



September 2008 E-Newsletter

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In July, a team of Colorado education leaders took part in an exclusive "Arts Education Leadership Institute", thanks to a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). Colorado joined four other state teams to discuss current arts education topics including aesthetic inquiry and imagination, the creative industries and 21st century workforce skills, community messaging and building public engagement. The team's goal in attending the Institute was to take a leadership role in increasing access to arts education in Colorado's public schools and to better position the arts as a resource for teaching math, science, reading, writing and other subjects.

Led by Lt. Gov. Barbara O'Brien and Colorado Department of Education Commissioner Dwight Jones, the team included Randy Zila, St. Vrain Valley Schools Superintendent, Gerald Keefe, Kit Carson Schools Superintendent, Vicki Taylor, Academy District 20 School Board Member, and Elaine Mariner, Colorado Council on the Arts Executive Director.

The team heard several expert presentations on the role of arts learning in creating the innovative, creative and imaginative workers of tomorrow. For example, Scott Noppe-Brandon, executive director of the Lincoln Center, explained how inquiry-based study that involves art-making, reflection, and use of multi-media resources can improve student learning. Jack Lew, Global University Relations Manager for Electronic Arts, recounted the explosive growth of the \$19 billion US retail video game industry and described a growing need in his field for arts-trained workers.

During state planning sessions, teams were challenged to create arts education policies and programs specific to their own state. The Colorado team identified the following as a framework for action:

- Ensuring the Colorado Model Content Standards and Assessments for all content areas incorporate creative learning practices
- Increasing professional development to help educators infuse more creative learning into core subjects
- Launching "Creative Conversations" with policymakers to discuss how schools can better meet the demand for a creative work force
- Sharing best practices of schools that have made the arts and creative learning strategies available for student success

This fall, a stakeholder group of arts educators, arts organizations, parents, and administrators will build off this framework to develop a plan with actionable steps for endorsement by the ELI team. The end product should be a unified message that will engage the public and will lead to improvements in access to arts education for every Colorado student.

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Tim Prentice of Connecticut installed his kinetic sculpture in the Education II Building atrium. It is approximately four feet in diameter and fifteen feet in height and is made of aluminum plates that were scrubbed with an abrasive to soften the reflections. The sculpture is a cascade of panels of reflective aluminum that are suspended on a system of swivels that are loosely connected in order to respond to the lightest currents of air moving in the space.

George Peters and Melanie Walker of Boulder installed Cloud Cells in the Education II Building north stairwell. The stairway is filled with a number of cloud forms that arc over the stair landing and extend diagonally in the stair ceiling volume. The units are suspended from the ceiling grid with very thin steel stranded cable. The transparency of the fabric has approximately a 25% openness factor, allowing light to enter the stair area and outside views to remain visible.



Michael Clapper of Denver installed a pair of sculptures called C-23 in the Healing Quad. C-23 represents humanity with the 23rd chromosome as inspiration. One sculpture depicts the 23rd in an XY configuration and the other in an XX configuration. Consequently, one refers to Man and the other to Woman. Made from 6" diameter steel tubing, the artworks are approximately 2' deep by 3' to 4' wide by 12' tall. They are powder coated antique copper (green) and have a series of copper colored bands painted onto them in a dot pattern. The colored band patterns on the sculptures resemble the band patterns seen while looking at the two configurations of the 23rd chromosome under a microscope.

CCA Seeks Grant Review Panelists

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One way in which the Colorado Council on the Arts supports the arts in our state is to provide grants that leverage local support for arts and cultural activities in communities across Colorado. Colorado artists, cultural organizations, community groups and schools and districts may submit grant proposals for activities

that directly address one of CCA's goals. (<http://www.coloarts.state.co.us/about/mission/>) The Council awards these grants annually on a competitive basis, in program areas aimed at increasing access to and participation in arts experiences, preserving and promoting cultural heritage, arts business development, and arts education. Grant requests are reviewed by peer panelists who make funding recommendations to the Council.

Throughout the year, CCA collects resumes of interested, qualified individuals who have the experience to make impartial decisions on the quality of the grants submitted in this highly competitive process. Criteria areas include artistic excellence and merit, community involvement and benefit, and implementation capacity, such as effective planning, management, and budgeting of the project.

Panels are comprised of artists, arts administrators, educators, and community leaders who represent diverse geographic, ethnic, philosophical and aesthetic perspectives. If you are interested in participating in a review panel, please email a letter of interest and a resume or brief biography to coloarts@state.co.us. CCA will begin contacting potential panelists for May review sessions in January and February.

Are You Using the Right Logo?

Colorado Council on the Arts requires inclusion on promotional materials



If you have received a grant from the Colorado Council on the Arts, our logo must be included on all promotional materials, web sites, playbills, exhibition signage, educational materials and advertising related to the allocation of our funds. We have also created posters in various sizes that can be used at events. Downloading logos or posters (<http://www.coloarts.org/grants/manage/award/creditLogo.htm>) is easy. Thank you for including CCA in your promotional materials.

CaFÉ, www.callforentry.org

Free information on Calls for Entry

The Colorado Council on the Arts Art in Public Places Program posts all Calls for Entry on CaFÉ, www.callforentry.org, an online system managed by Western States Arts Federation. CaFÉ is free to artists and images and information is secure. Artists can manage calls while traveling by checking the status of the submission and receive notification of all Calls posted on CaFÉ. Colorado artists are also encouraged to create on profile on www.artistsregister.com. For further information on Colorado's Art in Public Places Program check out the CCA website (<http://www.coloarts.state.co.us/programs/public/calls/index.htm>) or email jil.rosentrater@state.co.us.