

Nevada Arts News

January 2000

Grant Writing Workshops Scheduled for February

The Nevada Arts Council and the Nevada Humanities Committee staff will be conducting Grant Writing Workshops for all grant categories offered by both agencies, including NAC Artist Fellowships, Jackpot and Arts in Education grants. The workshops are free and open to the public. Please arrive on time and plan to stay for the entire workshop. For more information call the NAC at 775.687.6680 and NHC at 702.895-1878.

Mesquite - Monday, February 7

Recreation Center, 5-8 p.m.

Carson City — Wednesday, February 9

Carson City Middle School, 4-7 p.m.

Reno — Thursday, February 10

Sierra Arts Center, 4-7 p.m.

Henderson — Tuesday, February 15

Library, James I. Gibson Branch, 4-7 p.m.

Las Vegas — Wednesday, February 16

West Las Vegas Art Center, noon-3 p.m.

Las Vegas — Wednesday, February 16

Las Vegas Library, Lied Discovery Children's Museum, 4-7 p.m.

Tonopah — Thursday, February 17

Tonopah Elementary School, 4-7 p.m.

Elko — Tuesday, February 22

Western Folklife Center, 4-7 p.m.

Ely — Wednesday, February 23

White Pine County School, 4-7 p.m.

Lovelock — Wednesday, February 23

Location tba, 4-7 p.m. □

Governor Honors Millennium Award Recipients

Presiding over his first Governor's Millennium Awards in the Arts and Humanities ceremony on November 5 in Las Vegas, Governor Kenny Guinn recognized 17 Nevada individuals, organizations and businesses whose contributions have had a lasting and profound impact on the state.

He noted in his remarks that the event combined two statewide recognition award programs for the first time—the Governor's Arts Awards of the Nevada Arts Council and the Nevada Humanities Annual Awards of the Nevada Humanities Committee. Guinn commented that, "It is only fitting for these two ceremonies to join together, two months before we move boldly into a new century. for in this new century, if we as a state embrace the ability to invent and improvise...to work without fear of discovery or new direction...our future is bright and shining. this future will be defined by our creativity and determination. And with practiced resilience, resourcefulness and vision, Nevada's cultural community can be instrumental in transforming our challenges into our successes."

Hosted by the Clark County Department of Parks and Recreation/Cultural Division, a record number of guests numbering more than 400, joined in the celebration which also featured a reading by novelist Russell Banks.

Following tradition, recipients received original pieces of art created by Nevada artists. Governor's Arts Award recipients received either two-dimensional pieces incorporating black and white image transfers onto plaster tablets by Reno artist Michael Greenspan, or miniature silver and gold books handcrafted by Gail Rappa from Tuscarora. Dennis Parks, also from Tuscarora, created the ceramic plate for the Nevada Humanities Annual Award recipient. And for Senators Bryan and Reid, Black Rock Press of the University of Nevada Reno produced a broadside of a poem by Gary Short (a GAA recipient this year) which was designed by Laurie Macfee of Reno.

Special recognition, with an Arts Czarina Award, was given to Cheryl Miglioretto, who recently retired from the Nevada Arts Council after twenty years of service as the agency's Grants Program Coordinator.

Nevada Arts News

Happy New Year! As we mentioned in the last newsletter, we are working on developing a new look and new schedule for NAN. As this is both a statewide information and networking publication, we ask you to help us in two ways:

1. Let us know what you'd like to see included in this newsletter. For example, are the NAN Classifieds important to you? Would you like to see a guest column for constituent views? Do you need more information about what projects are being funded through the various grant programs?
2. Please be sure to update us on events of note about yourself or your organization. We want to share your good news with your associates around the state, so send us information about awards, accolades, major grants, new initiatives, and staff comings and goings. This is not a statewide events calendar, but recognition of significant activities by, and accolades for, Nevada's arts and cultural community. Send us your information by mail, fax or e-mail to Suzanne Channell at schannell@clan.lib.nv.us. We'll include it in the next NAN and put it on our website as well. □

NAC Online Gallery

Check out the Nevada Arts Council on-line gallery exhibit of ceramic artist Chandler Dayton at dmla.clan.lib.nv.us/docs/arts/gallery. Chandler Dayton is a roster artist in the AIE Artist in Residence Program.

A big THANK YOU to Chandler for all her hard work and patience! At the site, you can learn about Chandler, her art work, and view nine pieces from her collection. More on-line galleries will soon be coming your way. □

Did You Know?

All Nevada Arts Council grants guidelines and applications are available on-line at dmla.clan.lib.nv.us. Also featured are program news, calendar of events, job openings, regional/statewide news, and links to statewide, regional, national organizations. Are you an artist/organizations that has received funding from NAC including grants, fellowships, roster artists, and/or salary assistance? Send your web address to Laura Rawlings llawlin@clan.lib.nv.us to be listed on our web site. □

Millennium Awards

continued from page 1

Again, the Nevada Arts Council congratulates the Millennium Award recipients, with heartfelt thanks and best wishes for a particularly creative new year:

Excellence in the Arts

- Peter Goin, Reno
- Gary Short, Virginia City

Excellence in Folk Arts

- Emma Bobb, Yomba
- Zoria Zetaruk, Las Vegas

Arts and Education

- Sara Bogard, Verdi
- Kathy Huff Sederquist, Reno

Service to the Arts: Organizations/Individuals

- Rodolfo Fernandez, Henderson
- Western Folklife Center, Elko

Service to the Arts: Businesses/Patrons

- Nevada Bell

Distinguished Service

- Bob Blesse, Reno
- Robin Greenspun, Henderson
- Mary Ellen Horan, Reno
- Bill Snyder, Henderson

Nevada Humanities Annual Award

- The Boulder City Museum and Historical Association

Arts & Humanities Award for Public Service

- Senator Harry Reid
- Senator Richard Bryan

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Comings and Goings

At the Nevada Arts Council

Kathie Bartlett, NAC chair, was reappointed to serve on the Communications Committee of the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies.

At the November annual meeting of the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies, NAC Executive Director *Susan Boskoff* was elected to the Board of Directors for a 3-year term. Boskoff was also appointed chair of the NASAA Leadership Development Committee.

Suzanne Channell, community arts development program coordinator, served as a panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts Presenting (Multidisciplinary) Access, Education, and Heritage & Preservation, December 6-7, 1999. Channell also served as a panelist for Fellowships at the Ohio Arts Council in the choreographers category on December 13 - 15, 1999.

Andrea Graham, folk arts program coordinator, served as a panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts' Folk and Traditional Arts Grants and Policy Panel B, November 8-10, 1999, and reviewed 96 applications in the Heritage and Preservation, Education and Access categories. □

Calendar of Events

through Feb. 5	Suzanne Kanatsiz Artists' Fellowship exhibition at Nevada Museum of Art, Reno; Reception date TBA	Feb. 17	NAC Grant Writing Workshop, Tonopah, Tonopah Elementary School, 4-7 p.m.
Jan. 17 - Mar. 1	LXS On The Road touring exhibition, Nye County Building, 1520 E Basin Ave, Pahrump; presented by the Pahrump Visual and Performing Arts Council	Feb. 22	NAC Grant Writing Workshop, Elko, Western Folklife Center, 4-7 p.m.
Feb. 7	NAC Grant Writing Workshop, Mesquite, Recreation Center, 5-8 p.m.	Feb. 23	NAC Grant Writing Workshop, Ely, White Pine County School, 4-7 p.m.
Feb. 9	NAC Grant Writing Workshop, Carson City Carson City Middle School, 4-7 p.m.	Feb. 23	NAC Grant Writing Workshop, Lovelock, location tba, 4-7 p.m.
Feb. 10	NAC Grant Writing Workshop, Reno, Sierra Arts Center, 4-7 p.m.	Feb 24 & 25	Commission for Cultural Affairs hearing. Nevada State Library & Archives, Carson City. For time call 775.684.3440.
Feb. 15	NAC & NHC Grant Writing Workshop, Henderson, Library-James I. Gibson Branch, 4-7 p.m.	March 27-April 21	LXS On The Road touring exhibition, Stillwater Hall Art Gallery, Western Nevada Community College, 160 Campus Way, Fallon; Reception: Thursday, April 6, 5-7:30 pm.
Feb. 16	NAC & NHC Grant Writing Workshop, Las Vegas, West Las Vegas Art Center, noon-3 p.m.	Nov. 4 & 5	Arts All Ways V, Reno
Feb. 16	NAC & NHC Grant Writing Workshop, Las Vegas, Library Lied Discovery Children's Museum, 4-7 p.m.		

Nevada Facilities Recognized Nationally

Fourth Ward School

Fourth Ward School in Virginia City was one of 62 national projects selected by the White House to participate in Save America's Treasures, a public-private partnership between the White House Millennium Council and the National Trust for Historic Preservation dedicated to the preservation of our nation's irreplaceable historic and cultural treasures for future generations. The School received a grant of \$629,000. Which will be used to replace the roof, restore the windows and return the school to its original color. For more information on the Fourth Ward School call Mark Preiss, director, at 775.847.0975.

Oats Park Art Center

As well, Oats Park School/Oats Park Art Center in Fallon received Official Project Status of Save America's Treasures. More than \$1.9 million of work has been completed on the Arts Center, and a new phase of work on the interior of the theatre will begin this spring, assisted by funding from the Nevada Commission for Cultural Affairs, and a Nevada Arts Council Challenge Grant. For more information on this project, please call Valerie Serpa, Churchill Arts Council at 775.423.1440.

Hawthorne School

The Sixth Street School in Hawthorne, which was listed in the State Register of Historic Places in August, has received further honor by being listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The National Register is the nation's official list of cultural resources worthy of preservation.

The Commission for Cultural Affairs is currently supporting the rehabilitation of the school for use as an arts center. "The school is an excellent example of how the CCA can make a difference throughout the state," said Ron James, state historic preservation officer. "Funding helps make it possible to save a significant Art Deco structure and to turn it into a facility to serve all Nevadans."

The school's preservation has been the result of

cooperation between the Mineral County School District and the Mineral County Council on the Art and through the efforts of individuals, especially restoration coordinator Charles Gardner.

For a current list of properties in the National Register of Historic Places and the State Register of Historic Places, visit the State Historic Preservation Office website at <http://dmla.clan.lib.nv.us> (click on SHPO). □

Millennial Cowboys

The Millennial Cowboy Poetry Gathering will take place in Elko on January 22-29, 2000. The theme of this year's event is Ranch Culture at the Millennium, and many of the Gathering's favorite poets and performers from the last 15 years (including some from Hawaii and Australia) have been invited back to Elko to celebrate. The Gathering eases into gear the weekend of January 22-23 with exhibits and performances at the Western Folklife Center, then continues to build with workshops on rawhide braiding, blacksmithing, horsemanship, cooking, and writing during the week. The main event starts on Thursday, January 27 and runs through the Saturday night dance at the county fairgrounds with dozens of poetry and music sessions, special workshops and panel discussions, exhibits, receptions and dances. For more information, call the Western Folklife Center at 775.738.7508. □

Comings and Goings

At the Department of Museums, Library and Arts

In mid November, Governor Kenny Guinn appointed *Michael D. Hillerby*, former manager of arts and culture for the City of Reno, as the Director of the **Department of Museums, Library and Arts**. "I am very honored by this opportunity. This Department has a great deal to offer, and plays an important role with State government and to the citizens of Nevada," said Hillerby. "We are the

repository of our State's ancient and living history, its thoughts, words and ideas, and a major catalyst for the arts and humanities."

A member of the cabinet, the director is selected with special reference to both administrative abilities and familiarity with cultural affairs; and sets department policies and procedures, provides direction on new initiatives appoints the four division administrators (Arts Council, Historic Preservation Office, State Library and Archives, Division of Museum & History) and advises the Governor on the appointment of boards, councils and commissions of the Department. Hillerby continued, "Nevadans benefit from our programs when they visit one of our institutions, attend one of the many performances or events produced by private nonprofits supported by our grants programs, or visit an historic building that was saved with our help. The hard work and dedication of the Department's employees help ensure that Nevadans have access to our past, to varied and high quality arts and humanities programs and to education opportunities that enrich the lives of our young people. "At the City of Reno, Hillerby was responsible for the C.I.T.Y. 2000 Arts Commission, a public program, supervision of the historic rehabilitation of the McKinley Park School and two grant programs which annually award \$170,000 to organizations and artists. His previous experience includes eight years as a full-time lobbyist at the Nevada State Legislature with expertise in the healthcare, insurance, utility, design, manufacturing and arts industries.

Ron James, administrator of the **Nevada Historic Preservation Office**, was recently appointed to serve a three-year term on the Western Historical Quarterly's Board of Editors. **Comstock Historic District Commission** has appointed *Michael "Bert" Bedeau* as the new Inspector/Clerk and will administer the Commission's programs

Sue Kendall of the **Nevada State Library and Archives** was named Nevada Librarian of the Year at the Nevada Library Association's fall conference.

In the Field

Frank Kistler has resigned as executive director of Reno's **Nevada Opera**, and is currently Acting Director of the **Reno Philharmonic** while that

organization completes a national search for its executive director.

Rick Comeaux has been named Company Manager of **Nevada Opera**. Comeaux is originally from Houston, TX where he co-founded and served as Vice President for **Voices for Life**. *Erin Taggart* continues as Public Relations Director with the **Nevada Opera**.

Willis Allen, former director of entertainment for the Peppermill Hotel Casino in Reno has been named the new executive director for the Reno Performing Arts Center Association (RPACA), a nonprofit organization that manages the **Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts** and the new **Robert Z. Hawkins Amphitheater** at Bartley Ranch. The Pioneer Center also hired *Melissa Rutter* as Technical Director. With technical theatre training from Purdue University, Rutter joined the Pioneer team in mid-November.

Joanne Lentino, coordinator of the **Charleston Heights Arts Center** and a Las Vegas city employee since 1986, has been named City of Las Vegas Employee of the Month. Ms. Lentino earned the award for her innovative cost cutting idea to use people who were serving out community service portions of their misdemeanor convictions to set up and break down seating for special events at the center. This has saved the city regular and over-time costs for city workers and netted a \$3,600 savings from May to December, 1998. Since then, the program has expanded to include use of community service workers for bulk mailings and decorations of city facilities.

Carol C. Baker has been hired as Operations Manager for the **Reno Chamber Orchestra**. Baker was formerly with KUNR Public Radio. □

Level Funding for NEA

By Thomas L. Birch, legislative counsel, National Assembly of State Arts Agencies

Before adjourning for the year, the House and Senate passed a consolidated appropriations bill covering funds for the bulk of federal agencies, including the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). After eight continuing resolutions and much negotiation between the White House and Congress, NEA ended up with \$98 million for FY2000, the same level as FY99. The bill was sent to the White House after Senate passage on November 19.

Although the Senate had earlier approved an increase of \$5 million for the NEA and the President had put the NEA on his list of requirements for a negotiated appropriations package, in the final analysis, the opposition of long-time NEA foes blocked the chance of an increase this year.

The same funding measure provided \$115.7 million for the National Endowment for the Humanities—a \$5 million increase over current year funding. An additional \$1 million was appropriated for the Institute of Museum and Library Services, for a total of \$24.4 million.

Before final enactment of the appropriations legislation, Congress approved an across-the-board cut of 0.38 percent in all programs. The NEA stands to lose some \$370,000 as a result, although the Clinton administration has said that it wants to apply “flexibility” in applying the congressionally mandated cuts. □

National Medal of Arts Awarded

On September 29, 1999, President Clinton and First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton presented the National Medal of Arts to eight artists, an arts administrator, an arts patron and a performing arts school during ceremonies of the South Lawn of the White House.

1999 recipients included:

- Irene Diamond, Arts Patron
- Aretha Franklin, Singer

- Michael Graves, Architect, Designer
- Odetta, Singer, Music Historian
- The Julliard School, Performing Arts School
- Norman Lear, Producer, Writer, Director, Advocate
- Roseta LeNoire, Actress Producer
- Harvey Lichtenstein, Arts Administrator
- Lydia Mendoza, Singer
- George Segal, Sculptor
- Maria Tallchief, Ballerina

The Medal of Arts, established by Congress in 1984, honors individuals and organizations “who in the President’s judgment are deserving of special recognition by reason of their outstanding contributions to the excellence, growth, support and availability of the arts in the United States.”

Each year, the National Endowment for the Arts seeks nominations nationally. The National Council on the Arts, the NEA’s Presidentially appointed advisory body recommends a group of nominees to the President, who selects the final recipients. The Medal’s design by artist Robert Graham, was selected in 1985 by the National Council from 31 submissions. The sterling silver, four-inch medal depicts six dancing figures and the words “National Medal of Arts” in bas relief on the obverse. The reverse of the medal has the cast words, “United States of America” and the engraved name of the recipient. □

National Heritage Awards Presented

from the NEA Web Site

Bill Ivey, Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, presented the nation’s highest honor in the folk and traditional arts during a ceremony in the Gold Room of the Rayburn House Office Building on September 28, 1999. The Endowment’s

1999 National Heritage Fellowships were awarded to thirteen artists from twelve different states in recognition of their outstanding accomplishments as master artists, teachers, innovators a

protectors of our living cultural heritage. The fellowships include a one-time award of \$10,000 each.

The 1999 recipients include: •*Frisner Augustin*, a Haitian drummer living in

Brooklyn who is the principal musical ambassador of Haitian culture in the U.S.; •*Lila Greengrass Blackdeer*, a Black Ash basketmaker/needleworker from Wisconsin who has devoted more than half a century to her craft; •*Shirley Caesar*, an African-American gospel singer from North Carolina known as the "First Lady of Gospel"; •*Alfredo Campos*, a horsehair hitcher from Washington known as this century's "senior" horsehair hitcher; •*Mary Louise Defender-Wilson*, a storyteller from North Dakota and the fourth generation in a family of Sioux midwives and storytellers; •*James "Jimmy Slyde" Godbolt*, a tap dancer from Massachusetts called the "Grandfather of Tap"; •*Ulysses "Uly" Goode*, a prolific Western Mono basketmaker from California; •*Bob Holt*, a Missouri Ozark fiddler who has provided dancers their musical backbone in the Ozark region for many years; •*Zakir Hussain*, a North

Indian master tabla drummer from California; •*Elliott "Ellie" Mennette*, a steel drum builder and player from West Virginia considered the "Father of the Modern Steelband"; •*Mick Moloney*, an Irish musician from Pennsylvania who has helped fuel the resurgence of Irish-American music and dance in the U.S.; •*Eudokia Sorochniuk*, a Ukrainian weaver and textile artist from New Jersey who has worked to preserve her heritage since World War II; •*Ralph W. Stanley*, a master boatbuilder from Maine.

Bill Ivey, Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts and a folklorist, said, "The Arts Endowment's National Heritage Fellows are outstanding artists and individuals who have dedicated their lives to preserving, reviving and celebrating this country's living cultural heritage. By proudly honoring their many contributions to music, dance, storytelling, and the creation of functional items of beauty, we also pay homage to the communities that have inspired and nurtured their work."

This year's recipients join the ranks of previous National Heritage Fellows who include bluesman B.B. King (of Las Vegas), Irish stepdancer Michael Flatley, cowboy poet Wally McRae, and acclaimed musicians Bessie Jones, Doc Watson, and Bill

Monroe. Since 1982, the Endowment has awarded 222 National Heritage Fellowships. Recipients are nominated, often by members of their own communities, in recognition of their continuing artistic accomplishments and contributions as practitioners or teachers. □

Arts in Civic Dialogue

National Initiative Calls for Proposals

Americans for the Arts is soliciting proposals for its Animating Democracy Initiative (ADI), a four-year project supported by The Ford Foundation which is designed to foster artistic activity that encourages civic dialogue on important contemporary issues.

"The ADI looks at the unique role the arts can play in a democracy. The intersection of the artistic imagination and the civic realm offers a fertile ground for aesthetic innovation and civic participation. We hope to increase understanding and exchange across artistic disciplines and with civic dialogue leaders about the philosophical, aesthetic and practical aspects of arts-based civic dialogue," says Bob Lynch, president and CEO of Americans for the Arts.

ADI will offer an integrated set of programs to support new learning and deepen field knowledge about arts-based civic dialogue work. First among these is The Lab, through which ADI will select 30 exemplary arts-based civic dialogue projects and provide support through funding and connections to other resources.

Lab projects will be selected based on a diversity of discipline which include artistic and civic interests, and approaches to arts-based civic dialogue work and based on the potential to deepen field knowledge of principles and best practices of arts-based civic dialogue work. A total of \$2.5 million will be awarded through two proposal reviews, with financial support ranging from \$25,000 to \$100,000 for individual projects.

Americans for the Arts invites arts and cultural organizations to review ADI Call for Proposals to determine interest and eligibility. The first deadline for submitted letters of intent is February 15, 2000. Finalists will be invited to submit full proposals by May 1, 2000. Awards will be announced in August 2000.

To request the ADI Call for Proposals or to order a copy of the study, *Animating Democracy: The Artistic Imagination as a Force in Civic Dialogue*, please contact Americans for the Arts at 202.371.2830 or at its web site: www.artsusa.org. □

Music Education Gets White House Support

On Saturday, October 23, 1999, a concert brought stars of rock, soul, blues and country music—Eric Clapton, Sheryl Crow, B.B. King, Garth Brooks, Gloria Estefan, Lenny Kravitz, John Mellencamp, John Fogerty and Al Green—to a giant tent on the White House lawn in support of music education in public schools. Sponsored by VHI cable music channel and the National Endowment for the Arts, the “Save the Music” concert was designed to spark interest in raising money to buy instruments and to sponsor music education in cash-starved public schools around the country.

Remembering his own music teachers, President Bill Clinton reflected, “I don’t think I would have become president if it hadn’t been for school music programs. Music taught me how to mix practice and patience with creativity. Music taught me how to be both an individual performer and a good member of the team.” □

Artjob Online!

www.artjob.org is an easy-to-use searchable website, managed by the Western States Arts Federation (WESTAF). You can **find** a job, an internship or a residency; **discover** calls for competitions and grant opportunities; and **search** the database of arts employers. You can **post** your resume. You can **list** a job that will reach a national audience, **target** arts professionals and **search** for that resume made in heaven. The site is constantly updated for real-time job postings.

For more information, call toll free: 1.888.JOBS.232 (562-7232). To contact WESTAF, call 303.629.1166; e-mail at staff@westaf.org or write to: WESTAF, 1543 Champa Street, Suite, 220, Denver, CO 80202. □

Arts in Education Program News

Special Project Grants Awarded

Special Project Grants: Schools and Organizations totaling \$15,495 were awarded for innovative arts education projects to 19 schools and cultural organizations in 8 counties throughout the state. From Missoula Children's Theatre traveling to the community of Round Mountain to the creation of a creative writing publishing center at Rex Bell Elementary in Las Vegas, these projects embrace the philosophy of lifelong learning of the arts for all Nevada citizens. Award recipients include: *Basic High School*, Henderson, \$800; *Clark County School District*, Las Vegas, \$1,585; *E. W. Fritsch Elementary*, Carson City, \$800; *Gilbert Magnet*, Las Vegas, \$1,385; *Las Vegas Philharmonic*, \$1,585; *Moapa Valley Arts Council*, \$700; *Reno Performing Arts Center Association*, \$1,585; *Rex Bell Elementary*, Las Vegas, \$1085; *Round Mountain Elementary*, \$700; *Sage Ridge School*, Reno \$700; *Sierra Arts*, Reno, \$1,585; *Swope Middle School*, Reno \$700; *VSA arts of Nevada* \$700; *Wing & A Prayer Dance Company*, Reno \$1,585.

The next application deadline for SPG: Schools and Organizations is April 14, 2000, for projects scheduled July 1 through June 30, 2001.

Ten arts specialists in 3 counties were awarded \$6,675 in Special Project Grants: Individual Teachers for professional development opportunities. Funded projects include attendance at the National Art Educators Association conference in Washington, D.C., the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance Convention and the International Association of Jazz Educators Conference. Recipients include *Vicki Allen*, Las Vegas, \$730; *Cindy Barber*, Las Vegas, \$670; *Rachel Gerstein*, Reno \$500; *Gwen Gibson*, Las Vegas \$730; *Robert Goldsmith*, Las Vegas, \$730; *Cathy Heath*, Las Vegas, \$670; *Nathan McClendon*, Las Vegas, \$715; *Linda Murphy*, Elko, \$730; *Dikka Rian*, Las Vegas, \$500; *Susan Silva*, Las Vegas, \$700.

The next application for SPG: Individual Teachers is June 1, 2000, for projects July 1 - September 30, 2000.

AIE Program Guidelines Available

The new AIE Program Guidelines will be available at the end of January, 2000. To better serve our applicants, we have created two publications—one for the AIR Program and one for Special Project Grants.

Please note several changes to the Special Project Grants: Individual Teachers category. They are now called Professional Development Grants for Educators, which more accurately describes their purpose. Also, to serve applicants in a more timely manner, these grants to teachers will now be offered quarterly, on the same schedule as Jackpot Grants: June, 1, 2000; September 1, 2000; December 1, 2000; and March 1, 2001.

Other important deadlines:

Special Project Grants: School/Organizations deadline - April 10, 2000 (for projects July 1 - June 30, 2001)

Artist in Residence deadline - March 14, 2000 (for residencies July 1 - June 30, 2001).

Please note that there will be one deadline per fiscal year for these two deadlines. Staff will accept drafts of applications two weeks prior to each deadline. Call Laura Rawlings for more information.



Artists' Services

Tumblewords Writers Keep Rolling

The next six months will find Tumblewords writers' reading throughout the state. Dates and activities are being finalized for the following communities:

•*Baker at the Border Inn*—Katharine Coles, Emma Sepulveda, Shaun Griffin

•*Battle Mountain*—Daryl Chinn, Teresa Jordan, sponsored by Battle Mountain Arts Presenters

•*Carson City*—Shaun Griffin, Gailmarie Pahmeier, sponsored by Brewery Arts Center and Ash Canyon Poets

- *Eureka Opera House*—David Lee
 - *Fallon*—David Lee, Linda Hussa, sponsored by Churchill Arts Council
 - *Reno*—Linda Hussa, Barbara Wies, sponsored by Sierra Arts
 - *Winnemucca*—Kirk Robertson, sponsored by Humboldt County Library/HCL Board
 - *Wittenberg Hall, Reno*—Emma Sepulveda, Shaun Griffin, sponsored by Sierra Arts
 - *Yerington*—Bill Cowee, sponsored by the Lyon County Library System
- For time and dates, please call the Nevada Arts Council, or check our website at
<http://www.clan.lib.nv.us/locs/ARTS>

LXS On The Road

Nevada Arts Council's visual arts traveling exhibition, *LXS On the Road*, visits the following venues in the new year:

Pahrump—January 17 - March 1, 2000, Nye County Building lobby, 1520 E Basin Ave, sponsored by the Pahrump Visual and Performing Arts Council

Fallon—March 27-April 21, 2000, Western Nevada Community College's Stillwater Hall Art Gallery, sponsored by WNCC □

Community Arts Development News

The Evolution of a Statewide Arts Conference

In November 1999, the Nevada Arts Council held its 4th *Arts All Ways* conference in Las Vegas. After staff review of participants' evaluation forms, it became clear that these statewide gatherings are not only better addressing the needs of the state arts community, but are running smoother and attracting an increasing number of cultural leaders from across the state and nation.

The first *Arts All Ways*, held in Las Vegas in October of 1996, had two goals—to provide a convening of Nevada's cultural community for learning and networking opportunities, and to include the same in NAC's strategic planning process, *The Nevada Cultural Blueprint*.

The written and verbal evaluations collected after that first gathering helped the staff and conference planning committees shape the focus and content for the second conference...and so the process continues. Planning for future conferences is directed from past experiences, present day issues and the most recent conference evaluations.

In preparation for *Arts All Ways V*, Nov. 4 & 5, 2000 in Reno, we have developed a mission and goals for the Nevada Arts Council's statewide arts conference:

The mission of *Arts All Ways* is to provide an accessible annual forum that strengthens and sustains the Nevada arts community. The goals of the conference are to provide the Nevada arts community with the opportunity to:

- network with fellow administrators, artists and the arts public
- join in the local, regional and national dialogue on arts and cultural issues
- gain new and practical information to better our skills as artists and administrators
- provide a basis and a voice for arts advocacy
- help promote the mission of the Nevada Arts Council

Information from Evaluations 1999

Thanks to all of you who returned a record number of conference evaluations this year. Some of the information gathered included the following:

- 62 % want the conference to be on Saturday and Sunday
- 94 % want the Governors Arts Awards as part of the conference

Frequently made comments included:

• **Bringing Museums to Schools & Schools to Museums**—We would like different Museum approaches and a connection between what the Museums are doing and what was discussed in the Arts Standards session.

• **Deep Roots: Folk Arts Sustaining Communities**— More examples of folk art and folk art projects across the state.

• **Local Arts Agencies: All Regions Meeting**— Good exchange of ideas, more time needed for organizational networking.

• **Meeting the Majors**—A definition of the majors is needed.

•Artistic Excellence Revisited—More development of the subject is needed. Include hard practical issues like technical skills, critical peer review and criteria that organizations can use when presenting artists for exhibit, schools and performances.

•Nevada Presenters Network—We need to re-establish this network.

•Plugged in on the Electronic Frontier—There should have been a computer at the Internet session and more information on electronic residencies.

General comments included: *I would like to see another high school panel. Please encourage more than one person from an organization or town to attend the conference so we don't have to make so many choices concerning which sessions to attend. Name cards in front of the panelists. Tables at breakfast so we can visit. More art, more art, more art!*

Sessions suggested for future conferences include: copyright issues for artists; marketing workshops using the internet; career development for artists; organizational evolution-from 501(c)3 to buying a building; keeping the arts alive in rural communities; and fostering start-up organizations.

If you have suggestions for next year's conference, please give us a call. And don't forget to mark November 4 & 5, 2000, for *Arts All Ways V* in Reno!

Guest Column

What Are the Arts and What Good Are They?

By Sandy Cameron, former board member, Moapa Valley Arts Council

With so much at stake in the controversy regarding the value of the arts in education and the role the arts play in cultural preservation and heritage, it is difficult but crucial to try to understand just exactly what it is that the arts "do for us." My own focus in the fine arts has been music. I can say that my some fifty years of study and participation in music and other fine arts has spilled over into every other things that I do. The skills I began learning as a child and continued learning through my life have brought a beauty and benefits that could not be equaled in any other way. The influence of the arts

has literally molded my life and opened to me many choice opportunities and rich experiences that I would have definitely missed had I not been involved.

My experience and observation has shown me that music, in particular, and the arts in general:

- Have the power to unite, solidify, inspire and communicate even through cultural, emotional and language barriers.
- Enhance spiritual meaning and give a sense of stability and order in our every-changing society.
- Foster great creativity. Survival of a civilization depends on our ability to make changes, meet challenges, adjust and control our actions. This requires creative minds.
- Promote excellence through perseverance and self-discipline. Most musicians do not give up easily on any task because they are trained to plug along until something is done well and with aesthetic quality.
- Help to develop an appreciation of beauty and sensitivity to aesthetics. When we experience and begin to love refined beauty at a young age, we rise to a high level of discrimination and perception in our daily lives.
- Provide soul-satisfying uses of leisure time for both young and old. In this era of increased leisure and recreational time provided by technology, we need worthy and valuable uses of that time.
- Transmit the essence of the best of humanity from age to age.
- Are allies of freedom in that they represent and portray the freedom of the human spirit to communicate with society. Every human being, regardless of age, needs the freedom to explore, to experiment and to create. It has been demonstrated many times that a tyrant must control the arts in order to control the people.

In short, the arts are the butter, sour cream, chives, salt and pepper on the "big baked potato" of life.

The arts can make a difference in you, your children, our community, our nation and our destiny. Let us not neglect nor turn our backs on something so valuable, but let us share in the enriching influence of the arts. Whether as a listener or a performer, we all benefit from experiencing the heart and soul of another. The effects of the arts most certainly can and will include our character, spill over into our destiny and finally determine the cultural heritage we leave for those who may come after us.

Let me end with the words of one wise historian, "...we must surely look to the arts as a key part of the destiny of any society. Those who suppose that we can survive well without great music, refined art and a knowledge of classical literature and great poetry are quite unaware of the lessons of the past.

We invite you to be a guest columnist for future issues of NAN. For more information, please contact Suzanne Channell at 775.687.6680. □

Folk Arts News

Nevada Folk Arts Losses

Two of Nevada's most respected Native American folk artists passed away in November, and their talents and wisdom will be sadly missed. Theresa Smokey Jackson, a Washoe basketmaker and traditional elder from Gardnerville, died at age 83 after a heart attack. Theresa was one of the last members of the tribe who grew up living a traditional way of life and speaking the language, and she was always generous in sharing her knowledge, stories, and artistic skills with her family and community—she helped organize the annual Washoe cultural dinner (cooking gallons of pine nut soup), and taught basketry and language to young people. She was a master in the Folk Arts Apprenticeship Program in 1993, teaching basketry to her daughter Sue Coleman. She and her sister, JoAnn Martinez, were honored with a Governor's Arts Award for Excellence in Folk Arts in 1995. Theresa exemplified the old Washoe way of life and its respect for all living beings, and she remained active in traditional arts and involved in preserving her heritage right up to the end.

Nevada lost another of its cultural treasures when Shoshone-Paiute singer Art Cavanaugh of McDermitt died at almost the same time as Theresa, at the age of 70. Art was one of the few remaining traditional Native American singers and hand-drum players, and was known for his powerful and beautiful voice, and his extensive repertoire of round dance and other songs. Those who heard him at the opening of the "Handed Down" exhibit at the Nevada State Museum on May 20 understand how much Art will be missed. Art had been a master teacher in the Folk Arts

Apprenticeship Program twice, first in 1989 and again this year. He was a familiar figure at the annual Pine Nut Festival in Schurz and at many other traditional Indian gatherings. He had also performed at the Cowboy Poetry Gathering in Elko, and for a meeting of the National Council on the Arts in Washington, DC.

Clark County Folklorist Hired

The Clark County Cultural Affairs Division has hired Elinor Levy as the first folklorist for southern Nevada. Elinor is just completing her Ph. D. in folklore from Indiana University, and will begin work in Las Vegas on January 3. Traditional artists have a great deal to contribute to the cultural environment and will help make Las Vegas a welcoming place for new residents and visitors from all over the world. There is a tremendous amount of growth and change for everyone in southern Nevada, and we need to make sure that traditional artists and communities don't get lost in the hustle and hoopla—that is the job of a folklorist.

Levy's immediate duties will include fieldwork to locate and document new artists and cultural groups, production of a half-hour video documentary on several excellent traditional artists, and coordination of the Las Vegas Folklife Festival. She will also work in close partnership with NAC's Folk Arts Program, continuing the already strong relationship between the Arts Council and Clark County Cultural Affairs on many fronts. The position is funded in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, without whom most of the folk arts work in Nevada would not be possible. To contact Elinor after January 3, call Dorothy Wright at Clark County at 702.455.8242.

NEA Grant to Folk Arts Program

The NAC Folk Arts Program received funding from the NEA/TAG (Traditional Arts Growth) program to support an intensive consultation between Jeanne Johnson, Folk Arts Program Associate, and folklorists Nancy Nusz and Leila Childs of the Oregon Folklife Program in Portland. Their experience and expertise in classroom preser

tations, teacher training and development of multicultural and folklife related curricula will be invaluable as we revive a long-term program on folk arts and education, specifically introducing the traditional arts of Nevada and the West in K-12 classrooms. Jeanne will travel to Portland in January to study program materials and to attend after-school programs in the evenings. This important consultation will provide the Nevada Arts Council with a model upon which to design and implement a similar folk art project for Nevada.

Fieldwork at Lake Tahoe

Beginning in December, Jeanne Johnson began a general folk culture survey of the Nevada-side north

and south Lake Tahoe region. Though the focus of this project will begin on the north shore, some exploration of south shore history and culture will be included and eventually the lake's Nevada south shore will be included in a cultural survey of the area. This folk arts survey builds on a series of such projects in Nevada, beginning with the Lincoln County survey in 1987, and continuing with Lander County in 1988, and ongoing Las Vegas and Reno fieldwork that began in 1991 and 1993 respectively.

A survey is a broad overview of the people of a particular area, what they do and how they do it. For the purposes of the NAC Folk Arts Program, the survey will identify and document the varied traditions and heritage of both long-time and new residents. The Folk Arts staff intends to cultivate commu-

Nevada Arts Council

The Nevada Arts Council is a division of the Department of Museums, Library and Arts.

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nity scholars as a result of this survey, and organize a *Community Roots* project in the area to train them to document and preserve their own traditions. Once this *Community Roots* program is up and running in the Lake Tahoe area, and the survey and fieldwork is completed, we envision a variety of public program possibilities arising from this work, including a publication, small exhibits of excerpted quotes and enlarged photographs, and presentations to community groups and tourists. Tahoe-area artists may also be included in the Sierra Folklife Festival in Reno.

Basketry Gathering Returns to Reno

The California Indian Basketweavers' Association (CIBA), which last year organized the highly successful Western Regional Indigenous Basketweavers' Gathering in Reno, has decided to hold their annual gathering for California weavers again at Rancho San Rafael Park on June 23-25, 2000. While this will not be a regional event, they would like to include Nevada weavers in the program, and are at present working to organize a Nevada steering committee to organize participation. The NAC Folk Arts Program will be providing logistical and financial help; for more information contact Andrea Graham at 775.687.6680.

□

Grants Program News

Jackpots Recipients Announced

Jackpot Grants provide artists, administrators and arts organizations up to \$1,000 for unanticipated opportunities on a quarterly basis. 11 grants were recently awarded to ten artists and one organization to support a wide variety of projects to occur between January 1 and April 31, 2000.

Clint Adams, Incline Village, \$275; *Catherine Angel*, Las Vegas, \$1,000; *Annie Blachley*, Reno, \$1,000; *Anita Getzler*, Las Vegas, \$1,000; *Diane Glazman*, Reno, \$912; *Tim Guthrie*, Fallon, \$1,000; *Wayne Littlejohn*, Las Vegas, \$500; *Donna Lowre*, Las Vegas, \$1,000; *Dean Lundquist*, Las Vegas, \$948; *The Center Stage, Inc.*, Las Vegas, \$1000, and *Almond Zigmund*, Las Vegas, \$1,000.

The next Jackpot Grant application is March 1,

2000 for projects beginning on or after April 1 and ending by June 30, 2000. For additional information, please contact the Nevada Arts Council at 775.687.6680. Please remember that a current Development, Support or Project grantee is not eligible to apply for a Jackpot Grant. □

Grants and Competitions

Chamber Music America Grants Available

The mission of Chamber Music America is to develop resources that nurture and support artistic excellence and promote the economic stability of professional chamber music—including performing artists, presenters, artists managers, composers and educators—and to ensure that chamber music as an art form is appreciated and supported by a broad range of audiences.

Chamber Music America offers six competitive grant programs to its organization members, including the *Chamber Music Rural Residencies Program*, designed for rural communities with populations up to approximately 125,000 or for chamber ensembles no larger than 5 members.

This program is a partnership between a community and an ensemble, enriching the community's cultural life while creating growth opportunities for the ensemble. Participation in this program offers the chance to introduce and build audiences for chamber music through in-depth education and community connections.

Grant amounts for organizations: Planning Year \$1,500 (for administrative costs); Years 2-4, matching grants up to \$42,500 annually.

Grant amount for ensembles: Each member receives a \$1,250/month stipend and housing for the duration of residency. Additional funds are available

to support professional development activities throughout the year.

For deadlines and more information on other grant opportunities for both presenters and artists, please contact Nancy Christensen, Education Director, 212.242.2022, ext. 113; or nchristensen@chamber-music.org

Awards Competition for Student Composers

The postmark deadline for entering the 48th Annual BMI Student Composer Award competition is Friday, February 11, 2000. The competition is open to students under 26 as of December 31, 1999. There are no limitations as to instrumentation, style or length of work submitted. The prizes which range from \$500 to \$5,000 for a total of \$20,000, are awarded at the discretion of the final judging panel.

The BMI Student Composer Awards was established in 1951 to encourage young composers in the creation of serious music and, though cash prizes, to aid in continuing their musical education.

Official rules and entry blanks may be requested from Ralph N. Jackson, Director, BMI Student Composer Awards, 320 West 57th Street, NY, NY 100019; or from classical@bmi.com.

Arts for the Parks Deadline

Arts in the Parks is celebrating its 14th anniversary with an unprecedented amount for cash awards. More than \$100,000 will be awarded by the 2000 jury, which is comprised of Merrill Ross, Chief of Conservation, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.; J. Brooks Joyner, Director, Gilcrease Museum, Tulsa; and Lowery Stokes, Curator, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York.

The competition is open to all artists, professional and amateur alike. Artwork is limited to original two-dimensional painted or drawn media, and excludes photographic and computer generated artworks. All submissions must feature a qualifying national park area within its subject matter. Postmark deadline is June 1, 2000. For information, call Mark Tarrant, Competition Coordinator, at 800.553.2787, or access their webpage at [www. artsforthe parks.com](http://www.artsforthe parks.com).

Based in Jackson Hole, WY, Arts for the Parks was created in 1986 by the National Park Academy of the Arts in cooperation with the National Park Foundation. Designed to celebrate representational artists and to enhance public awareness of the National Parks, the competition honors artists who best capture the spirit of our National Park System.

Sarabande Books Announces 2000 Literary Contests

Sarabande Books recently announced its poetry and short fiction competitions, both open to any writer of English who is a citizen of the United States: *The Mary McCarthy Prize in Short Fiction*, judged by Mark Richard and *the Kathryn A. Morton Prize in Poetry*, judged by Robert Pinsky. Winners will receive a \$2,000 cash award and publication of a collection of short stories or poems, with a standard royalty contract. All finalists will be considered for publication by Sarabande Books. Both contests required that manuscripts must be postmarked between, and including January 1 and February 15, 2000 and require a completed entry form and a \$15 handling fee.

To download contest guidelines and required entry form, please visit their Website at www.sarabandebooks.org. Or send an SASE by February 1, 2000 to Sarabande Books-Contest Guidelines, 2234 Dundee Road, Suite 200, Louisville, KY 40205.



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