

February 2014

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Dear Friends,

As I work feverishly on preparations for the 2014 Governor's Arts Awards, I stop for a moment to think about the nine award ceremonies I have had the honor of putting together. Reflecting on my experiences since 2006 with over 40 deserving recipients and sharing those special moments along with their loved ones during their time of recognition, truly creates a lump in this old throat of mine. It really makes me value my Mississippi heritage.

The MAC has had the privilege to recognize such musical greats as Bo Diddley, Pinetop Perkins, Honeyboy Edwards, as well as the gifted actors Morgan Freeman and Sela Ward. The writers on the list include Eudora Welty, Willie Morris and Elizabeth Spencer. And then there are the visual artists....Wyatt Waters, Bill Dunlap and Sam Gilliam. Of course, these are just a small representation of the entire list that has been honored for over 26 years. I encourage you to take a moment to visit our website (<http://www.arts.ms.gov/special-projects/PastAwardRecipients.php>) to see who has been honored throughout the years. I can assure you it is truly humbling to realize the gifts Mississippi has shared with the world.

Our state is filled with gifted people, artful places, gorgeous landscapes and scrumptious groceries. Where else on earth are the folks nicer, communities more welcoming, and loved ones more enjoyed than right here in our own backyard - which by the way is where those beautiful tomatoes and fabulous greens are grown. Let's stop worrying about being last on this list and first on that list. Why don't we put ourselves at the top of the list that really matters? The one where we take pride in who we are, and in those who have come before us to create this incredible heritage we all share.

MAC invites you to attend the 26th annual Governor's Arts Awards on February 20 at 6:00p.m. The Belhaven University Center for the Arts will come alive with the sights and sounds and legacies of the 2014 recipients. All of us at MAC wish to extend our most sincere thanks to those who make the ceremony such a fabulous celebration including our sponsors, partners, and vendors. As they say, "It takes a village," and I for one, am most grateful to those who make Mississippi the greatest on my list!

My best,
Susan Liles

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Celebrate the Arts in Mississippi with
**MAC at the Annual Governor's Arts
Awards!**

*Join us at Belhaven University Center for
the Arts on February 20th at 6:00pm*

The Belhaven Center for the Arts will come alive with the sights and sounds of the 26th annual Governor's Arts Awards on Thursday, February 20th at 6:00pm. MAC will host a public reception prior to the show at 4:30pm next door at the Junior League of Jackson. This is an opportunity to meet the five recipients before they are honored for their contribution to the arts.

The show will feature the sounds of Grammy-award winning performer, Jimbo Mathus, along with his band, The Tri-State Coalition. These guys will perform and participate in tributes to the award recipients. Their recently released album, *Dark Night of the Soul*, is garnering critical acclaim.

Our host for the show will be Sam Haskell, former Executive VP and Worldwide Head of Television for the William Morris Agency. His memoir, *Promises I Made My Mother*, is full of touching stories and amusing anecdotes, and reveals how he kept his pledge to his mother to live a decent life—even in the shark-infested waters of Hollywood.

Of course, you don't want to miss the opportunity to join us as we recognize the talents of Lesly Silver, John Maxwell, William Baggett, Jim Weatherly and James Cotton. These incredibly talents folks will join the ranks of the previous recipients, including such greats as B.B. King, Pinetop Perkins, Eudora Welty, and Willie Morris...just to name a few.

We hope you will join us for this special evening of celebration for the arts in Mississippi. The festivities are free and open to the public!

Pictured: Jimbo Mathus (left) and Sam Haskell (right)



Reminder!!
MAC Annual Grant Deadline
March 3, 2014

E-Grant is now open to apply online. If you have any questions or need assistance with your application, contact MAC at 601/359-6030.

CALL FOR ENTRIES
2014 VSA INTERNATIONAL
YOUNG SOLOISTS COMPETITION
DEADLINE TO APPLY: FEBRUARY 10, 2014



Since 1984, the VSA International Young Soloists Program has identified talented musicians who have a disability. The VSA International Young Soloists Competition annually selects up to four outstanding musicians from the United States and the international arena, and supports and encourages them in their pursuit of a career. These emerging musicians receive \$2,500, professional development opportunities, and a performance at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. For details on how to apply, visit www.kennedy-center.org/IYS



In Memoriam

MAC mourns the recent passing of visual artist, Pat Walker. Walker was an amazingly gifted artist who earned many state and national awards and was a member of MAC's Artist Roster. Her work was shown in several Mississippi galleries and she taught workshops across the state. Our condolences go out to her family and friends.

Calendar of
events

February

**Free Concert
featuring pianist
Asiya Korepanova**
February 5, 2014
11:30 A.M.
St. Andrew's North
Campus, Ridgeland

**Magnolia
Independent Film
Festival**
February 20-22
Varies
Hollywood Premier
Center- Starkville

**Governor's Arts
Awards**
February 20
4:30pm – Reception
6:00pm – Ceremony
Belhaven University
Center for the Arts,
Jackson

**Marty Stuart & His
Fabulous
Superlatives**

Saturday, February
22, 2014

7:00 P.M.

Corey Forum-
Holmes Community
College, Grenada

Be sure to visit MAC's
website at:

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

to list your upcoming
event!

MAC's Whole Schools Initiative to host Spring Retreats for Educators

The Whole Schools Initiative and the Mississippi Arts Commission invite you to attend the 2014 Whole School Initiative Spring Cluster Retreat in your region throughout the months of February and March. This one-day professional learning opportunity is designed for teams of Pre-K to 8th grade classroom teachers, arts specialists, and administrators who will experience, observe and create new arts integrated strategies using Common Core State Standards and Mississippi Visual and Performing Arts Frameworks.

Attendees will...

- Experience proven arts integrated strategies in each of the four core subject areas using the four arts disciplines: dance, music, theatre and visual art
- Learn about a technique used by an arts integrated school that successfully promotes collaboration between classroom teachers and arts specialists on classroom instruction
- Develop a list of arts integrated strategies with colleagues in their region that will support upcoming lesson plans to be taught *this* school year.

Through group work, reflection and open discussions, attendees will leave with a list of creative strategies and lesson plans that will provide all their students with an opportunity to deepen learning and nurture 21st Century Skills in and through the arts.

Registration Fee: \$50 per participant / due before the event or at the door. .5 CEU credits are available. Each workshop will be held 8:30 am-3:30 p.m.

Tupelo: Tuesday, February 18

Thomas Street Elementary School

Madison: Tuesday, February 25

Madison Avenue Lower Elementary

Hattiesburg: Thursday, March 6

Oak Grove Primary

For more information, visit to www.mswholeschools.org

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 or contact Jodie Engle at 601.359.6040.

The MAC Gallery

The MAC Gallery is currently hosting works by the FY2014 Fellowship recipients. Artists include Ed Williford, Sean Starwars, Anne O'Hara, Mark Rigsby and other incredibly gifted artists. This exhibit will hang in the gallery through the month of February. It is certainly worth the trip to see these amazing works of art.

Creative Mississippi Institute

MAC's new initiative to create resources and opportunities for creative communities.

In 2009 MAC began a journey to measure how arts and culture work in Mississippi through economic and community development. August 2011 saw the release of *Mississippi's Creative Economy Study: Realizing the Economic Potential of Creativity in Mississippi* quantifying Mississippi's Creative Economy as almost 64,000 and 3.5% of our state economy. In the following two years we continued to educate and inform not only Mississippi communities, but ourselves as we learned more about the nuances of creative economy and the even newer concept of creative placemaking and the potential they have to transform Mississippi communities.

Now is the time to really get down to work in creating resources and opportunities for creative people, businesses, organizations, institutions and communities. It is with great delight that MAC introduces the *Creative Mississippi Institute (CMI)*, as a community training and knowledge-base in creative economy and creative placemaking. With such great partners as the Mississippi Development Authority, Mississippi Main Street Association, the John C. Stennis Institute of Government and Community Development and many other private, non-profit and community collaborators, we look to place Mississippi as a leader of this work across the United States.

CMI's mission of building a stronger Mississippi through training, services, resources, research, policy and investment in creative economy and creative placemaking begins with Mississippi communities. MAC cannot support place-based economic and placemaking initiatives without first hearing from place. The work in creative community building is as broad as it is extensive, and we believe that it is essential to create our priorities and opportunities with your input as we shape and define our programs and investments.

We will be building our creative initiatives the same way a community would create theirs, working together through the process so we rise together.

Let's get growing Mississippi!

For more information on CMI, visit www.creativemississippi.org or contact Allison Winstead at awinstead@arts.ms.gov or 601/359-6546



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

February 2
Tom talks with Governor's Awards, Excellence in Music recipient - Jim Weatherly

February 9
Allison talks with Governor's Awards, Arts In Community winner - Lesley Silver

February 16
Larry talks with Governor's Awards, Lifetime Achievement winner - James Cotton

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

501 North West Street
Suite 1101A
Woolfolk Building
Jackson, MS 39201

PHONE:
601/359-6030

FAX:
601/359-6008

WEBSITE:
www.arts.ms.gov

MAC grant deadlines:
March 3, 2014

Minigrants:
June 1 and November 1

Flucker joins MAC as Special Initiatives Director

Turry Flucker is the newest addition to the MAC family. He will be working on MAC's special initiatives including the upcoming Day at the Capitol. His interests include documenting visual artists who were responding to the Civil Rights Movement in the South. Stay tuned to find out more about this interesting fellow!



SAVE THE DATE!!

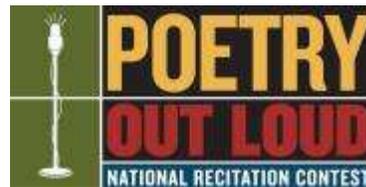
Mark your calendars now for MAC's annual
DAY AT THE CAPITOL

Wednesday, March 26, 2014

11:30am to 1:30pm

1st Floor Rotunda – Mississippi State Capitol

Join us as we advocate for the arts! Let's show state lawmakers the importance of state funding and the impact the arts can have on their communities. For more information, contact Turry Flucker, MAC's Special Initiatives Director...601/359-6030.



The regional contests of Poetry Out Loud are coming up! This is an opportunity to see students compete in their region to be a part of the state championship in March. The dates are as follows:

February 3 – Yoknapatawpha Arts Council Power House, Oxford

February 5 – Ayer Hall at Jackson State University, Jackson

February 7 – Lauren Rogers Museum, Laurel

For more information, contact Ken Bolinsky, POL Coordinator at

kerbechristman@gmail.com

Arts-Related Job Opportunities

Arts Educator/Assistant Education Coordinator
Mississippi Children's Museum

The Mississippi Children's Museum (MCM) seeks an enthusiastic, motivated and dedicated individual to assist the MCM Education Coordinator in managing the visitor experience, service and operations of the exhibits and galleries. This individual will also be responsible for creating and facilitating arts integrated learning opportunities in the museum and management of Outside the Lines.

For more information, visit

<http://www.mississippichildrensmuseum.com/>

