

Kentuckians for the Arts
NEWSLETTER

July 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.

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Southern Arts Advocates Meet in Atlanta

Kentuckians for the Arts gathered in Atlanta in late July with other arts advocacy organizations and state arts agencies to discuss advocacy for the arts and current trends in arts policy. The convening was hosted by regional organization South Arts, continuing their work supporting and facilitating arts advocacy in the South.

The meeting covered a range of topics including the challenges and constraints faced by organizations and individuals involved in advocacy work, the importance of understanding and collaboration in building effective partnerships, and the need for infrastructure and resources to manage them effectively.

Kelly Barsdate of the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies and facilitator Margie Johnson Reese spoke on the challenges of arts advocacy and the importance of understanding the issue areas of arts policy in order to effectively advocate for the arts. Participants also shared tools and methods for using the arts as nonpartisan solutions for policy trends that might result in community conflict. They also discussed the importance of grassroots engagement and civic conversation in the arts, and the need for state arts advocacy organizations and state arts organizations to work together to identify opportunities for partnership and engagement, set benchmarks for advocacy efforts, and define success.



Board Chair Lori Meadow, (back row, second from left), represented KFTA at a meeting of Southern arts advocates in Atlanta in July.

A special thank you to our Foundational members:

Ms. Margaret & Mr. Jeffery Jamner

Gretchen & Aldy Milliken
Kentucky Performing Arts

SUPPORT KFTA THROUGH KROGER

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Black Appalachian Storyteller Fellowships Launched

The National Association of Black Storytellers (NABS), Mid America Arts, and South Arts are co-sponsoring Black Appalachian Storytellers Fellowships to honor, celebrate, and support Black storytellers representing the Appalachian counties (as designated by the Appalachian Regional Commission) of Kentucky, North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia.

The goals of the fellowship program are to preserve and advance the understanding of Black Appalachian storytelling that embodies the history, heritage, and culture of African Americans, and to build bridges through intergenerational opportunities.

The Black Appalachian Storytellers Fellowships will provide six \$5,000 awards to support experienced practitioners and culture bearers with opportunities to examine, research, develop, perform, and/or document the Black Appalachian storytelling tradition. One fellowship will be awarded in each of the six eligible states.

Applications for the fellowships are due August 20, 2023. More info and application form at the [NABS website](#).

Literary Fellowships Deadline Extended to Sept. 8

Fiction writers in Kentucky and other Southern states have until Sept. 8 to apply for the South Arts 2024 Southern Prize and Literary Arts Fellowship program. The following categories of fiction are included: science fiction, mystery, historical fiction, thriller, realistic fiction, romance, horror, and fantasy. A national jury will select one winner per state, for a group of nine State Fellows based on artistic excellence that reflects the diversity of the region, each of whom will receive a \$5,000 award. The State Fellows will compete for the Southern Prize for Literary Arts. The \$25,000 Southern Prize will be awarded to the literary artist whose work demonstrates the highest artistic excellence, and a finalist will be awarded a \$10,000 Prize. Additionally, both Southern Prize awardees will receive a two-week residency at The Hambidge Center for the Creative Arts and Sciences. More info at the [South Arts website](#).

Kentucky Crafted Deadline August 15

Kentucky visual artists should apply by August 15 for acceptance into the Kentucky Arts Council's Kentucky Crafted program. The program provides business development and marketing support, including the opportunity to participate in the annual Kentucky Crafted Market. More info at the [Kentucky Arts Council website](#).

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Funding provided in part
by a grant from South Arts
in partnership with the
National Endowment for
the Arts

Fall 2023 Team Kentucky Exhibit Features Artists from Across the Commonwealth

A new exhibit of artworks by Kentuckians is now on display at the Kentucky Capitol. The exhibit includes 36 works in a wide variety of media -- from paintings to metalwork and even a portrait created from Legos! The exhibit will be on display until Dec. 31, 2023.

Congratulations to the participating artists:

Dennis Albetski, Lexington
Stephanie Batts, Lexington
Nancy Bruner, Henderson
Karen Callahan, Louisville
Katelyn Chanslor, Cynthiana
Tonya Creasman, Lexington
Allison Elkin, Olive Hill
Macel Hamilton, Liberty
Margaret Howard, Louisville
Duane Keaton, Georgetown
John Logan, Frankfort
Phyllis Miller, Brownsville
Ann Peoples, Crestwood
Marilyn Peters, Springfield
Brittney Rice, Brandenburg
Erica Thompson, Louisville
Andy Shoemaker, Owensboro
Lindsey Staszak, Mt. Sterling

Norma Anderson, Albany
Rich Brimer, Springfield
Paul Burns, Richmond
Tom Cannady, Louisville
Jeff Chapman-Crane, Eolia
Jaime Curry, Nicholasville
Renee Golway, Prospect
Wayne Hensley, Williamsburg
Brooke Harris, Lexington
Chris Kellogg, Midway
Alison Lyne, Adairville
Anastasia Murray, Frankfort
Kim Perry, Louisville
Fran Redmon, Frankfort
Billy Tackett, Alexandria
Kristy Townes, Pikeville
Sarah Spradlin, Paris
Angela Stephens, Berea

NEA Offers Online Toolkit of Resources on Arts Careers for People with Disabilities

In conjunction with the 33rd anniversary of the landmark Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and its partner, Art Beyond Sight (ABS), have developed a Toolkit on Careers in the Arts for People with Disabilities. Developed for individuals seeking careers in the arts, as well as employers, educators, and grant makers, the toolkit provides extensive information, and guidance to improve employment outcomes in the arts for people with disabilities. This online resource can be accessed at the [NEA website](#).

Thank you for your support of the arts in Kentucky! Please share this newsletter with your friends and colleagues.