

Kentuckians for the Arts NEWSLETTER

January 2023

Kentuckians for the Arts (KFTA) is an arts centered organization formed for the purpose of providing advocacy for all arts endeavors across Kentucky. Our vision is to advance a creative Commonwealth and our mission is to promote the value of the arts and arts education for all throughout Kentucky.

KFTA is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. Contributions such as annual dues and donations are tax deductible as permitted by law.

To join just click on the link and follow the instructions.

[Join Us Now](#)



The 2023 'Short Session:' A Great Time to Get to Know Your State Legislators

This year's Kentucky General Assembly is what is known as a "short session." In odd years the state legislature meets for only 30 legislative days. Typically that means fewer bills considered, with two-year state budgets typically passed in the 60-day long sessions of even-numbered years.

There are many new legislators this year as well — six new Senators and 25 new Representatives. Getting to know them now, and letting them know the importance of the arts to you and your community can lay the groundwork for 2024, when funding for the Kentucky Arts Council and other allocations will be on the line.

The legislature gaveled in on Jan. 3, meeting for just a few days before taking a break. They'll reconvene in Frankfort on February 7, with the session closing on March 30.

So how can you make a connection?

If you have a new or re-elected legislator, send a note or email congratulating them and welcoming them. Let them know about your support for the arts and mention organizations that you are involved with or support.

If you have a returning legislator, send a note or email thanking him or her for the \$75 million Team Kentucky Nonprofit Assistance funding passed in 2022. Arts organizations across the state have received critical funding from this legislation to help them rebuild after Covid. You can also ask legislators to re-open the program to distribute remaining funds.

You can find out who your state legislators are at the [Legislative Research Commission website](#). The site also has information on how to [contact your legislator](#). If you'd like to meet personally with your legislator, be sure to schedule an appointment. To set up appointments in Frankfort call the LRC switchboard at 502-564-8100. You'll be connected to your legislators' assistants to set up a meeting.

If you're involved with an arts nonprofit, plan to attend Kentucky Nonprofit Day in Frankfort on March 8. This event is sponsored by the Kentucky Nonprofit Network (KNN) and provides an opportunity to learn from and educate state government officials and to network with nonprofits from across Kentucky. More info will be available in the next KFTA newsletter and at the [KNN website](#).

A special thank you to our Foundational/ Curator Level members:

Ms. Margaret & Mr. Jeffery Jamner

Gretchen & Aldy Milliken
Kentucky Performing Arts

To become a member of KFTA visit [our website](#).

So you can SAY...
“I support Kentucky Arts”

SUPPORT KFTA THROUGH KROGER AND AMAZON

Kentuckians for the Arts is part of the Amazon Smile program and the Kroger donation program. The programs donate a portion of purchases to non-profit organizations. If you're a customer of these businesses, please register with them to support KFTA.

KFTA's unique Smile link:
<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/81-1557982>

Kroger signup:

Visit <http://www.kroger.com> and log into your Kroger account, then search for Kentuckians for the Arts by name or use the number MR920.



Congratulations to the Governor's Awards in the Arts Recipients

Each year the Kentucky Arts Council solicits nominations in nine categories for individuals and organizations making significant contributions to Kentucky arts. Governor Beshear presented the 2022 awards January 10 at the Kentucky Capitol.

Congratulations to the recipients:

Milner Award - Kaye Savage Browning, Mason Co.

Artist Award – Amanda Matthews, Fayette Co.

Business Award – Independence Bank, Graves Co.

Community Arts Award – Murray Art Guild, Calloway Co.

Education Award – Nan Moore, Jefferson Co.

Folk Heritage Award – Maxine Ray, Warren Co.

Government Award – Ky. Native Amer. Heritage Commission,
Franklin Co.

Media Award – Morgan Cook Atkinson, Jefferson Co.

National Award – Bobby Osborne, Leslie Co. native



This year's award was created by Navajo flute maker Fred Nez-Keams of Mercer County, who played at the ceremony.

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Lindy Casebier, far right, shown with Governor's Awards in the Arts recipients, left to right, Kaye Browning, Morgan Atkinson, and Nan Moore.

Casebier Named Cabinet Secretary

Lindy Casebier will become secretary of the Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet following Secretary Mike Berry's retirement in February 2023. Casebier, a Louisville native, was appointed by Gov. Beshear in December 2019 as Deputy Secretary for the Kentucky Personnel Cabinet after many years as a public school educator, administrator, legislator and non-profit director.

Casebier had previously served in senior roles within the Kentucky Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet and as a member of the Kentucky General Assembly, where he chaired the Senate Education Committee. Prior to joining the Beshear administration, he served as executive director of Louisville Visual Art.

Casebier is a member of the KFTA Board.

Kentucky Visitors Guide Features Arts

The newly released Kentucky's Visitors Guide puts arts attractions front and center. With the theme of "Beauty in the Bluegrass," the guide encourages visitors to enjoy Kentucky's artistic talents including handcrafted quilts, handblown glass, live music, art and southern cuisine. The cover features a colorful mural of two horses on the Nulu Marketplace building in Louisville.

The guide serves as the state's primary tourism advertising with nearly 350,000 copies distributed around the world. This year's guide also features a video series that allows people to watch artists in action by scanning QR codes. You can browse the [virtual guide online](#).

