

April 2014

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Dear Friends,

Last month as we celebrated national *Youth Arts Month* and *Music in Our Schools* this national spotlight reminded me of the roles that we all play in supporting and increasing the access of arts education for all students. It brought to mind a few things that we must also ask about our local schools and communities:

*Do all students in my community have access to a sequential, quality arts education?*

*How can I as a citizen and community member influence decisions that will make it possible for all students to have a quality arts education?*

*As a community-based organization, how can I support and encourage quality arts education programs in my community?*

These are important but necessary questions that we all should be asking everyone in our communities. Through 30 years of research, we have learned that the arts are critical to a quality education for children as well as adults. It has also been proven that education in and through the arts is vital to the overall increased quality of life for a community.

Since Governor Bryant has declared 2014 as *The Year of the Creative Economy*, it is my hope that we all can focus on the important role that arts education plays in that equation.

I would personally like to thank everyone who attended "Arts Day" at the Capital on March 26<sup>th</sup>. It was an outstanding celebration as we all gathered together to shout the value of a life filled with the arts!

Let's continue the celebration!

Tom

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# Staff

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# "Arts Day" at the Capitol

*A grand day of celebration  
For the arts!*

*March 26, 2014*

The halls of the Mississippi State Capitol came alive on Wednesday, March 26<sup>th</sup> when MAC hosted the annual "Arts Day." Arts advocates from across the state traveled to Jackson to share information with their lawmakers about the power of the arts in their community. Please remember that it is more important than ever to let your voice be heard about the value of arts education, arts programming, as well as innovation and economic development through the arts.





# Governor's Arts Awards

Nominations now being accepted for 2015 ceremony!

**Nominations are now being accepted for the 2015 Governor's Arts Awards! This is your opportunity to have a say about those selected for next year's awards. The process is pretty simple and we are here to help.**

Visit our website at:

<http://www.arts.ms.gov/special/projects/governors-awards.php>

**to find out all of the details.**

**Deadline for nominations: June 27, 2014**

Contact Susan Liles at [sliles@arts.ms.gov](mailto:sliles@arts.ms.gov) for assistance.

## Calendar of events

### April

#### **Beowulf performed by Ben Bagby**

April 24, 2014

7:30 P.M.

Woodworth Chapel,  
Tougaloo College,  
Jackson

#### **Ballet Mississippi's Spring Gala**

April 27, 2014

2:00 p.m.

Jackson Academy  
Performing Arts  
Center, Jackson

#### **The Addams Family**

April 27, 2014

3:00 P.M.

Bologna Performing Arts  
Center, Cleveland, MS

### May

#### **9 to 5**

May 1-3, 2014

7:30 PM & 2 PM on 3rd  
Tupelo Comm. Theatre  
Tupelo

#### **Bear Creek Music Festival**

May 3, 2014

10am-10pm

Lynn Meadows Discovery  
Center

#### **A Night at the Oscars I- Greatest Hits of Hollywood**

May 3, 2014

7:00 P.M.

First Presbyterian Church,  
Natchez



## In Memoriam

It is with great sadness that MAC mourns the recent passing of master woodcarver, George Berry Sr. Berry learned whittling from his father and he used his gift to create beautiful leaves, birds and other wild animals with only a pocketknife.

He received a Governor's Arts Award from MAC in 2001 and actually created a couple of the awards that were presented to other year's recipients. In October 2013, the Craftsmen's Guild of Mississippi named a gallery at the Craft's Center in his honor.

Our condolences go out to his family and his multitude of friends.

## Calendar of events continued

### **SpringFest 2014**

May 3, 2014  
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Parkway Hills UMC,  
Madison

Sanctuary-Influence  
Church Music of Western  
World

May 4, 2014  
3:00 P.M.  
Trinity Episc. Church  
Natchez

### **Rossini, Puccini and Martinis**

May 4, 2014  
7:00 P.M.  
Historic Eola Hotel  
Natchez

### **Crossroads: The Life & Afterlife of Robert Johnson**

May 9, 2014  
3:00 P.M.  
Delta Blues Museum  
Clarksdale, MS

### **Ol' Man River, The Music of Jerome Kern**

May 9, 2014  
7:00 P.M.  
Twin Oaks in Natchez

### **The Beatles Tribute by Classical Mystery Tour**

May 10, 2014  
7:00 P.M.  
Natchez City Auditorium

### **Natchez Arts Festival**

May 10th-May 11th 2014  
10 A.M. to 6 P.M.  
Natchez

Be sure to visit MAC's  
website at:

[http://www.arts.ms.gov/  
calendar/index.php](http://www.arts.ms.gov/calendar/index.php)

to list your upcoming  
event!



Alexandria Museum of Art  
27<sup>th</sup> September Competition  
Juried Exhibition  
September 5 – November 22, 2014

The 27<sup>th</sup> September Competition presented by the Alexandria Museum of Art is an annual juried exhibition selected from national and international submissions highlighting contemporary art practices in all media, selected by celebrated New Orleans based artist, James Michalopoulos. Featuring original art created within the past two years, 50 artworks selected by the juror will be featured in a full-color catalogue and exhibition at Alexandria Museum of Art, along the Red River in the heart of central Louisiana September 5–November 22, 2014. Total cash awards of \$2,000 allocated to juror-designated award winners will be presented on September 5.

Exhibition Dates: September 5 – November 22, 2014

Postmarked Deadline: May 30, 2014

Eligibility: 18 years of age or older, original work, created in 2012 or later

Medium: Any

Prizes: \$2,000 in cash prizes

[http://www.themuseum.org/sites/default/files/27th\\_sept\\_comp\\_prospectus\\_-2014.pdf](http://www.themuseum.org/sites/default/files/27th_sept_comp_prospectus_-2014.pdf)

## The MAC Gallery

The MAC Gallery is currently hosting student art work from participating Whole Schools.

This exhibit will hang in the gallery through the month of April. It is certainly worth the trip to see these amazing works of student art.

## SAVE THE DATE! Whole Schools Initiative Summer Institute

The Whole Schools Initiative of the Mississippi Arts Commission is a professional development program for educators. The Whole Schools Initiative's 16th Annual Institute will be held July 14-17 at the MSU Riley Center in Meridian. This professional learning opportunity is open to any educator interested in learning how to integrate the arts into the core curriculum. Tracks will be offered for educators who work in Early Childhood through 8th grade and self-contained SPED classrooms. CEU credits, SEMIs and Early Childhood credits will be available. For more information, go to [www.mswholeschools.org](http://www.mswholeschools.org) or contact Jodie Engle at 601.359.6040.



# Starkville High School Student Wins Mississippi Poetry Out Loud

The Mississippi Arts Commission is proud to announce that Joy Carino of Starkville was the winner of the 2014 Poetry Out Loud Mississippi Finals!

The contest, presented in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation, is part of a national program to encourage high school students to learn about great poetry through memorization, performance and competition.

A sophomore at Starkville High School, Joy enjoys singing in her school's choir and playing the piano for their jazz band and musical theatre productions. She also loves music, reading, doodling and expressing herself artistically.

As the winner of the Poetry Out Loud Mississippi Finals, Joy will receive \$200, and her school library will receive a \$500 stipend for the purchase of poetry books. She will also receive an all-expenses paid trip to compete in the National Finals April 28-30 in Washington DC, where she will compete with students from across the country for \$50,000 in awards and school stipends, with a \$20,000 prize for the National Champion.

Jackson Preparatory School student, Lawson Marchetti received second place honors and Independence High School student, Whitney Porter received third place honors. Congratulations to all of the students across the state who participated!



Top left: Joy Carino, Lawson Marchetti and Whitney Porter  
Top right: Joy Carino  
Bottom: Tom Pearson, MAC Executive Director, Joy Carino and Andi Mathis with the National Endowment for the Arts



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). The show can also be heard on MAC's website and through iTunes.

April 20  
Susan talks with event planner, Holly Lange

April 27  
Jodie talks with Poetry Out Loud winner, Joy Carino

May 2  
Tom talks with Leland Thompson with the MS Boychoir

May 11  
Allison hosts the Creative MS Edition

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. Since then 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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MAC Grant Deadlines:  
March 1

Minigrants:  
June 1  
November 1

Unless otherwise noted



CALL FOR ENTRIES

## ***Crafting Civil (War) Conversations***

Through May 30, 2015

### **Exhibition Concept**

As the first state to secede from the Union, and the place from which the first battle shots were fired, South Carolina arguably started the Civil War. One hundred and fifty years later, McKissick Museum at the University of South Carolina aims to end it with a juried exhibition of contemporary craft we hope will animate civil conversations about Civil War legacies.

\$25,000 in purchase awards will be given to prize winning artists and/or artist collaboratives.

For more information about eligibility and deadlines, contact Edward Puchner at 803/777-2515 or [puchner@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:puchner@mailbox.sc.edu)



## The Innovation Lab for the Performing Arts

Supported by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation

### Request for Proposals (Round 9)

Deadline for responses: Friday, May 30, 2014

The *Innovation Lab for the Performing Arts* is designed and managed by EmcArts, with the generous support of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. The Lab is a 16-month program that helps performing arts organizations incubate and test innovative strategies to address major complex challenges. The Labs give arts organizations the time and space they need away from the regular workplace to question, rethink, plan and learn how to innovate effectively. Participating organizations also receive much-needed change capital to underwrite experimentation. Organizations are selected to participate in the *Innovation Labs* via a competitive RFP process.

***The application deadline for Round 9 of the Innovation Lab for the Performing Arts and Round 2 of the Innovation Lab for Arts Development Agencies is Friday, May 30, 2014. Information may be found in the RFPs at [www.EmcArts.org](http://www.EmcArts.org).***

Professionally managed producing and presenting organizations in theater, modern or contemporary dance, and jazz are eligible to apply for Round 9 of the *Innovation Lab for the Performing Arts*.

**Questions about eligibility and submitting a proposal should be directed to Liz Dreyer, EmcArts National Programs Manager, at (212) 362-8541 x 27.**