

Artsline

Summer 2011

Coming to the Durango Arts Center



Greater Tuna

July 8–September 10

Greater Tuna, a comedy by Jaston Williams, Joe Sears and Ed Howard about Texas' third smallest town, where the Lions Club is too liberal and Patsy Cline never dies, comes to the Durango Arts Center's stage beginning July 8. Starring Miles Batchelder and Geoff Johnson and directed by Terry Swan, performances will be held on Friday and Saturday nights, and the production runs through September 10. Tickets are \$20 general admission, \$18 for DAC members. Group rates are also available. Tickets can be purchased on DAC's website, in person at the DAC ticket office or by calling (970) 259-2606. Sponsorship for *Greater Tuna* is generously provided by Alpine Bank, Four Corners Broadcasting and Serious Texas Bar-B-Q. (Photo by Jonas Grushkin, Photogenesis)

Durango Showcase of the Arts

September 9–25

This 17-day showcase features culinary, visual and fine arts; music, literary and theater performances at various Durango locations. For a complete listing of events, visit the website, www.durangoshowcaseofthearts.org.



10-Minute Play Contest

September 16 & 17

Congratulations to Lynne McMahon of Chicago, Illinois, for winning the Grand Prize for her play *Grief* and to Lawrence Kassenich of Watertown, Massachusetts, for his play *Ronnie's Charger*, the People's Choice in the 10-Minute Play Contest held May 15. Both plays, along with three others chosen by the artistic directors, will be produced on September 16 and 17 at 7:30 p.m. in the DAC Theater, and the authors are making plans to attend. Tickets are \$5 for all ages and are available on DAC's website, at DAC's ticket office, or you can call (970) 259-2606.

Durango Autumn Arts Festival

September 17 & 18

The annual Durango Autumn Arts Festival returns to Second Avenue on September 17 and 18. Stroll between 7th and 9th Streets where you can view and purchase the works of fine artists and artisans, sample food from some of the area's notable culinary artists and imbibe in spirits from area wineries as well as in non-alcoholic teas and lemonades. The hours of the festival are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, September 17 and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday, September 18.



Director's Notes

"Arriving at one goal is the starting point to another."

—John Dewey

The Durango Arts Center has been busy this year, and I attribute so many of our successes to our dedicated board president, Terry Swan, and our board of directors, artists, committees, members, volunteers and hard-working staff who strive diligently to ensure we fulfill our mission of supporting the arts. We can all be proud of our Durango Arts Center!

The board of directors and staff have listened to suggestions that we focus more attention on the visual arts. To achieve this goal, on July 1, Mary Puller will become the new exhibits director. Mary has had a long history at the Durango Arts Center, as she established the first gift shop at DAC when it was located in the Main Mall. She will also oversee the Gallery Shop, and she assumed these duties on June 1.

Mary has extensive experience in the art world and has spent the last ten years working in Tucson, Arizona, running a UNICEF gift shop that proved to be an artistic and financial success. Mary takes over from Jeannie Berger, who did a stellar job of overseeing exhibits from 2009 through June of this year, first as a volunteer and then with minimal compensation along with her other DAC duties. Jeannie will continue to provide leadership with recruiting and retaining volunteers and helping build the DAC membership. We are fortunate to have these two talented women on our team, and I believe even greater things are ahead for DAC!

And, speaking of exhibits, DAC will host *Seuss on the Loose*, a national exhibit that opens on October 7 featuring the work of Theodor Seuss Geisel, or Dr. Seuss. Our own Sweetheart of the Arts, Mary Ellen Long, curates this exhibit. She has been working with a volunteer committee, and we have sponsorship from Wells Fargo Bank and Mercury Payments Systems and are working on other venues to support this exhibit. Bringing a national exhibit to rural America is no easy feat, and we are honored to have Mary Ellen to spearhead this process.

In closing, I believe with so many people working hard on behalf of DAC that we will continue to do everything we can to support the arts!

Sheri Rochford Figgs
Executive Director

A Note from the Board President 747 and Climbing

Which of the following is the most important to funding the Durango Arts Center? A. Government funding; B. Corporate gifts; C. Foundation grants; D. None of the above. If you chose D., you're correct.

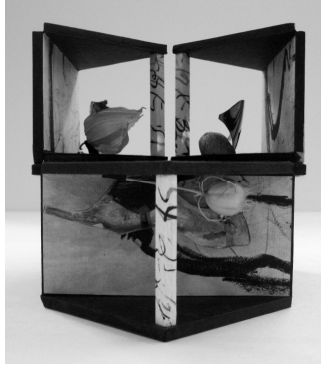
Although many non-profits enjoy support from city, state or federal government programs, DAC receives no public funding. None. While DAC has received generous gifts from Mercury Payment Systems and from BP, that's the extent of corporate largess. If you picked answer C., you'll be surprised to know that in 2010 foundation grants totaled less than \$15,000. The George Hopper Family Foundation made a donation in support of the Girls' Opportunity and Leadership program, and this year the Erteszek Foundation gave us a very generous gift. Nevertheless, loan service, salaries and utilities average almost \$14,000 per month, so, you see, foundation grants do not pay the bills. Membership is the primary source of unearned income for the Durango Arts Center.

The bankers, accountants and bookkeepers who provide financial advice to DAC all agree that increasing membership is the key to a robust organization. Over 300 new members have joined DAC in the last year, and our membership now totals 747. But this 747 must take off if we are to continue to provide art programs to the local community. All of our number-crunchers agree we must maintain a minimum of 1000 members to achieve stability and ensure the future of the Durango Arts Center. Every 100 new members provide DAC with approximately \$10,000 income from dues alone. Additionally, it is through membership that DAC finds its large donors, its board of directors, its volunteers and its patrons. We must achieve 1000 members this year. Considering natural attrition, we must add about 300 members in the next six months. That's only 50 new members per month. That's 1.6 members per day. We need our current members to spread the word. Will you sell DAC to your art-loving friends? If only half of our current members bring one new member to DAC, we would gain 373 new members this year. Please help DAC by telling our story; bring your friends to an exhibit opening, an art class or a performance in the theater. Then tell them this treasure needs them. When I became board president the DAC had 430 members. Today we have 747 members, an increase of 317 members, a whopping 42 percent. Our goal of 1000 members is achievable—only 253 new members to go!

Terry Swan
DAC Board President



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Calendar

July

July–August *Inspiration Drawn from Nature*, intaglio prints by Kumi Korf in the DAC Art Library. Reception: Friday, July 8, 5–7 p.m.

1, 2, 29, 30 Sidewalk Vendor Days at DAC, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

2 Durango Dot Comedy, 8 p.m. in the DAC Theater. \$10 at the door. Cash bar.

5–29 *Ceramics & Sculpture*, an exhibit of 3-dimensional work in the Barbara Conrad Gallery. Reception: Friday, July 8, 5–7 p.m.

8–September 10 *Greater Tuna* plays Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. in the DAC Theater. Doors open at 6:45 p.m. To purchase tickets, go to www.durangoarts.org, call (970) 259-2606 or come by the ticket office at DAC.

9–10 Book art workshop with Kumi Korf. For information and to register, call Mary Ellen Long at 259-4363.

August

Continuing through August *Inspiration Drawn from Nature*, intaglio prints by Kumi Korf in the DAC Art Library.

4, 5, 6 Summer Theater Academy presents *Aladdin* and *Guys and Dolls* in the DAC Theater. Performances are at 7 p.m. on August 4 and at 1 p.m. on August 5 and 6. Tickets are available at DAC's ticket office.

2–September 2 *Muses: Life's Inspirations*, a juried fiber exhibit by the Front Range Contemporary Quilters. Reception: Friday, August 5, 5–7 p.m.

12, 13, 19, 20 Sidewalk Vendor Days at DAC, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

September

September–October *Hands On II*, mixed media works by students of past F.O.A.L. workshops. Reception: Friday, September 9, 5–7 p.m.

2, 3, 9, 10, 23, 24, 30 Sidewalk Vendor Days at DAC, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

6–17 *Open Doors*, a taster exhibit for the Durango Open Studios Tour in the Barbara Conrad Gallery. Reception: Friday, September 9, 5–7 p.m.

9 Fall Gallery Walk at DAC and other art venues in town, 5–9 p.m.

9 Open Shutter Gallery presents a lecture by photographer Steve McCurry in the DAC Theater. For more information call Open Shutter Gallery at 382-8355.

9–25 Durango Showcase of the Arts. For a complete listing of exhibits, events and performances, go to www.durangoshowcaseofthearts.org.

16–17 10-Minute Play Contest performances in the DAC Theater, 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available at DAC's ticket office. \$5 for all ages.

17–18 Durango Autumn Arts Festival on Second Avenue between 7th & 9th Streets, Saturday, September 17, 10 a.m.–6 p.m. and Sunday, September 18, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

18 Sunday Screening Series presents *Girl with a Pearl Earring* (PG13, 2003), 2 p.m. in the Education Studio. \$8 (\$5 students with valid ID).

20–23 TOP exhibit and silent auction in the Barbara Conrad Gallery. Gala reception and live auction will be on Friday, September 23 beginning at 5:30 p.m. \$50 per person. Tickets are available at DAC's ticket office.

27–October 1 Western Art Exhibit in the Barbara Conrad Gallery. Reception: Friday, September 29, 5–7 p.m.

29 Durango Cowboy Poetry Gathering's Mystery Theater, 7 p.m. in the DAC Theater. For information, call Linda Mannix at 749-2995.

30 Durango Acoustic Music presents Town Mountain in the DAC Theater. For information, go to www.durangoacousticmusic.com.

Membership Benefits

Individual and Family Memberships

All donors at the Senior/Student level and Associate members who have completed 20 hours of volunteer time receive our quarterly *Artsline* newsletter, invitations to exhibit openings and special events, 10% discounts on purchases in the galleries and Gallery Shop and discounts on educational programs, rental space and tickets to selected theater performances and other events. Member artists are entitled to reduced entry fees to exhibits, reduced commissions on art sales, eligibility to enter the annual members' exhibit and a listing in our online Artists' Directory.

Business and Corporate Memberships Available

Partner with us and get great benefits for your employees and advertising for your company. For more information, call Elizabeth Salkind at 259-2606 or write elizabeth@durangoarts.org.

Continuing Events

Agape in Durango—Sundays, 9:30–11:30 a.m. Michael Bernard Beckwith, (970) 247-2221 or center4spiritualliving@gmail.com

Anusara Yoga—Fridays, 9:30–11 a.m. Sandy Bielenberg, instructor, (970) 259-9740

Durango Writers Group—Mondays, 6:30–8:30 p.m. Tanya Swartzbaugh, (970) 403-4303 or word_fairy@hotmail.com

Nia—Wednesdays at noon. Marlis Sawicki, instructor, (970) 759-2602

Performing Arts for Kids—Durango Performing Arts Company. Denise Hagemester, director, (970) 403-8000 or dgopac@yahoo.com

SoulCollage® as a Journey of Discovery—July 24, August 14, September 25. Barb Horn, instructor, (970) 588-3806 or barbhorn@wildblue.net

Contact Us

Phone: (970) 259-2606

E-mail: info@durangoarts.org

Website: www.durangoarts.org

DAC Staff

Sheri Rochford Figgs, Executive Director
Elizabeth Salkind, Development Director
Sandra Butler, Education Coordinator
Mary Puller, Exhibits Director
Jeannie Berger, Volunteer Coordinator & Membership
Diane Panelli, Theater Manager & Building Reservations
Julie Madden, Finance
Jonas Grushkin, Building Manager
Liz Silverstein, Website Administrator
Gayle Burrows, Administrative Assistant
Elizabeth Mitchell & James McGuire, Building Maintenance

DAC Board of Directors

Allison Andersen	Joe Kusar
Amy Buchanan	Rochelle Mann
Robert Duthie	Sandra Mapel
C. Scott Hagler	Maureen May
Crystal Hartman	Terry Swan
Connie Imig	Diane Wildfang
Peggy Zemach	

DAC Advisory Board

John Anderson	John Gamble
Terry Bacon	Lynne Greco
Linda Bunk	Joel Jones
Robert Conrad	Steve Kiely
Margy Dudley	Mary Ellen Long
Christina Erteszek	Carol Salomon
J. William Vega	

DAC Summer Hours

Administrative offices: Monday–Friday, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.
Gallery & Shop: Tuesday–Saturday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.
Friday & Saturday, 10 a.m.–8 p.m. through September 10
DAC Art Library: Tuesday–Saturday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.
Ticket Office: Monday–Thursday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.
Friday & Saturday, 10 a.m.–8 p.m. through September 10

DAC Art Library

Library information: Pegi Peterson, (970) 385-8461 or ppeterson@frontier.net
Exhibits information: Jane Steele, (970) 259-5305 or durangocolor@yahoo.com

DAC Docents

docents@durangoarts.org

Resident Organizations

Durango Performing Arts Company

Denise Hagemester, (970) 403-8000/dgopac@yahoo.com

San Juan Symphony

Kathy Myrick, (970) 382-9753/www.sanjuansymphony.org

Shared Vision Publishing/*Arts Perspective Magazine*

Denise Leslie, (970) 403-1590/denise@artsperspective.com

Check for Updates!

New events are always being added to the schedule. Dates, times and ticket prices are subject to change, and some information is not available until closer to the scheduled event. Go to DAC's website, www.durangoarts.org, for the latest updates, or call (970) 259-2606 to confirm information.

Join the Constant Contact E-mail Club

Get monthly updates about events at the Durango Arts Center. Go to DAC's website and enter your e-mail address in the box marked "Please Sign Up for Email Updates."