

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 29, 2013

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Arts in Healthcare conference: June 7 – 8 at Concord Hospital

The Arts in Healthcare conference, a new professional development event focusing on the use of the arts in New Hampshire healthcare settings, will take place at Concord Hospital in Concord, N.H., on June 7 – 8, 2013.

Each day of the conference is designed for a specific audience interested in the arts in healthcare. June 7 is a symposium for healthcare leaders and practitioners; June 8 is a workshop for artists and arts organizations. Keynote speaker Gary Christenson, M.D., immediate past president of the Global Alliance for Arts and Health, will open both days of the conference.

Conference participants will explore the value of arts in helping people heal, learn about research and evidence supporting the effectiveness of arts in healthcare and receive practical tools for delivering arts in a healthcare setting.

Attendees will also learn about resources available from the N.H. State Council on the Arts, including Arts in Healthcare funding.



The Arts in Healthcare conference is sponsored by the N.H. State Council on the Arts and Concord Hospital, which work together to bring professionally trained artists into healthcare settings as a way of easing pain, accelerating the healing process and increasing staff efficiencies. Conference partners include the Arts Alliance of Northern New Hampshire and the N.H. Business Committee for the Arts. Additional corporate support is provided by Catholic Medical Center.

"The arts support healing and wellness by complementing traditional treatment," said Lynn Martin Graton, acting director of the N.H. State Council on the Arts. "Incorporating the arts into healthcare settings benefits everyone: patients, their loved ones and healthcare practitioners."

"Research shows that the arts in healthcare settings promote a sense of wholeness when people feel their most fragile, resulting in positive impacts on their health outcomes," said Alice Kinsler, manager of Therapeutic Arts & Activity Services at Concord Hospital.

Registration space for the Arts in Healthcare conference is limited; preregistration is highly recommended. The June 7 symposium for healthcare leaders is approved through Concord Hospital for five AMA PRA Category 1 credits and nursing contact hours; cost to register is \$45 and includes lunch. The June 8 workshop for artists and arts organizations costs \$25 and includes lunch.

For more information or to register for the Arts in Healthcare conference, visit www.nh.gov/nharts or www.concordhospital.org.

The New Hampshire State Council on the Arts is a publicly funded agency within the New Hampshire Department of Cultural Resources. It began in 1965 with legislation designed "to insure that the role of the arts in the life of our communities will continue to grow and play an ever more significant part in the education and welfare of our citizens." Funding comes from state appropriations, the National Endowment for the Arts and the Conservation License Plate fund. Learn more about the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts at www.nh.gov/nharts.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: Media wishing to attend the 2013 Arts in Health Care conference should contact Shelly Angers, N.H. Department of Cultural Resources, shelly.angers@dcr.nh.gov, (603) 271-3136 or Catherine O'Brian, N.H. State Council on the Arts, (603) 271-0795.



