

June 2015

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Dear Friends,

The end of the school year for students brings trips to swimming lessons, summer camp, or taking a family vacation, while the classroom becomes a distant memory. Most parents also shift into a summer mindset. Dedicated administrators and educators however, rarely take a vacation from the ever-present challenge of providing high quality opportunities for teaching and learning.

Mississippi communities, including parents and students, are frustrated with failing schools. Everyone is eager for solutions even if the solutions look much different than the traditional classroom.

The time has come to talk about the 'new' classroom. For over 15 years, the Mississippi Arts Commission has championed the creative concept that arts integrated instruction works for all schools and all students, especially schools struggling with declining scores.

Arts integration is simply a teaching strategy that uses the arts as a tool to teach other subjects. Research shows that not all students learn in the same way. By using arts integrated instruction, the teaching methods are varied to reach the learning styles of all students. How many students face the frustration of asking a question only for the answer to be demonstrated in the same way again using the same instructional method that they didn't understand the first time? Using arts integrated instruction, the learner becomes more engaged in the subject matter and learning becomes more interesting and practical.

Industry leaders predict that the most important skills for the job force of the future are creative thinking and creative problem solving. These are the skills that an arts integrated curriculum brings to the classroom.

The Mississippi Arts Commission's Whole Schools Initiative is leading the way in establishing the classroom of the future. This educational initiative is a homegrown Mississippi model that has been in our schools for over a decade. The program is dedicated to the strategy of incorporating the arts to make learning engaging, relevant, and meaningful. Arts integrated strategies engage students cognitively, physically, and emotionally. Test scores go up because there is an emotional connection to the material and learning is embedded with deeper meaning. Teachers are inspired to be innovative and help to guide their students in discovering their strengths and establishing a love of learning.

To make sure educators are successful, the Mississippi Arts Commission provides in-depth professional development in arts integration through the Whole Schools Summer Institute. It is a four-day workshop featuring local and national experts who share best practices, strategies, and model arts integrated lessons.

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The informative sessions give teachers and administrators the tools they need to transform their classrooms from a lecture style, teacher-driven environment, to a more hands-on, experiential, project-based method of instruction. This shift facilitates a lifelong love of learning and ensures that students are ready to launch successful careers, think creatively, problem solve, and are prepared to attend college or be competitive in the work force of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

During the summer break, consider a creative pathway and innovative strategy for school reform in Mississippi; one that the Arts Commission's Whole Schools Initiative can offer. When in a conversation about education or merely considering educational possibilities, be aware of the national reform model that has proven itself in the state for the last 15 years; a model that was created, developed, and implemented in Mississippi, by Mississippians for Mississippi schools.

My best,  
Tom

## Congratulations to the Museum of the Mississippi Delta

The Museum of the Mississippi Delta in Greenwood recently underwent a major renovation!

The museum, formerly named Cottonlandia, was built in 1957 and took up residence in the Billups Petroleum building in 1975. The midcentury style and school like exterior made for complications as technology advanced and the next generation came of age.

The Museum is at the crossroads of Delta history and art. Extensive collections include artifacts related to agriculture, Native America, regional military history and one of the Delta's most extensive collections of regional art. The Museum of the Mississippi Delta focuses on the five "A's": art, archaeology, agriculture, antiques and animals. The Museum has a large collection of Mississippi art work, made possible by the state-wide biannual Museum of the Mississippi Delta's Fine Arts Competition. Their archaeology collection, on loan from the L.B. Jones Trust, is immense, and includes the largest collection of Native American trade beads in the southern United States.

On Loan from the Mississippi Arts Commission are *County Columns*, created by Mississippi visual artist, Fletcher Cox of Tougaloo, Mississippi.

Planning for Phase 2 will start this fall. Planned renovations of the remaining interior space include the Native American room and the creation of a children's activities room.



# Lunch & Learn

## Professional Development Workshop

**FREE and OPEN to the PUBLIC**  
 Limited Seating Available  
 RSVP Today  
[csoutolearman@arts.ms.gov](mailto:csoutolearman@arts.ms.gov)  
 601.359.6030

**Delta Arts Alliance**  
**104 South Court Street**  
**Cleveland, MS 38762**  
**Monday, June 22, 2015**  
**10am - 2pm**

The Professional Development Workshop entitled "Lunch & Learn" is the first of many workshops that will serve as a platform to inform individual artists and arts organizations about the services performed by the Mississippi Arts Commission (MAC). This **FREE** workshop is a collaborative effort with the MAC, the Mississippi Center for Nonprofits, Volunteer Mississippi and will showcase the talents and expertise of:



**Timothy E. Lampkin, CEO**  
 Lampkin Consulting Group, LLC



**Abe M. Hudson, Jr., Director of DEBTS Program**  
 College of Business  
 Delta State University



**Lisa Cooley, Main Street Manager**  
 Cleveland-Bolivar Chamber of Commerce



**Tonyehn Verkitus, SVP for Nonprofit Engagement**  
 Give Gab

This professional development workshop will touch on the subjects of marketing, social media, online tools, volunteerism, grant writing and will have a town hall style Q and A segment.

For more information and to RSVP to this **FREE** event contact:

**Connie Souto Learman, Director**  
 Arts-Based Community Development  
 Mississippi Arts Commission  
 601.359.6030  
[csoutolearman@arts.ms.gov](mailto:csoutolearman@arts.ms.gov)

## REMINDER!!

Nomination submission deadline for  
 2016 Governor's Arts Awards  
 June 26, 2015

Don't miss this opportunity to nominate a deserving artist or arts organization from your community! Contact Susan Liles at [sliles@arts.ms.gov](mailto:sliles@arts.ms.gov) for details!

## Calendar of events

### June

**Peter Zapletal & The Puppet Arts Theatre**  
 Tuesday, June 23  
 10:00-11:00am  
 Canton Public Library,  
 Canton, MS

**Lunch & Learn - Professional Development Workshop for Artists**  
 Monday, June 22  
 10:00am - 2:00pm  
 Delta Arts Alliance  
 Cleveland, MS

**Hampstead Stage Company presents "Robin Hood"**  
 Monday, June 29th  
 3:30 - 4:30pm  
 Ridgeland Public Library  
 Ridgeland, MS

### July

**Tougaloo Art Colony**  
 July 12-17  
 Sun-Friday, All Day  
 Tougaloo, Mississippi

**RAW KIDS ART CAMP**  
 July 13-17  
 9:00 Am -12:00 noon  
 Tougaloo College,  
 Tougaloo, MS

**MAC's Whole Schools Summer Institute**  
 July 13-16  
 MSU Riley Center  
 Meridian, MS

**Kudzu Playhouse presents Sweeney Todd**  
 July 24 to August 2  
 7:00pm and 2:00pm, Fri,  
 Sat, Sun  
 Hernando Performing Arts Center  
 Hernando, MS



The Mississippi Arts Hour can be heard on Sundays at 5pm on Mississippi Public Broadcasting's Think Radio. Find the station nearest you by visiting [mpbonline.org](http://mpbonline.org).

June 21  
Larry talks with Jackson-based musician, Cody Cox

June 28  
Allison hosts with guest to be announced

July 5  
Tom hosts with guest to be announced

July 12  
Turry hosts with guest to be announced

### IMPORTANT NOTE!!

**BEGINNING ON JULY 5<sup>TH</sup>, THE MISSISSIPPI ARTS HOUR WILL AIR AT 5:00PM EACH SUNDAY!**

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



Whole Schools Summer Institute  
July 13-17  
MSU Riley Center  
Meridian, Mississippi

The Whole Schools Initiative is a professional development program housed at the Mississippi Arts Commission. The 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Summer Institute will be held July 13-17 at the MSU Riley Center in Meridian.

This four-day workshop offers instruction from national and local presenters who share teaching strategies and model arts integrated lessons. WSI sessions give teachers and administrators the strategies they need to transform their classrooms from a lecture style, teacher-driven environment to more hands-on, experiential, project-based instruction. This facilitates a lifelong love of learning and prepares children for the 21st Century, ensuring they are ready to launch professional careers or be college ready.

The program embraces communities and parents, using available resources and local businesses to improve both the school and surrounding community. The school opens its doors to invite the community in, and the students go out into the community to learn. Above all, the most important advantage these schools provide is a higher quality education for the children of Mississippi.

For more information, contact WSI Director, Andrea Coleman at [acoleman@arts.ms.gov](mailto:acoleman@arts.ms.gov).

## Attention Visual Artists, Museums & Cultural Centers



The Mississippi Visual Arts Directory is a way to promote yourself through a free, online resource. Visit [www.msvisualarts.org](http://www.msvisualarts.org) and take the easy steps to include your information!

# 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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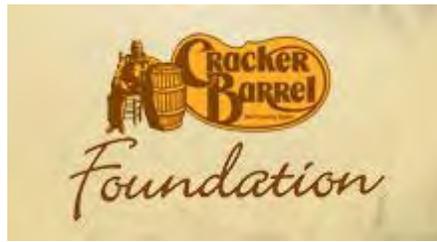
## GRAMMY FOUNDATION® GRANT PROGRAM: 2016 LETTER OF INQUIRY

The GRAMMY Foundation® Grant Program is seeking applications to help facilitate the support of music preservation and research projects.

With funding generously provided by The Recording Academy®, the Grant Program awards grants each year to organizations and individuals to support efforts that advance the archiving and preservation of music and the recorded sound heritage of the Americas for future generations, and research projects related to the impact of music on the human condition. Grant funds have been utilized to preserve private collections as well as materials at the Library of Congress, the Smithsonian and numerous colleges and universities. Research projects have studied the links between music and early childhood education, treatments for illnesses and injuries common to musicians, and the impact of music therapy on populations from infants to the elderly. More than \$6 million in grants has been awarded to more than 300 recipients.

### HOW TO APPLY:

A letter of inquiry is required before submission of a full application. To read the guidelines and to submit a letter of inquiry for the 2016 GRAMMY Foundation grant cycle, please visit [www.grammyfoundation.org/grants](http://www.grammyfoundation.org/grants). The deadline each year for submitting letters of inquiry is Oct. 1.



The Cracker Barrel Foundation believes in the importance of preserving and communicating our natural and cultural heritage through support of environmental education, preserving historic monuments, natural sites, parks and providing arts education. All new applicants must complete a preliminary one or two page letter of inquiry to the Cracker Barrel Foundation to ensure that the proposed organization and goals align with our priorities. Please describe the proposed project, its goals and objectives, and the approximate level of funding required. The letter should be emailed to [pcarroll@crackerbarrel.com](mailto:pcarroll@crackerbarrel.com).

Proposals are accepted and reviewed throughout the year. Decisions are made quarterly. It is recommended that you wait twelve months between submitting proposals for funding, regardless of their approval status.

For more details, visit <http://www.crackerbarrel.com/foundation/>

## Arts-Related Job Opportunity

The Mary C. O'Keefe Center of Arts and Education is seeking a part-time bookkeeper (20 hours per week). Qualified candidates must possess the following qualifications: knowledge of accounting and finance; expert ability with up-to-date versions of Excel and Quickbooks; strong organizational and time management skills; ability to work with minimum supervision.

Qualified applicants may send their resume with a cover letter to [nblwilson@gmail.com](mailto:nblwilson@gmail.com)