

CULTURAL CONNECTION

The newsletter of the Florida Department of State Division of Cultural Affairs

August 2017

THIRD THURSDAY WEBINARS

We've now completed a full year of our successful Third Thursday Lunchtime Webinar series, and are looking to you for suggestions to program the next year's sessions.

These webinars typically take place on the third Thursday of each month at noon, and have covered topics such as accessibility for arts organizations, hosting interns, and effective advocacy efforts.

Is there a topic we haven't discussed that is of particular interest to you or your organization? If so, please complete the form at <https://goo.gl/forms/3mZ9eoL6rIyaGcA23> to make your suggestion.

From the Director's Desk


Dear Friends,

During our strategic planning process, we discovered that our grantees and other constituents would like to see us face to face more often. I am excited to share with you the news that you will find DCA staff traveling all around the State of Florida over the next few months. We are working with local arts agencies to produce grant workshops and events to celebrate and publicize the results of *Arts and Economic Prosperity 5*, the economic impact study by Americans for the Arts. We hope to see you at one of them!

From Jacksonville on August 30, to Orlando's meeting of the Florida Council on Arts and Culture in October, to an event being planned for March in Pensacola (and many more!), you'll have multiple opportunities to visit with our staff and learn some great ways to use the results of the economic impact study, submit grant applications, manage grants and more.

I hope to see you in or near your hometown soon!

Kind regards,



Sandy Shaughnessy
Division Director

COME JOIN US FOR THE AEP5 TOUR!

DETAILS ON PAGE 4

- August 30, 2017 - Jacksonville
- October 4, 2017 - Orlando
- November 2, 2017 - Miami
- January 24, 2018 - Tallahassee
- March, 2018 (Date TBA) - Pensacola



GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT: WESTCOAST BLACK THEATRE TROUPE'S STAGE OF DISCOVERY SUMMER CAMP



DANCER DERRIC GOBOURNE SHOWS OFF HIS MOVES WHILE OTHER CAMPERS LOOK ON

showcasing the students' talents, on July 14 and 16.

The camp, which was completely free, took place at the Westcoast Black Theatre in Sarasota. "Hands-on Discovery," an optional post-camp theatre arts program offered further exploration in the visual arts, prop making, and costuming.

This program was underwritten by The Robert E. Dods Family Foundation and Designing Women Boutique, with additional funds raised at the recent WBTT April Fools' Fete fundraiser.



CAMPERS TIANNA HARRIS AND DAYSHA BROWN RECEIVE DANCE INSTRUCTION AT STAGE OF DISCOVERY SUMMER CAMP

together. "If it wasn't for the camp, you wouldn't get to meet so many people and you also get to discover yourself and talents that you didn't know you had," Beall said. "You discover that you can do it."

The mission of the Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe of Florida, Inc., is to produce professional theatre that promotes and celebrates the African-American experience, to attract diverse audiences, to support and develop African-American artists, and to build the self-esteem of African-American youth. For more information, visit the website at westcoastblacktheatre.org or call (941) 366-1505.

Photos by Greg Kaspar

Actors, dancers and singers ages 13-18 took the stage with Sarasota's Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe this summer after a successful pilot of the "Stage of Discovery" program last year. From June 12-July 16, WBTT presented the second installment of "Stage of Discovery," an intensive summer musical theater program. The 23 participating teens were under the direction of WBTT founder and artistic director Nate Jacobs and Stage of Discovery coordinator Joey James. In addition, WBTT staff and guest instructors such as choreographers, actors and vocal coaches led sessions with students taking lessons in dance, acting, singing and improvisation as well as gaining behind-the-scenes experience with set and costume design. The program culminated with two public performances of Folktale Follies, an original musical

"Many of these young people, while naturally talented, have never had any formal theater experience. We work them fairly hard - while having lots of fun - to bring their individual talents out and give them a basic understanding of the art of theatre," said Jacobs. "While WBTT is dedicated to producing the finest dramatic and musical theatre, my dream - my true calling and purpose for founding this organization - has always been to help young aspiring artists who may otherwise be overlooked to develop their talents and have the opportunity to achieve success."

When asked what she liked best about Stage of Discovery, 16-year-old Moenasia Beall said it was the people she got to know while they learned and performed



THE TEENS OF THE 2017 STAGE OF DISCOVERY SUMMER MUSICAL THEATRE CAMP

2018 DCA DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION AWARDS ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS

The Division of Cultural Affairs' third annual Diversity and Inclusion Awards will be presented the evening of January 24, 2018 in the 22nd Floor Gallery of the Florida State Capitol building in Tallahassee. This program recognizes innovative and exceptional efforts that promote diversity in arts and cultural programming. The diversity in nominated programs represents efforts to broaden the reach of individuals engaged in cultural programming in Florida. Inclusion addresses the programs and organizational strategies that welcome and embrace the strengths and perspectives each person involved contributes.

Efforts awarded may address diversity and inclusion in the following areas:

- Demographic Diversity
- Socioeconomic Diversity
- Cultural Heritage
- Sexual Orientation
- Age
- Accessibility



2017 Diversity and Inclusion Award Winners included Miami's PAXy

The Awards program is two-fold; recipients will receive a monetary award to reinvest in the initiative or program recognized and also receive recognition and visibility through the following Department efforts:

- press release of award recipients
- highlight of program (as model) in online publication posted on the Division's website and shared with grantees

Awards range from \$500 to \$1,000 and funds are to be used to reinvest in the initiative recognized for capacity building opportunities. Dr. Antonio Cuyler, who received a Diversity and Inclusion Award in 2017, says it enabled him to further his research:

"As a result of receiving the Diversity & Inclusion Award, I completed a much needed evaluation of my use of service-learning with culturally-specific arts organizations. Approximately 96 percent of students reported that overall service-learning with a culturally-specific arts organization helped them to understand social justice issues in the cultural sector, among other educational benefits. I also presented the results of this evaluation at the Association of Arts Administration Educators conference in Edinburgh, Scotland on June 1, 2017."

Nominations for the 2018 Diversity and Inclusion Awards are currently being accepted through September 30, 2017 at <http://bit.ly/2eNwSx9>.



Hope at Hand's Steffani Fletcher receives a 2017 Diversity and Inclusion Award from Secretary of State Ken Detzner

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TOTAL ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE NONPROFIT ARTS AND CULTURE INDUSTRY IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA

(Combined Spending by Nonprofit Arts and Cultural Organizations and Their Audiences)

Total Industry Expenditures	\$4,676,207,338
Full-Time Equivalent Jobs	132,366
Resident Household Income	\$3,348,159,000
Local Government Revenue	\$201,165,000
State Government Revenue	\$291,176,000

Have you read the *Arts & Economic Prosperity 5* report for the state of Florida yet? If not, perhaps the table at the left may pique your interest. Not-for-profit arts and culture contributes more than \$4.6 BILLION to our state's economy! Check out the full report at <http://bit.ly/2w24U6J>.

GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT: MARIE SELBY BOTANICAL GARDENS' MARC CHAGALL, FLOWERS, AND THE FRENCH RIVIERA: THE COLOR OF DREAMS



Marie Selby Gardens in Sarasota has enjoyed an overwhelming response this year to its latest exhibition featuring the artist Marc Chagall's nature-inspired artwork and personal effects. The immersive exhibition, *Marc Chagall, Flowers, and the French Riviera: The Color of Dreams*, introduced a new way of examining the artwork of the prolific artist. The exhibition opened February 12 and continued through July 31, 2017.



The six-month exhibition garnered record-breaking attendance numbers to this 15-acre bayfront botanical garden. The visitor experience included a glass house conservatory where reproductions of Chagall's nature-inspired stained glass were displayed among living plants. Visitors also strolled the grounds of the gardens which were enhanced with flora that evoked the south of France, the land that inspired Chagall and where he spent much of the later part of his life. Additionally, the exhibition included Chagall's masterwork painting *The Lovers* (1937), on loan from the Israel Museum, Jerusalem, and two additional paintings loaned from a private collector that have not been publicly exhibited before. Also on view were archival photos and personal effects from Chagall's studio.



Accompanying cultural performances, special events, classes and lectures supported the exhibition, along with a French-inspired menu served at the on-site cafe.

Photos © Matthew Holler. / Stained glass © 2017 Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York ADAGP, Paris

DCA TO HOST REGIONAL EVENTS HIGHLIGHTING AEP5 RESULTS

With a total impact of more than \$4.6 billion, arts and culture help to make Florida a great place to live, work, and play. We are proud to announce a series of events to celebrate and spread the word about the importance of not for profit arts and culture in every corner of the Sunshine State. The regional meetings will focus on sharing methods and strategies for organizations to best use the results of the study in their own work and advocacy efforts, as well as highlighting successful local programs and organizations.

The tour will begin in Jacksonville on August 30 and continue to other cities over the coming months:

- August 30, 2017 - Jacksonville
- October 4, 2017 - Orlando
- November 2, 2017 - Miami
- January 24, 2018 - Tallahassee
- March, 2018 (Date TBA) - Pensacola

In addition, grants workshops will be held in more rural areas of the state and will also provide information about the results of *Arts and Economic Prosperity 5*. The dates of these grant workshops will be announced soon.