

Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees, Muscatine Art Center

November 20, 2008

Present: Jan Henderson, Mark Huddleston, Eric Knoernschild, Mike Knott, Caren Luke, and Scott Natvig

Absent: Dave Meloy, Tom Spread, and Becky Wichers

Staff: Barb Christensen

Visitors Speak: A contingent of individuals, concerned about the plans for the property next door (1402 Mulberry) which was recently purchased by the Art Center, included the following:

- Dan Clark
- Jane Reischauer
- John Peterschmidt
- Maryrose Peterschmidt
- Mary Ann Kessler
- Michael Maharry
- Shelly Maharry
- Carl Broderson (owns old house on Sherman Street)
- Jennifer Meyer, Muscatine Journal
- Zach Ulin, KWPC

With the exception of Jennifer Meyer, Zach Ulin, and Carl Broderson, the visitors all represented the Historic Preservation Commission or their “Friends” group.

Dan Clark passed out copies of a photo taken of the home in 1901 and copies of the City Ordinance establishing the Commission. The following discussion ensued:

- When asked what our plans were, Scott/Barb responded that no decisions have been made yet.
- Ms. Reischauer asked if the home has been “winterized”. Barb indicated that the garage has been secured, the windows boarded up, utilities shut off, and the house insured.
- The Commission/Friends asked for a tour and a schedule was set to accommodate it.
- Could house be restored and used for the Art Center expansion?
- Could the lot be subdivided and the Art Center only retain the rear of the lot?
- Has a timeline been developed?
- The entire neighborhood may soon be designated a historic district. Restoration of homes in the district may receive funding.

- The Commission will prepare a summary report of possible restoration scenarios and re-convene with the Art Center Board.

Minutes: It was moved by Mark Huddleston and seconded by Jan Henderson that the minutes of the October 16, 2008 Board Meeting be approved. Motion carried.

Bills: It was moved by Eric Knoernschild and seconded by Jan Henderson to approve the monthly bills totaling \$3,839.69 for payment. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Collections: No Report

Building & Grounds:

The purchase of the property next door was closed on October 30th. The windows were boarded, the yard cleaned and the property insured.

A tour was scheduled with representatives from the Historic Preservation Commission and their Friends group for Thursday, December 4, 2008 at noon.

Finance & Budget: Year-end financial reports from the City were reviewed, as were the trust fund summaries and recent monthly reports.

It's assumed that the collapsing market will affect the fund performances. Barb indicated that we should not let the decline reduce funding for the educational programs.

Long-Range Planning: Long range planning for a facility expansion will remain on hold until the historical home issues have been resolved and the economy improves.

Personnel: A letter was received from the Home School coordinators within the Muscatine Community School District that is very complimentary of Art Center staff members Maria, Julie and Andy. Trustees should indicate our appreciation to these individuals.

Program/Publicity: The Festival of Wreaths made approximately \$3700.

3,000 copies of the Art Center/Musser Library joint newsletter ("Watermark") will be printed with help from "Shield Design".

An event for kids is planned where kids will be given punch passes at the Art Center or the Library. The passes will be punched at events at both facilities and prizes given to kids with the most punches.

The MAC's website is up and running at www.muscatineartcenter.org

Plans for the Muscatine Mosaic Project are proceeding. Every child in grades 1 to 5 in the Muscatine Community School District (2,000 students) will be given a 6" x 6" canvas on which to create their own work of art. Each finished work of art will be displayed in an art exhibition in the Stanley Gallery from March 15 to April 19, 2009.

Simultaneously, the Muscatine County Arts Council will provide three hundred 6" x 6" canvases to artists, craftspeople, artisans and other "creatives" from grade 6 through adult, who each agree to contribute their completed art work for exhibition and sale. The total cost of \$10,251.00 will be funded as follows:

Muscatine Art Center.....	1251.
Muscatine County Arts Council.....	500.
Muscatine Community School District.....	500.
Community Foundation of Greater Muscatine.....	1000. (request)
Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust.....	7000. (request)

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

Director's Report: Report was received for review.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: A discussion was held about Barb's proposal to relocate the artifacts from the Sarah Eaker Hughes bedroom and the bedroom used to display the MAC's art glass collection. No action was taken but there was general approval among the Trustees.

Adjourn: A motion was made by Mark Huddleston and seconded by Karen Luke to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael J. Knott , Secretary

DIRECTOR'S REPORT
For the month of November 2008
December 18, 2008

Total number of visitors for November 2008

2704

Total number of visitors for November 2007

2751

Total number of visitors Year-to-Date 2008

20543

Total number of visitors Year-to-Date 2007

14520

All figures include outreach program participants

EXHIBITIONS (in the month of November)

Through January 11, 2009

Fairy Tale Art: Illustrations from Children's Books

Through November 9, 2008

4-H Art Exhibition

Through November 9 thru November 15, 2008

Fourth Annual Festival of Wreaths

EXHIBITIONS (currently on view – December)

Through January 11, 2009

Fairy Tale Art: Illustrations from Children's Books

CLASSES

November 1

Kids Workshop: Origami Landscape –taught by Duffy DeFrance

November 5

Art for Tots: Playful Puppets –two sessions taught by Julie Herold

November 7, 14, 21

Music for Tots –taught by Julie Lear

November 8

Kids Workshop: Dragon Gourds –taught by Vada Baker

November 9

Festival of Wreaths Workshop: Victorian Ornaments

November 12

Art for Tots: Autumn Surprises –two sessions taught by Julie Herold

November 15

Kids Workshop: Laura's 131st Birthday –taught by Julie Lear

November 19

Art for Tots: It's Turkey Time –two sessions taught by Julie Herold

November 22

Kids Workshop: Van Gough's Landscape –taught by Amy Kling

TOURS

November 1

Inez Rathken

November 12

Lowden Garden Club

November 10

Jon Fasenelli-Cawelti MCC

November 13

Donna Matheson Questors

November 18

West Middle School Sculpture Tour

November 19

West Middle School Sculpture Tour

OTHER

November 3

Lear presented outreach programs to Y Variety Arts

November 6

Homeschool Enrichment

Lear presented outreach programs to Y Teen Leaders

November 7

Outreach: Homeschool Tea

November 13

Outreach: Homeschool Enrichment

November 24

Outreach: Hodgepodge kids

ACQUISITIONS

- Child's Lemonade set and compote – Purchase of Support Foundation
- Lion spooner and bowl – Purchase of Support Foundation

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara C. Christensen
Director
lb

KLZ INCORPORATED
1115 Sunrise Circle
Muscatine IA 52761

December 3, 2008

To: Barb

From: Maria

Re: Education Coordinator's Report, November 2008

November was a month of holidays and special events. As you will notice, the number of kids enrolled in our classes was considerably lower than in the last two years. This is partly because of lower enrollment in our tots classes, and partly because there was one less week of tots classes this November.

Enrollment continues down in our Art for Tots program. As I mentioned in my October report, we have consolidated the early and late morning classes and have had to cancel the afternoon classes. Responding to requests from some of our families, we are planning a different approach this winter. We will keep our traditional "Art for Tots" class in the early morning time slot. In the late morning time slot, "Family Fun Time," which will also be taught by Julie Herold, will be geared to families with more than one little one and will relax the requirement for one adult per child attending. Enrollment in our Music classes is also down this fall. I think we are seeing the effects of the economy. I notice that enrollment in Betty Collins' programs at the library, which cover the same ages and for which there is no charge, is up.

Enrollment for our Saturday kids' workshops remains constant. Duffy De France offered an innovative "Origami Landscape" class on Nov. 1. Vada Baker showed the kids how to paint dragons and other creatures on decorative gourds on Nov. 8. On Nov. 15 we celebrated Laura Musser's 131st birthday with a Victorian craft and a tea. Amy Kling wrapped up our November kids' classes with a workshop on the painting techniques of Vincent Van Gogh.

We conducted a number of outreach events in November. On Nov. 3 and 6 Julie Lear taught wreath workshops for the Y Variety Arts group and the Y Teen Leaders. Julie Lear went to Happy Time Preschool for music programs on Nov. 18 and 19. We are hosting the Homeschool Enrichment program again this fall. We also gave a Victorian tea for this group on November 7th. It was a great success and we plan to make this a traditional event. On Nov. 24 Julie gave a holiday ornament program for Hodgepodge Kids. Thanks to Friends for donating the rest of the wreath ornaments to use for this project. The kids loved them!

Of course, our major November outreach was "Sunday with Santa" on Nov. 9. While Santa and Friends were busy upstairs, Julie and I were in the studio with holiday crafts for the kids. We offered a Victorian wreath replica project for the older children and a

Christmas bird clip-on ornament for the little ones. There were also wreath cookies to frost and decorate. Approximately 60 children took part in one or all of our events. Many thanks to all of you, our volunteers (Janet Kennedy from MAC, Jennifer Ostergren from our student families, and Tammy Lindorf and Yvonne Corl from Volunteers and Information.) Also special thanks to Randy Nabor who kindasorta got drafted at one point in time! I personally feel that Sunday with Santa is a great event, and that sandwiching the Festival between the children's event and the final Gala worked well. I hope we can repeat this format next year. I do think that trying to schedule the children as to times in the studio did not work very well. I suggest that we do simpler crafts and run the event the same way as the Ice Cream Social studio events, with a number of activity stations instead of scheduling.

I conducted mansion tours for three ladies groups in November. There were also two sculpture tours for the kids from West Middle School.

There were no birthday parties scheduled in November.

The winter brochures have been printed and distributed. In addition to supporting the remaining fall classes, Julie and I are doing a supply inventory and reorganization of the studio. I have also begun working on the spring semester programming.

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

Muscatine Art Center Education Department 2008 Fall Attendance Report

November 2008

Date	Event	Students enrolled	
<u>Attendance</u>			
Sat. Nov. 1	Kids Workshop: Origami Landscape ID 5147	9	
13	Tour: Inez Rathken, Wilton	--	12
Sun. Nov. 2			
Totals for week (Nov.)		9	
25			
Mon. Nov. 3	Outreach: Y Variety Arts	--	
Tues. Nov. 4	Adventures in Art	--	--

Wed. Nov. 5	Art for Tots: Playful Puppets ID 5122 & 5123	10	
19			
	Art for Tots: Playful Puppets ID 5124	Cancelled –	
low enrollment			
Thurs. Nov. 6	Outreach: Homeschool Enrichment	--	
71			
	Outreach: Y Teen Leaders	--	
14			
Fri. Nov. 7	Music for Tots ID 5139 & 5140	25	
47			
	Outreach: Homeschool Tea	--	43
Sat. Nov. 8	Kids Workshop: Dragon Gourds	13	
11			
Sun. Nov. 9	FOW Workshop: Victorian ornaments ID 5154	--	
60			
	Totals for week:	48	
	265		
Mon. Nov. 10			
Tues. Nov. 11	<i>Art Center Open– Veteran’s Day- Festival of Wreaths</i>		
Wed. Nov. 12	Art for Tots: Autumn Surprises ID 5125 & 5126	8	
11			
	Art for Tots: Autumn Surprises ID 5127	cancelled –	
low enrollment			
	Tour: Lowden Garden Club	--	5
Thurs. Nov. 13	Outreach: Homeschool Enrichment	--	
56			
	Tour: Donna Matheson Questers	--	
17			
Fri. Nov. 14	Music for Tots ID 5139 & 5140	25	
47			
Sat. Nov. 15	Kids Workshop: Laura’s 131 st Birthday ID 5149	11	
12			
Sun. Nov. 16			
	Totals for week:	44	
	148		
Mon. Nov. 17			
Tues. Nov. 18	Adventures in Art	--	--
	Outreach: Happy Time Preschool (Julie L.)	cancelled –	
Julie sick			
	Tour: West Middle School (sculpture)	--	
50			
Wed. Nov. 19	Art for Tots: It’s Turkey Time ID 5128 & 5129	12	
25			
	Art for Tots: It’s Turkey Time ID 5130	cancelled –	
low enrollment			

Julie sick	Outreach: Happy Time Preschool (Julie L.)	cancelled –	
52	Tour: West Middle School (sculpture)	--	
Thurs. Nov. 20			
Fri. Nov. 21	Music for Tots ID 5139 & 5140	25	
36			
Sat. Nov. 22	Kids Workshop: Van Gogh's Landscape ID 5150	9	
8			
Sun. Nov. 23			
	Totals for week:	46	
155			
Mon. Nov. 24	Outreach: Hodgepodge Kids	--	58
Tues. Nov. 25	Adventures in Art	--	--
Wed. Nov. 26			
Thurs. Nov. 27	<i>Art Center Closed - Thanksgiving</i>		
Fri. Nov. 28	<i>Art Center Closed - Thanksgiving</i>		
Sat. Nov. 29			
Sun. Nov. 30			
	Totals for week:	--	
58			
	Totals for November 2008:	147	651
	Totals for November 2007:	228	552
	Totals for November 2006:	215	513