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Images: Above: Left: An impromptu "jam session" during legislative session; Right: Jon Gailmor with children from Cambridge



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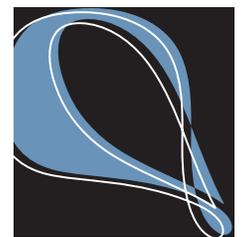
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ANNUAL REPORT



VERMONT
ARTS
COUNCIL

2007

ARTS

The Vermont Arts Council was founded in 1964 on a simple and powerful premise: that the arts enrich lives, expand minds and form a vital thread in the fabric of Vermont community life.

In keeping with its community focus, the Council is a grass-roots organization with statewide trustees elected from and by its membership. It is the only not-for-profit state arts agency in the country, and as such is uniquely qualified to unite both public and private resources to serve the following mission:

To advance and preserve the arts at the center of Vermont communities.

The Council accomplishes its mission by pursuing the following goals:

- Increasing opportunities for everyone in Vermont to experience and/or participate in the arts.
- Demonstrating and promoting the positive benefits of investing in Vermont communities through the arts.
- Expanding and sustaining the capacity of the Vermont Arts Council to serve its constituencies.

Our funding comes from the State of Vermont, the National Endowment for the Arts, memberships, and other private contributions.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

To the Members of the Vermont Arts Council:

Yet another interesting year has passed in the work of the Vermont Arts Council. The arts in our state are being served well by an outstanding Board of Trustees for the VAC, matched with the stellar staff and its work for the Council.

This year we had the second "Poetry Out Loud" contest held in Montpelier on a snowy April day. On this special occasion we were honored to have the Deputy Chair of the National Endowment for the Arts, Eileen Mason, with us for the day. We took Ms. Mason on a tour through our Statehouse, and she was able to meet many of our Legislators of all parties. The Lt. Governor gave her a private tour of the Cedar Creek Room paintings. Then we listened to the wonderful high school students in the poetry recitations, and cheered them all. Governor Douglas was on hand to present the awards to the winning students with Ms. Mason. During this day, I was struck by Eileen Mason's reactions to Vermont. She was thrilled and surprised by the openness of all the government officials she encountered. She was also impressed by the Arts Council's knowledge of and friendliness with, all those same officials.

To me, this is part of what sets us apart from other states: once again, Vermont is seen as the open, and open-hearted, state that we are. At the Arts Council our mission is centered on creating community through the arts -- all the arts -- and I am proud to be part of that work for all the people of our state.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peggy".

Margaret (Peggy) Kannenstine
Chair, Board of Trustees



inspiring a creative state

**The mission of the Vermont Arts Council
is to advance and preserve the arts at the
center of Vermont communities.**



Creation

GRANTS

Our Creation Grants [help artists grow...](#)

Creation grants help fund the development or commission of new works by Vermont artists. Artists often say that the most important thing these grants provide them with is time...time to create, time to hone their skills and time to reach out to their audience.

“A 20 year anniversary comes around once in 20 years,” says **Rob Mermin**, founder of Circus Smirkus. To mark the occasion, he is writing a history about the inner workings, conflicts and successes the company experienced in growing from a seat-of-the-pants show to a \$2.5 million operation. No longer employed by the circus, the grant Rob received will help pay



his expenses during the nine month process. “The work will involve interviewing participants, brainstorming, collaborating, reviewing archives, writing, writing, writing and more writing. Then re-writing. And did I say writing?”

Lusenge Siriwayo is also working to preserve history. Growing up in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, he learned traditional Munde drumming from master drummers and town elders. In 2001 Lusenge and his family fled

their war-torn homeland and joined scores of other refugees in Winooski. There he founded Ngoma Ya Kwetu, “Drums of Our Homeland.” This refugee youth ensemble is devoted to learning the traditional drumming and dance passed down through the generations. “Ngoma Ya Kweta is vital to the Congolese Vermont community,” Lusenge says. “It provides a safe and structured place for children of Congolese heritage to explore their shared culture.”

The Arts Council is dedicated to nurturing lifelong learning in the arts. To this end, artists can receive funding to help underwrite the cost of attending artistic and

professional development programs that enhance their career development. **Liza King** of Brattleboro received a grant to attend a stained glass workshop led by renowned British artist Patrick Reyntiens. “The workshop supported my exploration of new approaches to the medium and encouraged a freedom which I had not experienced before,” Liza said. “This has taken my work to a new level.”



GRANT PROFILE

DEB ELLIS

Burlington, Vermont

The other side of war...

Behind the daily headlines of the war in Iraq are the stories of thousands of individual soldiers and the choice they've made to serve their country. **Deb Ellis** wanted to explore the impact of making the decision not to serve. Her documentary "Brave Hart" tells the story of Patrick Hart, a nine-year non-commissioned officer who decided to go AWOL from the US Army in 2006 and seek refuge in Canada. "I believe the best documentaries emerge through time, so the trajectory and implications of change can be seen," Deb said. "I am very excited to explore ways to present difficult human situations on the screen. These subjects are many miles away, but the implications raised resonate universally: how do we say 'no' after making a commitment to serve our country? What does it mean to make a moral decision when that decision is against the law? What are the compromises? What are the gains?"

To learn more, visit www.agitfilm.com

*Images: Left inset: Performers from Ngoma Ya Kweta
Right: Patrick Hart & his wife from a project by Deb Ellis*

STAMFORD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Stamford, Vermont

Students realize their visions...

Last winter, stained glass artist **Debora Coombs** of Readsboro spent several days in residence at **Stamford Elementary School**. Each of the seventy-three students in grades K-8 plus thirteen teachers and assistant principals created an individual piece of stained glass art. Then a small group of students were chosen to visit Debora's studio and help assemble the pieces into a large stained glass panel. The finished work of art was displayed at the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art in North Adams, MA throughout the summer and has now been permanently installed in the school. Fifth grader Vicki Crawford said, "I think it's pretty cool that people will be able to go to see our artwork. I like to think that maybe someday I'll have another piece of artwork in a museum. Then the people who have seen this will have seen my first piece of art displayed in a museum."

Images: Left: Students from Stamford Elementary School

Right inset: VSA Arts theater program participant



Education | GRANTS

Our Education Grants *inspire creative learning...*

Education Grants bring artists into schools for a day, week or even a whole year. Funding is also available to build the creative skills of teachers and the teaching skills of artists. Planning Grants help schools work toward integrating the arts into their curricula and supporting achievement.

Last spring, educators at **Rumney School** in Middlesex worked with **No Strings Marionette Company** to create an integrated arts residency. During the 10-day program every student and teacher created a puppet and helped write a play tailored



to their classroom. First and second graders focused on African folktales while third and fourth graders performed original fairy tales. Fifth and sixth grade students tied their scripts to a unit on bullying. At the end of the residency the plays were performed for the whole community. The success of the project has inspired the school to plan more. “The residency gave us some practical experience in organizing an arts curriculum that is totally inclusive of every student and spans several disciplines:

reading, writing, art and music,” said Joanne Breidenstein, residency coordinator.

VSA Arts of Vermont offers a theater program to help special education students prepare for the transition from high school to adulthood. Over a 21-week period, students explore self-advocacy themes, then write a play about ad-

vocating for themselves in everyday situations. One student told a story about making a purchase and receiving too much change. Another wrote about the steps he goes through when taking a shower. Debra Thayer, special education assistant at Colchester High School said, “The program

produced self-confident, self-assured actors who are learning skills in their everyday lives.” Parents also praised the program. One mother said, “My son has been able to carry over these skills into his life—even if it means advocating for staying up later in the evening.” Another said, “My shy, introverted daughter has blossomed under the self-advocacy program. For her to stand up in front of a crowd of people is a miracle in itself.”

Community GRANTS

Our Community Grants build connections...

Through its Community Grants program, the Arts Council supports the arts in venues ranging from sidewalks to symphony halls, and from churches to coffee houses. While the scale and genre of the presentations may differ, their common goal is to create and celebrate communities through the arts.

Greensboro Wonder and Wisdom

was looking for a project to link their summer youth program with the Senior Trotters, a social and cultural program for senior citizens. They found the perfect connector with **Donald Knaack**, aka The Junkman. During a week long residency, Donald helped the children construct a “sound sculpture” using found and recycled materials. Once completed, the seniors were invited to join the children in a “junk jam.” At the end of the week, the sculpture was presented to the Town of Greensboro. Trish Alley, president of Wonder and Wisdom, said the sculpture’s presence on the town green is a visible reminder of the connections made during the project. “It represents the beautiful music we can make as a community,” she said.

Reading is most often a solitary activity, but for the past two years the **Burlington Book**



Festival has transformed reading into a vibrant, social experience. The 2006 festival featured a world-class line up of literary luminaries who took part in three days of readings, workshops, panel discussions and special events throughout the city. Dr. Blanche Podhajski, president of the Stern Center and co-presenter of the

event said the festival helps build a community of readers. “It celebrates the wonders of text,” she said. “Books offer incredible opportunities for exciting adventures and delightful friendships with characters that live in our minds forever.”

Literacy is also the mission of **Project**

Playwright, a program that sends professional playwrights into five Vermont schools. The goal is to increase reading, writing and public speaking skills to fifth and sixth graders. The playwrights guide students in reading and writing plays, the best of which are professionally produced at **Northern Stage** in White River Junction and then performed at the participating schools. “This is playwriting at its best,” says Roxanne Rogers, a playwright in residence, “fresh-eyed, uneven, irrevocable, risky, corny, passionate, crazy, primal, gorgeous, flawed and perfect in every way.”



GRANT PROFILE

SANDGLASS CENTER FOR PUPPETRY

Putney, Vermont

Showcasing talent for over 20 years...

Puppeteers from all over the globe—from cold climates to the tropics, from across the oceans to across the state—gathered in Putney last September for the fifth **Puppets in the Green Mountains Festival**. For ten days, troupes from six countries created worlds of comedy, suspense, drama and fantasy through puppets, masks, mime, music, shadows and light. “All the work reflected either through its aesthetic or its themes, a sense of place,” said Eric Bass, festival and artistic director of Sandglass Theater. The festival itself was a celebration of place. In 1982 Eric and his wife, Ines Zeller Bass, founded Sandglass Theater in Munich, Germany. Four years later they settled the international touring company in Putney. 2006 marked their 20th year in Vermont and 10th anniversary of their barn theater. Reflecting on their artistic achievements Eric said, “It’s very important to us to be able to celebrate what we’ve done, what we’re doing and perhaps to help us understand where we’re going.”

To learn more, visit www.sandglasstheater.org

Images: Right: Photo from “The Story of the Dog”, a collaboration between Sandglass Theater and Sovanna Phum of Cambodia (Photo courtesy of Stéphane Janin).

GRANT PROFILE

NEW ENGLAND YOUTH THEATRE

Brattleboro, Vermont

From a dream to a reality...

Stephen Stearns dreams big. Standing in a dark, dilapidated warehouse in downtown Brattleboro—oil stains on the floor, boarded up bathrooms, no windows and piles of steel everywhere—Stephen envisioned a bright and beautiful theater. One with a scene and costume shop, technology room, classrooms and fabulous lobby. A new home for the **New England Youth Theatre**. He shared his dream with potential funders and partners and soon they saw the potential, too. A building committee was formed, a capital campaign was launched and plans were made. The \$1,600,000 needed for the renovation was raised in less than a year. They broke ground in June 2006 and began moving into the building just six months later. Classes began in the impressive new facility in January 2007. “This was a big dream,” Stephen said, “basically impossible to do. Thank goodness we didn’t know that.” To learn more, visit www.neyt.org

Images: Left: New England Youth Theatre performers (photo courtesy of Laura Bliss); Right inset: The American Precision Museum



Cultural | GRANTS

Cultural Facilities Grants [put the arts at the center of community life...](#)

The Cultural Facilities Grant Program helps improve, revive or refurbish historic Vermont buildings as community and cultural gathering places. The program is a partnership between the Arts Council, the Vermont Museum and Gallery Alliance, the Vermont Division of Historic Preservation and the Vermont Historical Society.

“It takes a village? We think it takes a building to create and maintain a community,” says Deb Burke of the **Maple Corner Community Center** in Calais. “We are lucky to have a building—a 19th century, community-owned structure in the heart of our village. We pride ourselves on events that include everyone.” Grant funding will make it easier for community members to take part; a new addition, when completed, will house a wheelchair lift and a fire exit. The **Vermont Folklife Center** in Middlebury also received funding for the update of a historic landmark, the stately John Warren House. In order to make the 1805 building more accessible, the Center installed a new



lobby, bathroom, elevator and stairwell.

Six historic painted theater curtains in the **Richmond Town Hall** have been put back in commission with Cultural Facilities funding. Five of the curtains were hanging from old clothesline, and the grand drape needed a new electric winch. Selectman Eric Collins

says grants supplement the community’s investments in facility. “We have an on-going commitment to the active use of the Town Hall as the center of our civic and cultural life,” he says.

The **American Precision Museum** is housed in the Robbins and Lawrence Armory in Windsor and is home to an internationally significant collection of industrial artifacts. The Armory, built in 1846, needed safety improvements in order to access the upper floors of the building and move heavy objects from the loading dock to the second floor. “There are remarkably few grant opportunities to help address safety issues,” said the museum’s executive director, Ann Lawless. “We are extremely grateful for this program.”

GRANT PROFILE

ARTS COUNCIL AND THE DEPARTMENT
OF BUILDINGS AND GENERAL SERVICES

Montpelier, Vermont

Artwork enhances public spaces...

In the **Art in State Buildings** program, a partnership between the Arts Council and the Department of Buildings and General Services, artists are commissioned to create artwork that enhances public places. A very ambitious project is being installed in the historic National Life Building at 133 State Street, Montpelier. Four of the building's five floors will feature a suite of artwork by a team of Vermont artists led by Elizabeth Billings of Tunbridge and Andrea Wasserman of Ver-shire. Emily Mason of Brattleboro, Eric Aho of Saxtons River and Nick DeFriez of Chelsea have created major pieces of art incorporating a line or verse by former Vermont Poets Laureate Robert Frost, Galway Kinnell, Grace Paley, Ellen Bryant Voigt and Louise Glück. Elizabeth and Andrea crafted friezes in stone, wood and fiber to complement these pieces. The profiles of more than 300 Vermonters have been captured in one of the slate friezes, giving the participants "ImmARTality." The building re-dedication in November, 2007 will celebrate the renovation of this architectural gem as well as the newly installed words and art of ten world-renowned artists who have called Vermont home.

*Images: Left: Andrea Wasserman preparing work for
Art in State Buildings*





EACH YEAR THE COUNCIL RECOGNIZES OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ARTS IN VERMONT THROUGH A VARIETY OF AWARDS.

The **Governor's Award for Excellence in the Arts** is presented to an artist who demonstrates exemplary standards of professional integrity and personal commitment to the cultural life in Vermont. The 2007 awardee was **Jaime Laredo**, music director for the Vermont Symphony Orchestra. Since his stunning orchestral debut with the San Francisco Symphony at the age of eleven, Jaime has excelled in the multiple roles of soloist, conductor, recitalist and chamber musician. In accepting the award Jaime said, "Vermont has given me so much, so much happiness, so much everything."

Walter Cerf, who died in 2001, was one of Vermont's most generous supporters of the arts. In 1995 the Arts Council created the **Walter Cerf Award for Lifetime Achievement** in the Arts in his honor. **Charles Ginnever** was the 2007 recipient in recognition of his sustained contribution to the arts. A longtime resident of Putney, Chuck's sculptures have made an impact nationally and internationally for nearly 50 years. His work seems to defy gravity, challenging perception and offering complex optical illusions.

Citations of Merit are presented in recognition of commendable service to the arts in Vermont. **John and Katherine Paterson** were given a citation for their generous donation of a 2005 Chevy Cargo Van to the Council. This "PaletteMobile" traveled the state during the year-long Palettes of Vermont project. John Paterson is a writer and Presbyterian pastor. Katherine Paterson, recipient of the Governor's Award in 2001, is the author of numerous books including the young-adult favorite, "Bridge to Terabithia."

Tom Slayton was also a recipient of the Citation of Merit. He was the editor-in-chief of Vermont Life magazine for 22 years before retiring in February, 2007. Prior to his association with the magazine he was a reporter, arts writer and editor for Vermont newspapers for 20 years. Tom is a commentator on Vermont Public Radio, the author of two books and his articles have been published in various national magazines and newspapers.

Clockwise from Left: Governor's Award recipient Jaime Laredo, Walter Cerf Lifetime Achievement Award recipient Charles Ginnever, Katherine & John Paterson and Tom Slayton receiving a citation of merit award.

Program Overview:

AMERICAN MASTERPIECES



This new program encourages schools, libraries and community organizations to provide Vermont audiences with opportunities to experience and learn about the cultural heritage of our region. The roster of American Masterpieces artists includes folk musicians whose work is rooted in the traditions of Vermont's European settlers, Abenaki artists demonstrating centuries-old traditions and choral and dance ensembles showcasing our cultural history.

Monkton Central School students in grades K-6 took part in a week-long residency with folk musician **Pete Sutherland**. First and second



graders learned a maple sugaring folk song, while fourth graders learned Vermont history through a ballad about smuggling potash up Lake Champlain in the 18th century. Sixth grade students learned traditional dances as Pete played lively accompaniment on his fiddle. Principal Rich Jesset said, "Pete lives about a quarter mile from our school, so it's great that our kids can make this connection to a member of our community and to Vermont's musical history."

Each summer **Greensboro Free Library** hosts programs that include ethnic diversity, local history and skills development. This year they

invited **Judy Dow** to teach traditional Abenaki basket weaving techniques using recycled materials. Judy says, "For indigenous peoples, changes in the climate and land became the mother of technology, and creating tools to meet the challenges of this change was part of the fabric of everyday life." Her workshop focused on adaptation and change from this historical perspective.

Canaan is a rural community on the Canadian border in the Northeast Kingdom. Deborah Gadwah-Lambert, director of the **Alice Ward Memorial Library** says, "If people are going to be exposed to cultural activities, the

activities must be imported." Last spring the **Karen Amirault Dance Company** brought the history and culture of vaudeville to Canaan. "From 1880 to 1940 traveling troupes of vaudeville players, opera companies and itinerant musicians performed in local opera houses and town halls across Vermont," Karen said. "These variety shows ran the gamut from song-and-dance, comedy, magic, animal acts and music to Shakespeare, ballet, lectures and opera." Karen's troupe of teens and adults performed a sampling of what might have been seen in a vaudeville show during that period.

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Programs Director
504/ADA Accessibility Coordinator

Elaine Dufresne
Director of Administration

Jonas Eno-Van Fleet
Communications Associate

Lindsey Harty
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Sculpture Garden and Spotlight Gallery Curator

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Strategic PLAN

2008 – 2012

WHY PLAN?

A strategic plan reflects the ideals, expectations, and goals of an organization. It is also a statement of its intentions. What will we accomplish in the next five years? Why, how, and with what resources? With whom?

Every five years the Vermont Arts Council embarks on a strategic planning process to determine how we can best educate, inform, and “inspire a creative state.” The plan we create through this process is not simply a list of things we expect to achieve in the next five years, but a road map for engaging supporters and partners who share our belief in the power of art to change lives and improve the fiscal and social health of Vermont communities. It guides the Council’s choices in how to increase participation in the arts, and helps us communicate how investing tax dollars in the arts provides a significant and measurable public benefit in return.

THE PROCESS

The Council’s 2008-2012 Strategic Plan was developed over an 18-month period with input from a broad representation of Vermonters. We began by undertaking an internal “branding” to review of our Mission, Vision, and Values. As a result, in June 2006 the Council’s board endorsed a new mission statement: To advance and preserve the arts at the center of Vermont communities. We also approved a new motto: Inspiring a Creative State.

For twelve months we engaged hundreds of constituents in discussions about the issues impacting the arts

in Vermont. Input was solicited through online and paper surveys, at public forums in five communities, facilitated discussions in three communities, and in first-hand encounters at a variety of Council events, workshops, and meetings. We received comments and feedback from our members, grantees, Palettes of Vermont participants and audience members, program partners, panelists, legislators, staff, trustees, and the general public.

Through these discussions we identified several critical issues affecting the health of the arts sector at this point in time. The most significant of these are:

- *Arts organizations face financial crisis: More than half of the community arts organizations who annually file an IRS Form 990 have operated at a net loss for at least the last three years and nearly 20% of these operate with less than one month’s reserve.*
- *Individual artists experience a challenging work environment: Many artists, especially those in the early stages of their professional careers, are forced to relocate to higher-density population centers out of state in order to thrive.*
- *Schools underfund and undervalue the arts: Many of Vermont’s schools are not investing in arts education or programming for their students.*
- *Communications technology is underutilized: While most artists and cultural organizations struggle for recognition and appreciation, many don’t take advantage of current web and communications technologies that could help build their operational capacity, promote their programs, and expand audiences.*

This Strategic Plan directly responds to the needs and concerns expressed by our constituents during the planning process. It covers the most compelling issues we believe must be addressed over the next five years and articulates what the Council has to offer in the way of technology, financial support, and professional development resources like workshops and consultations. It also describes opportunities we expect will help us develop new resources, new learning, and new best practices for the Council and our constituents. The full version of this plan can be found on our website at www.vermontartsCouncil.org.

GOAL ONE – Increase opportunities for everyone in Vermont to experience and/or participate in the arts.



- Increase opportunities for people to experience high quality arts and help artists increase the public's access to their work.
- Increase opportunities for people to achieve a greater understanding of the arts.
- Improve conditions for showcasing excellent quality art.
- Improve communications and information-sharing networks that inform the public about art-related activities and encourage participation.

GOAL TWO – Educate policy makers and the general public about the benefits of investing in Vermont communities through the arts.



- Support local arts organizations' efforts to broaden their programs and services within their communities.
- Help schools and school systems plan and implement curricula in which the arts are integrated and fully staffed and supported.
- Support and increase the number of Vermont communities, artists and arts organizations that embrace the Creative Economy as a core strategy for economic development.

GOAL THREE – Expand and sustain the capacity of the Vermont Arts Council to serve its constituencies.



- Improve communications with and among constituents, and elected and appointed state officials.
- Expand the online library of best practices, calendars, directories and other professional development tools that serve the needs of the arts community.
- Adopt sustainable practices that enable the Council to recruit and retain an outstanding staff and board.
- Maintain and expand collaborations that support our technological capacity.
- Expand membership and other sources of public and private support for Council projects and collaborative activities.

Grants

In FY07, the Vermont Arts Council awarded more than \$620,000 in grants to individual artists, arts organizations, schools, community groups and various partnerships. Grants help support the creation of new work, the presentation of cultural events and opportunities for creative learning for students of all ages. All Arts Council grants must be matched dollar for dollar with funding from other sources. Because the application process is rigorous and grants are awarded through a competitive peer review, receiving a grant provides not only financial support but also valuable recognition and credibility. The Arts Council encourages you to seek out grant recipients in your community and to support their efforts.

GRANTS FOR ARTISTS

Creation Grants

Eric Bass

Putney
\$2,750 to support the first phase of development of a puppet theater piece entitled "Ballad."

David Brewster

Halifax
\$1,000 for the creation of paintings that explore spatial relationships within farm interiors.

Chandler Center for the Arts

Randolph
\$2,750 to support the commissioning of three new pieces of music for Chandler's centennial season by three local composers: Gwyneth Walker, Erik Nielsen and Kathy Eddy.

Brian D. Cohen

Westminster Station
\$3,000 for the creation of an artist's book entitled "The Fool's Journey" containing twenty-three etchings based on the major arcana of the traditional tarot.

Alisa Dworsky

Montpelier
\$4,000 to support the creation of an interior installation piece made of large wall-mounted drawings and suspended crocheted rope forms.

Deb Ellis

Burlington
\$4,150 to support the development of a documentary film on Sgt. Patrick Hart, his wife Jill and son Ryan, currently

AWOL in Canada seeking asylum under the Geneva Accords.

Barbara Garber

Putney
\$1,000 for the creation of a site-specific installation at AIR Gallery in New York City.

Daniel Gottsegen

Woodstock
\$1,000 toward the creation of a series of paintings.

John Huddleston

Weybridge
\$1,000 to support the final phase of completion of a Vermont Small Farm art project.

Charles Hunter

Bellows Falls
\$4,000 for the creation of a series of oil paintings depicting the industrial past and its effects on the visual landscape of present-day Windsor, Vermont.

Donald Knaack

Manchester Center
\$2,490 to support the creation of a new composition entitled "The Lost Civilization."

Laura A. Koplewitz

Brattleboro
\$1,375 for the creation of a new large-scale orchestral work for the Vermont Youth Orchestra.

Kathryn Kramer

Corinth
\$1,375 to support the creation of a

memoir about the heyday and disintegration of a small Vermont community entitled "The Rise and Fall of the Republic of West Delphi."

Daniel Lusk

Jonesville
\$2,750 for the completion of a manuscript of poetry.

Lucinda Mason

Johnson
\$3,000 to support the creation of a series of large oil paintings investigating micro/macro space.

Rob Mermin

Montpelier
\$2,750 toward the writing and creation of a 20th anniversary book documenting the history, growth, conflicts and transformation of Circus Smirkus.

Lusenge M. Siriwayo

Winooski
\$2,750 to support the creation of a traditional Congolese dance and drum piece to be performed by the refugee youth group Ngoma Ya Kwetu.

Elinor Steele

New Haven
\$1,000 for the design and creation of three large hand-woven tapestries which further explore new abstract design, entitled the "Reconstruction" tapestries.

Signe Margueritte Taylor

Norwich
\$4,150 to support the making of a 90-minute documentary about Circus Smirkus.

Waits River Valley School

East Corinth
\$4,000 to support Andrea Wasserman and the school-wide community in the completion of Phase II of the Outdoor Classroom and Labyrinth.

Terrence Youk

Montpelier
\$2,750 for the editing of "Numen: The Nature of Plants," a one-hour documentary about the healing power of plants.

Artist Development Grants

Paige Ackerson-Kiley

Lincoln
\$400 to support a month-long residency at the Jentel Artist Residency Program in Wyoming.

Karen Amirault

Burlington
\$475 toward technique classes at the Bates Dance Festival.

Emily Christine Anderson

Burlington
\$500 to support attending a summer dance workshop in Tucson, AZ given by Mary Ann Brehm and Griff Goehring.

Ned Castle

Charlotte
\$500 toward the making of a promotional booklet in order to market a collection of photographs and stories for exhibition to galleries.

Kate Cleghorn

Putney
\$500 for a workshop on digital printmaking for photographers at Cone Editions in East Topsham.

Shari Cornish

Hardwick
\$250 to support hiring a professional photographer to document work for use in marketing.

Arrin Fancher

East Dummerston
\$400 for the design, creation and maintenance of a website with the help of a consultant.

Jeff Farber

Middlesex
\$400 to support the creation of a website to publicize "Living on the Fault Line," a feature documentary about transracial families.

Kerry Furlani

Rutland
\$300 toward attendance at the North Country Studio Workshop in Bennington for a class in woodworking taught by Jon Brooks.

Dominique Gagne

Burlington
\$550 to support attendance at the National Flute Associate Convention to perform and conduct the Jazz Flute Big Band.

Rachel Gross

White River Junction
\$500 for the creation of a website.

Caryn King

South Newfane
\$500 to support a one-week intensive painting workshop at Bennington College with Peter Schroth.

Liza King

Brattleboro
\$500 toward attendance at a weeklong glass workshop with Patrick Reyntiens at Millard Studios in Antrim, NH.

Lisa Kippen

Tunbridge
\$500 to support a residency at the Watershed Center in Maine.

Deborah Lazar

Putney
\$250 toward hiring a consultant to assist with redesigning a website.

Regina Librizzi

Montpelier
\$325 to support attending a five-day blacksmithing workshop at Peters Valley Education Center in New Jersey.

Kathryn Lipke Vigesaa

Belvidere Center
\$400 toward a six-week artist residency, "Imaginary Places," at the Banff Center in Canada.

Lynn Newcomb

Worcester
\$400 to support the cost of transporting sculptures and prints to a gallery in New York City.

Mariel Pitti

Newfane
\$250 for attendance at "More Than Meets the Eye," a weekend drawing workshop at Ger Y U Nant in West Dummerston.

Verandah Porche

Guilford
\$500 to support the design and creation of a website.

The PuppeTree

Post Mills
\$500 for the production of a professionally created brochure promoting PuppeTree productions.

Daniel Richmond

Bennington
\$250 to support the creation of a website

Dianne Shullenberger

Jericho
\$323 toward a class in contemporary marbling at the North Country Studio Workshop in Bennington.

Shanley Triggs

Milton
\$400 to support attendance at "Six Days of Creation," a workshop on the egg tempera technique led by Xenia Pokrovsky.

GRANTS TO COMMUNITIES

Local Arts Partnership Grants

River Arts of Morrisville

Morrisville
\$10,000 to support year two of a two-year grant to support partnerships with schools, the Town, Lamoille County Planning Commission, Copley Fund and social service agencies to provide arts programming in Lamoille County.

Rockingham Arts and Museum Project

Bellows Falls
\$9,000 to support year two of a two-year grant to support the promotion of the arts in Rockingham and the region as both a cultural enrichment and economic development tool.

Vermont Arts Exchange

North Bennington
\$10,000 to support year two of a two-year grant to help VAE sustain, develop and strengthen a variety of community development and arts partnerships focused on the Bennington County community

Community Project Grants

Bethel Council on the Arts

Bethel
\$250 to support a performance by No Strings Marionette Company at the Bethel Bandshell.

Burlington Book Festival

Burlington
\$4,000 for the presentation of Burlington's second annual celebration of the written word.

Burlington Discover Jazz Festival

Burlington
\$5,600 to support quality live performances and educational programs with wide emphasis on Vermont professional and student artists.

Burlington Parks and Recreation

Burlington
\$1,000 toward a circus arts mini-residency and culminating performance with 80-100 K-5th graders.

The Carving Studio and Sculpture Center

West Rutland
\$500 to support the presentation of a lecture series on historical and contemporary sculptors.

Center for Photographic Studies

Montpelier
\$1,200 for the cost of exhibit panels, framing, mounting, easels, posters, invitations, and project documentation.

First Night Burlington

Burlington
\$7,000 to support presentation of Vermont artists at First Night 2006 and long-term initiatives for collaboration and partnerships with artists and community groups.

First Night Rutland

Rutland
\$2,500 toward a diverse, substance-free New Year's Eve celebration that is accessible and affordable to all.

Flock Dance Troupe

Sharon
\$900 to support the restaging of the dance theater work "GO! MOVE! SHIFT!"

Focus on Film

Montpelier
\$595 for an illustrated presentation and demonstration by Rob Mermin on the art of silent film acting.

Friends of the Vergennes Opera House

Vergennes
\$1,300 to support the hiring of three juried artists - Suzanne Germain, Pam Lord and Jeremiah McLane - to perform and conduct workshops during Vergennes French Heritage Day.

Green Mountain Suzuki Institute

New Haven
\$2,500 toward the Vermont Composers Initiative, a five-year program that develops a body of ensemble music written by professional Vermont composers and student composers.

Greensboro Wonder and Wisdom

Greensboro
\$1,500 for a weeklong residency with Donald "The Junkman" Knaack.

Marlboro College

Marlboro
\$2,500 to support a Marlboro College Graduate Center workshop with Michael Singer, "Creative Work in the Public Realm"

Middlebury Festival on the Green

Middlebury
\$1,500 for a weeklong, family friendly, free performing arts festival.

Mount Independence Coalition

Orwell
\$850 for the premiere performance by Atlantic Crossing of a commissioned ballad about Mt. Independence.

The Piper's Gathering

Killington
\$2,500 to support a four-day gathering of non-Highland bagpipes including concerts, master classes, lessons and workshops.

Revels North

Hanover, NH
\$2,931 for the appearance of musicians Pete and Karen Sutherland and clogger Sharon Gouveia in the Appalachian Christmas Revels.

Sandglass Center for Puppetry

Putney
\$3,600 to support Puppets in the Green Mountains, a two-week, bi-annual puppet theater festival presenting four Vermont and seven international puppet companies.

The Manitou Project

Williamsville
\$1,000 for a four-day residency with artist Karen Becker.

Valley Arts Foundation

Waitsfield
\$2,500 to support the 10th Annual Vermont Festival of the Arts.

Vermont International Film Festival

Burlington
\$3,000 toward planning, publicizing and presenting the works of Vermont film and video artists and students at the Vermont Independent Filmmakers Showcase.

Brattleboro Music Center

Brattleboro
\$3,250 for production costs and artists fees for the Brattleboro Music Center's 2006-2007 Performance Series.

Capital City Concerts

Montpelier
\$2,500 to support Capital City Concerts' 06-07 season.

Catamount Film and Arts Center

St. Johnsbury
\$3,500 for the Catamount Arts Cooperative Presentation Project, Audience Development Project and Underserved Community Outreach Project.

Crossroads Arts Council

Rutland
\$4,000 to support Crossroads' Fall and Winter Jazz Café 2006-2007.

Flynn Center for the Performing Arts

Burlington
\$4,200 for a series of four in-depth artist residencies.

Lost Nation Theater

Montpelier
\$3,500 to support the performance, outreach and educational "Will on Wheels" activities of Lost Nation Theater's 12th Annual Fall Foliage Shakespeare production of "Romeo and Juliet."

Montpelier Downtown Community Association

Montpelier
\$1,500 toward artist fees and production costs for First Night Montpelier 2006.

Northern Stage Company

White River Junction
\$5,600 to support the production and performance components of the Second Annual Northern New England Primary Playwrights Festival.

Pentangle Council on the Arts

Woodstock
\$4,200 for Pentangle's 2006-2007 Mainstage and Arts Education season.

River Arts

Morrisville
\$1,500 to support performances by Big Spike Bluegrass, The Junkman and No Strings Marionette Company at an annual free community festival.

Technical Assistance Grants

Arts Council of Windham County

Brattleboro
\$500 to support the hiring of a conference facilitator for a one-day strategic planning conference for arts organizations in the Windham area.

Great River Arts Institute

Bellows Falls
\$500 for attendance at Giving Monadnock's Fundraising Institute for training and education in fundraising strategies for non-profit staff and board members.

Opera Theatre of Weston

Weston
\$300 to support the professional filming and editing by Antonio Panetta of performances of "The Child and the Magic."

Paramount Theatre

Rutland
\$500 for attendance at the Arts Presenters Conference and a seminar on "The Business of Presenting" in New York City.

Revels North

Hanover, NH
\$271 to support the costs for two board members to attend the biennial, two-day national Revels Inc. board training conference.

Rockingham Arts and Museum Project

Bellows Falls
\$300 toward attendance at a North East Regional Conference of the National Trust for Historic Preservation in Washington, D.C. regarding the arts as a tool for community revitalization.

Rockingham Arts and Museum Project

Bellows Falls
\$500 to support the creation of posters and a brochure to present "Communities and Their Stories" at the National Trust for Historic Preservation Annual Conference.

Underserved Community Project Grants

Brattleboro Museum and Art Center

Brattleboro
\$4,200 to support the presentation of the exhibit "Will the Circle Be Unbroken: Four Generation of African-American Quiltmakers" and its related programming.

Cambridge Arts Council

Cambridge
\$3,000 for a series of live musical, theatrical and participatory dances in three rural communities.

Capitol Chamber Artists

Benson
\$2,500 to support music from Vermont, Early America and Europe performed with original instruments.

Champlain Valley Festival

Burlington
\$3,000 toward the production costs and artist fees for the 24th Annual Champlain Valley Folk Festival.

GRACE

Hardwick
\$5,500 to support, develop and sustain GRACE's intergenerational workshops and community exhibition programs.

Green Mountain Festival Series

Chester
\$1,875 for four performances by Step Afrika stepping group as part of Green Mountain Festival Series.

Island Arts

North Hero
\$2,500 to support the 2006-2007 season of events and concerts.

Opera Theatre of Weston

Weston
\$3,000 for Opera for Kids school outreach performances of Ravel's opera "The Child and the Magic."

South Burlington Community Library

South Burlington
\$1,000 to support a series of free and easily accessible concerts during the winter months.

Vermont Contemporary Music Ensemble

Fairfax
\$2,500 toward the performance of four new programs of new classical music, including seven commissions and premieres of works by Vermont composers.

Vermont Humanities Council

Montpelier
\$1,250 to support performances as part of the First Wednesdays lecture series.

Vermont Performing Arts League

Burlington
\$3,000 for the expansion of the Vermont International Festival, an annual celebration of the cultural diversity of the Burlington community.

Vermont Shakespeare Company

North Hero
\$2,724 to support a professional two-day Shakespeare master class for Vermont actors in Burlington taught by three teachers from the Stella Adler Studio of Acting in New York City.

Vermont Symphony Orchestra

Burlington
\$5,600 for the VSO's 2006 Made in Vermont Music Festival statewide tour.

Vermont State High School Dance Festival

Lyndon Center
\$1,000 to support the Vermont State High School Dance Festival, offering high school age dancers the opportunity to study with professional dancers.

Weston Playhouse Theatre Company

Weston
\$3,500 toward the continued growth and development of education and outreach programs to benefit underserved audiences throughout Vermont.

Winooski Park and Recreation Department

Winooski
\$1,500 to support the addition of a storytelling series in the Winooski Summer Youth Enrichment Program, culminating in a community performance.

Yellow Barn Music School and Festival

Putney
\$3,500 for a community outreach project bringing nine interactive chamber music events to at-risk youth, seniors and the general public at eight sites in Windham County.

Cultural Facilities Grants

American Precision Museum

Windsor
\$6,250 to support safety and access improvements on the first and second floors, and in a four-level stair tower.

Brattleboro Arts Initiative

Brattleboro
\$18,000 for the replacement of the original 1938 elevator in order to meet accessibility standards.

Brattleboro Museum and Art Center

Brattleboro
\$16,800 to support the construction of a new restroom, the renovation of an old restroom and improvements to a kitchen.

DAR John Strong Mansion Museum

Addison
\$2,900 for the installation of a climate control system to correct destructive temperature and humidity fluctuations.

Fletcher Union Meetinghouse Association

Cambridge
\$4,900 to support the replacement of the heating system.

Friends of Hildene

Manchester
\$9,500 toward the construction of an ADA-compliant ramp.

Maple Corner Community Center
Calais
\$20,000 to support the construction of an addition to house a wheelchair and companion lift as well as a fire exit staircase.

New England Youth Theater
Brattleboro
\$19,900 toward the purchase and installation of a new theater lighting system and related technical equipment.

Poultney Historical Society
Poultney
\$13,100 to support the installation of a heating system and an upgrade to electrical wiring.

Reading Public Library
Reading
\$20,000 for the installation of an accessibility lift.

Town of Richford
Richford
\$5,500 to support the rigging of stage curtains and installation of electrical curtain motors.

Vermont Folklife Center
Middlebury
\$20,000 for the installation of a lift to improve accessibility at the John Warren House.

Vermont Studio Center
Johnson
\$14,350 to support the restoration of the historic stage in the Vermont Studio Center's lecture hall, formerly the Johnson Opera House.

White River Craft Center
Randolph
\$11,200 toward the purchase and installation of a furnace.

Wilder Club and Library
Wilder
\$17,600 to support the construction and installation of an accessible platform lift.

American Masterpieces Grants

Alice Ward Memorial Library
Canaan
\$925 to support a performance by Karen Amirault Dance Company.

The Carving Studio and Sculpture Center
West Rutland
\$1,500 for a five-day artist residency and slide lecture with Judy Dow.

Counterpoint
Belmont
\$5,000 to support the creation of a CD recording of choral music, including works by Vermont composers Louise Moysé, Peter Hamlin and Robert DeCormier.

Greensboro Free Library
Greensboro
\$250 for a half-day traditional basket weaving workshop for children with Judy Dow.

Monkton Central School
Monkton
\$1,100 to support a seven-day traditional and folk music residency with Pete Sutherland, culminating in a school-wide performance for parents and community.

Quechee Library Association
Quechee
\$600 for a concert by Social Band including renditions of French-Canadian songs.

Sara Holbrook Community Center
Burlington
\$1,500 to support summer middle school programs in Abenaki beading and basketry.

GRANTS FOR EDUCATION

Arts Integration Initiative Grants

Chaffee Art Center
Rutland
\$6,750 to support an arts integration program in the West Rutland School for the 2006-2007 school year.

Flynn Center for the Performing Arts
Burlington
\$9,000 toward the continuation of the Flynn Center's integrated arts model, Words Come Alive, at Hinesburg Community School.

Middletown Springs Elementary School
Middletown Springs
\$5,250 to support the implementation of three successful Vermont statewide arts projects into school curricula, with emphasis on technology and language arts.

Peoples Academy
Morrisville
\$10,000 for integration of the arts into core academic courses and foreign languages through artist residencies, workshops and performance.

Stamford Elementary School
Stamford
\$2,500 to support Stamford School's continued involvement in the Kid-space-3 Museum Semester program, integrating exhibit themes into the curriculum.

Winooski School District
Winooski
\$1,650 for the planning and development of an arts integrated curriculum designed to educate students about the multicultural aspects of the Winooski community.

Head Start Arts Partnership Grants

Brattleboro Museum and Art Center
Brattleboro
\$2,000 to support implementation of programs that foster learning through the arts, including early literacy and social skills.

Burlington City Arts
Burlington
\$2,000 for weekly visits at Head Start and collaboration sites in Burlington by a teaching artist once a week for one to two hours of literacy-based arts activities in which all media are explored.

Chaffee Art Center
Rutland
\$2,000 to support Head Start Arts in Rutland County with programming for children, families and staff to express themselves through music and movement/dance, increasing comfort and education in the arts.

Lost Nation Theater
Montpelier
\$1,700 for Lost Nation Theater's partnership with Central Vermont Community Action Council in bringing a strong arts component to Washington and Orange County Head Start programs.

River Arts of Morrisville
Morrisville
\$1,000 to support children's interest in the arts at Lamoille County's Heat Start facilities and the Dale Correctional Facility in Waterbury.

Vermont Arts Exchange
North Bennington
\$2,000 toward arts residencies at a variety of sites as part of the Bennington County Head Start Arts Partnership.

Education Project Grants

Arlington Area Childcare
Arlington
\$2,500 to support a multi-disciplinary arts enrichment program for children, parents, teachers and community members.

Boys and Girls Club of Rutland County
Rutland
\$750 for a weeklong residency program with an artist from Circus Smirkus.

Brattleboro Union High School
Brattleboro
\$300 to support the hiring of teaching artist Kristen Carmichael-Bowers to conduct singing workshops and rehearsals for Beethoven's "Mass in C Major."

Bridge School
Middlebury
\$900 for a weeklong residency program with Karen Amirault in which students explored a variety of jazz dance styles, culminating in a school-wide sharing event.

Buffalo Mountain School
Hardwick
\$4,010 to support a sustainable youth steelband program at the Buffalo Mountain School, and an after-school steelband program which includes a wider student community.

Craftsbury Schools
Craftsbury Common
\$1,740 for a five-day residency with Shidaa African Cultural Troupe on African dance, drumming and culture.

Currier Memorial School
Danby
\$1,200 to support a one-week residency with Candy Barr to create a school mural, and a take-home project during an after-school program.

Danville School
Danville
\$900 for the exploration and appreciation of poetry writing and performance during Literacy Week 2007.

Edmunds Elementary School
Burlington
\$2,288 to support a yearlong community project that includes residencies with Jeh Kulu Dance and Drumming, Maasai storyteller Joseph LeKuton and City Arts Clay Studio.

Fisher Elementary School
Arlington
\$1,000 toward a two-month movement project for all students including a seven-day residency with Karen Amirault.

Lamoille Union High School
Hyde Park
\$1,500 to support an interdisciplinary residency with Donald Knaack to construct a sound sculpture that will become a permanent installation at the school.

Marlboro Elementary School
Marlboro
\$3,188 toward the implementation of six five-week, artist-led workshops.

Richmond Elementary School
Richmond
\$1,287 to support a one-week intensive South American dance residency culminating in a full school community performance.

Ripton Elementary School
Ripton
\$1,000 toward a two-week residency with Rick Davis of Circus Smirkus, the focal point of a school-wide interdisciplinary study of circus.



GRANT PROFILE

Dancing helps create awareness...

The **Vermont State Dance Festival** gives young and aspiring dancers the opportunity to learn new styles and techniques. Last year 102 teenagers from nine high schools and private studios attended the day-long festival at Lyndon Institute. Students could choose from workshops in Middle Eastern belly dance with Alia Thabit, hip hop with Megan Hiltz, modern and performance techniques with Melinda Evans, and swing and tango with Jenny Gelfan. A public performance was offered that evening. Festival coordinator Rebecca McGregor said, "This event has increased awareness of the art of dance, and educated the public about the varied talents of Vermont's youth."

www.lyndoninstitute.org

Image: Dancers at the Vermont State Dance Festival

Rumney Memorial School

Middlesex
\$1,500 to support a school-wide ten-day residency with No Strings Marionette Company.

Tinmouth Elementary School

Tinmouth
\$2,500 for a puppet residency with No Strings Marionette Company at Tinmouth Elementary and Middletown Springs Elementary Schools.

Underhill ID School

Underhill
\$1,275 to support five-day residency with David Harp.

Vermont Achievement Center

Rutland
\$1,100 for an artist residency program with Donald Knaack.

VSA Arts of Vermont

Winooski
\$3,000 to support the presentation of High School Self-Advocacy Theater at three high schools to help students complete plans for transition to adulthood.

New Perspectives in Arts Education

Brattleboro Museum and Art Center

Brattleboro
\$16,000 to support participation in a New Perspectives in Arts Integration research project at Oak Grove School.

Flynn Center for the Performing Arts

Burlington
\$16,000 to support participation in a New Perspectives in Arts Integration research project at Highgate Elementary School.

Vermont Institutes

Montpelier
\$6,000 to support participation in a New Perspectives in Arts Integration research project.

Vermont MIDI Project

Essex Junction
\$16,000 to support participation in a New Perspectives in Arts Integration research project at St. Albans and Cambridge Elementary Schools.

Special Project Grants

Arts Alliance of Northern New Hampshire

Wonalancet, NH
\$5,000 to support the Extending the Dance Map project in Vermont as part of a tri-state partnership through a Dana Foundation Rural Initiatives Grant.

Governor's Institutes of Vermont

Montpelier
\$7,000 to immerse motivated, high-potential Vermont high school students in a two-week program exploring the creative experience in all areas of the arts.

New England Foundation for the Arts

Boston
\$12,000 to support regional arts programming for Vermont artists and arts organizations.

Vermont Council on Rural Development

Montpelier
\$5,000 for planning and presenting the Creative Communities Program conference titled "Advancing Vermont's Creative Economy."

Vermont Crafts Council

Montpelier
\$3,000 for Open Studio Weekend 2007.

Vermont Design Institute

Burlington
\$1,500 to support The Vermont Design Institute in community design and educational outreach across the state.

Vermont Folklife Center

Middlebury
\$2,000 toward outreach and technical assistance to traditional artists participating in the American Masterpieces program.

Vermont Museum and Gallery Alliance

Vergennes
\$750 for the conservation and installation of six historic painted theater curtains in the Richford Town Hall.

Vermont Museum and Gallery Alliance

Vergennes
\$40,000 to support professional practices, foster cooperation and promote appreciation of the programs and resources of Vermont's museums, galleries and historic places.

Vermont Alliance for Arts Education

Fairlee
\$4,000 to support VAAE's professional development opportunity, a fall arts education conference, for Vermont arts educators and artists.

Art in State Buildings Grants

Elizabeth Billings

Tunbridge
\$5,000 to support the creation and installation of a suite of artwork at 133 State Street in Montpelier.

Grants

Natalie Bouchard
Enosburg Falls
\$750 for the preparation of a finalist proposal for the St. Albans Department of Public Safety facility.

David Brewster
Halifax
\$750 to support the preparation of a finalist proposal for the Department of Public Safety facility.

David Brewster
Halifax
\$4,500 for the creation and installation of five paintings for the interior of the new St. Albans Department of Public Safety facility.

Annie Curlin
Charlotte
\$3,250 to support the creation of fourteen paintings for the public lobby and waiting areas of the second and third floors of the Rutland Courthouse.

Elizabeth Nelson
West Glover
\$5,500 for the creation and installation of four paintings for the Bethel/Royalton Department of Public Safety facility.

Karen Scheffler
Montgomery
\$750 to support the preparation of a finalist proposal for the St. Albans Department of Public Safety facility.

Andrea Stix Wasserman
Vermont
\$5,000 for the creation and installation of a suite of artwork at 133 State Street, Montpelier.

GRANT REVIEW PANELISTS

The Vermont Arts Council extends its sincere thanks and appreciation to the many individuals who contributed their time, expertise, and judgment as volunteer panelists.

Opportunity & Integrated Arts Education Grants

Carol Batchelder, Keene, NH
Penny Campbell, Shoreham
Glen Giles, Rutland
Catherine O'Brian, Concord, NH
Lauren Olitski, Marlboro
Suzanne Rexford-Winston, Adamant
Frank Spina, Starksboro

Creation Grants

Liz Canner, Hanover, NH
Nicolette B. Clarke, Ashburnham, MA
Diane Gabriel, Burlington
Pamela Harrison, Norwich
Lisa Jablow, Johnson
Karen Krieger, Springfield
Maggie Neale, Montpelier

Kathy Stark, Craftsbury Common
John Willis, Dummerston

Presentation Grants

Margot Button, Panton
Tommy Hensel, Rochester, NH
Troy Peters, Colchester
Bob Rizzo, Warwick, RI
Liza Sacheli, Middlebury
Mike Welch, St. Johnsbury

Cultural Facilities Grants

Jan Herder, Johnson
Jim Ross, Cornwall
Lisa Ryan, Barre
David Schütz, Calais
Addy Smith-Reiman, Hardwick

Cultural Facilities Coalition

Alex Aldrich, Vermont Arts Council
Nancy Boone
Jackie Calder
Eileen P. Corcoran

Poetry Out Loud

Geoff Hewitt, Master of Ceremonies
Peter Gilbert, Judge
Janice Perry, Judge
Peter Jack Tkatch, Judge

Art in State Buildings Projects

Rutland Courthouse:
Marlene Burke, Rutland
Laurie Canty, Rutland
Jean Coloutti, Rutland
Carol Driscoll, West Rutland
Jim Florschutz, Newfane
Peter Hack, Montpelier
Diane Henderson, Rutland
Kathleen Korstange, Rutland
Tim Smith, North Bennington

St. Albans DPS Facility:
Rebecca Arnold, Colchester
Karen Bresnahan, St. Albans
Dee Christi, Milton
Mike Curtis, St. Albans
Robert Evans, St. Albans
Sara Kittell, St. Albans
John Ostrum, Montpelier
Mickey Richard, St. Albans

Montpelier State Archives Building:

Rob Hitzig, Montpelier
Jeffrey Hodgson, Burlington
Deb Markowitz, Montpelier
Patricia McDonald, Barre
Gail Norman, Montpelier
Stephen Rooney, Burlington
Ray Rossi, Montpelier

Bethel DPS Facility:

Rebecca Arnold, Colchester
Vince Blaisdell, Montpelier
John Dumville, Montpelier
Ray Keefe, Bethel
Missy Storrow, Montpelier

133 State Street, Montpelier:
Joe Aja, Montpelier
Ann E. Cummings, Montpelier
Leslie Hight, Montpelier
Gloria Hobson, Montpelier
Stephanie Lynch, Burlington
Suzanne Rexford-Winston, Adamant
David Schütz, Montpelier

Art in State Buildings

Legislative Advisory Committee

Alex Aldrich, Vermont Arts Council
Rep. Alice Emmons
Robert A. Meyer
David Schütz
Senator Phil Scott

American Masterpieces Panel

Karen Lane, Barre
Jacquie Leven-Mauer, Stowe
John Patterson, Burlington
Aimée Petrin, Portland, ME
Gregory Sharrow, Pittsford

Poet Laureate Panel

Peter Gilbert, Montpelier
Cynthia Huntington, Post Mills
Grace Paley, Thetford
Jim Schley, So. Strafford
Jane Wollmar, Fayston

Special Thanks to the following people for their service to the Council:

Non-Board Committee Members

Elaine Harrington, Montpelier
Adriana Katzew, Burlington
Barbara Korecki, Plainfield
Tony Pietricola, Grand Isle
Bruce Wilson, Burlington

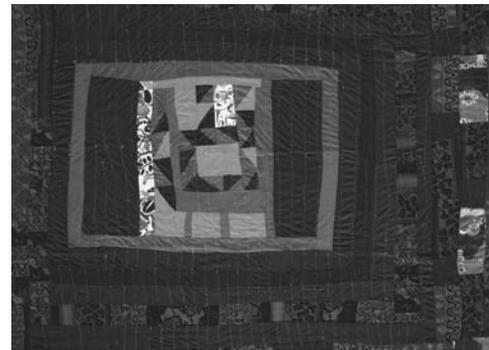
Creation & Presentation Committee Member

Nancy Judge, Woodstock

Chris Hadsel, Burlington
Cultural Facilities Program

Morgan Irons, Calais
Poetry Out Loud

Renee Wells, Middlebury
Cultural Accessibility Consultant



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Contributions

On behalf of the board and staff, we thank everyone who contributed to the Vermont Arts Council in the past year!

Members remain at the heart of our organization. Over the past two years, the number of donors has grown 15% and membership dollars have increased by nearly 30%. Last year these contributions helped support 180 grants totaling nearly \$620,000 in funding to artists, schools and community organizations. This support also helps demonstrate to the Legislature and other funders that a significant number of Vermonters value the arts in our schools, our communities, and our lives.

In addition to being the state's largest single source of arts funding, the Arts Council is also Vermont's primary resource for arts information and advocacy. A recent survey indicated that the primary reason individuals contribute to the Arts Council is to support our advocacy efforts. Member support makes it possible for the Council to represent Vermont's cultural community at the State House and in Washington, working to promote public understanding, appreciation and funding for the arts.

During our statewide community arts project, Palettes of Vermont, Council board and staff traveled the state, meeting the individuals and organizations taking part. The new, and in some cases renewed relationships generated an increase in membership and interest in the Council's programs and services. From visitors to our website, the Arts Directory and the Vermont Arts Calendar, to subscribers to our e-newsletter, ArtMail, grant applicants and workshop attendees, the project resulted in a growing awareness of the Council's activities.

Finally, we are always pleased to receive gifts that are designated to support particular programs or services. Some of these are from the estates of our friends who wished to leave a legacy of support, and some are in recognition of particular individuals. This year the Council received special gifts in honor of our award and citation recipients. Jaime Laredo, musician and music director for the Vermont Symphony Orchestra was the recipient of the Governor's Award for Excellence in the Arts. At Jaime's request, gifts in his honor were designated to support accessible and educational arts programs. At the Annual Meeting, sculptor Chuck Ginnever was given the Walter Cerf Award for Lifetime Achievement in the Arts. Gifts in his honor helped fund community development projects around the state.

Quality artistic expression. Accessible arts experiences. Lifelong arts education. These ingredients for a healthy community are made possible through the generosity of our contributors. We are sincerely grateful for the friendship and support of each and every one.

With heartfelt thanks,



Diane Manion Scolaro
Development & Communications Director

individual donors

INDIVIDUAL GIVING

\$1000+

ANONYMOUS - 1

George & Carolyn Chandler
Ruth Goldstone
Louis & Margaret L. Kannenstine
John & Katherine Paterson
James Wert & Mary Louise Pierson
Elizabeth Steele

\$500 - \$999

ANONYMOUS - 2

Robert & Gretchen Babcock
Frederick & Judith Buechner
David Carris & Anne Labrusciano
Brian Cosgrove
Richard & Marie Houghton
Lowell & Sandra Mintz
Ed & Jane Pincus
Avery Hall & Andrea Rogers

\$100 - \$499

ANONYMOUS - 3

Patricia Passmore Alley
Stephen Alpert
Richard Alther
Bill Eichner & Julia Alvarez
Jon & Betsy Anderson
Keith & Bonnie Johnson-Aten
Anne M. August
Mimi Baird
Jane Bartrum
Philip E. Beekman
Jeff & Julie Benay
Sandra Berbeco
David Binch & Willa Harris
Gregory & Karen Birsky
Edward & Marilyn Blackwell
Willard & Maggie Boepple
Ruth Bogorad
Pal & Donna Borofsky
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GRANT PROFILE

Quiltmakers take a different spin...

Vermont has a long history of quilt making but this fall the **Brattleboro Museum and Art Center** will host a display of distinctively different quilts. “Will the Circle Be Unbroken: Four Generations of African-American Quiltmakers” features four generations of Texas women carrying on a tradition reaching back to the time of slavery. The family creates quilts in the improvisational mode, guided by the materials on hand and the visual rhythms that emerge in the making. Often compared to the blues, gospel or jazz music, these quilts are the material equivalent, a statement of its creator’s personal style. In conjunction with the exhibit, the BMAC will host an improvisational jazz performance, lectures on the quilt tradition and a poetry reading inspired by African-American quilts. BMAC’s director, Konstantin von Krusenstern said the goal of the project is “to create a community dialogue around artistic, cultural and ethnic diversity. To ask ‘Does the art reach you, move you, challenge you?’”

www.brattleboromuseum.org



POETRY *Out Loud*

“It’s been so inspiring to see shy kids speak words powerfully, aloof kids grab hold of powerful emotions, and otherwise marginal students latch on to a poem or poet who speaks to them. They’re connecting with things vital.”

For the past two years, high school students from across Vermont have competed in a most unlikely sport: poetry recitation. Poetry Out Loud (POL) is a national program that builds on the resurgence of poetry as an oral art form and strives to bring this once popular tradition back into our classrooms and communities. POL is sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation, and presented in Vermont through a partnership between the Arts Council, Humanities Council, and Department of Education. The contest structure is similar to a spelling bee, with classroom, school, county, state, and national level competitions. Students choose from an extensive anthology of classical and contemporary poetry. Morgan Irons, an actor and Vermont’s Poetry Out Loud Coordinator, traveled to participating schools to help coach memorization and performance skills. Seventeen students representing 15 schools and 12 counties took part in the April 2007 finals in Montpelier. Eileen

Mason, Deputy Chair for the National Endowment for the Arts was on hand for the competition and presented the awards. Peoples Academy senior Henry Kiely read Carl Sandburg’s “Chicago” and “Do Not Go Gentle into That Good Night” by Dylan Thomas, but it was his performance of Billy Collins’ poem “Litany” that stole the show. “Litany” is a sardonic examination of the use, or overuse, of simile, and Kiely’s wry, intelligent reading perfectly captured the poem’s wit. Matt Peterson, an English teacher at Hartford High School said, “It’s been so inspiring to see shy kids speak words powerfully, aloof kids grab hold of powerful emotions, and otherwise marginal students latch on to a poem or poet who speaks to them. They’re connecting with things vital.”

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

October, 2007

Dear Friends,

In 58 years when someone writes the history of the Vermont Arts Council as part of the Council's Centennial celebration, the 2006-2007 year will stand out as one of the most significant in the life of the Council.

Casting one's eyes back over our history from the perspective of the year 2065, the year just passed will stand out as the year that saw the fulfillment of the Council's first ever "statewide community arts project" Palettes of Vermont which engaged dozens of communities, hundreds of artists, and thousands of Vermonters and visitors.

It will also stand out as the year that the Council made its first commitment to support art for community's sake. Our new Strategic Plan focuses the Council's work in just two basic areas: increasing opportunities for people to participate in the arts, and demonstrating how our funds invested throughout the state in creative projects builds public value and social capital.

For our first 42 years, our mission was basically to foster the arts in the lives of people and communities throughout the state. Now our mission is to "advance and preserve the arts at the center of Vermont communities". The major difference between the two? We are no longer just arts focused, we are community focused. The tool that is at our disposal to build community is "the arts." And what a powerful tool it is.

The next several years are going to be a period of adjustment for all of us associated with the Council as we test out this new community-focused mission. Yes, we will still be pre-eminently concerned with artistic quality, and our programs and services will be predominantly grant-oriented. Arts education will continue to be a priority as will project support grants. But what will be new is the result of searching for answers to the following question: Given that we are spending tax dollars, what can we do that is arts focused that ONLY we can do because we are spending tax dollars?

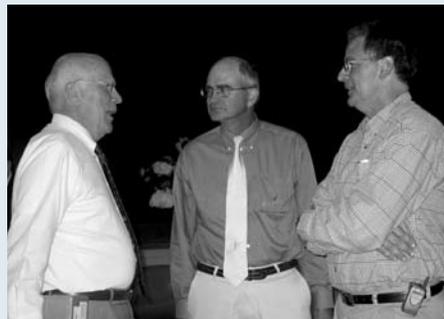
Or put another way, what must we do differently from other arts funding sources that are not spending tax dollars on arts-related activities?

Our first response to these questions is to build arts participation at all levels of our society and support those arts programs and services—like the Creative Economy—that have a positive impact on our community fabric. Over time, there will be much much more.

Sincerely,

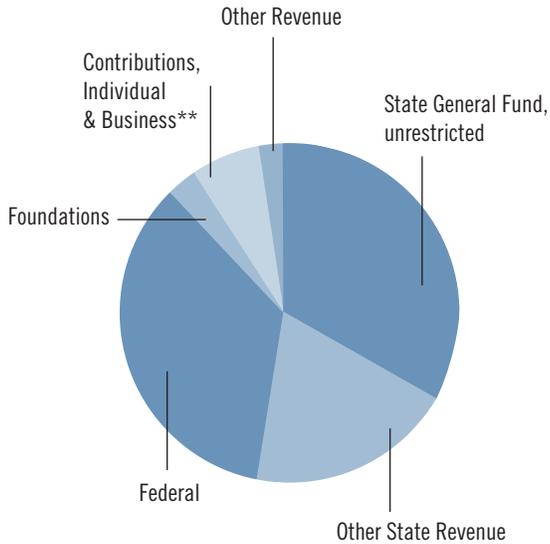


Alex Aldrich
Executive Director



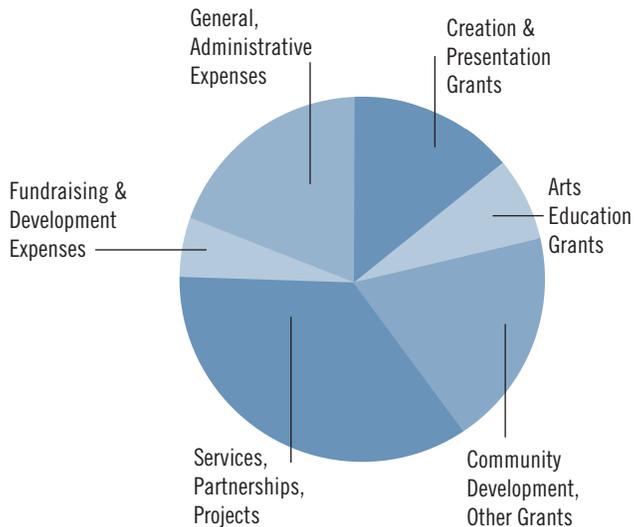
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

FY2007 Statement of Fiscal Activities *



REVENUE

State General Fund, unrestricted	529,618
Other State Revenue	305,947
Federal	575,100
Foundations	50,000
Contributions, Individual & Business	104,685
Other Revenue	36,989
Total Operating Revenue **	\$1,602,339



EXPENSES

Creation & Presentation Grants	225,534
Arts Education Grants	93,788
Community Development, Other Grants	301,213
Services, Partnerships, Projects	550,722
Fundraising & Development Expenses	82,126
General, Administrative Expenses	294,576
Total Operating Expense	\$1,547,959

* Unaudited - Audit Report available upon request

** Includes donated equipment valued at \$26,918