



April 2007 Newsletter

NEWS FROM MUSEUMS



The Austin Fine Arts Festival is **April 14-15, 2007** at Republic Square Park, with entrances on 2nd & 5th at Guadalupe and 5th at San Antonio. "Buy art Austin style during the 57th annual Austin Fine Arts Festival. Downtown Austin serves as an urban backdrop for this outdoor art gallery and is transformed into a colorful destination for art lovers of all kind! "New work from 220 visual artists, Grammy Award-winning musicians, artist demos, local food, art activities, family fun and more" Hours: Saturday 10-5, Sunday 11-6, \$8 adult, 12 & under free. Free parking and shuttle at One Texas Center (S. 1st and Barton Springs).



HUMANITIES TEXAS LAUNCHES NEW AWARD

Humanities Texas invites nominations for the first annual Humanities Texas Award, which recognizes imaginative leadership in the humanities on a local, regional, or state level.

Nominees might include a local library that has started an especially effective reading and lecture series; a group whose work has advanced heritage tourism efforts; or an individual who has developed a significant public program grounded in history, literature, philosophy, archaeology, folklore, or other humanities disciplines.

The winning individual or organization will receive a cash award of \$5,000. Nominated individuals must reside in Texas, and organizations must be based in the state.

For nomination materials, please see:

<http://www.humanitiestexas.org/awards/htxaward.htm>

ACCESS Traveling Exhibits to School Libraries

The final scheduled visits were made in early April. ACCESS appreciates the work of steering committee co chairs, Sharon Ciccarelli, and Catherine O'Neill for their outstanding leadership in providing professional development, organizing the school exhibits to school libraries, and the Humanities Texas Grant to fund the traveling exhibits.

NEWS FROM MEMBERS

ACCESS Digital Presentation

ACCESS was invited to be a part of a grant funded by Edward and Betty Marcus Foundation for a Digital Education Project for Texas Art Museums this past year. Through this grant, Donna Vliet created a Pachyderm Presentation entitled: **Museums and Learning**, which she presented to a class of art museum graduate students at The University of Texas at Austin, Visual Arts Studies Department, on **April 11th**. The following is a description of the project.

The Exploration Entry Template of Pachyderm was an excellent vehicle to describe different facets of museum learning for students and teachers: visually, orally, and in written form. The concept is delivered through: quotations of a noted art educator; a video of students in a nationally-recognized art museum program; a statement of a teacher describing the special value of museum learning for her own professional growth; an example of how a work of art can lead to writing; suggestions of a visual arts studies professor regarding how to begin to analyze objects; and, an art teacher speaking about how students looking at original works of art in a museum further enhances their imaginations, and later work done in the classroom.

ACCESS to Learning 2007 SUMMER INSTITUTE

(Pending Funding)

“OUT THERE”

May 30th, 31st, and June 1st

This 3-day professional development opportunity focuses on experiential learning opportunities. We will visit a number of cultural sites around Austin. The 2007 theme, “Out There” brings together a variety of disciplines from nature to outsider art. Free for ACCESS to Learning, Inc. members.

IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO BECOME A MEMBER OF ACCESS TO LEARNING!

MEMBERSHIP FORMS ON OUR WEBSITE: <http://www.austinaccess.org>