

**VERMONT
ARTS
COUNCIL
2004
ANNUAL
REPORT**

Supporting artists and strengthening the role of the arts in the lives of people and communities.



The Vermont Arts Council is a private, not-for-profit membership organization founded in 1964 and designated by the Legislature to receive and

disburse state, federal and private funds for the arts.

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Irwin Gelber, Chair
Board of Trustees

I am very pleased to report that the Vermont Arts Council has accomplished a great deal during the past year. It has continued to provide vital support for artists, educators, and presenters, which in turn enriches the lives of so many Vermonters.

The Council profits from a devoted staff that serves Vermont's outstanding arts community with professionalism, creativity and commitment. The Council also has the benefit of dedicated trustees who offer their time and expertise with energy and generosity.



Alexander L. Aldrich,
Executive Director

As I look back over the past year I am struck by how different our work is compared to when I arrived at the Council in the mid-90s. The concept of "public benefit" was hardly mentioned then, and support for the arts was rooted deeply in philanthropy and not, as it is more so today, rooted in terms of "investment return." Although our programs and services haven't changed all that much, the way we talk about them has. Words like *public benefit* and *community-centered* are gaining stature even as we maintain high standards of excellence and diversity. So much more, now, depends on context: should one expect a school program in a small community school in Canaan to have the same access and curriculum focus as a school program in Burlington or Brattleboro? Objectively, yes we should. But is having a single set of standards going to serve the needs of those particular communities? Probably not!

Articulating the "public benefit" argument has taken us quite a long time. But what it comes down to is a simple statement about values, about culture, and their importance to community. A crucial piece to understanding is even now being put together thanks to the Vermont Council on Culture and Innovation (VCCI).

The VCCI has been sponsored by the Vermont Council on Rural Development (VCRD) which took as its task a thorough investigation of the current condition of and potential for growth in Vermont's creative sector. The VCCI was a group of volunteers who spent a year,

The demands of leading such a complex and critically important enterprise are at times challenging, at times exhilarating, and always worthwhile. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve the Vermont Arts Council, and it is my pleasure to share this report with you. It is my hope that it will help you to better understand the scope of our efforts and reaffirm your support.

gathering information through public forums around the state, reviewing existing research, and applying a wide range of experience and expertise to crafting a detailed set of recommendations about Vermont's "creative economy" to be presented to the Governor and State Legislature.

You'll have to wait until next year's Annual Report to hear how it all turned out but if you can't do that, I highly recommend getting your hands on a copy of "Advancing Vermont's Creative Economy" which you can do by visiting our website – www.vermontartscouncil.org.

Other activities that have helped us better understand (and articulate to others) how art and culture improve community life have been our collaborations with many other organizations around such areas as integrated arts education, early childhood education, transportation enhancements, and improvements to our core cultural facilities.

As you read this report, I hope you will be impressed by both the quantity and quality of the work of our constituents – all of which represents a substantial contribution to Vermont's Creative Economy. As we approach our 40th year everything we do is being put under a microscope to see how it helps us continue to place the arts at the center of community life.

**PRESENTED TO FRANK C. GAYLORD II
ON SEPTEMBER 26, 2003 IN A CEREMONY
AT THE VERMONT STATE HOUSE IN MONTPELIER.**

Franks C. Gaylord II, began his career in the 1950's as an apprentice in the Barre granite quarries. He soon established a prestigious sculpture studio in his adopted home town where he not only created his own impressive body of work but also generously mentored many of the next generation of sculptors. Through his creativity and artistic skill he has created enduring monuments to some of this country's most beloved figures as well as giving physical form to some of its most noble aspirations.

Gaylord is perhaps best known as the sculptor of the National Korean War Veterans' Memorial in Washington, DC. He has been creating figurative sculpture at his studio in Barre since 1957. He works in granite, marble, resin, bronze, and stainless steel and his work is on display throughout the U.S. and Canada. Early in his career, Gaylord worked as a sculptor, designer, and stone carver for both the Rock of Ages Corporation and E. J. Batchelder Company in Barre. He has been a member of the Barre Granite Association since 1969 and a fellow of the National Sculpture Society since 1962. Gaylord is recognized for his larger-than-life size sculptures, many of which pay tribute to historic, heroic, or spiritual figures.

Born in Clarksburg, WV in 1925, Gaylord is a WWII veteran who served with the 17th Airborne Division and received a Bronze Star for his service in the European, African, and Middle Eastern Theaters of Operation. He and his wife Mary still live in Barre and have three children and two grandchildren.

Gaylord received his BFA from the Tyler School of Fine Arts at Temple University in 1950. He also attended the College of Fine Arts at Carnegie Institute of Technology and in 1998 was awarded



Frank C. Gaylord (left) receiving his award from Governor Jim Douglas.

an honorary doctorate from the School of Fine Arts at Norwich University.

Two of Gaylord's most recent public monument commissions are the Florida Law Enforcement Memorial in Jacksonville, FL, dedicated in spring 2002; and "I Got It," a sculpture of young boys competing to catch a fly ball at Fifth Third Field, a new state of the art ballpark in Toledo, OH, dedicated in spring 2002.

In Vermont, Gaylord's public work can be seen at the State House in Montpelier, where his portrait of Governor Thomas Chittenden stands, and at Norwich University in Northfield for which he created a portrait of General Ernest Harmon. His subjects range from historical figures, such as President Calvin Coolidge at Amherst College, to Boston Pops conductor Arthur Fiedler at the Boston University Library, to a Pioneer Family at a shopping mall in Akron, OH, and a Grizzly Bear in York, PA.

**GOVERNOR'S
AWARD FOR
EXCELLENCE
IN THE ARTS**

**Frank C.
Gaylord II**

Bestowed on a Vermont artist who has achieved national or international stature for making a significant contribution to the advancement of their chosen art form.

WALTER CERF AWARD FOR LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT IN THE ARTS

Tasha Tudor

In 1995, the Council renamed this award in honor of Walter Cerf, an important Vermont philanthropist and generous arts supporter. Presented to an artist whose lifetime dedication and achievement has made an outstanding contribution to the development of their field and to the quality of life and culture in America.

PRESENTED TO ILLUSTRATOR AND AUTHOR TASHA TUDOR ON JUNE 18, 2004 AT THE VERMONT ARTS COUNCIL'S ANNUAL MEETING IN BELLOWS FALLS.

At almost 90 years of age, although still vigorous and still creating new work, Tasha Tudor, the popular illustrator of children's books, did not attend her award ceremony but was ably represented by her grandson, Winslow Tudor. A brief video was also shown that profiles Tudor.

Born as Starling Burgess on August 28, 1915 in Boston, Tudor's father preferred the name Natasha from Tolstoy's *War and Peace* and called her Tasha for short. Tudor's decision to become an illustrator came when her mother gave her a copy of *The Vicar of Wakefield*, illustrated by Hugh Thompson.

She prepared her first book for publication by hand-binding it in blue calico fabric. It was called *Pumpkin Moonshine* and made the rounds to many publishers, each one turning it down. She resubmitted to Oxford University Press in 1938, where a new editor accepted it as her first book in her new position. With her career in full swing, Tudor's *Mother Goose* was named a Caldecott Honor book in 1945.

With her royalties from *Mother Goose*, and two young children in tow, Tudor bought a decrepit old farmhouse in Webster, New Hampshire with no electricity, running water, or heat, except for wood stoves. Tudor enjoyed country living and all it entailed. There she began a life-long habit of wearing antique clothing and walking barefoot a good part of the year.

Tudor was not fond of writing but did so in order to have something to illustrate. *Corgiville Fair*, published in 1971, is Tudor's favorite book, the only one from which she has kept all of her sketches and colored originals intact.



Photo by Richard Brown

In 1972, Tudor sold the old New Hampshire farm and moved onto property near her son Seth in Marlboro, Vermont, which she bought with her profits from *Corgiville Fair*. Seth built her a new 'old house' of her own design, completely by hand, unreachable by car, with electricity but no running water.

Her studio is her kitchen table where she sits, balancing her work in her lap. She is best known for her finely detailed watercolors with intricately painted borders. In the words of Tasha Tudor herself: "(My motivation was the wolf at the

door and four small children to raise and educate. I draw almost entirely from my surroundings – the children are either mine or my grandchildren and the animals are all the animals I own or have had the privilege of caring for. Everyone who likes my illustrations says, 'Oh, you must be so enthralled with your creativity.' That's nonsense. I'm a commercial artist, and I've done my books because I needed to earn my living."

Some of Tudor's work is included in the Kerlan Collection at the University of Minnesota. She is the recipient of an honorary doctorate degree from the University of Vermont. The Tudor family now runs a thriving business based on Tasha's prolific work.

**PRESENTED ON JUNE 18, 2004
TO ED AND BARBARA MORROW,
OWNERS OF NORTSHIRE BOOKSTORE,
AT THE VERMONT ARTS COUNCIL'S
ANNUAL MEETING IN BELLOWS FALLS.**

Ed & Barbara Morrow are the founders/owners of Northshire Bookstore in Manchester. They came to Manchester Center in 1976 to start an independent bookstore in a beautiful New England town. They started small, and were immediately embraced by the community as a needed resource for books, music, stationery, cards, and more as they grew.

And grow they did, within two years, they had added a floor just for children's books, and in 1985 they converted the old Colburn



Inn in the center of town into what became a physical space filled to the brim with books, music, and other items. In 1996, they expanded their vision once again and started The Next Chapter, for used, out-of-print, and rare books.

In December 2003 Northshire expanded yet again. This time they built on a 5,000 square foot addition, virtually doubling their space, creating a wonderfully spacious environment for browsing and expanded sections, adding a 70-seat café/restaurant, a dedicated event space where they present a weekly schedule of readings and other gatherings, and an entire second floor devoted to kids' books, music, videos, toys, crafts, and games. Northshire's focus on Vermont books is unparalleled, and in an age when truly independent bookstores are increasingly rare, Ed and Barbara have created a business that supports Vermont's writers and poets and nurtures the love of reading and literature in people of all ages.

**COUNCIL'S
BUSINESS
AWARD**

**Northshire
Bookstore**

Presented to a Vermont business or organization for enthusiastic leadership and significant contribution to the cultural life of the state.

**PRESENTED ON MAY 8, 2004 TO
B. AMORE – SCULPTOR AND FOUNDER
OF THE CARVING STUDIO & SCULPTURE
CENTER IN WEST RUTLAND AT THE
CARVING STUDIO & SCULPTURE CENTER**

Ms. Amore was honored at the annual "Spring Thaw" Sculptor's Forum where she moderated a discussion of issues affecting contemporary artists by a panel of working sculptors and arts educators. The subject of the discussion was "Evolutions," an examination of the transformation from one means of creative expression to another.

Amore's extensive international work and connections have helped the Carving Studio become a state, regional, national, and interna-



tional resource for sculpture and for the artists and craftspeople who work in this discipline.

B. Amore was born Bernadette D'Amore in Washington, DC in 1942. She was educated at Boston University, University of Rome, the School of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, Massachusetts College of Art and the Accademia di Belle Arti in Carrara, Italy where she also did independent studio work from 1980-1990.

In 1987, B. Amore founded the Carving Studio and Sculpture Center. She was the first director and remains on the Advisory Board and the faculty. She has dedicated her life to making art and sharing the journey through teaching. She served on the faculty of the Boston Museum School and taught at the Vermont College MFA program. Amore's other awards include Fulbright and Mellon Fellowships, public art commissions, as well as inclusion in collections in the U.S., Europe and Asia.

**CITATION
OF MERIT
AWARDS**

B. Amore

Presented annually to Vermont artists, organizations, educators, and others in recognition of their distinguished service to the arts in Vermont.

CITATION OF MERIT AWARDS

**Eric Bass
Ines Zeller
Bass**

**PRESENTED ON MAY 22, 2004
TO ERIC BASS & INES ZELLER
BASS – FOUNDERS AND
ARTISTIC DIRECTORS OF
SANDGLASS THEATER OF
PUTNEY AND CREATORS OF
THE PUPPETS IN THE GREEN
MOUNTAINS FESTIVAL IN
GREENHOE THEATER, AT
LANDMARK COLLEGE IN PUTNEY**



Eric Bass and Ines Zeller Bass were honored in a ceremony preceding *Sandglass Theater's* performance of "Between Sand and Stars" which was inspired by texts from Antoine de Saint-Exupéry's "Wind, Sand, & Stars" and is a collaboration between *Sandglass Theater*, *Gemini Trapeze* (formerly of *Cirque de Soleil*), and Rob Mermin of *Circus Smirkus*. This innovative work combines *Sandglass'* renowned puppets with breathtaking aerial acts and swinging trapeze. The combined arts define the relationship between heaven and earth, which give new insight to St. Exupery's beloved text on art, aspiration, and a deep love of life.

Eric Bass has worked in the theater as a director, playwright, performer, and mask and puppet maker. He was a member of Jean Erdman's *Theater of the Open Eye* in New York City. He left in 1980 to create his first solo performance using puppets, "Autumn Portraits," which was awarded a Diploma of Excellence in Pecs, Hungary and the First Prize Critics Award for Best Production at the International Puppetry Festival in Adelaide, Australia. In 1982, Mr. Bass founded the *Sandglass Theater* in Munich, Germany, with his wife, Ines Zeller Bass. *Sandglass* is a theater company dedicated to the use of the puppet as a primary theatrical medium, often used in combination with actors, and to collaboration with artists and composers. The company has been honored internationally and in the USA. *Sandglass'* newest project is a collaboration

with theater company *Sovanna Phum* in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

Mr. Bass conceived and performs in *Sandglass'* adult production, "One-Way Street," based on the life and work of Walter Benjamin. He is currently collaborating with "new vaudevillian" Bob Berky on Shakespeare's *Richard III*. Mr. Bass taught theater and directing at Marlboro College from 1996-2002 as well as at the Turku Arts Academy in Finland. He directs a puppet theater training institute with *Sandglass Company* at Marlboro College and serves on the Board of Trustees of the new Network of Ensemble Theaters.

Ines Zeller Bass has performed with puppets since 1968, when she became a member of the Munich marionette theater, *Kleines Spiel*. In 1978 she created her children's hand puppet theater, *Punsch*, which toured in Europe and America. Her work with *Sandglass Theater* has included full-stage children's productions, "The Box Show," "Dwarf Longnose," and "Isidor's Cheek," which earned a Citation of Excellence from UNIMA-USA in 1999. Ines is also a co-creator and performer in *Sandglass's* newest family piece, "The Ark in the Tree," about refugees. She teaches residencies in puppetry in Vermont schools and workshops in Japan. She has toured extensively throughout Europe, Japan, and Canada.

"Breathtaking... 'Between Sand and Stars' is both eloquent and exhilarating, poetic and powerful, hilarious and heart-warming, warm and wise. A production that is perfectly wrought, a web sublimely spun by the collaborators, with impeccable sets, costumes, lights and music as well."

Jon Potter, Brattleboro Reformer

**PRESENTED ON AUGUST 11, 2004
TO ROB MERMIN – FOUNDER OF
VERMONT’S INTERNATIONALLY
KNOWN CIRCUS SMIRKUS, “UNDER
THE BIG TOP” AT A CIRCUS SMIRKUS
PERFORMANCE IN MONTPELIER.**

Rob founded Circus Smirkus in Greensboro in 1987, to give kids the chance to run away and learn about life through the traditions and adventures of circus life. He started by teaching basic circus skills to local farm kids in return for homemade jam, organic produce, and firewood to get through the winter. When Rob settled in Greensboro in 1984, he began teaching in public schools as a Vermont Arts Council artist-in-residence. He created the “Circus Residency” introducing circus arts throughout the school curriculum, culminating in a school-wide circus performance for the community. This is now a regular program offering of Circus Smirkus.

Since that first year – a two-week session in collaboration with actor and former State Representative Donny Osman, filmmaker Jay Craven, and Catamount Arts - Smirkus has grown in reputation to become America’s premier traveling youth circus. Smirkus has traveled overseas, won awards at circus festivals in Russia, Sweden, and Paris, and has sent a new generation of performers into the circus world. With 25 countries being represented in the Smirkus



ring over the years, the company was given the title “The United Nations of The Youth Circus World” by the director of the International Children’s Festival at Wolf Trap.

Mermin studied mime, fencing, dance, acrobatics, and puppetry in Paris with Marcel Marceau. He graduated from Lake Forest College in Illinois with a Drama & Literature major. Rob alternated periods as a guest instructor in movement and theater on US campuses with seasons abroad as a circus performer. He has lectured at Dartmouth College, Lake Forest College, Gallaudet College for the Deaf, The University of Chicago Graduate School of Business, and Copenhagen University in Denmark.

Rob has toured a one-man show, founded a children’s theater company, spent three seasons as an actor on a popular weekly Scandinavian TV show, and was appointed Dean of Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey’s Clown College in 1995.

Rob has volunteered time teaching and performing magic, mime, and circus in children’s hospitals, nursing homes, and orphanages in 10 countries. His other awards include a Vermont BESSIE in 1997; Best Director of a Troupe (Smirkus) at the Soviet International Festival at the Black Sea, Russia in 1990; and he was selected a clown for World Star-Time Circus Festival, Copenhagen for three years (1973-75).

**CITATION
OF MERIT
AWARDS**

**Rob
Mermin**

CITATION OF MERIT AWARDS

David Gunn

**PRESENTED ON OCTOBER 1, 2004
TO DAVID GUNN – COMPOSER AND
INTERGALACTIC INTERNET DJ OF
CONTEMPORARY CLASSICAL MUSIC
AT A CONCERT BY THE VERMONT
CONTEMPORARY MUSIC ENSEMBLE
AT ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE**



David Ross Gunn has made a sustained contribution to the development and appreciation of contemporary classical music throughout Vermont. With great humor and musical skill he has challenged and entertained audiences at all levels with his compositions, intriguing titles and dedication to promoting his art form.

David Gunn began his musical training at Settlement Music School in Philadelphia, studying piano and percussion. He later graduated from The Ohio State University with a degree in music composition. His collegiate tunes mirrored those of Peter Schickele's P.D.Q. Bach and sight gags, much to the chagrin of the university, prevailed. Subsequent works often maintained a sense of humor, but added rhythmic complexity, melodic quirks, and a more gnarly compositional structure.

In 1992 the Vermont Contemporary Music Ensemble (VCME) commissioned "A Song, a Dance and a Spizder" (sic) from Gunn for the New Music Across America series. Since then, the ensemble has performed his music dozens of times in concert and on public radio. In 2000, the Montpelier Chamber Orchestra, augmented by Sounding Joy and the Montpelier Chamber Orchestra

Chorus, commissioned and performed his "Mass of Mercury." In autumn 2002, the Vermont Symphony Orchestra commissioned his percussion concerto, "A Tangoed Web," for its Made-in-Vermont tour and performed it in ten concerts across the state to great acclaim. A year earlier, the Vermont Youth Orchestra commissioned the fanfare "Urban Renewaltz" to open its Elley-Long Music Center. In March 2003, the *Barre-Montpelier Times-Argus* said of the Barre Opera House premiere of "400 Owls Attempting to Outwit a Giant Badger in the Rain" for piano and clarinet that it 'sort of sounds like that, only better.' Gunn has also written vocal music for the Onion River Chorus and the Bayley-Hazen Singers. His compositions have earned him an ASCAP monetary award every year since 1997.

Gunn's newest commissioned works include "L'histoire du Clarinette" (a multi-instrumental/multimedia revisionist history of the clarinet for multi-tasking soloist); "Incandescence" (a string quartet); "Autumn Attic" for two pianos; "Quibbling With Quokkas" (a sextet); "Bassooner or Later" (for a bassoon quartet from Bucharest, Romania); and "ContraDiction" (for solo string bass). Vermont's own Social Band is also about to premiere "Earwigs," with a text by Raymond Carver, and the University of Vermont Percussion Ensemble is working on "Locomotives Stalking a Leopard in a China Closet."

Gunn also co-hosts the award-winning (2000 ASCAP Deems Taylor Internet Award) weekly radio show, *Kalvos & Damian's New Music Bazaar*, now in its ninth year. He is also a writer (456 weekly radio show essays and counting) and humorist. He lives in Barre.

This 20-member chorus based in Burlington – commissioned short *a cappella* choral pieces from more than twenty Vermont composers. The point of the project was to encourage Vermont composers to create new works that can be sung by choruses across the state and beyond.

“We see this as a revival of community-based choral composing, such as flourished in New England’s ‘singing school’ tradition in the late 18th century.

“The Council’s funding allowed us to implement this project with the commissioning of the works. It encouraged 24 composers from all over the state to write for an *a cappella* chorus – some for the first time. The immediate benefit is 24 new original compositions for chorus. Additionally several individual Vermont composers have stretched themselves artistically.”



GRANTEE PROFILES

Social Band

Randolyn Zinn was awarded a grant to revise a story collection grouped around the theme of women discovering their potential.

“Had the Council not awarded me a Creation Grant last spring, I wouldn’t have been able to spend so much time revising the collection. Encouraged by your support, the revision process took precedence over all other endeavors in my schedule. One unexpected outcome was that the story “World Perfect” a sequel to “Risi e Bisi” turned out to be the second chapter of a novel (with “Risi e Bisi” functioning as the first). Such are the wonders of the creative process. I submitted ‘Rowena Cahill’ to the highly competitive Meridian Editors’ Prize Competition last spring and it was honored with a finalist status.



“As we slave at our desks day in and day out, writers sometimes wonder, ‘Will anyone care about what I’m doing?’ ‘Is my work even worthy of notice?’ As one American writer attempting to capture the feeling and flavor of this moment in time through the lens of fiction, I will attest to the struggle of the ‘emerging’ writer, of striving to contribute to the mighty tradition of literature while floundering for support. To accomplish the re-visioning of history that fiction attempts, the prose practitioner needs an ethos of process over result, a precise, meticulous eye, enough time and money to pay the bills, the faith of saints and the strength of Trojans. I feel blessed and invigorated that the Vermont Arts Council...values such efforts and saw fit to award me a grant. I only hope that my work will live up to such confidence and generosity.”

Randolyn Zinn

Souphine Phathsoungneune

Souphine was awarded a grant to create a traditional Lao Folk Opera, to design and create the set, and to develop, pay and train a troupe of singers and musicians to perform the folk opera in Vermont.

“As part of the project, two authorities on Lam Leung opera (Jean Bernard and Terry Miller) came to meet with Souphine. Terry Miller, an ethnomusicologist at Kent State University and considered to be the leading authority in this country on folk singing in Northeastern Thailand, conducted an interview with Souphine which, Miller said, helped to extend the recorded history of this art form both temporally and geographically. Jean Bernard attended the performance and helped to educate the audience about the history of the art form and the importance of preserving culture in diaspora communities in the US.

“While Souphine was painting the panels for the set, we opened his painting sessions to local school children. Two school groups came to watch Souphine as he was painting. A short talk and slide show on Laos was presented and the children all had a chance to watch an artist in action and to ask him questions.

Kathryn Lipke Vigesaa

Kathryn was given a grant to support an installation “Spirit of Place” with related smaller works and site-specific sculpture. These have been shown at the “Exposed” outdoor sculpture exhibit at the Helen Day Art Center in Stowe and at the Big Rock Garden in Bellingham, Washington. The installation will be shown at the Plains Museum of Art in Fargo, ND in June of 2005.



Kathryn’s artwork is rooted in a belief that we must recognize and acknowledge our connections to the natural world as well as maintain an attitude of harmonious alliance if we are to survive as



Souphine is seated second from the left in this photo of Lao Folk Opera. Photo by Leslie Turpin.

“Over 160 non-Lao people attended the opera performance and experienced a different culture and unique, endangered art form and learned about the Lao community in Southern Vermont. This was the first performance that was created primarily for a non-Lao audience and it required that Souphine learn to engage non-Lao speaking audiences.”

a race. Nature can be seen as a metaphor for the human psyche. Framing the complexities of self, memory, and myth, she provides a way to reflect on time, place, identity, or the power of nature itself.

“It is help like this grant from the Council that moves one’s art work into the next place either through another exhibition venue and/or other ways of thinking about and seeing one’s artwork. Because the project includes technical aspects I don’t normally work with, I have met experts that have helped me in realizing the artwork and have increased my knowledge in these areas. Above all, these funds have made it possible for me, as an artist, to ‘go for the big idea’ rather than the small, less expensive projects.”

Puppets in the Green Mountains is an eleven-day, seven-venue festival produced by Sandglass Theater. Eight puppet companies from seven countries gave 20 performances in September of 2003.

The Council grant was used to fund the start-up costs associated with a new production, a collaboration between Vermont artists from Sandglass Theater,



Gemini Trapeze, and circus artist Rob Mermin. “Between Sand and Stars” was presented as a work-in-progress at two performances on the first weekend of the festival. Both performances were standing-room-only and the production was well received.

Audiences of 3920 ticket holders (including 650 school children in two groups) were able to experience a wide range of performance styles and content; and 40 people attended a panel discussion on puppet theater traditions. In addition, 24 artists from Europe, South America, and New England helped to broaden the audience for puppetry in the United States.

Photo by Richard Termine

**Sandglass
Theater**

Break Loose: Northeast Kingdom’s Dance Unity Project was designed to bring an urban cultural and dance experience to the Northeast Kingdom. Clyde Evans and Chosen came to the Northeast Kingdom and visited three area schools. At each school, Chosen entertained and educated students about the history of hip-hop at the lecture/demonstrations they presented. In addition, Clyde Evans taught a dance class for students. Chosen offered a master class for area dance teachers and aspiring dancers as well, and presented a culminating performance which was preceded by student performances. One hundred students from four high schools, and Lyndon State College, performed modern and hip-hop dance pieces, and a beat box demonstration.

“The Council not only gave the project the funds it needed to be successfully completed, but the Council also gave it the credibility it needed to get funding from other partners in the project.”

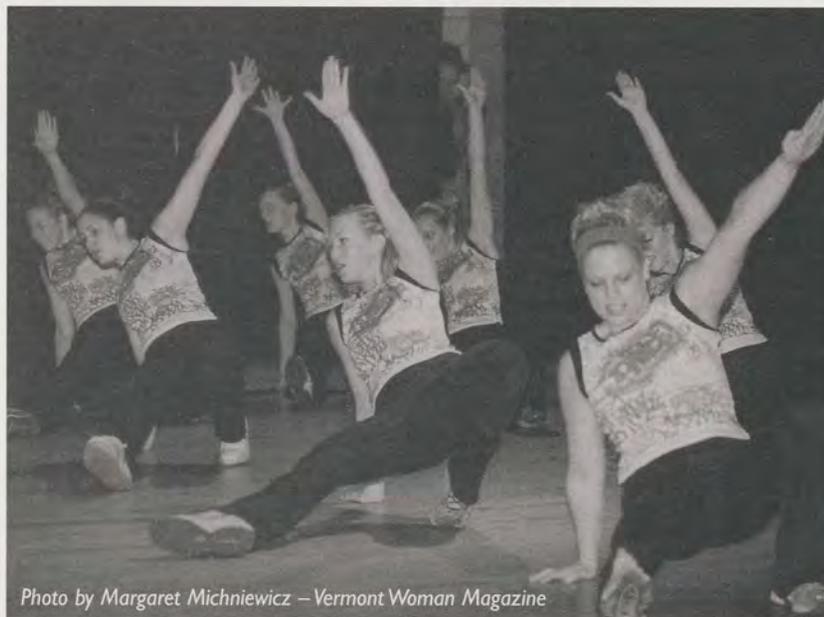


Photo by Margaret Michniewicz – Vermont Woman Magazine

**Burklyn
Arts
Council**

Vermont International Film Festival

The Council provided support to plan, publicize, and present the works of Vermont film and video artists in a Vermont Independent Filmmakers Showcase as part of the 15th Vermont International Film Festival. Funding also supported a panel: “Challenges of Producing and Distributing Independent Films in Vermont.”

This panel provided the opportunity for Vermont filmmakers to discuss important issues and share their experience with peers and representatives from Vermont Public Television, Vermont Arts Council, Vermont Film Commission, First Run Distribution Company, and other professionals. The funding was used to support technical setup, the selection process, promotion of the

Town Hall Theater – Opera Company of Middlebury

A grant from the Council funded the debut presentation of “Carmen” by the Opera Company of Middlebury.

“Much of our mission is educational. By presenting ‘intimate’ versions of great operas, we introduce hundreds of people to the world of opera. Our 4-character, 90-minute production was fully staged in the 180-seat Town Hall Theater, with a magnificent set and world-caliber performers. A narrator translated when necessary and clarified parts of the story. The result was a uniquely powerful, uniquely memorable evening.

“We were delighted to find dozens of young people at the performances, many of whom stayed behind to get autographs from the singers. These kids are hooked for life.

“Creating a new opera company in a small town such as this was seen to be a risky undertaking. We needed seed money so we could guarantee the artists’ salaries and move confidently into production and promotion. The launch of the company was still something of a risk; we needed to sell 37% of our tickets just to break even. Ultimately, we sold out the run of 3 performances,



Vermont International Film Festival

Vermont Filmmakers Showcase in the program guide, ‘call for entries’ ads, and for the overall Festival advertising.

“The goal of the project – to enable Vermont filmmakers to generate recognition and to deepen the dialogue with their audience – was met. The prevailing community judgment seems to be that the 2003 festival was taken ‘to another level.’”



and now have enough money in the bank to ensure a second season. None of this could have happened without the Vermont Arts Council Grant.”

Photo by Ernie Longey

International puppeteer and story-teller, Graciela Monteagudo, was an artist-in-residence at the Strafford Creative Preschool in May 2004.

“Graciela’s residency was a tremendous success. Her approach was creative, flexible, and very organic; she made a concerted effort to integrate her work into our classroom set-up and routine.

“Graciela’s work had 5 major components: theater games, folklore and stories from Argentina, Spanish songs, visual art, and drama, which included puppetry. She began several of her sessions with the children by sharing simple Argentinian tales. She prefaced each story by explaining to the children that it was written by someone from another country – she showed them a map: ‘This is where we live, this is where the story comes from.’

“She presented the songs in a similar manner – they were simple Spanish songs, and she was clear about what the words meant. The



*Photo courtesy of
Strafford Creative
Pre-School*

children were able to catch on quickly, and because they found it so accessible, they enjoyed it. They have spontaneously sung their favorite song several times at school since the residency.

“Teachers learn a great deal simply from watching an artist’s ideas and delivery in progress... We make every effort to learn from the guests we have in the classroom, and Graciela had a lot to teach.”

Africa! Live Dance, Live Music was a year-long, school-wide immersion study of the geography and culture of Africa, culminating in a three-week intensive African dance residency with Karen Amirault.

“What worked beautifully in this project were the following key components: School-wide interest and excitement in a study of Africa and in dance and the arts; growth of self-esteem and body awareness and acceptance.



*Photo courtesy of Central School, South
Burlington*

“Karen met with all the children 40 minutes each day for three weeks, leading them in intensive movement sessions and creating original dances based on the African studies happening in their classrooms.

“All teachers at Central School participated in a Teacher/Parent workshop which culminated in the teachers’ dance performed at the all-school rehearsal and the community performance. The enthusiastic response of the students showed how important it was for the children to see their teachers learning African dance just as they were. We had several parents participate in this dance.

“Our year-long school-wide study of Africa, including the African dance residency, brought our school closer as a community and created a remarkable partnership between school and home for the benefit of the children. It’s a year none of us will ever forget.”

Graciela Monteagudo

Strafford
Creative
Preschool

Africa! Live Dance, Live Music

Central School
South
Burlington

Professional Development Workshops

Champlain Valley Head Start
Burlington

Champlain Valley Head Start was able to offer two workshops for its staff: *Creating with Clay* with Bonnie Stearns and *Creative Movement* with tarin chaplin.

“Creating with Clay was a wonderful, eye-opening experience for the Head Start staff. Staff had a fabulous time creating their own pieces of art which were glazed and fired. The wonderful expression I heard through the day was, ‘It is so much more challenging than I expected. I see the vision clearly in my head but getting the product completed is a different story!’ Thinking of the different domains of learning while creating was quite useful for staff to better understand where children are coming from when they approach a new project.

“Creative Movement was an active and thought-provoking workshop. Children learn through their bodies first which was the



focus during the time with tarin chaplin. ‘Staff are very anxious to begin creating with clay and moving their bodies throughout the day with the children they work with. Several teachers would like to discuss the possibility of heading to a studio to have classes with their group.’

“The results of both workshops was a heightened understanding

and respect for incorporating the arts to teach and learn with children. Children that have special needs will benefit wonderfully from what their teachers learned in both these workshops.”

Our Language is Art: History, Community, and Youth

Peoples Academy
Morrisville

Our Language is Art: History, Community, and Youth expanded the artist-in-residency program planned by Peoples Academy teachers, Peoples Academy Career Academy of the Arts (PACAA) students and River Arts, the local arts organization. Twenty Vermont artists taught and performed for the students of Peoples Academy, PA Middle Level, Morrystown Elementary School and the community.

As part of this project, PACAA students planned a service-learning project to benefit the Morrystown community. This project was “Hyjinx” a day-long community arts festival in May 2004.

“Funding from the Vermont Arts Council facilitated the success of *Our Language is Art* in two important ways: first, it permitted a greater number and variety of artists to reach more students and community members. The quality of the artists-in-residence permitted students who ordinarily would not choose to participate in arts activities to become engaged in the creative process and enjoy its final products. Secondly, the project validated the emerging collaboration between Peoples Academy and River Arts. Planning



the proposal, and being awarded the grant strengthened our shared commitment and endeavor to increase the arts in education for all ages.

“A participant in research evaluating PACAA conducted by UVM described the

impact of student involvement in the planning and execution of “Hyjinx”: ‘PACAA gave unmotivated and unsuccessful students the experience of being valued. I have seen amazing development over the past two years in these students. They once wrote poetry about cutting themselves, now they are involved in school assembly and engaged in the community talking about an arts festival.’”

Cultural Facilities grants often re-invigorate small towns and encourage the civic engagement of communities.

This project was spearheaded by the all-volunteer Sudbury Community Club and was one of the steps toward restoration of the historic Sudbury Meeting House as a community center. Built in 1807 as a church, the Meeting House sits on a picturesque village green. In 1851 the lower story was deeded to the town. The building, with its third level gothic steeple, serves as the community's center for political, religious, and social activities. It is also home to five of the noted "Henry" historic painted theater curtains which were restored by the Vermont Museum and Gallery Alliance.

This Cultural Facilities grant project involved the conversion of two existing lavatories into one accessible lavatory. The project also solved a long-endured water problem.

"The most obvious impact is the fact that members of our community who have disabilities can now access the 'facilities' and are not excluded from the town and church activities." ... "My guess is that there is not a person in our small town that hasn't heard about the new bathroom!"

The Vermont Design Institute (VDI) serves many community design and educational outreach functions statewide. VDI works directly with municipalities and non-profit organizations on physical planning and design needs through specific municipal projects. It helps create better design at the local level through hands-on design activities such as community design charrettes; it promotes design as a problem-solving tool through educational outreach programs and its website.

In 2004 VDI organized a community design charrette for Middlesex. They engaged ten professional designers, architects, and planners



Photo by
Jan Smith

"We were honored to host the award ceremonies...and were pleased to meet those who were affiliated with the program. Nearly everyone in the entire town has stopped by to watch the progress, and we are so excited with the end results. What an encouragement to everyone to have begun our project of restoration of the Sudbury Meeting House."

pro bono and drew 30+ town participants. VDI prepared materials, facilitated the charrette, and developed the follow-up report for town committees with thoughts, drawings, and conclusions. The impact of this project is ongoing. VDI staff assisted the village in an Enhancement Grant application. Middlesex serves as a case study for the University of Vermont historic preservation course.

VDI's training program, *Groundswell*, developed a series of workshops entitled *Citizen Empowerment through Community Design and Planning* for the Sustainable Communities 2004 international conference in Burlington where participants, including state and nationally elected officials and international leaders, from Vermont, the US, and 35 other countries participated.

Sudbury Meeting House

Sudbury
Vermont

Vermont Design Institute

GRANTS TO ARTISTS

Artist Project Grants

Clare Dolan, West Glover

\$1,750 to support the creation of a new theatrical work loosely based on Herman Melville's story "Bartleby".

Nika Feldman, Putney

\$2,500 to support creation of new textile work during a 1-year residency at the craft Studios of Harbourfront Centre.

Don Hanson, Stowe

\$3,250 to support a body of works on paper and panel utilizing an experimental emulsion transfer process with mixed media.

Geof Hewitt, Calais

\$2,500 to support the creation of new poems and to revise poems written since 1966 to assemble a manuscript of "New and Selected Poems."

John Huddleston, Weybridge

\$3,250 to support a project that uses photography and sculpture to document and create meaningful forms on small-scale farms in the Champlain Valley.

Susan Jarvis, Newfane

\$2,338 to support the creation of a series of oil paintings for a 1-woman show at the Southern Vermont Art Center.

Kingdom County Productions, Barnet

\$2,500 to support the production of "Windy Acres," a 6-episode comedy series for Vermont Public Television.

Rachelle Ackerman, Brattleboro

\$250 to support attendance at Pourparler, an annual gathering for teachers of folk/ethnic/traditional dance, to be held in Seattle, Washington.

Marcia Blanco, Burlington

\$350 to support studio time and materials at Burlington City Arts Print Studio for the production of lithographs.

Gabriel Boray, Winooski

\$500 to support the production of professional quality 4x5 negatives and digital images of original artwork.

Mariah Boyd-Boffa, Montpelier

\$500 to support residency costs for a month-long residency at the Vermont Studio Center.

Dan Breslaw, Corinth

\$500 to support creation of a demo recording of a cappella folk song arrangements to be sent to potential publishers.

David Budbill, Wolcott

\$500 to support the attendance at the AWP Annual Conference for Writers in Chicago.

John Kemp Lee, Wilder

\$3,000 to support the creation of a series of 8 wall-mounted sculptures exploring the patterns of energy flow.

Kathryn Lipke Vigesaa, Belvidere Center

\$3,000 to support the sculpture installation "Spirit of Place".

Peter M. Miller, Waterbury

\$3,000 to support the creation of a photographic series on Vermont Gathering Places.

Paul Molinelli, Winhall

\$2,250 to support the creation of 4 miniature dioramas depicting scenes from Vermont's historical narrative and investigating the myths of place-based identity.

Joey Morgan, Putney

\$2,500 to support the creation of a suite of 8 oversized digital artworks.

Erik Nielsen, Brookfield

\$2,500 to support the creation of a piece of dramatic music for an ensemble of musicians, narrator, and several actors and dancers to be performed by the Vermont Contemporary Music Ensemble.

Souphine Phatsongneune, Brattleboro

\$4,720 to support the creation of a Lao Folk Opera to be performed with a troupe of Lao-Americans.

Michelle Demers, Williston

\$500 to support a month-long writing residency at Vermont Studio Center.

Sarah R. Frechette, Georgia

\$250 to support creation of a website for Puppet Kabob.

Merrill Garbus, Brattleboro

\$500 to support an intensive rehearsal and development period for a solo puppet piece to be shown in Brattleboro and at a puppet festival in San Francisco.

Cameron Harvey, Woodstock

\$500 to support attendance to a month-long residency at the Vermont Studio Center.

Charlotte Hastings, Burlington

\$250 to support a 2-day workshop in printmaking with David Caruso.

Nicolia Lynn Jester, Colchester

\$325 to support private lessons in Cuban, African, and Haitian hand drumming with master drummer Stuart Paton.

Sara Pinto, Montpelier

\$5,000 to support completion of a second book for children.

David Rohn, Putney

\$2,500 to support the creation of a series of 12 still life oil paintings.

Neil Shepard, Johnson

\$2,500 to support the creation of travel-related poems that center on the French experience.

Social Band, Hinesburg

\$1,500 to support the commissioning of a capella choral pieces from more than 20 Vermont composers to be performed and recorded by Social Band.

John Willis, Brattleboro

\$4,000 to support the creation of a photography exhibit of Lakota people and their life on the reservation.

Suzi Wizowaty, Burlington

\$2,500 to support the completion of a draft novel.

Randolyn Zinn, North Bennington

\$3,000 to support the creation and revisions of a collection of stories around the theme of women discovering their potential.

Artist Development Grants

Linda E. Jones, Burlington

\$500 to support the creation of a website.

Joseph Mueller, North Bennington

\$500 to support attendance at the Vermont Studio Center to work on the completion of manuscript of short stories.

Shyla Nelson, Burlington

\$500 to support a series of lessons with internationally-known voice teacher Trish McCaffrey in New York.

The PuppeTree, Thetford Center

\$500 to support the creation of a brochure and website for promotional purposes.

Lynn Rupe, Burlington

\$428 to support the installation and promotion of exhibits at the Vermont Supreme Court offices and the Helen Day Art Center.

Shidaa African Cultural Troupe, Montpelier

\$400 to support the creation of promotional materials, including a brochure and business cards.

Julia Slone, Marlboro

\$375 to support attendance at an intensive 2-week residency with Village Harmony in the Republic of Georgia.

Alia Thabit, West Burke

\$260 to support the preparation of a professional quality press kit including a promotional video.

GRACE, Hardwick

\$7,000 to support year one of a 2-year grant to support and develop established and new partnerships with NE Kingdom Human Services, Howard Community Services, Heartbeat Lifesharing, and Community Artists.

Onion River Arts Council, Montpelier

\$10,000 to support the first year of 2-year grant for ORAC's community partnerships in arts presentation, education, community development, and advocacy.

Art on Main-Bristol Friends of the Arts, Bristol

\$2,868 to support the Artists Alley Project, a multi-faceted project which includes commissioning of public sculpture and workshops.

Barre Opera House, Barre

\$2,000 to support the presentation of a wide variety of Vermont musicians and dancers for the 10th Annual Barre Homecoming Days.

Better Bennington Corporation, Bennington

\$2,000 to support artistic fees for the 9th Annual Summer in the Park Concert Series in downtown Bennington.

Brattleboro Museum and Art Center, Brattleboro

\$5,600 to support the 2004 exhibition series entitled "Altered Eden: Contemporary Visions of the Landscape."

Brattleboro Music Center, Brattleboro

\$3,500 to support artist fees for the 35th annual New England Bach Festival.

Brattleboro Womens Chorus, Brattleboro

\$3,250 to support "The Music of Our Spheres," told poetry workshops with chorus members culminating in a spring concert.

Burlington Choral Society, Burlington

\$2,500 to support 3 concerts of major choral works for the 2003-2004 season.

Two Rivers Printmaking Studio, White River Jct

\$325 to support a lithography demonstration that will include a visiting artist, printer, and public demonstration.

River Arts of Morrisville, Morrisville

\$10,000 to support year one of a 2-year grant to strengthen partnerships and to develop new social service partnerships to provide arts programming to all ages and income levels in the community.

Rockingham Arts & Museum Project (RAMP), Bellows Falls

\$8,000 to support the first year of 2-year grant to continue effective partnerships and to develop new ones.

Burlington City Arts, Burlington

\$750 to support "The Write Place," a new program involving a production of performance literature and community workshops.

Capital City Concerts, Montpelier

\$3,250 to support the Capital City Concert 2003-2004 season of 5 concerts in Montpelier.

Center Stage Theatre Company, Inc., Montpelier

\$4,000 to support performances of the classic American play "The Miracle Worker" at the Barre Opera House.

Chamber Music Conference, White Plains, NY

\$5,600 to support a composer residency, commissioning, and performance project as part of a 3-week summer chamber music conference and free music series at Bennington College.

Champlain Valley Festival, Burlington

\$4,500 to support the production costs and artists fees for the 21st Annual Champlain Valley Folk Festival.

City of Montpelier, Montpelier

\$1,625 to support the Montpelier Community Arts Fund.

Connecticut River Fest, Inc., White River Junction

\$250 to support presentation of storyteller, Judy Witters, at the 10th annual Big Splash River and Arts Festival.

Cradle to Grave Arts, Burlington

\$2,500 to support Estrogen Fest: The Fourth Annual Weekend of Women's Film and Arts at the Flynn Space.

Marian Willmott, Hinesburg

\$455 to support the attendance at a poetry workshop with David St. John at the Fine Arts Center in Provincetown, Massachusetts.

Vermont Arts Exchange, No Bennington

\$10,000 to support year one of a 2-year grant to help sustain, develop, and strengthen a variety of community development and arts partnerships.

Fall Mountain Film Festival, Bellows Falls

\$3,200 to support 2-day juried film festival that showcases silent films accompanied by live musical performances.

First Night Burlington, Inc., Burlington

\$7,000 to support ongoing strategies for partnerships, program development, and presentation of Vermont artists during a festival for the arts.

First Night Rutland, Rutland

\$4,500 to support First Night Rutland, an annual community-wide New Year's Eve celebration of performances & the arts.

Flock Dance Troupe, Inc., Sharon

\$3,200 to support a debut tour of dance theater performances and workshops in Vermont.

Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, Burlington

\$7,000 to support the presentation of 5 Vermont artists/companies and a series of in-depth artist residencies.

In-Sight Photography Project, Inc., Brattleboro

\$4,000 to support a series of gallery exhibits, including participation in Brattleboro's Gallery Walk, and preparation for an exhibit of photographs from the cultural exchange program Exposures.

Lost Nation Theatre, Montpelier

\$3,500 to support performance and outreach activities in connection with the Fall Foliage Shakespeare production of "Othello."

Artist
Development
Grants
continued

GRANTS TO COMMUNITIES

Local Arts
Partnership
Grants

Community
Project Grants

Community Project Grants

continued

Lyric Theatre Company, Williston

\$4,550 to support the production of the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical "The King and I."

Montpelier Downtown Community Assoc., Montpelier

\$2,115 to support the creation and exhibition of banners to be hung from the city's lightposts featuring local artists' original artwork.

Moving Light School of Dance, Plainfield

\$2,000 to support an original children's dance performance "The Fiddler and the Pookah" to be performed at Goddard College's Haybarn Theatre.

New England Youth Theater, Brattleboro

\$4,000 to support the production of "King Lear" which will culminate in three international performances as part of an enrichment/exchange with British Youth Theatre.

Onion River Arts Council, Montpelier

\$4,500 to support the production of First Night Montpelier 2004.

Onion River Arts Council, Montpelier

\$6,300 to support free summer concerts and festivals, including the Independence Day Celebration, Brown Bag Series, and Third Thursday's in Montpelier, and the Performances in the Park series in Barre.

Rokeby Museum, Ferrisburg

\$2,000 to support a performance of "Let My People Go" by the Touring Theatre Ensemble of North Carolina.

Wes Sanders, South Burlington

\$750 to support a performance of the eco-cabaret "Beat the Heat."

Sandglass Center for Puppetry, Putney

\$6,300 to support the 4th bi-annual production of an international puppet festival featuring performances by 6 international and 2 American companies.

Town Hall Theater, Inc., Middlebury

\$4,000 to support the Opera Company of Middlebury and its first production "Carmen."

Upper Valley Music Center, Norwich

\$4,500 to support the 2nd Annual Summer Music Program for Young Musicians.

Vermont Contemporary Music Ensemble, Fairfax

\$3,250 to support 8 concerts of new music, including 4 commissions by Vermont composers.

Vermont International Film Festival, Burlington

\$3,250 to support the 14th Vermont International Film Festival in presenting work of Vermont film and video artists.

Vermont Jazz Center, Brattleboro

\$4,000 to support a concert and workshop series with the Brooklyn Repertory Ensemble at several Vermont public schools.

Vermont Mozart Festival, Burlington

\$6,300 to support the presentation of the 31st Annual Summer Mozart Festival.

Vermont Symphony Orchestra, Burlington

\$4,550 to support classical music performed across Vermont, including a work commissioned from a Vermont composer.

Burlington Discover Jazz Festival, Burlington

\$6,650 to support 21st Annual Burlington Discover Jazz Festival through live performances & educational programs.

Technical Assistance Grants

Brattleboro Museum and Art Center, Brattleboro

\$500 to support advanced training in Visual Thinking Strategies.

Counterpoint, Belmont

\$500 to support consultation with Christine Graham on feasibility and design of a development plan for Counterpoint's long term goals.

Fun For Change, Williston

\$500 to support a site visit and consultation with Scott Parker of the Institute for Outdoor Drama.

Onion River Arts Council, Montpelier

\$500 to support the Program Director's attendance at the annual Association of Performing Arts Presenters convention.

Rockingham Arts & Museum Project (RAMP), Bellows Falls

\$400 to support attendance at the National Trust for Historic Preservation Conference.



Historic painted theater curtains restored by the Vermont Museum and Gallery Alliance for the Sudbury Meeting House.

Vermont International Film Festival, Burlington

\$250 to support participation in the public launching and workshop of the International Network of Human Rights.

Vermont Museum and Gallery Alliance, Woodstock

\$500 to support the VMGA Executive Director's attendance at the Americans for the Arts/National Assembly of State Arts Agencies Joint Convention.

Vermont Museum and Gallery Alliance, Woodstock

\$500 to support the presentation of the "Painted Curtains" project at the annual meeting of the American Institute of Conservation" in Portland, Maine.

Vermont Youth Orchestra Association, Colchester

\$500 to support the attendance to the American Symphony Orchestra League national conference in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Weston Playhouse Theatre Company, Weston

\$650 to support the hiring of a consultant to facilitate the Annual Board Retreat.

Yellow Barn Music School & Festival, Putney

\$500 to support a planning initiative to include in-depth organizational analysis and creation of a new mission statement and strategic plan addressing facilities, fund-raising, and program issues.

Barre Housing Authority, Barre

\$1,250 to support the Green Acres Arts Program for the residents of Green Acres Housing.

Barre Opera House, Barre

\$3,250 to support the 2003-2004 Celebration Series outreach activities, including residencies, workshops, receptions, and discount tickets offered to underserved members of the community.

Burklyn Arts Council, Lyndonville

\$3,227 to support Northeast Kingdom's Dance Unity Project, "Break Loose," to bring professional hip-hop dancers and rural teens together for classes.

Cambridge Arts Council, Cambridge

\$4,500 to support monthly live performances and discussions with artists in the rural communities of Cambridge, Waterville, and Belvidere.

Capitol Chamber Artists Inc, Benson

\$4,500 to support the 35th annual anniversary season entitled "Romanticism: 100 years of music from Vermont, Early America, and Europe".

The Carving Studio & Sculpture Center, West Rutland

\$2,736 to support the Vermont Artist-in-Residence Program in which 4 Vermont sculptors will be offered week-long residencies at the Carving Studio.

Catamount Film and Arts Center, St. Johnsbury

\$3,500 to support a series of concerts for students and the public to continue community outreach and audience development initiatives, as well as cooperative ventures with area schools.

The Circus Barn, Greensboro

\$6,650 to support artists fees & publicity of Big Top Tour.

Bakersfield Historical Society Corp., Bakersfield

\$1,402 to support an accessible ramp and landing at the front entrance of the Bakersfield Historical Society.

Barre Historical Society, Barre

\$2,293 to support the installation of draperies in the Main Hall of the Barre Socialist Labor Hall to make the venue acoustically acceptable for musical performances.

Bennington Museum, Bennington

\$5,000 to support installation of air conditioning & environmental controls in 5 of the Bennington Museum's 12 galleries.

Birds of Vermont Museum, Huntington

\$1,250 to purchase an experimental fiber optic panel to improve display lighting at the Birds of Vermont Museum.

Downtown Rutland Partnership, Rutland

\$500 to support Downtown Rutland's Annual Ethnic Festival, a free multi-cultural event featuring music, dance, crafts, and ethnic cuisine.

Franklin NW Supervisory Union, Swanton

\$2,250 to support performances by the W'Abenaki Dance Troupe, Joseph Bruchac, and Flint Eagle at Missisquoi Valley High School as part of Abenaki Heritage Week.

Hilltop House, Inc., Brattleboro

\$750 to support juried artist, Terry Sylvester, in working with elderly residents at the Hilltop House to create a mural.

Island Arts, North Hero

\$4,000 to support Island Arts' 2004 Events Season bringing a range of arts experiences to residents and visitors to Grand Isle County.

Montgomery Historical Society, Montgomery

\$750 to support 3 concerts as part of the 16th annual Concerts on the Common series.

Opera North, White River Junction

\$6,300 to support the presentation of educational opera programs in eight remote and underserved schools and communities in Vermont.

The Piper's Gathering, Inc, South Dartmouth, MA

\$4,500 to support the planning and presentation of a 3-day gathering of "alternative" bagpipers to include concerts, master instruction, and workshops in North Hero, VT.

River Arts of Morrisville, Morrisville

\$3,250 to support a series of community workshops serving adults and youth of Lamoille County.

Estey Organ Museum, Brattleboro

\$5,000 to support renovation of the Engine House at the former Estey Organ Company into museum and exhibition space, including window repair, asbestos removal, floor stabilization, and electrical repairs.

Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium, St. Johnsbury

\$3,100 to improve the heating system at the Fairbanks Museum.

Friends of Hildene, Manchester

\$3,200 to support the installation of UV-protected storm windows at the Hildene Mansion.

Hyde Park Opera House, Hyde Park

\$3,080 to support the conversion of electrical service from 200 to 400 amps and install adequate backstage lighting.

South Burlington Community Library, So. Burlington

\$940 to support the program "Music for All: A Sunday Afternoon Concert Series" which will feature 5 concerts by five Vermont juried musicians.

The Vermont Council of the Blind, South Burlington

\$2,250 to support the theater audio description project.

Vermont Folklife Center, Middlebury

\$3,500 to support a survey exhibit of Vermont folk and traditional artists, which includes objects, photographs, and artist interviews.

Walter S. Burnham Series, Lincoln

\$250 to support a performance by Waldo and Woodhead during Lincoln's Hill Country Holiday festival.

Warebrook Contemporary Music Festival, Irasburg

\$4,000 to support the performance fees and presentation of modern chamber and vocal music at the 13th Annual Festival.

Washington County Youth Service Bureau, Montpelier

\$1,625 to support arts-based residencies as part of Barre's Cityscape program.

Weston Playhouse Theatre Company, Weston

\$6,650 to support education and outreach efforts of the Weston Playhouse, including teacher workshops, performance guides, school matinees, accessibility services, and a winter reading series.

Yellow Barn Music School & Festival, Putney

\$6,300 to support a series of interactive outreach events for at-risk youth, seniors, and the general community at eight venues during Yellow Barn's 2004 summer season.

Underserved
Community
Project Grants

Cultural
Facilities
Grants

Cultural Facilities Grants

continued

Rupert Schoolhouse, West Rupert

\$5,000 to support the purchase and installation of an elevator for the Rupert Schoolhouse, providing access to the second floor of the historic society and library.

Sudbury Meeting House, Sudbury

\$3,404 to support the restoration of the Sudbury Meeting House, including the installation of accessible restrooms.

Town of Hartland, Hartland

\$3,584 to support an upgrade of theatrical lighting in the auditorium of Damon Hall in Hartland.

Wilder Club & Library, White River Jct

\$4,000 to support the installation of storm windows and required plumbing at the Wilder Club and Library.

"It would be hard to overstate the importance of this program... Chipping away at the essential restoration work, as well as accessibility fundraising, is hard and every grant provides motivation and validation as well as vital funds."

Peter Schaal - Trustee, Wilder Club & Library

GRANTS FOR EDUCATION

Arts Integration Education Initiative Grants

Middletown Springs Elementary School, Middletown Springs

\$250 to support hiring a facilitator for an initial community meeting and to reimburse supplies and mileage expenses for a school Arts Integration Team.

Middletown Springs Elementary School, Middletown Springs

\$1,800 to support the planning process for developing a community vision for arts education and implementation of an assessment strategy for arts integration.

Mountain School at Winhall, Bondville

\$1,500 to support researching best practices in arts integration to develop an overall plan that best suits the Mountain School at Winhall.



Oak Grove School, Brattleboro

\$1,000 to support planning an integrated arts program at Oak Grove School.

Sacred Heart Schools Inc., Bennington

\$2,500 to support the development of an Integrated Arts Education curriculum and program at Sacred Heart School in Bennington.

Westminster School, Westminster

\$3,300 to support the integration of visual arts, environmental studies, and children's picture literature through sketching.

Photo, left: Head Start staff participate in "Creating with Clay" workshop with Bonnie Stearns at Champlain Valley Head Start.

Head Start Arts Partnership Grants

Brattleboro Museum and Art Center, Brattleboro

\$2,000 to support a collaboration between Early Education Services and Brattleboro Museum to bring a clay artist or musician to sixteen Head Start classrooms.

Burlington City Arts, Burlington

\$2,000 to support the Early Arts Program, a year long visual arts program in Head Start classrooms.

Champlain Valley Head Start, Burlington

\$500 to support hands-on workshops of creative movement with tarin chaplin, and clay with Bonnie Stearns to improve creative opportunities offered to Head Start children.

Onion River Arts Council, Montpelier

\$2,000 to support the continued partnership between Onion River Arts Council and the Central Vermont Community Action Council to bring multi-disciplinary artists to Head Start sites in Central Vermont.

Paramount Theatre, Rutland

\$2,000 to support the Rutland County Head Start Partnership in providing music residencies with Linda MacFarlane in 12 Head Start classrooms.

Vermont State Craft Gallery, Windsor

\$2,000 to support the Windsor Head Start program partnership with the Vermont State Craft Gallery in bringing two artists to 6 Head Start classrooms.



Making clay eggs for a nest. Photo courtesy of Brattleboro Head Start Arts Partnership.

Arlington Area Childcare, Inc., Arlington
\$5,000 to support a multidisciplinary arts enrichment program for children, families, teachers, and community members.

Beeman Elementary School, New Haven
\$2,500 to support a school residency program with *Dancing with Horses* to bring creative movement into the classroom.

Bellows Free Academy-Fairfax, Fairfax
\$2,343 to support a residency with Circus Smirkus as a culminating event for a year-long celebration of BFA's 100th anniversary.

Central School, South Burlington
\$3,337 to support "Africa! Live Dance, Live Music," a year-long study of the geography and culture of Africa, culminating in a 3-week residency with Karen Amirault.

The Compass School, Westminster Station
\$2,316 to support the creation of a music/theater production by students and community members about changes in agriculture in the Connecticut River Valley.

Cornwall Elementary School, Middlebury
\$1,300 to support a student-written performance using the West African tradition of call-and-response through dance, percussion, and story.

Creative Preschool Inc., Strafford
\$750 to support a week-long residency with Graciela Monteagudo to promote arts, cultural, and language programs of South America.

Eden Central School, Eden
\$1,500 to support a 2-week residency with Circus Smirkus.

Arts Presenters of Northern New England, Keene
\$250 to support presentation by Jonathan Katz at APNNE Annual Meeting.

Governor's Institutes of Vermont, Montpelier
\$7,000 to support the 2004 Governor's Institute on the Arts.

National Assoc. of Comics Arts Educators, White River
\$6,000 to support the development of a comprehensive business plan that will lead to the creation of a new graduate art school in downtown White River Junction.

New England Foundation for the Arts, Boston
\$12,500 to support Regional Arts Programming for Vermont artists and arts organizations.

Georgia School, St. Albans
\$1,500 to support a residency week with Burlington Taiko as part of a broader study of Japanese art and culture.

Halifax School, West Halifax
\$1,500 to support a 10-day folkdance residency with Rachele Ackerman.

Johnson Elementary School, Johnson
\$3,140 to support a 2-week residency with Karen Amirault as part of the "On the Move" community wide year-long program of dance and movement.

Main Street Middle School, Montpelier
\$750 to support a residency with the Vermont Dance Collective in an integrated study of "New Ideas of the Renaissance."

Newport Elementary School, Newport
\$5,000 to support "Project Peace," an integrated fine arts project supported by an artist residency with Jon Gailmor.

Northeast Primary School, Rutland
\$750 to support a residency with Taino as part of a year-long thematic study of Jamaica entitled "Caribbean Carnival."

Peoples Academy, Morrisville
\$3,000 to support "Our Language is Art: History, Community, and Youth," an arts-integrated classroom instruction and artistic development program.

PTA VT Congress Richford PTA, Richford
\$750 to support a week-long residency titled "Ethno Botany" in which students will explore and celebrate Native American art, history, and culture with Abenaki art educator Judy Dow.

Vermont Crafts Council, Montpelier
\$3,000 to support the 12th Annual Open Studio weekend.

Vermont Design Institute, Burlington
\$1,500 to support ongoing community design and planning across the state and to develop outreach programs associated with VDI's Groundswell publication.

Vermont Folklife Center, Middlebury
\$3,000 to support field research and documentation of traditional artists.

Vermont Museum and Gallery Alliance, Woodstock
\$25,000 to support a statewide restoration project of historical painted theater curtains.

Ripton Elementary School, Ripton
\$1,700 to support a schoolwide thematic unit on West Africa through a residency by Joe Sallins (African drum), a workshop by Art Costa (African masks), and a performance by Les Ballets Africains.

Timson Hill Preschool & Children's Center, Williamsville
\$1,100 to support a music enrichment program with juried artist Becky Graber to encourage creative expression and movement through music.

Tinmouth Elementary School, Tinmouth
\$2,067 to support pottery residency with Diane Rosenmiller for students, faculty, and staff, as well as evening community workshops with potter Nicholas Seidner.

Vermont MIDI/ARTT Project, Essex Junction
\$3,750 to support stipends for teachers and artists to attend the Arts and Technology Summer Institute.

Waitsfield Elementary School, Waitsfield
\$750 to support a week-long residency with Circus Smirkus.

Wallingford Elementary School, Wallingford
\$2,338 to support "WES-Feeling Good," a 5-week, schoolwide study of wellness, incorporating a 2-week dance residency with Karen Amirault.

Windsor Central Supervisory Union, Woodstock
\$1,108 to support a residency with Kerstin Nichols to create sandcast plaster relief sculptures for a permanent installation within the school.

Vermont Studio Center, Johnson
\$1,000 to support a residency with State Poet Grace Paley as part of the National Laureates Residency Program.

VT Alliance for Arts Education, Fairlee
\$650 to support workshops and scholarships for teaching artists to attend the Vermont Alliance for Arts Education Fall Conference.

VT Alliance for Arts Education, Fairlee
\$7,447 to support professional development and arts education conference opportunities for Vermont arts educators and artists.

GRANT REVIEW PANELISTS

Many thanks to all our volunteer panelists for their long hours of preparation and thoughtful deliberations.

CREATION GRANTS

Geraldine Battle, Marlboro
 Brook Ciardelli, White River Junction
 Meg Cottam, Shaftsbury
 Carol Driscoll, West Rutland
 Deb Ellis, Burlington
 Malcolm Ewen, Weston
 David Gusakov, Bristol
 Mary Hays, Corinth
 Linda Jones, Burlington
 Linda Rubinstein, East Dummerston
 Dorothy Tod, Warren
 Meg Walker, Charlotte

ADDITIONAL READERS FOR CREATION GRANTS

Jane Forde, Portsmouth, NH
 Maggie Holtzberg, Boston, MA
 Larry Polansky, Hanover, NH

PRESENTATION GRANTS

Emanuel Betz, Richmond
 Charles C. Browne, St. Johnsbury
 David Carris, Marshfield
 Joe Clifford, Hanover, NH
 Donald Grabowski, Barre
 Peggy Henry, St. Johnsbury
 Mickey Myers, Johnson
 Liza Sacheli, Middlebury
 Thom Wolke, Claremont, NH
 Jude Valentine, Londonderry

EDUCATION GRANTS

Francis Brooks, Montpelier
 Robyn Davis, Charlotte
 Wendy Cohen, Montpelier
 Tim Jennings, Montpelier
 Kirsten Nichols, Hartford
 Tony Pietricola, Grand Isle
 Claire Ogelsby, Brattleboro
 Steve Small, Middlebury
 Ann Taylor, Fairlee

ARTS INTEGRATION EDUCATION INITIATIVE GRANTS

Susan Raber Bray, Charlotte
 Jonathan Silverman, Charlotte
 Philip Schoolman, Townshend

CULTURAL FACILITIES GRANTS

Mary Hepburn, Saxtons River
 Jan Herder, Johnson
 Jim Ross, Cornwall
 David Schütz, Montpelier
 Roger Shaffer, Barton

JURIED ARTIST DIRECTORY

Literature

Ellen Bryant Voigt, Marshfield
 Lequita Vance-Watkins, Rutland

Music

Jane Ambrose, Burlington
 Robert DeCormier, Belmont
 Sara Doncaster, Irasburg
 Eugene Uman, Brattleboro
 Diane Zeigler, Montpelier

Theater/Dance & Film

Carol Dawes, Barre
 Stu McGowan, Burlington
 Rob Mermin, Greensboro
 Lisa Nelson, East Charleston
 Aimée Petrin, Burlington

Visual Arts

Brian Cohen, Westminster Station
 Dennis Grady, South Pomfret
 William Hays, Brattleboro
 Marie Shirkus, Craftsbury
 Andrea Wasserman, Vershire

JURIED ARTIST – EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICE INTERVIEWS

Jean Olson, Montpelier
 Terry Sylvester, Brattleboro
 Annie Van Avery, Montpelier

The Art in State Buildings Program, a partnership with the Vermont Department of Buildings & General Services, brings art into the public spaces of Vermont. The Vermont Art in State Buildings Act was passed in 1988 and allows a maximum of two capital construction projects to be selected annually and that a specified amount of funds be transferred annually to an Art Acquisition Fund to support those projects. Appropriate works of art are commissioned by an Art Selection Panel made up of representatives from the Vermont Department of Buildings and General Services, the community, and visual arts experts.



Jim Florschutz in his workshop

The Council has been successfully meeting our goal of integrating artists into the early planning stages of building projects. This year, in the Bennington State Office Building, artist Mary Laulis from Warren has been working directly with the architects, Bill Maclay and Steve Frey to design and create a granite,



Lynne Newcomb at her forge.

slate, and marble tile floor for the lobby of the renovated building. Jim Florschutz from Newfane, has worked with architect Tim Smith to integrate slate and glass architectural enhancements into the lobby of the new Rutland County Courthouse.

Additional works of art will also adorn the walls of the 2nd and 3rd floors of the new Courthouse as a call to artists has been issued to enhance the upstairs corridors and waiting areas.

Also, Lynn Newcomb of Worcester has successfully partnered with Michael Wisniewski, architect and H. Keith Wagner, landscape architect, and has designed and fabricated a new sculpture for the Interstate 89 Northbound Rest Area in Williston.

Projects like these help “to enhance environments and improve the character and quality of State buildings in order to create an environment of distinction, enjoyment, and pride for Vermont.”

James Florschutz, Newfane

\$1,000 to support the design of artistic architectural enhancements for the Rutland County Courthouse.

James Florschutz, Newfane

\$1,000 to support the re-design of artistic architectural enhancements for the Rutland County Courthouse.

James Florschutz, Newfane

\$10,000 to support the creation of architecturally integrated slate & glass elements in the Rutland County Courthouse.

Mary Laulis, Warren

\$500 to support the design of a floor for downtown Bennington State Office Building.

Mary Laulis, Warren

\$4,500 to support the creation of granite, slate, and marble tile floor for the downtown Bennington State Office Building.

Lynn Newcomb, Worcester

\$500 to support the design of a sculpture for installation at the Interstate 89 Northbound Rest Area in Williston.

Lynn Newcomb, Worcester

\$4,500 to support the creation of a sculpture for the Interstate 89 Northbound Rest Area in Williston.

ART IN STATE BUILDINGS PANELISTS

BENNINGTON STATE OFFICE BUILDING

Evita Cobo, Community College of Vermont
 Marcia Russo, Vermont Department of Health
 David Sagi, Vermont Department of Vocational Rehabilitation
 Joel Lentzner, Fiddleheads Gallery
 Jay Swainbank, Vermont Department of Buildings
 & General Services
 Bill McClay, William Maclay Architects and Planners
 Steve Frey, William Maclay Architects and Planners

WILLISTON I-89 NORTHBOUND REST AREA

Helene Tingle, Vermont Department of Tourism & Marketing
 John Cammarano, Lake Champlain Regional Chamber of Commerce
 Sarah Katz, Burlington City Arts
 Michael Wisniewski, Architect
 H. Keith Wagner, Landscape Architect
 Roger Tetrault, Vermont Department of Buildings
 & General Services

RUTLAND COURTHOUSE

Marlene Burke, Superior Court
 Laurie Canty, Rutland District Court
 Jean Coloutti, Superior Court
 Carol Driscoll, The Carving Studio and Sculpture Center
 Jim Florschutz, Lead Artist Team
 Diane Henderson, Rutland District Court
 Kathleen Korstange, Rutland District Court
 Mariel Pitti, Lead Artist Team
 Tim Smith, Timothy D. Smith & Assoc PC
 Jay Swainbank, Vermont Department of Buildings
 & General Services

*Slate delivered to worksite for the Rutland
 County Courthouse project by Jim Florschutz.*

THANKS ALSO FOR THE DEDICATED SERVICE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE ART IN STATE BUILDINGS LEGISLATIVE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND ITS DESIGNEES

Alexander L. Aldrich, Executive Director, Vermont Arts Council
 Sen. Vincent Illuzzi, Vermont Senate, Chair, Institutions Committee
 Christopher Liddle, Chair, Vermont State Board of Architects
 David Schutz, Curator of State Buildings, Vermont Department of
 Buildings & General Services
 Thomas Torti, Commissioner, Vermont Department of Buildings
 & General Services
 Rep. Robert Wood, Vermont House of Representatives, Chair,
 Institutions Committee
 Sen. Ann Cummings, Vermont Senate, Committee Designee



On Thursday, September 4, 2003, the Vermont Arts Council celebrated the opening of the first exhibit of outdoor sculpture in its new Sculpture Garden. The artists, craftspeople and workers who helped create the new Sculpture Garden joined Governor Douglas, members of the Legislature, representatives of the City of Montpelier, the Department of Buildings and General Services, the State Information Services Division, and the general public in celebrating the realization of a decade-long dream.

Located at 136 State Street, Montpelier, between the Vermont Arts Council and the Capitol Region Visitors Center, is an oasis of natural and human-made beauty that is available to the public as a place to visit, picnic, reflect, and enjoy.

The Vermont Arts Council Sculpture Garden was designed to enhance the outdoor facilities in the downtown Capital Complex. As conceived, the garden is a public/private collaboration that will contain rotating exhibits of contemporary sculpture created by Vermont artists.

The Sculpture Garden was designed by H. Keith Wagner and Associates, landscape architects from Burlington, VT.

Special thanks to Mara Williams, Curator from Brattleboro, Vermont and to Carol Driscoll, Director of the Carving Studio and Sculpture Center in West Rutland. Mara selected three works from the large collection of sculptures located at the Carving Studio. The sculptures by artists Ryder Owens, James Durrett and Carol Driscoll join "For Jim," by North Bennington artist Willard Boepple, the only permanent piece in the Sculpture Garden.



SCULPTURE GARDEN

A GENTLE CARESS BY RYDER OWENS, 2003 WEST RUTLAND, VT AND MONTEVALLO, AL

"Concave and convex shapes represent a vessel, which serves as a metaphor for the human figure and embodies the essential female/male, inside/outside, positive/negative dialog. Leaving the stone unfinished where the two events meet reinforces the importance of the transition from concave to convex. A GENTLE CARESS blends the path of the stone and the path of the artist and shows what is on the inside: the care, the emotion, and the love."



BECOMING ROUND BY CAROL DRISCOLL, 2003 WEST RUTLAND



"The sculptor communicates through the transformation of ideas into form. BECOMING ROUND is a metaphor for this transformation. The visual immobility of rectangular slabs is overcome as they are carved and stacked into a sphere – a typically active form. BECOMING ROUND explores the idea of arrested motion, with the assembled discs working cooperatively to create and maintain a spherical shape."

About the Sculptures

About the
Sculptures
continued

**FOR JIM BY WILLARD BOEPPLE
NORTH BENNINGTON, VT**

"I am an abstract sculptor and I want my sculpture to speak in a language of its own invention, create a reality of its own terms. A good sculpture gives us a glimpse of the world through a fresh eye. That being said, the Goldstone sculpture FOR JIM came to life in my mind's eye the way that Jim moved. I tried to get into the sculpture a sense of his gentle, lanky grace – the way he walked or stood holding a glass. Remembering Jim, that is what I saw and what I miss seeing today."



James Goldstone was a resident of Shaftsbury, VT., a director and producer of film on large silver and small television screens, a co-founder and chair of the Vermont Film Commission and a trustee of the Vermont Arts Council. He died of cancer in the fall of 1999.



**ICARUS BY JAMES DURRETT,
2003 - WEST RUTLAND, VT**

"ICARUS is based on a story critical of the Greek myth titled Icaromenippus" (translates into 'up in the clouds'). It is a satire written by 12th century author Lucian. This sculpture portrays the movement of stone through the clouds mimicking the heroism and foolhardiness of overreaching."

**ARTS
INTEGRATION
EDUCATION
INITIATIVE**

The Arts Integration Education Initiative is a new effort to work with schools, teachers and teaching artists to create programs and curricula that combine arts and academics to improve student engagement and learning. Numerous studies confirm such integration to be an effective teaching tool, and to reach students who might not venture into an arts classroom.

The Arts Integration Education Initiative became a new grant category for the Council and delivered grants for Planning and Implementation.

The Robinson Elementary School in Starksboro received a Comprehensive School Reform grant in the arts in FY03. They were an invaluable resource for recipients of the Council's Arts Integration Education Initiative Planning Grants throughout FY04 as recipients looked for ideas for future Implementation Grant applications.

Local Arts Agencies were again encouraged to partner with local schools to apply for the VT Department of Education's 21st Century After School grants. One of these grants was awarded to People's Academy in partnership with River Arts of Morrisville.

The Council sponsored scholarships for teaching artists to attend the Fall and Spring Vermont Alliance for Arts Education (VAAE) Conferences as well as workshops demonstrating Integrated Arts Education.

In June 2003 the Council convened a committee of arts educators to make recommendations to the Council and the Department of Education about state priorities in arts education.

The Head Start Arts Partnership consists of partnerships between each of five community arts organizations and their area Head Start Centers in which artists are engaged to work directly with children in the classroom, as well as with parents and teachers.

This year we continued to reach out to other early childhood education programs by providing professional development

The Council fulfills a requirement of its partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts by facilitating programs and providing resources that help bring the arts to communities that might otherwise have no access to cultural opportunities.

The Head Start Arts Partnerships continued to include attendance at performances and galleries by participants as well as parent evenings that focus on arts.

The Council's ongoing relationship with the Vermont Folklife Center reaches out to identify and recruit ethnic artists to list themselves in the Council's on-line Arts Directory, to apply for

The Vermont Arts Council participates in the planning of the annual Vermont Travel Industry Conference in an effort to continue to make members of the Tourism industry aware of the importance of Cultural Heritage Tourism.

For the first time in FY04, the Council was a part sponsor of the Conference, providing a display of tourism arts opportunities available throughout the state and distributing the new Cultural Heritage Tourism Tool Kit.

workshops for teachers and artists working with pre-K children.

For the second year artists gave workshops at the Early Childhood Learning Conference in Lyndonville. Day-long workshops were held in Arlington and Newport. Movement: The Language of Children focused on expressive movement for children with and without disabilities. In-Service workshops on the use of clay and dance were offered for the staff of Champlain Valley Head Start.

Juried Artist designation, and to apply for grants through the Council's Creation grant program.

The Council's Access Consultant, Renee Wells, provided advice and was a resource for arts organizations throughout Vermont. As a result of the FY03 statewide Access Committee's recommendations, a Central Vermont Local Access Committee was formed to make Audio Description and American Sign Language interpretation available at theater performances in the area. Numerous patrons who are blind or have low vision were able to enjoy a much more fulfilling experience at the theater.

A second cultural tourism publication, a *Tour Guide for Discovering the Northeast Kingdom*, was released in a festive unveiling in the summer of 2003. The Guide includes artists' studios, historic sites, galleries, farms, museums, festivals, and farmers' markets along with lodgings and restaurants using the format developed for Addison County and included in the Tool Kit.

HEAD START ARTS PARTNERSHIPS

BRINGING THE ARTS TO UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES

CULTURAL HERITAGE TOURISM

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Five local arts organizations each received two-year local Arts Partnership grants to fund outreach activities in their communities. (See list of grantees on page 17.) These grants enable arts organizations to reach out to underserved constituents including youth-at-risk, elderly, and low-income populations, as well as through municipalities and regional service organizations.

Regular meetings with Local Arts Service Organizations are convened by the Council to share programs and ideas, and to focus

on different outreach activities such as Education/Schools, Cultural Heritage Tourism, youth-at-risk, access, advocacy, community festivals, and municipal and regional planning. The group of organizations continues to expand as more arts organizations become increasingly involved in community development.

DANVILLE TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

The Vermont Arts Council has now completed the fourth year of its collaboration with the Vermont Agency of Transportation and the Town of Danville to enhance the design for the reconstruction of a portion of US Highway Route 2 which runs through the heart of this historic, rural community.

Project artists David Raphael, ASLA, and sculptor Andrea Wasserman have continued to work with the highway engineers to address the specific goals of the project and the needs of the Danville community.

Some of the highlights of the year were:

August 2003:

Project profiled in Art in the Public Interest (API) Community Arts Network

October 2003:

Project profiled in New York Foundation for the Art's newsletter *Current*

Project artists invited to attend the Americans for the Arts' Animating Democracy conference in Flint, MI

February 2004:

Discussions began with community artist Maggie Sherman of Hands On Productions concerning an arts-based program in the local school and installation event related to the Project for presentation at a community-wide event in Danville in the fall of 2004

March 2004:

Vermont Arts Council invited to design a workshop about the Danville Project to be presented at as part of the Animating Democracy Initiative at pARTicipate2004, the joint conference of Americans for the Arts and the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies

May 2004:

Bess O'Brien of Kingdom County Productions and videographer Mary Arbuckle presented the expanded version (29 minutes) of the documentary film they are making to chronicle the Danville Project

Project profiled in *Vermont Life* magazine Summer 2004 issue

June 2004:

Final construction drawings prepared by the artists and delivered to the Vermont Agency of Transportation by the Council

The Vermont Arts Council sponsors a fully accessible exhibition space in its offices at 136 State Street in Montpelier. The Spotlight Gallery offers rotating exhibits of Vermont artists throughout the year. Each exhibit is on display for two months and often includes a public reception with the artist. Artists who participate are offered a small honorarium, technical assistance, and publicity for the exhibit which regularly results in a professional review. Many of the Spotlight Gallery exhibits feature emerging Vermont artists and offers them their first opportunity for a solo show.

JULY/AUGUST 2003 - KATE POND, BURLINGTON

World Sculpture Project - a "behind the scenes" look at Kate's international sculpture projects with samples of designs, drawings, site photographs, and some of the artwork created by young people in response to Kate's sculptures.



SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2003 - STEVE SOPER, RUTLAND

Digital Self-Expression: Image Manipulation, Enhancement And Painting Through The Computer - Using Adobe Photoshop, Corel's Bryce 3-D, and Studio Artist by Synthetik Software, Steve Soper enhances

digital portraits and creates original abstractions. Many of his images use one or more photos for the foundation, but most of his abstract work is created from scratch.



NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2003 - CAROLYN ENZ, THETFORD CENTER

New Oil Paintings - Carolyn Enz paints in a representational style, and has shown her work in Vermont, New Hampshire, and New York City. She holds a BFA

from the Mason Gross School of Art at Rutgers University and has studied at the Cornish Institute in Seattle, WA. She has also taught scene painting for the Dartmouth College Drama Department.

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2004: Two Rivers Printmaking Studio, WHITE RIVER JUNCTION

Thirteen artists offer diverse expressions of the printmaker's art. TRPS is a non-profit organization offering membership to artists and amateurs who are interested in learning and exploring new and traditional forms of printmaking. TRPS recognizes the expressive power of all printmaking media and offers relief, intaglio, stone, and plate lithography and monotype printmaking as well as their photographic adjuncts.



MARCH/APRIL 2004- CHARLOTTE HASTINGS, BURLINGTON

Mixed Media - Charlotte teaches art and writing and is a Professor of Liberal Studies, Vermont College, Montpelier. A conceptual artist, who is self described as rather cerebral, said she rediscovered the fun of media directed art-making during a residency program last summer in printmaking at Tougaloo University, MS.



MAY/JUNE 2004 - DELIA ROBINSON, MONTPELIER

Acrylic mixed media paintings focusing on the intersection of dream and the natural world - Delia Robinson has exhibited widely in solo, group, and invitational shows in Vermont, the U.S. and internationally. Her work is found in private collections worldwide, including those of prominent artists and public figures, as well as in the Special Collections, University of Vermont Library (Artist's Books).

STAY CONNECTED

The Vermont Arts Council offers several resources to help both the Vermont arts community and its fans stay in touch.



ONLINE ARTS DIRECTORY

Are you an artist or arts organization interested in an effective and FREE marketing tool? Are you an arts supporter who wants to know what your favorite artist or arts group is up to? Are you searching for just the right musical entertainment for an upcoming wedding? The Online Arts Directory is an easy to use, searchable database of over 700 Vermont artists and arts organizations. Each listing offers a profile, complete contact information, including automatic email and website links and an optional image. The Arts Directory is by far the most popular and most frequently visited area of the Council's website. If you would like more information contact the Communications Director at 802-828-5422, or visit our website www.vermontartscouncil.org/directory.

ARTMAIL

Twice a month, the Council offers a free e-newsletter which provides a digest of Council, Vermont, regional, and national news about or affecting the arts; recognition of Vermont artists' accomplishments; a listing of current opportunities from conferences, to jobs, to funding, to "calls to artists;" a list of upcoming events all around the state; as well as suggestions for resources and other useful websites. View the current issue on our website www.vermontartscouncil.org and if you would like to subscribe, send a message to artmail@vermontartscouncil.org.

COUNCIL STAFF



Alexander L. (Alex) Aldrich
Executive Director
Home Town: Montpelier
Years of service: 8

Alex is the Council's primary arts advocate articulating why investing public dollars in the arts in Vermont makes good sense.

Areas of expertise: Music, Musical Comedy, and Arts Administration

Services to the Field: Lobbying, public speaking, and serving as an active partner in bringing non-arts resources to bear on issues relating to the cultural sector.



Michele Bailey
Director of Creation & Presentation Programs
Home Town: Hyde Park
Years of service: 17

Michele oversees grant programs and services to artists and arts organizations, including the jury process for the Arts Directory and the Council's Public Art Program.

Areas of expertise: BFA in Theater, w/minor in Dance from Johnson State College; 7 years facilitating public art projects; 9 years as Program Director for artists programs and services.

Services to the field: Provides technical assistance to grant applicants through individual consultations, workshops; consults with communities and organizations to help them incorporate public art into their community, construction project etc.; provides resource referrals to artists and organizations; recruits artists and arts organizations for on-line Arts Directory; represents Vermont at national conferences on public art.



**Sara Bunnell,
Development &
Communications Assistant**
Home Town: St. Johnsbury
Years of service: 6

Sara provides administrative and logistical support for the fundraising and communications activities of the Council.

Areas of Expertise: Database management, desktop publishing, graphic design, event planning

Services to the field: Sara is information central for the Council and receives and responds to the many inquiries from Council constituents and supporters. She maintains the Council's central database, which serves as a resource to both staff and the public.



**Elaine Dufresne,
Administrative Director**
Home Town: Williamstown
Years of service: 16

Elaine provides administrative and fiscal oversight to ensure the Council fulfills its mission and maintains the public's trust.

Areas of expertise: The arcane and often mysterious intricacies of both state and federal budget and fiscal reporting requirements.

Services to the Field: Elaine helps to ensure that the Council is competitive for receiving state and federal funds for the arts.



**Lindsey Harty, Grants
Manager**
Home Town: Morrisville
Years of Service: 1

Lindsey coordinates and manages all the details associated with the Council's grant programs and provides support to the grants program staff and grant applicants.

Expertise: Lindsey received a B.F.A in Sculpture from Rhode Island School of Design, and is a practicing artist whose work ranges from fabric and fibers, to photography to metalwork. She also has a background in Art History, Theory, and Criticism, with a particular focus on contemporary methodologies.

Services to the Field: Provides general support to all grants applicants through individual conversations and correspondence, as well as coordinating grant seeker workshops and the Spotlight Gallery shows.



Lori Hayer, Fiscal Assistant
Home Town: Warren
Years of service: 6

Lori is responsible for maintaining financial records and administering Council payroll and accounts payable. She also coordinates the Council's information technology infrastructure and serves as in-house IT guru.

Areas of Expertise: Database management, information technology, needlecrafts, keeping her head when all around her are losing theirs.

Services to the Field: Lori helps the Council maintain accurate and useful records as well as provide assistance to the public.



**Janice King, Executive
Assistant**
Home Town: Barre
Years of Service: 1

Janice serves in the pivotal role of Assistant to the Executive Director. She also provides support to and coordinates all of the activities of the Board of Trustees, maintains the Council's central files and helps to coordinate special events. She has a degree in Theater and worked in the entertainment industry in California for 20 years.

Expertise: Organization and time management, working with diverse personalities and dry sense of humor.

Services to the Field: Janice ensures that Alex stays on schedule and that the trustees are able to effectively serve the Council.

The Council extends its appreciation and thanks to other staff who served during the FY2004 year: Arlene Coughlin, Angela Patten, Heather Pipino and Jamie Kors. Special thanks to our summer clerk Jean O'Brien, and our temporary Development Associate, Diane Ziegler.



Janet Ressler, Director of Arts Education and Community Programs, 504/ADA Coordinator
Home Town: Montpelier

Years of service: 16

Janet works to enhance education and community development in Vermont through the integration of artists and arts organizations into all aspects of the community and to furthering the inclusion of all Vermonters in cultural opportunities.

Services to the field: Janet routinely provides advice and consultation to community arts organizations and schools throughout the state on organizational development, grant writing, community partnerships, and addressing accessibility issues. She also works with the Vermont Department of Education, the Vermont Alliance for Arts Education, and others to advocate and further the case for greater inclusion of arts education and integrating arts into all aspects of the educational system.

Expertise: Organizational development, community outreach, fundraising, presentation, cultural tourism, integrated arts education, dance, weaving, and sewing.



Diane Manion Scolaro, Development Director
Home town: Montpelier
Years of service: 1

Diane is responsible for community development and fundraising to support the Vermont Arts Council's program and services.

Expertise: The former executive director of Onion River Arts Council, Diane has extensive experience in fundraising through membership, sponsorship, grant writing and municipal support. She has worked to integrate the arts into many facets of the community through collaborations with municipalities, schools, and social service agencies.

Service to the field: Resource to artists and arts organizations for event planning and budgeting, community development, fundraising, and grant writing. She is an active and respected advocate for the arts in downtown development and cultural planning, and a peer advisor for community groups seeking to incorporate the arts into their programs.



Andrea Stander, Communications Director
Home Town: Montpelier
Years of service: 5

Andrea promotes the Council's programs and services; coordinates its information services, media relations and public outreach; oversees the website; edits the *ArtMail* e-newsletter; and provides strategic planning and training for the Council's advocacy efforts.

Areas of expertise: Writing, editing, research, public speaking, event planning, audio visual production, creative problem-solving, community organizing, theater, mask-making, juggling (literal and figurative).
Services to the Field: Advises artists and organizations on media and public relations strategies; provides training and coordination for volunteer arts advocates; cultivates media contacts for arts coverage.



John Zwick, Public Arts Coordinator
Home Town: South Burlington

Years of service: 5

John provides creative and strategic management of the Council's groundbreaking Danville Transportation Project. Juggling the needs and activities of the project's diverse partners, John keeps this long-term project on track.

Areas of expertise: Conceptual design through installation for residential, commercial, institutional, and municipal applications developed within a collaborative process.

Services to the Field: John helps coordinate Art in State Buildings projects, working with artists, engineers, architects and others involved in the work.

THANK YOU! On behalf of the board and staff, we would like to thank all those who contributed to the Vermont Arts Council during the past year. Member contributions support grant and technical assistance programs, information services, and advocacy campaigns. Membership also helps send a powerful signal to our policy makers that the Arts matter. This, in turn, helps the Arts Council leverage increased funding for the arts from the Vermont Legislature and private funders. Vermonters everywhere are benefiting from the strength of the arts in our state. We are grateful for the friendship and support of each of our members.

For the second year in a row, the Council's private sector funding fell significantly short of its goal. This reflects a national reduction in charitable giving and a decrease in foundation funding for the arts. At the same time, funding from state and federal sources increased less than 1%. "Most fields are experiencing reductions in foundation support and the arts is no exception," notes Loren Renz, Vice President for Research at the Foundation Center. "Arts organizations are facing the toughest fundraising climate in more than a decade."

The good news is that, despite these challenges, the arts remain an important and vibrant sector of Vermont's vitality and quality of life. In the March 2003 Vermonter Poll, the majority of Vermonters reported that they believe public funding for the arts is important and that more money should be spent on the arts. The Vermont Council on Rural Development and its partners have spent the year examining the creative sector's significant impact on the state's economy. The resulting findings and fiscal and policy recommendations are sure to underscore the Council's work to strengthen the arts across the state.

While funding from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Vermont legislature provide the bulk of the Council's annual operating

needs, private contributions provide vital support for programs and services. Among these are the Opportunity Grant Program, statewide coordination of the Head Start Arts Partnership, the Local Arts Partnership Program and the Integrated Arts Education Initiative.

The Arts Council will kick off its 40th Anniversary Celebration in October 2004. The anniversary is an opportunity to raise public awareness of the role of artists and arts organizations in our community and to celebrate four decades of service to the community.

In honor of the occasion, the Arts Council has received a \$40,000 pledge to seed an endowment if it can raise an additional \$60,000 by July 2005. This would provide a \$100,000 endowment fund to help protect the Council's financial future. The challenge grant means that contributions to this campaign will receive a 75% match. For information about the endowment fund and other ways to support the Vermont Arts Council, contact Diane Scolaro, Development Director at 802-828-5423 or via dscolaro@vermontartscouncil.org.

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COVER PHOTOGRAPH CREDITS

Front Cover:

Large photo: Town Hall Theater Production of "Carmen"

Photograph by Ernie Longey

Top left: Courtesy of Brattleboro Head Start Arts Partnership

Lower, left: "Icarus" by James Durrett, West Rutland

Photograph by Andrea Stander

Top, right: "Pods" by Kathryn Lipke Vigesaa

Photographer unknown

Bottom, right: Sandglass Theater

Photograph by Richard Termine

Back Cover:

Top left and far right: "Our Language is Art: History, Community and Youth"

at People's Academy, Morrisville

Photograph by Dorinne Dorfman, People's Academy Career Academy of the Arts

Bottom, left: Frank C. Gaylord

Photograph by Andrea Stander

Top, center: Student from Central School, South Burlington trying on an African mask during "Africa! Live Dance, Live Music" residency

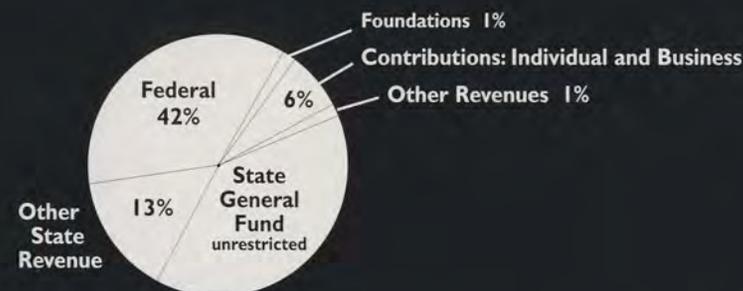
Photo courtesy of Central School, South Burlington

Bottom, center: Circus Smirkus logo (from a banner from "Under the Big Top")

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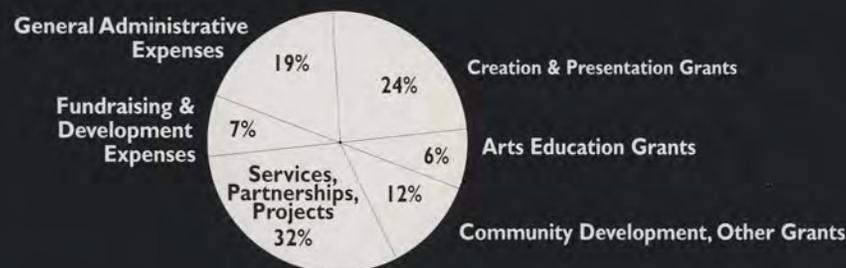
REVENUE

State General Fund unrestricted	491,618
Other State Revenue	168,647
Federal	550,200
Foundations	18,767
Contributions, Individual & Business	81,267
Other Revenue	17,526
Total Revenue	\$1,328,025

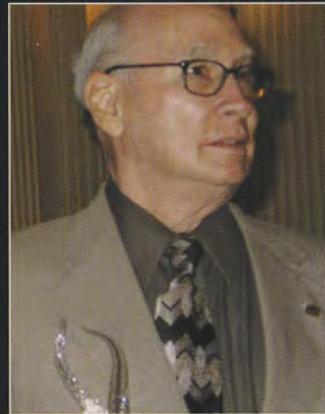


EXPENSES

Creation & Presentation Grants	308,574
Arts Education Grants	81,078
Community Development, Other Grants	162,105
Services, Partnerships, Projects	411,364
Fundraising & Development Expenses	87,828
General, Administrative Expenses	247,941
Total Expense	\$1,298,890



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