

April 2015

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Dear Friends,

It is spring in Mississippi and this time of year brings with it growth and renewal. The 2015 legislative session drew to a close and state lawmakers awarded the Mississippi Arts Commission an increase in funding. These additional funds will be invaluable towards our efforts to provide greater support to artists and arts organizations across Mississippi in the coming year.

The early part of 2015 saw a very exciting time for MAC. At the annual Governor's Arts Awards we celebrated the talents and dedication of three outstanding artists, one inspirational gospel group and an arts organization that is changing the landscape of their community. We also welcomed a new, but returning Poetry Out Loud champion, who will represent the state again in Washington D.C. at the end of the month.

Arts supporters from around the state gathered at the State Capitol in March to proclaim the "Arts Matter" to Mississippi lawmakers. It was a day of music, fun and advocacy and I would like to personally thank those who attended, as well as those who took a moment to call or write their legislators. With a strong group of arts advocates we can make a huge impact on annual arts funding.

We have moved into granting season and things are hopping around the office in preparation for grant panels. If you are a potential grantee and wish to attend your grant panel review, be sure to check our website for the dates and times. As always, please call us if you have any questions. We are YOUR Arts Commission, and funding your work and programs are our priority.

I hope you enjoy this beautiful time of year in Mississippi!

Tom

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# ARTS DAY at the Mississippi State Capitol

The 2015 legislative session is in the history books, but on Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, arts advocates from across Mississippi gathered at the Mississippi State Capitol to show our state's leaders that the "ARTS MATTER!" The event featured outstanding music by the Mississippi State University Choir, the Petal High School Show Choir and the Cedric Burnside Project. Advocacy is a critical part of making sure that funding remains strong for the arts across our state. If you have any questions about advocacy or Arts Day activities, contact MAC Special Initiatives Director, Allison Washington at [awashington@arts.ms.gov](mailto:awashington@arts.ms.gov).

Connie Souto Learman, MAC's Arts-based Community Development Director with Senator Hillman Frazier



Visual artist, Wyatt Waters with Representative Steve Holland

Poetry Out Loud participant, Carys Snyder of Starkville (left) with members of MAC's Board of Commissioners, Dr. Tom Pearson and Governor Phil Bryant



## Poetry Out Loud State Champion Joy Carino

On Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, Joy Carino was named the Poetry Out Loud Mississippi Champion....for the second time! Joy was also the state champion in 2014. Joy is a junior at the Mississippi School for Mathematics & Science in Columbus and enjoys playing piano and writing poetry. She will represent Mississippi at the national contest in Washington, D.C. April 28-29, 2015. Congratulations Joy!



The 2015 Governor's Arts Awards was an outstanding evening of celebrating the arts in Mississippi. The Mississippi Arts Commission would like to thank all of the sponsors of the event, especially our Premier Partners....Mississippi Public Broadcasting and Peavey Electronics. Without the support of our sponsors, we would be unable to make this event such a grand occasion.

**For those who missed the show, it will re-air on Mississippi Public Broadcasting on May 10<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm and 11:00pm. Be sure to tune in!**

## Calendar of events

### April

**Neil Simon's "The Odd Couple - Female Version"**  
April 17 to 26, 2015  
2PM and 7PM, Fri, Sat, Sun  
Hernando Performing Arts Center  
Hernando, MS

**Millsaps College Arts and Lecture Series**  
April 28, 2015  
7:00 P.M.  
Millsaps College Recital Hall  
Jackson, MS

**Diane Legan Howard Hart History Lecture Series**  
April 15, 2015  
6:00pm  
Art Auditorium, MUW Campus  
Columbus, MS

**MS Poetry Society Spring Festival**  
April 18-19, 2015  
8:30am  
Gulf Hills Inn & Conference Center  
Ocean Springs, MS

**Doll Show & Sale**  
April 18, 2015  
1:30pm – 4:30pm  
Municipal Art Gallery  
Jackson, MS

**MAKE!**  
April 23, 2015  
3:30pm  
Madison Public Library  
Madison, MS



## Calendar of Events

Continued....

### Coppelia – school performance

April 24, 2015

10:00am

Thalia Mara Hall

Jackson, MS

### Ballet Mississippi's Coppelia

April 26, 2015

2:00pm

Thalia Mara Hall

Jackson, MS

### Ballet Mississippi's Coppelia Doll Tea Party

April 26, 2015

12Noon

Mississippi Museum of Art

Jackson, MS

### Coming in May!

#### Les Miserables

April 30, May 1 & 2

7:30pm/2:00pm on 2<sup>nd</sup>

Tupelo, MS

#### Bear Creek Music Festival

May 2, 2015

2:00pm – 8:30pm

Lynn Meadows Discovery Center

Gulfport, MS

#### “Dreamgirls”

May 7-13, 2015

7:30pm/2:00pm

Meridian Little Theatre

Meridian, MS

To have your event listed, visit

<http://www.arts.ms.gov/calendar/index.php>

## Dates Set for MAC's Annual Grant Panel Reviews

The Mississippi Arts Commission will host its annual grant panels April 15-17 and 20-24 in Jackson. Open to the public, the panels will begin between 8:30am and 9:00am each day at the Commission's office on the 11th floor or in Room 145 on the first floor of the Woolfolk State Office Building at 501 North West Street. Panelists will meet to evaluate applications from individual artists and arts organizations based on the criteria listed in each of the Commission's program areas.

### 2015 Panel Schedule

Wednesday, April 15	Project Grants – Arts Education Teaching Artist Roster – Arts Education <i>(Room 145-1<sup>st</sup> Floor)</i>
Thursday, April 16	Performing/Visual/Media – Artist Roster Performing Artist – Fellowships <i>(Room 145 - 1<sup>st</sup> Floor)</i>
Friday, April 17	Visual Artist – Fellowships <i>(Room 145-1<sup>st</sup> Floor)</i>
Monday, April 20	Operating Grants – Arts Industry <i>(MAC-11<sup>th</sup> Floor)</i>
Tuesday, April 21	Operating/Project Grants – Community <i>(MAC-11<sup>th</sup> Floor)</i> Project Grants – Arts Industry <i>(Rm 145-1<sup>st</sup> Floor)</i>
Wednesday, April 22	Literary – Fellowships <i>(MAC-11<sup>th</sup> Floor)</i> Literary – Artist Roster <i>(MAC-11<sup>th</sup> Floor)</i>
Thursday, April 23	Folk and Traditional Arts <i>(MAC-11<sup>th</sup> Floor)</i> Apprenticeship Grants Fellowship - Performing Mississippi Artist Roster
Friday, April 24	Folk and Traditional Arts <i>(MAC-11<sup>th</sup> Floor)</i> Operating and Project Grants

USArtists International provides support for American dance, music, and theater ensembles and solo artists from across the country who have been invited to perform at significant international festivals **and, new this year, performing arts markets** anywhere in the world outside the United States and its territories.

The application submission deadline for the final of three grant rounds of the 2015 program is **Friday, April 17, 2015** for projects taking place between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016.

To access the program guidelines and online application, visit:

[http://www.midatlanticarts.org/funding/pat\\_presentation/us\\_artists/guidelines.html](http://www.midatlanticarts.org/funding/pat_presentation/us_artists/guidelines.html)

Questions about USArtists International should be directed to Robyn Busch at [robyn@midatlanticarts.org](mailto:robyn@midatlanticarts.org).

*USArtists International is made possible through the generous support of The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts.*

# Continuing to Rebuild After Katrina



With assistance from MAC, the City of Waveland worked hard to replace the signature mosaic that stood in front of City Hall until Hurricane Katrina destroyed it. Twenty-six community workshops have been held in October and November of 2014, to plan and design the new mosaic. More than 300 Waveland residents, including students, had a hand in putting the tile pieces together, spearheaded by mosaic artist, Elizabeth Veglia.

## NEH Accepting Applications for Preservation and Access Education and Training Grants

The [National Endowment for the Humanities](http://www.neh.gov) is accepting applications from libraries, archives, museums, and historical organizations for projects to preserve and establish access to cultural heritage resources. Through its Preservation and Access Education and Training program, the endowment will award grants to cultural institutions to maintain important collections of books and manuscripts, photographs, sound recordings and moving images, archaeological and ethnographic artifacts, art and material culture collections, electronic records, and digital objects. Grants of up to \$175,000 over two years will be awarded to eligible service organizations in the preservation field. For all other applicants, the maximum award is \$100,000 per year for up to two years. For complete details, visit [www.neh.gov](http://www.neh.gov). DEADLINE – May 5, 2015

## The MAC Gallery

Currently in the MAC Gallery, we are featuring the artwork of students from schools who participate in our Whole Schools Initiative. Whole Schools students learn through arts integrated instruction. The show hangs until May 15<sup>th</sup>, so come by and take a look! 11<sup>th</sup> Floor – Woolfolk State Office Building, Jackson.



The Mississippi Arts Hour can be heard on Sundays at 3pm on Mississippi Public Broadcasting's Think Radio. Find the station nearest you by visiting [mpbonline.org](http://mpbonline.org).

April 12  
Tom talks with Crafton Beck, conductor of Mississippi Symphony Orchestra

April 19  
Larry talks with author Jamie Kornegay

April 26  
Diane talks with Jacqueline Deas, Project Director for the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum

May 3  
Turry talks with visual artist Sammy Britt

New shows are posted to our Facebook page each Friday! "Like" us to stay up to date.

# Mississippi Arts Commission

In 1968, the Mississippi Legislature created the Mississippi Arts Commission as the official grants-making and service agency for the arts. Over the years, the Commission has broadened its role as an active supporter and promoter of the arts in community life and arts education. MAC's mission is to be a catalyst for the arts and creativity in Mississippi and the agency's vision is to support and celebrate Mississippi's creative and innovative spirit

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# VISIT MISSISSIPPI

Visit Mississippi, formally MDA Tourism, is pleased to announce the FY2016 Tourism Development Grant program. This program, in its third year, supports community events which promote Mississippi's heritage, culture and unique assets. The program encourages regional partnerships in the development and promotion of Mississippi's historic and diverse story. The deadline for application submissions is 5:00pm on Wednesday, May 6, 2015. For more information, including the guidelines and application, visit <http://www.visitmississippi.org/sitepages/resources>. For additional questions, contact Carla Moor at [cmoor@mississippi.org](mailto:cmoor@mississippi.org).

## Poets & Writers

Getting published is hard work. Why not let *Poets & Writers Magazine* help get your book into the hands of avid readers?

In their upcoming July/August issue, they are offering writers who advertise their books with them a 40% discount off black and white space and a 30% discount off color space. Their summer issue showcases debut fiction, along with author profiles, a special section on agents, and their signature listing of grants and awards.

*Poets & Writers Magazine* reaches over 100,000 serious writers and book buyers.

**The reservation deadline is April 30. For more information contact [advertising@pw.org](mailto:advertising@pw.org).**

### Educational Opportunities for Non-Profits

The mission of the Mississippi Center for Nonprofits is to strengthen the capacity of nonprofits to serve the people and communities of Mississippi. For the thousands of nonprofit organizations across the state, the Center is the primary source of management training, technical information, advice, answers, coaching and connection to vital resources. During the month of April, they will be offering the following classes:

Legal Compliance – April 16 in Jackson

Developing a Sustainable Fundraising Plan - April 22 in Jackson

Managing Human Capital – April 28 in Hattiesburg

Grant Research Tools – April 29 in Jackson

To learn more about these and other opportunities offered by the Center for Nonprofits, please visit their website: [www.msnonprofits.org](http://www.msnonprofits.org) or contact their office at (601) 968-0061.