

AMERICA BEGINS TO HEAL

Update on the Arts and Cultural Response
Nationwide to the Events of 09.11.2001
(10.12.2001)



AMERICANS FOR THE ARTS PROGRAMS/ACTIVIITIES

www.AmericansForTheArts.org

ARTSLINK

In an upcoming issue of *ArtsLink*, AMERICANS FOR THE ARTS will focus on the place of arts and culture in healing, recovery, and rebuilding of both self and community. Contact Anne Canzonetti, 202.371.2830 or acanzonetti@artsusa.org, with case studies or other items of interest for consideration.

MONOGRAPH

Naj Wikoff, program director, Healing and the Arts, of the C. Everett Koop Institute at Dartmouth College, is writing a *Monograph* on the issues facing the cultural community after the events of 09.11 and what our resources are for addressing them.

CULTURAL HEALING DISCUSSION FORUM

Visit the forum located in the America Begins to Heal section of the AMERICANS FOR THE ARTS website, www.AmericansForTheArts.org, to discuss your impressions of the world and your community after the events of 09.11.2001. Tell us what you and your community are doing to begin the healing process, and reflect on the role of arts and culture in the rebuilding and strengthening of our communities.

STATUS OF ARTS ORGANIZATIONS IN MANHATTAN AND THE PENTAGON

NEW YORK COUNCIL FOR THE HUMANITIES

212.233.1131. E-mail: nych@nyhumanities.org. www.nyhumanities.org

The New York Council for the Humanities, located about 200 yards from the site of the WTC, is back in business. The building housing the council's offices was not damaged. The council reopened 09.24. All council events in October will take place as scheduled.

GROUPS PROVIDING AID AND ASSISTANCE

IRS ISSUES SPECIAL PUBLICATION ON DISASTER RELIEF

<http://www.irs.gov/relief/aid-charity-pub.pdf>

Disaster Relief: Providing Assistance Through Charitable Organizations, available through the IRS, addresses issues of particular importance in the wake of last week's attacks.

COMMUNITIES ENGAGED IN HEALING THROUGH THE ARTS**09.2001**

CAROLINE COUNTY COUNCIL OF ARTS (MD)

410.479.1009. E-mail: mgran@dmv.com (Mark Grande)

The community organized gatherings for 09.14 and 10.14 with music, prayer, and commemoration.

ETH-NOH-TEC

415.282.8705. www.ethnohtec.org

On 09.14, Eth-Noh-Tec performed at a health partnerships conference. Pieces included *Trouble Talk*—a Cambodian tale of how man destroyed paradise to prove himself more powerful than all other animals—and *Takashi's Dream*, on the change from hatred and revenge to forgiveness, reconciliation, and peace.

COMMUNITY SCHOOL OF THE ARTS (Charlotte, NC)

704.377.4187. www.csarts.org

On 09.15, the School participated in the Arts and Science Council's Culture Can Heal Weekend by opening the Preschool Arts Lab for free hands-on arts activities for children ages three to five and their parents.

BEVERLY HILLS OFFICE OF HUMAN RELATIONS (CA)

On 09.16, a candlelight vigil and memorial service was held in Civic Center Plaza. The Beverly Hills High School Madrigals and bag piper Tom Allan performed, with comforting words from Muslim, Jewish, and Catholic clergy and TV personality Monty Hall.

CENTER FOR CULTURAL EXCHANGE (Portland, ME)

207.761.0591. www.centerforculturalexchange.org/

The week after the attacks, the Center sponsored a fundraising event for relief efforts. A dozen local bands—including Middle Eastern and Afghan music ensembles—and ten restaurants donated artistry and food. The Center delayed publication of their annual program magazine and included commentary by artists and cultural leaders on the function of art in a time of profound public crisis.

10.06.2001

CALIFORNIA REMEMBRANCE PROJECT

916.322.6391. E-mail: kneff@caartscouncil.com (Kristin Margolis). www.cac.ca.gov

The American Red Cross and the California Arts Council will form a unique partnership the week of 10.06–14 to establish the California Remembrance Project. The purpose for the project is to promote remembrance and healing for the 09.11 victims, their loved ones, the people of California, and the people in areas affected by the attacks, and for those in the future who will seek consolation and perspective. The first-ever partnership will involve representative arts venues and Red Cross chapters throughout the state. It will produce letters, notes, poems, and pictures created by Californians to express their feelings and to offer sympathy, support to the victims and their loved ones, the rescue and relief workers, and those affected by the attacks.

10.07.2001

ARLINGTON COUNTY (VA)

703.228.1846. E-mail: jclari@co.arlington.va.us (Arlington County Cultural Affairs Division)

On 10.07, 7,000 attended Arlington County's Day of Remembrance and Appreciation. The Arlington Symphony and the Metropolitan Chorus joined Gov. Jim Gillmore, Sen. John Warner, and Rep. James

Moran to remember the 190 people who were killed at the Pentagon (located in Arlington) and to honor the police, fire, and EMS professionals who came from as far away as Albuquerque, NM.

CHEBOYGAN AREA ARTS COUNCIL (MI)

On 10.07, the Cheboygan Area Arts Council held an interdenominational service at the Opera House, at which over \$1,500 was raised in a collection for the Twin Towers Fund. The program included dance, hymns, and patriotic music.

10.08.2001

MILWAUKEE ARTS UNITE

A performance was held 10.08 at the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts, the proceeds of which benefited the United Way of New York September 11 Fund.

10.09.2001

THE DIALOGUE PROJECT

413.253.5630

A community dialogue—How did we get here? What should we do now?—took place 10.09.2001 at the Crocker Farm School in Amherst, MA.

10.11.2001

DANCE/USA

202.833.1717. E-mail: asnyder@danceusa.org. www.danceusa.org

Dance/USA, with several NYC dance service providers, hosted a town meeting with representatives of the funding community on 10.11 at Danspace Project/St. Mark's Church.

ENLIGHTENED PEACE (Minneapolis, MN)

On 10.11 in Triangle Park, installation artist Felicitas Maria Sokec will spell out "Peace" in many languages using candles brought by observer/participants.

UPCOMING/ONGOING

UKwithNY

T +44 (0) 207930 8466. www.britishcouncil.org

Before 09.11, UkwithNY was known as UkinNY. The name change reflects the solidarity between the United Kingdom and New York—all the more vital after the events of 09.11. The festival, **10.14–28**, is the largest international initiative launched in NYC for almost 20 years.

GREAT FALLS SYMPHONY ASSOCIATION (MT)

406.453.4102. E-mail: gfsa@mcn.net. www.greatfallstribune.com

On **10.16**, in cooperation with the *Great Falls Tribune* and the City of Great Falls, the Great Falls Symphony Association will present a concert to *Celebrate America*. Donations will benefit the United Way September 11th fund, the American Red Cross, and the Salvation Army. All performance-related costs have been donated. Personnel from Malmstrom Air Force Base will also be involved.

INTERMEDIA ARTS (Minneapolis, MN)

612.871.4444. www.intermediaarts.org

On **11.05**, Intermedia Arts will present *Building Understanding: A Community Dialogue About What Makes You Feel Safe?*. The free evening will include a facilitated public dialogue, hands-on creative

activities, open-mic performances, and a gallery in which to display visual artwork on safety. *Building Understanding is part of the Animating Democracy Initiative, a project of Americans for the Arts. This event is the first of a series of public dialogues focused on building understanding.*

CARROLL COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL (MD)

The Carroll County Arts Council is donating 10 percent of the proceeds of their annual Festival of Wreaths, **11.27–12.01**, to the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council.

BEAVERTON ARTS COMMISSION (OR)

503.526.2288. E-mail: jscott@ci.beaverton.or.us. www.ci.beaverton.or.us

During **12.2001**, the Beaverton Arts Commission will display in Beaverton City Hall artwork in all mediums depicting Americanism.

BELLEVUE ART MUSEUM

425-519-0770. www.bellevueart.org

The Bellevue Art Museum, Bellevue Downtown Association, and City of Bellevue have developed a series of forums under the banner of *Eleventh: Bellevue Unites through Conversation*. In support, the Museum will offer an ongoing series of programs and artist-led projects, *Eleventh: Bellevue Community Unites through Art and Conversation*.

- A video projection will lead off the projects. The image of a flickering candle flame reminds us of the lives lost and is an invitation for the community to come together.
- Visitors to *Roger Shimomura: An American Diary*, **12.08.2001 to 03.24.2002**, will have the opportunity to use the exhibition—paintings based upon diaries kept while interned during WW II—to respond to the images and their own memories of 09.11.
- A premier presentation on **01.11.2002** of Roger Shimomura's *Amnesia*, which focuses on different generations' perspectives on the internment of Japanese Americans during WW II, will now be followed by a discussion on current cultural understanding.
- On **02.28.2002**, a performance of *Living Voices*—based on Executive Order 9066 setting in motion the expulsion and internment of Japanese and Japanese Americans—will provide the community with an opportunity to explore current cultural voices in the context of the attack.
- Artist Justine Cooper, an artist-in-residence **12.11.2001** through mid-January, was an artist-in-residence on 09.11 at World Views, the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council program in the WTC.
- In the spring, Seattle artist Alfredo Arreguin will be in-residence to guide the community in creating a tile mural with a theme related to the building of community and the 09.11 events.

CONNECTICUT COMMISSION ON THE ARTS

860.566.4770. E-mail: kdemeo@ctarts.org. www.ctarts.org/sept11.htm

Aldrich Museum (Ridgefield)

203.438.4519

The Museum worked with children at a local school to create a "unity banner" (100+ feet and growing) that will be displayed at an event with local fire and police personnel in attendance.

Artsgenesis

212-696.2787. www.artsgenesis.com

Artsgenesis has launched a new project in Connecticut, New York, and New Jersey called *We the Children...*, a positive vision of future world unity and understanding through the creation of visual arts (clay tiles) and writing pieces. It is a two-year arts-in-education project serving students K–8. At least ten schools in each state will participate in the project.

ArtSpot!

203.777.2386. www.cfgnh.org (Community Foundation for Greater New Haven)
The New Haven arts community hosted *ArtSpot!*, an event to benefit the September 11 Community Fund, created by the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven.

Center for Creative Youth (Middletown)

860.685.3307. E-mail: ccy@wesleyan.edu. www.wesleyan.edu/CCY/home.html
The Center donated 100 T-shirts to workers in New York.

Connecticut GraphicArts Center (Norwalk)

203.899.7999

The Center will display artists' reactions to the victims and rescuers of the attack.

Downtown Cabaret Theater (Bridgeport) has raised over \$3000 for the United Way, and asks patrons to join actors in singing "God Bless America" at the conclusion of each performance.

Elm Shakespeare Company (New Haven)

203.772.1474

The Elm Shakespeare Company worked with students at High School in the Community to use the events of 09.11 to develop an original production, *Shakespeare's World*. James Andreassi, artistic director, said, "We have found a treasure trove of Shakespeare's ruminations on heroism, leadership, relationships between husbands and wives and parents and children, as well as cowardice and evil."

Mystic Art Association

For a prospectus, call 860.536.7601 or e-mail maa@mystic-art.org.

The Association invites Connecticut artists to participate in *America the Beautiful*, a exhibit benefiting the World Trade Center Relief Fund. The show will run **01.17-03.02.2002**.

Regional YMCA of Western Connecticut

203.775.4444. E-mail: info@regionalyymca.org. www.regionalyymca.org

Regional YMCA's *ESCAPE to the Arts* program in Danbury was asked by the Red Cross to create a 30-foot mural that will be sewn together with over 100 others from around the U.S. and displayed at the United Nations Building in New York.

Artist Karen Rossi created two canvas murals—"Uncle Sam" and "Lady Liberty"—which are displayed along Route 5 in South Windsor. She is also creating a series of aluminum sculptures of Uncle Sam for display at fire stations. Sales profits will go to relief funds for victims' families.

Stamford Symphony Orchestra will open their season with a message from the stage, singing of "The Star Spangled Banner," and will keep a flag always visible on stage. They will further dedicate a portion of two concerts in December to the victims of 09.11.

Two State Troubadours joined to record a CD, *2 Songs for America*, with an original composition by Tom Callinan, and Phil Rosenthal singing "America." Another former Troubadour, Bill Pere, organized a fund to help victims' families.

Wadsworth Atheneum

203.278.2670. E-mail: info@wadsworthatheneum.org. www.wadsworthatheneum.org

The museum organized a tour of their collections focusing on works that reflect the artistic struggle to find meaning and hope in the human experience.

William Benton Museum of Art (Storrs, CT)

860.486.4520. www.ucc.uconn.edu/~wwwwbma/

The museum will present four *Human Rights Exhibitions*, **10.28-12.20**, "Portraits of Moral Courage in the Holocaust" and "Portraits from Cambodia's Killing Fields."

CONCORA (New Britain)

860.224.7500. www.concora.org

Concora conducted a "community sing" of Brahms' Requiem and raised nearly \$3,000 for American Red Cross.

ARTISTCARES

Alan Lynes: 718.658.7400 x11. E-mail: alynes99@yahoo.com

Susan Koblin Schear: 201.599.9180. E-mail: susan.schear@artisin.com

Art therapist referrals (Karen Fitzgerald): 718.274.9755. E-mail: fishart@msn.com

ArtistsCare™ is a new initiative for healing through art therapy workshops. This effort needs artists, art therapists, psychologists, and crisis intervention specialists. Your interest, referrals, recommendations, and donations of space, supplies, and funds are appreciated.

NEWS SERVICE COVERAGE/OTHER RESOURCES

\$850 MILLION FOR CHARITY, NOT CENTRALLY MONITORED

A month after the terror attacks in New York City, a system for distributing some \$850 million in charitable donations is fast emerging. (David Barstow, *The New York Times*, 10.11.2001)

SNAPSHOTS OF 09.11: A GATHERING OF WITNESSES

Here Is New York: A Democracy of Photographs is an unusual exhibition that is the latest form of grass-roots public mourning. (Roberta Smith, *The New York Times*, 10.09.2001)

SEPT. 11 DONATIONS, ECONOMY LEAVE MANY NONPROFITS STRAPPED

The effects are seeping through the philanthropic community. (Jacqueline L. Salmon *Washington Post*, 10.09.2001)

MUSEUMS STRUGGLE TO RECOUP WITH ATTENDANCE DOWN

With attendance down since the terrorist attacks, museums are planning special programs to regain their audiences. (Dinitia Smith, *The New York Times*, 10.08.2001)

LETTERS: THE AFTERMATH

We are suddenly faced with life- and-death issues, next to which the personal rantings of so many artists from the last few decades appear self-centered, vapid, and inconsequential. (To the Editor. *The New York Times*, 10.07.2001)

BEAUTY IN THE SHADOW OF VIOLENCE

I go [to museums] to be stimulated, to get the latest news from the distant past, to be made to think, though not necessarily to think easy thoughts. (Holland Cotter, *The New York Times*, 10.07.2001)

FOR NOW, RESTRICTED ACCESS ON THE STREETS. BUT WHAT OF THE FUTURE?

The NYC street is the social contract of modern democracy inscribed in space, the place where the Statue of Liberty's promise is fulfilled. (Herbert Muschamp, *The New York Times*, 10.07.2001)

WITH A NEW PLAY OPENING IN A NEW, SCARIER WORLD

1,000 attempts to lure you from the streets, to take your minds off the gaping sore that now stands at One and Two World Trade Center and plant yourself in a little theater up on Broadway to watch my new play. (Neil LaBute, *The New York Times*, 10.06.2001)

THE LONG VIEW: WHAT IS ATTACK'S PLACE IN HISTORY?

Historians who take New York City as their subject continue to be stunned by the WTC attack, daunted by the urgency of comprehension and, of course, brimming with opinions about it. (Glenn Collins, *The New York Times*, 10.06.2001)

FOR PUBLIC ART, A NEW SCRUTINY

In the wake of the World Trade Center attacks, questions of taste and suitability are being addressed in the art world as never before. (Carol Vogel, *The New York Times*, 10.05.2001)

AS EVER IN A CRISIS, BEETHOVEN REIGNS

Several orchestras in New York have altered programs, attempting to make musical statements appropriate to this time of anguish. (Anthony Tommasini, *The New York Times*, 10.05.2001)

PAY CUTS SHRINK, WORRY REMAINS.

Box-office figures continue to improve and several productions began to give back some of the wage concessions that unions approved after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. (Jesse McKinley, *The New York Times*, 10.05.2001)

IN LITTLE TIME, POP CULTURE IS ALMOST BACK TO NORMAL

What's most striking is how unchanged the appetite for popular culture seems to be. (Rick Lyman with Bill Carter, *The New York Times*, 10.04.2001)

OFF BROADWAY FINDS WAYS TO KEEP SHOWS OPEN

In bad times like these, many theaters have been hit hard by a loss of income and attendance, but the scrappy determination that allows them to plow on in normal circumstances has them vowing to weather the post-Sept. 11 period and survive. (Robin Pogrebin, *The New York Times*, 10.04.2001)

THE JOYCE THANKS ITS LOCAL POLICE AND FIREFIGHTERS

Life lived, with an emphasis on loss, was the dominant theme among the dance companies that performed in two benefit evenings organized by the Joyce Theater in connection with the WTC attack. (Anna Kisselgoff, *The New York Times*, 10.03.2001)

IN SHELLEY OR AUDEN...THE EERILY INTIMATE POWER OF POETRY TO CONSOLE

Bits of famous poems, original poems, snatches of verse pinned alongside photos of the victims. (Dinitia Smith, *The New York Times*, 10.01.2001)

FOUR THINGS CITIZENS CAN DO: MOVING FORWARD...IN A TENUOUS NEW WORLD

We can watch the polls.... We can display the flag.... We can turn to our grief.... Now we must step back and consider our future. (Richard C. Harwood, www.msnbc.com, 10.01.2001)

THE WORLD AFTER 11 SEPTEMBER: A SLOW-DOWN IN THE EXHIBITION WHIRL?

One area that will be strongly affected by the terrorist attacks is traveling exhibitions of works of art. <http://www.theartnewspaper.com/news/article.asp?idart=7676>

MUSINGS

HARRIET SANFORD, PRESIDENT & CEO, ARTS & SCIENCE COUNCIL (Charlotte, NC)
(Board member, AMERICANS FOR THE ARTS)

“All of our lives changed September 11 and as we begin to understand our vulnerability and how much has been lost, we will need more than ever the comfort of community. It will provide us with a sense of stability and security that must be restored in order for us to begin moving toward our newly defined world. While each of us will seek different ways to recover, our needs for common, positive experiences will be essential.

Last weekend, through cultural experiences people found comfort in music, performing arts, science, and history. For some it was the beauty of a painting or a hand built piece of pottery that reminded us of the enduring nature of man. For others it was the power of the spoken word on our stages that celebrated friendship, understanding, and life. Many found refuge in the opportunity to explore nature or those things that help us understand more about the environment or our universe through the elements of a space station. Sometimes the voices of angelic youth provided the experience that helped us reconnect. And for others it was a relaxing ride on the Trolley....

The cultural community of Charlotte will continue to explore ways to increase its accessibility and provide opportunities to use art, science and history to reaffirm those values that make this such a wonderful place. Last weekend, without hesitation, the cultural institutions opened their doors for all to enter or used the occasion to raise money for those impacted by these acts of terrorism. By partnering with individual artists who shared their many talents in order to help raise money and contributed to the healing process, we were able to make a small contribution. Knowing the cultural community as I do, I am confident that we will continue to support and provide comfort to our community during this difficult time and beyond....