

Arts:92

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



A monthly publication of the Indiana Arts Commission

May 2009

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We're Moving!

The Indiana Arts Commission is moving to our new permanent home in the government center at the end of June. To allow time for the office to be moved, the IAC office will be closed with limited access to email Thursday, June 18 through Tuesday, June 23. We will reopen Wednesday, June 24.



Please note our new address will be:

**Indiana Arts Commission
100 N. Senate Avenue, Room N505
Indianapolis, IN 46204**

Our phone and fax numbers, web and email addresses will remain the same.

Deadlines Announced for Arts Commission's New Cultural Districts Designation Program

The Indiana Arts Commission (IAC) recently announced two deadlines for its new State Cultural

Districts Program.

Communities interested in applying for the cultural districts designation must first submit a letter of interest to the IAC by June 30, 2009. Complete guidelines for the program can be viewed at <http://www.in.gov/arts/2572.htm>. All applications must be completed through the IAC's Online Grant System and submitted by August 7, 2009.

This program was created by legislation in 2008 and is designed to identify and officially designate communities in which high concentrations of cultural assets not only exist, but serve as anchors. Such districts promote the exploration of and participation in the arts and humanities through cultural experiences unique to that community.

When Rep. Eric Koch (R-Bedford) crafted the enabling legislation for the cultural districts program, he envisioned a community or area being able to leverage increased tourism marketing and economic development efforts from being part of a statewide, branded program. Such designation could capitalize on partnerships with the Indiana Artisan Program, and opportunities to qualify for highway signage that could boost tourism activity.

"In addition to the beneficial economic benefits, cultural districts create an environment of positive community activity and vitality. They become places where people meet, interact, and enjoy public events and activities. Cultural districts give a distinct, positive identity to a city, community or region and provide both residents and visitors alike with a vibrant backdrop for their day to day living and leisure time," said Rep. Koch.



Potential applicants interested in applying for the Cultural Districts Program are encouraged to contact IAC Community Development Manager Kristina Davis-Smith for more information about the program. Please call 317-232-1279 or email kdavis-smith@iac.in.gov for details.

Richmond Artist Selected to Create 2009 Indiana Governor's Arts Awards

The Governor's Arts Awards planning committee has selected a Richmond visual artist to create the 2009 Governor's Arts Awards.

India Cruse-Griffin, a mixed media visual artist, was selected from

among five finalists submitting proposals for the awards. Griffin's proposal is to create a piece reminiscent of the everyday life of the people in Indiana, using mixed media such as paper, paint and silver leaf on Plexiglas circles. The inner circle will be representative of the Indiana landscape, with branches of glass-like paper symbolizing the supportive arms of the community. The central figure, a dancer, will hold ribbons signifying the five disciplines of artistic endeavor, outlined by the state of Indiana.

"With four generations of Hoosiers in my family, Indiana and the arts have always been close to my heart," said India Cruse-Griffin. "It is an honor to create the 2009 Governor's Art Award and to use my art to connect with the people of Indiana."

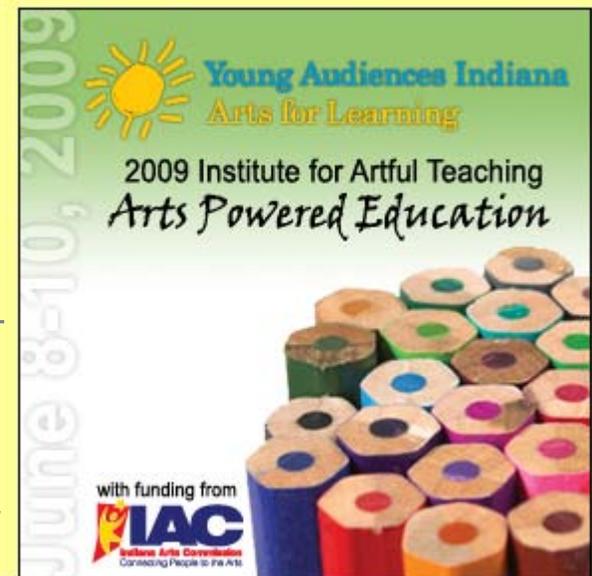
India's work is almost always associated with her childhood memories of growing up in Indiana. Her mixed media art includes layers of bold colors, shapes, and texture, using a combination of paint and collage to reveal an illusion of distance and space. This complex style of construction results in a lasting impression of Indiana culture and community.

Griffin has taken part in selected state and national exhibitions dating back to the 1980s. Her work is featured in the public collections of the Indiana Governor's Residence, Indiana University East, Indiana University Bloomington, IUPUI, Richmond Art Museum, and the Dunn Center. Griffin holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Art Education from Ball State University, and currently teaches art in the Richmond Community Schools.

"Traditionally, the State commissions a new work of art to represent the awards and in that way the awards themselves encourage the advancement of the arts in our state," said IAC Executive Director Lewis C. Ricci. "India's proposal was well-received by members of the planning committee not only for the intricate technique demonstrated in her collages, but also for the manner in which she embraces the State of Indiana."

Statewide Summit to Feature Multiple National Presenters

In partnership with Young Audiences Indiana, the Indiana Arts Commission presents a Statewide Summit on June 8th, 2009 with a special focus on arts education.



The Statewide Summit will coincide with Young Audiences Indiana's 13th Annual Institute for Artful Teaching, Arts Powered Education on June 9th & 10th, and will engage participants in a global conversation about arts education on topics such as advocacy, professional development, new curriculum ideas, and arts integration.

Leading the conversation on June 8th is keynote speaker Ra Joy, Executive Director of the Illinois Art Alliance. With his extensive experience in public policy and the congressional arena, Mr. Joy will join our global discussion by focusing on advocating for the arts in education. As executive director of one of the premier statewide advocacy organizations in the nation, Mr. Joy oversees research, capacity building and communication efforts to advance widespread support for the arts and arts education in Illinois.

Other presenters throughout the three-day event include David Darling of Goshen, Connecticut, co-founder of Music for the People, an organization dedicated to promoting music as a form of self expression; Eric Johnson, nationally-known dancer and educator from Seattle, Washington; and Mind Trust Fellow and New York educator Dr. Michael Bitz.

"The collaboration between Young Audiences Indiana and the Indiana Arts Commission is a perfect partnership for a discussion on arts education," said Lewis C. Ricci, Executive Director of the IAC. "It is a strategic priority of the Commission to rekindle a statewide enthusiasm and vision for arts education, and Young Audiences' strong statewide leadership and national professional network in this field provides an inspiring backdrop for a productive Statewide Summit on June 8th. All parties who feel strongly about the potential for arts education in our State should not miss this opportunity."

The venues for this event are the Eiteljorg Museum, Indiana State Museum, and Herron School of Art & Design, all in downtown Indianapolis. For more information, please visit www.IN.gov/arts/2348.htm or contact Mallory Sheets at Young Audiences Indiana at msheets@yaindy.org or 317-925-4043, extension 120. *Early bird deadline has been extended to May 29th!* To register, please visit www.yaindy.org.

Beyond Perceptions Exhibit Evokes Feelings of Compassion

Two months ago, IAC staff member Laura Frank committed to attending one art event a week and blogging about her experiences on social networking site Smaller Indiana at www.smallerindiana.com/profile/LauraFrank. This is one of her latest entries.



Pain by Wesley McKinney

Week nine's art event elicits an important question: what is your perception of homelessness? In your eyes, are homeless people drug addicts? Victims? Disposable?

Since 2004, the Indianapolis Art Center and Wheeler Mission have partnered to raise awareness about homelessness in Indianapolis through their *Beyond Perceptions* program, involving the youth of the community.

At the end of January, students from Pike, Cathedral, and Ben Davis High Schools were asked to create artwork based on how they perceive homelessness. Meanwhile, men and women residing at Wheeler Mission centers created artwork based on their perception of how society views them. The students then toured the homeless centers in mid-February. On February 27th, men and women from the centers met the high school students at the Art Center and shared their life stories to illustrate how homelessness has no one socio-economic, racial, or religious status. The students further discussed these issues in a small group setting with the men and women, dissecting stereotypes and causes of homelessness.

Afterwards, in early March, both the men and women from the Mission and the students created a second piece of artwork exploring the numerous topics from the discussion. On March 18th, everyone met again to create a piece of art together - a 'zine - during what is called the Community Project day.

[Read the rest of the story.](#)

Audio from Select IAC Grant Panels Now Available Online

Audio is now available from the panel sessions of two of the Indiana Arts Commission's grant programs.

A link to the panel audio for the FY2010 Individual Artist Program (IAP) is now available at www.in.gov/arts/2474.htm. Panel audio for FY2010 Mutli-regional Major Arts Institutions (Majors) is now available at www.in.gov/arts/2478.htm. Both audio files are loced under the "Panel Session" header on their respective pages. Applicants were reviewed in the order applications were received.

The IAC would like to thank Dan Lutz at Ball State University for working with us to host the FY2010 IAP and Majors panel audio files.

Indiana Repertory Theatre to Receive NEA Shakespeare Grant

The Indiana Repertory Theatre (IRT) is among 37 nonprofit professional theater companies receiving grants as part of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Shakespeare for a New Generation program. Shakespeare for a New Generation targets middle and high school students, introducing young people to the power of live theater and the masterpieces of William Shakespeare.

Each of the 37 participating companies will receive grants of \$25,000 to present productions of Shakespeare plays with accompanying educational activities to at least 10 schools. The activities may include in-school residencies, workshops, or post-performance discussions.

Including the recently selected companies, more than 80 of the nation's theater companies including IRT have taken part in the NEA's Shakespeare program since its inception.

By June of this year, the NEA estimates these companies will have presented performances at 3,600 schools in 2,300 communities in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

Storytelling Arts Calls Off Fall Indianapolis Festival

Not-for-profit Storytelling Arts of Indiana has canceled its long-running fall festival this year because it anticipates large cuts in city and state grant funding.

What would have been the 22nd annual Hoosier Storytelling Festival, the event was planned to take place September 24-26 in Military Park in Indianapolis. The event typically draws 4,000 attendees, including 3,000 or more schoolchildren for performances by locally and nationally known storytellers.

"We had a choice," Executive Director Ellen Munds said. "We could do the festival and really not do very much the rest of the year, or we could do the whole season, and have more of a presence."

Munds said Storytelling Arts made its decision in January after sizing up pending budget cuts at the Arts Council of Indianapolis and Indiana Arts Commission.

The organization received a combined \$40,000 in city and state grants last year. Half of that funding went toward the festival, which cost \$65,000 to stage and lost \$5,000.

"We've been able to eat that," Munds said of the festival's loss. "This next year, I don't think we

could. We want Storytelling Arts to survive."

Already a small organization, Storytelling Arts has forgone replacing a part-time assistant and bookkeeper, making Munds its sole employee. The group's annual budget will shrink from \$190,000 to about \$119,000 on July 1, she said.

Storytelling Arts will try to incorporate popular elements from the festival into its 17-event season, which starts August 16th at the Indiana State Fair and runs through the first weekend in May.

The kickoff will be a new "Liar's Contest" at the state fair. The contest will be open to anyone who wants to take a turn at telling tall tales. Scary Stories, a festival favorite, is planned for October 9-10. Storytelling Arts will also hold four separate family events, including a show by "teller of tall tales" Bill Lepp on December 4th at the Indiana Historical Society. *Source: Indiana Economic Digest.*

New Albany Pursuing Public Art

Floyd County sculptors take heed - a group looking to bring public art to downtown New Albany wants your help.

Twenty temporary sculptures based on the city's history will be unveiled beginning in 2010 through the New Albany Bicentennial Public Art Project. The effort was designed by Julie Schweitzer Studios and a partnership between the Carnegie Center for Art and History and the New Albany Urban Enterprise Association.

Beginning next spring, five sculptures will be unveiled each year leading up to the 2013 bicentennial celebration. The statues will be placed at highly visible locations throughout New Albany's downtown, with the hopes they will build public awareness and an interest in the city's past.

Michael Ladd, Executive Director of the New Albany enterprise zone, said his organization became involved because of the potential impact the sculptures can have for business.

"From my perspective, anything that draws people downtown is important as far as economic development is concerned," he said. "The theory is that if you show activity, then businesses will come down and start opening up - and this shows a lot of activity."

Officials from the Carnegie Center stated in a news release that the project reflects its mission to present and interpret New Albany's history through visual arts.

Schweitzer said a website will launch in mid-June that will include dossiers for each potential sculpture. That information will be the basis for the artwork. Artists can then provide submissions to build a particular statue, with a panel of museum curators and sculptors to decide on the winner. The chosen sculptors will receive a stipend for their work, and they can eventually sell the statues. "It's a win-win for everybody," Schweitzer said.

Floyd artists can automatically submit a proposal for consideration. Sculptors from other areas of the state and beyond will be recruited by project officials. *Source: Indiana Economic Digest and New Albany Tribune.*

Did you know...

...there are 9,950 arts-related businesses in Indiana?
Imagine that!



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 www.in.gov/arts/2334.htm.

Euclid Quartet Receives Arts Endowment (South Bend, IN)

The Euclid Quartet, ensemble in residence at the Raclin School of Arts at Indiana University South Bend, has been awarded a \$7,500 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. The *American Masterpieces: Three Centuries of Artistic Genius* award was one of 33 awarded across the country and the only one awarded in Indiana. It is the first national endowment grant awarded to an entity at the Raclin School of the Arts. The grant will allow Euclid to perform for fourth-grade students in the South Bend Community School Corporation and two additional concerts.

Young Dancer Accepted into Juilliard (Gary, IN)

Gary teen Briana Robinson, 17, has been accepted to Juilliard, one of the world's most elite performing arts conservatories. The aspiring ballerina begins her freshman year this fall in New York. Robinson was

awarded two renewable scholarships worth \$25,000 combined and will be pursuing other funding as well. An honors student, Robinson will graduate in the top percent of her class on June 3. For Robinson, dancing is both a spiritual and liberating form of self-expression. "When I am dancing, I feel free, like I'm able to be myself," she said. Her goal is to found a contemporary ballet company.

Professor Emeritus Elected into European Academy of Sciences and Arts (Bloomington, IN)

Peter Bondanella, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of comparative literature, film studies and Italian at Indiana University, has been elected to the European Academy of Sciences and Arts. Based in Salzburg, Austria, the European Academy of Sciences and Arts is an interdisciplinary network of scholars from various fields who focus on scientific, social, cultural and ethical issues concerning the region. Bondanella is the first IU scholar to be inducted into the academy.

Writer's Center Hosts Lecture by Indiana Author Patricia Henley (Indianapolis, IN)

Indiana Author Patricia Henley will be the featured speaker on May 27th at 7:00 p.m. at Butler University's Writers' Studio. Her lecture is part of the "Be A Better Writer" series sponsored by the Writer's Center of Indiana. Admission is free. Titled "What a Long Strange Trip It's Been: Writing Out of the Midwest", Henley's talk will include both the personal and the philosophical. She will share her own experiences with place as a starting point for fiction and she will also explore the ramifications of an absence of place. A native of Indiana, Henley is the author of two chapbooks of poetry, three collection of stories, and two novels. Her first novel, *Hummingbird House*, was a finalist for the National Book Award in 1999. This event will be held in Room 304 in Jordan Hall on Butler University's campus (Jordan Hall is directory across from the Butler University Library).

Free One-Day Workshop at the Indianapolis Museum of Art (Indianapolis, IN)

K-12 social studies and art teachers, media specialists, and children's librarians are invited to a free one-day workshop at the Indianapolis Museum of Art on June 23 that will help them use *Picturing America* resources in their classrooms and programs. *Picturing America*, an initiative of the National Endowment for the Humanities, brings masterpieces of American art into classrooms and libraries nationwide. Over 1,200 Indiana schools and libraries have received sets of the quality reproductions. Through this innovative program, students and citizens can gain a deeper appreciation of our country's history and character through the study and understanding of its art. Participants will receive a stipend of \$75 to offset expenses and lunch will be provided. Teachers can earn 2 CRUs. Read more about the workshop and download a registration form on the Indiana Humanities Council website at www.indianahumanities.org/picturing_america.html. For more information, please contact Nancy Conner at nconner@indianahumanities.org or 800-675-8897 extension 128.

Arts United Awards \$43,130 in Creative Alternative Program Grants (Fort Wayne, IN)

Arts United has approved \$43,031 for Creative Alternative Program (CAP) grants to four organizations in Allen County. The CAP Grant Program was envisioned by the Lincoln National Corporation in the spring of 1995 as an innovative response to the growing problem of youth violence in the Fort Wayne

Community. Based on the belief that arts experiences can be a stabilizing influence in the lives of at-risk youth, the CAP Grant Program stimulates, funds, and supports hands-on art programs. Programs as innovative and varied as the artists and youth participating in them have been funded through CAP grants. Dancers, writers, painters, sculptors, musicians, media specialists and many others have worked with at-risk youth in community centers, schools, treatment homes and youth-serving agencies. The four organizations receiving funding are Urban League for their Urban Mimes program; Weisser Park Youth Center for The Percussion Theatre Experience; Boys & Girls Club for the Fine and Performing Arts Program; and the Fort Wayne Dance Collective for Yes I Can!

Indianapolis Jazz Musician Jimmy McDaniels Dies at 80 (Greenwich Woods, CT)

Jazz Hall of Famer James "Jimmy" McDaniels died Saturday, May 2 at the age of 80. Known throughout Indianapolis and the country for his musical contributions, the popular Jazz musician performed and conducted with such greats as Cab Calloway, Nat King Cole, Mel Torme, Rosemary Clooney, Joe Williams, Lionel Hampton, and many more. In the 1970's, McDaniels was an Education Specialist, soloist and guest conductor with the Indianapolis Symphony. Also during that period, his 17-piece big band debuted at the Indianapolis Museum of Art.

Southold Dance Theater Names New Artistic Director (South Bend, IN)

South Bend pre-professional ballet company, Southold Dance Theater, has named Erica Fischbach as the new Artistic Director. A native of Kalamazoo, Michigan, Ms. Fischbach has been serving as Southold's Interim Artistic Director since December of 2008. Prior to joining Southold, she had a 20 year professional ballet career with the American Ballet Theatre and Pacific Northwest Ballet, where she danced soloist and principal roles in ballets by numerous world renowned choreographers such as Balanchine, Twyla Tharp, Agnes DeMille and Paul Taylor.

Indianapolis Art Center Names New CEO (Indianapolis, IN)

The Indianapolis Art Center recently announced that it has chosen Carter Wolf as its new CEO. Wolf, Executive Director of Indianapolis homeless center Horizon House, will assume leadership July 1. He will succeed Joyce Sommers, who has led the organization for the past 33 years. Wolf has been the Executive Director of the Horizon House for six years. He came to Indianapolis in 1997 as chief policy adviser for community service to former Governor Frank O'Bannon. In that capacity, he oversaw the Indiana Arts Commission. Wolf earned a bachelor's degree in fine arts from Ball State University and began his career as a secondary school art teacher in South Bend.

New Arts Center Opens in Greene County (Linton, IN)

The Carnegie Heritage and Arts Center of Greene County held its grand opening May 16th. The center is located at 110 East Vincennes Street in Linton. Visit www.carnegiegreene.org for more information.

Sculpture Garden Put on Hold (South Bend, IN)

A proposed sculpture garden outside the Century Center in South Bend has been temporarily stopped.

The Century Center board of managers planned to consider an agreement on management of the garden Monday but received a letter from Mayor Stephen Luecke asking the board to remove it from the agenda. Although supportive of the project, Luecke stated that consensus hasn't been reached on the plan and "that there are many in the community who are tightening their belts due to difficult economic times. They wonder whether this is the right time to make this investment." Susan Visser, art museum Executive Director said the museum is "extremely disappointed" the project has been put on hold. Despite some criticism of the project, Visser said, the museum received a lot of positive support from the community and thinks that project supporters may not have been as vocal as opponents. *Source: South Bend Tribune.*

Arts Council of Indianapolis to Host Next Audiences Summit (Indianapolis, IN)

The Arts Council of Indianapolis' second national Next Audiences Summit will be held in Indianapolis on October 15-17. Indianapolis arts organizations will receive \$50 off all full-conference registrations. Presented by Next Generation Consulting and the Arts Council, this don't-miss Summit is the only national forum dedicated to sharing best practices and innovations that develop and engage next generation (20-40 year old) arts patrons. This Summit promises to build on the success of the 2007 Summit, where 200 people participated from 14 states. Speakers include Dan Pallotta, author of *Uncharitable*; Faron Kelley of Disney; Sarah "Intelligirl" Robbins; and Rebecca Ryan. Sessions will be held at the Indianapolis Artsgarden; The Children's Museum of Indianapolis; Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art; Indiana State Museum and Indiana Historical Society. Early bird registration is \$199 through July 31 (\$229 after August 1st). Register today at www.nextaudiences.com. To take advantage of the discount for Indianapolis arts organizations, enter the discount code "indyartsrock".

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.

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