



E-NEWS NOW

JANUARY 2009

13805 58TH STREET N., #2450 ■ CLEARWATER, FL 33760 ■ 727.453.7860

● **Happy New Year!** ●

NEWS & NOTES OF INTEREST

■ Creative Tampa Bay's Recent CREATIVE CATALYSTS AWARDS

By definition, a *Catalyst* is an agent for change. A diverse group of creative people were honored recently by *Creative Tampa Bay* because they have affected change in Tampa Bay in a variety of ways. All have made outstanding contributions to the *Creative Life and Economy* of our region. Congratulations! For more information about Creative Tampa Bay, visit their website at www.creativetampabay.com.

Creative Catalysts 2008 award recipients from Pinellas County include:

Grace-Anne Alfiero, Executive Director and co-founder of the Creative Clay Cultural Arts Center

Bob Barancik, founder of the *CreativeLedge* website and studio

Mark Johnson, Judy Staunko and Gail Eggeman, founders of St. Petersburg's Saturday Morning Market

Joy Gendusa, owner of *PostcardMania* in Clearwater

Chuck Henson, Executive Director of the Clip Film Festival

Bob Devin Jones and **David Ellis**, co-founders of Studio@620

■ Clearwater Nets State Grant, Finds Creative Solution for Senior Center

CLEARWATER, Fla. - The City of Clearwater has been awarded a \$727,000 state grant to renovate, equip and furnish a new Aging Well Center located at the Long Center, 1501 N. Belcher Road. The city plans to convert a portion of the existing center into a facility serving the needs of its mature population; promoting health and wellness, education, recreation, socialization and resources for residents age 55 and older. The 2008 State Legislature authorized the grant, one of 19, totaling \$10-million, to be used for senior centers throughout Florida.

Grant recipients must provide 25 % matching funds for their projects. Clearwater's *Aging Well Center* will cost \$970,000 with remaining funds coming from existing Capital Improvement Project allocations. Mayor Frank Hibbard noted that "in a city our size, we have an obligation to serve our mature citizens in a place of their own, and in these tight budget times, I think we've come up with an innovative solution as well as provide some much needed support for the UPARC programs."

The need for a multi-service *Aging Well Center* in Clearwater is not new: Demographic data from 2000 showed that 21.5 % of Clearwater's population was older than 65, the highest percentage of any 100,000+ resident-city in the United States. Long Center renovations for the *Aging Well Center* are expected to begin July 2009 and the city hopes it will be completed by early 2010. For more information, visit the City of Clearwater's website at <http://www.myclearwater.com> or the city's Office on Aging at (727) 562-4830.

GRANTS

■ **Pinellas County Cultural Affairs Dept. Announces
2009 Artist Grant Awards**

Twenty Pinellas County artists have been selected to receive funds totaling \$19,745 in the coming year from Cultural Affairs' *Professional Development Individual Artist Grant* program. A professional panel, representing each artistic discipline, along with a representative from the Cultural Council, evaluated the applications. The grant awards, for amounts of up to \$1,000 each, are designed to provide financial assistance for projects which will advance or enhance the professional development of Pinellas County artists.



C. Wade Brickhouse, mixed media

Congratulations to the following artists:

Visual Arts

- Karen Baker** (*Safety Harbor*) - \$1,000 to purchase digital camera for recording original artwork;
- Jack Breit** (*St. Petersburg*) - \$1,000 to purchase laptop computer for enhanced field work;
- C. Wade Brickhouse** (*St. Petersburg*) - \$1,000 to support book publication;
- Nancy Cervenka** (*Gulfport*) - \$1,000 to purchase laptop computer for enhanced web presence;
- Chris Chomick** (*St. Petersburg*) - \$1,000 to purchase computer drawing tablet to enhance web design;
- Michael Conway** (*St. Petersburg*) - \$1,000 to purchase additional camera lenses;
- Dennis DeBon** (*St. Petersburg*) - \$1,000 to participate in wholesale trade show;
- Eric Dodds** (*Largo*) - \$1,000 to purchase canopy for outdoor shows;
- Lisa Glaser** (*St. Petersburg*) - \$1,000 to replace 16 yr. old kiln;
- Susan Hess** (*Madeira Beach*) - \$1,000 to attend 5-day intensive "Encaustic Effects with Acrylic" in NC;
- Betsy Orbe Lester** (*Treasure Island*) - \$1,000 to purchase a laptop computer to format and send entry submissions to museums & galleries;
- Diana Lucas Leavengood** (*St. Petersburg*) - \$1,000 to purchase scanner for film images;
- Cecilia Lueza** (*St. Petersburg*) - \$1,000 to purchase metal cutting equipment;
- Kas Turner** (*St. Pete Beach*) - \$995 to purchase museum quality canvas and supplies;
- Randy Van Duinen** (*St. Petersburg*) - \$1,000 to purchase camera which takes large images;
- Nicki Wood** (*St. Petersburg*) - \$750 to purchase materials and supplies for new sculptures;
- Jan Wunsch** (*St. Petersburg*) - \$1,000 to purchase instructional materials, supplies, kiln and accessories to add color to current silver works.

Literary Arts

- Julia Flood** (*St. Petersburg*) - \$1,000 to attend playwriting symposium;

Performing Arts & Mixed Media Awards

- Julie Rowe** (*St. Petersburg*) - \$1,000 for website construction;
- Erica C. Sutherlin** (*St. Petersburg*) - \$1,000 to purchase rhythm box, mikes and stands.



Diana Lucas Leavengood, photography



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.

Purchasing this specialty license plate is easy ... please visit your local tag agency today!

ARTIST OPPORTUNITIES

Deadline 01.23.09 Palm Harbor Library Exhibition Opportunity The newly renovated Palm Harbor Library, Palm Harbor, FL, is seeking artists from the Tampa Bay area (including Hillsborough, Pasco and Pinellas Counties) who are interested in exhibiting two and three dimensional artwork. Additional information, exhibition space description, and application instructions can be found at www.palmharborlibrary.org.

Deadline 6.1.09 Individual Artist Fellowship Program (Visual Arts & Media Arts only)



These are upcoming **Artist Career Assistance Programs** from the Division of Cultural Affairs, Dept. of State, Tallahassee. Please contact Morgan Lewis, Arts Administrator, Grant Programs for Individual Artists, at www.florida-arts.org/grants or phone 850.245.6470.

ARTS EDUCATION

■ Arts Teacher Incentive Grants Richly Reward in More Ways than One

Eileen Iacobucci, art teacher from East Lake High School and *2007-2008 Art Teacher Incentive Grants* recipient, participated in classes at The Arts Center in St. Petersburg and the Dunedin Fine Art Center as the result of her grant award. Eileen's goals were to learn Photoshop, Digital Photography and Adobe Illustrator, and new painting skills, so that she could immediately utilize new programs in her classroom and enable her to effectively teach painting to her students this coming semester.

Eileen spoke about her experience as a result of receiving the grant, saying "What an opportunity this grant gives to art teachers to pursue their passion! I would not have been able to take these classes had it not been for the grant award. It has inspired me to continue with my education for my students as well as for myself. The program put a new spark into my teaching which in turn has affected my students, positively."

INFORMATIONAL WEBSITES

Visit www.pinellasarts.org often.

ARE YOU RECEIVING ARTS INFO MONTHLY? http://www.pinellasarts.org/pdf/arts_info_opportunities.pdf

Complete monthly informational listing of opportunities for artists, administrators, and interested public.

THE FLORIDA ART FESTIVALS GUIDE: http://www.pinellasarts.org/florida_festival_guide.htm Click on the ALPHA GUIDE if you are an artist seeking festival applications; Click on the MONTH GUIDE if you like to attend art shows.

NATURE'S NEW YEAR RIGHT IN YOUR OWN BACK YARD:

Our county parks offer artist exhibits, workshops, and adventure! Some resources:

COUNTY-WIDE EVENTS

www.pinellascounty.org/events

HERITAGE VILLAGE

<http://www.pinellascounty.org/Heritage/>

PINELLAS EXTENSION SERVICE

www.pinellascountyextension.org

WEEDON ISLAND PRESERVE

www.weedonislandpreserve.org

FLORIDA BOTANICAL GARDENS

www.flbg.org

BROOKER CREEK PRESERVE

www.pinellascounty.org/Environment



Karen Baker, artist grant recipient

THE PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

■ **Public Art & Design Committee** We would like to extend our thanks and appreciation to our dedicated volunteer members of the *Public Art and Design Committee*. These individuals provide oversight and professional guidance to the program, sit on various committees, and attend monthly meetings. Members currently include: Committee Chair, Lisa Wannemacher, Julie Scales, Jake Stowers, Steve Klar, Lenn Neff, Greg Fisher, and Jan Rouse. Additional advisors to the Committee include, Parks and Recreation Operations Manager, Kathy Swain, and Public Works Representative, Nedima Ablakovic.

■ **Outdoor Sculptures Installed at Renovated Palm Harbor Library**
The Public Opening Ceremony & Unveiling takes place this Saturday, Jan. 10th, 2009

The public is invited to the dedication ceremony on Saturday, January 10th at 10:00 a.m. to celebrate the newly-renovated Palm Harbor Library and also a permanent, outdoor public art installation enhancing the library's entrance, designed by New Orleans sculptor Michael Cain. Mr. Cain created a series of totem and relief sculptures titled "Beyond the Blue". Based on the artist's vision, which defines a library as a gathering place of knowledge and community story telling, Michael's sculptures represent a 'quest for knowledge' through colorful symbols and images of the sea, people, birds, books, maritime flags, and lotus flowers. The installation includes three 'totem pole' structures, designed to convey the seeds of knowledge (Totem #1), the spirit of community connection (Totem #2), and the power of the sea as a symbolic repository of knowledge (Totem #3).



Michael Cain in his studio



A portion of "Beyond the Blue" in progress

In front of the totems is an open metal book mounted on a reading stand, which reads: *"Knowledge is the seed of our own creativity, the foundation that strengthens our community and the landmark that guides our course of action."* Believing this statement is the most powerful aspect of the sculpture, Mr. Cain said that "when we pick up a book and invest personal time reading it, in a way, the book becomes part of us. We place ourselves within the context and stories we can relate to."

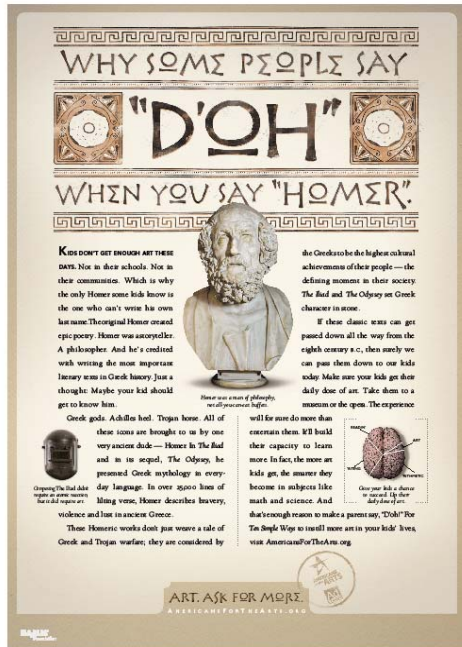
Gene Coppola, Library Director, is proud of the library's growth, commenting that "the Palm Harbor Library is more than just books. It's one of the cultural destination sites in Palm Harbor. *We do change lives.*" The library is located at 2330 Nebraska Avenue in Palm Harbor. For more information, visit the library's website at www.palmharborlibrary.org or phone them at 727.784-3332.

ADVOCACY

Save the Arts in Florida.

If you are concerned about the future of the arts in Florida, make yourself aware of The Florida Cultural Alliance (FLCA), the strongest voice advocating the state's nonprofit arts funding in Tallahassee and Washington. Visit www.flca.net and learn about the alerts FLCA sends out concerning pending legislation. Their "capwiz" program lets you type in your zip code and connect directly to your state and national congressional representative by e-mail.

Art. Ask for More.



The Art. Ask for More. Campaign through Americans for the Arts is a proven tool for reaching parents with the message that the arts are an integral part of every child's education, and more importantly, that parents play an active role in ensuring the livelihood of arts in our schools. Locally, art and cultural organizations can help spread the word through their membership newsletters and websites.

Campaign materials and j-pegs of the series of poster ads can be downloaded from the Americans for the Arts website at: www.AmericansForTheArts.org/public_awareness. You can also contact Ben Burdick at bburdick@artsusa.org , or phone 202.371.2830 for technical assistance. Thank you for your participation!

"The Arts. Ask for More." is a national arts education public awareness campaign brought to you by Americans for the Arts, The Ad Council, the NAMM Foundation, and hundreds of local, state, and national official campaign partners.



The Pinellas County Cultural Affairs Dept. is transitioning from our former paper newsletter to a Constant Contact on-line format, providing updates more often and saving paper. Please be patient while we are in the development stages. You are welcomed to send this to a friend!

The Pinellas County Cultural Affairs Dept. is supported by the Pinellas Board of County Commissioners, the School Board of Pinellas County, the Pinellas County Cultural Foundation, Florida Department of State/Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Arts Council, and the National Endowment for the Arts.