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Arts Council of Greater Lansing

Leading, advocating for, and advancing arts and culture in the capital region since 1965

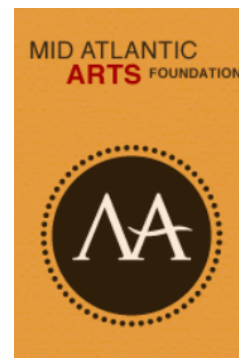
August 2011



USArtists International Announces 2012 Grants Deadline

Program Supports Sending U.S. Performing Artists to Festivals Abroad

[Mid-Atlantic Arts Foundation](#) announces the third round of grant awards for the 2011 cycle of USArtists International (USAI). USAI ensures that the impressive range of U.S. performing arts are represented abroad, and that the creative and professional development of American artists is enhanced through participation at significant international festivals and engagements that represent extraordinary career opportunities.



Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation will grant awards totaling \$221,847 to 33 theater, dance, and music ensembles and solo artists. All together, the grantees will attend 40 different festivals in 22 countries over four continents, including Canada, China, Croatia, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Kenya, Macedonia, Mali, Russia, Sweden, Switzerland, Tanzania, Thailand, The Netherlands, Turkey, Uganda, and the United Kingdom.

The grantees span a wide variety of performing genres and styles, and range from Feufollet from New Orleans, Louisiana to the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra and Liz Lerman Dance Exchange from Takoma Park, Maryland to Theater Breaking Through Barriers in New York. A complete list of past grantees can be found [here](#).



REPLICA, a collaborative performance piece funded in part by the USArtists Program

Artists interested in applying for the USAI 2012 program, the deadline is September 6, 2011 for projects taking place between November 1, 2011 and October 31, 2012.

Guidelines will be available on the Foundation website at www.midatlanticarts.org by August 1, 2011.

Member Business Spotlight:

August Artist Opportunities

Employment, Funding, and Opportunities for

Karyn's Dance Place

Arts Council Member Spreads Joy of Dance by Partnering to Bring National Dance Day to Lansing

Whether you have danced your entire life, or are a novice beginner, [Karyn's Dance Place](#) has something for you. Now entering her 27th year of business in Holt, founder Karyn Perry's talent is her ability to teach those at any skill level about dance.



Perry teaching a dance routine for LCC's "Sidewalk Fairytales"

"I am most proud of giving dancers a passion for dance and giving them confidence that they can carry into any

career," Perry says. "I have many students who have gone on to professional careers in dance and the performing arts, but I am also excited to be involved with community programming like this year's National Dance Day that encourages dancers of all backgrounds to embrace dance."

Perry is one of the driving forces behind Lansing's participation in 2011's [National Dance Day, a grassroots initiative created last year with the help of Congress](#) that encourages individuals, families, organizations and communities from across the nation to come together and dance. This year Lansing area residents celebrated National Dance Day by joining together to dance on July 30 at noon on the Capital lawn in downtown Lansing.

Approximately 30 residents of Greater Lansing participated in the event, which was endorsed by the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness. The Governor's Council endorses local, regional, and state events to acknowledge an organization's ability to plan and carry out a quality event that significantly contributes to the health and well-being of Michigan residents.

"By endorsing local events all across the state, we hope to bring attention to the importance of physical activity and encourage our citizens to take

Professionals Working in the Arts

[August Opportunities](#)

The [Burcham Hills Foundation](#) is seeking original artwork for its annual Art Auction which supports special programs and services for the 350 elders that live in the Burcham Hills community. The deadline to apply is August 19.



Happendance, Michigan's longest running modern dance company, located in Okemos, is accepting applications for a part-time Development Officer. Please submit resume and cover letter to Diane Newman at hdoffice@happendance.org. Applications must be received by August 15, 2011. To learn more about the position, call 517.333.3528 or visit their website at www.happendance.org.

Channel your inner actor! The Williamston Theatre is seeking applicants for its 2011-2012 Season Apprenticeship Program. This program is designed to support a highly motivated and hard working college graduate who is interested in launching their career in the theatre world. The Apprenticeship Program seeks to provide a bridge between the classroom and the professional realm. For more information, please visit www.williamstontheatre.org

[\(SCENE\) MetroSpace](#) is also currently seeking submissions of custom drawn / designed "skins" for an exhibition curated by Robert McCann and held in conjunction with the MSU Drawing Marathon. For more information about the exhibition or submission requirements, please contact Tim Lane at scenemetrospace@gmail.com or visit <http://scenemetrospace.blogspot.com>.

Don't miss all the latest information for artists and arts organizations on our [opportunities](#) page. The page includes listings for upcoming grant deadlines, auditions, exhibition opportunities, and other information of interest to the arts community.

August Arts and Cultural Calendar

Your Link to Exhibitions, Events, Festivals, and the Performing Arts in Greater Lansing

[August Calendar](#)

responsibility for their health," said Marilyn Lieber, president and CEO of the Governor's Council. "These local events can have a tremendous impact on health care costs that present a significant challenge for our state's economy."

In order to become an endorsed Governor's Council event, an organization must complete an [application form](#) for review.

Criteria that is taken into consideration includes providing a positive, safe physical activity experience using qualified officials and benefiting a nonprofit or charitable organization.

This Event Endorsed by



The Governor's Council on
Physical Fitness Endorsement



Amendment To Cut NEA Fails in the U.S. House

On July 28 the U.S. House of Representatives successfully voted down an amendment proposed by Rep. Tim Walberg (R-MI) that would have cut an additional \$10.6 million in funding for the National Endowment for the Arts from the FY 2012 Interior Appropriations bill. Thanks to the efforts of arts advocates across the country, more than 35,000 messages were sent in the last month to Capitol Hill in support of NEA funding. The amendment was defeated soundly by a vote of 240 to 181. You can see how your representative voted on the amendment [here](#).

Final consideration of the full Interior Appropriations bill has been delayed. The House of Representatives hopes to finish this legislation before they break for the proposed August recess. It is unclear when the Senate will begin work on their version of this appropriations bill and negotiate a final compromise with the House - but it would most likely take place later in the fall.

School bells are in the distance and now is the time to experience summer trips to the museum or gallery, a picnic in one of Greater Lansing's many parks, or a performance at one of the many festivals before the fall season arrives.

Festivals are what we do best in Greater Lansing, and there are three major ones to check out this month. [Lansing JazzFest](#) kicks things off on August 5 and 6 with local, regional, and national



A performance from
Renegade 2010

acts performing on three stages.

A week later, the [Great Lakes Folk Festival](#) celebrates 10 years of rich rhythms and folk rhymes

from August 12 - 14. And the [Renegade Theatre Festival](#) brings three nights of free theatre of all kinds to venues (both traditional and eclectic) throughout Old Town August 18 - 20. Find out more about these and other upcoming festivals at www.lansingfestivals.org.

Swing with the [MSU Professors of Jazz](#) on Wednesday, August 31, at 7:30 p.m. as they introduce jazz pianist Reggie Thomas -- the newest addition to the MSU jazz faculty. Find out more information or tickets, click [here](#).



Jazz Pianist
Reggie Thomas

Whatever you choose this month, get out and enjoy the number of arts and cultural activities Greater Lansing has to offer!

MEDC Launches One-Stop Talent Portal for Job Seekers, Employers



To receive advocacy updates from Americans for the Arts, please consider joining their Arts Action Fund by visiting: <http://www.artsactionfund.org/page/s/join>.



College Scholarship Opportunity

The [NABE Foundation](#), the charitable arm of the National Association for Business Economics is awarding its fourth annual Americans for the Arts scholarship to encourage the integration of the arts into the economic education process. The \$5,000 award will be given to a student from an economically disadvantaged household, who has attended a public school, has participated in an extracurricular arts program, and has formally declared the intent to study economics. For more information about the award, visit the NABE Foundation [website](#).

The [Michigan Economic Development Corporation](#) (MEDC) announced it has launched a new talent portal on its website designed to help skilled professionals connect with employers.

"Creating more opportunities for employers to find the employees and resources they need to support business growth leads to economic growth," MEDC President and CEO Mike Finney said. "Our new Job Portal is designed to support all Michigan companies, big and small, with their goals of efficiently finding top-notch talent."

Through the MEDC Job Portal, located at [hiremi.org](#), employers can register to post openings and work closely with the MEDC's Talent Acquisition team to devise strategies to meet their talent needs.

The portal also allows job seekers to search for positions around the state, create profiles and add their resumes to the talent database.

For more information on the MEDC's initiatives and programs, visit their website at [MichiganAdvantage.org](#).

Calling All Artists!

REO Town Celebration of Imagination and Creative Ingenuity Has its Inaugural Year

Through a collaboration of the [REO Town Commercial Association](#) and a group of local artists, the first annual [Art Attack! Showdown in REO Town Art Battle & Festival](#) has been born. Art Attack! is an all-inclusive, all-embracing celebration of the arts in our community. The Art Attack! Festival will feature the diverse works of local artists for sale while the Showdown in REO Town art completion will offer local artist the chance to test their creative swagger. Throughout these events, local musicians will sculpt sonic art for patrons harmonic enjoyment. Organizers hope that this unique festival will testifies to the fact that REO Town is a place where people not only buy and appreciate art but where people come together to create and experience art as well.



The Showdown is an artist competition in which participating artists are able to show off their prowess and process to the masses. Artists will have four hours to create their works, on-site and in full view of the public. Jurors will score the works and, after the competition, select works will be auctioned with a portion of the proceeds going to benefit [Art Alley](#).

Those interested in participating in the Festival or Showdown should contact James Groves at (616) 275-3799, email artattck@reotown.org, or download the artist application [here](#).



WKAR Backstage Pass Unveils Online Sign-Up

Currently in production for their third season, WKAR's Backstage Pass showcases some of the best musical talent in Michigan. Backstage Pass is a TV series from WKAR at Michigan State University that features live-to-tape music performance blended with artist interviews and intimate, behind-the-scenes footage Thursdays at 10pm (WKAR-HD/23), Saturdays at 8pm (WKAR World), and 11pm (WKAR-HD/23).

BackStage Pass live-to-tape performances are recorded before a studio audience every April, May and June at WKAR-TV's Studio on the Michigan State University campus, in partnership with the MSU College of Communication Arts and Sciences and the MSU Department of Telecommunications, Information Studies and Media. And, as if the talent line-up weren't impressive enough, Backstage Pass was most recently recognized with two Michigan Association of Broadcasters 2010 Broadcast Excellence Awards, and two 2010 National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences Emmy Nominations!

Backstage Pass invites those interested to sign-up online to attend live tapings. For more information or to sign-up for a taping, visit their [website](#), or become a [Fan on Facebook](#).



Live taping of Backstage Pass

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