We at RACC are looking forward to another year of growth and great art and wish the same to each of you.

January signals the start of advocacy season (as if it ever stops) and exciting opportunities are on the horizon in Salem, which have the potential to affect positive statewide change in arts and culture funding. Governor Kulongoski has in his budget "the Creative Oregon Initiative" developed by the Oregon Arts Commission to reinvigorate state support for arts and culture in important ways.

The package that will be considered by the Legislature includes a $2,900,000 increase to the OAC budget over the next biennium. These dollars would significantly increase grants to arts organizations, provide technical assistance and training to artists and arts organizations, and strengthen promotion of the Cultural Trust, as well as strengthening OAC staff capacity to support this work.

We will actively and enthusiastically advocate for this initiative, as it would benefit the organizations and artists we serve in this region, and look forward to partnering with the OAC to increase our technical assistance program – already in growth mode.

We will keep you informed of progress as the session unfolds and may well ask for your help in convincing lawmakers in Salem to support this critical package.

We look forward to a dynamic and productive year ahead with all of you.

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RACC Awards $376,329 for 97 Arts Projects in 2007

The Regional Arts & Culture Council has awarded $376,329 to 38 individual artists and 59 organizations who will be offering artistic programs for the general public throughout 2007. This is the highest amount of Project Grants ever awarded by RACC in one year, and follows $1,016,600 in General Support grants that were awarded by RACC in July. Funding comes from the City of Portland, Multnomah County, Clackamas County, Washington County, Metro, and Work for Art, RACC’s workplace giving program.

The broad array of artistic projects for 2007 will include a Northwest Indian Storytellers Festival in January (see below), the Portland Jazz Festival in February, a Sculpture Exposition at Clackamas Community College, a dance concert from Oslund + Company/Dance, an art exhibit by Dana Lynn Louis, an Arts Summer Festival in Estacada, an Indian Festival in Pioneer Square, and numerous other events in schools, libraries, theaters, concert halls and galleries throughout the year. (A complete description of funded projects can be downloaded at www.racc.org/grants/docs/2007RACCProjectGrants.pdf)

Fritz Liedtke, one of the Project Grant recipients, had this to say on his blog upon receiving a grant, “Getting a grant is exciting and moving, not just to have the money to work with, but more so to have the recognition from people you respect. It’s more a pat on the back that says, ‘What you’re doing is valid and important. Keep moving.’” (www.fritzphoto.blogspot.com)

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Esther Stutzman (above), a Kalapuya Coos storyteller and educator, will participate in the 2nd Annual Northwest Native American Storytelling Festival in Portland, 1/4-6. Visit www.wisdomoftheelders.org. (RACC Project Grant)


1/12-20 Frieda, Miracle Theatre, 503.236.7253, www.milagro.org


1/14 Brahms Symphony No. 4, Oregon Symphony, 503.228.1353, www.orsymphony.org


1/24 Young Audiences Teacher Professional Development Workshops: Investigate, Discover, Interpret Teaching & Learning through Drama, 503.225.5900, www.ya-or.org


1/27 All American, Portland Chamber Orchestra, 503.771.3250, www.portlandchamberorchestra.org


1/28 Chamber Music Concert, Portland Youth Philharmonic, 503.213.5939, www.portlandyouthphil.org


For more: www.racc.org/resources/events

State of the Arts Report. On December 13, RACC staff delivered a State of the Arts report to Portland City Council, with a summary of grants that were awarded, public art that was commissioned, and Work for Art money that was raised in calendar year 2006. As part of RACC’s presentation, three students (see below) testified about the importance of arts education, and three RACC grant recipients explained how they served the community this past year. Copies of RACC’s 2006 Annual Report will be available in mid-January.

RACC Awarded $19,453 in Professional Development Grants (Cycle 2) to 14 individuals and 2 organizations in early December (94% are first-time RACC recipients). These Grants assist arts organizations and individual artists in tri-county with activities that improve their business management development. For listing visit www.racc.org/grants/grantawards.php#ProfDev2.

2007 RACC Artists Workshop Series Begins. (See back page of Art Notes). 1/19 Artists Wanted: Public Art from A to Z. RACC public art managers will review the process of applying for a Percent for Art commission, including successful application examples, reviewing budgets, timelines, and more. 12pm-2pm, Portland Building, 1120 SW 5th, Room 303, Portland. Fee: $15. Register at www.racc.org/workshops.

RACC Public Art Opportunity:


RACC Grant Opportunity:

The Opportunity Grant Program, funded by the City of Portland, is designed to provide grants to nonprofit arts and cultural organizations to help meet special opportunities or assist organizations with emergencies that arise and that are not part of the applicant’s annual budget or regular programming. For details and applications go to www.racc.org. First Deadline for Letter of Intent: 1/3.

RACC Job Opportunity:


For updates: www.racc.org/resources/RACCOppportunities

11,000 cigarette butts…1,000 pounds of clay…16 animal hides…tire tread, rose petals, fake fur, and leaves. These are some of the things encountered upon entering Second Skin, a life-size installation by Anne Thompson and J.D. Perkin at the Portland Art Center from 1/4-2/24. See www.portlandart.org. (RACC Project Grant)

Charlie Crabtree, Madeleine Rogers, and Nandi Vanka pose with Portland Mayor Tom Potter as they prepared to give testimony to City Council about their involvement in the arts during RACC’s State of the Arts Report at City Hall on 12/13.
Grants/Fellowships/Residencies


Fishtrap seeks applications for its Summer Fellowship Program. Cost of a workshop, registration, food & lodging for the week are provided. Contact: Fishtrap, PO Box 38, Enterprise, OR 97747, 541.426.3623, www.fishtrap.org. Deadline: 2/7/07.

2007 Kate Herzog Writing Scholarships for High School and College students. The scholarships to the Willamette Writers Conference on 8/3-5 in Portland. For more information, call 503.452.1592 or visit www.willamettewriters.com/herzog.htm. Deadline: 2/28/07.


Creative Capital Grants in visual arts and film/video will be awarded to thought-provoking, visionary and inventive projects by artists. Applications will be available on 2/5/07 at www.creative-capitol.org. Deadline: 3/5/07.

Oregon Children’s Theatre presents Miss Nelson is Missing, a witty, wacky musical the whole family can enjoy. The kids in Room 207 are the worst...Bratty Little Beasts. And now their teacher Ms. Nelson is missing. There’s only one thing to do, send for Miss Viola Swamp, the Substitute Teacher! At Keller Auditorium from 1/14-28. Visit www.octc.org for details. (RACC General Support Funding)

Combinations

Call for Entries for The Art of Aging (1/30-3/8). 2-D work depicting aging either in natural or man-made environments. Contact: E. Holzman, Gresham (OR) Arts Advisory Committee triartz@comcast.net. Deadline: 1/15/07.

Call for Oregon Artists for Oregon Visions (4/3-29). All 2D media considered. Contact: Hester Coucke at 541.754.1551, hester@artcentric.org. www.artcentric.org, ArtCentric, 700 SW Madison, Corvallis, OR 97333. Deadline: 1/15/07.


2007 Community Access Capital Grants from the Mt. Hood Cable Regulatory Commission support public and non-profit use of communications technologies for public benefit. Applicants must be 501(c)3 non-profit, school, college, university, library or governmental unit in Multnomah County, OR. Visit www.mhncrc.org, or contact: Rebecca Gibbons, 503.823.5385. Information meeting on 1/25/07, 9:30am at Portland Building, Rm. 1305, 1120 SW 5th, Portland, OR 97204. Deadline: 3/20/07.

For much more: www.racc.org/resources/grants
Public Art for St. Helens, OR. Seek artist to design, build, prepare the site, and install an outdoor bench with a historical or contemporary perspective of the City of St. Helens. Contact Brian Little, City Hall, PO Box 278, St. Helens, OR 97051, 503.397.6272 x 111, FAX 503.397.4016. **Deadline: 2/1/07.**

Call to N/NE Portland Artists: IFCC is seeking submissions for Do North – A Neighborhood Arts Celebration. Theme: Now & Then, focusing on this community’s challenges and opportunities. Seeking: Visual art – painting, photography, artisan works, collage; Sculpture/Installations; Short Films; Poems/Essays/Writing; Creative Interpretations/Meditations/Performances. Contact: IFCC c/o Do North, 5340 N Interstate Ave., Portland, OR 97217, www.ifcc-arts.org. **Deadline: 2/19/07.**

Call for Animated Film for the PLATFORM International Animation Festival (6/25-30) in Portland. The new, boundary-breaking festival and competition will feature films, installations and exhibitions. Categories cover commercial and independent films, student animation and films for new platforms, including cell phones and the Internet. $50,000 in awards. Visit www.platform-festival.com. **Deadline: 3/1/07.**

Blackfish Windows Project Seeks Artists for rotating exhibitions of current work or an installation designed for the space. The South Window dimensions are 8 x 7 feet at the wall with 3 feet of depth; the window aperture is around 5 x 7. Blackfish Gallery is an artist’s co-operative committed to serving the Northwest art community in many ways. Applications at Blackfish, 420 NW 9th, Portland, OR 97209. Ongoing.

For much more: www.racc.org/resources/competitions

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**Job Opportunities**

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**Art History Instructor** for Portland State University specializing in Renaissance Art starting Fall 2007. Visit www.pdx.edu/openings/unclassified/index.htm. Contact: Chair, Art History Search, Department of Art, Portland State University, P.O. Box 751, Portland, OR 97207, art@pdx.edu. **Application review begins: 1/15/07.**

**Two Art Positions at the University of Oregon.** Studio Artist: Textiles. The applicant should be familiar with a range of approaches to contemporary textile media and related interdisciplinary issues. Studio Artist: Print/Paper. Seeking an artist doing innovative work that involves, but is not limited to, one or more of the following: printmaking, book arts, digital media, letterpress, photography. Start date 9/16/07. Contact: Department of Art, 5232 University of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97477, 541.346.3618. **Deadline for both: 2/1/07.**

**The Portland Symphonic Choir is seeking a 1/4 time Development Director** to lead and manage their fundraising efforts. This 60 year-old choral organization has a singing membership of 130 and hundreds of donors who love classical choral music. Send cover letter and resume to executive@pschoir.org.

**Program Developer** sought by the Portland Children’s Museum to research, develop, prototype, deliver and evaluate creative programs for young children (ages 2 – 10) and their caregivers. Visit www.portlandcm.org/jobs.htm. No phone calls.

**Seeking Art Instructors.** Montfaucon Tours arranges luxurious, stress-free, painting and cultural retreats in the Languedoc region of southern France. They are offering the opportunity for established artists to bring a group of 8-10 of their students to Montfaucon for two weeks of plein-air painting in the beautiful French countryside. Contact Amanda@montfaucontours.com, 503.481.6259, www.montfaucontours.com.

For much more: www.racc.org/resources/jobs

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**Workshops/Conferences/Lectures**

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1/16-2/13 **Working Artist Workshop:** Extreme Collage. Go crazy with glue, papers, found objects, craft items, memorabilia and more! Cost: $60. Visit www.workingartistsonline.com.

1/20 **Art Law Workshop** with Peter Vaughan Shaver will provide explanation of copyrights, consignment agreements, licensing and sales of artwork, and commissions.

3/19-26 **Tour Barcelona~Contemporary Art in Catalonia.** Join the Pacific Northwest College of Art (PNCA) Instructor Jef Gunn on tour of studios of working artists and some of Barcelona’s monuments of modernism such as the Fundació Juan Miró, buildings of Antoni Gaudí, and the Dali Museum in Figueras. Tuition: $795; Department Fee: $100. To register: Christine Caton, Young Audiences, 1220 SW Morrison, Suite 900, Portland, OR 97205, 503.225.5900 x 225.

For much more: www.racc.org/resources/workshop

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**Other Opportunities & Information**

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**Arts Resources Network,** providing artists with marketing ideas, funding opportunities, calls for artists, career advice and more. www.ArtsResourceNetwork.org.

For much more: www.racc.org/resources/other
Earlier this fall, after an extensive outreach effort to arts organizations throughout the region, RACC received a record number of Project Grant applications. There are three categories of Project Grants: Artistic Focus in a variety of artistic disciplines (RACC received 142 applications); Neighborhood Arts Projects (RACC received 43 applications); and Arts-in-Schools (RACC received 31 applications). Total amount requested this year for Project Grants for Organizations and Individuals was $946,388 compared to last year’s requests of $785,863.

During the months of October and November, 41 community volunteers served on 9 panels, reading the applications and rating the proposed projects for artistic merit, audience access, and fiscal responsibility. These panels were composed of professional artists, teachers, community representatives and arts administrators from throughout the tri-county region.

Each peer panel reviewed both Organizational and Individual grants together based on discipline. After a thorough panel discussion, reviewers submit scores for each application and panel rankings are then calculated by RACC staff from these scores. Based on these rankings and the amount of funds available for 2006-07 Project Grants, 97 grantees (45% of those who applied) were recommended to the RACC Board of Directors. The final grants were approved by the RACC Board on December 6, 2006. It is noteworthy that 24 of the 38 individual artists who received funding are first-time RACC project grant recipients. In addition, 25 out of 59 organizations are receiving their first-ever RACC project grant.

“I am really looking forward to what promises to be an exceptional year for arts and culture,” said Eloise Damrosch, Executive Director of RACC. “We received strong applications from some of the most promising artists and exciting nonprofit organizations our community has to offer. Together, their creative endeavors will enrich the cultural landscape of the Portland metropolitan area, provide arts access for more of our citizens, and enhance our children’s learning through increased arts education activities.”

Tri-county artists and organizations are encouraged to apply for these grants when guidelines and applications for 2008 will be available in May, with deadlines in August, 2007.

RACC 2007 Artists Workshop Series

Six professional development workshops for working artists in all disciplines from January to June, 2007

Friday, January 19, 2007 from 9:00 AM to noon
"Artists Wanted: Public Art from A to Z"

Friday, February 16, 2007 from 9:00 AM to noon
"The Balancing Act: Making Art and Making Money"

Saturday, March 17, 2007 from 9:00 AM to noon
"Making Art/Work for a Public Space: The Ins and Outs of Public Art Fabrication"

Friday, April 20, 2007 from 9:00 AM to noon
"Legal Issues for Artists"

Friday, May 18, 2007 from 9:00 AM to noon
"Grantwriting for Success"

Friday, June 29, 2007 from 9:00 AM to noon
"Going Digital: Submitting Application Materials in New Media Formats"

Registration is now open and space is limited. A 20% discount is available to artists who subscribe to the entire series.

For more info or to register, visit www.racc.org/workshops, email info@racc.org, or call 503.823.4698.