



NAVARRO COUNCIL
of the
arts &
EDUCATION
A YEAR IN REVIEW 2006-2007

Dear Friends of the Arts:

The Navarro Council of the Arts once again was as busy as ever showcasing professional performing and visual arts to the children and citizens of our great county. From art exhibits, to world-wide performing artists, to therapeutic arts at TYC, the Arts were alive in our community.

In our 28th season in Navarro County schools, the Arts Council presented more than \$90,000 worth of high quality performing and visual arts in the schools. Every single student in Navarro County was given the opportunity to see at least two programs during the school year. Through these programs, we reach many students and educators who may never have the chance to experience the arts in this capacity. While many say that TAKS scores drive our education system, we at the Navarro Council of the Arts believe the Arts drive up TAKS scores and we are proudly presenting these programs to help all school district achieve their goals.

In addition to our Arts in Education program, we also programmed three artist residencies at the Texas Youth Commission. These troubled youths were given the chance to experience therapeutic arts. From visual art to theatrical and musical interpretation, students learned self expression through art.

The Arts Council again worked with the City of Corsicana Parks and Recreation Department to give this town summer camps and concerts. Each January our offices join forces to program camps such as Play in the Palace, Fishing Camp, Fiesta Camp, Music Camp and more. Our Concert in the Palace, that was free to the public, featured the legendary John Conlee.

This year the Arts Council has been helping to establish a growing arts district in the heart of downtown Corsicana. With the anchor of the Warehouse Living Arts Center on Main and Martin's Music Hall on Beaton and the gem in the middle of 6th with the Palace, we have truly set ourselves apart as a leader of the arts in our county and beyond. There are many exciting additions and changes in the works for our quaint block and I know that you will all be amazed at the Corsicana Arts District next year. Support your local arts agencies by coming to downtown and celebrating culture here in Corsicana.

As you can see, the Navarro Council of the Arts remains involved in all the art activities taking place in this community. Keep an eye out for our programs – you won't be disappointed!

Leah Blackburn

Year in Review

Arts in Education 2006-2007

The Navarro Council of the Arts proudly sponsored its 28th season in Navarro County schools this past year. During the 2006-2007 school year, the Arts Council presented more than \$90,000 worth of high quality performing and visual arts in the schools.

In October, the Arts Council introduced the students of Navarro County to the Shangri-La Chinese Acrobats from Beijing China. The national year-long tour descended upon Corsicana so the students of Navarro County could

experience the beauty and grace of the ancient art of acrobats. Fifth - twelfth graders in Navarro County saw the full performance and strength of more than 15 athletic artists from China.



Not only did this expose students the Asian culture, but it also opened their eyes to something not so traditional in the United States. More than 6,000 students were amazed at the performance and it left them wanting more.

In October, the 8 - 10 year olds in Navarro County were taken back to the 1960's with the 28th Annual October Arts Festival: Groovy Art. The students were introduced to art and culture from the vibrant era of the 60's. Students learned the art of tie-dying using wax crayons and watercolor paints, mimicking the batik/tie-dye design in the 60s' fashion. Designs emphasized color, geometric repetition using concentric circles and psychedelic imagery. A percussionist shared his knowledge of music and musical styles of the Sixties including rhythmic chants, dance moves, pop, rock and musical expression of the Woodstock artists. Students also created colorful name plate badges using designs with groovy stylized lettering and symbols of the Sixties generation "e.g. Smiley Face, Flower, the Peace Symbol [CND sign], Ying-Yang Symbol, etc." Using markers and cardstock, participants created original and



"The difference between an adequate and an excellent education is the difference between a subtle acquaintance with the arts and a profound one."

- Christopher Berrisford,
headmaster St. Marks School of Texas



personalized Pop Art! This week has always been a favorite among 3rd and 4th graders and this year was no exception!

February brought an old friend of the Arts Council to Navarro County again. Cindy Horstman, Jazz harpist, arrived in February to bring one of the oldest instruments to the young

students of our area. The students had many questions for Cindy and her harp, as this is not an instrument we see in everyday life.

The students were allowed to actually play the harp and learn about different sounds the instrument makes. They were also treated to the beautiful music that comes from the harp.

Just in time for TAKS season, we welcomed Troup D'Jour. This group is based out of Texas is better known world-wide for their innovation in the theater and making all their programs directly relate to the standardized state tests.

Troup d'Jour entertained all Pre-K - 2nd graders in our county. The group is made up of 3 teachers and actors, who taught even young children about the works of Shakespeare. Even Pre-K children acted out their own version of Shakespeare's The Tempest. The theory behind Troup d' Jour is simple; make kids realize that theatre is cool through their versions of great literature.

Teachers in the higher levels wanted to see this act also, so we will welcome them back in 2008 to see all 5th - 12th grades while they entertain and explain the famous works of Macbeth, Julius Caesar, and Hamlet.

To finish the school year, the Arts Council sponsored New York based dancers, Tap Kids. This group is one of the hottest groups touring the concert scene. Tap Kids is made up of more than 15 top tap dancers in the world, they just happen to be all under the age of 21. Audiences were wowed by the agility, endurance, and talent of these 15 dancers.

In addition to the children's performances, the community was treated to a full concert at the Palace Theatre. The packed house was amazed by the full show and gave a few standing ovations.



TYC Programming

It is always a great privilege to present high quality therapeutic arts in the walls of the Texas Youth Commission. TYC is a special place and many don't understand the situations. The Arts Council feels like these children, no matter how their lives have turned out, deserve the chance to express themselves and enjoy the world of the arts. Each year the Arts Council presents more than \$8,000 worth of therapeutic arts in the walls of the school.

Presented out at TYC this year was Texas based visual artist, Julio Suarez. This Cuban born artist allowed the children to express themselves through drawing cartoons. Also, art group Kid Prov, who are expressive comedians, helped students explore the world of comedy. TYC favorite, Monica Gomez, writer and songwriter helped students express themselves through songs.

We appreciate the Texas Youth Commission for allowing us to bring our programming to the home. We know that these programs are valuable to the kids and we look forward to giving them the opportunity to communicate through the arts.

2007-2008 Programming

The Arts Council takes great pride each year in presenting a diverse, well rounded, yet educational program for the students of Navarro County. With all the research in place, we know that what we are doing is making a vast difference the success of our community in the future. Take time to see what we are doing. Come to the schools and experience these amazing arts programs!



September - Laura Freeman, Singer / Songwriter "Iris Visits the Land of Black and White"

October - 29th Annual October Arts Festival
"Art + Music = Math"

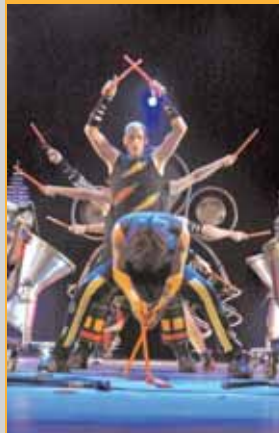


November - Scrap Arts Music

February - Teatro d'Arts - Fully Bilingual play for children
"The Green Rabbit"



May - Troup d'Jour



Arts in General

Americans for the Arts recently announced the results of the most comprehensive impact study of the nonprofit arts industry ever conducted in the United States. The national study reveals that American's nonprofit arts industry generates \$134 billion in economic activity every year, resulting in \$24.4 billion in federal, state, and local tax revenues.

Art Exhibits

For all 29 years of our existence we have presented high quality art exhibits in the Warehouse Living Arts Center Gallery space. Each year we work hard to bring in different artists from not only our county but across the nation. Some work may be traditional, while other exhibits show the modern side of art.

This year was no exception with our art exhibits. We presented the favorites like the Navarro County local artists and the Annual Quilt show. The local artist show gives us a chance to highlight our locals. We have some amazing artists in our town and their work is featured on the gallery walls. Look for this exhibit again in September.

October is always the annual Quilt Show. These masterpieces fill the walls of the gallery. Look for the 29th Annual show this October.

Another favorite is the Youth Art Show. This annual exhibit gives our children the chance to feature their artwork in a real gallery. This past year's theme, "Double Exposure" gave students a chance to express themselves in an uniquely artistic way. As always, the Arts Council gives large savings bonds to the winners in each division. Elementary, Junior High and High School each receive more than



\$200 in bonds to be used for their future.

One particular exhibit grabbed our hearts again this year. We were greatly privileged to be apart of the North Texas Heart Gallery. Together with the Navarro County Child Advocates we were pleased to bring the community this heart touching exhibit. The walls of the Gallery were filled with large pictures of these beautiful children that were up for adoption in our area.

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Upcoming Art Exhibits

July 9 - August 17, 2007	Deb and Chuck Miller
August 20 - September 28, 2007	6th Annual Local Artists Show
October 1 - 31, 2007	Quilt Show
November 1 - November 10	"Our Town" Photo Exhibit
November 11 - December 11, 2007	Barbara Jones
December 12 - January 11, 2007	Jose Cruz
January 12 - February 15, 2008	Tracey Abel and Elise Johnson
February 15 - March 31, 2008	Diane Wilcox
April 3 - May 12, 2008	10th Annual Youth Art Show
May 17 - July 5, 2008	National Juried Art Show
July 6- August 16, 2008	Rhonda Lawson