

Arts:92

92 counties in Indiana and there's art in every one



A monthly publication of the Indiana Arts Commission

February 2009

February 24

[Committee on the Future](#)

February 26

[Advocacy & Awareness Committee](#)

[Program Evaluation Committee](#)

March 2

[American Masterpieces Intent to Apply Deadline](#)

March 4

[Executive Committee](#)

March 6

[SWASO Notice of Intent to Apply Deadline](#)

American Masterpieces Grant Program Now Open

The Indiana Arts Commission (IAC) recently announced two upcoming deadlines approaching for non-profit arts organizations interested in participating in the American Masterpieces Program funded by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA).

Organizations must submit a letter of intent to apply for the program, and the letter of intent must be received by the Indiana Arts Commission no later than 4:30 p.m. EST March 2, 2009. The second deadline is for actual application for the grant program and is April 1, 2009.

All letters of intent and grant applications must be submitted online utilizing the IAC's electronic grant application system. IAC staff cannot provide advanced technical assistance for personal computer or



FY2009 AM Grantee: Tales & Scales

software-related problems.

Applicants must propose projects that utilize the work of an "American Master" artist. The significance of the artist must be thoroughly explained, and the applicant must be prepared to make the case the featured artist meets that criteria. The project must also include an acceptable education component about the significance of the American Master artist, and show a substantial effort to reach underserved audiences.

Grant applicants must also provide at least one dollar-for-dollar match to qualify. Up to 50% of the match must be in cash.

A detailed explanation of the American Masterpieces Program, program guidelines, letter of intent and application may all be found on the IAC website at <http://www.in.gov/arts/2477.htm>.

Support Indiana Students at the State Poetry Out Loud Contest

The state finals for Poetry Out Loud are almost here! Mark your calendars for the Indiana Poetry Out Loud Contest on Saturday, February 28, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. This event is open to the public, FREE and takes place in Clowes Auditorium located inside the Central Public Library in Downtown Indianapolis.

Registrations are up this year, with 13 high schools competing for the state title, \$200, and an all expense paid trip to Washington D.C. to compete in the National Finals. The state champion's school will also receive a \$500 stipend for the purchase of poetry books. Indiana cities with schools competing this year include Carmel, Columbus, Ellettsville, Fort Wayne, Indianapolis, Knightstown, Plymouth, South Bend, Warsaw, and Whitestown.

Poetry Out Loud is a nationwide poetry memorization and recitation competition that is funded by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation. Students choose three poems to memorize from a provided anthology. Judging criteria include physical presence, voice and articulation, appropriateness of dramatization, level of difficulty, evidence of understanding, overall performance, and accuracy.

For more information, please contact IAC Community Development Manager & Arts Education Coordinator Susan Britsch at (317) 232-1281 or sbritsch@iac.in.gov.

ArtsWORK Indiana to Host Workshops for Artists with Disabilities



ArtsWORK Indiana is offering six free workshops around the state on careers in the arts for people with disabilities. Participants of these workshops will receive tips, tools and resources for pursuing a career in the arts; learn about the resources available at ArtsWORKIndiana.org; and hear lessons learned from a local artist with a disability that has been there before. Workshops are open to individuals working or interested in working in

the arts, arts organizations, school personnel, employment professionals and disability service provider staff.

As a special kick-off for Indiana's Disability Awareness Month in March, the first workshop will take place in New Albany at the Carnegie Center for Art and History on March 6 at 4:30 p.m. Indiana visual artist Thaniel Lee will be the featured artist. Lee has experience with artist residencies; solo and group shows; and arts education. Chris Karson, Chairperson of ArtsWORK Indiana will also present. Registration for this workshop is strongly encouraged; contact The Carnegie Center by March 2, 2009 to RSVP at (812) 944-7336 . When registering, please notify the Center of any special accommodations needed for the presentation, such as sign language interpretation or large print materials. These accommodations can be made if notified by February 18th.

In conjunction with this workshop, The Arts Council of Southern Indiana will host an "Artists After Hours" event from 6:00 - 7:00. This event is an informal gathering for artists to share ideas. Andrea Grossman, Executive Director of the organization, will share many exciting and upcoming opportunities for regional artists. Following the Artists After Hours, there will be a gallery walk, highlighting the galleries and artists in the region. Workshop presenter Thaniel Lee will be one of the featured artists on display at Gallery 216.

Local organization Rauch, Inc. in New Albany will also host an exhibition of artwork by Indiana artists with and without disabilities in their gallery. Artists may submit one piece for consideration in this exhibition, which will run March through May of 2009. If you are interested in submitting your artwork, please send a digital photograph to Rauch Program Manager Tony Balzer at tbalzer@rauchinc.org. You may also call Tony for more information at (800) 757-5834 extension 236. The deadline for entries is February 26, 2009.

Workshops will take place throughout the month of April in Indianapolis, Columbus, Muncie, Richmond, and the Valparaiso area. For regularly updated information on these workshops, please visit our website at <http://www.in.gov/arts/2350.htm>. All workshops are sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Arts and Disability Center at the University of California Los Angeles.

Arts Day at the Statehouse March 12th

Join the Indiana Coalition for the Arts (INCA) for Arts Day at the Statehouse on Thursday, March 12, 2009.

Arts Day will officially kick off at the Indiana Statehouse at 10:00 a.m. with exhibitions by arts organizations from throughout the state. The morning program will take place from 10:30 to 11:30, with a rally and the awarding of the 2009 Community Arts Leadership Awards. In the afternoon, arts leaders will be introduced in both the House and Senate Chambers.

The purpose of Arts Day is for arts advocates from around the state to gather at the Indiana Statehouse to thank legislators for their support of the arts. According to Sally Gaskill, President of INCA, "It is crucial that arts advocates from throughout Indiana come out for Arts Day in full force in 2009. Our elected officials need to hear about the importance of the arts from their constituents. We believe that the arts are important for Indiana's economy, education and quality of life."

Registration for the event is free and available online at www.InArtsCoalition.org.

Indiana Artisans Premiere at Indiana State Museum

The Indiana Artisan brand received strong support from the Indiana State Museum when it mounted work by Indiana Artisan program participants in an exhibit that opened Feb. 15. Work from 35 of the 85 Indiana Artisans is part of "Off the Walls: The Indiana Artisan Premiere," an exhibit that will run through June 14. The name promotes the fact that the pieces exhibited may be purchased "off the walls" and taken home by the buyer at the conclusion of the exhibit. At the exhibit's midpoint in April, the works displayed on the ISM's third-floor "bridge gallery" will be changed to allow other Artisans the opportunity to have their work recognized. Throughout the exhibit, food products and art from selected Indiana Artisans will be on sale in a specially designed Indiana Artisan section of the ISM's gift shop.

The Indiana Artisan program was launched in early 2008 by Lt. Governor Becky Skillman. The program seeks to develop recognition for the high quality and unique work of Indiana artists, craftsmen and food producers. The program is a joint venture of the Indiana Arts Commission, Indiana Office of Tourism Development, Office of Community and Rural Affairs, and the Indiana State Department of Agriculture. For a list of Artisans and more information, please visit www.indianaartisan.com.

IU Ballet Professor Awarded France's Highest Decoration

Violette Verdy, a distinguished professor in the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, has been named a Chevalier (Knight) in France's National Order of the Legion of Honor. This award is France's highest decoration and is presented by France's President, M. Nicolas Sarkozy.

The National Order of the Legion of Honor was established by Napoleon Bonaparte in 1802. Verdy will receive the medal in Paris this June.

Born in Brittany, France, Violette Verdy began her ballet training in France in 1942 under the tutelage of Carlotta Zambelli and, later, with Rousane Sarkissian and Victor Gsovsky. Verdy joined the New York City Ballet in 1958. She danced more than 25 principal roles in a performance career that extended through 1976. Verdy accepted numerous engagements as a guest ballerina with most of the major American companies and was a frequent guest at the Metropolitan Opera in New York City and on tour. In addition to teaching at New York City Ballet, Verdy accepted teaching residencies and choreographic commissions at various institutions of higher education, including Harvard University, Boston University, University of Utah, University of Oklahoma, and Indiana University.

Since August of 1996, Verdy has served as Distinguished Professor of Ballet at the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University Bloomington. She also contributes as artistic advisor for The Rock School of Ballet in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. In the fall of 2008, the School of American Ballet announced that Verdy would serve as their first permanent guest teacher. She continues to serve the world of dance internationally. *Source: IU Newsroom.*

Arts United of Greater Fort Wayne Launches Neighborhood Grant Initiative

Applications are now available for grants that fund events and projects that provide arts experiences that positively affect neighborhoods. The Neighborhood Grant Initiative is funded and administered by IAC Regional Arts Partner Arts United.

The Neighborhood Grant Initiative enables the arts to reach more people in neighborhoods, both in Fort Wayne and in the ten counties served by Arts United. Grants of between \$1,000 and \$3,000 will be awarded to qualified nonprofit organizations. The application process consists of several steps, which are outlined in the Grant Guidelines and Concept Paper Instructions, available for download at www.artsunited.org. The deadline for submission of a concept paper is March 2, 2009.

Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra Lays Off 8

The Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra (ISO) is feeling the pinch of the recession and recently laid off eight non-musician staff. The layoffs are necessary in order to cut \$600,000 from the ISO's \$29.5 million annual budget.

Although the ISO finished the 2008 fiscal year with a \$293,514 budget deficit, contributions and ticket sales had grown during the year. However, the symphony's endowment was down 21 percent since the fiscal year's end in August and donations to the annual fund, targeted to individuals, are down 5 percent. Corporate giving is also down 3 percent.

The ISO is offering promotional discounts to help with ticket sales. For 10 days in January, the ISO offered any seat for \$25 and sold 4,700 tickets, bringing in \$116,000. Now the ISO is offering a \$10 discount on purchases of \$50 or more, plus a \$10 coupon for future purchases. *Source: IBJ/Indiana Economic Digest.*

Eiteljorg Cuts 6 Jobs, Trims Budget by 14%

The Eiteljorg Museum is feeling the effects of the present economic downturn. The institution recently made 6 staff cuts in an effort to cut costs during the recession and are also tightening up their budget.

As of December 31, the museum's endowment was valued at \$15.2 million, down 28 percent from a peak of about \$22 million the previous year. The museum has also seen a decrease in contributed revenue and retail sales, which is why the current round of cuts are strategic.

The six staff positions (10% of employees) were cut from different departments at varying levels. Popular events such as the annual Indian Market will remain untouched, although certain weekend programs will be under review. *Source: Indianapolis Star.*

American Cabaret Theatre Ends Run at Athenaeum, Lays Off 4

The American Cabaret Theatre recently announced it would move out of its longtime home at the Athenaeum on Massachusetts Avenue in Indianapolis. The Theatre has been in residence at the location since 1990.

The announcement follows the realization that there was no cash with which to start the year. The theater was using donations to cover operational costs, which forced them to lay off four of its six full-time employees. The downsizing could have come sooner, but American Cabaret kept hoping to find a business model that would justify its use of the 350-seat theater. The Athenaeum Foundation could no longer afford to subsidize the company's presence in their building.

The board and other supporters have found enough cash to keep going until March. The hope is to find a suitable venue for a new series of shows with very low production costs, focusing on "cabaret". Cabaret format requires only a talented singer, one or more musicians, and a microphone. "The theater is returning to its roots, but also making changes to reflect current audience trends," says Managing and Artistic Director Shannon Forsell via their website. "ACT will produce smaller, more intimate and authentic cabaret shows, shows more true to the cabaret art form." *Source: Indiana Economic Digest.*

Legislators Approve Arts Funds in Economic Stimulus Bill

The Senate and House of Representatives approved final passage of the economic stimulus legislation - H.R.1, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act - which includes \$50 million for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA).

The compromise version of the bill with tax breaks and spending totaling \$789 billion stipulates that the arts funding goes for grants to activities and projects "which preserve jobs in the nonprofit arts sector threatened by declines in philanthropic and other support during the current economic downturn," with 40 percent of the amount going to state arts agencies and regional arts organizations ("in a manner similar to the agency's current practice") and the remainder going out in competitive grants from the NEA. Matching requirements are waived. *Source: National Assembly of State Arts Agencies.*

Art News Around the State

Did you know you can post events, artist opportunities, and job opportunities using the Arts Connection Engine (ACE) tool on our website? For more information, please visit <http://www.in.gov/arts/2334.htm>.

Fischhoff National Chamber Music Association Enjoys Successful Winter Gala

Fischhoff National Chamber Music Association in South Bend celebrated their most successful fundraising gala ever on January 31st, 2009. This is Fischhoff's only fundraising event. Money raised will ensure funding for this year's entire Arts-in-Education residencies.

Indiana Music Educators Association Issues Call for Student Scores

High school and college undergraduates are encouraged to enter the Indiana Music Educators Association's (IMEA) Composition Competition. Composers in grades 9-12 must reside in Indiana and be sponsored by a school teacher or private teacher who is an IMEA member. College undergraduate composers must be attending a college or university in Indiana. Composers may enter in multiple categories, but may only submit one work in each category. All composers submitting works will receive written comments from competition judges. Winning works will be recognized by an IMEA certificate, and will receive an invitation for performance at the IMEA state convention. Postmark deadline for submission is February 28, 2009. For more information, please visit <http://www.imeamusic.org/activities/composition/generalinfo.php>.

IU Art Museum Receives Mellon Grant

The Indiana University Art Museum in Bloomington recently received a \$500,000 grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to create two new staff positions and enhance the museum's presence on campus. According to IU Art Museum Director Adelheid Gealt, the grant will be used over a three-and-a-half-year period to add a full-time senior academics officer and a projects coordinator to the museum's staff. These new positions will increase curricular involvement with the museum by reaching out to different departments. The grant will connect the museum with IU classes that may not seem to have any association with art. It will also allow more resources to work on education for children in kindergarten through high school. *Source: Indiana Daily Student.*

Tippecanoe Arts Federation Launches New Website

Tippecanoe Arts Federation (TAF) recently announced the launch of their new website. Redesigned to better suit the needs of both the general visitor and member organizations, the new website features an interactive events calendar as well as map and inventory of the public art in Tippecanoe County. The events calendar has been redesigned and integrated with the Arts Connection Engine (ACE), an online service provided by IndianaArts.org, a statewide arts resource operated by Arts Place, Inc. Visitors to the redesigned site can search for specific dates or types of events based on their interests. With the integration of the ACE feature, TAF is able to provide not only local information, but regional and statewide arts and cultural activities as well. Member Organizations and individual artists may add their program information directly into the database which will then be available to a statewide and

national audience. To visit the new site, please point your browser to www.tippecanoearts.org.

Indianapolis Mayor Awards \$50,000 to Arts Collaborators

The Indianapolis Children's Choir, in collaboration with the Madame Walker Theater Center and Dance Kaleidoscope, recently received a \$50,000 grant from the City of Indianapolis to support anticrime programming in Indianapolis. The three organizations will meet in the spring to continue planning the specifics of the program.

Muncie Children's Museum Receives Two Grants for Music on the Move Program

Ball State Marimba and Percussion Ensemble recently played for an audience of children and their families at the Muncie Children's Museum. The Museum received two grants from the Indiana Arts Commission and the Ball Brothers Foundation at the beginning of the program to help pay for the expenses of preparation and the cost of the musicians. After playing a short concert, Ball State students invited the children in the audience to come up and play with them as part of the "instrument petting zoo." The Music on the Move program began two years ago when the Muncie Symphony Orchestra contacted the museum asking to play for the children. The orchestra traveled to different elementary schools and encouraged students to learn to play an instrument. The Ball State ensemble plans to visit five elementary schools around the Muncie area this semester. *Source: Ball State Daily News Online.*

Indiana Society of Association Executives to Host Not-For-Profit Seminar in March

The Indiana Society of Association Executives (ISAE) will host a workshop on March 11, 2009 on Indiana's Not-For-Profit Law. Entitled "*What's New & What You Should Know to Keep You Legal*", this workshop will cover the 2008 changes to the Indiana Code and how they affect your organization's ability to vote, remove members, hold meetings & operate in Indiana. This workshop is suitable for all key staff members at all non-profit organizations in Indiana. This event will be held at the Indiana CPA Society, 8250 Woodfield Crossing Blvd, Suite 100, Indianapolis from 8:00 - 11:30 a.m. Program fee is \$50 for ISAE members and \$75 for non-members. Each additional registrant from the same organization is \$35. To register, please visit www.isae.org.

Regional Block Grant Applications for Region 6 Arts Illiana Now Available

Fiscal year 2010 Regional Block Grant applications are now available for downloading at www.artsilliana.org, along with a grant cycle timeline for letter of intent, application due date, and more. For more information, please email Sherri at sherri@artsilliana.org or call at (812) 235-5007.

IU and City of Bloomington to Celebrate 25th Annual ArtsWeek

Starting February 19 and continuing through March 1, Indiana University will present the 25th annual ArtsWeek, a winter festival showcasing an array of arts, entertainment and discussion surrounding the theme "Politics and the Arts." Sponsored in part by the IU President's Office and the IU Office of the Vice Provost for Research, ArtsWeek offers dozens of exhibitions, performances and family-friendly

events featuring modes of artistic expression that include photography, sculpture, dance and drama. One of this year's ArtsWeek highlights will be a sneak preview of *The People Speak*, a documentary film directed by Howard Zinn, Anthony Arnove and Chris Moore. *The People Speak* features performers including Michael Ealy, Matt Damon, Allison Moorer, Josh Brolin, Marisa Tomei and John Legend, among many others, sharing stories of resistance to social injustice throughout U.S. history and the power of ordinary people to enact momentous change. For more information, please visit <http://newsinfo.iu.edu/news/page/normal/9775.html>.

League of Indianapolis Theatres Offering Free Tickets to Students in February

Teens get free tickets during February at select performances by the Indianapolis Civic Theatre, the Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra, the Indianapolis Opera, the Indiana Repertory Theatre, the Phoenix Theatre, Pike Performing Arts Center and Theatre on the Square. Each organization sets its own ticket policy. For more information, please visit www.myspace.com/freeticketfebruary.

The IAC, a public catalyst, partner and investor in the arts, serves the citizens of Indiana by funding, promoting and expanding the arts. Funding is provided by the State of Indiana and the National Endowment for the Arts.

To have your story or opportunity included in the next publication of Arts:92, please contact Laura Frank at lfrank@iac.in.gov.

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