

NEW HAMPSHIRE ARTS NEWS

[Volume XXIII Number 2 * Spring 2005]

2005



Douglas Worthen,
Flutist, Durham

2005 Fellow

Photo by Andrew Moore



TABLE OF Contents

From the Director	1
Arts Council News	2-3
Traditional Music On-line.....	4-5
Community Spirit Awards	6-7
ABCs of Community Arts.....	8-9
Community Dancing	10-11
The Sweets of May	12
Welcoming New Neighbors.....	13
Artist Reflections.....	14-15
Around the State	16-19
Regional/National News.....	20-23
Spring Grant Deadlines	24

NH Arts News

NH Arts News is published quarterly. It reaches 6000 people free of charge. To change address information, please e-mail, info@nharts.state.nh.us, or write to NH Arts, New Hampshire State Council on the Arts, 2½ Beacon Street, 2nd Floor, Concord, NH 03301-4974.

State of New Hampshire
Department of Cultural Resources
Division of the Arts
© NH State Council on the Arts
Concord, New Hampshire USA



Editor: Yvonne Stahr
Production Manager: Julie Mento
Graphic Design: Brian Page,
Dharma Creative
Contributors: Arts Council Staff

On the Cover

Exeter, NH native Douglas Worthen, a 2005 NHSCA Fellow, is a graduate of the Hartt School of Music where he received Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Music Education degrees. He continued his studies at *L'Institut d'Hautes Etudes Musicales* in Montreux, Switzerland and earned a Masters of Music from the New England Conservatory.



In addition to venues in Russia, France, Switzerland, Japan, and Spain, Worthen has performed at Symphony Hall in Boston, Avery Fisher Hall at Lincoln Center, the Beethoven Festival in Milwaukee, and at the Edinburgh Festival. His recordings include *Exotic Impressions: The Flute Works of Sigfrid Karg-Elert* with Janice Weber on Piano, and *Classical Flute Quartets: The Mannheim Quartet*.

He has taught at the New England Conservatory, Walnut Hill School of the Arts, Bates College, Manchester Community Music School and Phillips Exeter Academy and has lectured and taught Master Classes both at home and abroad.

Worthen is Editor-in-Chief and Co-owner of *Falls House Press*, a flute music publishing company. His popular *Andersen Etude Practice Book*, has been translated into French and Japanese.

He previously received a Fellowship from the State Arts Council in 1994.

Director

FROM THE DIRECTOR

I have always been confused by the difference between “partly cloudy” and “partly sunny” weather. That confusion is now carrying over into my ability to forecast our arts budget for fiscal years 2006-07.

On the sunny side of the forecast are Governor John Lynch and his wife, Dr. Susan Lynch. Both have a history of serving on the boards of New Hampshire arts organizations. The First Lady has

But, then the sun peeks out from behind the edge of a cloud. The sunny story is that we now have the facts to demonstrate that the arts are part of the solution, not part of the problem, in the state budget. The arts, which are at the core of the Creative Economy, are good for the growth of the state’s economy and consequently good for tax revenues. Small state investments in the arts pay off with big returns.

“The sunny story is that we now have the facts to demonstrate that the arts are part of the solution, not part of the problem, in the state budget.”

chosen health issues and promotion of the arts as her areas of focus over the next two years. She has agreed to serve as Honorary Chair for the upcoming Governors' Arts Awards. We also are working with her on ways to showcase New Hampshire arts at the State House.

On the cloudy side of the forecast are the challenges of the state budget. With education funding still being debated and healthcare on the rise as a proportion of state spending, options to balance the budget are narrowing. Governor Lynch’s recommended biennium budget (presented on Feb. 15th) includes sufficient state funding to maintain current arts services and grants. However, this is only the first step in a long process. At each step of the way, we have to justify public funding for the arts in a cloudy climate of uncertain revenues and ever-growing costs.

Increasingly this message is being understood by the business and arts communities. Will this message make sense to the budget writers and elected officials who will make the final decisions? Is it partly cloudy, or partly sunny?

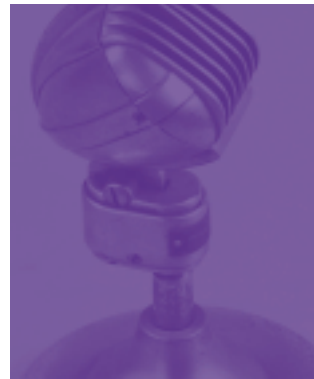
We may not know the answer to these questions until July 1, 2005 when the new state biennium budget should be in place. However, if you want to be part of the process that will lead to the decisions, consider joining New Hampshire Citizens for the Arts, <http://www.nhcfa.org>. This citizen advocacy group can help get the message out to the people who need to hear it. A clear, consistent message from people working together could lead to sunny weather for many days to come.



Rebecca Lawrence
Director



This newsletter is available electronically or in alternative formats. Please call 603/271-2789



The 2005 Living Legacy calendar can now be purchased through the State Arts Council's new on-line store



“Chile is particularly interesting because the arts are a high priority for the democratic government...”

Arts Council News

Website Changes

You may have noticed lately that the State Arts Council's website has a new, more readable look to it. We've spruced it up to mark the beginning of our 40th year of public service. Perhaps more importantly, the website is now compliant with State standards and the accessibility standards of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The changes include the addition of an on-line store. You can now purchase CDs and a poster produced by the State Arts Council, and the 2005 Living Legacy calendar featuring images of 12 prominent New Hampshire theaters, produced by the Department of Cultural Resources. With each purchase you contribute to the support of New Hampshire Arts and Artists.



These silver earrings were created by an apprentice of Mapuche silversmith Juan Antonio Painecura Antinao. Rebecca Lawrence met with this traditional artist whose craft is typical of the silver design work practiced by the indigenous people of Chile. These semi-spherical earrings represent leather drums, important to Mapuche worldview.

Arts Director Participates in South America Trade Mission

In mid-March, Arts Council Director Rebecca Lawrence participated in a Trade Mission to Chile and Argentina. Organized by the New Hampshire International Trade Resource Center (NHITRC), this state-led trade mission will enable the State Arts Council to develop cultural relationships with presenters and artists in these countries with a view toward future exchanges between North and South America. In addition to representing the State of New Hampshire, she researched potential exchange opportunities for the New England Foundation for the Arts. Prior to her trip, she observed, “These two countries are so rich in artistic resources that this first trip will be exploratory, but limited to specific art disciplines. Chile is particularly interesting because the arts are a high priority for the democratic government that followed Pinochet’s dictatorship.” Among the artists she met with in Chile was a Mapuche silversmith,

who took up this traditional art form after being imprisoned and forced to leave his career as a scientist during Pinochet’s reign.

Lawrence focused on public cultural policy, visual arts, museums, traditional arts, and film. The trade mission included receptions at the residences of the US Ambassadors to Chile and Argentina and briefings at both US Embassies.

Statewide Celebration of the State Arts Council's 40th Anniversary

2005 is the State Arts Council’s anniversary year. Various plans are underway which will involve people all around the state in activities that will encourage participation in the arts. The first statewide project that is in the works is a contest for students to design a poster on the theme, Discover New Hampshire Arts, to commemorate the agency’s 40th year.

Art is Good for Your Health!

Director Rebecca Lawrence, AIE Coordinator Catherine O’Brian, and Community Arts Coordinator Judy Rigmont all participated in Creating a Healing Environment: the Power of Arts and Humanities held at Concord Hospital on January 28th. The symposium, initiated by Joan Goshgarian of the NH Business Committee for the Arts, developed with support from a steering committee made up of representatives from statewide health, humanities, and arts organizations.

The State Arts Council sponsored a performance by Gary Sredzienski, NH Artist Roster member, to jump start the day with some lively accordion music.



Sredzienski brings his music to nursing homes around the state. He spoke to the power of the arts to reach out to and connect with elderly patients. Other artists participated with healthcare providers in breakout sessions ranging from building community relations through the arts to enhancing the physical environment in hospitals and caring for the caregiver.

Featured speakers included: Michael Green, Concord Hospital CEO; Gary Sobelson, MD, NH Medical Society President; Naj Wikoff, President of the National Society for the Arts in Healthcare; Herbert Paris, CEO of MidCoast Hospital in Brunswick, ME; and Patrick Clary, MD, who closed the session with a poetry reading.

The success of the symposium demonstrated that people in the healthcare field want to better understand how the arts and humanities can help them in their work. The State Arts Council is planning a follow up session designed to educate artists about this healthcare trend and provide them with ideas on how their work can be adapted to meet this growing community need.



At the symposium, entitled Creating a Healing Environment: the Power of Arts and Humanities, accordionist and Roster Artist Gary Sredzienski spoke with health and arts professionals about his work in nursing homes and experiencing the power that music has to connect and reach out to the elderly.

Governors' Arts Awards Reminder

Nominate a school, a town, an organization or an individual to receive a Governors' Arts Award. There are seven award categories designed to recognize and honor outstanding contributions to the excellence, growth, support, and availability of the arts in New Hampshire. Nominations should be returned to the State Arts Council's office by April 22, 2005. You can find a nomination form and more information about the Governors’ Arts Awards in the *Arts News* Winter 2005 issue, or at www.nh.gov/nharts.

Pam Puleo, vice president of philanthropy and public affairs at Concord Hospital, extended a warm welcome to conference participants.

Photos by Rebecca Lawrence

New Hampshire Folklife Website Wins NH Internet Award

The State Arts Council's new Folklife website has recently won a NH Internet Award for Best Government Site. The competition for the only awards that honor web design in New Hampshire is in its seventh year. The Folklife website was designed by Pixel/MEDIA of Portsmouth, with content and images provided by the State Arts Council's Traditional Arts Program. The Awards benefit Children's Hospital at Dartmouth (CHaD). Visit the award-winning website today at www.nh.gov/folklife.

Making Connections Between People and Traditional Music

Traditional music in New Hampshire is diverse and many traditional musicians have produced quality recordings of their music. Because these recordings are not always available in commercial music stores, the State Arts Council has assembled an on-line resource making them easy to find.

The Traditional Music Collection is a listing of audio recordings and videotapes produced by traditional musicians and singers in New Hampshire that includes helpful information on how to contact artists or their representatives.

This unique resource helps connect people who love traditional music with unique recordings and also introduces New Hampshire musicians to a wider public. Visit the State Arts Council's website www.nh.gov/folklife and click on Traditional Music Collection to explore the breadth of traditional music in New Hampshire.



Learn more about these and other recordings at www.nh.gov/folklife. The listings include information on how to contact artists or obtain recordings.

This database can be searched in a variety of ways:

- * by an individual performer's name
- * by the name of a group
- * by recording title
- * by genre (i.e., Irish, Contra Dance, Franco American, or Polish)

The collection currently lists 101 entries and is expected to keep growing. Musicians who are interested in submitting their recordings can find a form on the website. The future plan is to add short sound clips to give listeners an opportunity to sample the music — so check back from time to time.

The State Arts Council provides a variety of services to help people experience the arts—whether it is through a performance, a workshop or access to recordings. In addition, a number of services help individual artists support themselves with their work. Information about these opportunities is available by visiting: www.nh.gov/nharts



Make Connections



The Governor will be invited to present the Governors' Arts Awards in October of 2005. Nominations from communities around the state for the Community Spirit Award are encouraged and can be made by visiting the State Arts Council's website: www.nh.gov/nharts. The deadline for submission is April 22, 2005.

Community Spirit Awards

In New Hampshire, Community Spirit is Valued and Rewarded

The biannual Governors' Arts Awards have been recognizing local and civic governments and non-arts organizations whose programming or funding efforts have significantly fostered the arts in their communities. Since 1989, eight communities around the state have made a difference in the quality of life around them by engaging community members and civic leaders in initiatives that have promoted cultural tourism, attracted major municipal support to a cultural facility or public art program, fostered public/private partnerships and have helped to attract significant local public support for the arts. The communities

that have received awards are: the Town of Littleton (2003), the City of Manchester (2001), the City of Claremont (1999), the City of Rochester (1997), the Town of Newport (1995), the Exeter Arts Committee Board of Selectmen (1993), the Greater Dover Chamber of Commerce (1991), and the City of Nashua (1989). Each exemplifies what can be achieved through creative partnerships among community members and organizations.



The City of Claremont was recognized in 1999 for their outstanding support of the 1897 Claremont Opera House. City councilors not only voted unanimously to provide \$500,000 for renovations to match that amount raised by the Opera House, but they personally donated \$30,000. The City pays for the upkeep of the physical plant.

Photo courtesy of the City of Claremont



A collaboration between Exeter Arts Committee and the Board of Selectmen to promote local artists by displaying their work in municipal buildings earned them the 1993 Community Spirit Award.

Photo by Judy Rigmont



The huge success of the 1994 Corbin Covered Bridge Homecoming Festival celebrating the re-creation of the bridge destroyed by arson earned the Town of Newport the 1995 Community Spirit Award. More than 10,000 gathered to participate in the festival which, along with local artist Patryc Wiggins' Mill Tapestry Project, provided the impetus for future cultural development, historic preservation and community arts projects such as this mural.

Photo by Lynn M. Graton



In 2001, the City of Manchester was recognized for supporting the Palace Theatre, a new Civic Arena, an expanded Historic Association in the Millyard, and development of Arts Build Community! - the city's first local arts agency. In recent years a cultural inventory, arts and culture website and publications, such as this one, have been created. Partnerships among businesses, arts and cultural organizations, the Chamber of Commerce, downtown associations, Manchester Airport and the Convention and Visitors Bureau have helped attract more visitors.

Brochure design by Karen Bessette

Community Arts

The ABC's of Community Arts

Most of us learned our ABC's before we entered school, either through a memorable rhyme or by watching *Sesame Street*. But ABC can have another arts-related connotation. ABC could mean: Art Builds Communities, Art Betters Communities, or perhaps even Art Boosts Communities (economically, socially and spiritually). They are all true.

funding through the State Arts Council, include groups of people who face barriers to fully participating in the arts due to disability, income, geography, cultural differences, advanced age, or institutionalization. Community arts projects create a sense of place, address an issue, or illustrate a local story or part of a community's history. The emphasis is on *process* and the results are often exhilarating.

The State Arts Council's Community Arts Program assists communities in accomplishing these ABC's through its Project and Development grants. Project Grants, matched by local dollars, support: community-based public art projects; the presentation of participatory arts programs; and artist

residencies in a variety of settings (e.g., senior and health care centers, Head Start programs, libraries, historical societies, detention centers) that engage people in creating art together.

A community can be more than just a geographic one; it can be defined by a set of shared circumstances, such as rural isolation. Under-served communities, which are eligible for designated federal

Strafford County Jail inmates worked with artists-in-residence to produce 1300 sq. ft. of colorful murals in the three visiting areas of the new facility.

*Photo courtesy of
Strafford County Jail*

More than 3500 students viewed a photo exhibition by photographer and 2004 NH Artist Fellow Kathy Seward MacKay depicting her husband's life with AIDS. The exhibit accompanied the AIDS Memorial Quilt at Keene State College on World AIDS Day where 25 squares were created that will be made into a quilt by a local quilter. Project sponsor, AIDS Services for the Monadnock Region, received matching funds from Roche Pharmaceuticals who have invited MacKay to present at a hepatitis conference for medical professionals this spring.

Photo by Susan MacNeil

Another focus of the Community Arts Program is educating community leaders about the impact of the creative economy and the role the arts can play in their economic development and downtown revitalization efforts. Community Arts Coordinator Judy Rigmont has been working in partnership with the NH Main Street Center to share and support model community arts programs. She hopes to spread the message more broadly to economic development and Chamber of Commerce directors and municipal leaders. Rigmont cites the introduction of the Community Arts Development Grant as one incentive for communities to use the arts as a catalyst to improve the local economy.

Development Grants support a wide variety of projects including: cultural inventories and plans; new public art programs; cultural brochures and maps to increase tourism; arts economic impact studies; planning for affordable housing-workspaces for artists; development of city or town-supported local arts



With a new bypass leading traffic away from downtown, the Hillsborough Arts Council, working with the Chamber of Commerce and Main Street Program, is scheduling downtown arts events to attract visitors and revive the local economy. A Council-supported concert by the Granite State Symphony (pictured above) drew more than 500 audience members from surrounding towns.

Photo by Jerry Burnham



The City of Portsmouth's new cultural commission, Art-Speak, developed a database of area artists and a new website, initiated a new public art program, and received support, matched by the City and Greater Piscataqua Community Foundation, to hire its first coordinator and to initiate a new public art program.

agencies (including hiring new directors); public art, landscape design, and creative signage related to riverfront or trails projects; and new downtown arts festivals, artist studio tours, arts-in-the-park projects or concert series to attract more visitors. Development Grants are already having a positive impact on the infrastructure and economies of local communities.

Funds are available for both planning and implementation of these types of community arts projects. Don't hesitate to contact Judy Rigmont, Community Arts Coordinator at jrigmont@nharts.state.nh.us or 271-0794 to share your ideas and seek assistance. The Council also maintains an online Artist Roster, including experienced community artists who have the vision and skills to assist with these projects. To learn more about the Community Arts Program and these artists, visit our website at www.nh.gov/nharts.

Enriching your community can be as simple as ABC!

Portsmouth (pictured in the background), Rochester (in process), Plymouth, and Manchester have received support for their cultural planning efforts which have led to new partnerships and a growing awareness of the impact of the creative economy. The Arts Alliance of Northern New Hampshire is overseeing a regional cultural planning process for the entire North Country.

MainStreet Warner, Inc. produced and presented "Minta," an original play based on the life of opera singer, humanitarian and suspected spy Madame Caroline Gardner Bartlett of Warner. More than 50



community volunteers participated with 700 attending the four performances in Warner Town Hall. Other theatrical productions will follow.



Spotlight

Community Dancing in Goffstown

There is nothing quite like dancing with family, friends, and neighbors to bring a community together. Smiles, laughter, trust, and the exhilaration of live music are all part of what makes the event meaningful. Community dances are even more fun if the dances are traditional squares or contra dances, prompting folks to form circles holding hands, pair up in square and line formations, and interact with each other with swings, promenades and dosi-dos. And of course, most communities just can't get together without sharing food, which adds another dimension of fun and satisfaction.

The Goffstown Public Library and Dreamcatchers—an organization that provides social and recreational opportunities for young people with disabilities—have discovered the power of community dances and are making it part of their town's traditions. For the past two years this partnership has successfully sought Mini-Grant funds from the State Arts Council to sponsor what they are calling "community barn dances."

Erin Whipple (right), co-founder of Dreamcatchers, which partnered with the Goffstown Public Library, wears a Western hat to get into the spirit of the dance.

Photos by Amy Lapointe

In October of 2003 and again in 2004, dances were held in the Maple Avenue Elementary School cafeteria as a kick-off for the Goffstown Main Street Program's Giant Pumpkin Regatta weekend.

This year, dance caller Frank Woodward, of the State Arts Council's Traditional Arts Listing, will be joined by fiddler Frank (Doc) Rudolph, piano player Damaris Rohsenow, and Susie Christie Woodward on guitar and vocals. They will lead families through some traditional squares and contras as well as some more contemporary Western-inspired line dances. Communities are encouraged to seek Mini-Grant funds for this type of activity. For more information, contact Community Arts Coordinator Judy Rigmont at jrigmont@nharts.state.nh.us.

Dancers of all ages and abilities can enjoy participating in a community dance.



Amanda Whipple, Sandy Whipple, and Nancy Jones enjoy making homemade donuts for the crowd. Preparing and sharing food adds another dimension of fun when a community gets together for a dance.

Community Dancing

Spotlight

Spring is Just Around the Corner

The days are growing almost imperceptibly longer. Spring isn't quite in the air yet, but NH Living Treasure, fiddler and dance caller Dudley Laufman tantalizes us with the promise of spring in one of his earliest poems about dancing among the lilacs.

This poem first appeared in the chapbook *Dancing Masters Diary*, 1981. It was subsequently published in *Mouth Music* in 2001 and in the educational book/CD set *Sweets of May*, published by Jacqueline and Dudley Laufman in 2004.

The Sweets of May

The spice of the currant blossom
Floats upon the air.
Makes my feet go up and down,
A garland in my hair.

For I am a country dancer,
The best you've ever seen.
Golden is my partner
With a smock of green.

We dance around the lilacs
And through the greeny grass
As the music slides and trembles
And the May lasts

On into the summer,
June and then July,
Autumn and longy winter.
All the seasons die.

O how I miss the springtime
And the May again
When the men dance around the ladies
And the ladies go round the men.

Dudley Laufman



Photos by
Lynn M. Graton

Spotlight

Community Arts: Welcoming New Neighbors to Laconia

During the past ten years, thanks to the sponsorship of local churches, Laconia has experienced an influx of immigrants from countries in Southeast Asia, Eastern Europe, South America and Africa. To proactively promote understanding of these cultures, a 31-member Human Relations Committee, composed of representatives from the City Council, Police Commission, School Board, businesses, clergy and residents, was formed to work on human rights, civil rights and diversity issues. Committee members emphasized, "Our motivation for the day comes out of our concern for the many political refugees and immigrants who have come to this region in recent years who struggle to know the community and to be known in a positive way."

In 2001 the committee initiated Laconia's first Multicultural Market Day to celebrate the city's diverse cultures with music, food, craft demonstrations,

games and other activities. The annual event is supported by the City, Lakes Region Charitable Foundation, civic organizations, the Belknap Mill Society, the school district, multiple local businesses, the Laconia Main Street Program, and residents.

To lead up to this event, the Belknap Mill held exhibitions featuring multicultural art created by middle school students. Other related programs have taken place in the area schools. Students also performed as part of the Market Day program.

Last year's celebration, held in September, drew more than 5,000 residents and visitors, showcased 30 artists and involved about 2,500 students. Artists from Afghanistan, Guatemala, and countries in Africa displayed their products and offered food samples. Performances included a Franco-American musician, a Vietnamese dancer, a Cajun band, a Mexican puppeteer, a Bosnian band, a Croatian guitarist, a Trinidadian band, and Irish music, storytelling and dance. One participant remarked, "It was like 'First Night' during the day!" Thanks to a Herculean effort by the Human Relations Committee, strong partnerships within the community and numerous resident volunteers, Laconia's third Multicultural Market Day was a huge success. It's proven to be an effective and wonderful way to welcome new community members; expose area residents and visitors to the arts, crafts and foods of other cultures as well as to local service organizations; and celebrate diversity.

(Background image)
Among the more exotic newcomers to the state was this surprise reptilian guest who made an appearance at Multicultural Market Day.

Photo by
Judy Buswell



The upbeat reggae music of Trinidadian band *Jah Spirit*, funded by the New England Foundation for the Arts, ended Multicultural Market Day with a conga line of approximately 30 community members dancing around Rotary Riverside Park.

Photo by David Stamps



Participants of Laconia's Multicultural Market Day included Bosnian refugees Umija and Rascim Gusinac, and American Indian Marvin Burnette.

Photo by
Judy Buswell

Artist Reflections

Lifetime Fellow, Bruce Posner

Working in New Hampshire has proven to be a double-edged experience. On the one hand, it is particularly COLD during certain times of the year. On the other hand, being so far out of the mainstream gives one a chance to hear their inner self speak, to watch the Northern lights streak across the night sky, to enjoy the morning hoarfrost or to hear the peepers sing in symphonies of thousands. Since I travel a great deal outside of NH and mix with an arts crowd that is primarily urban and contemporary, I find the return a welcome retreat from the

fast-paced, out-there life. It's great to go to Paris, Moscow, and Sydney, but it's even better to be home in my barn wondering what critter is making all of that damn noise up in the hay loft.

The time spent in such blissful reverie can produce some pretty interesting works. For years, I obsessed daily over my art car deciding exactly where to glue and to bolt funny objects directly onto its surface. You know, things such as shoes, footballs, plastic

pumpkins and film reels. The resulting mobile sculpture was an eye-opening sight that amused many along NH roadways.

Currently I am attempting to finish an experimental movie ten years in the making. My epic, which includes over 259,000 single images, all photographed

one-at-a-time, records the renovation of an 1850's farmhouse located in Cornish Flat and the disintegration of a marriage. The enterprise got further complicated in 2002 with the birth of my daughter Clara. She's a natural-born film actress and has thrown into the mix many more additional hours of home video recordings. The problem I face is quite serious. How do I edit this melange of material and make it watchable? Stay tuned.



In the interim, I am releasing a DVD version of the 20-part film retrospective "Unseen Cinema: Early American Avant-Garde Film 1893-1941." I am proud to say that I have organized, curated and distributed the globally recognized series out of my NH studio. Seed money was provided in 1999 by the NH State Council of the Arts.

I have never felt restricted with regard to my art-making here in the backwoods. In fact just the opposite, I can't seem to ever find the time to do everything that I'd like to do. Money remains one of the most limiting factors. Unlike many other art disciplines, filmmaking is closely tied to how much one can afford to spend. But like a clever and frugal native, I have found all sorts of ways to get by. The NH State Council on the Arts has been there when I have needed a break from the rat-race of fund-raising. Their support of independent artists such as myself, and the others honored as Lifetime and Individual Artists Fellows, usually arrives at the time of greatest need. For this, I want to thank the State of New Hampshire, the Federal Government and the fine folks who support the arts throughout our great nation.

Bruce Posner, Hanover

Lifetime Fellow, Bruce Posner of Hanover.

Photo courtesy of Bruce Posner



"swing-time!" 2003, color print photo collage, 18" x 20" by Bruce Posner

Lifetime Fellow, Carol Aronson-Shore

Oddly enough, my career in art began in dance. Movement through space motivated me to capture choreography on a 2-dimensional plane using the human form to express emotions and ideas. After graduate school, I began to mature as a visual artist while living on a farm in Pennsylvania. In 1980, I left the farm to become an Assistant Professor of Art at the University of New Hampshire. The move from the rolling hills, slate quarries and ponds of Pennsylvania to the rugged beauty of New Hampshire's mountains and shore was a challenge that opened my eyes to paint my surroundings with a fresh desire and urgency.

Arriving in New Hampshire closely coincided with my birth as a landscape painter. Ever since that move 25 years ago, my work has explored a range of responses to the natural environment. Light, its presence and absence, its transformations of form and color, its character and symbolism, is the common thread that runs through the many forms my work has taken over the years. For me, light is the touchstone metaphor for vision, insight and transformation. It allows me to move from the factual observation of *plein-air* work to the poetic visualization of an inspired, finished piece. My memories of an experience as well as my imaginative visualizations always have at their core the character of a particular light.

Finding forms to express and expand the dialogue between representation and modernism is the ongoing challenge that sparks and fuels my inventions. In the

early 80's, my circus series literally trapped figures on a picture plane grid. In the 90's, my landscape altarpieces experimented with symbolic framing formats. My balcony interior/exterior landscapes continued this dialogue in a narrative context. My recent work with fresco surfaces is another variation on the play between surface and image.



Throughout my career in New Hampshire, the State Council on the Arts has challenged me with commissions and supported me professionally with three Fellowships. I think of the State Arts Council as my "campfire in the woods" providing me with warmth and sustenance while I find my way in the dense forest of the art world. In looking back, many of the high points of my career were directly connected to the Council. Receiving this honor has given me a wonderful opportunity to formally say thank you to my friends at the NHSCA.

Carol Aronson-Shore, Portsmouth



Lifetime Fellow, Carol Aronson-Shore of Portsmouth.

Photo by Perry Smith



Monhegan Island, 5 1/2" x 6" oil on board

The Light Within, 12"x 40" oil on canvas

Photos of paintings courtesy of UNH Photographic Services

Around the State

Tapestry artist Patryc Wiggins of Guild and founder of the Guild Institute, was honored by Governor Lynch and the NH State Senate for her contributions and commitment to New Hampshire's industrial heritage and cultural economy. She recently produced the interna-

Congratulations to...

Tapestry artist **Patryc Wiggins** of Guild and founder of the **Guild Institute**, whose efforts brought the international tapestry exhibit, *Biennial V*, organized by the American Tapestry Alliance, to the former Dorr Mill in Guild. The juried exhibit of world art contained 39 weavings representing artists from 19 countries. Wiggins received double honors from Governor John Lynch and from the NH State Senate for her contributions and commitment to New Hampshire's industrial heritage and cultural economy. Through the use of the arts and humanities, the Guild



tional tapestry exhibit, Biennial V in New Hampshire.

*Photo by
Lynn M. Graton*

Institute promotes economic development that highlights machining and advanced manufacturing, a key industry with over 85 sophisticated shops located in central-western New Hampshire historically identified as Precision Valley. She is a member of the Artist Roster.



Georgie Reagan receives a bouquet from Lawrence Donovan of the Manchester Artists Association, as congratulations upon assuming the position of Special Assistant in the Arts to Manchester Mayor Robert Baines.

Photo by Michael Lizak

Georgie Reagan, former volunteer arts commissioner for the City of Manchester, who has assumed the paid position of Special Assistant in the arts to Manchester Mayor Robert Baines. She was also honored last month with a key to the city for her years of service. **Jessica Kinsey**, the Director of Development at the **New Hampshire Institute of Arts** and the former Executive Director of **ABC**, replaces Reagan on the arts commission. **Vermay DeRossi**, past Executive Assistant at Arts Build Community!, now serves as part-time Cultural Administrator for the **Manchester Area Convention and**

Visitors Bureau where she manages www.manchesterarts.org, the on-line calendar, the Manchester Area Cultural Guide and Map and has combined the ABC and MACVB websites.

Artist Roster member/musician **Lester Hirsh** of Concord, for being placed on the official ballot for the 2005 Grammy Awards by the National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences committee. His compact disc, *Mosaic II: Poems of an Ancient Order*, was entered into the Best Spoken Word Album category.



*Musician Lester Hirsh's CD **Mosaic II: Poems of an Ancient Order** was nominated for the 2005 Grammy Awards in the category of Best Spoken Word Album.*

Photo by Terry Welch

The Bell Center for Music & the Arts in Dover, for celebrating their 10th anniversary in their new 8,000 square foot home in the old Temple Israel building. The Bell Center started with 80 students in October, 1994 and now has a team of 18 teachers who instruct 450 students.

The Women's Rural Entrepreneurial Network (WREN) in Bethlehem upon celebrating their 10th birthday. WREN has partnered with the **Colonial Theater** and other town agencies and organizations to initiate a downtown revitalization effort that relies heavily on the arts and small businesses, including artist-run businesses, which they incubate and strengthen.

The League of New Hampshire Craftsmen who recently opened a retail gallery in Littleton on Main Street in the heart of downtown. **Littleton's Main Street Program** has received several awards, including a Great American Main Street designation in 2003 and more recently the Oliver "Red" Underhill Award for Economic Development from the **North Country Council**. The League's new shop will add to the vitality of their downtown and creative economy.

Northern Forest Center, Inc., which has been awarded \$10,000 by the **National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)** through Challenge America to support the printing, marketing, and distribution of free copies of the *HandMade in the Northern Forest Guidebook* throughout the North Country. The State Arts Council has also

Around the State

Congratulations to... (cont.)

contributed \$2,800 for this project through a Community Development grant. The guidebook and associated marketing will raise awareness of the region's contemporary and traditional artisans.

Welcome to...

William P. Veillette of Amherst, the new Executive Director of the **New Hampshire Historical Society** in Concord. Since moving to New Hampshire in 1998 from Canada where he was general manager of Otis Elevator's North American operations, Veillette has served local,

William P. Veillette is the new Executive Director of the New Hampshire Historical Society in Concord. A private non-profit, the Society is New Hampshire's only statewide historical society.

Photo courtesy of New Hampshire Historical Society



state, and regional historical organizations. He co-founded the Heritage Commission of Amherst and serves as treasurer of the **New Hampshire Preservation Alliance**, trustee of Historic New England, and treasurer of the **Historical Society of Amherst**.



Veteran professional film and television actor Larry Vigus has joined the teaching staff of the Mill Pond Center for the Arts in Durham.

Photo by Elaine Desilets

Larry Vigus, veteran professional film and television actor who is a new teaching staff member at the **Mill Pond Center for the Arts** in Durham. He has appeared in the Coen brothers' film *Intolerable Cruelty* and on the HBO series *Carnivale*, and has been active in theatre on the seacoast since moving here from California about a year ago. Vigus has been teaching theatre classes in Rochester as well as at the **New Hampshire Theatre Project** in Portsmouth where he is part of their artist-in-residence program.

Addy Smith-Reiman, the new Executive Director of the **North Country Studio Conference, Inc.** She is founder and former director of **The Northeast Kingdom Arts Council**. Smith-Reiman moved to Vermont from New York with ten years experience in the creative and arts fields.

Farewell To...

Kathleen Kearns, past Executive Director of the **Nashua Symphony Association**, who resigned her position in January to become the Executive Director of Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra in Boston.



Kathleen Kearns, former Executive Director of the Nashua Symphony, is the new Executive Director of Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra in Boston.

Photo by Leslie O'Shaughnessy



Derrick Cartwright, who for the past four years served as Director of the **Hood Museum of Art** at Dartmouth College. He will be the Maruja Baldwin Executive Director at the San Diego Museum of Art. **Katherine Hart**, Curator of Academic Programming will serve as Acting Director of the **Hood Museum of Art**.

Joanne Wise, Executive Director of **North Country Studio Conference, Inc.**, has stepped down after the 2005 program. Before moving to New Hampshire, Wise organized a program on Japanese and Shaker art for the first North Country Studio Conference at the Shaker Village in Enfield. Her future plans include building an art studio for works on paper and becoming more active in the **Upper Valley Art Alliance**, of which she is a founding member. She is on the board of the **Upper Valley Community Foundation** and co-chairs the 10th Anniversary Dartmouth Partners in Community Service.

Left to right: New executive director of the North Country Studio Conference Addy Smith-Reiman, receives a warm welcome from president Maria Gross and outgoing executive director Joanne Wise.

Photo courtesy of Alison Lauter

“The Upper Valley Arts Alliance is a perfect example of what can happen when dedicated people come together around an idea and turn it into reality.”

Regional News

Dynamic New Arts Organization to Provide a Vehicle for Creative Economy in the Upper Valley

A dynamic new organization is emerging in the Upper Valley to provide a unified voice for the arts and contribute to the creative economy of the region. The Upper Valley Arts Alliance (UVAA) is an assembly of member arts organizations, artists, educators, businesses, and arts supporters with a mission to enhance the Upper Valley’s cultural, educational, social, and economic vitality through the promotion of a robust arts community including performing, visual, and literary arts.

A working group consisting of ten volunteers representing various constituents in the Upper Valley has met over the past several months to get the UVAA off the ground. Initial funding has been provided through a \$5,000 grant awarded by the Upper Valley Community Foundation (UVCF).

“The concept for a regional arts alliance emerged from the Upper Valley Creative Economy Summit in Woodstock last spring,” noted UVCF Executive Director Kevin Peterson. “We hoped to foster several projects that would advance the dialog that began at the Summit. The Upper Valley Arts Alliance is a perfect example of what can happen when dedicated people come together around an idea and turn it into reality.”

UVCF, a regional office of New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, works to promote philanthropy, supports the Upper Valley nonprofit sector, and brings people together around important issues. Over

the past two years, UVCF has focused much of its energy and resources on the region’s Creative Economy. In addition to the UVAA, the foundation is supporting two other initiatives spawned by the Creative Economy Summit.



“The Upper Valley is a region teeming with rich artistic talent and creative endeavors. I’m continually amazed to learn about the exciting projects and ideas being sparked in the community,” said Joe Clifford, a member of the UVAA working group and Outreach Manager for the Hopkins Center. “I’ve also heard many great ideas which seem to lack a single puzzle piece to turn concepts into reality. The working group is hopeful that the infrastructure afforded by a regional arts alliance will open new channels of communication in the region and provide the creative sector with more of those missing pieces.”

Membership is open to anyone interested in the arts. For more information contact Joe Clifford at 603/646-3812 or email Joseph.P.Clifford@Dartmouth.EDU.

NEFA Awards Over \$25,000 for New England Touring Artists

New England Foundation for the Arts (NEFA) announced grantees for regional performing arts touring programs, New England States Touring (NEST) and Meet the Composer.

NEST is a cooperative program with the states arts agencies of New England, and provides support to nonprofits for performances, readings, and related community activities by artists on the New England States Touring list, or “roster.” The NEST program strives to provide artists with the opportunity to enrich their work through contact with a variety of communities.

NEST Awards to the following organizations in New Hampshire totaled \$6,262:

- | | |
|---|--|
| * Lebanon Opera House (Lebanon, NH)
Amount awarded: \$1,750
Artist: Vermont Symphony Orchestra (Burlington, VT) | * Franklin Opera House (Franklin, NH)
Amount awarded: \$1,800
Artist: Snappy Dance Theater (Cambridge, MA) |
| * Capitol Center for the Arts (Concord, NH)
Amount awarded: \$725
Artist: Shakespeare & Company (Lenox, MA) | * Arts Alliance of Northern New Hampshire (Littleton, NH)
Amount awarded: \$1,312
Artist: Reggie Marra (New Milford, CT) |
| * Plymouth State University, Medieval & Renaissance Forum (Plymouth, NH)
Amount awarded: \$200
Artist: Ken Pierce Baroque Dance Company (Cambridge, MA) | * Arts Alliance of Northern New Hampshire (Littleton, NH)
Amount awarded: \$2,900
Artist: Alia Thabit (West Burke, VT) |
| * Keene State College, Redfern Arts Center (Keene, NH)
Amount awarded: \$250
Artist: Barbara & Gerhardt Suhrstedt (Somerville, MA) | |



New England
Foundation
for the Arts

Meet the Composer Program

In cooperation with Meet the Composer, Inc., NEFA offers grants to nonprofit organizations in New England to provide meaningful interaction between composers and audiences, in conjunction with the performances of the composer’s work. Meet the Composer seeks to increase opportunities for composers in New England by fostering the creation, performance, dissemination, and appreciation of their music, and to provide meaningful interactions and experiences between composers, their music, and the citizens of New England.

Meet the Composer Grants totaling \$1,213 were awarded to the following organizations:

- * Portsmouth Women’s Chorus (Portsmouth, NH)
Amount awarded: \$413
Artist: Gwyneth Walker (Braintree, VT)
- * University of New Hampshire, Celebrity Series (Durham, NH)
Amount awarded: \$800
Artist: John Corigliano (New York, NY)

For more information about New England States Touring, Meet the Composer, or other NEFA programs please visit www.nefa.org or call 617/951-0010.

National News

National Endowment for the Arts: 2005 National Medal of Arts

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) is now accepting nominations from the public of exemplary artists and arts patrons for the 2005 National Medal of Arts. Nominate someone from New Hampshire! Visit the NEA website and complete the form at www.arts.gov/honors/Medals/. The deadline for public nominations is April 11, 2005.



Bush Budget Proposes Level Funding for NEA in 2006

Despite an overall reduction in federal discretionary spending proposed in the administration's fiscal year 2006 budget, the funding proposal President Bush sent to Capitol Hill on February 7 asks Congress to hold even on spending for the NEA at the 2005 level of \$121.264 million.

The administration's budget proposal explains that overall growth in discretionary spending is being held below the projected rate of inflation to 2.1 percent—"even after significant increases in defense and homeland security"—meaning a reduction in real terms for total discretionary spending in the budget proposal. In fact, in nonsecurity discretionary accounts, the president has proposed to cut spending by nearly 1 percent.

Funding for the arts endowment includes support for the American Masterpieces initiative, which, according to the budget

document, "continues NEA's commitment to support programs of indisputable artistic merit that reach communities large and small in all 50 states, as well as to provide substantial and engaging educational programs for the nation's schools."

The budget submission also includes funds for the Challenge America program at \$14.922 million, down from \$21.427 million appropriated by Congress for 2005.

The budget for the National Endowment for the Humanities, like that for the NEA, is held level in the president's proposal, with \$138.054 million. The only significant increase in funding for the cultural agencies goes to the Office of Museum Services, with a requested funding level of \$38.915 million for 2006, up from \$34.8 million in 2005.

SEE PAGE 100 FOR THE FULL LIST OF ARTS AND CULTURE PROGRAMS.



Ken Burns Delivers the 18th Annual Nancy Hanks Lecture

Documentary filmmaker, and Walpole resident, Ken Burns was the featured speaker at the 18th annual Nancy Hanks Lecture on Arts and Public Policy. The Nancy Hanks Lecture is presented by Americans for the Arts in conjunction with its Arts Advocacy Day 2005 conference that took place March 14 and 15 in Washington, DC.



Americans for the Arts invited documentary filmmaker Ken Burns to deliver the 18th Annual Nancy Hanks Lecture on Arts and Public Policy in conjunction with its Arts Advocacy Day 2005 national conference.

*Photo by Pam Tubridy
Baucom/Courtesy
Florentine Films*

Small and Midsize US Companies Contribute Nearly 90% of the \$3.32 Billion from Business to the Arts

Nearly 90% of the record \$3.32 billion that business gave to the arts in 2003 came from small (49%) and midsize (40%) companies, according to The BCA Report: 2004 National Survey of Business Support to the Arts, a national triennial survey commissioned by the Business Committee for the Arts, Inc. (BCA) and conducted by Shugoll Research, Bethesda, MD. In 2005, 19% of survey respondents project an increase in support to the arts. The margin of error is + or - 4 percent.

"The survey findings dispel the notion that only big businesses support the arts," said Judith A. Jedlicka, President, BCA. "Small companies – those with annual revenues of less than \$1 million – and midsize companies – those with annual revenues ranging from \$1 million to \$49.9 million – support the arts because they have deep roots in their communities. Like large companies, these companies recognize that the arts improve the quality of life of a community, enhance the workplace and enrich educational opportunities for children – all of which can have a considerable impact on the success of a company."

The majority (59%) of the 600 companies that participated in this telephone survey, conducted during July and August, 2004 reported that they supported the arts because "it is a good thing to do," while (65%) indicated that their decision to provide support to the arts was driven by a "perceived need in their operating communities." Seventy-four percent (74%) said they might increase their contributions "if there were a proven need," and 51% indicated that support depended on a company's profitability.

Factors most important in a company's decision to support specific arts organizations were: offering arts education initiatives (72%), offering arts programs to the underserved (72%), tying the arts to social causes such as hunger, violence or homelessness (61%), and offering company recognition opportunities (61%).

Programming initiatives of performing arts centers received 54% of all support, followed by theater (53%), public radio and television (49%), arts education programs (48%), other music (excluding symphony orchestras and opera) (46%), other types of museums (excluding arts museums) (36%), art museums (36%), dance (33%), symphony orchestras (30%), literary arts (25%), opera (16%) and united arts funds (10%).

Visit the BCA Web site, www.bcainc.org, for more information about this survey. The Business Committee for the Arts, Inc. (BCA), founded in 1967 by David Rockefeller, is a national not-for-profit organization that brings business and the arts together. It provides businesses of all sizes with the services and resources necessary to develop and advance partnerships with the arts that benefit business, the arts and the community.



New Hampshire State Council on the Arts Spring/Summer Deadlines

Across Programs

Grant Name	Deadline	Amount
Mini-Grant	April 1, 2005 & Quarterly*	\$250 - \$1,000
Peer Mentorships	Ongoing	\$500 - \$750

Artist Services Program

Grant Name	Deadline	Amount
Individual Artist Fellowship	May 6, 2005	\$5,000
New Works Collaboration		
Project Grant	May 6, 2005	\$5,000
Project Grant	May 6, 2005	\$5,000
Percent for Art	Varies	Varies

Arts in Education Program

Grant Name	Deadline	Amount
ArtLinks Grant	April 22, 2005	\$2,500-\$10,000

Community Arts Program

Grant Name	Deadline	Amount
Development Grant	April 1, 2005	\$3,500 - \$7,000
Project Grant	April 1, 2005	\$1,000 - \$3,500

Organizational Support Program

Grant Name	Deadline	Amount
Cultural Facilities Grant	May 2, 2005	\$1,000-\$8,000
Cultural Conservation Grant	May 2, 2005	\$5,000-\$20,000

Deadline for:

Artist Roster and Traditional Arts Listing

Applications	April 1, 2005
--------------	---------------

*Quarterly Postmark Deadlines:

- April 1, 2005 for projects beginning on or after July 1, 2005
- July 1, 2005 for projects beginning on or after October 1, 2005
- October 3, 2005 for projects beginning on or after January 1, 2006
- January 1, 2006 for projects beginning on or after April 1, 2006

New Hampshire State Council on the Arts

Established in 1965, the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts and the New Hampshire Division of the Arts comprise the state’s arts agency. Funding comes from appropriations from the State of New Hampshire and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency. Volunteer Arts Councilors set policies, approve grants, and advise the Commissioner of the Department of Cultural Resources on all matters concerning the arts.

The State Arts Council’s mission is to enrich *New Hampshire’s unique quality of life through the arts*. The Director of the New Hampshire Division of the Arts administers the agency, which is part of the Department of Cultural Resources.

New Hampshire State Arts Councilors

Chair

James Patrick Kelly, Nottingham

Vice Chair

Jacqueline R. Kahle, Wilton

Randy Armstrong, Barrington
Richard W. Ayers, Sanbornton
William Hallager, Lincoln
Paul Hodes, Concord
Peter McLaughlin, Hanover
Edward J. McLearn, Meredith
Toni H. Pappas, Manchester
Gary Samson, Concord
Tim Sappington, Randolph
Jasmine Shah, Nashua
Karen Burgess Smith, Exeter
Grace Sullivan, Deerfield



Department of Cultural Resources

Van McLeod, Commissioner
20 Park Street
Concord, NH 03301
603/271-2540

Division of the Arts

Rebecca L. Lawrence, Director
2 ½ Beacon Street, 2nd Floor
Concord, NH 03301
603/271-2789

Division of Arts Staff

Yvonne Stahr, Programs Information Officer, 603/271-0791

Judy Rigmont, Community Arts Coordinator, 603/271-0794

Catherine O’Brian, Arts Education Coordinator, 603/271-0795

Lynn Martin Graton, Traditional Arts Coordinator, 603/271-8418

Julie Mento, Artist Services Coordinator, 603/271-0790

Marjorie Durkee, Grants & Contracts Technician, 603/271-2789

Carey Johnson, Arts Program Assistant, 603/271-0792

General Phone:
603/271-2789

URL:
www.nh.gov/nharts

Fax:
603/271-3584

TTY/TDD:
800/735-2964

Office Hours:
8:15 am – 4:15 pm
Closed all State
and most Federal
holidays



NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE ARTS





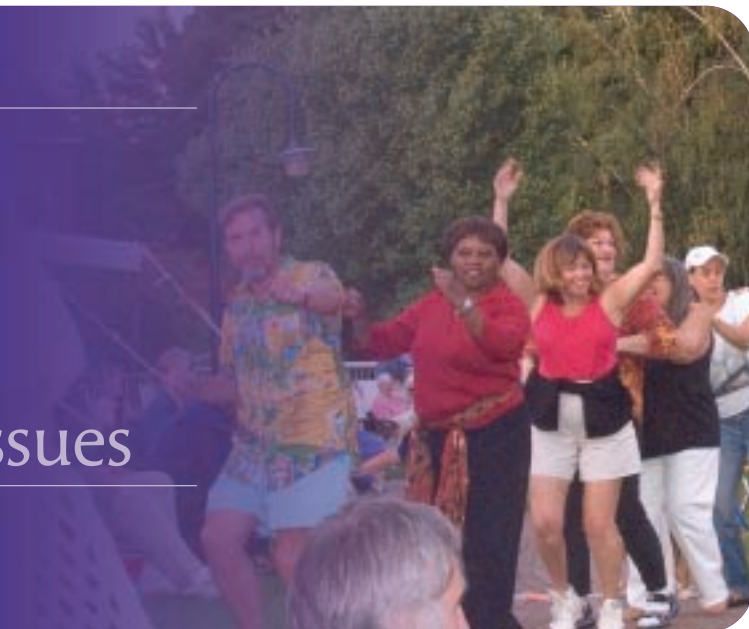
*Promoting the arts to protect and enrich New Hampshire's
unique quality of life since 1965.*

Inside

ABCs of Community Arts
Rewarding Community Spirit
Traditional Music On-line
Community Dancing
Welcoming New Neighbors

Coming up in future issues

2003-2004 Biennial Report



New Hampshire State Council on the Arts

2½ Beacon Street, 2nd Floor

Concord, NH 03301-4974

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

PRSR. STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
CONCORD NH
03301
PERMIT #1478