

IMPROVING LIVES THROUGH THE

ARTS

NEWSLETTER OF THE OKLAHOMA ARTS COUNCIL FALL 2007



OKLAHOMA

Thank You, Betty

For 33 years, Betty Price has been the voice of the Oklahoma Arts Council. Recently retired as Executive Director, Price has been at the helm of this state agency for most of its existence. We couldn't think of anyone more eloquent than her good friend, Judge Robert Henry to celebrate Betty and her passionate commitment to Oklahoma and to the arts. We join Judge Henry and countless friends in wishing Betty a long, happy and productive retirement.

A Tribute to Betty Price From Judge Robert Henry

Our great President John Fitzgerald Kennedy once noted: "To further the appreciation of culture among all the people, to increase respect for the creative individual, to widen participation by all the processes and fulfillments of art -- this is one of the fascinating challenges of these days."

Betty Price took that challenge more seriously than any other Oklahoman. And, it is almost impossible to imagine what Oklahoma's cultural landscape would look like without her gentle, dignified, and incredibly persistent vision.



Betty and Judge Robert Henry during the dedication of the Ada Lois Sipuel Fisher portrait by Mitsuno Reedy.

Betty's interest in the arts must have begun with her own talents as a musician and artist. After training and accomplishments in those areas, she taught the arts to young students in Norman. Thankfully, she was attracted to public service, first working with the state Senate; then on Lt. Governor George Nigh's staff; and then successively serving the Oklahoma Arts Council as Public Information Director; then as the Council's



Betty in front of the *We Belong to the Land* mural by Jeff Dodd.
Photo by Keith Rinerson for Mattison Avenue Publishing

Interim Director. Finally, she was selected by the Council to serve as its Executive Director. Betty, it seems, has survived more Oklahoma governors than any institution except our capitol; she has done it with unparalleled integrity and artistic accomplishment.



Betty and friends at the dedication of *As Long as the Waters Flow* sculpture by Allan Houser on the south plaza of the Capitol.

Continued on page 2

“Looking back and moving forward”

When I announced my retirement, I never imagined all the warm, heartfelt messages I’d receive from the dear friends I’ve made these past 33 years. What an incredible opportunity I’ve had to get to know the energetic and engaged people of Oklahoma who care about their communities and are making the arts happen across the state.



Longevity has its perks, they say, and maybe that’s true since I’ve worked in the administrations of seven governors and the legislature during that time. It’s been so exciting to be there at the inception of an idea, when it blossoms and becomes reality, such as the Oklahoma Arts Institute, OkMozart, Greenwood Cultural Center or Red Earth and the State Art Collection Gallery at the Capitol.

Wonderful partnerships have evolved and will continue to grow. Just look at the incredible arts organizations, their staff and the thousands of volunteers and you can see why the arts have succeeded in our state. While the arts have been a driving force in my life, no one exists in a vacuum. With outstanding, involved Council members, a talented, creative and hard-working staff, there is no limit to where the Oklahoma Arts Council can go.

I believe the future for the arts in Oklahoma is bright. That is why I look forward to the day when art and music teachers return to Oklahoma’s elementary schools. Fulfillment in my work as a public servant is knowing that a future Maria Tallchief or Allan Houser could be a second grader gazing for the first time at the splendor of Oklahoma art and artists at the State Capitol.

I owe an inestimable debt of gratitude to my partner, my hero, my champion, Norris, for always being the “wind beneath my wings” along with our children Lisa Ann, George, his wife Lisa Jan, our grandchildren Natalie and Matthew and my sister Elaine Mason.

Thank you for the privilege and honor of serving and for the support, counsel and friendship you’ve shown me through the years. I’ll see you soon, at the next performance, gallery exhibit, festival, or wherever arts are being experienced around the state.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Betty Price". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Betty Price Continued



Betty as a young artist displaying her work in a local gallery.

I believe it was Churchill who said that we first build the buildings and then they build us. The State Capitol is our most important governmental building, and under Betty’s steady hand it has become an artistic treasure. She was instrumental in creating the Capitol Preservation Commission, the agency that protects the architectural integrity of the building and preserves and enhances its art. She was essential in completing the dome that master architect Solomon Layton designed for it while protecting the invaluable cultural artifacts beneath it. And she has adorned that important structure with the images of our greatest and most noble Oklahomans, in order to inspire the thousands of students and citizens who visit.

Of course, Betty’s efforts have not been limited to our state capitol. She has

literally been to every county in Oklahoma promoting the arts--concerts, sculptures, poetry readings, book signings, and cultural events. The values and virtues of almost every Oklahoma community have been strengthened by art that Betty promoted, and often hand-carried there.

Betty has served on well over 20 boards, commissions, and panels that promote the arts. From the Board of the Mid-America Arts Alliance, to the Arts Committee of the National Conference of State Legislatures, to panels on the National Endowment for the Arts and numerous other entities -- Betty has been a practical and learned advocate for the best and most heroic in our culture. Her honors are legion, and to mention a few is to exclude many. But, for starters I like the Oklahoma Women’s Hall of Fame, the Oklahoma Indian Sovereignty Symposium “Honored One,” and the Women of Influence in the Oklahoma Family Magazine.

When I envision a list of those I have known who have made the most profound impact on this state, Betty Price is in the top ten.



Betty and friends at the dedication of the *Honor Serve and Protect* painting by Robert Taylor in the office of the Oklahoma Attorney General.



Betty and historian John Hope Franklin in Washington, D.C.



Betty at a Capitol Preservation Committee meeting during the final approval of the *We Belong to the Land* mural.

council news



Betty, the five Indian Ballerinas and artist Mike Larson during the dedication of Larsen's *Flight of Spirit* mural

In my sincere belief, without her efforts Allan Houser's immortal sculpture would not stand as a testament to women and our Native People at the Capitol; Wilson Hurley's panoramas of our state would not undergird Charles Banks Wilson's great murals; our Indian Ballerinas would not be honored so that all can see that the international arts flourish in Oklahoma; historic African American leaders would not have their place on the walls of the Capitol; nor would there have been cultural gatherings in Gotebo, concerts in Clinton, ballet in Bartlesville, poetry in Ponca City, drama in Durant, galleries in Guymon, and the list goes on. There have been literally thousands of grants to hundreds of communities which have given the arts to all Oklahomans.

Betty Price has taught us that our reach can and must exceed our grasp. She has demonstrated that the arts show us how to dream and how to envision beauty, culture, and virtue. That she has done all this through times that have not always been easy and when money has been scarce is remarkable. Her achievement in accomplishing all of this with integrity and with virtually unanimous praise through the tenures of seven governors of both parties is not likely to be replicated. Because of Betty Price, Oklahoma is surely a better, more thoughtful, and more beautiful place.



Betty and artist Allan Houser in his New Mexico studio



Betty and Wilson Hurley at the of *Spring Morning Along the Muddy Boggy* dedication



Betty and husband Norris on the road again



Betty, artist Kelly Gale Amen and Council staff during installation of Amen's bronze bench in the new Oklahoma State Art Collection Gallery



Betty seated next to poet M. Scott Momaday and friends at the Capitol



Betty and *Kate Barnard* by sculptor Sandra Van Zandt
Photo by John Jernigan



Betty, Mary Jo Watson, Enoch Kelly Haney and Blake Wade at the Crucible Foundry in Norman during casting of Haney's Capitol dome topping sculpture, the *Guardian*.



Council Chair James Tolbert, Betty and husband Norris

council news

State Art Collection Inaugural Exhibit & Gallery Opening

12 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Saturday

November 17, 2007

State Capitol of
Oklahoma

First Floor Rotunda

To honor our state's Centennial, the Oklahoma Arts Council will open the inaugural exhibition of the Oklahoma State Art Collection Gallery on November 17, 2007 in the State Capitol. This inaugural exhibition features more than 100 works of art by artists who were born in, trained in or have produced a significant portion of their work in the state. This new museum quality gallery will feature rotating exhibitions of the Collection that now holds more than 175 pieces of art.



Bowling Ball by Edward Ruscha

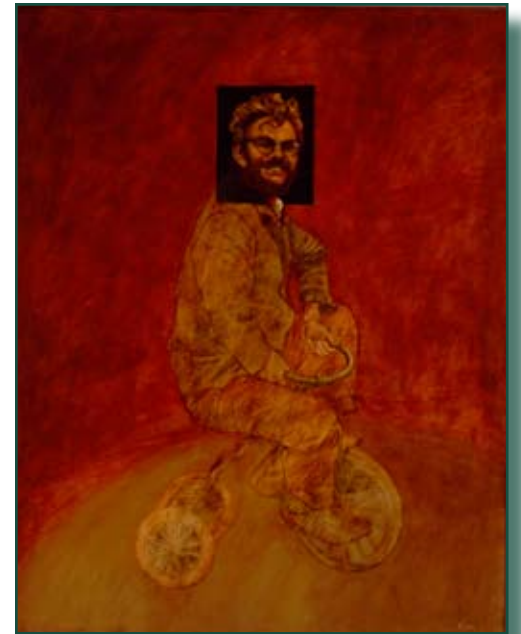
An official Oklahoma Centennial Project, the exhibition will be on display on the first floor of the Capitol in the west wing and is open Monday through Friday from 8:30-5:00. Admission is free and open to the public.

The Oklahoma State Art Collection is a visual anthology of the history of artistic expression in Oklahoma. The works of art within this significant collection celebrate creativity across Oklahoma and give voice to the cultural diversity that make up our state. By offering works of art that reflect our state's history and culture, we learn and recognize the various and diverse cultures and voices as threads that comprise the fabric of Oklahoma.



Rhythm in Flight by Donald Webster

Oklahoma State Art Collection



Tricycle by Dee J. Lafon

History of the Collection

The Oklahoma State Art Collection was established by the Oklahoma Arts and Humanities Council in January 1971 to collect and preserve the work of Oklahoma artists. Under the leadership of Jerome Westheimer, Sr., and the founding State Art Collection Committee members, the National Endowment for the Arts awarded a grant to the Oklahoma Arts and Humanities Council to purchase works for the Collection.



Coming Home from the Trading Post by Fred Beaver

The expressed motivation for establishing a collection was exceptionally altruistic. While appreciating the importance of scholarship and research, the Collection's primary purpose was to serve as an educational tool. For its first ten years, the Collection was available to communities throughout the state as a touring resource and later as a touring exhibition of the Mid-America Arts Alliance.

In 1976, selected works from the Collection were chosen as part of a special Bicentennial exhibit at the Kennedy Center in conjunction with Oklahoma Day in Washington, D.C., providing world visitors a glimpse of Oklahoma talent.

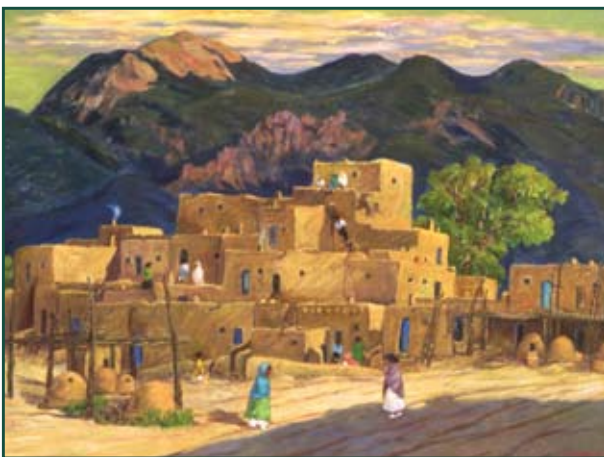
In 1996, the official name of the Oklahoma Arts and Humanities Council was changed to the Oklahoma Arts Council which continues to manage and cultivate the Collection by acquiring donated works. In 2006, the Oklahoma Legislature and Governor Brad Henry approved a museum quality gallery space in the State Capitol to showcase this remarkable Collection.



Bender No. 2 by Bob D. Barker

From Alexandre Hogue's *Red Earth Canyon*, which vividly depicts the devastation of the Dust Bowl in a hauntingly beautiful landscape, to the celebration of the mundane as seen in Ed Ruscha's *Bowling Ball*, this Collection represents the mastery of Oklahoma artists in composition, color, and principles of design.

As initiators, these artists embraced innovation and progressive expression, and ushered new challenges and directions for Oklahoma artists. Their legacy is alive within the art schools they established and can be experienced in the works of those they inspire.



Taos Pueblo by Nan Sheets



Ghost of Metacom by Yeffee Kimball

Highlights of the Collection

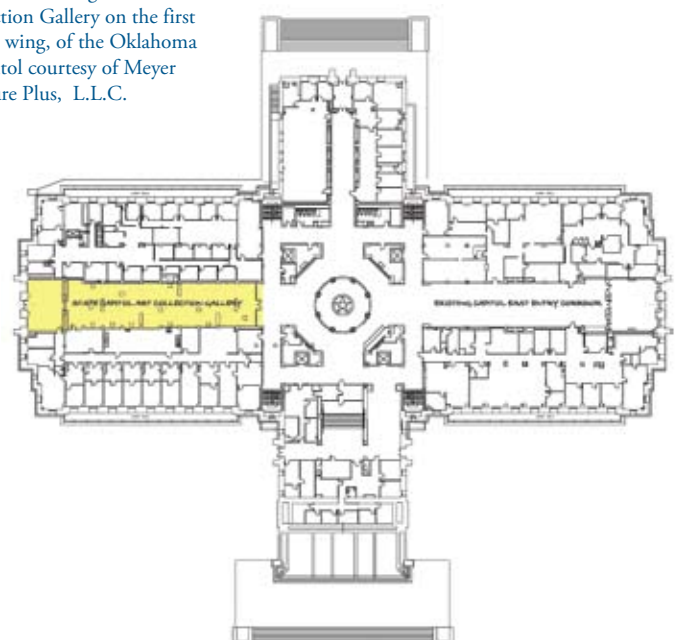
The inaugural exhibition of the Oklahoma State Art Collection is organized into five sections: Highlights of the Collection, Recent Acquisitions, Photography, Modern and Contemporary Art and Sculpture.

The first section, Highlights of the Collection, features more than 20 masterworks by significant artists including Ed Ruscha, Alexandra Alaupovic, Oscar Jacobson, Doel Reed and Nan Sheets. The selected works encompass a wide range of style, subject matter and expression and consist of a vast array of media including basketry, sculpture, metal relief, painting, printmaking, ceramics, and mixed media.



Face Leaf by David Fitzgerald

Floor plans describing the State Art Collection Gallery on the first floor, west wing, of the Oklahoma State Capitol courtesy of Meyer Architecture Plus, L.L.C.



governor's arts awards

Thirty-Second Annual Governor's Arts Awards

4 p.m.

Wednesday

November 28, 2007

State Capitol of
Oklahoma
Fourth Floor Rotunda

Reception following
in the
First Floor Rotunda



The Governor's Award – Recognizes individuals for longtime leadership and significant contributions to the arts across Oklahoma. Receiving this most distinguished honor are: **Christy Everest**, Oklahoma City and **Nancy Meinig**, Tulsa.

Christy Everest is Chairman, Director and CEO of The Oklahoma Publishing Company, which publishes the *Oklahoman* and is based in Oklahoma



City. Everest has served on a wide range of boards and committees, including the Allied Arts Board, the Oklahoma Heritage Association, the Arts Council of Oklahoma City, Lyric Theatre, Omniplex Board, Oklahoma City Arts Festival Committee, Beaux Arts Ball committee that benefits the Oklahoma City Museum of Art and has been very active in fundraising for the arts.

A long time supporter of the University of Oklahoma, Everest was Chairman of the University of the Oklahoma Board of Regents in 2006 and served as a member of the Regents from 1999 – 2006. She also served on the board of visitors for the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art. During that time, her influence and support helped raise awareness and funds for the arts.

Everest's other current volunteer activities include serving on the Advisory Committee of the Inasmuch Foundation, Trustee & Grants Committee of the Presbyterian Health Foundation, and a Sustaining Member of the Junior League of Oklahoma City. In her spare time, she is also a Mobile Meals Driver and a tutor at North Highlands Elementary School.

The 32nd Annual Governor's Arts Awards Ceremony is scheduled for 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, November 28th on the 4th Floor Rotunda of the State Capitol. Governor Brad Henry will honor 16 individuals and three businesses for their contributions to the arts in their communities or throughout the state.

Sponsored by the Oklahoma Arts Council, these prestigious awards are an opportunity to celebrate Oklahoma arts and the people that facilitate its success. Recipients of the Governor's Arts Awards were selected by previous winners of the awards from state wide nominations.

The Liddy Doenges Leadership in the Arts Award recognizes visionary individuals who have furnished leadership in the arts that benefits the entire state. This award was named for Liddy Doenges who served six years as a member of the Arts Council and three terms as the Chair. University of Oklahoma President David L. Boren and former Tulsa state senator Penny Williams are the only other recipients of this award. This year's honoree is former Oklahoma Arts Council Executive Director **Betty Price**.



In 1994, she was honored with the Casady School Distinguished Graduate award and in 1997 the Junior League of Oklahoma City Sustainer of the Year award. In 2000, Everest was named the Woman of the Year from the Girl Scout's Redlands Council and was inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame in 2004. Christy and her husband, Jim, jointly received the Dean's Award for Distinguished Community Service from the University of Oklahoma Medical Alumni Association in 1998 and the Outstanding Philanthropist Award from the National Society of Fund Raising Executives, Oklahoma Chapter in 1998. In 2006, Jim and Christy were awarded the Tribute to Excellence Award by the Arthritis Foundation.

Nancy Meinig is passionate about the arts and has been actively involved in community service in Tulsa since moving there in 1980. Meinig's affiliations include serving as a Trustee of The Philbrook Museum of Art where she recently completed a two year term as Chairman of the Board and presently serves as Nominating Chairman and on the Executive Committee.



In addition to serving on the Board of the Mid-America Arts Alliance, she is also a member of the Performing Arts Center Trust, an advisory board member of Tulsa Opera, Tulsa Ballet Theatre and Town Hall Council, a board member of the Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence, on the University of Tulsa's Board of Visitors, and the board of Child Abuse Network. She has collected abstract expressionist works of art since she and her husband Pete lived in Mexico City.

In 1998, Mrs. Meinig received the Alumni Award for Outstanding Volunteerism from Cornell University and in 2002, the Helen Bull Vandervort Alumni Achievement Award. Together with her husband, she received the Outstanding Volunteer Fund-Raising Award from the National Society of Fund-Raising Executives in 1998, was a Tulsa Press Club Headliner in 2000, and was inducted in 2001, along with her husband, into the Tulsa Hall of Fame.

Meinig graduated from Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, receiving a Bachelor's Degree in Nutritional Sciences. After graduation, she worked for William Underwood Company in Boston, Massachusetts on new product development and later was employed by the Upper Saint Claire School District in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, as the dietician.

Earl Sneed Memorial Business Award recognizes businesses and corporations who exhibit outstanding support of the arts in Oklahoma. This year's honorees include:

Chesapeake Energy, Oklahoma City
Ideal Homes, Norman
Willis Granite Products, Granite

Bill Crawford Memorial Media Award recognizes an individual member in the print and/or electronic media who demonstrates commitment to the arts in Oklahoma documented through public awareness support and fairness, initiative, creativity and professionalism in reporting. This year's honoree is:

Joan Gilmore, Oklahoma City

Arts & Education Award recognizes professional educators who go above and beyond the call of academia to promote arts education for Oklahoma's students. This year's honorees include:

Jack Herron, Oklahoma City
Fred Neuman, Alva
William Scoggin, Midwest City
Ann Tomlins, Tulsa

The Community Service Award recognizes individuals for significant contributions to the arts in specific Oklahoma communities in the areas of leadership and volunteerism. This year's honorees include:

Kathy Buxton, Duncan
Garber Theatre Board, Garber
Frank Letcher, Tulsa
Jose Martinez, Moore
Christy Northcutt, Enid
Jerry Speck, Antlers

George Nigh Mayor's Award recognizes an Oklahoma mayor for outstanding support of the arts in the local community. This year's honoree is:

Mayor Maxine Thomason, Mangum

Special Recognition Award recognizes those who have made special contributions to the arts in their field of endeavor. This year's honoree is:

Bill Grant, Hugo

Marilyn Douglass Memorial Award recognizes an outstanding Arts Council member and was established in 1980, upon the deaths of Marilyn Douglass, a former Council member, and her husband Rev. Richard Douglass. This year's honoree is:

Wanda Westheimer, Ardmore

governor's arts awards



Chesapeake Energy
Oklahoma City
Business Award



Ideal Homes
Norman
Business Award



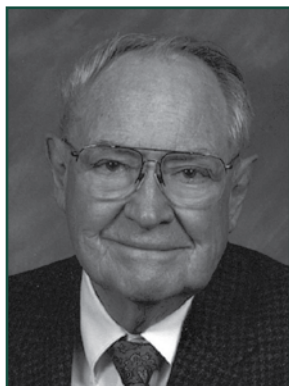
Willis Granite Products
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Joan Gilmore
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Jack Herron
Oklahoma City
Arts & Education Award



Fred Neuman
Alva
Arts & Education Award



William Scoggin
Midwest City
Arts & Education Award



Ann Tomlins
Tulsa
Arts & Education Award



Kathy Buxton
Duncan
Community Service Award



Garber Theatre Board
Garber
Community Service Award



Frank Letcher
Tulsa
Community Service Award



Jose Martinez
Moore
Community Service Award



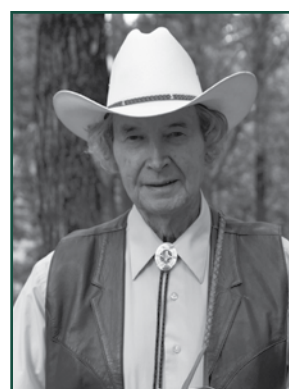
Christy Northcutt
Enid
Community Service Award



Jerry Speck
Antlers
Community Service Award



Mayor Maxine Thomason
Mangum
Mayor's Award



Bill Grant
Hugo
Special Recognition



Wanda Westheimer
Ardmore
Marilyn Douglass Award

council news

Governor Henry Appoints New Council Members

Sharon King Davis

Davis is a partner in the King family businesses in real estate and oil and gas. Her current community activities include President of the Tulsa Historical Society and Co-Chair of the “Complete Our Streets” Mayoral Task Force. She serves as an advisory board member of the Tulsa Women’s Foundation, Greenwood Cultural Center, Youth Services of Tulsa and Habitat for Humanity.



Previously, Davis served as the Commissioner of the Oklahoma Commission on the Status of Women and Chairman of the Board of Regents UCT, Rogers University and chaired Tulsa’s Centennial Birthday celebration. Among her numerous honors, King was named Tulsa’s Most Civic Minded Developer by Urban Tulsa. She earned a Bachelors degree from Colorado Women’s College, Denver, and graduated from Leadership Tulsa Class XVII & Leadership Oklahoma Class XV.

Brenda McDaniel

McDaniel is a full-time volunteer at Oklahoma City University where her husband, Tom, serves as President. The many boards she has served on or is currently serving include the Arts Council of Oklahoma City Board of Directors; the OU College of Education Board of Advocates, the Northwestern Oklahoma State University Foundation Board of Trustees and the Payne Education Board of Directors. Brenda received a Bachelor of Science in education from the University of Oklahoma and a Master of Education from Northwestern Oklahoma State University and has taught school in Oklahoma City, Waynoka, Alva and Edmond. She is one of the founding members of the annual Nescatunga Art Festival held yearly in Alva.



Dr. Simon Levit

Dr. Levit practices Cardiology and Internal Medicine in Tulsa. In 2004, the couple endowed a series of awards for students called the Levit Prizes for Excellence in the Arts for the Tulsa Public School System with cash awards ranging from \$25 to \$100 given to students in every grade, in every school, with a grand prize of \$1000 given to a high school senior. The Levits have donated numerous works of art to Oklahoma schools,



universities, museums and other institutions including major paintings and sculpture. Dr. Levit has served on the boards of numerous art organizations including the Board of Visitors of the University of Oklahoma’s Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art, the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Arts Institute, and the Board of Directors of the Tulsa Ballet. Dr. Levit is a member of the Founding Committee of the Israel Museum in Jerusalem.

Jeannette Sias

Jeannette Sias is the President and Owner of Joullian Vineyards, Carmel Valley, California. She holds a Bachelors degree in Speech from Oklahoma A&M College and a Masters Degree in Speech Therapy from Northwestern University. She worked as Speech Therapist for the Oklahoma City Schools and was a volunteer speech therapist at various schools primarily in Arcadia. Her community involvement includes serving on the boards of trustees of Oklahoma City University, the Oklahoma Methodist Foundation and classical music station KCSC Radio. Jeannette is a Member Docent of the Oklahoma City Orchestra League and a member of the Oklahoma City Ladies Music Club.



council news

Dance the dance...

Sing the song...

Paint the picture...

**Be a driving
force in the arts...**

Register Now for the First *Leadership Arts*

The Oklahoma Arts Council is recruiting forward-thinking individuals from all backgrounds to register for a series of three leadership development sessions focusing on the arts. During the sessions, entitled Leadership Arts, participants will learn how to increase citizen support for arts development, retain creative young professionals and increase civic engagement in the arts.

Cultural Development Director Georgia Williams said communities who have integrated the arts into the landscape of their downtowns and neighborhoods, have proven to be more economically and socially vital and successful.

“Leadership Arts is designed to foster the development of arts leaders and arts active communities in Oklahoma, particularly in our rural areas,” said Williams. “Through challenging dialogue sessions with recognized arts leaders, Leadership Arts will inspire experiential learning through keynote speakers, arts and cultural site visits and explore current trends in cultural development.”

The first session of Leadership Arts will be held on February 5, 2008 in Muskogee.

Williams encourages communities to send a team of participants from a variety of backgrounds. “For example, your community could send a business leader, school board member and city council member who could then, in turn, deliver the practical and user-friendly information gained to other forward-thinking individuals in your community.”



The theme of the Muskogee session will focus on “Arts and Community Quality of Life.” Ardmore will host the second session on March 12 that will feature “The Role of the Arts in Economic Development.” Enid is the host for the third session on April 10 on “Cultivating Creative Youth.”

Participation in all three sessions is required. Registration for Leadership Arts is \$95 and includes enrollment, materials and lunches for the entire series. Enrollment is limited and registration forms are available online at www.arts.ok.gov. For more information, contact Georgia Williams at (405) 521-2024.

NATIONWIDE SEARCH FOR NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UNDERWAY

The Oklahoma Arts Council is conducting a nationwide search for an Executive Director. The new Director will succeed Betty Price, who resigned in October, 2007. For more information regarding this position, please see the agency web site at www.arts.ok.gov/oacjobs.html.

**Oklahoma Arts Council
Artist Rosters
Recruiting Now
www.arts.ok.gov**

capitol exhibits

East Gallery

M.J. Alexander traveled nearly 5,000 miles of dirt roads, main streets, and interstates to photograph and interview more than 100 Oklahomans born in or before 1907. Her exhibit, *The Centenarians*, features portraits of these elders.

Her mission was to photograph the oldest people in one of the youngest states for Oklahoma's 100th birthday. "I met them where they lived, traveling through tornado sirens in Blackwell, forest fire haze north of Ardmore, and ice storms in Yukon, through temperatures ranging from 5 to 105 degrees. The trek demonstrated the conditions Oklahoma's elders weathered without the luxury of running water, much less central heat or air-conditioning. As I spent more time with more centenarians and absorbed their stories, I came to realize their unique significance. They are America's last pioneers," said Alexander.

As a photographer and writer, Alexander explores the people and places of the American west, combining the vision of an artist with the skills of a storyteller. Her photographs have been published in the United States and abroad and exhibited in venues ranging from Pleiades Gallery of New York City to New Mexico's Hubbard Museum of the American West.



Thomas Jefferson Brown
by M.J. Alexander

North Gallery

Kirsten Griffin developed a deep interest in photography after the birth of her first child, almost ten years ago. Although her interest began with documenting the lives of her two children, it quickly grew into documenting many varied subject matters. She enjoys taking portraits, especially of children, and she also likes to capture vibrant images that are representative of Oklahoma and its rich history.



Untitled by Kirsten Griffin

As a digital photographer, Griffin specializes in color photography and has always been drawn to the beauty of horses. "There is no other animal that is as strong and sensitive, elegant and graceful as a horse. Horses are beauty in motion. They are quiet, trusting, and gentle and intensely honest. Photographing horses has been a transformative experience for me and I hope that you, too, will be touched by the beauty and grace that I tried to capture with my camera," said Griffin.

Griffin is a graduate of Duke University and has a background in journalism. Griffin has studied for numerous years at the Santa Fe Photographic Workshops in Santa Fe, New Mexico and has studied under many of the top photographers in the country. She lives in Oklahoma City with her husband, David, and their two children, Grace and Jack. She and her husband are involved with several philanthropic projects, of which support the arts.

Governor's Gallery

A native farm girl, Cathy Rowten's favorite subjects are the people and places of her own state of Oklahoma. Many of her paintings give us a glimpse into the everyday, but intimate world of the people who live, work and play around us. "I want my art to reflect our many moods ... hopefully, to be an expression of a moment in time that is beautiful for the feeling it elicits. The figure is my favorite subject to paint because the face is an endless supply of emotion," said Rowten. "Everyday that I paint, I learn something new. It is an interesting journey to see where it takes me."



Untitled by Cathy Rowten

Rowten's art career began in graphic art with fashion and furniture being her main interests. Twenty years later she changed her direction completely and traded her pen for pastels and paint.

She graduated with a B.S.E. from Oklahoma Christian University and has continued her studies in photography and sculpture. Rowten has studied with Jack Moses, Ben Konis, Zhang WenXin, Joseph Lorusso and Carolyn Anderson. This Edmond artist also taught high school art for several years and raised a family. Rowten's award-winning paintings are collected by both private and corporate entities across the country. She exhibits her work in shows and galleries and does many commissioned portraits.

Upcoming Capitol Exhibits

The Oklahoma Arts Council maintains three regularly rotating galleries inside the Oklahoma State Capitol. The East and North Galleries are located on the first floor and are accessible seven days a week from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The Governor's Gallery is located on the second floor of the Capitol and is open Monday thru Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For more information please visit the Oklahoma Arts Council's website at www.arts.ok.gov.

East Gallery:

Bert Seabourne
January 14, 2008
thru March 9, 2008

Bill Williams
March 17, 2008
thru May 11, 2008

North Gallery:

Jacklyn Patterson
January 7, 2008
thru March 2, 2008

David Halpern
March 10, 2008
thru May 4, 2008

Governor's Gallery:

Brunell Faris
January 7, 2008
thru March 7, 2008

Hamilton Press
Roots and Ties
March 17, 2008
thru May 17, 2008



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Mary Jane Wade, Elk City
Wanda Westheimer, Ardmore

Suzanne Tate, Interim Executive Director

Ann Dee Lee, ArtsOklahoma Editor

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*Come Celebrate
With Us*

November 17, 2007
12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Oklahoma State Capitol
First Floor Rotunda

In celebration of Oklahoma's Centennial,
join us at Noon for the unveiling of:

- The new Oklahoma State Art Collection Gallery
- The new Tourist Information Center
- The new Tourist Orientation Theatre
- The new Capitol Java Dave's Coffee Shop

