



Artwork by Jason Sturgill

KENTUCKY
Arts
COUNCIL

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ANNUAL
report



Dear Kentucky Residents,

The 2017 fiscal year was a transitional one for the Kentucky Arts Council, and saw us take the spotlight in a variety of positive ways. We kicked off the year front and center at the Southern Legislative Conference in Lexington, sharing space with our partners at the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea for the Kentucky Market, a showcase of the best of Kentucky art and craft. We also were awarded a \$51,000 grant from the United States Department of Agriculture to conduct a pilot program in two Kentucky counties studying the impact of adding artists to the farmers markets in those counties. There will be more about each of those items later in this report, but we are proud of the efforts of our staff to make each of those projects, and countless others throughout the rest of the fiscal year, happen without missing a beat.

Sincerely,

Chris Cathers
Chris Cathers

Interim Executive Director



Arts Council Staff

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Interim Executive Director

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Winchester

Andee Rudloff
Bowling Green

Janice Turpen
Somerset





A blueprint for farmer-artist collaborations at farmers markets

After receiving a \$51,000 grant from the United States Department of Agriculture to develop a program to integrate the arts into farmers markets, the arts council began working with arts and agriculture leaders in the two counties selected for the pilot program – Ohio and Owsley. These counties were chosen for not only their geographic diversity (Ohio is in the western part of Kentucky and Owsley is in the east), but for other situational differences. Some Ohio County artists already were involved with the Ohio County farmers market, and market organizers and artists wanted to grow that. Owsley County's farmers market had no involvement with local artists, but that market's leaders desired diversification of local products to help promote the farmers market.

Arts council staff members worked with agriculture producers, artists, local elected officials and other interested parties to do creative asset inventories in both communities, conduct trainings with artists to demonstrate best practices in booth design and presentation of their work, and discussed with farmers the untapped resources they had in local artists, who could help with such tasks as creating attractive signs to draw the eye toward the farm products they are selling, or making labels for products.



Arts Council puts best foot forward for Southern Legislative Conference

The Kentucky Market was presented by the Kentucky Arts Council and the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea in conjunction with the Southern Legislative Conference, which met July 2016 in Lexington.

Along with The Kentucky Market, the arts council presented "Made to Be Played: Traditional Art of Kentucky Luthiers," an exhibit that chronicles Kentucky's rich tradition of instrument making. The exhibit was dedicated to the memory of master luthier, craftsman, instrument inventor and musician, Homer Ledford, and it explored the important role of luthiers in Kentucky music communities.



Artists from the Kentucky Crafted program who exhibited at The Kentucky Market, listed by name, city and discipline, included:

- Richard Adams, London, wood
- Roger Ballard, Versailles, photography
- Pat Banks, Richmond, painting
- Tom Blanck, Nicholasville, wood
- Bluegrass Oakwood, Somerset, wood
- Leslie Bowers, Louisville, bath products
- Bob Brigl, Bowling Green, ceramics
- Patricia Brock, Louisville, photography
- Marianne Brown, Lawrenceburg, ceramics
- Catherine Bryant, Louisville, painting
- Traci Cassilly, Louisville, fibers
- Robbie Deane Cherry, Louisville, jewelry
- Julie Warren Conn, Lexington, sculpture
- Lynn Dunbar, Louisville, painting
- Anne Elliott, Stamping Ground, ceramics
- Mark Eubank, Eubank, stringed instruments
- Linda Fifield, McKee, mixed media
- Bruce Frank, Georgetown, photography
- Lindsay E. Frost, Louisville, wood
- Judy Geagley, Tollesboro, dolls
- Bob Gibson, Lawrenceburg, wood
- Debbie Graviss, Midway, painting
- Sarah Havens, Louisville, wearable fibers
- Shirley Jeter, Lexington, painting
- Eugene King, Stanton, wood
- Debra Klopp Kersey, Corbin, dolls
- Christine Kuhn, Lexington, painting
- Judy Kushner, Georgetown, wearable fibers
- Jeffrey Lambert, Sandy Hook, stringed instruments
- Walter Lay, Louisville, stringed instruments
- Tracy Leasor, Louisville, fibers
- Karen Martin, Henderson, baskets
- Warren May, Berea, stringed instruments
- Jennifer McLamb, Lexington, jewelry
- Alyssa Middleton, Hillview, bath products
- Peggy Modjeski, Louisville, fibers
- James "Joey" O'Brian, Louisa, wood
- Anthony Parrish, Winchester, wood
- Brenda Plaster, Lawrenceburg, fibers
- Mary Rezny, Lexington, photography
- Cathy Ridge, Prospect, wearable fibers
- Lacey Roberts, Frankfort, fibers
- Walter Roycraft, Nicholasville, photography
- Rachel Savane, Lexington, jewelry
- Carol Shutt, Hillsboro, photography
- Sarah Spradlin, Paris, painting
- Nora Swanson, Berea, jewelry
- Dave Tucker, Louisville, furniture
- Tonya Vance, Lexington, fibers
- Susan Vanstone, Richmond, jewelry
- Martha Wetter, Versailles, jewelry
- Laverne Zabielski, Monticello, wearable fibers



Kentucky Creative Industry Summit

More than 200 artists, arts organization representatives and community development advocates participated in the third annual Kentucky Creative Industry Summit Nov. 30, 2016, at the Lexington Convention Center.

In addition to three educational tracks – visual arts, performing arts and community arts – the summit featured an interactive workshop from the AIR Institute at Berea College that put a spotlight on the value of collaborative relationships between artists, local elected officials and community business leaders.

That session also introduced summit attendees, including several arts leaders in Kentucky, to the AIR Institute, which relocated from Boulder, Colo. to Berea in July 2016. The nonprofit community development organization merges the creativity of the arts with the innovation of business to raise the value of arts and creativity in cities and towns, and is poised to become a key resource for Kentucky's arts and business communities.

Attendees also learned about Kentucky's burgeoning video game development industry from George Landon, EKV Gaming Institute director. The presentation highlighted the various artistic disciplines needed to support the industry, like digital art, music composition and creative writing.

Poet Laureate – Frederick Smock

Joined by fellow writers, friends, students, teachers and state dignitaries, Frederick Smock was inducted as the Kentucky Poet Laureate for 2017-18, May 1 at the Old State Capitol in Frankfort.

Kentucky's poet laureate is selected biennially and is inducted on or near Kentucky Writers' Day, celebrated annually on April 24.

"Poetry speaks to the best that is in us, and it calls our imaginations to action. Poetry teaches empathy," Smock said in his acceptance of the poet laureate appointment. "The actor Robert De Niro once said, of acting, 'It lets us inhabit other people's lives, but without suffering the consequences.'

*"I think the same is true of the written arts. **They let us know what it feels like to be other people,** and, as a result, we empathize and care for others more."*



Governor's Awards in the Arts

The Commonwealth's most prestigious arts awards honor Kentucky individuals, businesses and organizations that make significant contributions to the arts in the state. Governor's Awards in the Arts recipients exemplify diverse accomplishments in all areas of the arts as well as the irreplaceable value of those contributions to the state's communities, educational environment and economy. The combined achievements and contributions of 2016's esteemed group of recipients demonstrate the many ways that citizens of Kentucky uphold the tradition of creating a rich cultural legacy.

The 2016 Governor's Awards in the Arts recipients were:

Milner Award – Chester and Ann Grundy, *Lexington*

Artist Award – Guy Gerard Kemper, *Versailles*

Business Award – Owensboro Health, *Owensboro*

Education Award – Miles Osland, *Lexington*

Folk Heritage Award – Hindman Dulcimer Project, *Hindman*

Government Award – Kentucky Commission on the Deaf
and Hard of Hearing, *Frankfort*

Media Award – Paducah Life Magazine, *Paducah*

National Award – Wendy Whelan, *Louisville native*



Kentucky Crafted: The Market

The 35th edition of Kentucky Crafted: The Market featured 171 exhibitors, including Kentucky Crafted artists, Kentucky Proud food vendors and various invited artists from out-of-state juried programs. Attendance at the 2017 Market was 5,121, with total sales of \$292,692.

Unique to the 2017 Market was the presentation of the annual Homer Ledford Award by Western Kentucky University's Kentucky Folklife Program during Saturday's performance schedule on the Kentucky Stage. The Kentucky Stage featured two days of music from selected acts within the Kentucky Arts Council's Performing Artists Directory. Organizers from the arts council and the folklife program agreed The Market was an ideal venue to present the award to 2017 honoree, master luthier Doug Naselroad.

Arts council staff honored three exhibitors with awards for superlative presentation at the show. Laura Poulette, owner of Meadow House Studio in Berea and a first-time exhibitor, took Best of Show honors. Best of Show is based on a combination of artistic excellence of product and booth design. Best Booth Design went to Louisville's Hound Dog Press, owned by Nick Baute and Robert Ronk. Hound Dog was honored for having the highest quality presentation and merchandise display. Caroline Zama, owner of Star Bird Pottery in Louisville, earned the Excellence in Accessibility Award, which highlights an exhibitor with the best design, promotional materials and ease of access for people with disabilities.

Two artists also received purchase awards at The Market. Maysville artist Fred Wiesener, owner of Wiesener Studios, received a purchase award from Cadiz-based Fourshee Building Supply; and the collaborative efforts of Lexington artists Steve Heartsill, owner of Steve Heartshill Ceramic & Metal Designs, and Melisa Zimmerman, owner of Melisa Beth Ceramics, earned the Executive Director's Purchase Award.



Cultural Accessibility Summit

In March, the Kentucky Arts Council, VSA Kentucky and Southern Kentucky Performing Arts Center (SKyPAC), presented the second annual Cultural Accessibility Summit at SKyPAC in Bowling Green. The event celebrated arts access and helped participants form strategies to make Kentucky communities even more accessible to arts patrons of all abilities. Discussion topics included practical tips for arts inclusion as well as strategies for local, regional and national advocacy for arts access.

Presenters included:

- **Lawrence Carter-Long**, Communications Director for the Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund, Berkeley, Calif.
- **Blake Noland**, Information Coordinator for the Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- **Stacy Ridgway**, Manager of Access Services at the Kentucky Center for the Performing Arts
- **Delaire Rowe**, Executive Director, VSA Kentucky

The summit featured accessibility services, including audio description, captioning, assisted listening, American Sign Language interpretation and other access requests, which were provided by the Kentucky Center for the Performing Arts and SKyPAC.



Featured Artist Program

The Featured Artist Program offers participants in the Kentucky Arts Council's juried programs an opportunity to showcase an image of their work on the home page of the arts council's website and a feature page showcasing the artist for two months. Selected featured artists will have a statewide press announcement and a short video produced to highlight their work. Featured artists were selected by a panel of Kentucky Arts Council staff members from the following arts council programs:

- Kentucky Crafted Program
- Teaching Artists Directory
- Architectural Artists Directory
- Folk and Traditional Arts Apprenticeship Program
- Performing Artists Directory
- Al Smith Fellowship recipients

2016

- July/August – **Sue Masek**, *Willisburg*, music
- September/October – **Wyatt Daglā Severs**, *Murray*, woodwork
- November/December – **William Kolok**, *Owensboro*, sculpture

2017

- January/February – **Jesse Wells**, *Morehead*, music
- March/April – **Constance Alexander**, *Murray*, writing
- May/June – **Hong Shao**, *Nicholasville*, music

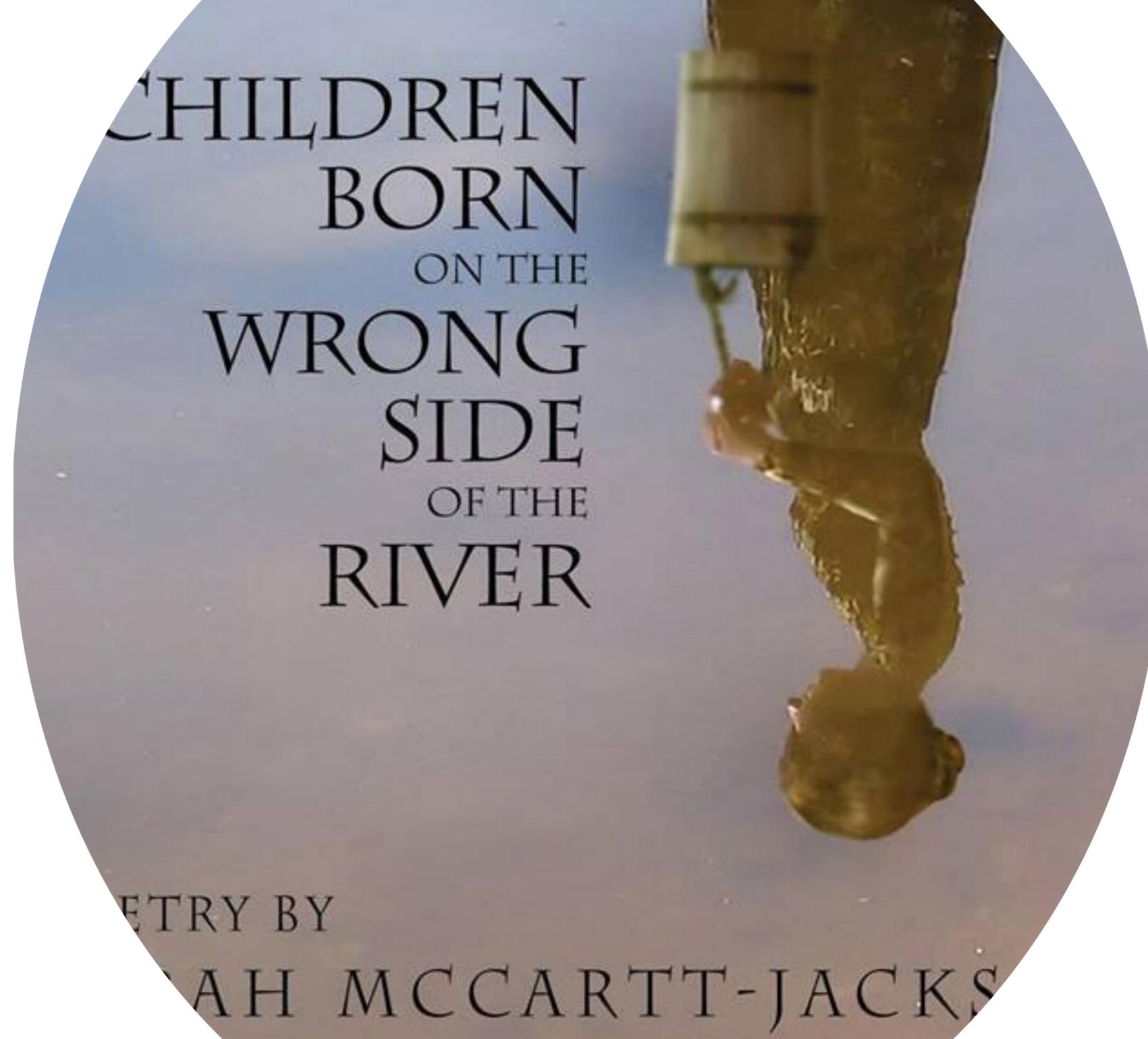
Al Smith Individual Artist Fellowship recipients

The Al Smith Individual Artist Fellowship program supports Kentucky artists engaged in creating work of high quality and recognizes creative excellence of active, professional Kentucky artists. Fellowships are considered a benchmark of excellence in the careers of Kentucky artists.

The fellowships are unrestricted \$7,500 awards. They are available to professional Kentucky artists (writers, composers, choreographers, and visual and media artists) who are responsible for creating their own work, not interpreting the work of others.

Recipients for the 2017 fiscal year were:

- **Tracey Bonner**, choreography, *Campbell*
- **Aimee Zaring**, creative nonfiction, *Jefferson*
- **Sharon Mauldin-Reynolds**, fiction, *Fayette*
- **Rebecca Gayle Howell**, poetry, *Fayette*
- **Maurice Manning**, poetry, *Washington*
- **Sarah McCartt**, poetry, *Jefferson*



Emerging Artist Awards

The Emerging Artist Award recognizes practicing, professional artists who are in the early stages of their arts careers, defined as the first 10 years, who have demonstrated a high level of excellence and creativity in the creation of original work.

The Kentucky Arts Council's Emerging Artist Award is a \$1,000 unrestricted award. The awards are open to emerging artists who are responsible for creating their own work, not interpreting the work of others or creating work under the supervision of an instructor.

Recipients for the 2017 fiscal year were:

- **Dominic Russ-Combs**, fiction, *Jefferson*
- **Joey Connelly**, poetry, *Daviess*
- **Ann DeVilbiss**, poetry, *Jefferson*
- **Dave Harrity**, poetry, *Jefferson*
- **Mary Elizabeth Pope**, poetry, *Jefferson*
- **Britton Shurley**, poetry, *McCracken*

Al Smith Fellowships and Emerging Artist Awards were given in choreography and literary arts (fiction, creative nonfiction and poetry) in the 2017 fiscal year.

Kentucky Arts Partnerships

The Kentucky Arts Council awarded more than \$1.2 million in operating support to 91 arts organizations across the Commonwealth for the 2017 fiscal year through its Kentucky Arts Partnership (KAP) program.

The KAP program provides nonprofit arts organizations with unrestricted operating support to ensure year-round participation in the arts is available to the people of Kentucky.

The competitive grant process funds applicants based on operating revenues, a panel review of applications, and funds available for the program. KAP organizations vary in size and are located in rural and urban communities. Kentucky Arts Partnership organizations are required to have at least a dollar-for-dollar match for grants received from the arts council.

Calculations show that KAP organizations collectively employed 694 full-time workers, 770 part-time workers and 2,457 independent contractors in the 2017 fiscal year. The organizations together provided more than 6.4 million arts experiences at events that occurred during that fiscal year, and leveraged arts council funds to help generate more than \$68 million in revenue.



NEA Funding

The Kentucky Arts Council's operating budget is provided by the Kentucky General Assembly and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). Each year, the arts council is awarded money from the NEA through the federal agency's state partnership agreement. Partnership funding is awarded to state-level arts agencies nationwide, and the Kentucky Arts Council is the only agency in the state designated to receive state partnership funding from the NEA.

For fiscal year 2017, the arts council received \$731,900 from the NEA. In addition to the funding made available to state arts agencies, the NEA makes available millions of dollars in competitive grant funds for communities, organizations, individuals and projects through numerous programs. In the 2017 fiscal year, many Kentucky communities were awarded funding through these various programs.

Market House Theater in Paducah received a \$75,000 Our Town grant to support its Next Stage campaign. That grant was one of 89 Our Town grants awarded nationally, totaling \$6.89 million. Our Town grants support creative placemaking projects that help transform communities into lively and sustainable places with the arts at their core.

The NEA also awarded 20 grants in Kentucky through other funding opportunities – Challenge America Fast-Track and Art Works. Art Works supports the creation of art that meets the highest standards of excellence, public engagement with diverse and excellent art, lifelong learning in the arts and the strengthening of communities through the arts. Challenge America grants support projects that extend the reach of the arts to underserved populations.





For the 2017 fiscal year, Kentucky's grant recipients were:

- Pioneer Playhouse, Danville, \$15,000 Art Works
- Carnegie Center for Literacy and Learning, Lexington, \$10,000 Art Works
- LexArts, Lexington, \$10,000 Art Works
- Lexington Children's Theatre, \$10,000 Art Works
- Louisville Visual Art, \$10,000 Art Works
- Portland Museum, Louisville, \$20,000 Art Works
- University of Louisville Research Foundation, \$10,000 Art Works
- Appalshop, Whitesburg, \$25,000 Art Works
- Appalshop (on behalf of Roadside Theater), Whitesburg, \$20,000 Art Works
- Appalshop (on behalf of WMMT-FM), Whitesburg, \$10,000 Art Works
- Berea College, \$30,000 Art Works
- Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, \$40,000 Art Works
- Center for Great Neighborhoods, Covington, \$20,000 Art Works
- Josephine Sculpture Park, Frankfort, \$10,000 Challenge America
- Lexington Philharmonic, \$10,000 Art Works
- Actors Theatre of Louisville, \$50,000 Art Works
- The Clifton Center, Louisville, \$30,000 Art Works
- Kentucky Center for the Performing Arts, Louisville, \$20,000 Art Works
- Louisville Orchestra, \$15,000 Art Works
- Sarabande Books, Louisville, \$45,000 Art Works

Master Class

The arts council presented Master Class, a daylong training session for presenting organizations — businesses, agencies, municipalities, libraries, event planners, arts educators, Main Street managers, Trail Towns, wineries and distilleries, the hospitality industry and others who stage live performances or want to incorporate live performances into their programming.

Work sessions included two social media learning tracks (introductory and advanced) and a workshop on integrated marketing campaigns.

The training also incorporated live performances from a sampling of artists from the arts council's Performing Artists Directory. Those acts included:

- The Misty Mountain String Band
- Phourist & the Photons
- Octavia Sexton
- na Skylark
- Lakshmi Sriraman
- Small Time Napoleon



Arts Education

The Kentucky Arts Council administers grant programs to address the arts education needs of Kentucky's students – Teaching Art Together, TranspARTation and Specialists With Arts Tactics (SWAT).

In fiscal year 2017, the arts council introduced two new grant programs, Showcasing the Arts and Arts First Aid.

Showcasing the Arts allows Kentucky teachers and schools to offer students high quality arts in-school experiences or after-school co-curricular experiences, enhanced by artist lecture/demonstrations regarding the creative process. Programs demonstrate creating, performing/producing/presenting, responding and connecting, as specified in the Kentucky Academic Standards for the Arts and English Language Arts. Grants will provide artists' fees. Schools are required to provide space, technical arrangements and artists' travel reimbursement.

For fiscal year 2017, 14 Kentucky schools received Showcasing the Arts grants totaling \$4,400 and served 1,886 students:

- Memorial Elementary School, Hart County, \$450, 140 students served
- Danville Independent Schools, Boyle County, \$150, 25 students served
- Versailles Montessori School, Woodford County, \$250, 42 students served
- Big Creek Elementary School-Oneida, Clay County, \$250, 200 students served
- Cumberland County Middle School, Cumberland County, \$250, 160 students served
- Clinton County Middle School, Clinton County, \$250, 200 students served
- Mapleton Elementary School, Montgomery County, \$250, 200 students served
- Bridgeport Elementary School, Franklin County, \$250, 146 students served
- Warren Regional Juvenile Detention Center, Warren County, \$250, 24 students served
- Sand Gap Elementary School, Jackson County, \$250, 200 students served
- Otter Creek Academy, Wayne County, \$250, 42 students served
- Tyner Elementary School, Jackson County, \$650, 165 students served
- John W. Reiley Elementary School, Campbell County, \$650, 200 students served
- Cumberland County High School, Cumberland County, \$250, 142 students served



Through a partnership between the Kentucky Arts Council and the Kentucky Department of Education, the Arts First Aid Grant program provides Kentucky school administrators, teachers and students with \$11,000 – funded 50/50 by the Kentucky Arts Council and the Kentucky Department of Education – to present a high quality intensive arts education experience that aligns curriculum with the Kentucky Academic Standards for the Arts. The program makes use of 1) technical-assistance consultancies utilizing the Specialists with Arts Tactics (SWAT) program, 2) Teaching Art Together artist residencies, and 3) Showcasing the Arts school performance/presentations.

In the inaugural year of Arts First Aid, the arts council awarded grants to Mary G. Hogsett Elementary School in Boyle County and Owsley County Elementary School in Owsley County.

The Teaching Art Together Grant lets teachers collaborate with practicing, professional artists on the design and implementation of innovative one- to four-week residencies. Residencies provide teachers with the tools to continue to incorporate the arts into the curriculum after the residency is completed.

For fiscal year 2017, 12 Kentucky schools received Teaching Art Together grants totaling \$21,600 and served 3,340 students:

- Barbourville City School, Knox County, \$2,400, 250 students served
- Clay County Middle School, Clay County, \$1,200, 240 students served
- Cox's Creek Elementary School, Nelson County, \$600, 162 students served
- Flat Lick Elementary School, Knox County, \$1,200, 100 students served
- Flat Lick Elementary School, Knox County, \$1,200, 100 students served
- Hartstern Elementary School, Jefferson County, \$600, 180 students served
- McKee Elementary School, Jackson County, \$1,200, 150 students served
- Memorial Elementary School, Hart County, \$1,800, 350 students served
- Owsley County Elementary School, Owsley County, \$1,800, 390 students served
- Owsley County Elementary School, Owsley County, \$1,200, 100 students served
- Owsley County High School, Owsley County, \$1,200, 200 students served
- Sand Gap Elementary School, Jackson County, \$600, 288 students served
- Sand Gap Elementary School, Jackson County, \$1,200, 275 students served
- Stanton Elementary School, Powell County, \$1,800, 75 students served
- Tyner Elementary School, Jackson County, \$1,200, 100 students served
- Tyner Elementary School, Jackson County, \$2,400, 380 students served



TranspARTation is a valuable grant program that offsets the roundtrip cost of transporting students to artistic performances and venues across Kentucky.

The arts council awarded \$14,244 in TranspARTation funding to 16 schools and served 2,561 students in fiscal year 2017:

- Central Hardin High School, Hardin County, \$564, 100 students served
- Clarkson Elementary School, Grayson County, \$864, 100 students served
- Clarkson Elementary School, Grayson County, \$584, 100 students served
- Clarkson Elementary School, Grayson County, \$876, 110 students served
- Clarkson Elementary School, Grayson County, \$584, 100 students served
- Collins Lane Elementary School, Franklin County, \$2,888, 535 students served
- Custer Elementary School, Breckinridge County, \$488, 43 students served
- Custer Elementary School, Breckinridge County, \$248, 40 students served
- Heath Elementary School, McCracken County, \$104, 50 students served
- Hillsboro Elementary School, Fleming County, \$252, 26 students served
- Jennie Rogers Elementary School, Boyle County, \$1,020, 85 students served
- Laukhuf Elementary School, Jefferson, \$192, 149 students served
- Leslie County High School, Leslie County, \$504, 35 students served
- Leslie County High School, Leslie County, \$796, 35 students served
- Mapleton Elementary School, Montgomery County, \$420, 170 students served
- Mayfield Middle School, Graves County, \$360, 140 students served
- Mayfield Elementary School, Graves County, \$480, 152 students served
- Nicholas County Elementary Schools, Nicholas County, \$280, 70 students served
- Paul G. Blazer High School, Boyd County, \$756, 12 students served
- Southern Elementary School, Scott County, \$864, 105 students served
- Toliver Elementary School, Boyle County, \$672, 52 students served

Specialists With Arts Tactics (SWAT) is a program designed to assist schools with building an arts curriculum that meets state and national arts standards. Funding awarded to schools pays for consultancies from teaching artists, who work on-site with teachers and school leaders on how best to implement standards and teach the arts.

In fiscal year 2017, the arts council awarded \$400 to teaching artist Jane Dewey for a consultation with Wester Middle School for the Arts in Jefferson County.

Poetry Out Loud

Grant County High School senior Haley Bryan earned her second state champion title March 7 at the Kentucky Poetry Out Loud State Finals in Frankfort.

Twenty Kentucky high school students represented their respective schools at the poetry recitation contest. Five students were selected to advance to the third and final round, where they recited another prepared poem.

Bryan's path to the championship included recitations of "Please Don't" by Tony Hoagland and "Self-Portrait" by Chase Twitchell in the first and second rounds, respectively. She clinched the state title with her interpretation of "Hap" by Thomas Hardy. Bryan represented Kentucky at the Poetry Out Loud National Finals, April 25-26, at George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

Kentucky's Poetry Out Loud competition is sponsored by the Kentucky Arts Council, the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation.



Folk and Traditional Arts Apprenticeships

The Kentucky Arts Council awarded \$9,000 in grants in fiscal year 2017 to three master traditional and folk artists who spent a year teaching skills and practices vital to the state's cultural heritage to apprentice artists working in the same art form.

The arts council's Folk and Traditional Arts Apprenticeship Grants facilitate and support the recognition and continuation of Kentucky cultural traditions. Funding allows apprentice artists to study face-to-face with masters in their field to advance toward mastery within a specific folk art community.

Folk and Traditional Arts Apprenticeship grants awarded in 2017 were:

- **John Harrod** (*Owen County*), who taught central Kentucky fiddle traditions to **Daniel Atkins** (*Franklin County*);
- **Timothy Walden** (*Monroe County*), who taught south central Kentucky marble making to **Ben Levi Walden** (*Monroe County*); and
- **John Haywood** (*Letcher County*), who taught eastern Kentucky banjo traditions to **Montana Hobbs** (*Lee County*).



Arts Access Assistance Grants

“Serving artists with disabilities” was the theme for the fiscal year 2017 Arts Access Assistance (AAA) Grant. AAA Grants support arts programs that serve populations whose opportunities to experience the arts may be limited by age, geographic location, ethnicity, economic status, disability or other factors. The grants offer funding to increase the resources of organizations that may currently serve the targeted population in other capacities.

Recipients were:

- **Knowledge Center on Deafness, Franklin, \$8,000.** KCD produced its biennial DeaFestival, the 12th production of the event, in September 2016 in Louisville, with a component for featuring deaf and hard of hearing visual artists. The daylong program included shows by deaf and hard of hearing performing artists, with full communications access for both deaf and hearing audience members.
- **Murray-Calloway County Endowment for Health Care, Calloway, \$8,000.** The yearlong project, titled “Hope & Glory: The Art of Inclusion,” incorporated a series of activities, events and exhibitions that integrate hands-on art activities with informational forums and public gatherings. The project goal was to establish a foundation of acceptance and inclusion and demonstrate how adults with disabilities – and the arts – contribute to the quality of community life.

- **Fleming County Public Library, Fleming, \$2,410.** Fleming County Public Library hosted a three-day art camp for local students and adults with disabilities. Participants finished camp with at least three pieces of tangible art they have created, art from which they can draw personal inspiration. The camp concluded with an open exhibit of the participants' work.

- **Special Persons Advocacy Network, Boyle, \$2,326.** The Special Persons Advocacy Network's Celebrate the Spectrum project provided opportunities for more than 220 children and adults with disabilities to create and exhibit artwork. Artists from a local art center facilitated workshops for the participants.

- **Dreams with Wings, Jefferson, \$4,000.** Dreams with Wings exposed its adult day program participants, individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and autism, to art. The project focused on exploring participants' artistic abilities and creating projects that are stimulating and therapeutic. Participants also attended performances at the Kentucky Center for the Performing Arts, Music at Waterfront Park and visited other arts venues in the Louisville community.

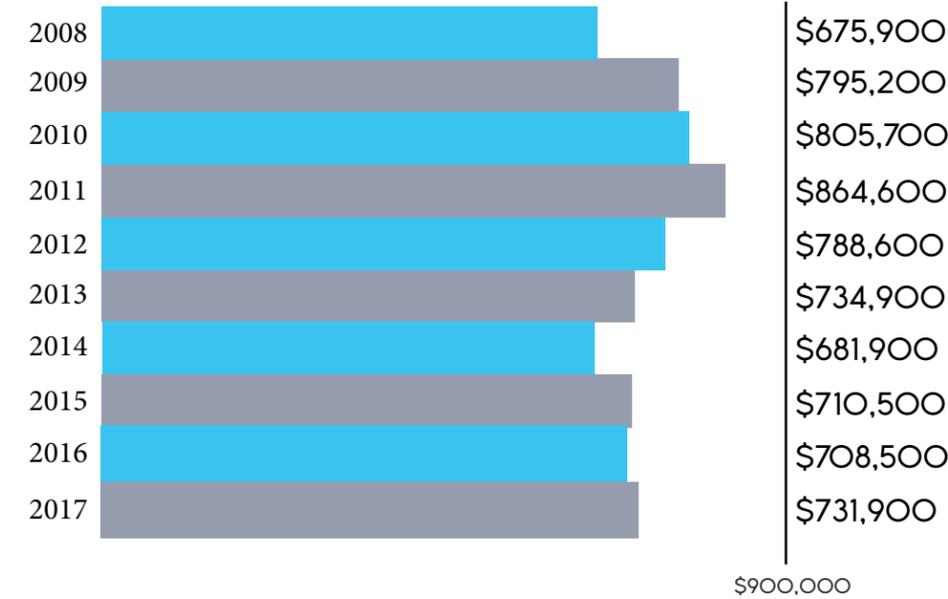
- **Jewish Community of Louisville, \$7,245.** Jewish Community of Louisville's CenterStage Academy presented an eight-week theater education program for 20 teens ages 12-18 who are diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder. The goal was to use theater to inspire imagination and enhance social, emotional and communication development among participants. The project also included a family participation component in which parents and siblings participated alongside their family member.

Awards Per Program

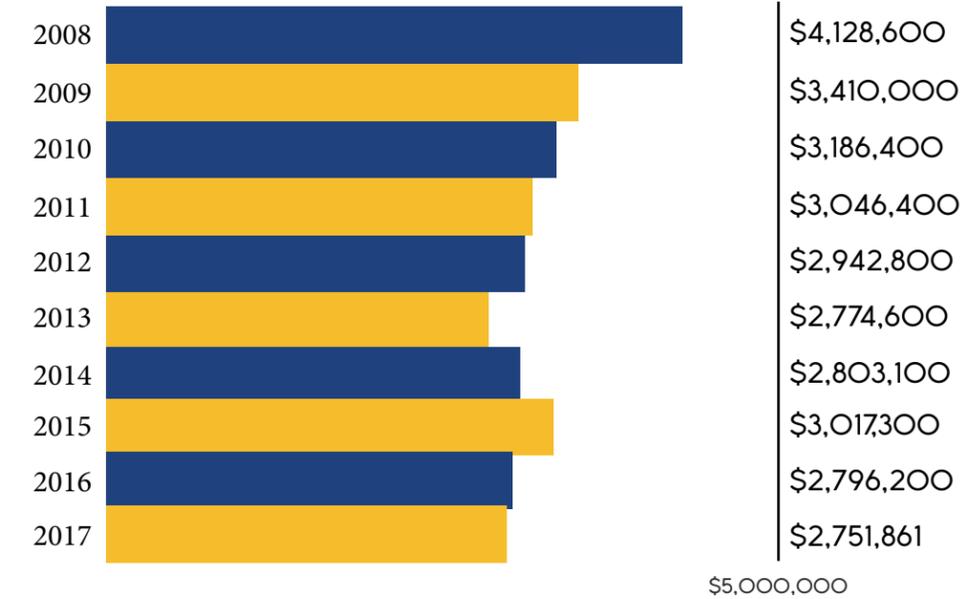
PROGRAM	AMOUNT	AWARDS	COUNTIES
Al Smith Individual Artist Fellowship/ Emerging Artist Award	\$51,000	12	7
Arts Access Assistance	\$39,981	7	5
Arts First Aid	\$11,000	2	2
Folk Arts Apprenticeship	\$9,000	3	3
Kentucky Arts Partnership	\$1,268,764	93	34
Kentucky Peer Advisory Network	\$8,400	21	7
Poetry Out Loud	\$6,700	23	21
Showcasing the Arts	\$4,150	13	11
Specialists with Arts Tactics	\$400	1	1
Teaching Art Together	\$21,600	16	8
TranspARTation	\$14,244	22	14
TOTAL	\$1,435,239	213	

Funding History

National Endowment for the Arts Funding History



Kentucky General Assembly Funding History



Artwork by Chad Balster

Kentucky Arts Council

1025 Capital Center Drive

Third Floor

Frankfort, KY 40601

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