

May 2011

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Board of  
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501 North West Street - Suite 1101A Woolfolk Bldg - Jackson, MS 39201 601/359-6030

Dear Friends,

Now that the 2011 legislative session has concluded and the dust has settled, we are happy to report that MAC was authorized to receive level funding for the coming fiscal year. While this may seem uneventful, let me remind you that "level" is the new "increase" in this age of austerity and during this economic downturn. Artists and arts organizations that monitor our budget let out a collective sigh of relief after learning that MAC will remain fully funded. I attribute this, in part, to the fact that lawmakers value the arts in their Mississippi communities and what it brings to the table economically, educationally, and for the overall well-being of their citizens. We can also attribute it to the personal relationships we have built with legislative leadership over the years. This agency is grateful for the support and confidence lawmakers and policy makers have placed in our work.

In addition to state and federal funding, this agency is very fortunate to have the generous support from the private sector, which allows us to offer additional programs that would otherwise be impossible. The Riley Foundation and the Phil Hardin Foundation will generously fund our upcoming annual Whole Schools Institute for educators July 18-21 in Meridian. This week-long professional development opportunity for teachers and administrators provides them with the tools they need to employ arts-integrated instruction and 21<sup>st</sup> Century strategies in innovative, creative teaching and learning.

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Mississippi Foundation recently recommitted to provide funding for our ballroom dancing wellness program for middle school students, "Moving Toward the Art of Good Health." The Foundation originally sponsored the three-year pilot program in the Bay/Waveland Middle School, and due to their continued commitment to this initiative, we will now be able to offer this innovative opportunity to schools across Mississippi.

MAC's Governor's Awards for Excellence in the Arts is funded through state and private dollars. This outstanding annual event has several components, and as a fiscally responsible agency that prides itself on its prudent use of tax-payer dollars, we are pleased to report that a record amount of private funds were raised this year to support the event for several years to come. This stellar fund-raising achievement is due to the diligent and dedicated work of MAC's Board Chair, Carol Puckett.

Through the Mississippi Endowment for the Arts at the Community Foundation of Greater Jackson, this agency will continue our mission to support the arts at a stable, conservative level during good times or bad. I encourage you, as supporters and advocates of the arts, to consider adding the endowment to your list of donations each year. Research shows that every dollar given to the arts represents nine dollars to the community...so this is good value for the philanthropic giver.

We look forward to another year of serving our constituents, funding excellence in the arts, and being a resource for the people of Mississippi. I would like to extend a sincere "thank you" to state lawmakers for recognizing that the arts are significant in their communities. Through their gracious support, we will continue to leverage our public and private investments to build economic and civic pride as we support and connect the arts to our schools, our cultural institutions, and business community. The MAC will continue to be a good steward of the funds entrusted to us from all of those good folks who believe that the arts are essential and are as engrained in our DNA as cornbread and cabbage.

My best,  
Malcolm

## MAC Staff

Malcolm White  
Executive Director

Lee Powell  
Deputy Director

Susan Dobbs  
Public Relations  
Director

Teresa Haygood  
Executive Assistant

Judi Holifield  
Whole Schools  
Initiative Program  
Director

Sallye Killebrew  
Special Initiatives  
Director

Mary Margaret Miller  
Heritage Director

Larry Morrissey  
Director of Grant  
Programs

Alesha Nelson  
Fiscal Officer

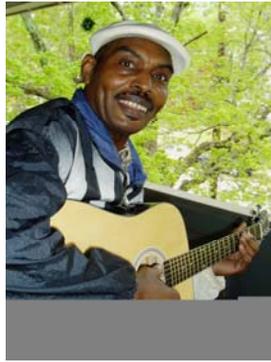
Shirley Smith  
Systems  
Administrator

Kim Whitt  
Arts Education  
Director

Diane Williams  
Arts Industry Director

Allison Winstead  
Arts-Based  
Community  
Development Director

## MISSISSIPPI BLUESMAN GOES TO WASHINGTON!



Blues artist, Ben Payton, will represent the state of Mississippi at the American Folklife Center's 2011 Homegrown: The Music of America concert series. A native of Carroll County, Mississippi, Ben moved to Jackson in 2001 to pursue a full-time career in music. Ben is best known for his unique guitar-picking style, deep vocals and captivating storytelling. In addition to his work as a performer, Ben is also a respected resource of blues history, particularly the era of country-style Delta blues form 1900-1940. In 2010, he served as

a visiting instructor at the Berklee College of Music in Boston.

The Homegrown concert series presents the very best of traditional music, dance, and storytelling from a variety of folk cultures thriving in the United States. Homegrown concerts are produced by the American Folklife Center (AFC) at the Library of Congress (LOC) in cooperation with the Kennedy Center Millennium Stage and the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian. MAC Heritage Director, Mary Margaret Miller, will accompany Mr. Payton for the May 25 concerts in Washington D.C. and serve as presenter and liaison between the State and the Library of Congress.



Rural communities in Mississippi struggle with a wide range of community development challenges. Transitioning from a predominantly agricultural/manufacturing economy to a service economy sometimes causes heavy job loss and population decline in many rural areas. For the second year the Stennis Institute (SI) in partnership with other agencies is excited to announce the YourTown, Mississippi workshop! The workshop is scheduled for May 24-26, 2011, at Lake Tiak O'Khata in Louisville, Mississippi.

Your Town, Mississippi is an interactive workshop that focuses on community development using basic design and planning principles. Using maps, markers, pens, and tracing paper, participants will produce designs and future plans for a fictitious Mississippi city called "Your Town."

For more information about the workshop and how to participate, visit <http://www.msstate.edu/yourtown/>



## ATTENTION EDUCATORS!!!!

Mark your calendars now for the 2011 Whole Schools Summer Institute!

The Institute will be held at the MSU Riley Center in Meridian July 18-21, 2011.

The theme of this year's event is "Creativity at Work!" Register online at [www.mswholeschools.org](http://www.mswholeschools.org)

## Calendar of Events

### May

#### Celebrate Maestro (20th anniversary celebration)

May 14, 2011  
7:30 p.m.  
MSU Riley Center  
Meridian, MS

#### Ceili, Irish Dance for Everyone

May 15, 2011  
2:00 to 5:00 PM  
Fenian's Pub  
901 East Fortification St.  
Jackson

#### 6th Annual Home and Garden Seminar

May 17, 2011  
9:00a.m. - 3:00p.m.  
Lexington, MS

#### Strauss's Salome from Bologna

Date: Sunday, May 22, 2011  
Time: 2:00 PM  
Location: Russell C.  
Davis Planetarium,  
Jackson, MS

#### Gulf Coast Opera presents Bizet's "Carmen"

Tuesday, May 24, 2011  
7:30 p.m.  
MGCCC Fine Arts  
Auditorium JD Campus,  
Gulfport, MS

#### Gulf Coast Opera Theatre presents CARMEN

Tuesday, May 24, 2011  
7:30 p.m.  
Fine Arts Auditorium  
MGCCC, Gulfport

#### Joe Fusky Creek Music Festival

May 27 - 29  
7:00p.m 5/27 -  
10:00p.m.5/29  
Philadelphia, MS

#### Mixing & Painting Workshop

May 28, 2011  
10:30am  
B.B. King Museum  
Indianola

## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

As we reflect on the recent tornados and listen to the news of the devastating flooding, MAC's constituents are on our minds and in our hearts. We can offer assistance regarding how to prepare for devastating interruptions and the importance of readiness. MAC has an entire section of our website devoted to emergency preparedness with all sorts of valuable information and links to other helpful websites covering readiness, response and recovery. We encourage you to plan, especially as the upcoming hurricane season quickly approaches. Contact MAC's Director of Special Initiatives, Sallye Killebrew at [skillebrew@arts.state.ms.us](mailto:skillebrew@arts.state.ms.us) for more information. <http://www.arts.state.ms.us/resources/EmergencyPreparedness2.php>



### NEW GRANT OPPORTUNITIES AT NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

***Arts in Media category open to mobile technology, digital games, and other platforms***  
***Guidelines are available for NEA's Arts in Media grants on [arts.gov](http://arts.gov)***

Grants are available to support the development, production, and national distribution of innovative media projects about the arts and media projects that can be considered works of art. Grants generally will range from \$10,000 to \$200,000, based on the platform and the complexity and scope of the project. **The application deadline date is September 1, 2011. For more information contact Laura Welsh, [welshl@arts.gov](mailto:welshl@arts.gov).**



## LINK UP NATIONAL

It takes practice, practice, practice to get to Carnegie Hall, but it takes a partnership to get Carnegie Hall to Mississippi!

Link Up National is a program of Carnegie Hall's Weill Music Institute that pairs orchestras with students in grades 3-5. Students participating in Link Up attend a culminating concert where they sing and play recorder with the orchestra from their seats. Currently, four of Mississippi symphony orchestras are participating in the Link Up program and a fifth will be joining in the next school year. For more information about this innovative partnership visit our website at <http://www.arts.state.ms.us/special-projects/linkup.php>

Photo: MSU Riley Center Link Up concert



The Mississippi Arts Hour can be heard statewide on Sunday's 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 Apple's iTunes

### Upcoming shows

#### May 15

Host Malcolm White interviews foodways scholar, Amy Evans

#### May 22

Host Larry Morrissey hosts with Sam Mosely, Malaco songwriter & musician

#### May 29

Host Diane Williams with Michael Smith, a fiction writer from Starkville

***Art is the only way to run away without leaving home.***

Twyla Tharp



## NOW SHOWING IN THE MAC GALLERY!

Photographer Stephen Little's work has been featured in *Portico* of Jackson's "Best of 2006", *Jackson Free Press*, *The Clarion-Ledger*, *File Magazine*, *Ten Most Endangered Historic Places in Mississippi*, and various art events around the state.

In 2010, his "Eddie Cotton" photograph was published in "Mississippians" coffee table book. View more of his work at <http://stephenlittlephoto.com/>

The gallery reception for Stephen will be held on Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, from 2pm to 4pm in our offices on the 11<sup>th</sup> floor of the Woolfolk State Office Building.

## MISSISSIPPI DELTA NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA REQUESTS PLAN PROPOSALS

The mission of the Mississippi Delta National Heritage Area Partnership will be to foster partnerships and educational opportunities that enhance, preserve and promote the heritage of the Mississippi Delta. Their goal will be to represent all the people of the Delta and their interests and needs. They want to insure a balanced and sustainable approach to community and economic development and social transformation. The Partnership will create links between the people and institutions of the Delta that will promote those activities that improve, protect, and advance the understanding of the Delta's important past and its contributions to the American story. Interested contractors' proposals should outline their ideas and approach for developing the management plan and meeting the requirements of its accompanying environmental document. The contractor should outline the tasks, strategies and deliverables they would perform and provide if they were selected to develop the management plan and environmental document. For details, visit <http://www.blueshighway.org/mdnharfpfinal.pdf>

## ARTS-RELATED JOB OPPORTUNITIES

### Director of the Whole Schools Initiative Mississippi Arts Commission

The required experience must include a working knowledge of the field of arts education, arts integration, and how schools function. You may apply electronically through the [Mississippi State Personnel Board](http://www.mississippi.gov/personnel) website or mail your State of Mississippi Application to:

Mississippi Arts Commission  
Attn: Lee Powell  
501 North West Street  
Suite 1101A, Woolfolk Building  
Jackson, MS 39201

**Deadline to apply is May 31, 2011**

