

CULTURAL SERVICES BOARD MINUTES

Tuesday, July 27, 2010

4:30 P.M.

LOVELAND MUSEUM/GALLERY

503 N. Lincoln Ave.

Loveland, CO 80537

The July 27, 2010 meeting of the Cultural Services Board was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Juanita Cisneros in the Upstairs Conference Room of the Loveland Museum/Gallery.

Board members present: Juanita Cisneros, Kris Ortmann, Dena Kirk, Rose Watson and Jan DesJardin. Also present were City Council Liaison Kent Solt and Cultural Services staff members Susan Ison, Jan Sawyer, Jennifer Cousino, Kim Akeley-Charron and Michelle Standiford.

Additions/Changes to the Agenda

- Jan Sawyer moved Missoula Children's Theater Report from the Rialto section to the Museum section, immediately after the Cherry Pie Report.

Additions or Corrections/Changes to the Minutes

There were no changes or corrections to the June 22nd, 2010 minutes. Rose Watson moved to accept the June 22nd, 2010 minutes; Jan DesJardin seconded. All approved.

Board Reports

Kris Ortmann shared that Dena Kirk took a first place for her piece *Into the Woods* and a jury award for *Dopey* at the Women's Artists of the West event. She also mentioned that the Missoula Children's Theater production of *Beauty Lou and the Country Beast* was just wonderful and encouraged all Board members to come to these shows each year. She feels that every year, they just keep getting better. Up in Lights' production of *42nd Street* was another great show as well. Also, while volunteering at the Rialto Theater on July 18th, a lady approached Kris to tell her how much she loves the new size of the schedule of events brochure. Kris also brought up a question about the e-newsletter where at the top is says "please confirm your continued interest in receiving this email from us". You are given an option of "unsubscribe" and "confirm" and Kris was questioning the purpose of the "confirm" option. Staff will verify with the e-newsletter provider exactly what that is for, but most likely, it is a requirement for spam related reasons. Michelle Standiford will call Constant Contact for more clarity and report back to the Board next month.

Museum Reports

CCA Grant (Colorado Council of the Arts)

Kim Akeley-Charron reported that we received an \$8500 grant from the Colorado Council of the Arts. She felt one reason we were so successful in receiving this grant was that we were able to prove a great partnership with multiple entities including the Museum, Rialto Theater, the School District and outside speakers. This grant was written for "Threads to China" and a section of the main gallery will be used during the Rhonda Stone exhibit to showcase a video/performance artist. In addition, this grant will help expand programming surrounding an event coming to the Rialto

featuring a stunning Chinese dancer, Yu Wi. Staff plans to meet on July 28th to further discuss programming. This event is scheduled for approximately the first two weeks in January.

Cherry Pie Celebration

This was a tremendously successful event this year. Kent Solt was recognized for his hard work mixing many gallons of lemonade and iced tea for the Youth Advisory Commission drink table. Everyone pitched in and helped where needed and it all came together. Judging for the *Art of the Tart* event went well. The process splitting the contest pies into groups among the judges made the process much smoother and easier on the judges as well. Juanita felt that this made the contest much more fair for each contestant as the judge's taste buds weren't worn out by the time they got to the last pies. Dena Kirk, judge for the event, said this worked well and the judges were able to take their time and really evaluate each entry. Last year, there were 13 entries in the contest. This year there were 20 pies entered. This year's winner, Darlene Hensel, won last year as well. Kent said that several people commented to him at the drink table that they were interested in entering a pie next year as well. Michelle Standiford received multiple comments from the event attendees asking if we could consider having different pie categories next year. These categories could include the traditional cherry pie, a youth division and a "non-traditional" category that could include sugar-free pies as well as mixed cherry/berry pies. There was also a question raised about allowing professional pie bakers as well. This could be a separate category as well or we will need to clarify that we will not take commercial entries.

Several people approached Kris during the judging about being a judge next year. Susan Ison shared that this year, they wanted to use the event sponsors as judges. John Moyer, representing Johnson's Corner, was very supportive of the contest and offered many positive comments about how it was run. He felt we did a good job organizing it and that it was very solid competition. Rose Watson thought it would be good for next year to post the contest rules and guidelines in multiple areas and publish the entry form as well. This would allow entrants to fill out the form early. While people take the competition very seriously, Juanita wanted to stress that the contest is primarily for fun.

Other comments for the Cherry Pie Celebration included

- More programming around the event including clay classes for kids where they could make their own clay pie.
- It was great to have the professional sound system – it allowed guests to listen to the music without having to be up close.
- Everyone was glad the event moved away from the BBQ event.
- Kim did a great job publicizing the event.
- Next year, we should have more signs. Large signs need to be placed high up on the booths to allow for better way-finding.
- Offer more booths and activities – the Loveland Historical Society booth was well attended.

In all, approximately 2500 attended the 2010 Cherry Pie Celebration

Missoula Children's Theater

This year's program, *Beauty Lou and the Country Beast* had a very strong cast that involved 63 students. Both directors this year were experienced with the program and that made a big difference in the week. Workshops were well attended with approximately 30 students in the first class and a little less in the last two workshops. Kim has reserved the group for next summer and is investigating the possibility of doing 2 workshops in 2011 (summer and fall in 2011). Future programs would possibly be held in the spring and fall and take place after school.

Battle of the Bands

This year's event went well with only 9 bands instead of the full 10. Kids enjoy this event and staff feels it is worthwhile to offer. There were approximately 200 in attendance.

Lone Tree School Fundraiser

Jennifer Cousino reported that at the Benefit Concert, three local bands donated their time and musical talents. Penguins Ice Cream sold ice cream at the event and donated the proceeds of \$300 to the Lone Tree School repair. The donation jar at the event raised \$102. Three pieces of artwork were available for a silent auction with one piece selling. Jennifer placed the remaining two pieces up for silent auction at the Cherry Pie Celebration and both sold bringing in another \$200.

Jennifer provided repair updates. The security equipment will be installed on Thursday and will include a motion sensor and strobe. It will be out of view and unobtrusive to the school. It will not be connected to the Police Department as that requires a monthly fee.

Kroh Donation

The Loveland Museum is named in the Kroh will as a beneficiary and this year, the Museum received \$9877.50. The India exhibit has cost more than predicted and this money will be very helpful in allaying those costs. Susan Ison will be speaking to the Kroh Foundation in August about the upcoming Museum expansion.

Thursday Evening Hours

Tom Katsimpalis has taken a medical leave for an undetermined amount of time. He has been the Museum's Thursday evening staffer for many years and with his absence, Jennifer Cousino and Suzanne Janssen will cover the front desk for the hours of 5-9 pm. Museum attendance during these hours has been low with the exception of when there is an event scheduled. Susan is considering changing the hours to 7 pm beginning in November except for evenings when programs are scheduled. The Board was in agreement with this change. These hours will go into effect in November since the old hours were just published in the newsletter for August, September and October. In addition, Kris Ortmann volunteered to extend her Thursday shift if needed and cover the front desk if staff was needed elsewhere in the building.

Accreditation

Susan distributed the accreditation visit packets and asked the Board to read through it. The accrediting team plan to visit the Museum on September 16 and 17. They will want to speak with the Cultural Services Board members during that visit as well.

Museum Miscellaneous

Susan shared a very nice letter from James and Nancy Myers they included along with their annual membership.

Nancy G. Myers

17 July 2010

Dear Susan,

Here it is the middle and, a little more of July. Time to get out the checkbook and write the Museum the annual check. We have enjoyed the Museum so much since we moved here. Everyone that comes to visit us gets a trip to the Museum and the Sculpture Park.. We are so fortunate and so proud to have them both here in Loveland. I am sure that there are people who live here that have never visited either place. They do not know what they are missing.

We especially enjoy coming to the Governor's Art Show the evening that it opens. Happily, the night of the opening is always well presented and well attended. We enjoy the give and take with the other attendees. The crowding gives us an excuse to come back later to enjoy what we missed on opening night. And the food! We have known Jim Buehler for many years, long before he had his catering business. We have enjoyed his food so much. It is always fun to see what he does for your show as he is very innovative with his food and how it is presented. I also went to some cooking classes Jim did at another friends gift shop before he started his catering business . His dad was my husband's golf partner for a long time before Bob passed away.

We feel so honored to be able to come and visit all your fine art displays. Many thanks for the many tickets you have sent us over the years.

Jim and Nancy Myers

Jim & Nancy

Rialto Report

LHAT (League of Historic American Theaters)

Jan Sawyer just returned from spending a week in San Antonio, Texas for the LHAT conference. She felt this was an outstanding conference and came back with many ideas. In addition to the conference, she took part in two public art tours.

Jan learned that this year's LHAT award was presented to Playhouse Square in Cleveland. This is a large theater with multiple venues and it is difficult for the smaller theaters to compete against that. She submitted a comment that they might consider offering awards to theaters with seating over 1000 people as well as to theaters seating less than 1000. Regardless, she feels our application this year was very well done.

House Manager

Jan Sawyer announced that Sandy Elliott has accepted the House Manager position. She has many years of experience taking seniors on tours around the world. She has worked for the past 2 weeks now on her own and done really well.

Mid Year Statistics

Jan reported that all records for the month of June were broken this year. This comes on the heels of the worst May on record due to Loveland Community Theater cancelling their shows. Last May was one of the best Mays on record due to the production of *Beets*. With June's success, the Theater is keeping up with totals similar to last year at this time. *Tuesday Theater for Kids* was huge again this year and the Theater just wrapped another great season with big numbers. *42nd Street* by Up in Lights was greatly attended and averaged 200 people at each of their 6 performances. Jan DesJardin felt that this was a great musical that appealed to many different age levels.

Volunteer Event

The Rialto Theater volunteers will get together for a picnic on Monday, August 30th at 5pm at Fairgrounds Park.

Rialto Bridge

Susan Ison and Jan Sawyer spent the previous Friday with the Rialto Bridge architect reviewing the design. Jan is very pleased with the architects and their plans. They will preserve the integrity of the Rialto Theater while bringing in some creative design ideas that will not overshadow the Theater. Updates on the progress will be made as the process continues.

Art in Public Places Report

Susan continued the discussion on the three expansion projects. Randy Shortridge is the lead architect for the Rialto Bridge project and has worked with public art in the past. The RFQ has gone out and submissions are coming in.

For the Library Expansion and Chilson Center Expansion, selection committees have been formed and they are currently reviewing the submissions for both of those projects.

Susan asked the Cultural Services Board for 2 members to join the selection committee for the Rialto Bridge project. In addition to the 2 Board members, there will be 2 people from staff, 5 Visual Arts Commission members, Troy Peterson and Randy Shortridge on the subcommittee. Committee members will be required to get online with CAFÉ and jury the 28 artists who have applied. A meeting will be held next week. Dena Kirk and Juanita Cisneros have volunteered to represent the Cultural Services Board at these meetings.

The next Cultural Services Board meeting is scheduled for August 24th, 2010 at 4:30 pm in the Loveland Museum/Gallery conference room.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:40 pm with a motion from Jan DesJardin and a second from Kris Ortmann.

Submitted by Michelle Standiford