

## **Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees, Muscatine Art Center**

### **March 15, 2007**

**Present:** Loren Backhaus, Eric Knoernschild, Mike Knott, Mary Wildermuth and Marilyn Wick

**Absent:** Mark Huddleston, David Meloy, Scott Natvig and Janet Sichterman

**Staff:** Barb Christensen, Director

**Visitors Speak:** No visitors in attendance

**Minutes:** It was moved by Eric Knoernschild and seconded by Loren Backhaus that the minutes of the February 15, 2007 Board Meeting be approved. Motion carried.

**Bills:** It was moved by Mike Knott and seconded by Eric Knoernschild to approve the monthly bills totaling \$5,824.69 for payment. Motion carried.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Collections:** Mike Knott presented several items recommended for deaccession by Virginia Cooper. They included the never-used electric range in the kitchen; an accumulation of primarily civil war reunion medals and ribbons from Iowa towns other than Muscatine; and a single page from an old book or portfolio depicting The Boston Massacre. It was moved by Eric Knoernschild and seconded by Marilyn Wick that these items be deaccessioned. Motion carried.

Barb received a "Deed of Gift", signed by the executor, for the John Conner glass collection. The collection will be packed by MAC staff and several volunteers and temporarily stored in the Muscatine Transfer Station where climate controlled storage space is available. It was moved by Eric Knoernschild and seconded by Loren Backhaus, that this gift be accepted and a formal thank you note be sent to the family. Motion carried.

**Building & Grounds:** There will be a free audio tour demonstration by "Guideport" on March 28<sup>th</sup>. Board members are encouraged to attend this demonstration.

**Finance & Budget:** The various funds and foundation balances, along with the expenditures were reviewed and approved. It was moved by Eric Knoernschild and seconded by Marilyn Wick that the report be approved. Motion carried.

**Long-Range Planning:** A request for concept design proposals for the "Pearl Pavilion" was sent to four (4) firms. Two positive responses and one negative response were received. No response has been received from a St. Louis firm.

**Personnel:** Barb Christensen and Mary Wildermuth attended a seminar on "Building Relationships" today (March 15<sup>th</sup>).

Barb has found a summer intern to help at the MAC. She is an Art History major at the University of Iowa.

**Program/Publicity:** Virginia will begin working one less hour per week to satisfy a policy on health care coverage for herself and her husband.

Barb, Sheila Chadoin (Musser Library) and Melanie Alexander (History and Industry Center) wrote a polite and tactful article for the Muscatine Journal in response to an article in the Journal by one Roy Yeater on the need for a repository for Muscatine History memorabilia.

There are two (2) more lectures scheduled on the Eisle's Hill exhibition.

The Ice Cream Social is scheduled for July 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Education Coordinator's Report:** Report was received for review.

**Director's Report:** Report was received for review.

**Unfinished Business:** Nothing to report.

**New Business:** Nothing new to report.

**Adjourn:** A motion was made by Loren Backhaus and seconded by Eric Knoernschild to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael J. Knott for  
Janet R. Sichterman, Secretary

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**  
**For the month of February 2007**  
**March 15, 2007**

Total number of visitors for February 2007	1258
Total number of visitors for February 2006	1777
Total number of visitors Year-to-Date 2006	1838
Total number of visitors Year-to-Date 2005	2510
All figures include outreach program participants	

**EXHIBITIONS (in the month of February)**

**January 14, 2007 – April 1, 2007**

DIG IT! Eisele Hill Archaeological Excavation

**EXHIBITIONS (currently on view – March)**

**January 14, 2007 – April 1, 2007**

DIG IT! Eisele Hill Archaeological Excavation

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**February 11**

American Gothic in Your Face with John Duggleby

**CLASSES**

**February 1**

*Red Barn Studio: Gourd Sculptures & Painting* – taught by Vada Baker

**February 2, 9 & 16**

*Music For Tots* – 2 sessions taught by Julie Lear

**February 3**

*Poetry, Posters & Pastries: The Art of Sister Corita* - taught by Duffy

DeFrance

**February 7**

*Art for Tots: Winter Surprises* – 2 sessions taught by Julie Herold

**February 8**

*Red Barn Studio: Iris Fold Valentine Cards* – taught by Vada Baker

**February 14**

*Art for Tots: Love Bugs* – 2 sessions taught by Julie Herold

**February 10**

*Sailor's Valentine* - taught by Julie Lear

**February 15 & 22**

*Red Barn Studio: Scrapbook Boxes* – taught by Vada Baker

**February 17**

*Chinese New Year – Year of the Pig* - taught by Julie Lear

**February 21**

*Art for Tots: Red, White & Blue* – 2 sessions taught by Julie Herold

**February 23**

*Family Days: Winter Wonderland* – 2 sessions taught by Julie Lear

**February 24**

*The Art of Aaron Douglas* - taught by Vada Baker

**February 28**

*Art for Tots: Puppet Pals* – 2 sessions taught by Julie Herold

**TOURS**

**February 8**

Homeschool students

**February 20**

Lutheran Homes residents

**February 22**

Muscatine County Genealogy Group

**February 26**

Franklin/Garfield School Teachers

**OTHER**

**February 1, 5 & 23**

Lear presented outreach programs at the Y

**February 1 & 8**

Homeschool Enrichment Programs held in the Stanley Gallery Studio

**February 6, 13, 20 & 27**

Adventures in Art class held in the Stanley Gallery Studio

**February 22**

Art Center Staff participated in Junior Achievement program

**February 25**

Music room rented for recital

**February 26**

Lear presented outreach program for Central Middle School (School within a School)

**February 27**

Virginia Cooper presented an outreach program on Eisele Hill exhibition to the Kiwanis Club

**ACQUISITIONS**

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara C. Christensen  
Director

cc

**KLZ INCORPORATED**

1115 Sunrise Circle  
Muscatine IA 52761

February 28, 2007

To: Barb

From: Maria

Re: Education Coordinator's Report, February 2007

Our winter semester is over, and while there were a number of classes cancelled due to weather and low enrollment, the over-all attendance was good. As you will note from the comparative summaries below, we showed an increase in paid enrollment over 2005 and 2004. Our outreach numbers were lower than 2005 – this was accounted for by the lower number of students taking part in the Home-School enrichment program this winter, and the fact that our tours of the Eisele Hill exhibit were split between the Education Department and Virginia Cooper, who conducted the badge tours for scouts and the tour for the Muscatine Genealogy group. Our other outreach projects were pretty much on a par with last year.

We are introducing a new program to our classes – a series of “manners” workshops taught by Vickie Anderson, which was offered as an after-school program this winter. As is often the case for new programs, response was very slow for the winter workshop and we had to cancel due to low enrollment. We will continue with this program for a few semesters to see if there is community interest in it, and plan to try different time slots as well.

The workshops which did not meet the required minimum enrollment were our two after-school programs (Pet Rock Studio and Kids with Class), one early January Kids’ workshop, and three of our four Sunday afternoon “Cabin Fever” programs. We plan to re-think the Cabin Fever workshops before Winter 2007.

Our Tots and Preschool Programs and Thursday evening adult classes continue to be success stories. We also had a very good response to our “Oil Painting for Kids” workshop and “Pottery from the Past,” which was tied to the Eisele Hill exhibit.

Julie Lear conducted a number of outreach workshops in February. The Y Variety Arts Group studied the art of Karl Zerbe and created a collage valentine. The Y Teen Leaders learned about artist Robert Indiana and created a stencil valentine in his style. Central Middle School’s “School Within a School” learned the origami art of iris-folding and created picture frames. The Hodge Podge Kids from the Big Brothers, Big Sisters program created Styrofoam snowmen using “glue” created by mixing Elmer’s glue and shaving cream.

We conducted several tours in February. I gave a second tour of the mansion for our trustees, and Julie and I gave a tour of the Eisele Hill exhibit to the Homeschool students,

as noted above. I gave a tour of the Eisele Hill exhibit for Lutheran Homes Assisted Living residents. Also, together with Carolyn Airola, we have prepared and distributed a teachers' packet of information on the Eisele Hill exhibit for our fourth-grade teachers, and conducted a tour of the exhibit for them.

There were no birthday parties in February.

The Spring Brochure has been distributed and we are taking enrollments for our spring classes.

In addition to supporting our winter program, I am now working on plans for our spring and summer 2007 semesters, as well as the Ice Cream Social and other outreach events.

Let me know if you have anything else to add to the list.

### **Muscatine Art Center Education Department 2007 Winter Attendance Report**

#### **February 2007**

Thurs. Feb. 1	Red Barn Studio: Gourd Sculptures ID 3056	8	
7			
	Host:Homeschool Assistance Enrichment	--	
9			
	Outreach: Y Teen Leaders – Robert Indiana's Valentine	--	
13			
Fri. Feb. 2	Music for Tots: ID 3041 & 3042	34	
59			
Sat. Feb. 3	Kids Workshop: the art of Sister Corita ID 3048	8	
9			
Sun. Feb. 4	Cabin Fever: The Art of Georgia O'Keeffe	cancelled – low	
enrollment			
	<b>Totals for week (Feb. only)</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>97</b>
Mon. Feb. 5	Outreach: Y Variety Arts – KLZ's Valentine	--	
9			
Tues. Feb. 6	Adventures in Art	--	2

Wed. Feb. 7 25	Art for Tots: Winter Surprises ID 3033 & 3034	14	
enrollment	Kids with Class ID 3053	cancelled – low	
enrollment	Pet Rock Studio: Passport to Art II ID 3052	cancelled – low	
Thurs. Feb. 8 16	Red Barn Studio: Iris Fold Valentines ID 3057	16	
22	Tour: Homeschool Assistance - Eisele Hill	--	
Fri. Feb. 9 51	Music for Tots ID 3041 & 3042	35	
Sat. Feb. 10 8	Kids Workshop: Sailor's Valentine ID 3049	9	
Sun. Feb. 11			
	<b>Totals for week:</b>	<b>74</b>	
	<b>133</b>		
Tues. Feb. 13	Adventures in Art	--	--
Wed. Feb. 14 21	Art for Tots: Love Bugs ID 3035 & 3036	11	
enrollment	Kids with Class ID 3053	cancelled – low	
enrollment	Pet Rock Studio: Passport to Art II ID 3052	cancelled – low	
Thurs. Feb. 15 ill	Red Barn Studio: Scrapbook Boxes ID 3058	cancelled – instructor	
Fri. Feb. 16 58	Music for Tots ID 3041 & 3042	35	
Sat. Feb. 17 11	Kids Workshop: Chinese New Year ID 3050	8	
Sun. Feb. 18	Cabin Fever: The Art of Sister Corita ID 3061	cancelled – low	
enrollment			
	<b>Totals for week:</b>	<b>54</b>	
	<b>89</b>		
Mon. Feb. 19			
Tues. Feb. 20	Adventures in Art	--	--
	Tour: Lutheran Homes – Eisele Hill	--	21
Wed. Feb. 21 21	Art for Tots: Red, White & Blue ID 3037 & 3038	13	
enrollment	Kids with Class ID 3053	cancelled – low	
enrollment	Pet Rock Studio: Passport to Art II ID 3052	cancelled – low	



Thurs. Feb. 22	Red Barn Studio: Scrapbook Boxes ID 3058	14	
9			
	Outreach: MCC Honors Class (Julie Herold)	--	
15			
Fri. Feb. 23	Family Days ID 3043 & 3044	17	
32			
	Outreach: Hodgepodge Kids – Styrofoam snowmen	--	
17			
Sat. Feb. 24	Kids Workshop: The Art of Aaron Douglas ID 3051	cancelled – ice storm	
Sun. Feb. 25	Cabin Fever: The Art of Faith Ringgold ID 3062	cancelled – low enrollment	
	<b>Totals for week:</b>	<b>44</b>	
	<b>115</b>		
Mon. Feb. 26	Outreach: CMS School Within a School – iris folding	--	
17			
	Tour: Fourth Grade teachers – Eisele Hill	--	
29			
Tues. Feb. 27	Adventures in Art	--	2
Wed. Feb. 28	Art for Tots: Puppet Pals ID 3039 & 3040	12	
20			
	Little Miss Manners ID 3098	cancelled – low enrollment	
	Pet Rock Studio: Passport to Art II ID 3052	cancelled – low enrollment	
	<b>Totals for February</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>502</b>
	<b>Totals for Winter 2007</b>	<b>425</b>	
	<b>881</b>		
	Totals for Winter 2006	414	
	1106		
	Totals for Winter 2005	377	
	598		