



Cultivating and celebrating creativity throughout Southern Illinois since 1987

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Welcome Back to Art *E* Facts!

Readers who have accepted CCA's invitation to join our "on-line" community are seeing this issue of *Art/Facts* as a pdf version of our traditional layout. We welcome your questions and comments during the coming year as we experiment with several e-options en route to the most convenient format. Even if you are still a paper subscriber, we invite you to follow CCA up-to-the minute on Facebook, MySpace, Twitter, and, of course, www.carbondalearts.org.

ART*i*FACTS

POETRY OUT LOUD

One by one this year's Poetry Out Loud (POL) regional finalists walked on stage at the Varsity Center for the Arts armed with the compelling words of poets from William Wordsworth and Edgar Allan Poe to Maya Angelou and Amy Uyematsu. The students' charge was to convey from memory with poise and grace all the sentiments those words were meant to impart. It was no small task. At stake was the opportunity to compete with peers from across the state later this month in Springfield for the honor of representing Illinois in the national competition in Washington, D.C. in early June. The event opened with welcoming remarks by Carbondale Community Arts Executive Director Nancy Stemper and a performance by SIUC Speech Communications Master's student and POL judge Bryant Cross, who shared a heart-felt reading of his own recent poem, "A Response to Pat Robertson." Bryant then shifted gears to join fellow judges Antoinette McDonald (actor and storyteller who works as curator of interpretation and artistic manager of MCED in Murphysboro) and Cynthia Roth (published poet and lecturer in communication design at SIUC's School of Art & Design). The three scored the young competitors on physical presence, voice and articulation, appropriateness of dramatization, difficulty of their chosen poems, and evidence of understanding. A separate judge tracked accuracy and slips in memorization (not many). In remarks to the students following their performances, all three judges extended their congratulations and encouragement. "It's not easy for a young person to perform under that kind of pressure," said Cross. "Having been there many times myself certainly informed my scoring."

Top honors went to Carbondale Community High School senior Robert Ketter and Clay City High School senior Sonya Larrimore. They both earned trips to Springfield on March 24th, where they competed with fourteen other students from regional competitions around the state. Robert advanced to the final round and placed 2nd in the State. His stellar performance earned him a cash prize of \$100 and \$200 worth of poetry books for the Carbondale Community High School library. CCA congratulates Robert on his success.

Poetry Out Loud is sponsored by the Poetry Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts. It is made possible in Illinois by generous support from the Illinois Arts Council, which works with CCA and other regional hosts throughout the state.



(LtoR) POL judges Antoinette McDonald, Bryant Cross, and Cynthia Roth are joined by regional finalists Robert Ketter (Carbondale), Reiana Mahan (Harrisburg), Kellyn Sirach (Harrisburg), Sonya Larrimore (Clay City), Eli McKnelly (Clay City), Eveillian Torres (Herrin), and Samantha Park (Herrin).



WE'RE OFF TO SEE THE WIZARD . . .

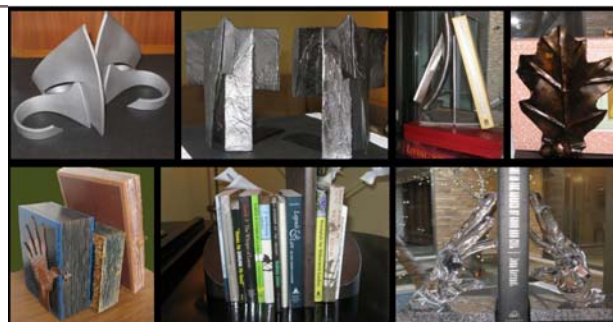
CCA is celebrating the 14th season of its All Southern High School Theatre Project (ASHSTP) with the all-time classic musical, *The Wizard of Oz*, directed by Jenny Holcombe. The ASHSTP offers high school students throughout the region a unique opportunity for rigorous training in a professional-level environment and culminates in a full-blown production on the McLeod Summer Playhouse stage. This year's production will run from July 29 through August 2. Auditions for the program will be held on Saturday, March 27, starting at 10 AM at Carbondale Community High School (corner Walnut and Giant City Road, Carbondale). The fee for this five-week intensive program is \$250 per student. However, due to rigorous fundraising by CCA's devoted ASHSTP friends, multiple levels of scholarships are available, and financial need will not bar participation by anyone.

Auditions are open to students currently enrolled in 8th - 12th grades. Those under the age of 18 will not be allowed to audition without permission forms signed by a parent or guardian. Forms may be requested by phone or email to the CCA office (see below). They may also be downloaded from www.carbondalearts.org.

Preliminary auditions will be held March 27, Saturday. (Students who have verified school-related conflicts may call or email CCA to schedule an alternate audition on Saturday, April 10.) For specific information please consult the CCA website: www.carbondalearts.org.

SAVE THE DATE!

On July 29 CCA will hold its annual Mary Ellen Dillard All Southern High School Theatre Project Scholarship Dinner at the SIUC Old Main Room. The opening night event is designed to celebrate the dedicated young people who participate in the ASHSTP and to assure that talented students from across the region can take advantage of in this unique program, regardless of their financial capacity. For reservations or further information, please contact the CCA office.



BEYOND BOOKENDS

From graphite to glass, forged steel to fake pearls, and paper mache to photography, the bookends that graced every corner of Stone Center on February 28 were a celebration of creativity and ingenuity. More than 25 artists contributed works for the bookend-themed silent auction component of this year's February fundraiser, "Beyond Bookends." The event was co-hosted by Glenn and Jo Poshard and CCA, with generous sponsorship from eleven corporate and individual underwriters.

In addition to the silent auction treasures, there were two live-auction packages. CCA Past President David Coracy (event emcee) auctioned a generous contribution of antique bookends and McGuffey Readers from Joyce Webb. SIUC President and event co-host Glenn Poshard did the honors for a special collection of books by local authors generously donated by *Bookworm* with additional poetry volumes supplied by Bookend Committee member Cynthia Roth. The books were framed by steel sculptures hand-crafted by Daniel Crabtree of Medwedeff Forge & Design.

At the impromptu book art exhibit and raffle table, folded paper bookmarks and boxes from committee member Di Kington and dozens of sets of specially designed bookmarks from Cynthia Roth's graphic design class at SIUC shared the stage with creative contributions from many of the evening's guests. Event volunteer and "artistic director" Teresa Fix created centerpieces and back-drops that set an inspiring literary tone. *Melange* provided fabulous foods and perfectly paired wines from its recently expanded bistro menu. It was an extraordinary evening all around. And thanks to the generosity of the participating artists, event organizers, underwriters, and bidders, CCA was able to raise much needed dollars for its many 2010 arts access and educational outreach programs.

VARSITY CENTER FOR THE ARTS: PUTTING THE ARTS IN THE HEART OF CARBONDALE AND SERVING THE REGION

Carolyn A. Snyder, Chair, VCA Public Relations Committee



[Carolyn Snyder, David Coracy, Jo Poshard, and Marsha Ryan, represent Carbondale Community Arts on the VCA Board of Directors.]

The Varsity Center for the Arts (VCA) is putting the arts in the heart of Carbondale by hosting activities and art exhibits for the enjoyment of the residents of Carbondale and the region. The VCA stands in the center of downtown Carbondale and is the joint project of The Jackson County Stage Company and Carbondale Community Arts. The grand opening of the VCA on October 24, 2008, featured the Stage Company production of "Star Spangled Girl" and an exhibit of works by local artists sponsored by Carbondale Community Arts.

The Stage Company's current season at the VCA has included four plays and other special performances. The final production of the season, "Beyond Therapy" by Christopher Durang and directed by Mary Boyle, will be held on April 23-25, 30, and May 1-2. More information is available (618-547-5466 or www.stagecompany.org).

Carbondale Community Arts continues to coordinate receptions and exhibits of the works of local and regional artists. The current exhibit features the paintings of Jan York who graduated from SIUC, studied in Paris, and returned to Southern Illinois after living and teaching in New Orleans for 15 years. Select sculptures from the metal smith Aldon Addington are also featured, and his work will be showcased in a solo exhibition in the VCA in June. More information about CCA and its programs, including the March 4 Poetry Out Loud program, is available at 618.457.5100 or www.carbondalearts.org.

Other organizations are also staging their productions and hosting activities in the VCA. Community Floss is returning for the second year with the very popular Improv Comedy on March 27. Events also planned this spring include the Giant City School Drama Club production, monthly meetings of the Rotary Club (Breakfast), and meetings and social events of other organizations.

The Varsity Campaign Steering Committee is leading the effort to restore the historic Varsity Theater with a campaign goal of \$4.5 million. There is notable progress toward this goal with a number of generous donations and pledges. Recently the Arnold Family Trust represented by Allen Arnold and other family members was honored for a \$75,000 contribution that will be focused on providing film capabilities and a film series in the renovated East Theater. Other recent VCA public relations activities include the production of a video about the VCA and public service announcements available for airing on local radio and television stations.

The campaign to restore the Varsity Center for the Arts represents a rare opportunity to change the face of downtown Carbondale and secure the future of its cultural community. When it is renovated, it will be a symbol of the community's respect for the past, commitment to the common good, and confidence in the future. For additional information about the history, the current activities, and the plans for the future, please visit the web site www.varsitycenterforthearts.org.

(Reprinted from The Southern Illinoian, Tuesday, March 9, 2010, p.2c.)



SOUTHERN ARTS FUND

CCA's Southern Arts Fund is a Community Arts Access Program that leverages local contributions with funding from the Illinois Arts Council to support creative arts programming and educational outreach throughout the southern 26 counties of the state. During the first round of 2010 Southern Arts Fund granting, CCA received applications from artists and organizations in Jackson, Marion, Randolph, Richland, Union, and Williamson counties.

Unprecedented reductions in the Illinois Arts Council's budget impacted the IAC's ability to fund this program for 2010. However, CCA is pleased to announce that grants were awarded to the following projects:

Carbondale School District 95 Bilingual Strings Outreach, to provide a bilingual experience in the arts for students of the District 95 TWI program and their families and for students in Cairo, Mounds, and Cobden by hosting accomplished violinist, Juan Rivera.

Centralia Cultural Society, for its "Writing is Child's Play" program, culminating with a "New Voices" premiere performance on April 13 based on student writing.

Food Works, to support the production of "Growing Power: The Case for Southern Illinois Food," a documentary in support of a vibrant local food system that will involve at least 8 area artists in filmmaking.

Kevin Lucas, Give Hope, to support performances of the Kevin Lucas Orchestra in nursing homes and assisted care facilities in the Carbondale area.

Land for Learning Instruction, for Arts in Nature, a community education project with workshops to explore the relationship between art and ecology.

Park Avenue Productions, to support the staging of a musical involving children four years of age and older and to provide acting opportunities for local artists.

SI Irish Festival, to fund local and regional performers for

the festival's annual Celtic Fair.

SIUC Arts Education Festival 2010, to support the College of Liberal Arts in its offerings of high quality arts experiences for underserved elementary school children (grades 1 through 5) in Southern Illinois.

SIUC Museum, for a Sense of Place/Sense of Space Landscapes of Personal Meaning, to expand arts programming for young adults and strengthen relationships between the Museum and underserved area schools in Anna-Jonesboro, Eldorado, Elverado, Harrisburg, and Zeigler-Royalton.

Southeastern Illinois Concert Association, to support spring concert programming and a free performance for school children.

Southwestern Illinois College Foundation (Red Bud Campus), for "Art du Jour," an intensive on-campus visual arts workshop for area high school students.

Although remaining funds are limited, CCA will entertain funding requests for a second round of funding. Qualified organizations and individual artists doing public outreach work should check the CCA website www.carbondalearts.org for further details. The second Round Grant deadline has been extended to April 20, 2010.

SAF GRANTEE RECOGNIZED FOR ARTS OUTREACH

CCA congratulates SAF project director Robert DeHoet, who was honored by the Illinois Alliance for Arts Education for his dedicated service and promotion of the arts among area school children. As he reflected on the award, which was presented in Springfield on March 18, Robert commented, "It was terrific to be thanked publicly for doing what comes to him naturally."

In addition to championing the annual SIUC Arts Education Festival, Robert has designed and carried out a series of innovative outreach programs through which the University Museum has engaged middle school students from area school districts.

cca calendar art

Note: This page contains highlights only. For more information please visit www.carbondalearts.org and check listings in local newspapers.

march/april

- Through April 5 Jan York Paintings
Varsity Center for the Arts gallery 418 South Illinois Avenue
Gallery open by appointment. Call CCA at 618.457.5100.
- Through April Kat Shaffner & Eileen Doman
Civic Center Corridor Gallery 200 South Illinois Avenue Mon.–Fri. 8 AM– 5 PM
“Meet the Artists” reception April 8 5-7 PM
- March 27 ASHSTP Auditions
Carbondale Community High School
10 AM–3 PM (or until completion)
See article, p.2 *infra*, and visit www.carbondalearts.org for details.
Auditions for those with school related conflicts will be held April 10.
Call 618.457.5100 to arrange an appointment.
- March 27–April 2 “Outside the Box” New Music Festival
See <http://music.siuc.edu/outsidethebox2010> for schedule.
- April Jazz Appreciation Month
- April 5–30 Student Work: Barbara Bickel & the Carbondale Boys & Girls Club
Varsity Center for the Arts Gallery 418 South Illinois Avenue
Gallery open by appointment. Call CCA at 618.457.5100.
“Meet the Artists” reception April 8 4–6:30 PM

may

- April 17–24 Buckminster Fuller Desktop Domes & Related Fuller Events
Varsity Center for the Arts gallery 418 South Illinois Avenue
“Meet the Artists” reception & silent auction April 19 5–7 PM
- April 17 River to River Relay Race
Come out and support TEAM CCA! Call CCA at 618.457.5100 for details.
- April 22 Earth Day–“All art is but imitation of nature.” - Seneca
- April 23–25 Southern Illinois Irish Festival
Visit silirishfest.org for complete schedule.
- April 23, 24, 25,30
May 1, 2 “Beyond Therapy” Stage Company production directed by Mary Boyle
Varsity Center for the Arts 418 South Illinois Avenue
Fri/Sat performances: 7:30 PM Sun performances: 2 PM
Call 618.549.3466 for ticket information.

June

- May 1– 31 Andrea Le Beau: Oil Painting and Encaustic
Civic Center Corridor Gallery 200 South Illinois Avenue Mon.-Fri. 8AM–5PM
- May 1– 31 George Ion: Oil Painter
Varsity Center for the Arts gallery 418 South Illinois Avenue
Gallery open by appointment. Call CCA at 618.457.5100.
- June 1–30 “Taiwan Sublime”
Civic Center Corridor Gallery 200 South Illinois Avenue Mon.–Fri. 8 AM–5 PM
Traveling Exhibit of Photographs by renowned Taiwanese artists.
Opening reception June 2, 5–6:30 PM
- June 6–27 Southern Illinois Music Festival
Visit sifest.com for complete schedule.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Carbondale Community Arts is pleased to recognize the significant volunteer contributions of Teresa Fix, a valued long-time staff member of CCA and a continuing creative leader and contributor to CCA events in recent years.

Teresa Fix came to Carbondale Community Arts in 1995 with a strong background in visual arts that included undergraduate credentials in framing and art restoration and experience as a volunteer coordinator of in-school artist residencies. She began as a festival assistant for Arts in Celebration. Soon, because of her special abilities, her job description included exhibit designer, volunteer recruiter, reception coordinator, re-granting manager, artist liaison, instructional supervisor, and resident "Martha Stewart" charged with designing and fabricating "good things" for CCA's special events. Since there was always a themed design exhibit on the event calendar, she soon became a master at mixed media creations. Some showcased remnants of nature found on walks through the woods; most involved a deftly handled glue gun; and all were whimsical, clever, and expertly crafted.



Teresa Fix shown here with one of her many contributions to Beyond Bookends: Book-wise owls fashioned from feathers and recycled book pages.

During the ten years she worked for CCA, Teresa was also involved as a faculty spouse (husband Doug chairs the microbiology department in the SIUC College of Science) and mother of two (Will, 23 and Ben, 20.) She served on the Giant City School District Board of Education, maintained an active role in numerous university and civic cultural organizations, and volunteered extensively at Giant City Elementary School and Carbondale Community High School.

In 2006 Teresa left her part-time job to have more time for her family and for her own art projects. However, with her penchant for community involvement it wasn't long before she was up to her elbows in The Stage Company's Holiday Home Tour, the School of Art & Design's "Art Over Easy" event, and - yes - Carbondale Community Arts activities.

For the past two years she has been lending her creative talents once again to dressing up the organization's fundraising efforts and other events. Last year, as CCA celebrated "fork art & fondue," she designed custom centerpieces and wall text. This year Teresa set the stage at SIUC's Stone Center for "Beyond Bookends" with door wreaths and floral bouquets made from recycled book pages and her own contributions to the Bookends silent auction (photo above.)

With her unique sense of design Teresa creates welcoming environments wherever she goes, and her upbeat approach brings an infectious enthusiasm to every event she touches. For this and for all she gives to the community, CCA salutes her.

BOARD NEWS & NOTES

Carbondale Community Arts held its Annual Meeting in March at Hickory Lodge. In addition to extending terms of existing officers (see inset, page 7), the CCA Board of Directors welcomed its newest member, Kristin Gregory. Kristin is a native of Carbondale who has served as Director of the Carbondale Chamber of Commerce since December of 2008. She is also a founding member of 13PRO, a new networking organization for young professionals in the along the Route 13 corridor.

KABA 2010

At this year's Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner, CCA presented its sixth annual Keeping Arts in Business Award to The Stage Company in recognition of the organization's long-term service to Carbondale's cultural community and its dedicated efforts at the Varsity Center for the Arts. Stage Company President Cathy Field and Past President Mary Boyle accepted the award, which was a metal sculpture by renowned area artist Aldon Addington.

INDIVIDUAL DONORS AND SUPPORTERS

CCA extends its thanks to the following contributors for their role in nurturing and cultivating the creativity of our communities. (This list reflects individual donations received March 1, 2009 – March 20, 2010. Corporate supporters are listed on page 8.)

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(From \$1,000)

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(\$500 to \$999)

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In Memoriam

John C. Guyon
Carl Presley
Madge Presley

CCA also thanks the generous individuals who supported the African American Museum's Attucks School capital campaign through their purchases of quilts from the Corridor Gallery Exhibit co-sponsored by Carbondale Community Arts.

KEEPING ARTS IN BUSINESS

CCA thanks the following Corporate and Civic Partners and Patrons whose cash and in-kind contributions to CCA and its ArtWorks in Schools project have played a critical role in keeping the arts in business March 1, 2009–March 20,

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(Sustaining Gifts from \$5000)

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The Apple Tree
Wolf Creek Rock and Mulch

KABA HONOREES

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Tim Fink, Mark Varns, & McLeod Summer Playhouse 2008
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The Stage Company 2010

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CCA is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit local arts agency and a regional representative for the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency. CCA serves Carbondale and the surrounding Southern Illinois region with the help of grant support from the City of Carbondale and the Illinois Arts Council. Public and private agencies and foundations, regional businesses, civic organizations, and individuals also play a critical role in providing operating and program support.

ArtiFacts is a publication of CCA edited by Nancy Stemper and co-edited by Carolyn Snyder, Chair, Communications, Programming, and Development Committee with special thanks to committee members David Coracy, Mary Mechler, and Emil Spees. and Emil Spees.



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