

Activities & OPPORTUNITIES

September Events October Events



1 Post Office Exhibition

This on-going exhibition features the artwork of Janet DeBerge Lange, Cheryl Marine and Christy Puetz in the front windows of the U.S. Post Office at 500 South Mill Ave. Through Oct. 8.

1 Retro-Daddio!

A contemporary look at the 50's at the Tempe Public Library, Lower Level Gallery, 3500 S. Rural Road. Through Dec. 1.

1-12 Road Trip: A Journey of Discovery

An exhibition of works from 15 young artists with disabilities. From VSA Arts at the Tempe City Hall Hall Gallery, 31 E. 5th Street, 1st floor.

1-23 McClintock High School Exhibition

Paintings, from abstractions to chalk drawings, by McClintock students are on display at the Edna Vihel Center, 3400 S. Rural Road.

Featured artwork:

September

The Birds, photograph by Karina Chaikhoutdinov © 2003. Image provided courtesy of VSA arts. Exhibition organized by VSA arts (<http://www.vsarts.org/>) with sponsorship from Volkswagen of America, Inc.

October

Rueben Richards, Sacred Spirit, lithograph.

November

"Funny Bunnies," low-fired earthenware with glaze and overglaze.

2 Xicanindio Artes Exhibition

Lithographs reflective of the Latino/Chicano and American Indian experience on display at the Tempe Public Library, 2nd floor, 3500 S. Rural Road through Nov. 15.

7 ASU to YOU: Coffee, Conversation & the Arts

ASU Department of Theatre (Borderlands Initiative) Professor Ramón Rivera-Servera will guide a discussion on *Diversity and Language in the Arts* from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the TLC Classroom, Public Library, 3500 S. Rural Road.

24 Ballet Under the Stars

Ballet Arizona presents a sunset evening of dance at 7:30 p.m. at the Tempe Beach Park amphitheater, NW corner of Mill Avenue & Rio Salado Parkway. Bring a picnic dinner. Open lawn seating. Parking: America West Airlines Garage, Third Street, west of Mill Avenue, or at Fifth Street and Farmer Avenue.

30 Reflections of Tempe Beach

Learn more about the park's 80-year history at the Tempe City Hall Hall Gallery, 31 E. 5th Street, 1st floor.

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9 ASU to YOU: Coffee, Conversation & the Arts

ASU School of Music Professor Sandra Stauffer will lead a discussion on the PBS film series, *The Creative Spirit: Creativity in Children - Nurturing Discovery* from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the TLC Classroom, Public Library, 3500 S. Rural Road.

15 Peanut Butter & Jam Concert

Singer/songwriter Persephone will

Public Library, 2nd floor, 3500 S. Rural Road through Nov. 15.

10 Tempe Tardeada

Tempe's annual dance and music celebration of the Hispanic Culture from noon to 8 p.m. at the Community Center Complex, Southwest corner of Rural Road and Southern Avenue.

11 Tempe Symphony Orchestra

Accomplished Valley musicians open the 30th season under the direction of Dr. Richard Strange and provide musical enjoyment through advanced orchestral performance at 7:30 p.m., at Boyle Auditorium, McClintock High School, 1830 E. Del Rio Drive.

12 ASU To YOU: Coffee, Conversation & the Arts

ASU School of Art Professor Julie Codell will guide a discussion on the popular PBS film series *The Creative Spirit: Inside Creativity - The Anatomy of Innovation* from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the TLC Classroom, Public Library, 3500 S. Rural Road.

present *Arizona is our Home Sweet Home* for children ages 3-5 years from 10 to 11 a.m. in the Community Center Complex Courtyard, 3500 S. Rural Road, just east of the Public Library.

19 Pee Posh children's exhibit

Traditional arts from children of the Gila River Community will be on display at the Public Library, 2nd floor gallery, 3500 S. Rural Road.

29 Tempe Symphony Orchestra

Valley musicians perform the annual holiday concert at 7:30 p.m., at Gammage Auditorium, Arizona State University, Mill Avenue & Apache Boulevard.

Tempe Art news

Art Happens in Tempe



Fall 2004

Tempe Center for the Arts begins its rise

Profile: Introducing students to the Masters

Arts Commission aids New School's missions

Tempe City Council

Hugh Hallman, Mayor
Mark Mitchell, Vice Mayor
Ben Arredondo
Barb Carter
Leonard Copple
Pam Goronkin
Hut Hutson
Will Manley, City Manager

City of Tempe Municipal Art Commission

The City of Tempe Municipal Arts Commission is an advisory board whose mission is to create an atmosphere in which the arts can flourish and to inspire Tempe residents to recognize the arts as essential to the whole life of the community.

Sheilah Britton
Scott Burge
Laura Davis
Scott Essex
Betsy Fahlman
Carmon Fernandez
Kate Hanley

Paul Hubbell
Mary Ann Marcus
Lisa Morley
Kathy Stevens
Linda Sleight
Ben Tyler
Manjula Vaz

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Tempe

Tempe Center FOR THE Arts

LET'S GET Vertical

As the excitement grows for the Tempe Center for the Arts (TCA), so does the building itself. In the coming months, viewers will witness the first visible structures as they begin rising from the ground on the southwest bank of Tempe Town Lake.

"It's difficult to imagine everything that is taking place," Deputy Community Services Director (Cultural Services) Jody Ulich said. "To date, all of the work has been below ground. Starting in September, the construction will become vertical and much more visible."

Most notable will be the walls to the fly tower, the area above the stage that holds all of the rigging, which will rise to 85-feet.

Also, rising above grade will be the circular perimeter walls on the TCA's west, south and east sides. Eventually, glass will cover the north side of the facility where visitors can enjoy spectacular views of the Papago Mountains and Town Lake from the lobby,

concession area and the Lakeside and Donor rooms.

Like air, a lot of the work to date can't be seen. But those close to the TCA know it's there. Over the summer, crews excavated the site, poured footings and installed utilities, including sewer, water and power lines. They completed the tie-in to the 108-inch storm drain that travels through the site and completed pouring concrete for the walls to the orchestra pit, setting the stage for construction of the orchestra lift.

As has been reported, cement, the powder that is mixed with water to make the paste that binds concrete, is in high demand internationally. Tempe's construction contractors are receiving limited amounts each week and have been careful about scheduling pours. To date, the TCA has not been hindered by supply shortages, and patrons can rest assured that considerations are built into

major constructions projects, like the TCA, and the cement shortage shouldn't have major impacts on scheduling or costs.

Interested onlookers are invited to watch the footprint as it takes shape by logging onto the city's Sneaky Peek camera at www.tempe.gov/arts/tca/entersneakypeek.asp.



Early work on the TCA, such as pouring footings and installing utilities, has been underground.

Art Talk Profile:

Municipal Art Commission member Scott Essex poses with "Portrait of Lavoisier and his Wife" by Jacques-Louis David at the Metropolitan Museum in New York. Essex uses such photographs to teach children about the size and scale of many painter's works.



Now that school is back in session, comments, questions, pencils and paper are flying and students are jumping between English, Mathematics and Physical Education. Some of the conversation centers on art, as well.

"We have that picture in our bathroom."

"Is the artist still alive?"

"I have an uncle named Pablo."

Because the level and scope of art instruction in the elementary schools has changed in recent years, schools have turned to the Art Masterpiece program to bring more art instruction into the classroom.

"Why does he look like a girl?"

"How old would the artist be today?"

"Is he the guy who cut off his ear?"

Art Masterpiece is a Parent Teacher Organization-funded, volunteer-driven enrichment program for students in kindergarten through fifth grade. It supplements the existing art classes in the schools, and provides students with the tools needed for understanding, enjoying, analyzing, critiquing and appreciating fine works of art. In six years, they see almost 50 different works by the masters in the genre.

"How many siblings did he have?"

"Why aren't there more girl artists?"

"What was his favorite color?"

Volunteer Art Guides bring reproductions of great works of art into every classroom to create awareness and appreciation for art. These art reproductions represent many styles and periods, ranging from prehistoric cave art, to art of the Renaissance, to the very modern and contemporary art styles of the 20th Century. Students are exposed to art history as well as the elements of art and design. The guides have questions, too: "What do you see? How is the work organized? What is the artist trying to say?"

The exact curriculum of each program in

separate schools throughout the district emphasizes different elements. The focus of the programs strikes a balance between the creation and the appreciation of art.

Volunteers sometimes bring projects for the students to do so they can experience the media in which the artist worked. Self-portraits, watercolors, mixing colors to create new hues, painting to music and discovering textures are some examples of the activities guides have employed.

Additional props like measuring tapes, pictures of other works by the artists or actual paintings of similar styles are used to further the students' understanding.

Three members of the Tempe Municipal Arts Commission are volunteers to the Art Masterpiece programs at different schools. Laura Davis, chair of the Grants Committee, is a volunteer in the Kyrene School District. Linda Sleight trained volunteers for 12 years in Tempe schools. Scott Essex, chair of the Communications and Advocacy Committee, is starting his fifth year as a volunteer at Waggoner Elementary School.

There has been a drop in volunteers in the last couple of years in all the schools, but it has especially impacted the lower income schools where there were initially fewer parent volunteers.

"Do you like art?"

"Do you like working with children?"

"Do you know what the next question is?"



NEW SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS' Partnership SCORES HIGH FOR COMMUNITY

The city of Tempe and the New School for the Arts and Academics (NSAA) have forged a unique partnership that has accomplished much in the short time they have been together. The campus, located at 1216 E. Apache Blvd., serves NSAA's students during the day and is the venue for many of the city's cultural education classes at night. It is a solid relationship of mutual respect and appreciation for what each party brings to benefit, not just each other, but for the community.

Ron Caya, the founder and executive dean of NSAA has built a strong visual and performing arts curriculum since the school was chartered in 1995.

He has used his experience in public art instruction with the Peoria schools, as a director of several art centers and his knowledge gained obtaining a B.A. from California College of Arts and Crafts and an M.A. from

the Parsons School of Design in New York to mold NSAA into a realistic vision of education.

Throughout the building, the walls are full of artwork of the students as well as pieces donated by professional artists.

"A room hung with pictures is a room hung with thoughts," English painter Sir Joshua Reynolds said in the late 1700's.

Arts Commission grants support NSAA's accomplishments

Annual grants from the Tempe Municipal Arts Commission provide valuable funding to non profit organizations and schools and assist in funding projects that serve Tempe residents.

Tempe recently awarded \$126,657 to 11 non profit organizations and seven school for arts projects and services during the 2004-2005 fiscal year.

New School for the Arts and Academics High School received \$5,200 for a Visual Arts and Education Collaborative that will produce a series of unique ceramic tiles which will be installed around town to bring life and embellish Tempe Transit Shelters for residents and visitors.

Goals for the proposed collaboration are to nurture young talent, encourage creative and independent thinkers and develop in students the disciplines required of dedicated artists.

New School for the

Arts and Academics Middle School received \$2,600 for a Visual Arts and Education Collaborative that will produce a repertoire of dance movement and theater scenes. The resulting vignettes will be choreographed, written and directed by students under the guidance and supervision of teachers.

Goals are to engage students in an arts and academics course of study defined by hands-on studio work with qualified, accomplished visual and performing arts educators who also are practicing artists.

"These grants are essential to making the arts accessible to everyone," Mayor Hugh Hallman said. "I'm especially excited about the number of grants that will bring music, dance, art and theater opportunities to the children of Tempe."

Other award recipients are: A Ludwig Dance Theatre, Arizona Academy

of Performing Arts, Arizona Flute Society, ASU Art Museum, ASU Department of Dance, ASU Women in Applied Science, Childsplay, Inc., Corona del Sol High School, McClintock High School Honors Art Class, Phoenix Boys Choir Association, Phoenix Symphony Association, Red Rocks Music Festival's Outreach Services for Tempe Schools, Southwest Human Development, Inc., Tempe Community Chorus, Ltd., The Bead Museum and the Young Artist Committee, Inc.

The grant funds are administered by the Cultural Services Division and the Tempe Municipal Arts Commission under the "one percent for arts" designated in the Capital Improvements Program budget. The allocation process for art project grants includes three review meetings by an independent citizen panel, the Arts Commission and the City Council.

Thoughts and ideas abound within the walls of NSAA, challenging the students to learn, analyze and create. The music and dance programs are equally as strong as the visual arts. A good portion of the schools' 300 students take classes in all three areas.

High academic standards combined with considerable talent of the teachers and administration provides the springboard for students to advance to high levels. Even with the emphasis on the arts, NSAA is "not an easy gig." Students must perform in the classroom, too. NSAA has received awards from the University of Arizona for sending on students, which as a group, had the highest freshman grade point average at the U of A.

After moving to the Tempe location, the school has expanded to include a seventh and eighth grade facility down the street. The hope is that the new school will better prepare younger students, with an interest in the arts, for high school.

Academic skills are very important for success at NSAA as more than 90 percent of the students go on to college. The new middle school challenges the younger students to develop solid study habits as well as providing increased art instruction earlier in their academic lives.

Building alliances is Caya's strength. With the entrenched partnership of the city in place, he struck out on another and is working with the Phoenix Academy of Performing Arts South by providing teachers in visual arts and dance to the south Phoenix school. Phoenix Academy's students get an expanded art program and NSAA expands its network throughout the community.

Going forward, the campus of NSAA, through its partnership with the city of Tempe is set to grow into a multi-use site. The master plan includes the city's light rail project and may include artist housing.

The current plan is to use two acres at the rear of the campus for underground parking and a light rail station. The school would develop classrooms, a library and theater in the new facility to supplement the existing structure.

It is exciting to watch the partnerships flourish and to know that it is the students and community who are the ultimate beneficiaries of all the hard work.

- Scott Essex