

October 2010

MAC Board of CommissionersCarol Puckett
ChairmanStephanie PUNCHES
1st Vice-ChairmanMyrna Colley-Lee
2nd Vice-Chairman

Donna Barksdale

Barbara Brunini

Gail Daigneault

Lawrence Farrington

Kris Gianakos

Dottie Gozan

Beverly Herring

Nell Middleton

Robert St. John

David Trigiani

Nancy Yates

Thinking outside the box (sometimes erroneously called "thinking out of the box") is to think differently, unconventionally or from a new perspective. This phrase often refers to novel, creative and smart thinking. This is sometimes called a process of lateral thought or cliché, and has become widely used in business environments, especially by management consultants and executive coaches, and has spawned a number of advertising slogans. To think outside the box is to look further and try not to think of the obvious things, but to try and think beyond that.

Dear Friends,

One of the most overused pop expressions of today is "thinking outside the box", and I suspect that most users of this tired descriptor actually don't do much outside the box thinking. However, it is an important term in advocating for how the arts work in everyday life; why the arts matter, what role right-brain thinking plays in decision making, and how we learn to engage and employ the right brain.

First of all, what exactly is "the box" anyway? Apparently it is where we generally agree most thinking goes on, right? So thinking "outside the box," which is needed now more than ever before, is not the norm. So how do we get there and why would we want to think that way? Here is a great story that will help explain. Enjoy!

My best,
Malcolm

[How Well Do you Deal with Moral/Ethical Dilemmas?](#)

You are driving down the road in your car on a wild, stormy night, when you pass by a bus stop and you see three people waiting for the bus:

1. An old lady who looks as if she is about to die.
2. An old friend who once saved your life.
3. The perfect partner you have been dreaming about.

Which one would you choose to offer a ride to, knowing that there could only be one passenger in your car?

Think before you continue reading.....

This is a moral/ethical dilemma that was once actually used as part of a job application. You could pick up the old lady, because she is going to die, and thus you should save her first. Or, you could take the old friend because he once saved your life, and this would be the perfect chance to pay him back. However, you may never be able to find your perfect mate again. In the workforce we face similar life-choices on a regular basis, and quite often, we make sub-optimal choices, due to our limited thought process, or bias.

The candidate who was hired (out of 200 applicants) had no trouble coming up with his answer. He simply answered: 'I would give the car keys to my old friend and let him take the lady to the hospital. I would stay behind and wait for the bus with the partner of my dreams. Continued on next page....

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

Sometimes, we gain more if we are able to give up our stubborn thought limitations. Never before has it been more important for people to 'Think Outside of the Box,' yet increasingly, our thinking is constrained by the need to come up with a single 'right' answer (where we assume that there is only one). Also fear of not getting it 'right', often influences our guessing what we perceive to be the safest (i.e. multiple choice selection) option. Sadly, this phenomenon is rooted deeply in our school systems, which increasingly push 'not making mistakes' and 'getting the "right" answers over "right brain" thinking which includes creativity, imagination and intuitive processing.

Perhaps we need to re-evaluate what kinds of answers we are looking for and expanding the capability of those from whom we are seeking answers.

(From the Blog "What's Happening Today in Workforce Development")



2011
FESTIVAL AND
EVENT
COORDINATORS
WORKSHOP

JAN 25 COLUMBUS
JAN 27 YAZOO CITY

featuring
Arts Education in the Festival Environment with **Randy Blevins**
VP of programming, Memphis in May
Festival Programming with **Carolyn Morris**
Exec. Director, Southeast Festivals and Events Association - Atlanta
Marketing and New Media with **Laura Scholz**
President,
Scholz Communications - Atlanta

SPONSORED BY
Mississippi Arts Commission
& Mississippi Development Authority
Tourism Development

mac
MISSISSIPPI

For information:
Visit www.visitmississippi.org/workshop or call Mary Margaret Miller (MAC) at 601-359-6030
or Alex Thomas (MDA) at 601-359-2593

Calendar of Events

October

Mississippi International Film Festival

Oct 28, 29 and 30, 2010
Schedule Varies
Jackson, Mississippi
Davis Planetarium

Intersect Dance Collective in "Slightly Atypical"

October 29 and 30
7:00 pm
Jackson Academy,
Jackson, MS

MS International Film Fest - Street Fest

October 30, 2010
10a.m. - 10 p.m.
Lamar St. under the
Planetarium, Jackson, MS

Celebrate Music

October 30, 2010
7:30 p.m.
MSU Riley Center,
Meridian, MS

November

"An Evening of Fine Art"

November 5, 2010
6pm to 9pm
5300 Diamondhead Cir,
Diamondhead, MS

Southern Expressions GCWA Author Conference

November 5-7, 2010
All day
1600 Government St.
Ocean Springs, MS

The World Famous Tallahatchie Hayride

November 11th, 2010
7:00pm - 9:00pm
Bologna Performing Arts
Center, Cleveland, MS

A Sterling Past, A Golden Future

November 13, 2010
3:00 p.m.
Northminster Baptist
Church Jackson, MS

2011 GOVERNOR'S AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE ARTS RECIPIENTS!

The Mississippi Arts Commission is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2011 Governor's Awards for Excellence in the Arts. These outstanding artists and arts organization will be honored during the public ceremony at 1:00pm on Thursday, February 24, 2011, in the auditorium at the Mississippi Department of Education in downtown Jackson.



ARTS IN EDUCATION
CHARLES A. RHOADS
BRANDON, MISSISSIPPI

ARTS IN COMMUNITY
NATCHEZ LITERARY & CINEMA
CELEBRATION
NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI



ARTISTIC EXCELLENCE
GWENDOLYN A. MAGEE
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

EXCELLENCE IN MUSIC
MAC MCANALLY
OF BELMONT, MISSISSIPPI
NOW RESIDES IN NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE



LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT
JOE WILLIE "PINETOP" PERKINS
OF BELZONI, MISSISSIPPI
NOW RESIDES IN AUSTIN, TEXAS

For complete bios visit <http://www.arts.state.ms.us/special-projects/2011GAEA.php>



Click on the header above to download the latest issue of *Gravy*, a quarterly publication of the Southern Foodways Alliance. This issue features a story by MAC's Heritage Director, Mary Margaret Miller.

**Hazel & the Delta
Ramblers performance**
November 13, 2010
1:00 p.m.
Crosby Arboretum,
Picayune, MS

**Ka Pottery's Gallery
Grand Opening**
Nov. 26-28, 2010
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
506 Shirley Sanford Rd
Seminary, Mississippi

**Synergy Brass Quintet
Performance**
November 30, 2010
7:00 P.M.
HCC Corey Forum
Grenada, MS



The Mississippi
Public Broadcasting
documentary on the
2010 Poetry Out
Loud State Finals
will air on Sunday,
November 14th at
5:00pm on MPB! Be
sure to catch it!

To find out more
about any of the
above listed
events or to
have your event
listed on MAC's
calendar, visit
the calendar
section of our
website.

HATTIESBURG TRAIN DEPOT NOVEMBER 3 – DECEMBER 19, 2010

Experience more than 100 pieces of unique contemporary and traditional Southern art while exploring the stories of the living American masters who created them. Fifty-eight master traditional artists and contemporary craftspeople living and working in the South share their works, acquainting the public with the best of America's cultural and artistic legacy. The exhibit features works in glass, clay, fiber, metal, wood, paper and mixed media. Accompanying the artwork and enriching the experience of Tradition/Innovation is an audio tour capturing interviews, stories and background information on the artists and their artistic processes. Among the artists selected and showcased in this exhibit are six recipients of the National Endowment for the Arts National Heritage Fellowship, the nation's highest honor for traditional artists. Exhibiting artists from Mississippi include George Berry, Sr., Gustina Atlas, Bill Holland, Bessie Johnson, Gwendolyn Magee, Geraldine Nash and Brian Nettles.

Tradition/Innovation is a project of [SouthArts](#), and is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts. The exhibit tours nine museums throughout the Southeast in 2010.

PROJECT ACCESS:

National Database of Accessible Museums & Cultural Centers

Let the public know about the accessible features of your institution and the programs you have available for people with disabilities: register them on www.projectaccessforall.org.

Created and coordinated by Art Beyond Sight/Art Education for the Blind (AEB), www.projectaccessforall.org is the first-ever national database of accessible United States cultural organizations, including art and history museums, science and technology centers, historical homes, zoos and aquariums, botanical gardens, and performing arts centers. Partnering with AEB on this project are the American Association of Museums, the American Association of State and Local History, and the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. There is no charge to register.



IN MEMORIAM

Along with others in the community, MAC mourns the loss of Dan Overly, founding director of the Craftsmen's Guild of Mississippi. He will be greatly missed!

Photo by Greg Jenson/The Clarion-Ledger



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

Upcoming shows

October 31

Larry Morrissey hosts with Chris Ethridge, founding member of the Flying Burrito Brothers

November 7

Diane Williams hosts with Gulf Coast visual artist, Lori Gordon

November 14

Mary Margaret Miller hosts with bluesman and MAC Roster Artist, Dexter Allen

November 21

Malcolm White hosts with filmmaker, Chandler Griffin of Barefoot Workshops

November 28

Larry Morrissey hosts with Natchez painter, Rolland Golden

Creativity is the power to connect the seemingly unconnected.
William Plomer

MSU RILEY CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARD

The winner of the Mary Beth Treen Award this year is Dennis Sankovich of the MSU Riley Performing Arts & Education Center in Meridian. This award is given annually by [SouthArts](http://SouthArts.org) during the Performing Arts Exchange and is presented to an exceptional presenting organization/person. A brief write up on Dennis and the award can be found at:

http://pae.southarts.org/site/c.kf1QKZOWFkG/b.5301081/k.61D7/Mary_Beth_Treen_Award.htm

VSA 2010 CALL FOR ENTRIES

Writing -

Open to students with disabilities (ages 11-18) or a connection to people with disabilities are encouraged to submit an original short work of fiction, nonfiction, or poetry that relates to the theme "capture." Pieces should create the most complete description possible of a moment in time, providing the reader with a written snapshot.

Selected entries will become part of the VSA online writing journal, *Infinite Difference*. Deadline to submit: December 1, 2010

Guidelines and applications are available at www.vsarts.org/callforwriting

Soloists -

2011 VSA International Young Soloists Award

Musicians with disabilities, age 25 and under

2 recipients will each receive \$5,000 and perform at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D. C.

Musical ensemble of two to eight members may apply. At least one member must have a disability. All must be age 25 or under.

Deadline to apply: November 15, 2010 www.vsarts.org/soloists

For more information call 1-202-628-2800 or e-mail writing@vsarts.org, or contact VSA Mississippi, 601-965-4866 or info@vsartsms.org.

ARTS-RELATED JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Executive Director
Columbus Arts Council
Columbus, Mississippi

The Columbus Arts Council is located in the Rosenzweig Arts Center, downtown Columbus, MS. The CAC oversees an art gallery accommodating 350 people for art shows, performances in the Omnova Theatre as well as coordinating classes and summer arts camps. The Columbus Arts Council is seeking a highly qualified candidate for the position of Executive Director. This person should be goal-oriented, have previous experience in working with a volunteer board, and believe in the commitment of the mission of community arts.

Accepting resumes through October 31, 2010.

Mail resumes to: Columbus Arts Council, PO Box 869; Columbus, MS 39703 www.columbus-arts.com