

# ACCOLADES

## For The Arts

Springfield Area Arts Council

October 2019

### Director's Note *by Sheila Walk*

October first marked my seventh year of paid work at the Springfield Area Arts Council. I began as a volunteer with Poetry Out Loud a couple years before, then I was hired by Penny Wollan-Kriel in 2012 to assist with that program and eventually to run it. Soon I was helping with other programs. When Jon Austin left in November 2017, I agreed to become interim executive director. I learned much from both executive directors (Penny and Jon), and I have worked with great volunteers, paid part-time staff, paid interns, and boards of directors throughout these years.

Part of my duties is to compile material for quarterly newsletters (with the able assistance of Mark Pence). I realized that perhaps the best format for letting our valued members know about all the Arts Council is doing on their behalf might be to list our programs and events. Here goes...

**...ADULT PROM** – In late May, we had



Adult Prom king and queen Matt Woodson and Olivia Huber (Photo: Kari Bedford)

our most successful event ever in both attendance and money raised, thanks to the efforts of Kari Bedford, Courtney Wick, and the Prom Court.

**...ARTIST ON THE PLAZA** – Around Labor



Britney Long

Day, we finished another fine season of this weekly concert series, now hosted by the Old State Capitol.

Our performers

were (in performance order): Phil Steinberg, Springfield Area Youth Jazz Band, Mark Mills, Mon-

ica Hay, Lady Carole and Her Knights, Joe Allen, Messengers for Christ, Route 66 Quartet, Mary Bryant Home Singers, St. Andrew's Society Dancers, Britney Long, Ryan Mobley, Torch Nation, and Derrick Streibig.



Lady Carole and Her Knights

Our sponsors were (in alphabetical order): Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport; The Alamo; Arlington's; Augie's Front Burner; The Card\*ologist; Development Services Group; Don and Wanda Tracy; Eck, Schafer and Punke; Alderman Joe McMenamin; Myers Commercial Real Estate; Obed and Isaac's; Old State Capitol; Prairie Archives; Paul W. O'Shea; Richards and Stehman; RSM US LLP; Sangamon Towers; Springfield Downtown Parking; State House Inn; Uptown Looks; Uptown Garages; U. S. Bank; WindSolar USA.



Jim Edwards

**...ARTS IN EDUCATION** – Once again, this program is funded through a grant from



Mario Clarke, Baima Glass Studio (State Journal-Register)

the Susan Cook House Educational Trust. During the school year, performing and visual artists will be paid to work directly with students and teachers in Sangamon and Menard County schools. This is my second-favorite program because I can accompany the artists to elementary and secondary schools. After almost three decades of teaching, I love being back in classrooms.

Also this year, through a bequest from Bobette Gerlach's estate, we have contributed to the cost of the glass artist residency at the Springfield Art Association.

**...LEVITT A(MPLIFY) M(USIC) P(LACE)**

**SPRINGFIELD** – This new concert series was



produced in partnership with the Springfield Heritage Foundation and funded by the Levitt Foundation. There were 7,766 counted attendees. Your vote helped us secure the grant so we could bring nationally-touring acts to the old YWCA block over ten Thursdays this summer. Lisa Clemmons Stott at Downtown Springfield, Inc. has submitted an application for 2020, so we'll need your support again soon.

**2019 Headliners** (performance order):

Damon Mitchell, Skatalites, Illinois Symphony Orchestra Brass Ensemble, Oro Solido, Fareed Haque's Flat Earth Ensemble, Tameca Jones, Dirty Dozen Brass Band, Liz Cooper and the Stampede, Switchback, and John Moreland.

Continued on Page 2

# Director's Note *continued*

## 2019 *Opens* (performance order):

Roddrick Lemar, Kaream Williams, Timbre, Jerry Palacios, Jazz Robots, Chel, Frank Parker Ensemble, Kate Laine, Skibbereen, Central Illinois Irish Dancers, St. Andrew's Society Bagpipers and Dancers, Edward David Anderson



(Cassandra Pence Ostermeier)

**...MAYOR'S AWARD FOR THE ARTS** – This program has not been activated for way too long, but with the help of Penny Wolan-Kriel and Mayor Langfelder's office, it's coming back for its 20th year in 2020. In mid-January, a ceremony will be held to honor the community's best visual and performing artists, best arts organization, best arts volunteer, best art teacher, best art students, and best corporate supporter of the arts. A local artist will be commissioned to create the award. Be on the lookout for the nomination form.

**...COMMUNITY ARTS ACCESS** – This re-granting program is funded by the Illinois Arts Council Agency, and the application period is open. You can find materials on our website at <https://springfieldartsco.org/community-arts-access/>.

**...CITY ARTS** – Another re-granting program, this one funded by the City of Springfield. Check <https://springfieldartsco.org/city-arts/> periodically to find out when applications are available.

**...FIRST NIGHT® SPRINGFIELD** – Plans are underway for our 33rd annual celebration of the arts in downtown Springfield. Please set aside New Year's Eve so you can attend. Children's activities (free) at Springfield High School in the afternoon and many and varied talented performers at Hoogland Center for the Arts, Lincoln Home Visitors Center, and Dumb Records in the evening, plus fireworks. Adults: \$18, in advance and \$20, day of / Youth: \$5, always



## ...MUSIC AT THE MARKET – This was an Il-



linois Times Best of Springfield award winner last year and was nominated this year. Like all our programs, it featured local artists

(again in performance order): David Tell, Arlin and Erin, The Dandelion Pickers, Dol Seymour, Dennis Darling, Idle Oath, Liz Fitz, Rhodes and Battles, Hannah Mobley, Andrew Heathwaite, Last Acre, Adrian Russo, Cowboy Randy, Josie Lowder, Rachel Rambach, Casey Cantrall, Peaches and Bacon,



Andrew Heathwaite

Larry Stevens, Mike Anderson, Lowder and Manning, Tom Irwin, Jake McNamara, Dan Grover, Eldon Roark, and Troy Roark.

This popular concert series is produced in collaboration with Downtown Springfield, Inc. and is funded by HSHS St. John's as part of the May to October Old Capitol Farmers' Market.

**...ON MY OWN TIME** – Rosemary and Rod Buffington have coordinated this program so successfully twice before, and they're doing it again. The in-house visual arts exhibits



are in place now at agencies throughout Springfield; they feature employees' artworks. The city-wide exhibit will be at the Springfield Art Association gallery at Edwards Place from November 6th through 23rd. You are invited to the awards ceremony and reception on Wednesday, November 6th, at 5:30 P.M.

Participating organizations are City of Springfield, Illinois Capital Development Board, Illinois Department of Public

Health, Illinois Department of Revenue, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Illinois State Board of Education, Illinois State Museum, Illinois State Police, Lincoln Land Community College, Sikich, and Springfield School District #186.

**...POETRY AT THE MARKET** – New this year. Through a gift from the Warren Shufeldt estate, we selected classic and contemporary poetry to display on signboards at the Old Capitol Farmers' Market. Its goal is to spread the enjoyment of poetry. This is one of my favorites.

He jump-starts my frozen pick-up;  
I feed his snow-bound stock.  
We hate each other's votes,  
but in the spring,  
we mend fences anyway.  
(Laurie Sain)



(Alberta Beef Magazine)

**...POETRY OUT LOUD** – I'll admit it; this is my favorite program. I used the curriculum when I taught speech and theatre, and I've served as recitation judge, accuracy judge, and prompter for this poetry recitation competition. In the spring, the Illinois state champion, Scottlynn Ballard of Edwardsville High School, placed second in the national meet. She is competing again this year. Can she improve her score, or might



someone from central Illinois compete in D.C. this season? Come to these contests to find out.



Scottlynn Ballard and Family (William Richards)

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## Director's Note *continued*

Central Illinois Regional Contest:  
Thursday, February 13th; 4:00 P.M.

Illinois State Contest: Monday, March  
2nd; 10:00 A.M.

Both are at the Hoogland Center for  
the Arts and are free and open to the  
public.

**...SIX STRINGS / SIX WEEKS** – These guitar  
lessons for adults, taught  
by a local singer/songwriter,  
will be offered again  
in January and February.  
Check our website in early  
winter to learn more.



**...SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT IN THE  
ARTS** – You read about our interns, Ra-  
chel Evers and Amanda Wayman, in the  
summer newsletter. They are both now  
in college, studying art. They helped so  
much with several of our programs, and I  
enjoyed having them in the office. Rachel  
and Amanda were paid through a grant  
from the Illinois Arts Council Agency. I  
hope you met them.

**...UPTOWN FRIDAY NIGHT** – It has felt a lit-  
tle strange not  
to be running a  
50/50 raffle on  
Friday evenings  
at Robbie's. As  
you likely know,  
our venue suf-  
fered water  
damage in early summer when the roof  
of the building next door collapsed. The  
restaurant will open in November. It will  
be good to see the "regulars" again and to  
meet "newcomers." Do come to hear great  
jazz and blues.



Jim Edwards

I do none of this work alone, so please  
join me in thanking Erica Beeman (book-  
keeper), Carey Smith (Poetry Out Loud  
program assistant), and Emily Page (web-  
site content manager). On a personal  
note, I lovingly acknowledge my husband,  
Doug Kamholz, for his constant support.

The Arts Council has a hard-working  
board of directors, too, and I enjoy meet-  
ing with them on the second Thursday of  
each month.

Ryan Cannon, President  
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president  
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Courtney Wick, Past President  
Ashley Davis  
Kyla Kruse  
Anastasia Lindsey  
Steve Myers  
Jamie Williams

Our annual audit will take place next  
month, and I'm happy to report that  
we're in better financial shape, although  
we haven't quite recovered from the state  
budget crisis. May I ask you now to re-  
spond with a donation when we send our  
end-of-year request for general operating  
funds? You'll be getting the appeal in De-  
cember.

I truly appreciate all of you who have  
renewed your membership this year!  
Please spread the word about everything  
we do to enrich the community through  
the arts.

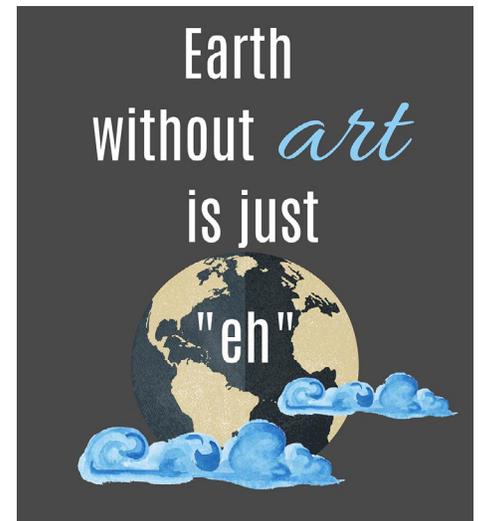
Now, take a moment to look at our  
Facebook page and give it a 'like.' Thanks!



## SAAC Mission

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

## Art T-Shirt Design



Interns at the Springfield Area Arts  
Council designed this graphic as their sig-  
nature project to raise a bit of money for  
SAAC. You can purchase the shirt for  
\$20 by contacting the SAAC office (email  
to [office@springfieldartsco.org](mailto:office@springfieldartsco.org)) or call  
217-753-3519) or at the First Night  
Springfield silent auction in the  
Hoogland Center for the Arts lobby.

## Uptown Friday Night

After a 5-month renovation made neces-  
sary by flooding at Robbie's, Arch Bailey  
is re-opening the restaurant! He expects  
to be able to host Uptown Friday Night,  
the Arts Council's free performance  
series, starting on November 1. As before,  
the music will run 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 out-  
standing jazz and blues, excellent food  
and drinks, and great company – all  
while supporting the Springfield Area  
Arts Council.

### NOVEMBER

- 1 Michael Burnett and the Blue Suns
- 8 Stuart Smith Quintet
- 15 Craig Russo's Latin Jazz Project
- 22 Baaad Boyz
- 29 CLOSED

### DECEMBER

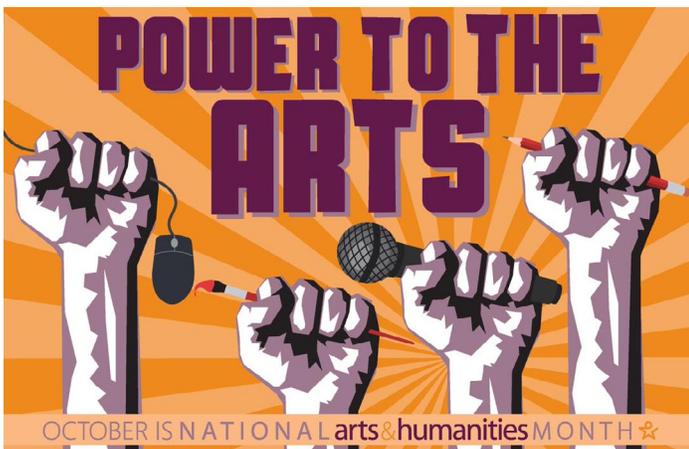
- 6 Best of Both Worlds
- 13 Stone Cold Blues Band
- 20 Chris Camp and His Blues Ambassadors
- 27 CLOSED



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



## *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.



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