

Delaware State Arts Council Meeting
June 15, 2011
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Rehoboth Art League
Sussex

Attending: Lise Monty, Steve Boyden, Lori Crawford, Richard Givens, Margaret Johnson, Gail Lear, John Ranney, Carol Rothschild, John Sarro, Ruth Sokolowski, Catherine Walls, Mack Wathen Carson Zullinger (Staff: Paul Weagraff, Susan Salkin, Gwen Henderson, Kristin Pleasanton, Terry Plummer, Sheila Ross, Roxanne Stanulis, Dana Wise,)

Absent: Louellen Braithwaite, Joann Browning, Elisabeth Poole

Meeting was called to order at 10 a.m.

Chair called for approval of minutes from March 16, 2011 meeting. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Chair Report, Lise Monty

Monty encouraged council members to assist where possible in the audience survey collection process of the Arts and Economic Impact Survey.

Carson Zullinger has agreed to be the Council's representative on the Advocacy Committee of the Delaware Arts Alliance. The Council, Alliance, and Division are still working out the details of the relationship in responsibilities in arts advocacy.

Monty encouraged council members to visit ContentDelaware.com to see the new video series on arts organizations in Delaware.

Steve Boyden and John Ranney will be rotating off the Council after the September meeting. Council members are encouraged to submit names of possible replacements.

Steve Boyden gave a brief overview of the Arts Stabilization Fund managed by the Delaware Community Foundation. Council approved unanimously to have Mack Wathen replace Steve Boyden as the Council representative on the ArtCo board.

Director's Report, Paul Weagraff

The FY12 state proposed budget reflects a \$14,000 decrease from the state and \$74,000 decrease from the NEA. Delaware is relatively fortunate, compared to several states around the nation.

Weagraff reviewed partnerships with Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation. Weagraff has been asked to serve a three-year term on their board. They are in the final stages of strategic planning. Annual dues (\$30,000) are more than offset by programming MAAF supports in Delaware (more than \$70,000 annually).

Susan Salkin provided an overview of the upcoming film touring initiative sponsored by MAAF. Two venues in Delaware (Theatre N and Rehoboth Beach Film Society) have received grants to support film programs in their venues.

Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation has agreed to come to the December 2011 council meeting to make a presentation on the work that they do in partnership with us.

Weagraff reviewed the recent advocacy work National Assembly of State Arts Agencies has been doing in support of state arts agencies both on Capitol Hill and in letter writing to state elected officials.

NASAA will be holding a Leadership Institute in Charleston, WV in fall 2011 for state arts agencies directors, deputy directors, and council chairs.

Weagraff provided an overview of recent promotional activities: InWilmingtonDE.com marketing campaign, DelawareScene.com, and ContentDelaware.com. Funding is coming from Department of State, private funders, and foundations.

Stanulis reviewed Division's marketing strategies for promoting DelawareScene.com. Sokolowski suggested inclusion of Delaware Humanities Forum events on the calendar. Stanulis responded that they are eligible to enter their events, and that she would remind them to include their events.

Weagraff reviewed current research initiatives: Creative Vitality Index Study of for-profit and nonprofit industries. Arts and Economic Prosperity Study focusing specifically on the nonprofit arts industry and its economic impact.

Weagraff reviewed upcoming events: Artist Fellowship reception at Biggs Museum on July 9; Arts Summit on October 17; eGranting scheduled to be in place for FY13 grant cycle, funded by Government Information Center.

Grant Funding Recommendations

Salkin reviewed the process employed to review the applications, including convening of panels, scoring of applications, and solicitation of comments.

Weagraff reviewed the following:

Statement of Funding Principles

The Delaware Division of the Arts and the Delaware State Arts Council will be guided by the following statement of principles for funding arts programming and services in Delaware.

1. Public funding for the arts ensures that arts programming and services are available to all Delawareans.
 - a. The primary goal of arts funding is to serve arts audiences, participants, and students.
 - b. Arts and community-based organizations and schools serve as delivery mechanisms for programs and services.
 - c. Public funding for the arts serves as a complement to private/corporate funding and earned revenue; it should not be construed as a substitute for those revenue sources or as a sole source of support.

2. Determinations to fund arts programming and services should be based on the merits of the application, using criteria set forth in respective grant categories.
 - a. The current merits of the program/project, as demonstrated in the application, must weigh most heavily in funding considerations, regardless of whether an organization has been funded historically or not.
 - b. If an existing program remains competitive and warrants continued funding, then it should be funded. If not, then decreases or zero-funding should be expected.
 - c. Funding is not an entitlement.

3. Funding will be allocated to the most meritorious programs/projects.
 - a. Allocation of dollars to grant categories will be deferred until after the panels have met and applications have been ranked.
 - b. If a particular category has a large number of strong applicants, it should receive a higher proportion of the grant dollars for funding.
4. Decreases in funding do not necessarily indicate deteriorating quality of programming.
 - a. Many factors impact funding for any particular organization or project:
 - i. Number of applicants in the grant category
 - ii. Budget size (of the organization or project)
 - iii. Available funds (state and federal)
 - iv. Panel ranking of the application

Council began review of funding recommendations by grant category. Final approved funding (following approval of state budget) can be found in **Attachment 1**. Panel comments for the review of individual applications are available upon request of the Delaware Division of the Arts.

Project Support Funding Recommendations

- No applicants scored under 3 (meets expectations)
- Sokolowski suggested sorting spreadsheets by geographic areas
- Sarro declared a conflict w/ UD Children's Chorus
- Vote – all in favor none opposed – motion passed on all funding recommendations except UD applications
- UD applications – none opposed – Sarro abstained

Arts Stabilization Funding Recommendations

- 4 applications “bricks & mortar” applications; 2 “equipment” applications
- Applications were reviewed by email correspondence between Weagraff, Wathen, and Boyden.
 - Ranney noted that 2 applications for equipment are necessary because of what organizations do
 - Ranney and Walls raised concern that neither Sussex organization was recommended for funding
 - Weagraff responded that the Division is responsible to funding criteria and to by-laws in ARTCO – the 2 equipment application are lower on the published priority list
 - Due to conflicts, each application was voted on individually
 - Center for Creative Arts – none opposed
 - Clear Space Theatre Company – one opposed
 - Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts – none opposed – 2 abstained (Lear, Zullinger)
 - Mispillion Art League – 2 opposed – 1 abstention (Walls)
 - Smyrna Opera House – none opposed – 1 abstention (Givens)
 - Wilmington Drama League – none opposed

Education Resource Funding Recommendations

8 applications, all scored quite high

- 4 conflicts: Rick Givens – Biggs Museum of American Art; Gail Lear & Carson; Zullinger – DCCA; Carol Rothschild – DE Art Museum
- All recommendations were approved. Those with conflicts abstained from voting on respective organizations

Mezzanine Gallery Recommendations

- Reviewed 52 artists – review panel came up with top 10
- Usually use 4 or 5 of 10 for mezzanine
- All approved – none opposed – no abstentions
- Artist fellowship web pages were produced and posted internally, saving the Division \$3,000.

Report on Arts Summit

- Save-the-date postcard has been sent
- Full brochure will be sent at end of August
- First State Ballet Theatre will perform
- Keynote – Tom Birch, NASAA
- Fellowship winner performance
- Afternoon Keynote – Derrick Ashong ABPspeakers.com
- Media Marketplace
- Need Council volunteers – contact Susan
- Council members suggested a special invite from Council and DDOA to legislators
- First Lady Carla Markell has been invited, and she has agreed to speak at the morning gathering

Break for Lunch

StartUp Funding Recommendations

- No conflicts
- 6 applications were reviewed by in-house staff
- Staff presented two options to Council for funding DE by Hand, since they didn't fully complete their StartUp obligations, and there were significant concerns about their application
 - Proposal A – adopt funding of StartUp organizations excluding DBH
 - Proposal B – adopt funding of StartUp organizations including DBH
 - Plummer explained the StartUp process, expectations, and comments from instructors
 - Vote – A – none opposed – no abstentions
 - No vote on B

General Operating Support Funding Recommendations

- Interim organizations – staff recommended funding all interim organizations; no organizations demonstrated significant concerns for continued funding
- All organizations receiving panel review elicited scores that warrant funding
- Conflicts (council members abstained from votes on those respective organizations
 - Cathy Walls – Mispillion Art League
 - Rick Givens – Biggs Museum, Smyrna Opera House
 - Carol Rothschild – Delaware Art Museum
 - Gail Lear & Carson Zullinger – DCCA
- Vote on proposals – 6 abstentions
- Proposal A1 – Apply last year's formula, retaining existing percentage breakdown of budget, inversely proportionate to organization budget size
 - 1 aye; 4 nays
- Proposal A2 – Increase percentage for smaller organizations to move toward restoration of earlier cuts made to smaller organizations in the formula
 - 4 ayes; 1 nay

Old Business

- Motion for funding change if funding goes up or down
 - All approved proportionate increase/decrease to grant awards, should the final approved budget change
- Audience Surveys – Weagraff will contact arts council members to help with organizations that don't have staff to collect information
 - Figure a minimum of 20 events w/ 50 surveys each.
- Lear encouraged council members to get as many people as possible for arts council nominations

New Business

- None

Monty motioned to adjourn at 1:50; Zullinger seconded. All approved.

Attachment 1

Delaware Division of the Arts Grant Awards: FY2012

Grant Recipient		Grant Award
<u>Arts Stabilization</u>		
Center for the Creative Arts Arts Stabilization	Yorklyn	\$17,500
DE Center for the Contemporary Arts Arts Stabilization	Wilmington	\$20,000
Smyrna-Clayton Heritage Association/Smyrna Opera House Arts Stabilization	Smyrna	\$15,000
Wilmington Drama League Arts Stabilization	Wilmington	\$17,500
<u>Education Resource</u>		
Biggs Museum of American Art Education Resource	Dover	\$3,000
DE Art Museum Education Resource	Wilmington	\$12,500
DE Center for the Contemporary Arts Education Resource	Wilmington	\$20,000
DE Symphony Orchestra Education Resource	Wilmington	\$17,500
DE Theatre Company Education Resource	Wilmington	\$20,000
Grand Opera House Education Resource	Wilmington	\$17,500
Opera Delaware Inc Education Resource	Wilmington	\$17,500
VSA Delaware Education Resource	Dover	\$8,000
<u>General Operating Support</u>		
Art Therapy Express, Inc. General Operating Support	Hockessin	\$8,910
Biggs Museum of American Art General Operating Support	Dover	\$44,960

Friday, July 22, 2011

Page 1 of 7

Attachment 1

Grant Recipient		Grant Award
Brandywine Baroque		
General Operating Support	Wilmington	\$12,380
Capital Ringers Inc		
General Operating Support	Camden Wyoming	\$1,180
Center for the Creative Arts		
General Operating Support	Yorklyn	\$38,800
Chapel Street Players		
General Operating Support	Newark	\$5,220
Chesapeake Silver Cornet Brass Band		
General Operating Support	Hockessin	\$1,800
Children's Theatre of Dover and Kent County		
General Operating Support	Dover	\$2,450
Christina Cultural Arts Center		
General Operating Support	Wilmington	\$59,950
City Theater Company		
General Operating Support	Wilmington	\$5,770
Clear Space Theatre Company		
General Operating Support	Rehoboth Beach	\$44,550
CoroAllegro		
General Operating Support	Montchanin	\$1,540
DE Art Museum		
General Operating Support	Wilmington	\$84,900
DE Center for the Contemporary Arts		
General Operating Support	Wilmington	\$54,610
DE Chamber Music Festival		
General Operating Support	Greenville	\$5,780
DE Charitable Music Inc		
General Operating Support	Dover	\$2,490
DE Children's Theatre		
General Operating Support	Wilmington	\$13,730
DE Choral Society		
General Operating Support	Lewes	\$4,860

Friday, July 22, 2011

Page 2 of 7

Attachment 1

Grant Recipient		Grant Award
DE Dance Company		
General Operating Support	Newark	\$32,560
DE Friends of Folk		
General Operating Support	Dover	\$1,820
DE Institute for the Arts in Education		
General Operating Support	Wilmington	\$16,650
DE Photographic Society		
General Operating Support	Newark	\$2,170
DE Shakespeare Festival		
General Operating Support	Wilmington	\$7,510
DE Symphony Orchestra		
General Operating Support	Wilmington	\$81,080
DE Theatre Company		
General Operating Support	Wilmington	\$75,090
DE Valley Chorale		
General Operating Support	Greenville	\$6,220
Diamond State Chorus of Sweet Adelines International		
General Operating Support	Bear	\$1,380
Distant Voices Touring Theatre		
General Operating Support	Wilmington	\$1,570
Dover Art League		
General Operating Support	Dover	\$7,820
Dover Symphony Orchestra		
General Operating Support	Dover	\$5,290
ecarte dance theatre		
General Operating Support	Dover	\$1,380
El Centro Cultural		
General Operating Support	Georgetown	\$2,670
First State Ballet Theatre		
General Operating Support	Wilmington	\$26,930
First State Symphonic Band		
General Operating Support	Middletown	\$440

Friday, July 22, 2011

Page 3 of 7

Attachment 1

Grant Recipient		Grant Award
Grand Opera House		
General Operating Support	Wilmington	\$85,810
Hanlin Chinese Culture Association		
General Operating Support	Newark	\$1,120
Inner City Cultural League		
General Operating Support	Dover	\$5,390
Melomanie		
General Operating Support	Wilmington	\$3,670
Mid-Atlantic Ballet		
General Operating Support	Newark	\$17,220
Milford Community Band		
General Operating Support	Milford	\$2,090
Millsboro Art League		
General Operating Support	Millsboro	\$1,300
Misphillion Art League		
General Operating Support	Milford	\$5,320
The Music School of Delaware		
General Operating Support	Wilmington	\$81,810
Newark Arts Alliance		
General Operating Support	Newark	\$9,280
Newark Symphony Orchestra		
General Operating Support	Newark	\$7,600
Opera Delaware Inc		
General Operating Support	Wilmington	\$46,610
Possum Point Players		
General Operating Support	Georgetown	\$13,230
Rainbow Chorale of Delaware		
General Operating Support	Wilmington	\$5,950
Rehoboth Art League		
General Operating Support	Rehoboth Beach	\$48,530
Rehoboth Beach Film Society		
General Operating Support	Rehoboth Beach	\$27,940

Friday, July 22, 2011

Page 4 of 7

Attachment 1

Grant Recipient		Grant Award
Rehoboth Summer Children's Theatre		
General Operating Support	Rehoboth Beach	\$5,800
Schwartz Center for the Arts		
General Operating Support	Dover	\$41,090
Second Street Players		
General Operating Support	Milford	\$7,150
Smyrna-Clayton Heritage Association/Smyrna Opera House		
General Operating Support	Smyrna	\$21,970
Southern DE Choral Society		
General Operating Support	Rehoboth Beach	\$6,900
VSA Delaware		
General Operating Support	Dover	\$10,670
Wilmington Drama League		
General Operating Support	Wilmington	\$14,950
Wilmington Wintergrass		
General Operating Support	Cheswold	\$2,330
Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library		
General Operating Support	Winterthur	\$20,940
<u>Project Support</u>		
Arden Club		
Arden Concert Gild - 2011-2012 Season	Arden	\$10,000
Boys & Girls Clubs of Delaware		
Pegasus ArtWorks	Claymont	\$19,000
Cityfest, Inc.		
Art on the Town	Wilmington	\$5,000
Wilmington Children's Chorus	Wilmington	\$13,000
Fringe Wilmington Festival	Wilmington	\$5,500
Corbit-Calloway Memorial Library		
Children's Programs	Odessa	\$2,250
DE College of Art and Design		
Drawing Marathon	Wilmington	\$1,250
DE Museum of Natural History		
Natural Attraction - Nature-Inspired Art	Wilmington	\$3,500

Friday, July 22, 2011

Page 5 of 7

Attachment 1

Grant Recipient		Grant Award
DE Pacem in Terris		
Avodah Forgiveness Project	Wilmington	\$3,000
Dover Public Library		
In Harmony...A Concert Series	Dover	\$1,500
Joshua M Freeman Foundation		
The Freeman Stage 2012 Summer Series	Selbyville	\$10,000
Lewes Public Library		
Lewes Creative Artists Conference	Lewes	\$750
Arts for All	Lewes	\$2,200
City of Lewes		
Lewes Summer Music 2012	Lewes	\$2,500
City of Newark		
Newark Community Events	Newark	\$3,000
READ-ALOUD Delaware		
Read Aloud Delaware Arts Outreach	Wilmington	\$5,500
City of Seaford		
Nanticoke Riverfest	Seaford	\$2,000
University of Delaware		
Resident Ensemble Players 2011-2012 Season	Newark	\$17,000
iMusic V - A Crossover Play	Newark	\$17,000
Children's Choir Community Outreach	Newark	\$1,000
Wesley College		
Arts & Culture at Wesley	Dover	\$3,500
Wilmington Library		
Culture for Kids	Wilmington	\$3,500
YMCA of Delaware		
Drama/Dance Program	Wilmington	\$2,000
<u>StartUp Program Support</u>		
Bootless Artworks Inc		
StartUp Program Support	Wilmington	\$2,500
Market Street Music Corporation		
StartUp Program Support	Wilmington	\$2,500

Friday, July 22, 2011

Page 6 of 7

Attachment 1

Grant Recipient		Grant Award
Pieces of A Dream		
StartUp Program Support	Wilmington	\$1,970
Rehoboth Beach Writers Guild		
StartUp Program Support	Rehoboth Beach	\$2,500
Wilmington Ballet Academy of the Dance Inc		
StartUp Program Support	Wilmington	\$2,500
Total grants: 99		\$1,491,050