



ARTS AT THE CORE OF LEARNING

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OAC responds to state and school budget woes

The decline in state revenues has severely affected every corner of the state and arts education programs are no exception, suffering the same cuts as other areas. School personnel have indicated that reduced budgets mean restrictions on travel, release time to attend professional development, limits in securing classroom instruction and in some cases, cuts to arts education resources for classrooms. As a result, the Oklahoma Arts Council has made several cost-cutting changes in response to these budget conditions.

Alternative Education: The Arts in Expressive Arts Conference, successfully held over the past five years, will not be held this year. Instead, OAC representatives will bring information on how to strengthen the arts component in alternative education programs to several regional summit meetings sponsored by the Oklahoma Technical Assistance Center. "Although this important event provided effective strategies for working with alternative education students, many told us the difficulty in finding substitutes and restricted travel would prohibit attendance at the one day conference - traditionally held in Norman at the University of Oklahoma campus," said Paulette Black, Arts Education Director. "It also provided an excellent opportunity to network with artists, educators and counselors." A summary report of last year's programs is available from OAC. E-mail your request to paulette@arts.state.ok.us to receive a copy.

Artists-in-Residence: Showcase of Roster Artists This long OAC tradition of presenting all artists available through the Artists-In-Residence roster was designed for educators and other community sponsors interested in bringing an artist to their site to work with participants in a residency format. The event required educators to secure release and travel time to attend the day long gathering, traditionally held at Rose State College in Midwest City. Budget constraints make that more difficult for schools and community programs, therefore, Showcase will not be held this year.

The OAC Artist-in-Residence Roster is now available exclusively on the OAC Web site and is accessible to the entire state at www.arts.state.ok.us. It is a convenient and cost-efficient way to determine which artists are best suited to provide an informative arts learning experience for participants and meet site learning goals. Contact information for each artist is listed, including e-mail address, phone number and mailing address. Potential sponsors would then contact the artist to begin preliminary planning including availability, learning goals and activities that will maximize participants learning during the residency. Artists now provide sponsors with an artist/sponsor contract, linking the arts learning goals to specific site goals. Many of the artists now maintain their own individual Web sites and OAC has a link to those sites where additional information may be viewed.

Newsletter of the Arts in Education Program from the Oklahoma Arts Council





Despite budget problems, arts education remains central to a quality education. Oklahoma Arts Council staff is available to provide technical assistance to sponsors who are looking for innovative ways to build, strengthen or maintain arts education for their children.

Artists-in-Residence Roster Adds 17!

The Oklahoma Arts Council approved the addition of 17 new artists to the Artists-in-Residence roster. The artists will be listed on the OAC Web site in January. The roster lists only those artists currently available for residencies through the Artists-in-Residence Grant Program. The artists were screened and interviewed for educational and artistic merit and offer a wide variety of arts learning options for schools and community programs.

The new artists are:

Creative Writing: Dr. Carol Thomas, Hobart

Dance: Nichelle Burt, Oklahoma City

Music: Emily Truckenbrod, Stillwater

Theater: Amanda Martin-Shanks, Oklahoma City

Traditional Arts: Albert Greyeagle and Dora Obuobisa, Oklahoma City and Arthur Perez, Clinton

Visual Art: Kelley Barber and Susan Morrison, Oklahoma City; Bradley Beesley, Cheryl Cozad and John Rhoades, Norman; Rosemary Burke-Carroll, Tulsa; Caryn Michelle Harper,

Marietta; Vicky Jackson and Pamela Kirkham, Enid; Paul Pfrehm, Durant. Sponsors should contact these new artists as arts education plans are made for this summer and next year. Residencies must be a minimum of 20 hours of hands-on instruction and take place in schools, social service programs and other arts learning environments. For more information, visit the OAC web page at www.arts.state.ok.us.

ArtsPower Update

The Business Circle for Arts Education's campaign, ArtsPower - Bringing the Arts Back to School, continues to focus on the important role of arts education for all students. Public service announcements have aired thousands of times and ArtsPower Action Guides are still available. Business Circle board member Ken Fergeson of Altus and CableRep Advertising Oklahoma, a Cox Communications company each received a Business in the Arts award from the Business Committee for the Arts, Inc. and FORBES magazine. Both awards recognized exceptional leadership, vision and commitment to developing and encouraging business-arts alliances. Fergeson is past president of the State Chamber and chairman of National Bank of Commerce. Mark Kanter, also a B.C. board member, is vice-president and general manager of CableRep. For more information about the Business Circle, call (405) 231-2788, e-mail: businesscircle@netscape.net or visit <http://www.artspower.com>



Grant deadlines

The Arts in Alternative education grant is available through a partnership with the Oklahoma State Department of Education. The deadline for second semester projects is December 15, 2002.

Artists-in-Schools and/or Artists-in-Communities matching grant. Deadline is at least 60 days before the beginning of the residency.

ArtsPower Education Grant available to community arts organizations working with public schools to provide direct instruction during the regular school year. Deadline is March 1, 2003.

Application information may be found on the OAC's Web site at www.arts.state.ok.us.

SPECIAL NOTE: New federal legislation, "No Child Left Behind" added the arts to the core curriculum. Federal education programs designed for meeting core curriculum standards may now be expanded to incorporate arts education, using those funds. Check with the Oklahoma State Department of Education for more details.

"Critical Links", a new publication available from the Arts Education Partnership, compiles reviews of 62 studies focusing on the positive impact of arts learning. It also explores the issue of the transfer of learning from the arts to other academic and social outcomes. Order a copy or download and print your own copy by visiting www.aep-arts.org. A detailed order form in .pdf version is available on the Web site.

Tips for stress-filled times: ArtsRelief!

In recent months, world events have heightened stress and anxiety in everyone. The arts can offer a way to gain perspective and calm. Children look to adults for reassurance, safety and answers, yet even that seems insufficient. Children have seen disturbing images, heard the alarm in the voices of adults at home and in the media and imagine horrific threats and distortions to their own safety. As a result, they may worry in silence. Appropriate arts experiences can provide a safe and creative mechanism that offers an avenue for communication, self-expression and alleviation of stress.

Many children and adolescents may not be easily identified or labeled as victims of trauma - in need of emotional support, but may actually have varying degrees of anxiety, stress and depression that interfere with their daily lives (concentration in school, emotional outbursts, withdrawal, sleeping and eating patterns, for example) and healthy development. These disruptions may occur immediately after an event or emerge weeks and even months later.

Possible strategies and resources for parents, teachers, artists and others seeking the helping benefit of the arts are available from the Oklahoma Arts Council. To receive suggestions and arts ideas for helping children, call the Oklahoma Arts Council at 405.521.2931 or visit www.arts.state.ok.us



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Web Watching: Valuable arts learning
 resources including lesson and project
 ideas for schools, community programs or
 other settings.

Cultural Arts Resources for Teachers
<http://www.carts.org/>

Jazz at Lincoln Center
[http://www.jazzatlincolncenter.org/educ/
 index.html](http://www.jazzatlincolncenter.org/educ/index.html)

National Assembly of State Arts Agencies
<http://www.nasaa-arts.org/main.start.shtml>

National Endowment for the Arts
www.arts.gov

National Music Foundation
<http://www.nmc.org/amei.html>

New Horizons for Learning
<http://www.newhorizons.org/>

Oklahoma Arts Council
www.arts.state.ok.us

Story Arts On Line
<http://www.storyarts.org>

Social and Public Art Resource Center
<http://www.sparcmurals.org>

Target Arts Education Grants
<http://target.com> (go to community giving)

What Kids Can Do
<http://www.whatkidscando.org>

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