



Arts Participation Builds Civic Engagement

Literary readers and classical or jazz radio listeners attend arts events at higher rates than non-readers and non-listeners.

Literary readers and arts participants engage in sports more readily than non-readers and non-participants.

By every other measure, arts participants are more physically active.

People who read literature, listen to classical or jazz radio, or attend performances are creative in their own right.

Readers and arts participants are twice as likely to volunteer in their communities.

Source: *The Arts and Civic Engagement: Involved in Arts, Involved in Life*. To order this brochure or to download a copy, go to www.nea.gov/research/Research_brochures.php



Photo Credit: Joe Jankovsky

Rhythm Meets Pizazz at the 2007 Poetry Out Loud State Championship

Marc Jacobson, a senior at Arizona School for the Arts in Phoenix, won first prize at the Poetry Out Loud Recitation state final held March 14, 2007, at the State Capitol Old Senate Chambers in Phoenix, with his recitations of “Hysteria” by Dionisio D. Martinez and “Discrimination” by Kenneth Rexroth. While the day went to Jacobson, the judges—poets Rebecca Byrkit, Charles Jensen, and Frances Sjoberg—remarked that the competition for first place was extremely tight. Brian Nalisa of Catalina Magnet High School in Tucson came in a close second, and was awarded \$100 and his high school received \$200 towards the purchase of poetry books for the school’s library. Third place went to Jordan McAlpin (last year’s state winner) of Cactus High School in Glendale.

Arizona Commission on the Arts’ Executive Director Robert C. Booker said that the number of students participating in the competition doubled since last year, and anticipates that the program will continue to grow in school districts across the state. “I predict that this program will catch on with students across the state. Spoken word and slams are what this generation responds to. And what’s remarkable about this program is that it shows them that this tradition is not a new phenomenon, and is in fact the source of our collective learning. The power

of the word, the energy of telling a story—it’s a part of our cultural heritage.”

Kim Willey, Arizona Commission on the Arts’ Arts Learning Associate and project manager for the Arizona Poetry Out Loud competition says that, “The skills required for an excellent recitation involve much more than memorization. The student needs to delve into the meaning of the poem and interpret it, and make the words resonate with the power intended by the poet. Based on what I saw today, all of these students are winners.”

The other participating students were Taylor Brady, University High School, Tucson; Julia Cavanaugh, St. Gregory College Preparatory School, Tucson; Khaerannisa Cortes, Arizona Cultural Academy, Phoenix; Indra Ekmanis, Sedona Red Rock High School, Sedona; Rachel Goldschmid, Catalina Foothills High School, Tucson; Chelsea Halstead, Sinagua High School, Flagstaff; Jonathan Holmes, Tucson Magnet High School, Tucson; Michael Jara, Red Mountain High School, Mesa; Mary Clare Mulhern, Veritas Preparatory Academy, Phoenix; Moniza Isabella Murillo, La Joya Community High School, Avondale; and Sarah Toller, Stapley Junior High School, Mesa.

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What's New on the Web

All About Jazz is a website produced by jazz fans for jazz fans. Their mission is to provide information and opinions about jazz from the past, present, and future—for jazz newbies and aficionados alike.
www.allaboutjazz.com

The Celebrity Lecture Series, established at Michigan State University by the College of Arts and Letters, features some of the most illustrious scholars, critics, novelists, poets, and creative artists of our time.
www.matrix.msu.edu/cis/index

PENNSound, out of the University of Pennsylvania, is an ongoing project, committed to producing new audio recordings and preserving existing audio archives. Visit this website to hear William Carlos Williams, H.D. (Hilda Doolittle), Gertrude Stein, Robert Duncan, Yusef Komunyakaa, Barbara Guest, Susan Howe and others, read their works!
www.writing.upenn.edu/pennsound/

Technology in the Arts is a resource for the arts community that is sparking dialogue around the role of technology in our planning and programming, discussing best practices as well as lessons learned, and providing hands-on, practical skills where possible. www.technologyinthearts.org

Consensus solves problems for businesses, government agencies and non-profit organizations by harnessing the creativity and opinions of the very people who will implement the plan you know you need.
<http://getconsensus.com>

ArtsMarketing.org helps your organization address its daily marketing needs and longer-term marketing issues.
www.artsmarketing.org

The Access to Health Insurance / Resources for Care database was created in 1998 by The Actors' Fund of America, with a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, as a health insurance resource for artists and people in the entertainment industry.
www.ahirc.org

Arizona Web Junction is a cooperative of library staff sharing and using online resources that enable library staff to identify and embrace appropriate technologies and apply them to daily work.
www.az.webjunction.org

The Arizona Grants Access Tool and Experts Source (AzGATES) was created by Arizona State University and the Arizona-Mexico Commission to serve as Arizona's premier resource for obtaining funding for priority projects throughout the state.
www.azgates.org

The Director's Column

It is the morning of the Governor's Arts Awards. The Commission staff and the Arizona Citizens/Action for the Arts staff are in high gear, taking care of the final preparations of hosting a dinner and celebration for 800 arts leaders from around the state.

Brenda Sperduti—the newly named Executive Director of AZCA/AZAA—and I were just making the last table assignments, checking in with the technical producers, and anticipating all the guests arriving from across Arizona to celebrate the power of the arts in their communities.

The artwork to be given to tonight's winners is packed and ready to go. This year, the artists that created the awards were selected by the Arizona Partnership for Innovation. The partnership, initiated by the Arizona Commission on the Arts, is a steering committee of artists, arts educators, and arts leaders, and funders that guide research and educational efforts to enhance support for individual artists in Arizona. The group has selected incredibly talented artists and the artwork reflects the diversity that is Arizona.

As I write this letter, the nominees of the Governor's Arts Awards are at their offices or schools or studios, not knowing if they are or are not the winners of an award this year. To be honest, all 72 nominees are winners to me. Each and every one has made a significant impact in their communities. They have pushed the boundaries of creativity, taught our children in innovative ways, supported our institutions, and, above all, provided an open door to the arts for Arizonans and visitors to our state.

Is there a lesson to be learned from the Governor's Arts Awards dinner? Well one is that we are one very large community, albeit with different backgrounds, voices, and viewpoints. A few from our community are chosen to be recognized with an award, but ultimately none of us works toward winning anything, really. We do what we do because we are passionate about the arts and culture. We want it to continue because we know how valuable the arts have been to us and countless others.

Yet, we encounter obstacles routinely in the work we do. Our young people still are not receiving the arts instruction they deserve in our schools, arts organizations are not as stable as we would like them to be, we need to grow our volunteers and individual and cor-

porate contributors to make our arts organizations more sustainable, and individual artists in all disciplines continue to face financial struggles to create the work that inspires and informs us all.

However, when we gather tonight to celebrate the arts, we will recognize each other for the work we do, talk about our bright future in Arizona, and look to expand our reach across the state. What inspires me is that together, every day, we ensure that every Arizonan has the opportunity to experience and participate in the arts.

*Robert C. Booker
Executive Director
Arizona Commission on the Arts*

Rhythm Meets Pizazz at the 2007 Poetry Out Loud State Championship

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Dan Stone, Artistic Director of Poetry Out Loud at the National Endowment for the Arts, presented to each student participant a personalized certificate signed by Dana Gioia, Chair of the National Endowment on the Arts, and Robert Barr, President of the Poetry Foundation.

This event, sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation, and in partnership with the Arizona Commission on the Arts, brought teaching artists into over 40 classrooms in the Phoenix metropolitan area to teach poetry and theatrical skills to Grade 9-12 students. Dan Stone, National Initiatives Program Manager at the National Endowment for the Arts, who was in town to attend the event, hopes that the program will spread out to eventually involve students from every school in the state.

Jacobson will receive a \$200 cash award and an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., to compete for a \$20,000 college scholarship in the national finals on May 1. His school will receive a \$500 stipend to purchase books for their library.

Faces in the Arts

Marianne Kim, Interdisciplinary Performing Artist

*Recipient of 2007
Arizona Commission
on the Arts Artist
Projects Grant*

Tell us about yourself and/or your background. I am a Korean American artist and educator working in dance, theatre, and video art. I was born in Seoul, South Korea and my family immigrated to the States in 1973. I was raised in Chicago and received my B.S. in Theatre from Northwestern University. I danced in Chicago with a company called XSIGHT! for many years until I received a fellowship from the Jacob Javits Foundation to go to graduate school. It was a tough decision to uproot and leave a company that had become my family, but I needed to gain more skills. I received my M.F.A. from the UCLA Department of World Arts and Cultures with a focus on choreography and technology. During my time there I developed my skills as a video artist. I also worked with amazing artists such as Cheng-Chieh Yu, Victoria Marks, and David Rousseve. I'm still working with David on his new piece Saudade that will have a world tour in 2008-2009, which will probably be my last project as a "dancer for hire." After Los Angeles, I went overseas to work in Austria and Amsterdam. I came back broke and needed a job. I knew I wanted to stay in academia. I had been teaching throughout my career as an artist. I accepted an offer as an assistant professor at the ASU Interdisciplinary Arts and Performance Department. It is a department committed to innovation and true interdisciplinary performance work, so I came to Arizona knowing I was in the right place.

Briefly describe the nature of the project you are working on now. Before I start any project I pose many questions to myself concerning content and process. For my current project, a simple question resonated with me: What separates me from you? Meditations on North and South is an interactive video and performance installation using documentary footage that meditates on the separation between the two Koreas, including the effect of separation on personal history. This project is inspired by macro and micro events that relate to the border between the two Koreas. Mapping one woman's journey (my mother's) through war, and real and imagined lines drawn between countries, neighbor-



Marianne Kim (Phoenix, AZ). Photo Credit: T.J. Bonzon

hoods, and individual lives are events that also inspire this project. It will explore the intimate and the global strata of separation. Through text, movement, and video this project draws upon geographic evidence, historical archives, and maps of personal explorations. Ultimately, this is a project mapping memory and imagination: imagining one's position in the world, the past, and its tension with evidence or what we think of as evidence.

Charles Jensen, Poet

*Recipient of 2007 Arizona Commission
on the Arts Artist Projects Grant*

Tell us about yourself and/or your background. I grew up in rural Wisconsin. I earned a BA in film studies/cultural studies & comparative literature from the University of Minnesota and an MFA in creative writing from Arizona State University. I've lived in Arizona for six years and have a special fondness for my central Phoenix neighborhood. I currently serve as Assistant Director at the Virginia G. Piper Center for Creative Writing at ASU and I'm working on an online poetry magazine called LOCUSPOINT, which publishes work by seven poets in a given city or region, selected by an editor who lives there.



Charles Jensen (Phoenix, AZ)

Briefly describe the nature of your project. My project, entitled "Safe," has changed a smidge since I applied for the grant, but the spirit is the same. In three sections, the book explores three questions about love. The first section asks, "How do you keep safe what you love?" in poems that address the 1998 murder of Matthew Shepard, a young gay man, and poems that work with the myth of Venus and Adonis. The second section combines film theory text and lyric prose poems about the Alfred Hitchcock film *Vertigo* and asks, "How do you create the love you have lost?" The final section is composed of false documents—a thesis fragment, an invented biography, diary entries, and other ephemera—as the story of physicist Edward Dixon and his vanished wife Maribel unfolds in 1930s America. This final section questions how we love what we cannot see or touch.

Calendar

May 21- 25, 2007
2007-08 Review of Grants for Organizations and Schools at ASU Memorial Union and ACA Offices

June 1-3, 2007
Americans for the Arts Annual Convention in Las Vegas, NV. For more information, visit www.artsusa.org.

June 29, 2007
The Big Read Intent to Apply. For more information, visit www.neabigread.org.

June, July, August 2007
Arizona Commission on the Arts Community Workshops and Listening Tour in communities across Arizona. Dates and locations to be determined. For more information, visit www.azarts.gov.

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*Outside of a dog,
a book is man's best
friend. Inside a dog,
it's too dark to read.*

—Groucho Marx

*"Dance, even if you
have nowhere to do it
but your living room."*

—Kurt Vonnegut

26th Annual Governor's Arts Awards

Governor Janet Napolitano presided over the 26th Annual Governor's Arts Awards Dinner on Wednesday, April 18, 2007, at the Camelback Inn. The awards were presented in recognition of significant contributions to the growth and development of the arts in Arizona.

The awards were selected by a committee chaired by Arizona Commission on the Arts Executive Director, Robert C. Booker, Virginia Cárdenas, Catherine "Rusty" Foley, Kevan Kaighn, Joellen Lynn, and Barbara Meyerson.

The arts celebration enjoyed significant corporate sponsorship. Premier Sponsor: The Arizona Lottery; Dinner Sponsors: American Express, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona, Wells Fargo Arizona, Camelback Inn; Award Sponsor: Target; Video Sponsor: SRP.

Ib Andersen, Artist Award

Award object created by D.Y. Begay, recommended by Arizona Partnership for Innovation member Robert Breunig

Opening Minds through the Arts (OMA), Arts in Education Award

Award object created by Hilary Meehan, recommended by Arizona Partnership for Innovation member Anne-Marie Russell

Mayo Clinic Center for Humanities in Medicine, Community Award

Award object created by Steven Yazzie, recommended by Arizona Partnership for Innovation member Joe Baker

Sam Campana, Arts Advocate Award ("The Shelley")

Award object created by Julie Comnick, recommended by Arizona Partnership for Innovation member Joel Hiller

Janice Johnson, Individual Award

Award object created by Melinda Bergman, recommended by Arizona Partnership for Innovation members Susan Krane and Marilu Knode

Target, Corporation Award

Award object created by Matthew Moore, recommended by Arizona Partnership for Innovation member John Spiak

Congratulations to Arizona's Top Arts Destinations

BIG CITIES:

#8 Phoenix (No. 15 in 2006)

MID-SIZED CITIES:

#4 Scottsdale (same as 2006)

#9 Tucson (did not appear in 2006)

SMALL CITIES AND TOWNS:

#2 Sedona (No. 5 in 2006)

#19 Tubac (No. 25 in 2006)

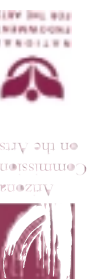
Source: The annual *AmericanStyle* Top 25 Arts Destinations readers' poll.

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