

October 2008

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Greetings from the Mississippi Arts Commission!

Wall Street, Main Street and Sesame Street!

What a month to be an American! Thankfully, research abounds that the arts play a useful and essential role in resilience, recovery and renewal.

What a great time to live in a great nation that exudes great art. Local lessons we learned from Katrina recovery will serve us well in weathering this financial disaster, this unprecedented downturn in our economy and the restlessness we face during election season. When everything goes south, at least we have our sense of humor, our creative slant and our enduring view that this too shall pass.

As the Governor challenges each state agency to resubmit our current budgets to reflect a 2% reduction, and at the same time rework our budget request for next year on a 4% leaner diet, we look ahead with renewed tenacity to do better with less, to be more creative and to leverage and partner to be the very best statewide arts partner we can be. We will not back down from the task-at-hand; we intend to fully fund and serve the arts in communities, schools and in individual lives of Mississippians. Our job is to advocate for what is important in these turbulent times, to remind policy makers and arts funders of the value of the arts, to enrich lives, enhance economic development, and to continue to make a case for arts education and promote the role of creativity in 21st century workforce development.

As the stock market rises and falls, the credit market tightens, and all eyes are on our nation's capital, take a break and visit a concert, museum or attend a PTA meeting. Go ahead, take a walk outside and enjoy the autumn, listen to your favorite music, attend a play at your local little theatre, reread your favorite book, take your kids or grandkids to visit family and tell them a story.

My best,  
 Malcolm



Photo: Malcolm and Emily Henderson outside the Haven Theatre in Brookhaven....a Building Fund for the Arts recipient.

## MAC Staff

Malcolm White  
Executive Director

Lee Powell  
Deputy Director

Susan Dobbs  
Public Relations  
Director

Judi Holifield  
Whole Schools  
Initiative Program  
Director

Sallye Killebrew  
Arts Recovery  
Coordinator

Larry Morrissey  
Director of Grants &  
Special Initiatives

Alesha Nelson  
Fiscal Officer

Shirley Smith  
Systems  
Administrator

Candice Thomley  
Executive Assistant

Kim Whitt  
Arts in Education  
Director

Diane Williams  
Arts Industry Director

Allison Winstead  
Arts-Based  
Community  
Development Director

# MAC'S VISUAL ARTS DIRECTORY WEBSITE

The Mississippi Arts Commission encourages all Mississippi-based visual artists, craftsmen, galleries, museums, cultural center, arts



education facilities and arts organizations to include your information on the [Mississippi Visual Arts Directory](#) website. This site is a regularly updated resource on the visual arts across Mississippi. The Commission provides listings on the site as a courtesy to artists and arts organizations across Mississippi, so we

encourage you to sign up! If you have any questions, contact Susan Dobbs at [sdobbs@arts.state.ms.us](mailto:sdobbs@arts.state.ms.us).

ALLIANCE FOR YOUNG ARTISTS & WRITERS PRESENTS '09  
**THE SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS**

The Alliance for Young Artists and Writers invites students in grades 7-12 to submit work to The Scholastic Art and Writing Awards of 2009, the nation's longest-running, largest, most prestigious recognition program for teenagers in the visual and literary arts. \$3.25 million in scholarships will be made available to seniors earning national medals, and twelve Portfolio Gold Medalists will earn \$10,000 scholarships from the Alliance. For more information, visit [www.artandwriting.org](http://www.artandwriting.org). Deadlines vary by region.

## RESOURCES FOR NONPROFITS

Nonprofit organizations need external help sometime to restructure the way they operate...from assistance with organizational skills and strategic planning to proposal writing and fundraising. Consultants mediate from a level of expertise that can help nonprofits grow. The Mississippi Arts Commission is often asked the question: *Where can we find a consultant that can help us with some of these issues?* It is important that any suggestions we offer relate to up-to-date and trendy resources and we could use your help in identifying qualified contacts. If your organization has worked with a Mississippi consultant and you would like to share that information, or if you are a consultant who is interested in working with nonprofit arts organizations, please call or e-mail the information to Diane Williams, Arts Industry director (601) 359-6529 or [dwilliams@arts.state.ms.us](mailto:dwilliams@arts.state.ms.us).

Americans for the Arts is pleased to present an outstanding line-up of informative webinars. Presented by a trusted field of experts, these webinars are flexible enough to meet demanding schedules. For more information including a list of upcoming topics visit their website - <http://www.artsusa.org/events/webinars/default.asp>.

## Calendar of Events – October

### NEA The Big Read: DeSoto County Reads Tom Sawyer

October 1-31, 2008  
Various  
DeSoto County, MS

**Arts Alive Studio Tour**  
October 25 & 26, 2008  
10:00-5:00 Sat; Noon to 5:00 Sun.  
Hancock County, MS

**An Evening with Garrison Keillor**  
Wed, Oct. 29, 2008  
8 p.m.  
MSU Riley Center,  
Meridian, MS

## Coming in November

**Holiday Clay Time**  
November 1, 2008  
10am-12pm  
Southern Cultural  
Heritage Academy Bldg,  
Vicksburg

**"Yard Sale"**  
Every Saturday in  
November  
9:00 am to 3:00 pm  
Gulfport MS

**30th Annual Peter Anderson Arts & Crafts Festival**  
Nov 1-2, 2008  
9-5 / 9-4  
Downtown Ocean Springs

**Seasonal Wreath Workshop**  
November 4, 2008  
6pm-8pm  
Southern Cultural  
Heritage Academy Bldg,  
Vicksburg

**Boyz II Men**  
Nov. 6, 2008  
8 p.m.  
MSU Riley Center,  
Meridian, MS

**88 Sounds Great!**  
November 6, 2008  
7:30 p.m.  
Bennett Auditorium,  
USM, Hattiesburg, MS

## MAC ANNOUNCES 2009 GOVERNOR'S AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE ARTS RECIPIENTS

The Mississippi Arts Commission is pleased to announce the outstanding list of 2009 Governor's Awards for Excellence in the Arts recipients. The public ceremony will be held on Thursday, February 26, 2009 at Galloway United Methodist Church in downtown Jackson. The festivities will begin at 1:00pm.

### Leadership in the Arts – University of Southern Mississippi Symphony Orchestra

The University of Southern Mississippi Symphony Orchestra is the oldest orchestra in Mississippi. Established in 1920, the orchestra is a well established leader in the region and has performed with internationally known classical icons from Plácido Domingo and Itzhak Perlman to Yo-Yo Ma. Under the direction of music director Jay Dean since 1988, the symphony regularly enjoys sold-out houses with audience members representing a diverse cross-section of the southeastern United States.

### Arts in Education – WINGS Performing Arts Program of the Lynn Meadows Discovery Center

The WINGS Performing Arts of the Lynn Meadows Discovery Center is a nationally recognized program for elementary through high school students residing on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. In its ninth year, WINGS expands a child's world through high quality programming in the arts and humanities. In 2007, WINGS was a recipient of the Mississippi Humanities Council's *Educator of the Year Award*. Also in 2007, the program was the recipient of the national *Coming Up Taller Award* presented by First Lady Laura Bush in Washington, D.C. This award distinguishes WINGS as one of the top arts-and-humanities-based programs in the country serving youth beyond school hours.

### Artistic Excellence in the Visual Arts – Wolfe Studios

Karl and Mildred Wolfe established their studio in 1946 and were determined to make their living solely by their art. Today, their enchanting creations now grace many collections, private and public, here in Mississippi and beyond. After Karl's death in 1984, Mildred was joined by her daughter Elizabeth (Bebe) Wolfe. Together, they have continued the studio tradition; producing paintings, small sculptures, mosaics, hand-made prints, and ceramics – all bearing the distinction that marks the work of mature and thoughtful artists. Over the years, Wolfe Studio has played an important and essential role in the development of the arts community in Mississippi.

### Artistic Excellence in Music – Cassandra Wilson

Born and raised in Jackson, Mississippi by musician and educator parents, Cassandra Wilson is a world renowned vocalist, songwriter and producer, with an extraordinary following. She studied piano for 13 years and played clarinet in the concert and marching bands in junior high school. In the 1970's, she could be found performing Joni Mitchell songs behind an acoustic guitar or performing in front of a large funk band. She moved to New Jersey in the 1980's and decided to take her chances on the New York jazz scene. Wilson returned to Mississippi in 2000 to establish Ojah Media Group. Ojah is an independent multi-media entity dedicated to documenting and marketing the unique sounds emanating from Mississippi's fertile soil, and its multi-cultural influences.

**DeSoto Arts Council  
Annual Holiday Art  
Show & Party**  
November 7, 2008  
6 p.m.-9 p.m.  
BankPlus Community  
Center, 7168 Moore  
Dr, Southaven

**Annual DeSoto Arts  
Council Holiday Art  
Show & Sale**  
November 8, 2008  
9 a.m.-5 p.m.  
BankPlus Community  
Center, 7168 Moore  
Dr, Southaven

**Music in the City**  
November 11, 2008  
5:15 cocktails, 5:45  
program  
Mississippi Museum of  
Art, Jackson

**Museum Reads**  
November 11, 2008  
11:30  
Mississippi Museum of  
Art, Jackson

**Company**  
Nov 13-14, 2008  
7:30 p.m.  
Mannoni Performing Arts  
Center, Hattiesburg

**Concert of  
Remembrance: WWI  
Commemoration**  
November 11, 2008  
7:30pm  
DSU Bologna Performing  
Arts Center,  
Cleveland, MS

**Jackson Street District  
Fall Festival**  
November 15, 2008  
11:00 am - 10:30 pm  
Jackson St, Ridgeland

**The Art of Tazewell**  
November 15, 2008  
4:00pm  
Blue Skies Gallery, Pass  
Christian, MS

**Visit the Calendar  
page on the MAC  
website for more  
information on  
these events OR to  
have your event  
listed!**

### **Literary Achievement – John Grisham**

He was born in Jonesboro, Arkansas in 1955 to a construction worker and a homemaker. After graduating from law school at The University of Mississippi in 1981, he went on to practice law, specializing in criminal defense and personal injury litigation. In 1983, he was elected to the state House of Representatives and served until 1990. Long before his name became synonymous with the modern legal thriller, he was working 60-70 hours a week at a small Southaven, Mississippi law practice, squeezing in time before going to the office and during courtroom recesses to work on his hobby – writing. Today, there are over 225 million John Grisham books in print worldwide, which have been translated into 29 languages. Nine of his novels have been turned into films. When he is not writing, he devotes his time to charitable causes, including most recently his Rebuild The Coast Fund, which raised 8.8 million dollars for Gulf Coast relief after Hurricane Katrina.

### **Lifetime Achievement – Andrew Bucci**

Born in Vicksburg in 1922, Andrew Bucci began his art studies at All Saints' School. Throughout his life he has been in the forefront of Mississippi art and has made art a priority in his life. In the 1930's, he began driving to Jackson to study with Marie Hull and continued to do so during his college years at Louisiana State University. During World War II, Bucci served as a meteorologist stationed in Paris, which allowed him to study at the renowned Académie Julian. His paintings have been featured in such prestigious venues as the Corcoran Gallery of Art, the Smithsonian Museum of American Art, and the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts. His work speaks profoundly of place, focusing on scenes and memories of Mississippi. He has continued a life-long interest in his home state and returns often to visit, teach art, and work.

## *SOUTHERN EXPRESSIONS...* AN ARTISTIC DELIGHT BEGINNING NOVEMBER 6 ON MPB TV



*Southern Expressions* brings a tantalizing taste of the great artistic talents in Mississippi. The tables are momentarily turned when the visual artist becomes the subject. Beginning Thursday, November 6 at 8:00 p.m. on Mississippi Public Broadcasting (MPB) television, MPB Arts Reporter Ron Brown hosts *Southern Expressions*, a new series presenting some of the best

visual artists in Mississippi. The show's interviews are vibrant tales where each artist gives us an intriguing self portrait in their own words and through their work. Each program features two artists with a video segment of the artist in their studio discussing their work. Ken Murphy, photographer; Dub Brock alias Bobby Lounge, painter/performer; Gwen Magee, quilter; Lee Renninger, ceramics artist; H.C. Porter, painter; Kim Sessums, sculptor, and many more are featured on *Southern Expressions*. For more information visit [www.mpbonline.org](http://www.mpbonline.org)  
Photo: Ron Brown (left) interviews celebrated Mississippi artist, Bill Dunlap.



Listen to MAC's "Mississippi Arts Hour" Thursdays at 5:00pm on Jackson's WLEZ - 100.1FM and Sunday's at 3pm on Mississippi Public Broadcasting's Think Radio-WMPN 91.3. The show can also be heard on MAC's website and through Apple's iTunes

**October:**

October 25  
Malcolm White hosts with Charlotte Taberoux from MSU Riley Center

**Coming in**

**November:**

November 2  
Malcolm White hosts with representatives of The Arts/Hancock County

November 9  
Larry Morrissey hosts with musician Bill Abel

November 16  
Diane Williams hosts with Steel Pan Musicians

November 23  
Malcolm White hosts with musician Charlie Mars

**If it weren't for the rocks in its bed, the stream would have no song.**

- Carl Perkins

## ARTS-RELATED JOB OPPORTUNITIES

### Mississippi Arts Commission's Whole Schools Initiative

#### Special Events Coordinator

The Whole Schools Initiative, Mississippi's first comprehensive statewide arts education program, uses the arts as a vehicle for promoting high-quality instruction and learning for students in all disciplines. This unique program goes far beyond "art for art's sake" and applies the learning power of the arts across the entire curriculum. The Special Events Coordinator works in collaboration with the Mississippi Arts Commission staff and Special Projects Contractor to coordinate and produce teacher training including the fall and spring retreats and summer institute.

For a complete job outline, contact Judi Holifield at [jholifield@arts.state.ms.us](mailto:jholifield@arts.state.ms.us).

### Mississippi Opera Association, Inc.

Jackson, Mississippi

Job Type: Administration

MOA seeks a part-time Administrative Director to assist the Executive Director and Artistic Director in seeing to the day-to-day operations of the company. The Administrative Director shall assist in the implementation and oversight of all aspects of MOA's core organizational programs. These will include assisting with coordination of productions, student matinee performances, fundraisers and all aspects of efficient office management. For more information visit [www.msopera.org](http://www.msopera.org) or call 601/960-2300.

## BAY ST. LOUIS BRIDGE WINS NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD!



Mississippi's Bay of St. Louis Bridge has been named the winner of the People's Choice Award competition, announced Mississippi Department of Transportation Executive Director Larry L. "Butch" Brown. With over 55,000 votes and ten projects competing for the award, the Bay of St. Louis Bridge won by a landslide. The American

Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) held their annual meeting in Hartford Connecticut and announced the winners of the American Transportation Award for the People's Choice Award. With ten projects competing for top awards, the Bay of St. Louis Bridge won with an overwhelming number of votes. A panel of experts, selected by MAC, adjudicated the artwork that graces the bridge. MAC is honored to have been a part of this exciting project! Congratulations!!!

Submitted photo

**The Mississippi Arts Commission Celebrates Forty Years of Supporting Mississippi's Creative Spirit!!!**