



WHITE BEAR
Center
for the
Arts

Newsletter

Fall 2010

::: Suzi Hudson :::

Dear Friends,

Another summer has come and gone all too fast in Minnesota. It was a busy time at the WBCA and we are full of announcements:

Funding from the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund has begun to have its impact across the state, including here at the WBCA. Last May the art center was awarded \$10,000 by the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council through a new Arts Learning grant program. This funding provided for an expansion of our Imagine Arts Summer Camp by over 25%. Through this support we offered 103 different classes for children ages 6-12 and served over 500 children. Thank you voters for supporting the arts! Thank you WBCA instructors, for so many great offerings.

White Bear Center for the Arts (along with the Minnesota Jewish Theatre Company) has been awarded The Metropolitan Regional Arts Council's (MRAC) Arts Achievement Award which includes a cash payment of \$5,000. Awards were presented at MRAC's annual meeting in July. The nominations were reviewed by the MRAC Board of Directors based on how arts groups exemplify MRAC's vision for the region by:

- Causing artists and arts activities to thrive, and/or
- Integrating the arts into the social fabric and identity of a community(s), and/or
- Enhancing understanding of the public value of the arts.

"MRAC is pleased to honor these arts organizations as representatives of MRAC's mission and looks forward to continuing the MRAC Arts Achievement Award as a way of recognizing the outstanding accomplishments of small arts organizations (organizations with annual operating budgets less than \$300,000) as exemplified by the many high-quality nominations MRAC received." A special thank you to MRAC for this honor and recognition!

Many thanks to Kim Bakken-Parr who has worked in our office since 2006. Kim leaves to respond to growing teaching and art opportunities with PMC (Precious Metal Clay) but will continue to teach classes at the WBCA. Look for her new classes inside!

We are excited to welcome Liz Kasper to the staff as our new Administrative Assistant. Liz owns Northern Design Group and has been involved with the WBCA for many years. She brings a wealth of creative skills, expertise and passion to the WBCA team. Please stop by the office and introduce yourself.

WBCA office will be closed August 30-September 6 to recharge our batteries!

This fall, we are offering an abundance of creative classes for everyone. Look inside. Find something new. Sign up early. And come let your artistic spirit soar with the colors of autumn.

Peace,

Suzi Hudson
Executive Director