



October 2008 E-Newsletter

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The Arts, Creative Learning & Student Achievement Study

Research shows higher student achievement at schools with more arts

New data reveals that Colorado public high schools offering more arts education have higher scores on state tests in reading, writing and science – regardless of student ethnicity or socioeconomic status. They also have lower dropout rates.

A first-of-its-kind study of arts education in public schools by the Colorado Department of Education and the Colorado Council on the Arts shows that while most schools offer some formal arts education to a majority of students, an estimated 29,000 students attend public schools that do not offer any formal arts education.

At a time when employers are demanding a more creative work force, 53 percent of high school students are not taking any arts courses.

Offering the arts is a choice for many public schools in Colorado. School leaders say time is the biggest barrier to providing more in-depth arts education to hone in-demand work force skills such as imagination, creativity and innovation.

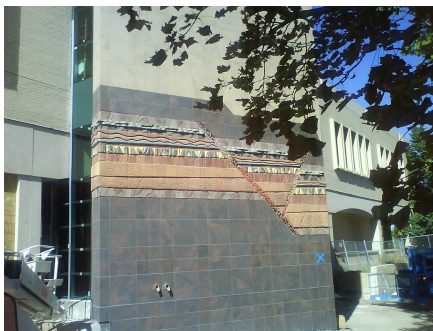




A press conference was held on October 6 with Lt. Gov. Barbara O'Brien, Colorado Department of Education Commissioner Dwight Jones and Elaine Mariner. You can read more by visiting the CCA web site including press clippings, (<http://www.coloarts.state.co.us/news/clippings/>) the study summary – *The Arts, Creative Learning & Student Achievement: 2008 Study of Arts Education in Colorado Public Schools*. (<http://www.coloarts.state.co.us/programs/education/study/Colorado%20Arts%20Ed%20Study%20Summary%20Final.pdf>) and the full statistical report. (<http://www.coloarts.state.co.us/programs/education/study/Colorado%20Arts%20Ed%20Study%20Statistical%20Report%20Final.pdf>)

Public Art Installed on two University Campuses

Colorado School of Mines and Anschutz Medical Campus benefit from new public art



Geophysics, a multicolored raised relief sculpture by Ken Williams of Pueblo was installed at the Green Center on the Colorado School of Mines campus. The sculpture is composed of varying bands of ceramic tile about 6 feet wide and 33 feet long, wrapping three sides of the elevator shaft. The scale of the works gives it a strong visual impact, suggesting faulted bands of sedimentary rocks of different compositions.

Verbe 2, by Mel Ristau of Ft. Collins was installed in the Education 1B North Stairway on the Anschutz Medical Campus. The artwork is a hierarchal sequence of actions in a shared, group dialog with this linear, vertical space – active dialog being a mainstay of academics. Suspended in 5 drops, each section progresses in size and complexity and is composed of stacked planes of activity. Fully kinetic, the work presents as a statement of inventive, positive change and discovery – qualities related to constant occurrences of creative and critical thinking – campus wide.





Governor's Arts Award Presented

City of Loveland wins prestigious award

Governor Bill Ritter presented the city of Loveland with the Governor's Arts Award at the Loveland Museum/Gallery on Friday, September 26. The award itself was a bright orange and yellow oil painting of a team of two horses, created by Denver artist Duke Beardsley. Governor Ritter told the audience. "It is

important that we remain, in state government, committed to inspiring artists and art communities like Loveland." He added that art "allows you to reflect on the past, express the present and really communicate with the future... it really is, at the end of the day, a vehicle for talking and learning about culture." Ritter also affirmed the importance of arts education, acknowledging that the so-called core disciplines, such as math and science, sometimes receive more focus in today's classrooms. A second painting by Beardsley will hang in the Governor's office.

"Creative Capitol" Art Exhibit Installed in the Lt. Governor's Office

Black and white photography is featured in first exhibit at the state capitol

Creative Capitol celebrates Colorado artists and images of the state of Colorado. The Council on the Arts is proud to announce the first Creative Capitol exhibit in the Lt. Governor's Office. The fascinating exhibit "Law of the Range: Portraits of Old-Time Brand Inspector" are black and white photos by photographer Steven Collector of Boulder. Collector said, "Years of duty and experience are etched in their faces, as time and weather have etched the mountains and plains they love." Rose Fredrick was the curator of the exhibit.



Call for Nominations for the 2009 Business for the Arts Awards

Awards honor Colorado businesses that leverage the arts for success

Successful companies recognize that arts involvement has a positive impact on business people, culture and performance. Colorado Business Committee for the Arts (CBCA) will honor businesses for their exemplary partnerships and engagement with the arts at the 22nd annual CBCA *Business for the Arts*

Awards luncheon, Thursday, March 5, 2009, Seawell Ballroom, Denver Performing Arts Complex.

CBCA is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) that serves as a catalyst for Colorado's business community to leverage the arts for economic vitality. To nominate a business, go to www.cbca.org.

YouthReach Colorado Grant Deadline Approaching

Deadline to submit application is October 23

YouthReach Colorado grants support community-based organizations that provide high quality arts experiences combined with youth development services in an out-of-school-time setting. Young people at risk of not making a successful transition from adolescence to young adulthood are the targeted participants for this program. The application (<http://www.coloarts.state.co.us/grants/apply/youth/index.htm>) has changed this year and is online only. The deadline is October 23.

World AIDS Day December 1

Arts community urged to commemorate in your own style

The Colorado Council on the Arts urges you to join with the Colorado Organizations Responding to AIDS (CORA) to commemorate December 1 as World AIDS Day in your own unique and personal style. This commemoration could happen in many ways: a moment of silence before a performance begins, putting a notice next to the sign-in book at your gallery opening, or covering a popular piece in a museum with black fabric. There are many ways to remember World AIDS Day and we encourage you to mark the day in whatever way you can. For more information about CORA call 303-355-5665 or visit www.coracolorado.org.

