



## Alaska State Council on the Arts November 2008 Newsletter

### **Our Mission**

*To foster the development of the arts for all Alaskans through education, partnerships, grants and services.*

For additional information, please visit our website at:

[www.eed.state.ak.us/aksca/](http://www.eed.state.ak.us/aksca/)

Want to unsubscribe? Please email: [brooke.quillen@alaska.gov](mailto:brooke.quillen@alaska.gov)

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## **A NOTE FROM CHARLOTTE ABOUT ARTS PARTICIPATION**

I've had a couple of experiences lately that has caused me to reflect on arts participation. With this election season having an incredibly high number of voters involved in campaigns, I can't help but think about how to raise the level of participation in the arts.

We've been involved in a couple of projects that have really brought to mind – once again – the importance of arts in communities. Arts and culture can elevate communities aesthetically, but they also can make substantial impacts on the bottom line of city budgets. This is accomplished by increasing revenues through bed taxes, sales taxes and other means as people come into communities to enjoy arts and culture. When that happens, the arts community no longer has to justify our existence to public officials by studies and surveys. Most officials are eager to welcome new industry that boosts revenues and improves the quality of life for visitors and residents alike.

How do we get there? By raising a generation that appreciates arts and culture. A recent study by the Rand Corporation “Cultivating Demand for the Arts” ([www.rand.org/pubs/monograph/MG640](http://www.rand.org/pubs/monograph/MG640)) discusses how our industry usually focuses on supply (the art) and access (participation) but neglects the demand side. The study outlines what many of us have suspected for a long time – that if people aren't educated about arts and culture, they aren't going to demand it. Guess where this leads? More arts education!

How about YOUR participation? I'd like to encourage you to participate in the first statewide arts conference for many years, which will be held January 29-31, 2009 in Anchorage. We've got registration information on our website at [www.eed.state.ak.us/aksca](http://www.eed.state.ak.us/aksca) and early registration is encouraged. There are also travel grants available through the Rasmuson Foundation Cultural Leadership grant program for individuals working or volunteering for an organization. The deadline for that grant is mid-November. For artists, there are travel grants through ASCA's career opportunity grants, and the deadline is December 1. It's going to be a great opportunity to learn, to network and to socialize in Alaska's darkest days of the year. Don't miss it!

One more thing – elsewhere in this newsletter is an article about Nancy Lord, our new State Writer Laureate. ASCA supports travel for our Writer Laureate to come to your community – for readings and workshops. Take us up on our offer – contact Andrea Noble in our office for details.

Now – get out there and participate!!!

### ASCA CALENDAR

- **Jan. 29 - Jan. 31** - Alaska Arts and Culture Conference
- **Nov. 14-** Council teleconference, 3:00 pm
- **Dec. 19-** Council teleconference, 12:00 (noon)

### ASCA DEADLINES

- **December 1-** Registration to the Statewide Arts & Culture Conference
- **DECEMBER 1 GRANT DEADLINE:**  
**Quarterly grants due:** Career Opportunity, Workshop, Community Arts Development, Master Artist and Apprentice Grant  
**AIE:** Arts Excursion- 30 days prior to event  
**AIE:** Cultural Collaborations Access- 30 days prior to event  
**AIE:** Cultural Collaborations Project- December 15

All grant information can be found at our website at [www.eed.state.ak.us/aksca/](http://www.eed.state.ak.us/aksca/)

### ASCA WELCOMES FALL INTERN

Amanda Weglin began her internship with ASCA in September 2008. Her work with the Visual Art and Percent for Art programs complements her current graduate studies at UAA in public administration policy and her undergraduate degree in art history (University of Kentucky). Amanda recently assisted with coordination of the Alaska artist centerpieces for the 2008 Governor's Awards and her major term project details the history of ASCA's public policy. She is also a volunteer with the Palmer Arts Council.

### NEW ARTISTS IN SCHOOLS DIRECTOR

As many of you may know Susan Olson has left as the Director of the Artists in Education Program. She has done a wonderful job over the past seven years and leaves the Program in great shape. She is in the process of handing over all her knowledge to the newly hired Director, Ruth Glenn. Here is an introduction note from Ruth:

I've been involved in the arts from a young age as the daughter of two music teachers and as a dancer. I earned a BFA in modern dance from the University of Utah and taught dance in Fairbanks for ten years with Dance Omnium. I started in arts management in 1979 when I was hired as the Office Manager at the Alaska Association for the Arts (now the Fairbanks Arts Association). I helped develop the first Independent Artists in the School program there with Lyric

Osburn. I was the first Executive Director of the Fairbanks Concert Association and when I moved to Anchorage in 1987 I started working for the Anchorage Concert Association. In 2004 I left the ACA having been the Executive Director there for 4 years and became the Executive Director of Alaska Dance Theatre. Since this July I have been consulting with several arts groups in development. When the Artists in Education Program position opened I saw this as a great way for me to become more involved in the creative processes of our young people. Creative thinking is in all of us and the earlier we learn to access it the better able we are to use it throughout our lives.



### **ASCA ANNOUNCES NEW STATE WRITER LAUREATE**

The Alaska State Council on the Arts has chosen Homer writer Nancy Lord as the new Alaska State Writer Laureate. She will serve a two-year term beginning October 1, 2008. She succeeds current State Writer Laureate, John Straley from Sitka.

### **2009 ALASKA ARTS & CULTURE CONFERENCE, January 29- January 31!**

Be sure to make your plans soon to attend the 2009 Alaska Arts and Culture Conference, to be held January 29-31, 2009 at the Hotel Captain Cook in Anchorage.

This is the first opportunity in many years for artists, arts organizations and educators to come together to learn and be inspired by the amazing work going on in the state. Workshops will include many practical issues, from non profit budgeting to how to get gigs and market your work.

Keynote speakers will be **William Cleveland** from the Center for the Study of Art and Community, who will speak about the importance of art in times of change, and **Jack Lew**, Director of Artist Recruitment for Electronic Arts, who will show us what art can look like in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Also joining us will be **Liesel Fenner**, Director of Public Art for Americans for the Arts, **Karen Hanan** from Arts Northwest, along with representatives from Leveraging Investments in Creativity (don't know them? Check out their website at <http://www.lincnet.net/>; the Western States Arts Federation, and the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies, along with many Alaska workshop leaders.

A few of the workshop topics will be: digitizing your work; successfully working with the press; artist financial management; motivating volunteers; building

community through public art; health insurance for artists; brain research and the arts, and many, many more. There will also be the opening reception on Jan. 29 at the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts, with two receptions on Friday, Jan. 30 at the International Gallery of Contemporary Art (which is co sponsoring the month long exhibit FREEZE) and the Alaska Native Arts Foundation. Also on Friday evening will be a free public workshop on animation with local cartoonists, animators and Jack Lew from Electronic Arts.

Sign up now at [www.eed.state.ak.us/aksca](http://www.eed.state.ak.us/aksca). Don't delay, as early registration deadline is December 1.

### **PHOTOS FROM THE GOVERNOR'S AWARDS**



**Arthur and Eleanor Braendel, Lifetime Achievement in the Arts**



**Bunnell Street Arts Center, Arts Organization**



**Cristine Crooks, Arts Education**



**Dan DeRoux, Individual Artist**



**Gertrude Svarny, Native Artist**

## **2009 POETRY OUT LOUD**

The National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation present *Poetry Out Loud: National Recitation Contest*, in partnership with the Alaska State Council on the Arts and Juneau Arts and Humanities Council. *Poetry Out Loud* encourages high school students to learn great poetry through memorization, performance, and competition. During January and February, schools and students participate in classroom and school wide and regional contests. Finalists advance to a state competition in Juneau on March 16, 2009. The state champion will then travel to the National Finals in Washington DC on April 27-28. The National winner receives a \$20,000 college scholarship and then

recites his/her poem on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial as part of the festivities to commemorate the Memorial's 200th birthday. Alaskan teachers/students who wish to participate **must register by November 7, 2008**.

For a registration form, or more information contact the *AK Poetry Out Loud Committee* poetryoutloud@gmail.com (Attention Mary Becker) or call (907) 586-ARTS (2787). Alev Kelter, a junior at Chugiak High School, Eagle River, was selected as the 2008 Alaska *Poetry Out Loud* champion and represented Alaska in the 2008 National Finals in Washington, DC. Further information can also be found on our website at [www.eed.state.ak.us/aksca/](http://www.eed.state.ak.us/aksca/)

### ALASKAN ARTISTS CREATED CENTERPIECES FOR THE GOVERNOR'S AWARDS

Selected Alaskan Artists were asked to create art work for the center of the dinner tables, which were for sale at the awards. The pieces were sold on a first come basis, with 100% of the sale price returned to the artist.



**Audrey Armstrong**



**Charles Beck**



**Vivian Benson**



**Julie Decker**



**Denise Heimel**



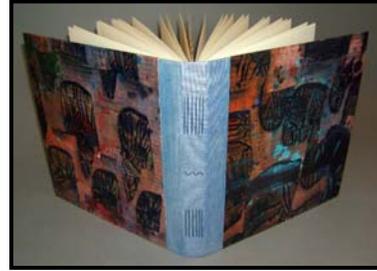
**Gina Holloman**



Dru Malone



Terry Pyles



Susan Share



Bob Shaw



Judy Warwick

## ARTS EDUCATION DECLINE LEADS TO ARTS PARTICIPATION DECLINE

A new study from the [Wallace Foundation](#) about education and the arts. . . .  
From the [Philanthropy Journal](#). . .

"For decades, public funding of the arts has focused on building supply and expanding access to the arts, but it has neglected the cultivation of audiences capable of appreciating the arts," says Laura Zakaras, report co-author and arts researcher at RAND, the nonprofit research organization that conducted the study for the Wallace Foundation. Visual arts, opera, jazz and theater have seen a decline in audiences, especially among people 30 and younger. State, local and district school systems are not setting aside adequate time and resources for arts education, and No Child Left Behind has made the situation worse, the study says.

State arts agencies have devoted less than 10 percent of grants to initiatives promoting arts education. Children who have not had long-term exposure to art are less likely to be able to create art, understand the historical and cultural relevance of art and draw meaning from works of art, says the study, titled "Cultivating Demand for the Arts: [Arts Learning, Arts Engagement, and State Arts Policy](#)."

The Wallace Foundation is an independent foundation dedicated to sharing effective ideas and practices for improving student achievement and opportunities.

## **CAREER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP FOR VISUAL ARTISTS**

**A collaboration of:** The College Art Association and The Alaska State Council on the Arts

**Saturday, November 8, 2008**

**9 am – 4 pm**

**Location: BP Energy Center**

**900 E Benson Blvd., Anchorage, AK**

**907-743-4270**

**Cost:** \$30, includes lunch

Tiffany Ludwig and Renee Piechocki of Two Girls Working will co-present the workshops. The two artists have been working collaboratively since 2000. They have exhibited photographs and artworks in museums, galleries, and public settings across the country. Their book, *Trappings: Stories of Women, Power and Clothing* was published by Rutgers University Press in 2007.

### **Program**

9:00 am – Check-In and coffee

9:30 am – 10:45 am Panel discussion: *How the heck to sell work Outside*

11:00 am - Noon *Career Alternatives: Beyond the Gallery*

Noon – 1 pm: *Networking lunch on site*

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm *Beyond Slides: Technology for Artists*

2:15 pm -3:45 pm *Collaboration as an Artistic Practice*

### **Advance Registration Required**

ASCA toll free 1-888-278-7424

907-269-6610

**Contact:** andrea.noble@alaska.gov

*National Career Development  
Workshops are supported  
by a generous grant from the  
Emily Hall Tremain Foundation*

## **PERCENT FOR ART- REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS**

Department of Fish and game

Ruth Burnett Sport Fish Hatchery

Fairbanks, AK

For additional information, please go to our website at [www.eed.state.ak.us/aksca/](http://www.eed.state.ak.us/aksca/) or contact Amanda Weglin, Visual Arts Program Intern at [Amanda.weglin@alaska.gov](mailto:Amanda.weglin@alaska.gov) or (907)269-6610.

**Send entries to:**

Alaska State Council on the Arts  
411 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Ste. 1E  
Anchorage, AK 99501-2343

**Deadline:** Friday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2008- 4:30 p.m. This is not a postmark date. Must be received in the ASCA office by this time, late entries will not be considered.

**FOR ARTIST OPPORTUNITIES, CHECK OUR WEBSITE!**

We are constantly updating our website at [www.eed.state.ak.us/aksca/](http://www.eed.state.ak.us/aksca/) with information and suggest for anyone interested to continue checking our artist opportunities web page.

**ASCA COUNCIL MEMBER, THERESA JOHN RECIEVES A MELLON FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIP AWARD**

The national Andrew W. Mellon fund is \$30k per year with support for conference travel, writing workshops and school related tuitions. ASCA Council member, Theresa Arevgaq John has been selected to receive this award.

**"AMERICAN ARTIST" LAUNCHES NEW ONLINE COMMUNITY FOR ARTISTS**

Social networking website for representational artists focuses on engagement and community building through sharing of artwork, video content, blogs, forums, and more

New York, NY, October 7, 2008: "American Artist" magazine today officially unveiled the new American Artist online community, a user-driven website that allows artists to show the depth of their creativity and engage with other artists in exciting new ways.

Website: <http://forums.myamericanartist.com>

Presented by trusted field experts, Americans for the Arts webinars are flexible enough to meet demanding schedules and affordable enough for multiple use. At a member price of \$85 per site, you can choose to learn from your desk or lower the cost per person by inviting a group to join in. Upcoming webinars are: Secrets of Success in Rural Arts Communities (November 19), Election Update and the Arts in the New Federal Administration (November 20), Public Art 101 for Artists (December 3), Leadership in Tough Times (December 10).

<http://www.artsusa.org/events/webinars/default.asp>

[leadership@artsusa.org](mailto:leadership@artsusa.org)

### **COMING UP TALLER AWARD**

The Alaska Native Heritage Center announced their High School Program has been chosen to receive the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities Coming Up Taller Award. The award will be presented in Washington, D.C. on November 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **COUNCIL CONTACT INFORMATION:**

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**For additional contact information, please visit our web site:  
[www.eed.state.ak.us/aksca](http://www.eed.state.ak.us/aksca)**

*Duplicate Newsletter?*

Please contact Brooke Quillen

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