

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

### **March 19, 2009**

**Present:** Jan Henderson, Eric Knoernschild, Mike Knott, Dave Meloy, and Scott Natvig

**Absent:** Mark Huddleston, Caren Luke, Tom Spread, and Becky Wichers

**Staff:** Barb Christensen

**Visitors Speak:** Dan Clark indicated that Dave Armstrong has been looking for a potential relocation site for the Jayne house even though the relocation option is probably prohibitively expensive. Michael Maharry still supports an option to sub-divide the lot and leave the house where it sits. Several Board members indicated to Dan that we do not consider this to be a viable option. This plan was discussed at length in a previous Board meeting and rejected as “not in the best interest of the Art Center”.

Dan also mentioned that the Commission asked if the \$5,000 offer by the Board could be increased. He was told that an increase is unlikely in light of recent serious cuts in the Art Center’s budget and funds.

Dan left a copy of the Commission’s draft minutes.

**Minutes:** It was moved by Mike Knott and seconded by Jan Henderson that the minutes of the February 19, 2009 Board Meeting be approved. Motion carried.

**Bills:** It was moved by Mike Knott and seconded by Dave Meloy to approve the monthly bills totaling \$1,925.22 for payment. Motion carried.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Collections:** No report.

**Building & Grounds:** The Jayne house was discussed. Barb received an email from a Jayne descendant.

Scott mentioned that the chimney on the carriage house appeared to be “a kilter”. The chimney was subsequently repaired.

**Finance & Budget:** The Financial Reports were received and reviewed.

**Long-Range Planning:** Eric may begin looking into funding for expanding the MAC.

**Personnel:** Barb has been working on a plan to cut \$25,000 out of the Art Center's budget. She plans to cut \$13,100 from personnel and \$11,900 from other expenses.

Board members were given summaries of Barb's performance review comments. The Personnel Committee will be discussing the comments with Barb in the near future.

**Program/Publicity:** The Mosaic Project is hung and available for viewing. A mass viewing of the Mosaic art will be/was held on March 29<sup>th</sup>. Canvases can be purchased for \$20 each with checks made out to the Muscatine County Arts Council.

The play "Murder Me Always" was held on two consecutive nights and was a huge success.

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

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

**Unfinished Business:** Discussion on the "conversion" of the Sarah Eaker Hughes bedroom was deferred. Display cases are needed.

**New Business:** At least 2 new Board members need to be selected before June.

**Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned by acclamation.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael J. Knott , Secretary

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**  
**For the month of March 2009**  
**April 16, 2009**

Total number of visitors for March 2009

1929

Total number of visitors for March 2008

1553

Total number of visitors Year-to-Date 2009

4048

Total number of visitors Year-to-Date 2008

3478

All figures include outreach program participants

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

**Through March 8, 2009**

*Kosovo Revisited*

**March 15 Through April 19, 2009**

*Muscatine Elementary School show as part of the Muscatine Mosaic Project*

*Muscatine Mosaic Project*

*Red Cross Exhibit*

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

**March 15 Through April 19, 2009**

*Muscatine Elementary School show as part of the Muscatine Mosaic Project*

*Muscatine Mosaic Project*

*Red Cross Exhibit*

**CLASSES**

**March 4**

*Art for Tots: Make up class* –taught by Julie Herold

**March 7**

*Kid's Workshop: Oil Painting* – taught by Vada Baker

**March 11**

*Kid's Workshop: Oil Painting* –taught by Vada Baker

**March 11**

*Art for Tots: It isn't Easy Being Green* –taught by Julie Herold

**March 13, 20, 27**

*Music for Tots* –two sessions taught by Julie Lear

**March 14**

*Kid's Workshop: Celtic Animals* –taught by Julie Lear

**March 21**

*Kid's Workshop: Andrinka Tote Bags* –taught by Amy Kling

**March 25**

*Art for Tots: In like a Lion* –taught by Julie Herold

**March 25**

*Family Fun: Out like a Lamb*–taught by Julie Herold

**March 28**

*Kid's Workshop: Sketchbook Club* –taught by Christine Kuster

**TOURS**

**March 6**

Tour Senior Resources Adult Day Care

**March 26**

Tour Brownie Troop 2175

**OTHER**

**March 1**

Shoppa Birthday Party

**March 5**

Outreach: Y teen leaders taught by Julie Lear

**March 6**

Outreach: Homeschool assistance art taught by Julie Lear

**March 9**

Outreach: Y Variety Arts taught by Julie Lear

Outreach: High School taught by Julie Lear

**March 9**

Outreach: Hodgepodge Kids taught by Julie Lear

**March 13**

Outreach: Homeschool assistance art taught by Julie Lear

**March 15**

Reception Muscatine School System and Muscatine Mosaic Project

**March 16**

Outreach: Baby Lapsit art taught by Julie Lear

**March 24**

Outreach: DSCI art class taught by Vada Baker

**March 26**

Outreach: Homeschool assistance enrichment

**March 27**

Outreach: Homeschool assistance art taught by Julie Lear

**ACQUISITIONS**

*The Young Artist by Alma Held* – Purchase from General Trust

*Scanned images of Alexander Clark Documents* – Support Foundation Purchase

*Collection of Muscatine History Books – Gift of Bill Parks*  
*Box of Dominos, HOLSUM, bread wrapper, Ice pick advertisement, Postal route*  
*map – Gift of Art and Jan Davis*  
*Pattern Glass Reference books – gift of Jan Davis*  
*Muscatine County Treasurer Seal, embossing stamp – gift of Muscatine*  
*Genealogical Society*

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara C. Christensen  
Director  
lb

**KLZ INCORPORATED**

1115 Sunrise Circle  
Muscatine IA 52761

April 1, 2009

To: Barb  
From: Maria  
Re: Education Coordinator's Report, March 2009

Our spring semester has gotten off to a good start. Excluding "Family Fun Days," we have already met our minimum enrollment in all but a few of our classes. However, the trend of decreasing paid class enrollments and increasing attendance of outreach events continues. The drop in numbers compared with the 2007 spring semester is accounted for by several facts. There was an exhibit up which drew school tours (Eisele Hill). There was an extra week of classes in March 2007. Red Barn Studio is now offered every other week instead of every week, and Pet Rock Studio has been replaced by a once/semester School's Out Special. Also, from speaking to parents, I know that the economy is taking its toll on class enrollments.

What with the increase in preschool classes in the community, our Art for Tots classes continue to experience low enrollment. We have changed the format to allow for the presence of siblings and will only be offering one Art for Tots class per week in the fall. Family Fun Days, requested by parents of multiples, has not proven to be successful and will be discontinued in the fall semester. Music for Tots enrollment is doing well, although classes are not filled to capacity.

We held three Saturday Kids' Workshops in March. Julie Lear began the semester on March 14 with a class on Celtic animals in honor of St. Patrick's Day. Students created illuminated animal illustrations on parchment, which were nicely framed to hang on their walls. On March 21, Amy Kling taught a workshop about the Adinkra symbols found in African fabric art. The students created their own stamp and created a tote bag as they learned the meanings of the different symbols. Christine Kuster ended the month with a Sketchbook Club drawing workshop on creating textures on March 28.

There were no Red Barn Studio classes scheduled for March. They will resume in April.

Julie Lear taught a workshop on Italian Futurist Giacomo Balla for the Y Teen Leaders on March 5 and again for the Y Variety Arts Group on March 9 in which students created paper sculptures in the style of the artist. On March 9 she taught a workshop on the scorch-art of African-American artist Willie Cole for the Y High School Kids. On March 12 the Hodgepodge Kids came to the Art Center for a class on illuminated manuscripts. Each child created his initial and embellished it with Celtic designs, using watercolor and gold acrylic. On March 16 Julie went to the library for a Music for Tots program for Baby Lap Sit. The Muscatine Community School District's Homeschool Assistance Program has begun its spring art classes, taught by Julie Lear. This semester's theme is "The Other Side of Georgia O'Keeffe," which features projects which do NOT involve

her giant flowers. We are also hosting HSAP's enrichment classes again this spring. Their theme for the semester is "Junkbox Wars."

We welcomed a new outreach partner in March. Members of the Senior Program of the Diversity Service Center of Iowa will be coming to the Art Center for combination art/tour programs the fourth Tuesday of each month from March through November. Generously funded by a grant from the Community Foundation, students will become familiar with the Art Center's collection through a series of tours and create fun art projects taught by Vada Baker. In March we took a tour of Project Mosaic and talked about the diversity of talent in the Muscatine Community, and created spring flower pot planters using the one-stroke painting technique.

I conducted two tours in March. On March 6 the Senior Resources Adult Day Care came for a tour of the Kosovo exhibit. In addition to viewing the exhibit, they were treated to a great talk by Ric Smith. On March 26 members of Brownie Troop 2125 came to view their "Project Mosaic" art and were given a tour of the mansion.

There was one birthday party scheduled in March.

In addition to supporting the spring program I am working on our summer and fall class schedules and the summer brochure. I have introduced a scavenger hunt activity in the mansion which is proving very successful and is introducing kids and their parents to the artifacts on display there.

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

### Muscatine Art Center Education Department 2009 Spring Attendance Report

#### March 2009

Date	Event	Students enrolled	
<u>Attendance</u>			
Sun. Mar. 1	Birthday Party – Shoppa	--	
12			
<b>Totals for week (March)</b>		--	
12			
Mon. Mar 2			
Tues. Mar. 3	Outreach: Adventures in Art	--	--
Wed. Mar. 4	Art for Tots Make-up class	6	11
Thurs. Mar. 5	Outreach: Y Teen Leaders - Balla Paper Sculptures		--
5			
Fri. Mar. 6	Outreach: Homeschool Assistance Art	--	
63			

	Tour: Sr. Resources Adult Day Care (Kosovo)	--	
	16		
Sat. Mar. 7	Oil Painting for Kids make-up class	12	
	7		
Sun. Mar. 8			
	<b>Totals for week:</b>	<b>18</b>	
	<b>102</b>		
Mon. Mar. 9	Outreach: Y Variety Arts (Balla Paper Sculptures)	--	
	7		
	Outreach: Y High School Kids (Willie Cole)	--	
	8		
Tues. Mar. 10	Outreach: Adventures in Art	--	--
Wed. Mar. 11	Art for Tots: It Isn't Easy Being Green ID 5181	6	
	12		
	Family Fun Time: Blue & Yellow Make Green ID 5190	cancelled –	
	low enrollment		
Thurs. Mar. 12	Outreach: Hodgepodge Kids	--	24
Fri. Mar. 13	Music for Tots Early Spring ID 5199 & 5200	25	
	49		
	Outreach: Homeschool Assistance Art	--	
	60		
Sat. Mar. 14	Kids Workshop: Celtic Animals ID 5203	10	
	7		
Sun. Mar. 15			
	<b>Totals for week:</b>	<b>41</b>	
	<b>167</b>		
Mon. Mar. 16	School's Out Special: Panoramic Sugar Eggs ID 5212	9	
	9		
	Outreach: Baby Lap Sit (MPL)	--	
	53		
Tues. Mar. 17	Outreach: Adventures in Art	--	
Wed. Mar. 18			
Thurs. Mar. 19			
Fri. Mar. 20	Music for Tots: Early Spring ID 5199 & 5200	28	
	46		
Sat. Mar. 21	Kids Workshop: Adinkra Tote Bags ID 5204	5	
	5		
Sun. Mar. 22			
	<b>Totals for week:</b>	<b>42</b>	
	<b>113</b>		
Mon. Mar. 23			
Tues. Mar. 24	Outreach: DSCI Art Class	--	
	13		
	Outreach: Adventures in Art	--	--
Wed. Mar. 25	Art for Tots: In Like a Lion ID 5182	9	17



	Family Fun Time: Out Like a Lamb ID 5191	Cancelled –
	low enrollment	
Thurs. Mar. 26	Tour: Brownie Troop 2175 – Mansion & Project Mosaic	--
13		
	Outreach: Homeschool Assistance Enrichment – Junkbox Wars	--
28		
Fri. Mar. 27	Music for Tots: Early Spring ID 5199 & 5200	29
46		
	Outreach: Homeschool Assistance Art	--
67		
Sat. Mar. 28	Kids Workshop: Sketchbook Club ID 5205	9
8		
Sun. Mar. 29		
	<b>Totals for week:</b>	<b>47</b>
	<b>179</b>	
Mon. Mar. 30		
Tues. Mar. 31	Outreach: Adventures in Art	-- --
	<b>Totals for week (March):</b>	
	<b>Totals for March 2009</b>	<b>148</b>
	<b>573</b>	
	Totals for March 2008	160
522		
	Totals for March 2007	311
1227		