

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
November 20, 2008

Contact: Kay Campbell
Education & Grant Services Director
(727) 453-7865

Pinellas County Cultural Affairs Department Announces Artist Grant Awards

The Pinellas County Cultural Affairs Department is pleased to announce that 20 Pinellas County artists have been selected to receive funds totaling \$19,745 from the *Professional Development Individual Artist Grant* program. A professional panel representing each artistic discipline, along with a representative from the Cultural Council, evaluated the applications and recommended funding that was approved by the Council on November 20, 2008. The grant awards are for amounts up to \$1,000 to provide financial assistance for projects to advance or enhance the professional development of Pinellas County artists.

Professional development grants have been awarded to the following artists:

Visual Arts Awards:

- Karen Baker** - \$1,000 to purchase digital camera for recording original artwork;
- Jack Breit** - \$1,000 to purchase laptop computer for enhanced field work;
- C. Wade Brickhouse** - \$1,000 to support book publication;
- Nancy Cervenka** - \$1,000 to purchase laptop computer for enhanced web presence;
- Chris Chomick** - \$1,000 to purchase computer drawing tablet to enhance web design;
- Michael Conway** - \$1,000 to purchase additional camera lenses;
- Dennis DeBon** - \$1,000 to participate in wholesale trade show;
- Eric Dodds** - \$1,000 to purchase canopy for outdoor shows;
- Lisa Glaser** - \$1,000 to replace 16 yr. old kiln;
- Susan Hess** - \$1,000 to attend 5-day intensive "Encaustic Effects with Acrylic" in North Carolina;

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Betsy Orbe Lester - \$1,000 to purchase laptop computer to format and send entry submissions to

museums

& galleries;

Diana Lucas Leavengood - \$1,000 to purchase scanner for film images;

Cecilia Lueza - \$1,000 to purchase metal cutting equipment;

Kas Turner – \$995 to purchase museum quality canvas and supplies;

Randy Van Duinen - \$1,000 to purchase camera which takes large images;

Nicki Wood - \$750 to purchase materials and supplies for new sculptures;

Jan Wunsch - \$1,000 to purchase instructional materials, supplies, kiln and accessories to add color to current silver works.

Literary Arts Awards

Julia Flood - \$1,000 to attend playwriting symposium;

Performing Arts & Mixed Media Awards:

Julie Rowe - \$1,000 for website construction;

Erica C. Sutherlin - \$1,000 to purchase rhythm box, mikes and stands.

The Pinellas County Cultural Affairs Department is supported by the Pinellas Board of County Commissioners, the School Board of Pinellas County, the Pinellas Cultural Foundation, Florida Department of State/Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Arts Council, and the National Endowment for the Arts. The Professional Development Grants for Individual Artists program is funded through arts license plate revenues.

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