



## ARTS MARYLAND

### FEBRUARY 2011



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### **Arts Council to distribute 93 artist awards**

Gov. Martin O'Malley has announced that 93 Maryland artists have been selected to receive a total of \$246,000 in *Individual Artist Awards* from the Maryland State Arts Council.

"*The Individual Artist Awards* program is an excellent way for the State of Maryland to recognize the accomplishments of its many talented artists and the vital role that the arts play in our communities." said Gov. O'Malley. "The awards are an incentive for artists to continue to work in Maryland and contribute to our economy and job base, while enhancing the quality of life for all Maryland citizens."

Artists competed for \$1,000, \$3,000 and \$6,000 awards in eight categories: choreography, classical music composition, classical music solo performance, poetry, sculpture, solo dance performance, world music composition and world music solo performance.

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Out-of-state juries representing each artistic discipline reviewed 407 applications anonymously before awarding the individual grants, which were determined solely on the basis of artistic merit.

Artistic categories alternate each year. Applications for the 2012 competition will be available in June on the Art Council's web site. Categories for 2012 are: crafts, non-classical music composition, non-classical music solo performance, photography and playwriting.

Christian Litty Benefiel is the recipient of a \$6,000 Individual Artist Award (IAA). The Anne Arundel County artist's Oneandtheother is pictured above.

**Johnson to receive *Hess* award at Arts Day**

E. Scott Johnson, former chair of the Maryland State Arts Council, has been named the 2011 *Sue Hess Maryland Arts Advocate of the Year* by Maryland Citizens for the Arts. The award will be given at [Maryland Arts Day](#), Wednesday, Feb. 9 in Annapolis at the Miller Senate Office Building.

Editorial cartoonist Kevin Kallaugher (KAL) will be keynote speaker at the event. A longtime cartoonist for *The Economist*, KAL also drew more than 4,000 cartoons for the *Baltimore Sun* between 1988 and 2006.

Organized by [Maryland Citizens for the Arts](#), the 13th annual Maryland Arts Day is an opportunity for arts advocates and arts professionals to speak with state legislators about the value of the arts community in Maryland. The day also offers chances for networking, and roundtable and educational discussions. MCA's Emerging Arts Advocates group hosts a post-Arts Day event. [Register online](#).

**9/11 panel selects local firm for memorial**

Ziger/Snead, a Baltimore architectural firm, was recently named lead designer for [Maryland's 9/11 memorial](#). The Maryland 9/11 Memorial Committee made the selection after a comprehensive review process that culminated with interviews of six finalists -- from Washington, D.C., Maryland, California and New York -- on Jan. 14.

The memorial, to be located on the plaza of the World Trade Center in Baltimore's Inner Harbor, will incorporate steel beams from the twin towers of New York's former World Trade Center. A September unveiling of the memorial is scheduled on the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks.

Other members of the design team include: Mahan Rykiel Associates (Baltimore), landscape; Robert Silman Associates (Washington, D.C.), structural engineering; and Brandston Partnership (New York), lighting.

Funding for the memorial will be provided through private donations. The Maryland State Arts Council is administering the project.



### Students vie for Poetry Out Loud title

The finals of the Maryland State Poetry Out Loud (POL) competition will be held Saturday, Feb. 26, 1 p.m., at the Enoch Pratt Central Library's Wheeler Auditorium in Baltimore. Nine regional winners will compete for a \$200 prize and an all-expenses paid trip to Washington, D.C., as Maryland's representative in the national POL contest, April 27-29.

Nora Sandler, a student at Richard Montgomery in Rockville, was Maryland's POL champion in 2010. She later emerged as the third-place winner at the national finals. Maryland's competition this year was open to students in the ninth to 12th grades at both public and private schools.

POL promotes the recitation and performance of poetry as an oral-art form. The National Poetry Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts partner with state arts agencies, such as the Maryland State Arts Council, to stage the annual POL program. Students and schools receive more than \$100,000 in prize money.

WYPR radio host Aaron Henkin hosts the Feb. 26 event and Ellen Cherry, an Emmy-nominated singer-songwriter, will perform. For more information about POL, e-mail Chris Stewart at the Arts Council.



### DBED report shows impact of arts industry

Nonprofit arts organizations and programs that received operating support from the Maryland State Arts Council during fiscal 2009 generated an economic boost of \$1.14 million for the state in that year, according to a Department of Business and Economic Development study.

The report, which uses Maryland Cultural Data Project data supplied by grant recipients, also shows that in fiscal 2009, the arts industry:

- drew 8.8 million people to arts events
- accounted for 12,000 full-time equivalent jobs, \$426 million in salaries
- generated \$41.4 million in state and local taxes

*The Economic Impact of Nonprofit Arts Organizations in Maryland/FY 2009* is available on the Arts Council's web site.



### Howard, Harmon retire from Arts Council

Two staff members at the Maryland State Arts Council (MSAC) - Shirley Howard (*pictured*) and Doreen Harmon - have retired as of Jan. 31. "Having seen the Arts Council evolve during her 36-year tenure here, Shirley carries with her the institutional memory of the organization," said Theresa Colvin, MSAC executive director.

Howard started at the Arts Council in April 1975 as executive assistant to Jim Backas, the first executive director. She eventually became a program director charged with connecting the resources of the Arts Council with grassroots and emerging organizations in the state. She managed the ARTvantage and Arts in Communities grants programs, and organized numerous workshops for grant applicants in the Organizations Development Program.

Harmon began her career with the state in 1977 and joined the Arts Council in 2002. She was the Art Council's receptionist, and she assisted with programming, events and the James Backas Gallery. "Doreen would always be diplomatic with callers and visitors," Colvin said, "and she regularly received compliments from artists and curators for her work with the gallery."



### **Arts Council hosts Chinese delegation**

A 25-member cultural delegation from China's Henan Province visited the Maryland State Arts Council, Jan. 12. Shirley Howard, a program director at the Arts Council, discussed the grantmaking process, arts funding and the structure of the Arts Council.

Robert Daly, director of the Maryland China Initiative at the University of Maryland, had suggested that the delegation -- which included a variety of officials from arts-related organizations -- meet with Arts Council staff.

The Chinese presented the Arts Council with the replica of an oracle bone -- a piece of bone from cattle or a turtle's plastron (lower shell) that Chinese diviners used to see the future more than 3,000 years ago. Oracle bones represent the earliest known use of Chinese writing. The first ones were discovered in Anyang, an ancient capital city in Henan.

*Photo (l to r): Dong Wenjian, vice director, The Cultural Department of Henan Provincial People's Government; Shirley Howard, program director, Maryland State Arts Council; and Robert Day, director, Maryland China Initiative.*



### **Cumberland gallery gets Art-o-Mat**

Allegany Arts Council's Saville Gallery has become the only location in Maryland to have an Art-o-Mat machine, a converted cigarette vending machine that sells small pieces of original artwork. A dedication event was held Jan. 19 at the gallery, located in Cumberland's arts and entertainment district. The Saville Gallery Art-o-Mat offers the work of 22 artists - each item is priced at \$5.

North Carolina artist Clark Whittington created the Art-o-Mat concept in 1997. Today, he has placed more than 90 machines across the country, using the artwork of 400 artists. Art-o-Mat welcomes new contributing artists.

*Photo: Clark Whittington (l) and Andy Vick, executive director of the Allegany Arts Council, at the Art-o-Mat dedication.*



### Performing artists attend capacity-building session

Fifteen touring artists recently had an opportunity to learn how to increase their bookings through marketing strategies, budget management and forging relationships with presenters at a capacity-building workshop, Jan. 24 at the Strathmore in Bethesda. The Maryland State Arts Council staged the event as part of the [Maryland Touring Artist Roster](#) program.

A workshop panel included: agent Alisa Kaeser (*Marketing Yourself, Where to Start*); presenter Shelley Brown (*Project Budget Development and Management*); and artist Eileen Carson, who discussed how Footworks has used Touring Roster funds.

## IN THE NEWS

### Dr. Eric Conway recommended for appointment to Maryland State Arts Council



Dr. Eric Conway, director of the critically acclaimed Morgan State University Choir, was recommended by the Executive Nominations Committee for appointment to the Maryland State Arts Council. Dr. Conway appeared before the committee on January 31 at the Miller Senate Building in Annapolis to accept the recommendation and address

the committee. The meeting was chaired by Senator Delores G. Kelley.

*Photo (l to r): Theresa Colvin, MSAC executive director; Eric Conway; and Jeanne Hitchcock, secretary of appointments, Office of the Governor*

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- [15 firms take advantage of new Maryland law establishing 'benefit' corporations](#)
- [Decades of music and printing history on the verge of being lost](#)
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## EVENTS

### **Foreign-film series kicks off in Westminster**

Film Lovers in Carroll County presents its 8th annual [festival of foreign films](#). Starting Feb. 4, the Carroll (County) Arts Center in Westminster hosts the award-winning foreign films on Friday evenings in February.

### **Hitchcock retrospective opens at AFI**

AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center, located in the Silver Spring Arts and Entertainment District, presents the first part of a 2011 [retrospective of Alfred Hitchcock's work](#), starting Feb. 4 and running to March 31. This initial series focuses on films that the director made during the early years of his career in England. Among the films to be screened are: *The Lady Vanishes*, *The 39 Steps*, *The Man Who Knew Too Much* (original version), and the silent films *Blackmail* and *The Lodge*.

### **Southern Md. arts center offers Valentine's Day market**

Hand-crafted and homegrown items highlight an indoor [Maker's Market](#) for Valentine's Day at [Annmarie Sculpture Garden and Arts Center](#) in Solomons, Saturday, Feb. 5, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Admission and parking are free. Selection includes: hanging baskets, organic skincare products, fresh produce, cut flowers, baked goods, batik and fleece clothing, soaps and candles, herbal teas, and folk art.

### **Craft show returns to Baltimore**

More than 700 artists from across the U.S. gather at the Baltimore Convention Center, Feb. 24-27, for the annual [American Craft Council Show](#). Artists offer contemporary jewelry, clothing, furniture and home décor items. [Tickets available online](#).

### **Humanities Council looking for storytellers**

Have a story about driving around Baltimore? The Maryland Humanities (Council MHC) and The Stoop Storytelling Series are looking for storytellers to perform at [Moving Stories: Getting Around Baltimore](#), Thursday, Feb. 10, 6 p.m. at the Walters Art Museum. Storytellers must attend a free workshop on Sunday afternoon, Feb. 6, at MHC's downtown Baltimore office. To be considered, [send three sentences about your idea to Beth Barbush at MHC](#).

### **Howard County exhibit focuses on light**

The gallery at the Howard County Center for the Arts (HCCA) in Ellicott City presents *Source*, an exhibit running through Feb. 25 that demonstrates how three Maryland artists use light as subject matter. Works include a video installation by Symmes Gardner, self-illuminated light totems and wall sculptures by Melissa Burley, and black and white photography by Lynn Silverman. For more information

about Howard County Arts Council programs and exhibits, call 410-313-ARTS (2787) or [visit the arts council online](#).

### **Curator's talk opens photography show**

Maryland Art Place (MAP) hosts an opening reception and curator's talk for its new exhibition *Small Magic: Photographic Transformations*, Thursday, Feb. 3, 6-8 p.m. The show, curated by Nate Larson (Maryland Institute College of Art), includes work by seven contemporary artists who use photography. It runs to March 19. MAP is located at 8 Market Place in Baltimore, near the Inner Harbor.

### **Material Girls reveals visions of eight women artists**

An exhibition of 38 three-dimensional artistic works that use both traditional and unexpected art-making materials - hair, beads, tissue paper and rubber tires, for instance - opens at the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History & Culture, Feb. 12. Michelle Joan Wilkinson, the museum's director of collections and exhibitions, has curated this exhibition, *Material Girls: Contemporary Black Artists*.

### **Gaither's quilts still on display at MSAC**

The James Backas Gallery at the Maryland State Arts Council will continue to exhibit *Respecting Humanity: Quilts for Social Justice* at its location in South Baltimore, 175 W. Ostend St. This one-woman show, which features 13 quilts made by artist and educator Joan M.E. Gaither, now runs through March 18. One of the quilts is Black Watermen of the Chesapeake, an 8-ft. x 11-ft. piece that documents the experience of African-Americans who worked on the bay.

## **OPPORTUNITIES & DEADLINES**

**National Endowment for the Arts offers a series of webinars** on the new Grants for Arts Projects and Our Town guidelines. Following overview presentations on the two sets of guidelines, staff will be available to answer questions about specific areas during these webinars: Feb. 7, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m., design, media arts, museums and visual arts; Feb. 14, 1-2 p.m., dance, music, opera, musical theater and theater; Feb. 14, 3:30 -4:30 p.m., arts education and literature. [NEA grant guidelines are available online](#).

**E-applications for Maryland Traditions' Apprenticeship Awards**, a program that promotes the transmission of traditional folk-art knowledge by a master artist to an apprentice, are now being accepted by the Maryland State Arts Council. Deadline for submission is Feb. 11. Applications for [Project Grants](#), which support research and programming related to Maryland's traditional arts and culture, are also being accepted with the same Feb. 11 deadline. For more information, call or [e-mail Cliff Murphy](#), 410-767-6450.

**Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation's On Screen/In Person program** brings independent American films and their filmmakers to communities in the mid-Atlantic region. Each year, the foundation selects up to 30 organizations through an open, competitive application process to serve as host sites. These hosts participate in film selection and each receives six films a year for community screenings during two three-month intervals. [Applications must be submitted by Friday, Feb. 25](#).

**Pennsylvania Performing Arts on Tour (PennPAT)** is accepting [applications](#)

from performing-arts presenters in the mid-Atlantic region that wish to host artists on PennPAT's roster of performing artists. The next deadline for applications, which covers engagements between June 1, 2011 and May 31, 2013, is Feb. 15. Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation administers the PennPAT program.

**Creative Capital offers grants to individual artists** in an open-application process, Feb. 1 to March 1, for two groups of projects: film/video and visual arts; and emerging fields, literature and performing arts. Based in New York, Creative Capital provides financial and advisory support "to artists pursuing adventurous projects" in the disciplines mentioned above.

**Northern Baltimore County Art Foundation** awards a \$2,000 scholarship to a graduating high-school student who resides in the northern part of the county (Hunt Valley to the Pennsylvania line) and who will attend a four-year college in pursuit of a fine arts degree.

**Bronx Museum of the Arts runs *smARTpower***, a program that will send 15 artists abroad to work with local artists and young people in creating community-based arts projects. The program supports the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs mission to increase understanding between U.S. citizens and citizens of other countries. Deadline for submitting proposals is Feb. 28. Emerging and mid-career artists are encouraged to apply.

**Awards from the Gerald E. and Corinne L. Parsons Fund for Ethnography** at the Library of Congress support the projects of individuals or organizations that are designed to increase awareness of the ethnographic collections at the library. More information is available on The American Folklife Center web site.

**Howard County Art Council's Cultural Arts Showcase** is an opportunity for schools, and civic and cultural organizations to preview performances by local and national performing artists in an audition-style format. Participants can also meet with visual and literary artists to discuss workshops and residencies. For registration information, call or e-mail the art council, 410-313-2787.

**The Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs** offers an open competition to organize the official U.S. representation at the 13th International Venice Architecture Exhibition, to be held in late August through November 2012 in Venice, Italy. This exhibition is a showcase for ideas in contemporary architecture. U.S.-based nonprofits -- museums, galleries, visual and design arts centers, and schools of design and architecture -- are eligible to submit proposals. Deadline for submissions is April 15, 2011.

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