Virginia* is back! We have beefed up our content and changed our looks a bit. Inside you will find lots of useful information about upcoming opportunities for artists, as well as creative ways to increase your audiences and participation by making minor accommodations for

people with cognitive challenges.

You also will find a delightful story about one of the West Virginia Division of Culture and History's Arts Partners and Challenge America grant recipients, the Clay Center in Charleston, which is opening up the world of science, technology, engineering, arts and math (STEAM) to students in Boone County. We plan to regularly feature such best-practices, individuals or groups who are doing amazing things with the help of the roughly \$1.8 million available annually through our 12 competitive grant programs. We will offer tips and access to information that will help your arts communities grow and thrive.

Our mission is to be a valuable resource, and to do that we need your help. Please let us know about artists' workshops and other

educational opportunities. Drop us a line if you hear about upcoming exhibition opportunities. Plan to take your craft into the schools? Let us know about that, too.

We hope you will become a regular subscriber and partner with us to help make *ArtWorks West Virginia* a useful resource for you. Please reach out to me at (304) 558-0240, ext. 148, by email at Pamela.J.Dickerscheid@wv.gov or by mail at The Culture Center, 1900 Kanawha Blvd. East, Charleston, WV, 25305. To join our mailing list, drop us a line or log onto our website at www.wvculture.org/Arts.

We hope to inspire you to make a difference in your communities by creating something magnificent!

P.J. Dickerscheid
Editor

WEST VIRGINIA GOVERNOR'S Arts AWARDS



10 Exceptional Artists Honored at 2014 Governor's Arts Awards Gala

Ten outstanding West Virginia artists and arts supporters, including the late Don Page, who dedicated his life to the arts, and Cathey Crowell Sawyer, who helped build the Greenbrier Valley Theatre in

Lewisburg into a state-of-the-art performance venue, were recognized during the 2014 Governor's Arts Awards gala for making significant contributions to the arts.

Page and Sawyer won the

prestigious Governor's Arts Award for Lifetime Achievement during the gala hosted by the West Virginia Division of Culture and History and the West Virginia Commission on the Arts.

Page, a native of Glasgow who died earlier this year at age 83, devoted more than 50 years of his life to promoting and developing arts and crafts in West Virginia. He was a coordinator of the state's effort to train and assist craftspeople in the



Top: Cathey Crowell Sawyer, of Lewisburg, performs with Kim Morgan Dean during the 2014 Governor's Arts Awards. Sawyer won the prestigious Governor's Arts Award for Lifetime Achievement, in part for helping to build the Greenbrier Valley Theatre in Lewisburg into a state-of-the-art performance venue.

Left: Don Page, a native of Glasgow who devoted more than 50 years of his life to promoting and developing arts and crafts in West Virginia, was posthumously honored with the Governor's Arts Award for Lifetime Achievement. Photo by John Tice.

early 1960s, serving as the director of the arts and crafts division of the Department of Commerce. He was instrumental in establishing *Hearth & Fair*, the predecessor to *Goldenseal* magazine. Both publications were outgrowths of the state's ongoing efforts to promote traditional crafts, tourism and economic development. The Mountain State Art and Craft Fair and the West Virginia Art & Craft Guild also began operating under his leadership. A skilled craftsman in 25 disciplines from tumbled gemstone jewelry to woodworking, Page was an early advocate and founding board member of Tamarack: *The Best of West Virginia*. The industrial arts major from West Virginia Institute of Technology mentored many West Virginia artisans.

Sawyer, of Lewisburg, has worked with the Greenbrier Valley Theatre's (GVT) board of directors and local community and state leaders to secure funding to expand the GVT from a summer operation performing in a temporary structure into a state-of-the-art facility in downtown Lewisburg. Today the facility serves as the theatre's primary performance venue and a hub for community activities. Sawyer has served as the theatre's artistic director since 1992, and helped launch its reputation for excellence to the national level. The long-time vocalist for the West Virginia Jazz Orchestra, actress, playwright, director and former Rotarian of the Year also developed educational classes for children ages 4-18 and cooperative programs with local schools and classes at New River Community and Technical College.

Other awards presented include the "Distinguished Service to the Arts" award to Carnegie Hall in Lewisburg and John Gillispie of Huntington; "Leadership in the Arts" award to the Community Music Association in Charleston and Susan L. Adkins of Lewisburg; "Arts in Education" award to the Clay Center Explore and Soar 21st Century Community

Learning Center in Charleston and Sandra Shaw of Beckley; and "Artist of the Year" award to Barrie Kaufman and Nina Denton Pasinetti, both of Charleston.

Carnegie Hall annually serves more than 75,000 patrons with live performances by outstanding companies and artists from around the world, award-winning arts in education programming, classes and workshops, fine art exhibits and more. The performance hall has operated as a regional center for the visual and performing arts since 1983, with such notable performers as Taj Mahal, Gillian Welch, Isaac Stern, Ralph Stanley and George Winston.

Gillispie uses his journalism experience, originality and creativity to produce award-winning commercials, posters, event invitations and more to promote the Huntington Museum of Art, where he has served as director of public relations for nearly 15 years. The former newspaper reporter is a professional advisor to Marshall University's chapter of the Public Relations Student Society of America and writes a weekly column for *The Herald-Dispatch* in Huntington. He is an occasional soloist with the Sacred Heart Church Choir in Huntington, has twice been a member of the

Nominations

The West Virginia Commission on the Arts and the West Virginia Division of Culture and History encourage you to nominate exceptional West Virginia artists, organizations and communities that have made significant contributions to the state's culture for the 2016 Governor's Arts Awards.

Nomination forms are available online at www.wvculture.org/arts or by calling Robin Jones at (304) 558-0240, ext. 155. They can be mailed or hand delivered to Jones at the Culture Center, 1900 Kanawha Blvd. East in Charleston.



West Virginia potter Brian Van Nostrand of Hacker Valley created this year's awards.

WEST VIRGINIA GOVERNOR'S Arts AWARDS

Marshall University Choral Union and served as an adjudicator for several Huntington Dance Theatre productions.

The **Community Music Association** is celebrating its 80th anniversary of bringing national and international entertainment to West Virginia. Generations of West Virginians have been able to experience the beauty of ballets, operas, symphonies, soloists and more at affordable prices because of the association's commitment to the arts. Its performances have included pianist Arthur Rubinstein, soprano Beverly Sills and one of the most popular operas of all time, *La Boheme*.

Adkins, a music teacher and executive director of Carnegie Hall, played a key role in expanding the performance hall's arts and education programs and updating the venue to include a state-of-the-art sound system and energy-efficient lighting while maintaining its historic integrity. She helped raise the hall's operating budget so its programs now serve thousands of people annually with activities such as Kids' College, Ivy Terrace Concert Series, Mainstage Performance Series and Carnegie Children's Choir.

The Clay Center Explore and Soar 21st Century Community Learning Center is using STEAM education (science, technology, engineering, arts and math) through art and science integration to improve grades, increase test scores and supplement classroom learning. Students receive one-on-

one tutoring, homework help and special apprenticeship opportunities with professional artists, scientists and business leaders. They also take educational trips to the Clay Center to enjoy performances that have included Kevin Reese in *Apollo to the Moon*; the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra's Young People's Concerts of Stories and Legends and Jungle Jack Hanna's *Into the Wild*. (See page 10 for more details.)

Shaw is an award-winning artist who has been a visual art teacher for 34 years and was named the West Virginia Art Education Association's Art Educator of the Year in 2007 and 2013. As the current Fine Arts Department Chair at Woodrow Wilson High School in Beckley, Shaw is known for instilling a love of learning in her students and bringing art to life. She has twice served as a delegate to the National Art Education Association's national convention and twice as president of the West Virginia Art Education Association.

Kaufman is an award-winning artist, Mountaineer Montessori School art teacher and art therapist. She has used art to help child victims of abuse heal while encouraging hundreds of adults to unlock their creative passion. Kaufman developed a program to bring art to nursing homes in West Virginia and worked with the late African-American poet and playwright Elaine Blue of Huntington to illustrate issues of homelessness and abuse. Trained as a printmaker and painter, she

is expanding her creative talents to include glass. She is one of the state's most accomplished and internationally-shown artists; her work has been featured in Taiwan, Australia, Sweden, Canada and the United States.

Denton Pasinetti has been passionate about the arts since the age of 5, when she began studying ballet. While attending Morris Harvey College, she spent her summers studying with the National Ballet of Canada, Ballet West in Colorado, and the Cecchetti Ballet Council of America in Michigan. A former Miss West Virginia and high school math teacher, Denton Pasinetti opened the Ballet and Musical Theatre Dance Arts Inc., originated the Appalachian Youth Jazz-Ballet and served as president of Dance West Virginia, where she arranged master classes and dance scholarships to professional schools for talented dancers throughout West Virginia. She became a choreographer for the Charleston Light Opera Guild in 1971 and its artistic director in 1983.

The evening's program included performances by the Appalachian Children's Chorus under the direction of Selina Midkiff; Capital High School Dance Company under the direction of A. Michelle Legg; Greenbrier Valley Theatre Cabaret with artistic director Cathey Crowell Sawyer; Grace Pritt, the 2013 Poetry Out Loud Runner-Up; Kari Safford Blankenship, Miss West Virginia 1996; and the Cabell Midland Jazz Knights under the direction of Timothy James.



10 West Virginia Lawmakers Honored for Contributions to the Arts

West Virginia Division of Culture and History Commissioner Randall Reid-Smith presents Del. Carol Miller, R-Cabell, with a Community Arts Award. Miller has been a driving force for community support and funding for the Huntington Museum of Art, restoration of the historic Keith Albee Theater and the VH1 Save The Music Foundation.

Ten members of the West Virginia Legislature who support music, theater, the preservation of historic venues and more received Legislative Leadership awards for significant contributions to the arts during the 2014 Governor's Arts Awards gala.

Del. John D. O'Neal IV, R-Raleigh, and **Sen. Dave Sypolt, R-Preston,** were presented with Arts in Education Awards. O'Neal, of Beckley, was recognized for his support of the statewide VH1 Save The Music Foundation program, which started in his district, putting musical instruments at Shady Spring Middle School, and his advocacy for Theatre West Virginia and the Southern West Virginia Youth Museum. Sypolt, a resident of Kingwood, also is a strong supporter of the VH1 Save The Music Foundation as well as Arthurdale, the first New Deal planned subsistence homestead community founded by Eleanor Roosevelt during the Great Depression, and the Tucker County Opera House, a historic vaudeville and movie theater building built in 1902 in Thomas.

Del. Carol Miller, R-Cabell, and **Sen. Rocky Fitzsimmons, D-Ohio,** received Community Arts Awards. Miller, of Huntington, has been a driving force for community support

and funding for the Huntington Museum of Art, restoration of the historic Keith Albee Theater and the VH1 Save The Music Foundation. Fitzsimmons, of Wheeling, has been a strong supporter for the restoration of West Virginia Independence Hall, the birthplace of West Virginia statehood; The Capitol Theatre, also known as the Capitol Music Hall, which is a landmark building in the national historic district of Wheeling; and the development of the Brooke County Museum in Wellsburg.

Del. Kevin Craig, D-Cabell, and **Sen. Ronald F. Miller, D-Greenbrier,** were recognized with Cultural Facilities Awards. Craig, of Huntington, is a strong supporter of the restoration and maintenance of the Keith Albee Theater and the Huntington Museum of Art, and advocates for the Huntington Symphony and the VH1 Save The Music Foundation. Miller, of Lewisburg, has long supported art venues like the Greenbrier Valley Theatre and Carnegie Hall and their cultural impact on the community, as well as new organizations like the Fayetteville Art Coalition.

Del. Erikka Storch, R-Ohio, and **Sen. Donna Boley, R-Pleasants,** were presented with Folk Arts Awards.

Storch of Wheeling was recognized for her strong support of the historic sites of Capitol Theatre and West Virginia Independence Hall in Wheeling and Grave Creek Mound Archaeological Complex in Moundsville. Boley, of St. Marys, actively works to ensure the Parkersburg Arts Center and Blennerhassett Island Historical State Park have funding to continue promoting and preserving the arts in the Ohio River Valley and supports the North Bend State Park artists program.

Del. Stephen Skinner, D-Jefferson, and **Sen. Herb Snyder, D-Jefferson,** received Lifetime Achievement Awards. Skinner, of Shepherdstown, is well-known throughout the Eastern Panhandle for his involvement with the Contemporary American Arts Theater Festival and other art activities, advocates for the Future Fund legislation and supported the division's presentation of the West Virginia Juried Exhibition in Martinsburg last year. Snyder, of Shenandoah Junction, has actively supported projects such as the restoration of the Roundhouse in Martinsburg, promoted local community arts organizations and the juried exhibition in Martinsburg.

Tiera Floyd

Award-winning Sutton Artist Builds Confidence with Impressive Portfolio

By P.J. Dickerscheid
Photos by Tyler Evert

Above, right: D. Gene Jordon Memorial Award winner Tiera Floyd is flanked by Charles Morris, Director of Museums, and Renée Margocee, Director of Arts for the West Virginia Division of Culture and History, during the grand opening of the 2013 West Virginia Juried Exhibition in Martinsburg.

Below: Tiera Floyd's oil painting "Suzy" won the prestigious D. Gene Jordon Memorial Award during the 2013 West Virginia Juried Exhibition, which was displayed in Martinsburg last fall and in Charleston this spring.

The gritty, black dirt underneath the fingernails. The fine lines of age around the knuckles. The flecks of light shimmering off the wedding ring. There's no question that Sutton artist Tiera Floyd means it when she says "I'm very detail-oriented."

"I'm a creative person with perfectionist qualities," the 24-year-old said during a spring taping of the *ArtWorks* television show. "Getting all the pores and wrinkles, what some would consider imperfections, that's what I love to create."

Floyd's oil paintings, which were inspired by pixelated pictures, have received several accolades. "Suzy" was honored last year with the prestigious D. Gene Jordon Memorial Award and a Governor's Award while



"Johnny" was selected for an Award of Excellence. Both paintings were part of the 2013 West Virginia Juried Exhibition, which has been on display in Charleston and Martinsburg.

"Suzy" and "Johnny" are now part of the West Virginia State Museum's permanent collection.

During the 2011 state juried exhibition, Floyd received a Merit Award for "Self, II." Floyd's work also has been published in *Creative Quarterly: The Journal of Art & Design*.

The recent graduate of West Virginia Wesleyan decided to pursue fine arts after discovering her hidden talent for painting four years ago. Floyd admits that while taking her first painting class as a college sophomore "I was frightened," and intimidated by other students' work, yet "I took it as a challenge and accepted it, and I fell in love with it."

Floyd credits accomplished artist and professor Carol Pelletier with helping her overcome her fears. Pelletier is a former chair of Visual Arts at West Virginia Wesleyan College in Buckhannon and a visual arts master teacher at the Governors School for the Arts at Marshall University in Huntington. Pelletier now works as an associate professor of art and Fine Arts chair of the Visual and Performing Arts Department at Endicott College in Boston.

"She didn't give step-by-step instructions, which is what I craved," Floyd said of Pelletier. "I wanted that



check-off list. She was like, just go for it. You'll feel it out. I did."

Pelletier said Floyd is multi-talented and a disciplined painter, two characteristics that allowed her to progress very quickly.

"She astounds me, just the growth in her work in such a short period of time," Pelletier said. "She was really focused on what, as a society we think isn't pretty, and she made it beautiful. For somebody so young, that's a pretty big deal."

Now Floyd advises other aspiring artists: "If you see something that inspires you, don't think that you can't do it. You can find a way. We're artists. We can create whatever we imagine."

As a child, Floyd enjoyed working with pastels and colored pencils and fell in love with all things Disney. Her desire to one day work for the international family entertainment and media enterprise prompted her to pursue a bachelor's degree in graphic design with minors in business and media studies at West Virginia Wesleyan.

Floyd completed a non-arts-related internship at Walt Disney World in the fall of 2012 and hopes to enroll at the California Institute for the Arts, which has been dubbed the "Harvard Business School of Animation."

"Being an artist isn't sometimes the easiest and ... I'm not sure what's next, but I can't let this gift go," Floyd said. "I have to keep pushing it and challenge myself to make it better. I'm grateful for the talent I was blessed with. I can't wait to see what I create in the future."

Nor can we.

On the Air

The *ArtWorks* television show is a production of the West Virginia Library Commission that airs on Suddenlink Channel 17 at 10:30 a.m., 4:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. on Fridays, and at 4:30 a.m. and 10:30 p.m. on Saturdays.

Work from Three Young West Virginia Artists on Display at U.S. Capitol through June 2015

Three young West Virginia artists are representing the state in the 2014 Congressional Art Exhibit at the U.S. Capitol building in Washington, D.C.

The work of Allison McIntyre of Lincoln High School, Harrison County; Kaylee Icenhower of Ravenswood High School, Jackson County; and McKayla Meade of Mingo Central High School, Mingo County, is on display in the Cannon Tunnel of the U.S. Capitol through next June. All three flew to Washington, D.C., in June for the official opening of the show.

Second-place winners in the state competition were Kayla Davis of Spring Valley High School, Wayne County; Hailey Miller of Ravenswood High School, Jackson County; Brooklynn Lilly of Pikeview High School, Mercer County; Chesney Hudson of Ravenswood High School, Jackson County; and Peyton Dolin of Nitro High School, Kanawha County.

Each spring, the Congressional Institute sponsors a nationwide high school visual-art competition to recognize and encourage artistic talent in the nation and in each congressional district. Since the competition began in 1982, more than 650,000 high school students have participated. Students submitted entries to the West Virginia State Museum in Charleston, and exhibition juror Amanda Short selected the winning entries.



Kaylee Icenhower, Grade 12
"Double Sided"
Watercolor
Ravenswood High School
Art Teacher: Pat Anderson
Jackson County, District 2



Allison McIntyre, Grade 9
"Life Will Stretch You"
Oil pastels
Lincoln High School
Art Teacher: Carolyn Light
Harrison County, District 1



McKayla Meade, Grade 12
"Unique Me: A Self-Portrait of Fingerprints"
Ink
Mingo Central High School
Art Teacher: Doug Martin
Mingo County, District 3



Acclaimed Quilter Part of 2014 West Virginia Quilt Exhibit on Display through September 8

By P.J. Dickerscheid

A retired Charleston attorney who spent years fighting for consumer rights in West Virginia and as a public defender is racking up awards for her original hand-made quilts.

Charli Fulton won third place in the Hand Quilted Bed Quilt category at the American Quilter's Society's show in Paducah, Ky., in April with "Vandalia Album," which features 25 of her favorite flowers. It was the latest accolade for Fulton, who has earned more than two dozen awards for her handiwork since 1997.

"I was very excited," the 64-year-old quilter said of her latest award. "When they read my name, I kind of gasped."

Fulton's quilt was one of 405 quilts made by some of the world's best

quilters from across the United States as well as Australia, Brazil, Germany, Japan and other countries. Ten of the 25 entries in Fulton's category were made by Japanese quilters who "do exquisite handwork."

"There were some very creative techniques that I'd never seen before," said Fulton, whose prestigious award came with a \$750 cash prize. She was inspired by the way people wove and painted on fabric as well as the detailed fabrics they used for bindings, techniques that she plans to incorporate in her original quilting designs.

Fulton, who grew up in Maine, was a freshman at Middlebury College in Vermont when she made her first quilt top, which lay in a closet

Charli Fulton won third place in the Hand Quilted Bed Quilt category at the American Quilter's Society's show in Paducah, Ky., in April with "Vandalia Album," which features 25 of her favorite flowers. Photo courtesy of Charli Fulton.

for 15 years as she pursued a law degree at Northeastern University in Boston. She retired in 2012 as a senior assistant attorney general under Darrell McGraw, ending a 30-year career as an attorney.

"My dad was a woodworker. My mother was a knitter. My grandmother braided rugs and one of my sisters is a knitter and the other one is a quilter," Fulton said. "There is something really satisfying about making something with your hands."

Fulton works with various fabrics and colors to create a range of designs for her quilting projects. She has been designing her own quilts and working without patterns since 2000.

After retiring, Fulton took a few quilting classes and joined quilting groups to hone her skills.

"I've learned a huge amount from fellow quilters," she said. "Not only are you laughing and having fun with a group of fabulous women, if you're stuck on something, there's bound to be someone there who knows how

to figure it out."

Fulton attended the American Quilter's Society show in 2009 and was part of it in 2002. Over the years, she has won awards for eight of the nine quilts she entered in the West Virginia Division of Culture and History's annual juried quilt exhibits.

"When I go to a big quilt show, I always come home totally inspired," she said. "It's just, oh, so fabulous. It's nice to have something that engages my mind. It's really enriched my life. It has given me a whole new appreciation for art and design."

The 2014 West Virginia Quilt and Wall Hanging Exhibition, which features one of Fulton's wall hangings, is on display at the Culture Center in Charleston through Sept. 8. Sponsored by the West Virginia Division of Culture and History, the exhibit features West Virginia-made quilts that were juried by Marcel Miller, president of the National Quilting Association, certified quilt judge, and professional machine quilter from Hertford, North Carolina.

The annual West Virginia Quilt and Wall Hanging Exhibition features West Virginia-made quilts. Photo by Tyler Evert.



"My dad was a woodworker. My mother was a knitter. My grandmother braided rugs and one of my sisters is a knitter and the other one is a quilter. There is something really satisfying about making something with your hands."

Charli Fulton
Charleston quilter



Sculptor Joe Mullins pours water into the testing trough to discover which Van Junior/Senior High School student created the most successful dam.

‘Explore and Soar’ Wins Governor’s Award for Arts in Education

By P.J. Dickerscheid
Photos provided by the Clay Center

Students in Boone County sharpened their analytical-thinking and math skills by calculating the weight, size and mass necessary to create a colorful kinetic sculpture with Washington, D.C., artist Kevin Reese.

They learned more about engineering and how water can be used to create electricity by building miniature dams with Charleston sculptor Joe Mullins.

They also studied patterns in nature with Charleston artist Janet Chambers and her husband, Doug.

It’s all part of an award-winning program at the Clay Center in Charleston that is partially funded by more than \$100,000 in grants from the West Virginia Commission on the Arts and the West Virginia Division of Culture and History.

Earlier this year, Governor Earl Ray Tomblin recognized the Clay Center’s Explore and Soar 21st Century

Community Learning Center with one of the highest possible honors in West Virginia, the Governor’s Award for Arts in Education. Through such after-school projects as “School Sculptures with Kevin Reese,” the program has enabled students at Van Junior/Senior High, Madison Middle and Sherman Junior High schools to work with professional mentors, use problem-solving skills, and innovate and create in a variety of disciplines.

Students receive added instruction in core academic subjects, exposure to unique opportunities and enrichment activities, and additional educational services for them and their families. While the West Virginia Department of Education provided primary funding for the state’s 169 learning centers, the Arts Commission and the Division of Culture and History awarded the Clay Center nearly \$117,000 in Arts Partners and

Challenge America grants for the Explore and Soar program and other things last fiscal year.

The afterschool program already may be netting results. Van High School now ranks third in the state for test scores and the test scores of students at the junior high school jumped a whopping 42 places over the previous year.

"There is not enough data yet, but we feel like we are getting there," said Nora Dotson, federal program director for Boone County Schools. Explore and Soar improves student achievement in reading, math and science by providing STEAM education – science, technology, engineering, arts and math – through art and science integration. It addresses such life skills as college preparation and career awareness while increasing parental and community involvement in the educational process.

Dotson said students living in rural districts like Boone often have limited exposure to cultural experiences outside their local communities. By teaching them the arts and sciences in an exploratory way, students learn more of the core curriculum. Mentoring with artists, musicians, scientists, engineers and other professionals helps them expand their interests and explore career options.

"It's not just academics. It also involves the arts, and the students begin to see how those things work together," Dotson said. "It has the potential for students to say 'I want to be artist, so I need to be able to do math and science, too.'

"When the kids are engaged in these types of activities, they are more likely to get their academic participation to improve as well. That engagement is the critical piece," she said.

The program also affords students, along with their families, the opportunity to roam the Clay Center's art gallery and science exhibits, and view movies in the domed ElectricSky

Theater. They can blow huge bubbles through a soap screen, dig through mountains of Legos and use a pulley system to lift themselves in the Gizmo Factory.

At a nutrition-themed gallery called "Everybody Eats," students learned to read nutrition labels and how calories create fuel for the body. Immersing themselves in the study of engineering and design, students programmed robots, built paper bridges and floated foil boats. While creating drama masks, the students learned about Greek theater.

Van Junior/Senior High students also have been writing and publishing children's books after school, and in March, professional actors performed one-act plays written by the students as part of the "Voices of the Mountain" production in the Clay Center's Walker Theater. To build self-confidence and the ability to set and accomplish goals, students worked with Appalachian Artists Collective Founder and Director Leah Turley and Arts Resources for

Arts Partners

Deadline: March 1

Provides general operating support to long-standing, stable arts organizations to further the general purpose or work of an organization, rather than for a specific purpose or project.

Challenge America

Deadline: March 1

Provides support for innovative enhancement of public arts experiences; outreach documentation and evaluation.

A student at Madison Middle School in Boone County adds color to a school-spirit mural that was part of an Explore and Soar project spearheaded by artists Ian Bode and Katheryne Hawkins.





Artist Kevin Reese of Washington, D.C., places the finishing piece on a kinetic sculpture that students at Madison Middle School helped to create as part of the Clay Center for the Arts and Sciences' Explore and Soar program.

the Tri-State Playwright and Resident Director Michael Murdock to develop scripts and staging for their original productions.

They also saw a performance by PHILADANCO! The Philadelphia Dance Company, which presents African-American traditions through dance. Reese also mesmerized some students with "Apollo: To the Moon," a production designed to introduce students to the wonder and drama of the Apollo space program.

Boone County Schools Superintendent John Hudson said the program has been invaluable to students who attend high-poverty and low-performing schools.

"It connects kids who may not otherwise be connected," he said.

The opportunity to make something with their hands and to see it progress from beginning to end helps build their self-confidence, said Staci Leech-Cornell, the Clay Center's community learning center manager.

"Consistency is something some of these students don't see very often," she said.

"These students need to have their horizons broadened, and

seeing successful West Virginians is important," she said in reference to the volunteer mentors who participate in the program. "It's important that these students identify their own strengths and see that something that may be considered odd and strange to them is actually successful and needed."

Since 2004, 21st Century Learning

Centers have served more than 102,000 students in 34 of the state's 55 counties.

Hudson said anyone interested in creating a similar program should focus on ways to include exploratory components along with the academic components. "It helps to tie it into the real world."

Involving all of the stakeholders -- parents, students, teachers, administrators, community members -- in planning also is critical, Dotson said.

"Some very rich discussion occurs on that level. Everybody has something to contribute. Take those resources, have a well thought-out plan and be flexible. Even with your best plan, you're going to have to make changes," she said.

Leech-Cornell agreed, especially when working on a program that involves many different people.

"As long as you can be flexible and find win-win solutions you can make it happen," she said. "Keep trying. Don't give up. There are a lot of hurdles ... and you can get a little frustrated, but following what they need and fitting what you need into that can be a successful thing. It really does require 'it takes a village' mentality."

\$100,000 Available to Schools, Nonprofits for STEAM Projects

The Beckley Area Foundation has received a \$100,000 grant from the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation to fund learning opportunities that integrate the arts with science, technology, engineering or math.

Schools or organizations with 501(c)3 status in Raleigh, Webster, Wyoming, McDowell and southern Fayette counties can request up to \$7,500 for STEAM projects that foster innovation, creative problem solving, flexible thinking and risk-taking.

Applications are available by calling the foundation at 304.253.3806 or online at info@bafwv.org. The deadline for submissions is Sept. 19 for projects occurring between Sept. 30 and June 30, 2015.

The Arts Section of the West Virginia Division of Culture and History will administer this re-granting opportunity. Prospective applicants are encouraged to contact Jim Wolfe, Arts in Education coordinator, at 304.558.0240, ext. 717, or by email at James.D.Wolfe@wv.gov.

Twenty-four students from high schools in 20 counties competed in the 2014 West Virginia Poetry Out Loud competition in March.



West Virginia's Poetry Out Loud Winner Austin Gage Places in Top 9 at National Contest

Wheeling Park High School senior Austin Gage was struggling to shake off a case of the nerves he caught from the other Poetry Out Loud (POL) contestants backstage as he approached the lone microphone in the Norman L. Fagan West Virginia State Theater in Charleston.

Unbeknownst to Gage and members of the audience who came to hear him and 23 other high school students recite poems during the West Virginia Poetry Out Loud competition in March, Gage was about to clinch the title as the 2014 state champion with his final poem, "[i carry your heart with me(i carry it in)]" by E.E. Cummings, and would go on to make it into the top nine at the national 2014 Poetry Out Loud recitation contest in Washington, D.C.

"Backstage, everyone was nervous," Gage recalled days after winning the state title. "As soon as I walk on the stage, though, it just all goes away, and I turn that nervous energy into something different. I take on this new confidence because I know what

my purpose is – to evoke emotion from these poems and get the message across."

Gage's winning performance of Cummings' poem and two others – "I Find no Peace" by Thomas Wyatt and "Strange Meeting" by Wilfred Owen – earned him the right to represent the Mountain State at the national POL competition in late April that

**By P.J. Dickerscheid
Photos by Tyler Evert**

West Virginia's 2014 Poetry Out Loud champion Austin Gage is flanked by West Virginia Division of Culture and History's Director of Arts Renée Margocee and award-winning actor and Beckley native Chris Sarandon. Gilmer County artist Matt Thomas created the 2014 West Virginia Poetry Out Loud State Champion awards.





Guest performer, American cellist, singer-songwriter and composer Ben Sollee is known for his innovative playing style, genre-bending songwriting and electrifying performances.

Poetry Out Loud 2015

Want Poetry Out Loud in your school? Poetry Out Loud fulfills the West Virginia content standards and objectives in reading, English and language arts. It helps students master public speaking skills, build self-confidence and learn about their literary heritage. Registration begins this fall! Contact Jim Wolfe, Arts in Education Coordinator, at 304.558.0240 or James.D.Wolfe@wv.gov.

To hear Austin Gage's state performance, go to www.wvculture.org/arts

drew 53 contestants from all 50 states and the U.S. territories. The national literary event was the culmination of a pyramid-structure competition that began last fall in more than 2,255 high schools across the county.

"It was such an incredible experience, an incredible competition," Gage said the day after the nationals. "It was tough. It was the best of the best, and I didn't think I was going to make it that far, but I'm blessed to have had that opportunity. It was just amazing."

Gage was initially reluctant to enter the contest, mainly because he was busy with so many other activities. Besides regularly performing in his school's plays and musicals, Gage is a member of the school's speech and debate team, and choir. The 18-year-old also loves to swim, play piano, run and write, but he said he has no regrets about deciding to fit POL into his schedule.

"It's a life changer. You hear so many great poems, but you meet some really great people and you make great friends, too. If anything, I feel like I should pay them \$1,000, they've given me so much. It was an amazing gift from the arts."

Gage, who, as a national finalist, earned a medal, \$500 for Wheeling Park to purchase poetry books and

another \$1,000 for himself, said he sought to challenge himself by learning to recite complex poetry and to hone his speaking skills.

"I love the power of performance," said Gage, who will study journalism and electronic media at the University of Cincinnati this fall on his way to becoming a professional actor. "Poignant performance can promote change."

Each participant in both the state and national competitions performs three poems from the Poetry Out Loud anthology. Students are evaluated on accuracy, evidence of understanding, level of difficulty, dramatic appropriateness, voice and articulation, physical presence, and overall performance.

Tyler Hammack, a senior at Roane County High School, was West Virginia's runner-up with his recitation of "A March in the Ranks Hard-Prest, and the Road Unknown" by Walt Whitman, "I Am Offering this Poem" by Jimmy Santiago Baca and "Sheltered Garden" by H.D.

Many of the state contestants said



Luke White,
Lewis County
High School

they selected poems that “spoke to them,” ones in which they made emotional connections with the words and messages the poets sought to evoke.

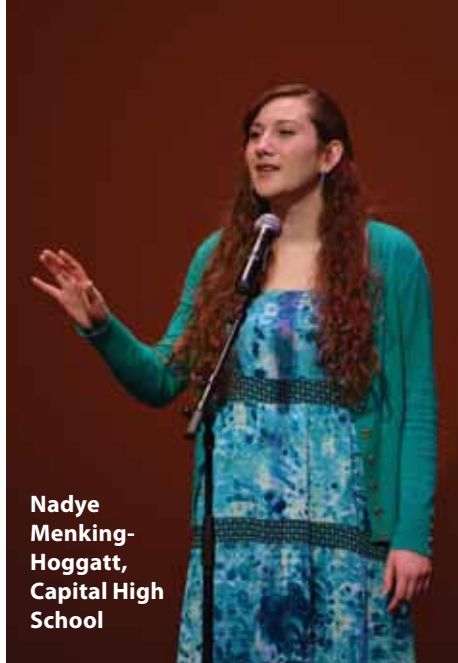
The students prepared by reading poems in front of mirrors and other inanimate objects, in the shower as well as for family, friends, classmates and teachers. The contest was a great way to make new friends and learn from each other while gaining confidence and a deeper appreciation for poetry, they said.

“I’ve never been around a group of competitors who were so positive and supportive of one another,” said Gage, who lives in Moundsville with his grandmother, Jane Lambie. “There were no divas. ... Everyone wanted everyone else to succeed.”

As state champion, Gage received \$200 and an all-expense paid trip to the national finals. His school also received \$500 to purchase poetry books.

Hammack received \$100 and his school \$200 to purchase poetry books.

State champion Austin Gage visited with U.S. Senator Joe Manchin when he competed at the national Poetry Out Loud competition in Washington, D.C. Photo courtesy of Senator Joe Manchin’s Office.



**Nadye Menking-Hoggatt,
Capital High School**

“Reciting in your bedroom, or even in your school auditorium, is nothing like the thrill you get from being behind a live mic, and in front of real judges and audience. Now it’s a competition!”

Hannah Ström, Nitro High School

2014 participants

John Bard

Richwood High School

Mary-Kate Bostick

Woodrow Wilson High School

McKenzie Channell

Lincoln High School

Karissa Cox

Greenbrier West High School

Sabrina Dahlia

East Fairmont High School

McGinnis Dalton

Logan High School

Selena Dennison

Webster County High School

Carol Desper

Braxton County High School

Sarah Beth Ealy

Morgantown High School

Austin Gage

Wheeling Park High School

Tyler Hammack

Roane County High School

Kristen Abigail Hensley

Chapmanville Regional High School

Caylee Hope

Bridgeport High School

Sarah Jones

Wirt County High School

Jessica Kimble

Tyler Consolidated High School

Ciera Kinder

Sherman High School

Brooke King

Ripley High School

Nadye Menking-Hoggatt

Capital High School

Grace Pritt

Hurricane High School

Alexandria Runyon

Cabell Midland High School

Neely Seams

Greenbrier East High School

Hannah Ström

Nitro High School

Autumn White

Meadow Bridge High School

Luke White

Lewis County High School

Accommodating Cognitive Disabilities within the Arts

By Tabitha Walter

With more than 136,100 West Virginians living with a cognitive disability, arts organizations have a golden opportunity to capture larger audiences and add performers to their troupes with a few simple steps.

Whether dealing with a learning disability, emotional disability, Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), individuals with cognitive challenges can use artistic expression as an excellent way to communicate and learn. They also can enjoy performances of all kinds.

Cognitive disabilities include, but are not limited to, learning disabilities, ADD, ADHD, and emotional disabilities. The Arts Section of the West Virginia Division of Culture and History promotes and encourages the inclusion of all diverse individuals within state arts organizations.

Research has shown that artistic expression is an excellent way for individuals of all abilities to communicate and learn. Playing a musical instrument can increase a person's motor skills by learning finger placement or how to hold the instrument. Painting a picture or dancing can provide a way to express an idea when someone is unable to formulate the idea into words. Allowing additional time on a project can make someone feel that they can fully convey their emotions and ideas without being ignored. Providing these means of expression can make a person confident in themselves



Recent Additions to the West Virginia State Museum's Permanent Art Collection

"Buster-the-hand balancer"
Bronze sculpture
By John Mowder
Moundsville

Abstract oil painting
Katherine Talbott Burnside
Charleston

Abstract painting with rusted metal on paper with oil paints
Katherine Talbott Burnside
Charleston

Abstract doodle with black India ink on white cardstock
John F. Hudkins
Charleston

Abstract doodle with black India ink on greenish-blue paper
John F. Hudkins
Charleston

Still life oil painting
Agnes Huston Daugherty
Charleston

Abstract oil painting
Margaret Wise
Charleston

Above: John Mowder's "Buster-the-hand balancer"

Below: John F. Hudkins' abstract doodle on white cardstock

Photos by Steven Holsclaw



Grant Opportunities for Artists

and make them want to continue their participation. When inclusion happens in the arts, family and friends are encouraged to participate in your programming and advocate for the success of your organization. Still, individuals with cognitive disabilities may not always inform you of their learning ability, but some recognizable behaviors may give you clues to what they might need. An individual may have slow information-processing skills, difficulty shifting from one task to another, or difficulty expressing ideas orally. Elements of your programming such as time, organization, recalling information, and following directions may prove to be challenging for some.

To better assist people with cognitive challenges, you can:

- Provide a detailed schedule of events.
- Provide a written and oral overview of the program.
- Accept alternative forms of expression, such as written communication or recordings.
- Educate staff on cognitive disabilities.
- Have staff available for note taking, recording the program, reading, or oral explanations.
- Allow extra time in the schedule for explanation of program.
- Eliminate distractions, such as noisemakers and flashing lights.

Like most people, individuals with cognitive disabilities want to feel that they are in a safe environment, but trying something new may be difficult for them and require extra time. When you show patience, understanding and open-mindedness toward individuals participating in your programming, it teaches other participants how to respond in an appropriate manner. After all, when practicing inclusion in the arts, you are in turn creating a closer community.

American Masterpieces–WV

Deadline: April 1

Provides support for projects that contribute to West Virginian's access to America's cultural legacy and an increased awareness of West Virginia's impact on that legacy.

Arts in Education

Deadline: March 1

Provides support for curriculum-based, hands-on projects that involve K-12 students and teachers in the arts during daily instruction and for arts education programming outside of regular school hours.

Arts Partners

Deadline: March 1

Provides general operating support to long-standing, stable arts organizations to further the general purpose or work of an organization, rather than for a specific purpose or project.

Challenge America

Deadline: March 1

Provides support for innovative enhancement of public arts experiences; outreach documentation and evaluation.

Community Arts Project Support

Deadline: March 1

Provides support for projects in all disciplines that offer arts programming to the public and planning and organizational development projects that strengthen West Virginia arts organizations.

Cultural Facilities and Capital Resources

Deadline: July 1

Provides support for acquisition, construction, renovation, accessibility improvements and capital purchases of durable equipment.

EZ Arts Access

Deadline: April 1/October 1

Provides support for small communities and organizations with small budgets. This is a simplified application process with the opportunity for application two times per year, allowing for special opportunities that occur after other WVCA deadlines have passed.

Mini Grants

Deadline: 6 weeks prior to project date

Provides support for schools, nonprofit community arts organizations or other nonprofit sponsors that do not present a season of events.

Professional Development for Artists

Deadline: February 1/October 1

Provides support for professional and emerging artists seeking ways to expand or improve their own work or share their expertise.

Professional Development for Artist Organizations

Deadline: February 1/October 1

Provides support for professional artist organizations seeking ways to expand or improve their work or share their expertise.

Training and Travel

Deadline: 6 weeks prior to project date

Provides financial assistance to artists, arts administrators and arts educators to attend seminars, conferences, workshops and showcases outside West Virginia.

Arts Directory

West Virginia Commission on the Arts
www.wvculture.org

Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation
www.midatlanticarts.org

West Virginia Development Office
www.sbdcwv.org

West Virginia Division of Tourism
www.wvtourism.com

West Virginia Humanities Council
www.wvhumanities.org

National Endowment for the Arts
www.arts.gov

Grantmakers in the Arts
www.giarts.org

National Assembly of State Arts Agencies
nasaa@nasaa-arts.org

U.S. Regional Arts Organizations
www.usregionalarts.org

Allegheny Echoes, a group of musicians and writers who offer summer workshops that study and celebrate West Virginia and Appalachian culture and heritage.
304.799.7121
www.alleghenyechoes.com

Allied Artists of West Virginia, a group of West Virginia artists who strive to maintain high standards in all forms of art and promote the creativity of all its members.
www.alliedartistswv.org

Allegro Dance Company, a professional dance company in Wheeling that promotes and preserves the art of dance and the Italian culture by offering workshops, lectures and demonstrations.
304.242.2826
www.allegrodancecompany.net

American Association of Community Theatre provides networking, resources and support for those involved in community theatre.
866.687.2228
www.aact.org

Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts, a nonprofit that offers artists of all ability levels, ages and backgrounds meaningful and energizing workshops at affordable rates.
865.436.5860
www.arrowmont.org

Arts Advocacy West Virginia, a grassroots nonprofit organization representing the state arts community.
304.225.0101
www.wvarts.org

The Arts Centre, a presenter of visual artwork, classes, films, and discussions in

the Eastern Panhandle that hosts the annual West Virginia Wine & Arts Festival.
304.263.0224
www.theartcentre.org

Arts Monongahela, Inc., a nonprofit that supports, promotes and encourages access to and enjoyment of the arts in the Morgantown area.
304.291.6720
www.artsmon.org

Artsbridge Online, a regional arts service agency serving Wood County, West Virginia; Washington County, Ohio; and contiguous counties.
304.428.3988
www.artsbridgeonline.org

ArtWorks Around Town Inc., a nonprofit charitable and educational organization operating a gallery and art center in historic Centre Market of Wheeling.
304.233.7540
artworksaroundtown.com

ARTWV, a free email list for West Virginia artists and crafters who wish to communicate with each other via the Internet on topics related to arts & crafts.
www.pinehillpottery.com/JoinArtwv

Augusta Heritage Center of Davis & Elkins College, a nonprofit organization that fosters the study and practice of traditional arts in music, dance, craft and folklore.
304.637.1209
augustaheritagecenter.org

The Berkeley County Arts Council provides unified communication, promotion, support and advocacy for the arts community in Berkeley County.
304.620.7277
www.berkeleyartswv.org

The Bottling Works is Hampshire County's cultural arts center, presenting performances, exhibits and concerts by the county's arts council. Owned by The Loy Foundation, it is also known as the Hampshire County Historical and Arts Museum.
304.496.8162
theloyfoundation.org

Carnegie Hall, a regional center for the visual and performing arts in the Lewisburg area.
304.645.7917
www.carnegiehallwv.com

Center for Economic Options, a community development organization in West Virginia that works with entrepreneurs and innovators who share a commitment to development that is socially, economically and environmentally sustainable.
304.345.1298
www.centerforeconomicoptions.org

The Charleston Ballet, the official West Virginia State Ballet.
304.342.6541
www.thecharlestonballet.com

Charleston Light Opera Guild, provides high-quality, affordable musical theater in the Kanawha Valley.
304.343.2287
www.charlestonlightoperaguild.org

Children's Theatre of Charleston, the official West Virginia children's theater.
304.741.9099
www.ctoc.org

Chorus America, a national organization to develop and promote professional, volunteer and youth choruses.
202.331.7577
www.chorusamerica.org

Chuck Mathena Center, a nonprofit organization that offers education programs, live music and touring exhibits in southern West Virginia and southwest Virginia.
304.425.5128
www.chuckmathenacenter.org

Clay Center for the Arts and Sciences, an art museum, science center, performing arts center and hands-on educational facility in Charleston.
304.561.3570
www.theclaycenter.org

Crafts Emergency Relief Fund, a national artists' service organization that provides emergency resources to artists.
802.229.2306
www.craftemergency.org

Frog Valley Artisans, a collective of artists in Morgan County that specializes in art glass, metal and ceramics.
304.258.3541
frogvalley.com

Gallery Eleven, a co-op of West Virginia artists who work in different media from acrylics, oils, and watercolor to clay/pottery and fabric.
304.342.0083
galleryeleven.com

Goose Route Arts Collaboration, a nonprofit arts organization in Shepherdstown that promotes and teaches dance.
301.693.5303
www.gooseroute.org

Greenbrier Valley Theatre, a producing organization for live theater.
304.645.3838
www.gvtheatre.org

Hampshire County Arts Council, a membership organization that offers juried arts shows, displays, concerts, studio tours, art camps and more.
711-496-8002
www.hampshirearts.org

Haystack Mountain School of Crafts, an international craft school located on the Atlantic Ocean in Deer Isle, Maine, that offers intensive studio-based workshops in a variety of craft media, including clay, glass, metals, paper, blacksmithing, weaving and woodworking.
207.348.2306
www.haystack-mtn.org

Huntington Museum of Art, a fine-art museum and nature conservatory situated on more than 50 acres with two nature trails.
www.hmoa.org
304.529.2701

Huntington Outdoor Theatre, a regional theater group that presents outdoor productions at Huntington's Ritter Park Amphitheater.
www.hotwv.org

Ivy & Stone Council for the Arts, a volunteer organization in Summersville that presents and assists in supporting a place for the literary, visual and performing arts in Nicholas County.
304.872.4228
www.ivyandstone.org

The Juried Online Arts Festival offers online portfolios of outstanding artists and crafts people.
www.jolaf.com

Kanawha Players, the second oldest, continuously operating amateur theater company in the country.
304.343.7529
kanawhaplayers.org

Landmark Studio for the Arts, a venue for art and cultural events in Sutton.
304-644-3166
landmarkstudioforthearts.org

Lost River Artisans Cooperative, an artist-owned and -operated cooperative in Lost River, Hardy County, featuring a juried selection of heritage arts and crafts.
304.897.7242

Mid-Ohio Valley Ballet Company, presenting dance concerts, full-length ballets, original and contemporary works and Arts in Education workshops in Parkersburg.
304.422.5538
www.movballet.com

Morgan Arts Council, providing quality arts programming for Berkeley Springs and Morgan County.
304.258.2300
www.macicehouse.org

MountainLit & Life, a website that collects and disseminates information about past and present West Virginia authors and their writings.
www.mountainlit.com

MountainMade, a nonprofit organization that promotes the West Virginia arts community through the sale of West Virginia art and fine crafts on-line and in a gallery in Thomas.
304.463.3355
www.mountainmade.com

Mountain State Fiber Artists, a statewide organization for all fiber artist mediums.
www.mountainstatefiberartists.org

New World Theater Company, a theater company that provides educational workshops for actors.
304.258.3302
www.newworldtheater.com

Oglebay Institute, a nonprofit organization that provides cultural, educational, environmental and recreational experiences to the Upper Ohio Valley.
304.242.7700
www.oionline.com

The Ohio River Border Initiative Arts Network, a joint project of the West Virginia Division of Culture and History and the Ohio Arts Council that provides support programs to artists, arts groups and community arts programs in all Ohio and West Virginia counties that touch the Ohio River.
www.orbiartsnetwork.wordpress.com

Power2Give, a project of Arts & Science Council that helps to match nonprofit organizations' projects that need funding with members of the public interested in giving directly to local arts, science and history projects.
www.power2give.org

Randolph County Community Arts Center, offering live concerts and performances, classes, workshops and exhibit in Elkins.
304.637.2355
www.randolpharts.org/index.php

River City Youth Ballet, West Virginia's official youth ballet offering a four-show season and numerous programs in venues throughout south-central West Virginia.
304.925.3262
www.rcyb.org

Shinnston Community Band, a concert band consisting of amateur and professional musicians from north-central West Virginia.
www.shinnstonband.com

Syphrus Recordings, an independent recording label in the Eastern Panhandle that offers recording, production, distribution, promotion, marketing, and management services.
www.syphrus.com

Trillium Performing Arts Collective, a nonprofit performing-arts organization in Lewisburg that operates the Trillium School for Performing Arts and provides educational workshops, community participation and informal and professional performances.
304.645.3003
www.trilliumperformingarts.org

West Virginia Art and Craft Guild, a statewide nonprofit membership organization formed to promote and preserve the creative lifestyle in West Virginia.
www.wvartcraftguild.com

West Virginia Art Education Association, a professional organization that sponsors conferences, programs, exhibits and other services to support art education.
www.wvaea.com

West Virginia Blues Society, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting and preserving the history and heritage of blues music as an American art form through education, activities and events.
www.wvbluessociety.org/wvblues

West Virginia Music Educators, a service and professional organization for music teachers engaged in teaching music in schools across West Virginia.
www.wvmea.tripod.com

West Virginia Music Teachers Association, a nonprofit organization for teachers of every instrument and voice.
www.wvmta.org

West Virginia Symphony, a performing arts organization that presents more than 50 concerts annually to audiences across the Mountain State.
304.561.3500
www.wvsymphony.org

West Virginia Writers, the state's largest writing organization that aims to expand and develop creative writing and professional opportunities for writers, and to connect the state's writers with others in the literary community and the public at large.
www.wvwriters.org

West Virginia Youth Symphony, a nonprofit arts organization that supports four music ensembles and numerous chamber groups.
304.561.3542
www.wvyouthsymphony.org

West Virginia International Film Festival, a nonprofit organization that encourages, supports and promotes the film arts by offering critically acclaimed and culturally diverse domestic and foreign language feature films unlikely to be shown at theaters in West Virginia.
304.342.6522
www.wviff.org



Riley Elliott with the Children's Theater of Charleston expresses her creativity during the 2014 Arts Day at the Capitol.

Arts Day at the Capitol Celebrates Vibrant Arts Communities across West Virginia

The 2014 Arts Day at the Capitol highlighted the vitality of the arts in West Virginia by bringing together more than three dozen arts organizations to tout their efforts to promote creative enterprises across the state.

The February 7 event sponsored by the West Virginia Division of Culture and History and the West Virginia Commission on the Arts helped to illustrate to lawmakers the important role artists, arts organizations and art enthusiasts play in the state's growth, economic development and education.

This year's event featured special performances by the Horace Mann Middle School Band, Girls' Choir and String Band.

CALENDAR

JULY

July 3-5: Mountain State Arts & Crafts Fair, Ripley

July 5-6: Over the Mountain Studio Tour's annual Summer Show and Sale, War Memorial Building, Shepherdstown

July 6-August 3: Contemporary American Theater Festival, Shepherd University, Shepherdstown

July 6-August 15: The River: A Biennial Juried Exhibition, Parkersburg Art Center

July 9-13: Pioneer Days – Pocahontas County, Marlinton

July 20: Food Tasting: Appalachian Mountain Specialties, Tamarack: *The Best of West Virginia*, Beckley, Starts at 11 a.m.

July 24-27: West Virginia Watercolor Society Workshop featuring award-winning artist Z.L. Feng, Timberline Four Seasons Resort, near Davis

AUGUST

August 1-2: Lewisburg Literary Festival, Lewisburg.

August 1-3: Appalachian String Band Music Festival, Clifftop, Fayette County

August 29-31: Gathering at Sweet Creek, Mineral Wells

August 29-31: Jane Lew firemen's Arts & Crafts Festival, Jane Lew

SEPTEMBER

September 4-7: CultureFest 2014, Pipestem

September 5-25: Randolph County Community Arts Center's 2014 Gala Juried Art Exhibition, Elkins

September 8: Tamarack Artisan Foundation Seminar: "Strategies for Success," featuring the Southern Highlands Craft, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Clay Center, Charleston, registration fee \$25

September 15-17: "Capturing the Light" watercolor workshop with Lynn Ferris, Berkeley Arts Council, 116 N. Queen St., Martinsburg

September 17-Oct. 31: West Virginia Diversifying Perspectives Exhibition, Culture Center, State Capitol Complex, Charleston

September 20-21: Harvest Moon Arts and Crafts Festival, Parkersburg

September 25-26: WV Storytelling Festival, Prickett's Fort, Fairmont

September 26-28: Mountain Heritage Arts and Crafts Festival – Fall, Shenandoah Junction

West Virginia Division of Culture and History Arts Section

304.558.0240



Renée Margocee is the Director of Arts for the West Virginia Division of Culture and History and is responsible for administering the division's arts programs, which include arts administration services, as well as state and federal grants for West

Virginia's arts organizations, individual artists, schools and communities.

Renee.Margocee@wv.gov



P.J. Dickerscheid is the Individual Artist Coordinator. She provides technical assistance to artists and artists' organizations, and administers the division's Professional Development for Artists and Artists' Organization grant program. She

also is the editor of the agency's quarterly publication *ArtWorks West Virginia* and its monthly television show *ArtWorks*.

Pamela.J.Dickerscheid@wv.gov



Debbie Haught is the Community Arts Coordinator. She oversees Arts Partners, Community Arts Project Support, American Masterpieces and EZ Arts Access grant programs. She also manages the Peer Assistance Network and offers training in grant

writing and organizational development across the state.

Debbie.R.Haught@wv.gov



Robin Jones is the Administrative Secretary for the Arts Section and helps administer, along with the Arts in Education coordinator, its Mini Grant program.

Robin.L.Jones@wv.gov



Barbie Smoot is the Grants Officer and Budget Manager. She maintains the database and financial records for all grant applications and is responsible for compliance with all state and federal rules, regulations and policies. She also oversees the Training and Travel grant program.

Barbie.J.Smoot@wv.gov



Tabitha Walter is the Cultural Facilities and Capital Resources Grant Coordinator and Americans with Disability Act (ADA) Coordinator. She administers the Cultural Facilities and Capital Resource Grant and Fast Track Grant programs. She also reviews the

accessibility of facilities and programs to ensure inclusion of all people.

Tabitha.D.Walter@wv.gov



Jim Wolfe is the Arts in Education coordinator. He administers the Arts in Education, Challenge America, and Mini-Grant programs, and is the state coordinator for Poetry Out Loud, a national recitation contest for high school students.

James.D.Wolfe@wv.gov



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The Culture Center
1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Charleston, WV 25305-0300

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage
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Charleston, W.Va. 25301

THANK YOU

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Susan Hogan, Wheeling

DeEtta King Hunter, Lewisburg

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Renée Margocee, Charleston*

Selina Midkiff, Charleston

Dr. Bernie Schultz, Morgantown

John Strickland, Charleston

Rosa Lee Vitez-Hall, Huntington

Penny Watkins, Huntington

Sam Winans, Parkersburg

* ex-officio nonvoting member