

Jan. 7, 2015

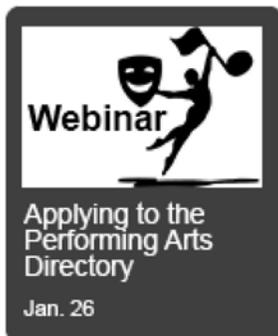


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David Zurick
January Featured Artist



[Learn how to apply to the Performing Arts Directory. Registration limited!](#)



[Get tips on applying for an Al Smith Fellowship or Emerging Artist Award. Registration limited!](#)



Dear Stakeholders in the Arts,

It's the Year of the Arts in Kentucky, and what a year it's going to be! This year we celebrate the 50th anniversaries of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the Kentucky Arts Council. After the NEA was created in 1965, Kentucky Gov. Edward T. Breathitt signed an executive order establishing the Kentucky Arts Commission, one of the few state arts agencies in existence at the time, putting the Commonwealth forth as a pioneer in government support of the arts.

Governor Steve Beshear has signed an **acclamation** officially making 2015 the Year of the Arts in the Commonwealth. There will be plenty to celebrate during the next 12 months.

We honor a half-century of growing the arts in Kentucky through grant programs designed to foster artistic talent among Kentucky's residents, branding programs to identify and promote Kentucky's creative excellence, and building awareness of the arts across all disciplines and all regions of Kentucky.

This auspicious celebration comes on the heels of a milestone achievement for us. In early December, the arts council released its first ever **Creative Industry Report** and hosted a Creative Industry Summit in Louisville. We will discuss some of the things we learned from that report and how it will form our future plans in later editions of Arts E-News. I just want to say what a tremendous opportunity it was to engage with stakeholders in the arts in an effort to continue to see the arts and artists flourish in Kentucky. We look forward to the next summit in November.

We also look forward to taking part in an NEA program that is providing \$100 million in funding for arts activities at National Parks in honor of the centennial of the National Park System. This gives us the opportunity to promote Kentucky arts and artists at these popular tourist venues, which include Mammoth Cave, Cumberland Gap, Trail of Tears, Fort Donelson, Big South Fork and Abraham Lincoln's birthplace.

Finally, we will welcome a new poet laureate this year on April 24, Kentucky Writers' Day. In addition to the poet laureate induction, Kentucky Writers' Day will provide an opportunity to bid farewell to current poet laureate **Frank X Walker**, who has filled that role with distinction. Look for that announcement in the coming months.

Sincerely,

Lori Meadows

Executive Director

RECENT NEWS



Apply for the Kentucky Arts Partnership Grant for Kentucky nonprofits that provide year-round public arts programming. Deadline: Jan. 15.



2015-2021 KAC Strategic Plan, A Vision for the Future of the Arts in Kentucky.



ARTS E-NEWS FOR STAKEHOLDERS IN THE ARTS

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CREATIVE COMMONWEALTH BLOG

Recently posted:
"A fresh sTART to 2015"

"Give a Gift Ky. staff picks"

"Have a holly jolly Kentucky Christmas"

Buyer registration now open for Kentucky Crafted: The Market 2015

Buyers and representatives of retail businesses interested in offering fine art and Kentucky-made products to their customers can register now to attend Kentucky Crafted: The Market 2015 at the Lexington Convention Center.

Kentucky Arts Council presents Creative Industry Summit in conjunction with report launch

According to the report, the creative industry – which includes all individuals and companies whose products and services originate in artistic, cultural, creative, authentic and/or aesthetic content – accounts for 2.5 percent of overall Kentucky employment or 108,498 jobs.

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Jan. 26
Webinar for Performing Arts Directory applicants**

**Jan. 27
Webinar for Emerging Artist Fellowship**

APPLICATION DEADLINES

**Jan. 15
Kentucky Arts Partnership Grant**

**Feb. 15
Al Smith Individual Artist Fellowship**

**Feb. 15
Arts Access Assistance Grant**

**Feb. 15
Emerging Artist Award**

**Feb. 15
Folk and Traditional Arts Apprenticeship**

**Feb. 15
Performing Arts Directory**

HOLIDAYS (*state offices closed*)

Jan. 20 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day

ARTS ACROSS THE TOURISM, ARTS AND HERITAGE CABINET

Winter Photo Weekend Jan. 23-25 at Pine Mountain State Resort Park

Pine Mountain State Resort Park will once again provide cold-weather adventure with Winter Photo Weekend set for Jan. 23-25, 2015.

Public input sought for state's long-term historic preservation plan; online survey open

Public input is being requested for a new five-year strategic plan outlining goals and objectives for helping preserve historic buildings and other sites in the Commonwealth through 2020.



We invite you to
join us in building
a better South
through the arts.



**National Endowment
for the Arts (NEA)
Resources**

ART WORKS BLOG

Recently posted:

"Spotlight on NEA Literature
Fellow Sandra Beasley"

"Notable Quotable: Lisa Hoffman
on the power of multidisciplinary
collaboration"

"Holiday Wishes with Ford's
Theatre"

Arts E-News is a publication of the Kentucky Arts Council, the state arts agency, which fosters environments for Kentuckians to value, participate in and benefit from the arts. Kentucky Arts Council funding is provided by the Kentucky General Assembly and the National Endowment for the Arts.



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