

## ARTS HEALING AMERICA

Update on the Arts and Cultural  
Response Nationwide to the Events of  
September 11, 2001  
(February 28, 2002)



### AMERICANS FOR THE ARTS PROGRAMS/ACTIVITIES

202.371.2830. [www.AmericansForTheArts.org/Arts\\_Healing\\_America](http://www.AmericansForTheArts.org/Arts_Healing_America)

#### ARTS HEALING AMERICA

Arts Healing America features **national and state-by-state listings of arts responses**—memorials, performances, discussion forums, exhibitions, and artwork—as well as **resources for artists and arts organizations**—how-to's, funding opportunities, reports, and organizations providing aid of every type.

To post an item, please e-mail Anne Canzonetti at [acanzonetti@artsusa.org](mailto:acanzonetti@artsusa.org).

#### AMERICAN FOLKLIFE CENTER

<http://lcweb.loc.gov/folklife/nineelevn> OR [www.loc.gov/folklife/vets](http://www.loc.gov/folklife/vets)

The American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress provides two projects for educators and older students to consider replicating: September 11, 2001 Documentary Project, and the Veterans Oral History Project.

#### ARTS INTERNATIONAL

[www.artsinternational.org/ai\\_condolence\\_page.htm](http://www.artsinternational.org/ai_condolence_page.htm)

Arts International invited artists around the world to post responses to the terrorist attacks. Their site has photo galleries and video clips of Union Square memorials.

#### ASKERIC

[http://ericir.syr.edu/cgi-bin/printresponses.cgi/Virtual/Qa/archives/Subjects/Social\\_Studies/Current\\_Events/tragedy.html](http://ericir.syr.edu/cgi-bin/printresponses.cgi/Virtual/Qa/archives/Subjects/Social_Studies/Current_Events/tragedy.html)

In light of September 11, AskERIC compiled a list of resources for educators and parents to help students cope with and discuss this tragedy.

#### BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU

[www.newyork.bbb.org/disasterrelief](http://www.newyork.bbb.org/disasterrelief) OR [www.give.org](http://www.give.org)

The Metro New York Better Business and the BBB Wise Giving have launched a public online database that contains information on more than 275 charities that are raising money or providing services related to the September 11 attacks.

#### CARNEGIE CORPORATION OF NEW YORK

212.371.3200 [www.carnegie.org/sub/news/cultural.html](http://www.carnegie.org/sub/news/cultural.html)

Carnegie Corporation has announced awards from \$25,000 to \$100,000 to 137 different cultural and arts organizations throughout NYC that contribute to the vibrant intellectual, cultural, and arts life of the city. The awards, which total \$10 million, are made in the name of an anonymous donor who gave the Corporation a gift to be used at the discretion of the president, Vartan Gregorian, to aid NYC's cultural institutions, which are struggling in the aftermath of the September 11th attacks. "We have spent the past six weeks consulting broadly and widely in order to choose medium and small-sized organizations that serve the public through dance, theatre, music, poetry, photography, and institutions that advance historic and scientific understanding," said Gregorian.

#### SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[www.sba.gov/news/current02/02-04.html](http://www.sba.gov/news/current02/02-04.html)

President Bush has signed into law an appropriations bill adding \$320 million in loan capacity to the Small Business Administration's disaster lending effort for businesses affected by the September 11 attacks. In addition to expanding the maximum loan amount, the law makes small non-profit institutions located in the declared disaster areas of New York and Virginia eligible for Economic Injury Disaster Loans.

#### OLD TOWN SCHOOL OF FOLK MUSIC

[www.oldtownschool.org/hopesongs.html](http://www.oldtownschool.org/hopesongs.html)

Chicago's Old Town School for Folk Music has posted titles for songs of hope.

#### COALITION FOR ESSENTIAL SCHOOLS

[www.essentialschools.org/pubs/ematters/ematters9\\_12\\_01.html](http://www.essentialschools.org/pubs/ematters/ematters9_12_01.html)

Coalition for Essential Schools has established a page of commentary and links in response to the events of September 11.

#### COPING WITH CRISIS

[www.co-nect.net/resources.shtml](http://www.co-nect.net/resources.shtml)

The website invites students to send in their writing and reflections on September 11.

#### EDUCATORS FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY METROPOLITAN AREA

[www.esrmetro.org/responding.html](http://www.esrmetro.org/responding.html)

Educators for Social Responsibility Metropolitan Area offers ideas and resources for teachers on September 11 and its aftermath.

#### EVERYTHING AFTER: A 9/11 YOUTH CIRCLE

[www.EA911.org](http://www.EA911.org)

Teens are invited to join an online dialogue about the impact of September 11 on their lives.

#### FACING HISTORY

[www.facinghistory.org/facing/fhao2.nsf](http://www.facinghistory.org/facing/fhao2.nsf)

Facing History provides lessons on writing and remembering, buildings as metaphors, and ways to frame and conduct difficult discussions.

#### FLAGS ACROSS THE NATION

858.450.9044 E-mail: [eileenschwartzusa@yahoo.com](mailto:eileenschwartzusa@yahoo.com).

Eileen Schwartz, founder/executive director of Flags Across the Nation, began photographing flags after September 11. The community of San Diego County, in turn, provided her with over 1,200 photos taken by amateur and professional photographers. Eight exhibitions have taken place since November 24, 2002, in venues such as the USO, airport, county building, galleries, a museum, and a library. Additional exhibitions have been scheduled through January 2003. The exhibitions are dependent on receiving patriotic photos and drawings of the American flag. During the summer, the exhibitions will travel to venues throughout the U.S.

#### GLOBAL SCHOOLHOUSE

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/KidsShareHope> AND <http://www.globalschoolnet.org/>

Participants of the Global Schoolhouse and youth worldwide use this space to express their support, hope, and condolences through writing and art.

#### MARKING PLACES THAT MATTER

212.935.3960 E-mail: [placematters@mas.org](mailto:placematters@mas.org). [www.placematters.net/email\\_overview.html](http://www.placematters.net/email_overview.html)

Marking Places that Matter is a competition to commemorate NYC's historical and cultural landscape—the physical places central to New York's history, stories and traditions.

#### MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

<http://web.mit.edu/cms/reconstructions>

Re:constructions: Reflections on Humanity and Media after a Tragedy is an MIT Comparative Media Studies Program site offering interesting perspectives and a study guide for older students and adults, including media analysis tools.

#### MUNICIPAL ART SOCIETY OF NEW YORK

212.753.1816 E-mail: [holly@mas.org](mailto:holly@mas.org). [www.imagineny.org](http://www.imagineny.org)

The Municipal Art Society, in partnership with over 50 civic and community organizations, is launching *Imagine New York* to ensure that decisions regarding the rebuilding of Lower Manhattan and the memorialization of the WTC tragedy take into consideration the needs and visions of all who have been affected by September 11. In mid-April, the Society will hold hundreds of workshops in New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut for individuals to share their ideas and visions for the future of the WTC site and the metropolitan area. The workshops will take two forms: in the conceptual track, workshops will consist of brainstorming, identifying themes and priorities, and developing "vision statements" around themes; the visual track will culminate in a charette, with participants envisioning good and bad places. People will also be able to submit their ideas, verbally or visually, to the Imagine New York website. All ideas will be documented and posted on the website, with a curated exhibition of submissions.

#### NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE SOCIAL STUDIES

[www.ncss.org](http://www.ncss.org)

NCSS offers a discussion forum on the teaching of social studies as it relates to September 11.

#### NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS

[www.nasponline.org/NEAT/crisis\\_0911.html](http://www.nasponline.org/NEAT/crisis_0911.html)

National Association of School Psychologists provides information to help parents, schools,

mental health professionals, and others to assist children as they cope with the aftermath of September 11, including discussion of memorials, activities, and rituals.

#### NATIONAL COALITION AGAINST CENSORSHIP

212.807.6222 ext 23 E-mail: [svetlana@ncac.org](mailto:svetlana@ncac.org). [www.ncac.org](http://www.ncac.org)

At the 2002 Annual Convention of the College Art Association, Svetlana Mintcheva, coordinator of NCAC's Arts Advocacy Project, chaired the session, *Solace, Memory, Dissent: Art after September 11*.

She presented a variety of concrete artistic responses to the attacks and their aftermath and discussed the ethical, political, and historical aspects of creative expression in times of crisis.

#### NATIONAL WRITING PROJECT

<http://writingproject.org/Resources/sept11.htm>

National Writing Project has compiled a list of curricular and counseling links for educators, students, and caregivers on how to support writing and the sharing of writing during difficult times.

#### NEW YORK CITY DIVISION OF INSTRUCTION SUPPORT

[www.nycenet.edu/dis/bias](http://www.nycenet.edu/dis/bias)

The NYC Division of Instructional Support has posted K–12 activities and strategies for dealing with prejudice and stereotyping.

#### TEACHING TOLERANCE

E-mail: [info@tolerance.org](mailto:info@tolerance.org). [www.teachingtolerance.org](http://www.teachingtolerance.org)

Send to: Storybook Quest, Teaching Tolerance, 400 Washington Avenue, Montgomery, AL 36104. Deadline: May 15, 2002. Teaching Tolerance seeks tolerance-themed stories created by children of all ages and is accepting manuscripts for its 2002 Storybook Quest. Our editors will adapt the top submissions as online storybooks. Original illustrations welcomed. Winners will receive \$100 honorariums and certificates of appreciation.

### **MUSINGS**

#### RICHARD H. RESSMEYER

Director of Arts, West Virginia Division of Culture and History

304.558.0220 ext 721. E-mail:

[richard.ressmeyer@wvculture.org](mailto:richard.ressmeyer@wvculture.org). [www.wvculture.org/arts/Artworks/Winter01/chairs.cfm](http://www.wvculture.org/arts/Artworks/Winter01/chairs.cfm)

[To read Ressmeyer's comments in full, visit the website.] "On September 11, the violence of terrorists caused chairs to fall from heights in swirls of pain and dust in New York, Virginia, and Pennsylvania. Now there are empty chairs in homes, in places of religious expression, on the governing boards of arts institutions, in civic assemblies, in schools. Foreign nationals from 86 countries and nearly all states of the U.S., including West Virginia, lost native daughters and sons. Some of those chairs are vacant because someone was killed in the tragedy. Some because a family member, filled with sadness or anger, has retreated from social exchange and public engagement. Some chairs are empty because of assignment to public safety in police, fire, EMT, medical service, or the military.

"Sven Berg, Hans-Ekkehard Butzer and Torrey Butzer, the designers of the Oklahoma City National Memorial, chose 168 chairs as the central metaphor to memorialize the victims of the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building.

"We all sit in chairs during ceremonies or graduations, and our language uses the idea of a chair in phrases that denote prestige: "seat of honor," "the head of the table." At universities and in symphonies, "chairs" are funded by philanthropic endowments. In performing arts houses, we try to get the best seat we can afford. Actors in the theater ask, "Is there a full house?" or are pleased to know that there was "standing room only." The Latin "*ex cathedra*" refers to a bishop speaking from a seat of authority. There is also the parlor game of musical chairs which is a juvenile illustration of the scarcity model of "haves" and "have-nots," which makes the child left standing at a birthday party weep in frustration at being "out."

"The mayor of New York and the president of the United States have enjoined us to return to active, positive, and productive lives. The arts must be a part of that return. It is in the arts that we find some of the best illustrations of the human character and its capacity for beauty and truth. The arts, it must also be noted, are not a monotonous uniformity. The arts represent the rich pluralism of America, including dissenting opinions and difficult aesthetics.

"Yet there seems to be some doubt about the proper response of the average citizen. Speaking on *The News Hour* with Jim Lehrer last month, historian Roger Wilkins commented, 'When we got into World War II, we knew we were in it for the long haul. We don't know what the long haul is here. In the meantime, what are we called upon to do? It seems to me that one of the things we're called upon to do is to take care of the country; that is, to think really clearly about what it is that we value as a nation. Democracy, you know, is perishable. We know that. You've got to take care of it in order to make it endure. So it seems to me the challenge to us is to find ways now to make the democracy stronger, to protect the rights that we cherish, and to show our commitment that way.'

"We live in a world tied together by communication and commerce, yet we witness brutal pictures of the great divide between rich and poor, the powerful and the disenfranchised. The world cannot play musical chairs in security.

"By your participation in the arts you can help fill the chairs of civic engagement, and at the same time welcome the many-hued tapestry of cultural and intellectual diversity to the table."

### ***ENJOY THE BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP***

Membership in Americans for the Arts is designed to link organizations and individuals to the information and professional growth opportunities that will help them achieve their goals. Become a member of Americans for the Arts and take advantage of all of our value-added benefits, including access to our listservs, our monthly e-newsletter, our quarterly newsletter, and more. To sign up to become a member, or to find out more about the other great benefits membership offers, visit our [www.AmericansfortheArts.org/getinvolved/membership](http://www.AmericansfortheArts.org/getinvolved/membership).