

## **Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees, Muscatine Art Center** **May 21, 2009**

**Present:** Jan Henderson, Mike Knott, Caren Luke, Dave Meloy, Scott Natvig, Tom Spread, and Becky Wichers

**Absent:** Mark Huddleston, and Eric Knoernschild,

**Staff:** Barb Christensen

**Visitors Speak:** Dan Clark & Mike Maharry.

Dan & Mike asked if we had considered the options of moving the Jayne house to the back of the MAC's new lot or out closer to Cedar Street on the lot the MAC purchased several years ago. The Board explained that the Building & Grounds Committee met, walked the properties and had a lengthy discussion covering the two options. It was decided that neither option was in the best interest of the MAC and saw no reason to revise the current plan.

Scott Natvig explained some of the concerns the Committee had for the two options.

Knott asked Dan & Mike how the process would play out if the house were moved to Cedar Street. Dan explained that the house would be privately owned but that the MAC could impose maintenance/appearance requirements on the owners.

Dan briefly discussed the connection between the Jayne family and Alexander Clark but indicated that Kent Sissel had been planning to attend the Board meeting to present this information. Dan was not suggesting that the MAC Board reconsider their position because of the Clark connection.

Mike left a copy of a "save the house" petition signed by 105 individuals.

**Minutes:** It was moved by Tom Spread and seconded by Jan Henderson that the minutes of the April 16, 2009 Board Meeting be approved. Motion carried.

**Bills:** It was moved by Dave Meloy and seconded by Becky Wichers to approve the monthly bills totaling \$3,105.26 for payment. Motion carried.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Collections:** No report, except that an exhibit of *Recent Acquisitions from the Permanent Collection* will be on view in the Stanley Gallery November 8 – January 31, 2010

**Building & Grounds:** Water damage was discovered in the porte-cochere. We are still waiting for the insurance adjuster's estimate of damage. A preliminary estimate for replacing the carpet is \$2,500.

Through a program called "Iowa at Work", 2 young people from Muscatine County will be working full time this summer on the MAC grounds.

**Finance & Budget:** No Financial Reports were available for review. Barb is relatively certain that the MAC will be receiving \$14,000 from the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs but has not heard from them recently.

The last time we received reports from the City was in March.

**Long-Range Planning:** No report.

**Personnel:** The Art Center was notified that we will be the recipient of a grant from the Holthues Trust for \$25,000 to be used exclusively for supplementing staff hours lost due to the City's shortfall in supporting the MAC. A copy of the letter from the Trust is attached to these minutes.

Scott gave A.J. Johnson a copy of Barb's completed personnel report.

**Program/Publicity:** An exhibition on the History of Mexican art – *Las Artes de Mexico* will be showing in the Stanley Gallery through June 21<sup>st</sup>.

The MAC is hosting an exhibit by Iowa City artist Nancy Purington June 28 – August 23, 2009.

The May issue of *Watermark* has been mailed.

**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.

Barb checked with the City's IT Guru, John Kreuzenstein, about refilling ink jet cartridges and was told not to because it will significantly shorten the life of the printer.

**New Business:** The names of two new Board members (Jeffrey Stone and Jennifer Conard) will be sent to the mayor for approval.

Barb will be trying to book an exhibit by Steve Gerberich called ***Springs, Sprockets & Pulleys*** for next year. For those wishing to view Steve's work, his website is [www.gerbomatic.com](http://www.gerbomatic.com) – click on “Springs, Sprockets and Pulleys”.

The following slate of new officers will be voted on at the June Board meeting:

- President – Tom Spread
- Vice-President – Dave Meloy
- Treasurer – Caren Luke
- Secretary – Jan Henderson

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael J. Knott , Secretary

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**  
**For the month of May 2009**  
**June 18, 2009**

Total number of visitors for May 2009

3436

Total number of visitors for May 2008

4161

Total number of visitors Year-to-Date 2009

9754

Total number of visitors Year-to-Date 2008

10292

All figures include outreach program participants

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

**April 26 Through June 21, 2009**

*Las Artes de Mexico*

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

**April 26 Through June 21, 2009**

*Las Artes de Mexico*

**CLASSES**

**May 1, 8, 15, 22**

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

**May 2**

*Kid's Workshop: Printmaking* – taught by Gina Gerot

**May 6**

*Art for Tots: Mommy and Me* –taught by Julie Herold

**May 9**

*Kid's Workshop: Metal-Clay Necklace* – taught by Vada Baker

**May 13**

*Art for Tots: Playful Puppets* –taught by Julie Herold

**May 28**

*Red Barn Studio: Mixed Emulsion Techniques* – taught by Vada Baker

**TOURS**

**May 5**

Tour Muscatine High School

**May 8**

Tour Central ESL

Tour Church Group

**May 12**

West Middle School  
**May 13**

West Middle School  
**May 14**

Tour Central ESL  
Tour Grant School

**May 16**  
Tour Family

**May 28**

Muscatine High School  
**May 29**  
Jefferson Fourth Grade Half  
Jefferson Fourth Grade Half

## **OTHER**

**May 5**  
Eulenspiegel Puppet Theatre at the Art Center  
Eulenspiegel Puppet Theatre at Jefferson School  
Outreach: Adventures in Art

**May 7**  
Outreach: Y teen leaders Celtic Illumination - taught by Julie Lear

**May 8**  
Outreach: Homeschool assistance art taught by Julie Lear

**May 9**  
Wedding Japanese Garden

**May 11**  
Outreach: Y Variety Arts - taught by Julie Lear

**May 14**  
Friends of the Muscatine Art Center Board Meeting

**May 16**  
Wedding Japanese Garden

**May 19**  
Outreach: Adventures in Art

**May 21**  
Outreach: Homeschool Assistance Enrichment: Reception  
Art Center Board of Trustees Meeting  
Huddelston Recital

**May 26**  
Outreach: DSCI Art Class

**May 31**  
Butler Recital and Reception

**ACQUISITIONS**

None

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara C. Christensen  
Director  
lb

**KLZ INCORPORATED**  
1115 Sunrise Circle  
Muscatine IA 52761

May 30, 2009

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

The spring semester is over. As you can see from the attendance report, enrollment in classes is down from last year, reflecting the unsettled economy. I have heard from a number of our Moms, regretfully explaining that they can't afford to sign their kids up for classes at this time. Our outreach is also down from last year, but that is an unfair comparison as last year at this time Project InSECT was at the Art Center and there were many more school tours to see that exhibit than booked to see The Art of Mexico. Compared to 2006, our outreach continues to trend up. Again, I think parents are looking for events which either charge a very low fee or are free to the public.

What with the increase in preschool programs 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 also down for the late spring program. I plan to send Julie to the library for Baby Lap Sit at the beginning of each session of Music for Tots to promote her program and try to increase enrollment.

We held two Saturday Kids' Workshops in May. On May 2 Gina Gerot conducted a printmaking class on Edgar Degas's monoprints, and at our final workshop for the semester on May 9 Vada Baker taught students how to create a metal-clay necklace as a Mother's Day project.

There was one Red Barn Studio class in May. "Mixed Emulsions: Photographic Imagery," which had been scheduled for March, was held on May 28. The "New Mexico Luminary" class scheduled for May 14 did not meet its minimum enrollment and was cancelled. Red Barn Studio, our adult & mature teen program, continues to be a challenge. I will work on finding new ways to promote these programs for the summer and fall semesters.

Members of the Senior Program of the Diversity Service Center of Iowa came to the Art Center for a "Retablo" workshop based on a work in "Las Artes de Mexico." Julie Lear taught this workshop, which was enjoyed by all. 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 and Julie Lear.

There were eight tours conducted in May. On May 5 Lisa Kroll's advanced Spanish classes from the high school came to view "Las Artes de Mexico." Lisa provided

worksheets in Spanish and the students had lots of fun finding artifacts and answering the questions. Lisa generously allowed me to use a modified version of her Spanish worksheets for several ESL tours during May. On May 8 I conducted a mansion tour for Jan Henderson's church ladies. On May 12 and 13 Linda Kelty's kids from West Middle School came for their annual sculpture tour. On May 28 Rita Glau's high school art club viewed "Las Artes de Mexico."

There were no birthday parties scheduled in May.

The summer brochure has been distributed and we are taking enrollments. The scavenger hunt activity in the mansion, which introduces kids and their parents to the artifacts on display there, continues to be a popular activity both with the kids and the parents. There is a new list of words each month for this activity.

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



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

**May 2009**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Students enrolled</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
Fri. May 1	Music for Tots: Late Spring ID 5201 & 5202	20	36
	Outreach: Homeschool Assistance Art	--	55
Sat. May 2	Printmaking for Kids: Degas ID 5210		
Sun. May 3			
	<b>Totals for week (May):</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>91</b>
Mon. May 4			
Tues. May 5	Outreach: Adventures in Art	--	2
	Tour: Art of Mexico – MHS (Lisa Kroll)	--	54
Wed. May 6	Art for Tots: Mommy & Me ID 5188	11	22
	Family Fun Time: Just for Mom ID 5197	cancelled – low	
	enrollment		
Thurs. May 7	Outreach: Y Teen Leaders	--	4
Fri. May 8	Music for Tots: Late Spring ID 5201 & 5202	22	35
	Outreach: Homeschool Assistance Art	--	26
	Tour: Central ESL (Calderone)	--	3
	Tour: Church group	--	14
Sat. May 9	Kids Workshop: Metal-clay Necklace ID 5211	15	13
Sun. May 10			
	<b>Totals for week:</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>173</b>
Mon. May 11	Outreach: Y Variety Arts	--	14
Tues. May 12	Outreach: Adventures in Art	--	--
	Tour: West Middle School (sculpture)	--	51
Wed. May 13	Art for Tots: Playful Puppets ID 5189	8	
	Family Fun Time: Puppet Pals ID 5198	cancelled – low	
	enrollment		
	Tour: West Middle School (sculpture)	--	51
Thurs. May 14	Red Barn Studio: New Mexico Luminary ID 5216		cancelled –
	low enrollment		
	Tour: Central Middle School ESL (Mexico)	--	--
	Tour: Grant 5 <sup>th</sup> (mansion)	--	46
Fri. May 15	Music for Tots: Late Spring ID 5201 & 5202	22	37
Sat. May 16	Tour: Family Tour	--	5
Sun. May 17			
	<b>Totals for week:</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>204</b>
Mon. May 18			
Tues. May 19	Outreach: Adventures in Art	--	2
Wed. May 20			
Thurs. May 21	Outreach: Homeschool Assistance Art Exhibit – reception	--	90

Fri. May 22	Music for Tots: Late Spring ID 5201 & 5202	22	39
Sat. May 23			
Sun. May 24			
	<b>Totals for week:</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>131</b>
Mon. May 25			
Tues. May 26	Outreach: DSCI Art Class	--	15
	Outreach: Adventures in Art	--	--
Wed. May 27			
Thurs. May 28	RBS: Mixed Emulsion Techniques ID 5213 (make-up class)	7	6
	Tour: Art of Mexico – Rita Glau	--	15
Fri. May 29	Tour: Mansion & Art of Mexico – Jefferson 4 <sup>th</sup> grade(am)	--	32
	Tour: Mansion & Art of Mexico – Jefferson 4 <sup>th</sup> grade (pm)	--	30
Sat. May 30			
Sun. May 31			
	<b>Totals for week:</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>98</b>
	<b>Totals for May 2009:</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>697</b>
	Totals for May 2008:	184	1377
	Totals for May 2007:	152	564
	<b>Totals for Spring 2009 Semester:</b>	<b>431</b>	<b>2486</b>
	Totals for Spring 2008 Semester:	579	2751
	Totals for Spring 2007 Semester:	710	2697