

ACCOLADES

For The Arts

Springfield Area Arts Council

April 2019

On My Own Time Exhibit Program Seeks Participation

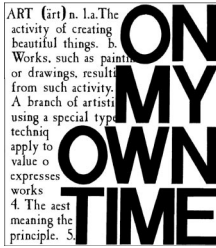
The Springfield Area Arts Council is pleased to announce the return of the *On My Own Time* program in 2019.

This biennial visual arts program gives employees of participating organizations, businesses, government agencies, and medical and educational institutions an opportunity to showcase their creativity and accomplishments through artwork completed outside working hours.

Eligible artwork includes paintings and drawings, fiber and needlework, pottery, photography, jewelry, glass, metal, wood, and paper.

The deadline for organizations to commit to participate is May 15. Each participating organization hosts an In-house Exhibit; those begin on September 9. Judging occurs from October 14 to 25.

Based on a city-wide standard, the artwork from each participating organiza-



tion will be judged by a panel of specialists and awarded a First, Second, or Third Place. First Place-winning artwork is displayed in the City-wide Exhibit to be held November 6–23, 2019, at the Springfield Art Association (700 North Fourth Street).

Arts Council volunteers Rod and Rosemary Buffington are coordinating the 2019 *On My Own Time* program. For further information about participating in this program, please call or email the SAAC at 217-753-3519 or director@springfieldartsco.org.

Poetry Out Loud

Cassandra Bradbury, winner of the Central Illinois Poetry Out Loud competition, receives her award from Courtney Wick, President of the Springfield Area Arts Council. See our coverage of the Illinois Poetry Out Loud competition on page 3.



Springfield Area Arts Council Annual Meeting

Thursday, May 16, 2019
6:00 PM

Arlington's

210 Broadway in
downtown Springfield

All are welcome!



Wondering how to use your voice to create change in politics? Don't know where to begin with a political campaign? **Artist Campaign School** recruits, trains, and mentors artists and arts administrators for public service.

This May, Artist Campaign School is holding a two-day training in Chicago for approximately 100 artists and administrators. Thanks to generous support from The Joyce Foundation, selected Illinois participants are provided travel and room and board at no cost.

To apply, contact Arts Alliance Illinois Program and Membership Manager Tony Santiago at santiago@artsalliance.org.

Accolades for the Arts

Accolades for the Arts is published by the Springfield Area Arts Council. Your comments are welcome. Call the Arts Council office at (217) 753-3519.

SPRINGFIELD AREA ARTS COUNCIL PRESENTS:



adult
PROM

05.31.19
7PM to 11 PM

**UPSTAIRS
AT ARLINGTON'S**

DIZNEY COSTUME CONTEST • PRIZES
DJ BLACK CATS • PHOTO BOOTH
PROM COURT & CROWNING

TICKETS:
\$20 PER PERSON IN ADVANCE
\$25 AT THE DOOR

ORDER TICKETS ONLINE
AT SPRINGFIELDARTSCO.ORG

Free Music All Summer Long!

“Well, it sure will keep me busy,” said Sheila Walk, Springfield Area Arts Council interim executive director, while

discussing the approaching summer performance season. “We’ll have Artist on the Plaza at noon on Wednesdays, Levitt

AMP Springfield on Thursday evenings, then Uptown Friday Night, followed by Music at the Market on Saturday mornings. All the venues are downtown and close to our office at the Hoogland Center for the Arts, though, so that part is easy.”

Money will be raised and performers will be hired for all these programs in April. Most of the talent comes from Springfield and the surrounding area.

Part of the Arts Council’s mission is to enrich the community through the arts, and paying so many performers while welcoming everyone to the shows is one of many ways the Arts Council meets its goals.

“Every one of these concerts is free and open to the public. All locations are fully accessible; parking is easy; some seating is provided,” continued Walk. “I hope many people come out to support live music!”

<u>Program</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Place</u>
Artist on the Plaza	Wednesdays, Memorial Day– Labor Day	Noon–1PM	Old State Capitol South Lawn
Levitt AMP Springfield	Thursdays, May 30– Aug. 1	6–8:30PM	North Mansion Block (old YWCA Block)
Music at the Market	Saturdays, May 19– Oct. 26	10AM–Noon	Adams Street betw. 3rd & 4th Streets
Uptown Friday Night	Fridays	5:30–7:30PM	Robbie’s Restaurant Old State Capitol Plaza

Community Arts Access Grants 2018–19

The Community Arts Access program offers funding for public arts programming and audience development projects of community arts organizations and local not-for-profit organizations.

This program is funded by the Illinois Arts Council Agency’s Community Arts Access grant and matching funds from the Springfield Area Arts Council through a grant from the City of Springfield.

Grants from this program are available to organizations in Sangamon and Menard counties and provide partial support for:

- New projects
- Ongoing arts programming
- Artistic and/or professional personnel
- Promotional and audience development projects

SAAC Mission

The Springfield Area Arts Council enriches the community by promoting and supporting all art forms and providing creative opportunities to participate in and enjoy the arts.

Total Awarded

\$8,100.00

Grantees and Projects

African-American History Foundation:

Middle Passage Exhibit

Garvey-Tubman Center:

The Power of Art

Hoogland Center for the Arts:

Production of 1776

Illinois State Museum Society:

Music at the Museum

Illinois Symphony Orchestra:

Around the Town Performance Series

Johnson Study Guild:

African-American Read-in

Land of Lincoln Chorus:

Music of the Silver Screen

Sangamon Valley Youth Symphony:

Starter Strings Program

Scholastic Art Awards:

Honors Day Supplies and Artist

Stipends

Springfield Ballet Company:

Community Outreach

Panelists

Linda Claussen (chair), Roseann Haven, Craig McFarland, Kathy Olesen, Susie Risser

Uptown Friday Night

Uptown Friday Night is the Arts Council’s free performance series, taking place from 5:30 to 7:30 on Friday evenings. Join us at Robbie’s Restaurant on Old State Capitol Plaza South and start the weekend with outstanding jazz and blues, excellent food and drinks, and great company – all while supporting the Springfield Area Arts Council.

APRIL

12 Mud Bugs
19 Frankly Speaking
26 Frank T. Quartet

MAY

3 Ocean State
10 Michael Taylor Trio
17 Johnnie Owens and Friends
24 CLOSED
31 Virgil Rhodes and Footprints

JUNE

7 Denise LaGrassa Trio
14 Best of Both Worlds
21 Mojo Cats
28 Brian Choban Jazz Quintet

Committed to Words and Memory

2019 Poetry Out Loud Regional and State Contests *by Carey Smith*

Poetry Out Loud, a national poetry recitation program created by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation, began with a pilot program in 2005 in Chicago and Washington, D.C., then launched nationally in 2006. Fourteen years later, more than 3.8 million students and 60,000 teachers from 16,000 schools across the country have participated in Poetry Out Loud, with participants from all 50 states, plus the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico.

Poetry Out Loud begins in the classroom with teachers across the country working with students to learn poetry for recitation. Schools hold their own contest; two students from each school advance to a regional competition. [Illinois has eight Poetry Out Loud regions: Central, Chicago-City, Chicago-Metro, Eastern, Northern, Southern, Southwestern, and Western. The organizers of the regional contests are Lisa Janssen, Carbondale Community Arts; Sharon Nesbit-Davis, Rockford Area Arts Council; Timothy Rey, Chicago Poetry Center; Amy Brockman, Southwestern Illinois College; Sheila Walk, Springfield Area Arts Council; Kelly White, 40 North/88West; and Tracy Alan White, Quad City Arts.]

The Central Illinois regional contest held at the Hoogland Center for the Arts in February showcased 18 students.

The first-place winner, Cassandra Bradbury, and the second-place winner, Cole White, were both from Pawnee High School and coached by Dan Barham. Bradbury recited “Cartoon Physics, part 1” by Nick Flynn and “Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening” by Robert Frost. White delivered “Abandoned Farmhouse” by Ted Kooser and “Nocturne” by Li-Young Lee. Both advanced to the Illinois state contest. Third-place winner Sara Kennedy of Springfield Southeast High School was named the alternate and recited the “warm up” poem at the state contest.

The Springfield Area Arts Council is pleased to host the state contest as well, which was held in March. A total of 16 students from around Illinois competed in a festive atmosphere of fellowship and mutual support. Justine Haka, program manager at the Poetry Foundation in Chicago, was on hand to say a few words about the program and its process, as well as to announce the winners.

Scottlynn Ballard of Edwardsville High School, coached by Heather Haskins, came in first with resounding renditions of “Worth” by Marilyn Nelson; “Self-Help” by Michael Ryan; and “Ode” by Arthur O’Shaughnessy. The second-place winner, Alyssa Argent of William Howard Taft High School in Chicago, was coached by Barbara Newton and Alison Taylor. She recited “Slant” by Suji

Kwok Kim; “Very Large Moth” by Craig Arnold; and “Amor Mundi” by Christina Rossetti.

Rounding out the top five at the state contest were Nico Chiligris, Central High School, Champaign; Charles Hsu, Deerfield High School, Deerfield; and Bushra Khan, Maine East High School, Park Ridge.

As winner of the Illinois State Contest, Ballard received a cash prize of \$200 along with an all-expenses-paid trip with a chaperone to travel to Washington, D.C., to compete for the national championship. Edwardsville High School will receive \$500 to buy poetry resources for the school library. Argent, who serves as alternate, was awarded \$100, and Taft High School will receive \$200 for poetry resources.

Scottlynn will travel to Washington, D.C., in late April to compete over three days with the top finishers from each state and the above-named territories. A total of \$50,000 in scholarships and school stipends will be awarded to the top twelve finishers at the National Finals.

This year in Illinois, a total of 45 high schools, 249 teachers, and more than 11,000 students participated in Poetry Out Loud.

A lasting impression of these contests was articulated by Cole White: “The most memorable thing about Poetry Out Loud competitions is the spirit of camaraderie among the contestants. Obviously we’re all competing, but all the competitors offer encouragement and consolation to everyone else. It’s this pleasant atmosphere that makes Poetry Out Loud so distinct from other competitions I’ve participated in (and what makes me happy to be there).”

Contestants in the Illinois State Contest, Poetry Out Loud .
Back Row, l-r: Nanette Nkolomoni, Cole White, Alyssa Argent, Charles Hsu, Ian Wilkey, Regan Cook, Kylie Rauch, Kenzie Clerk, Grace Sturtewagen, Stephanie Collis. Front Row, l-r: Cassandra Bradbury, Bushra Khan, Nico Chiligris, Scottlynn Ballard, Isabella Brown, Paige Twidell. Photographer: William Richards.





420 South Sixth Street
 Springfield IL 62701
 Phone: 217-753-3519
 Email: office@springfieldartsco.org
 Website: www.springfieldartsco.org



This program is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council Agency



SAAC Annual Meeting is May 16—see page 1