

October 2014

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Dear Friends,

As the cooler breezes push through our region and the trees begin to brighten with vibrant colors, our attention turns to the final months of another year. Before we look toward the holiday season, we need to take time to celebrate the tremendous power of the arts. **October is National Arts and Humanities Month!** This month is a coast-to-coast celebration and recognition of the importance of the arts in American life.

During this celebration I encourage each of you to explore new venues and participate in new art forms. More importantly, invite friends to have new artistic and aesthetic experiences in the process of making art or appreciating art. Participation in the arts leads to lifelong learning, creates healthier individuals and communities, and helps people to lead more enriched and fulfilling lives.

The arts and humanities are the things that fill our lives and feed our soul. The arts and humanities bring us together. They make us think and make us feel. They connect us, they empower us, and they tell our story of civilization. The arts live beyond us and tell our history as well as what we have hoped to become.

This is an exciting time for the arts in Mississippi. The Mississippi Arts Commission aims to ensure that the arts are recognized, celebrated, and supported in communities across our state. Thank you to all who support the arts in Mississippi. This fall as the winds change our seasons, let's make a more positive change to bring greater attention to the power of the arts in our state.

Tom

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New NEA Resources for Arts-based Community Development

*Exploring “Our Town” Website, Expanded 2015 Our Town Guidelines; and
Upcoming National Convening*

The National Endowment for the Arts is launching new resources to assist practitioners who are working on arts-based community development projects. These resources will assist those practitioners in developing projects that are authentic, equitable, and that augment existing local assets.

Those resources are:

- [Exploring Our Town](#), an online resource featuring case studies of more than 60 previous Our Town projects complete with an insights section of lessons learned
- [2015 Our Town Guidelines](#) with a new project type designed to build and share creative placemaking knowledge
- [Beyond the Building: Performing Art Organizations and Transforming Place](#), a national convening to be held on November 3, 2014

2015 “Our Town” Guidelines

New “Our Town” guidelines are available to support creative placemaking projects that contribute to the livability of communities and help to transform them into lively, beautiful, and resilient places with the arts at their core. As in the past four years, “Our Town” grants support arts engagement, cultural planning, and design projects. In 2015, the NEA will offer funding to up to five projects to help membership organizations build technical assistance for those doing arts-based community development work.

For more information about this program and other National Endowment for the Arts programs, visit www.arts.gov.

Join us for our next MAC Gallery Reception
Featuring the work of Folk Arts Apprenticeship Recipients
November 18, 2014
2:00pm-4:00pm
11th Floor – Woolfolk State Office Building in Jackson



Attention Mississippi High School Teachers

It is time to register for the 2015 Poetry Out Loud Recitation Contest!

This program helps students master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about their literary heritage. The deadline to register a school is October 31, 2014 and the in-school contest deadline is December 18, 2014.

For more information, visit MAC’s website and click on the Poetry Out Loud logo on the homepage.

www.arts.ms.gov

MAC Program News

Creative Mississippi Institute



MAC's Community and Economic Development Director Allison Winstead recently returned from an invitation-only summit discussing a national creative economy policy. Among the thirty invited attendees were the Bureau of Economic Analysis, the National Endowment for the Arts, Lincoln Center, Fractured Atlas, and the National Creativity Network, to name a few.

Participants represented 17 states, 6 countries and 3 continents. Allison presented her work with the Creative Mississippi Institute (CMI) and its framework to the working group and fostered new relationships that will help grow this work in Mississippi. For more information about CMI, visit www.creativemississippi.org

Arts Industry

Turry Flucker, Arts Industry Director, has spent the last couple of months on the road meeting with his constituents across the state.

From the Delta, to the Mississippi Gulf Coast, Turry has covered some ground to meet the leaders of our state's museums and cultural centers. If you are interested in having Turry come visit your facility, let him know...tflucker@arts.ms.gov.



Calendar of events October

Cabaret

October 13
7:30pm
Duling Hall
Jackson, MS

Spencers: Theatre of Illusion

October 16
7:00 p.m.
Corey Forum Holmes
Community College
Grenada

Japan World Heritage Photo Panel Exhibition

Oct 16 - Nov 11
Open Monday-Friday,
9am-5pm
Colvard Student Union Art
Gallery

Grenada Afterglow Film Festival

Oct. 18
1 PM - Midnight
Downtown Grenada MS

Eudora Welty Writers' Symposium

October 23-25
Vary
Mississippi University for
Women . Columbus, MS

Welty Gala

October 24
7 p.m.
Mississippi University for
Women , Columbus, MS

The Merry Widow- Natchez Festival of Music

Saturday, October 25 7PM
Margaret Martin
Performing Arts Center,
Natchez, MS

Calendar of events
October Continued:

**BARL'S Celebrity Dinner
& Auction**

October 11
6:00pm

Lincoln Civic Center
Brookhaven, MS

The Merry Widow

October 26
2:30pm

Madison Square Center
for the Arts, Madison

**We the People (School-
Time Matinee)**

October 29
9:30 & 11:30 a.m.

Bologna Performing Arts
Center, Cleveland

November

**Millsaps College Arts &
Letters Series**

November 3
7:00pm

Millsaps College Recital
Hall

**St. George's Art Show
and Sale - Call to Artists**

November 6-8
5-9pm.; 1-3pm

1880 Wolf River Blvd.,
Collierville, TN 38017

**Opera Goes to
Hollywood**

November 15
7:30pm

Belhaven University

Tupelo Arts Showcase

Nov. 15

7:00, doors at 6:30pm

Link Centre, Tupelo, MS

**National Theatre Live:
Macbeth**

November 25 & 26
7:00 P.M.

USM Tatum Theatre,
Hattiesburg, MS

MAC Program News (Cont'd)

Folk & Traditional Arts

Jennifer Jameson, Folk & Traditional Arts Director, recently announced that MAC is partnering with the Southern Documentary Project, an institute of the Center for Study of Southern Culture at the University of Mississippi, to share some of their films from SouthDocs on the Mississippi Folklife Online website. MAC believes that documentary filmmaking is one of the best ways to tell our vast and incredibly rich stories. Be sure to check out the site each week to learn more, (www.mississippifolklifeonline.org) or contact Jennifer if you have any questions...jjameson@arts.ms.gov.



Arts Education

After settling into her new position as Arts Education Director, Charlotte Smelser is doing what she does best....telling the story of the value of educating today's children through the arts. She has been attending conferences and staying on top of the ever-changing trends, and she wants to share a snippet of a recent article by Jane Chu, the new Director of the NEA. Read the entire article at <http://www.creativecareersinfo.com/careers/fostering-creative-career-exploration>

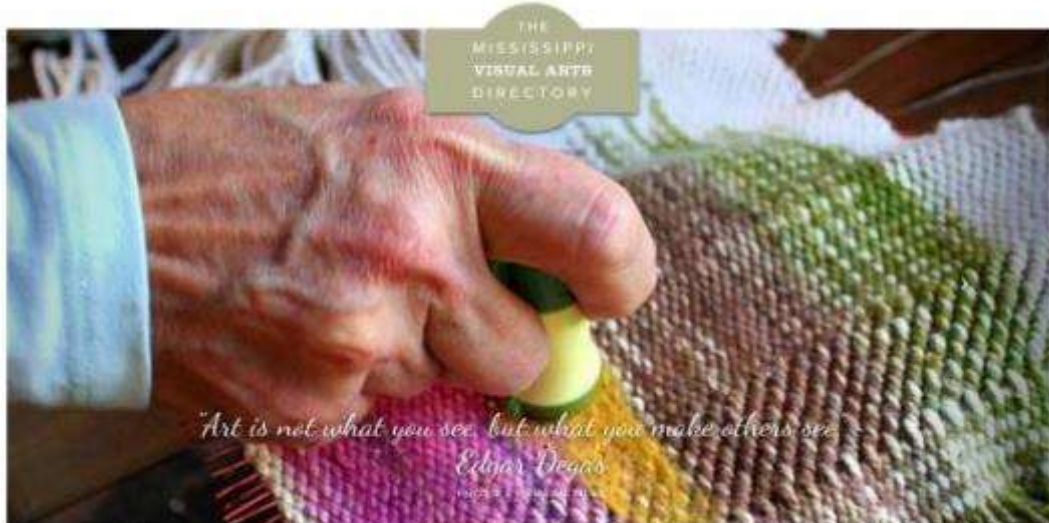
“Achieving any level of professional success requires creativity to some degree: the creativity to figure out new ways to do our jobs well, or the creativity to produce new ideas that advance our organizations. It’s ironic then that arts education—our primary means of fostering present and future generations of creative, innovative thinkers—has been cut from so many school curricula, and that careers in the arts aren’t encouraged with the same rigor as other professions.

There are few pursuits more commendable than enhancing the lives of others, and that is essentially what a career in the arts allows us to do. Whether creating work ourselves, or working in arts administration, we are helping to bring beauty and meaning to people’s lives, and adding vitality to our communities. As creative professionals, we are conduits for bringing the value of the arts to the American people.”

Calling all young Mississippi artists!
Mississippi Heritage Trust
THIS PLACE MATTERS
ONLINE ART EXHIBITION

The Mississippi Heritage Trust, a statewide non-profit organization dedicated to saving and renewing places meaningful to Mississippians and their history, is looking for young artists with an interest in historic preservation to participate in the online art exhibition "This Place Matters." Find out more at:

www.mississippiheritagetrust.com



The Mississippi Visual Arts Directory

An online resource for artists, museums & cultural centers

www.msvisualarts.org

For questions about the site, contact: Susan Liles, sliles@arts.ms.gov

Sign up today!

Featured Artist for October:

Jere Allen

Allen was born in Selma, Alabama but moved to Mississippi to become a painting professor at the University of Mississippi. He has spent the last few years in his studio in Oxford.

www.jerehallen.com



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.

October 12
Larry talks with writer, Katy Simpson Smith.

October 19
Diane talks with artists, David West and Jerrod Partridge about Art Space 86

October 26
MPB's Annual "Drive-Time" Fundraiser

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

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www.arts.ms.gov

Reminder!
Fall Minigrant
Deadline:

November 3rd



The Wallace Foundation Announces Six-Year, \$40-Million Initiative to Support Performing Arts Organizations

The Wallace Foundation announced recently a six-year, \$40-million arts initiative, Building Audiences for Sustainability, designed to help 25 outstanding performing arts organizations across the United States to create programs that attract new audiences and retaining existing ones.

Building on the success of earlier Wallace arts efforts, the new initiative's goal is to provide meaningful support to arts organizations whose artistic vision and mission involve building audiences. The foundation also seeks to understand and share evidence from these organizations on how they can achieve and sustain audience gains, and how these gains help to improve their overall financial health. In this way, the initiative aims to strengthen the organizations and to generate knowledge that benefit the broader field.

About The Wallace Foundation

Based in New York City, The Wallace Foundation is an independent national philanthropy dedicated to fostering improvements in learning and enrichment for disadvantaged children and the vitality of the arts for everyone. It seeks to catalyze broad impact by supporting the development, testing, and sharing of new solutions and effective practices. Find out more at www.wallacefoundation.org



WITCHCRAFTED Contests

★ OCTOBER 26-31, 2014 ★

Creative Pumpkin Contest

BEST PUMPKIN
\$250 cash
BEST CARVED PUMPKIN
\$125 cash
BEST PAINTED PUMPKIN
\$125 cash
EARLY BIRD ENTRY FEE: \$5
\$10 after October 20

MasterCrafted Yard Art Contest

BEST TEAM ENTRY
\$300 cash
BEST INDIVIDUAL ENTRY
\$250 cash
EARLY BIRD ENTRY FEE:
INDIVIDUAL: \$5
\$10 after October 20
TEAM: \$20
\$25 after October 20

Contest awards sponsored by Bottletree Studios.

MISSISSIPPI CRAFT CENTER
RIDGELAND, MS
www.craftsmensguildofms.org
601-856-7546

A Wickedly Creative Week of Activities

Presented by
The Craftsmen's Guild of Mississippi

★ OCT 25-31 ★

DETAILS ABOUT ALL WITCHCRAFTED EVENTS AT WWW.CRAFTSMENSGUILDOFMS.ORG

