Greetings from the Executive Director

Loie Fecteau

Of the job we do, our state arts agencies do, and what we think the economy of New Mexico and nation. And we need to stand up for the importance of arts education for our children and our communities. Art Works, as NEA Chairman Rocco Landesman says. We need to do a better job at telling our story and putting a human face on artists and arts organizations—both formal and informal, to gather information we can incorporate into our strategic plan between now and the fall. Our aim is to challenge our nation and state.

Because of the economic crisis, we are looking at our strategic plan in light of the economic recession that continues to challenge our nation and state. Given our limited resources and staff time, we especially want to know what you think we should focus on, given our limited resources and staff time. We need to do a better job at telling our story and putting a human face on artists and arts organizations—both formal and informal, to gather information we can incorporate into our strategic plan between now and the fall. Our aim is to challenge our nation and state.

In the next several months, we will be updating and revising our strategic plan, which we last completed in 2007 for 2008-2011. We do this every three years as part of the job we do, our state arts agencies do, and what we think we should focus on, given our limited resources and staff time. We especially want to know what you think we should focus on, given our limited resources and staff time. We need to hear from you, our constituents about how we are doing and where we need to improve. We plan to reach out in a variety of ways, both formal and informal, to gather information we can incorporate into our strategic plan between now and the fall. Our aim is to challenge our nation and state.

Dear New Mexico Arts supporters:

Loud is sponsored by the NEA and Poetry Foundation, and helps our students learn and use valuable communication skills that will serve them well the rest of their lives. In New Mexico, we put on poetry recitation contests and competitions for poetry recitation contests and competitions for students. First-place winners of the state recitation contest go on to represent New Mexico at the national finals of the National Recitation Contest. A senior at La Monterey High School, Stav Gold, is our state champion this year.

In New Mexico, we put on poetry recitation contests and competitions for students. First-place winners of the state recitation contest go on to represent New Mexico at the national finals of the National Recitation Contest. A senior at La Monterey High School, Stav Gold, is our state champion this year.

Many of you have told us that we are too focused on our state's economic crisis and that we may need to pivot our focus. In these difficult and challenging times, we especially want to know what you think we should focus on, given our limited resources and staff time. We especially want to know what you think we should focus on, given our limited resources and staff time. We especially want to know what you think we should focus on, given our limited resources and staff time.

In the next several months, we will be updating and revising our strategic plan, which we last completed in 2007 for 2008-2011. We do this every three years as part of the job we do, our state arts agencies do, and what we think we should focus on, given our limited resources and staff time. We especially want to know what you think we should focus on, given our limited resources and staff time.
Greetings from the Executive Director

New Mexico Arts wants to hear from you. We want to know what you think of the job we do as your state arts agency and what we might do better, so that we may stay relevant to your needs. In these difficult and challenging budgetary times, we especially want to know what you think we should focus on, given our limited resources and staff time.

In the next several months, we will be updating and revising our strategic plan, which we last completed in 2007 for 2008-2011. We do this every three years as part of our long application to the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) under our partnership agreement for federal arts funding. You can find a copy of our strategic plan on our website at www.nmarts.org under “About.”

Our current strategic plan, based on public input we gathered from across the state three years ago, has four areas of focus: arts advocacy, arts vitality, arts education, and arts access. We need to hear from you whether these areas of focus still make sense — and how we should best evaluate our efforts. We also need to update our plan given the economic recession that continues to challenge our nation and state.

Because of the economic crisis, we are looking at our strategic plan in light of the economic survey we conducted a year ago to help gauge the state of the arts in New Mexico. We want to incorporate what we have learned from that survey into our strategic plan as we continue to develop strategies to help artists and arts organizations not only survive but thrive. A major part of our economic strategy in the past year has been our Arts Jobs program funded by the National Endowment for the Arts under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. But we know one-time Arts Jobs grants only help a small percentage of arts organizations and we need to do more. And we remain concerned about sustainability.

We are trying to cope with state budget cuts and the considerable reduction in state-funded program money. Trying to do more with less has become a daily, high-wire balancing act for us. And the reality is we are probably going to have to face more state budget cuts both this year and next.

We’re very concerned about possible reductions in our funding from the National Endowment for the Arts, particularly because President Obama’s proposed budget request of $161.3 million for the NEA is a 36 million reduction from current funding. So please let our congressional delegation know the importance of at least maintaining the NEA funding at current levels, as well as continuing to remind state legislators and the governor about the importance of arts funding in our state and how it makes a difference in our quality of life and economic well-being.

We want to reach out beyond our “usual suspects” as we fine-tune and update our strategic plan as we fine-tune and update our strategic plan. We plan to reach out in a variety of ways, both formal and informal, to gather information we need to ask our advisory New Mexico Arts Commission to approve the updated plan at its November meeting.

We need to do a better job of telling our story and putting a human face on artists and arts organizations to show legislators and other public officials how essential the arts are to the economy of New Mexico and nation. And we need to stand up for the importance of arts education for our children and our communities. Art Works, as NEA Chairman Rocco Landesman says:

I want to congratulate our Poetry Out Loud State Champion Stan Gold, who won our Fifth Annual State Finals of Poetry Out Loud: National Recitation Contest. A senior at La Cueva High School in Albuquerque, Gold, 18, received $200 and an all-expense paid trip with chaperone to Washington DC to represent New Mexico at the national finals April 25-27. We had more than 1,800 students and 39 teachers take part in Poetry Out Loud at the classroom level this year across New Mexico, which we are thrilled about. Poetry Out Loud is sponsored by the NEA and Poetry Foundation, and helps our students learn and use valuable communication skills that will serve them well the rest of their lives. In New Mexico, we put on Poetry Out Loud in support of First Lady Barbara Richardson’s efforts on behalf of literacy in our state.

Loie Efecteau
Executive Director
loie.efecteau@state.nm.us
New Mexico State Champion to take part in finals of Poetry Out Loud: National Recitation Contest

Savannah Armiño, 15, a sophomore at Armijo High School, will receive $100, and $200 for the state finals champion, and runner-up Savannah Armiño, at the state finals in Santa Fe on February 21, 2010.

Gold receives $200 and an all-expenses paid trip with chaperones to Washington DC to represent New Mexico at the national finals. His school will receive a $1500 stipend to purchase poetry books for the school library. The competition runner-up is Savannah Armiño, 15, a sophomore at Clovis High School, Clovis. Armiño will receive $100, and $200 for the school library. The National Champion receives $20,000 in prizes.

More than 1,800 students and 39 teachers took part in Poetry Out Loud at the classroom level this year from across New Mexico.

The other participants in the state finals included Joseph Ulibarri, 17, a senior at Bloomfield High School, Bloomfield; Kaithlyn Frederick, 16, a junior at Carlsbad High School, Carlsbad; Emily Rosen, 16, a sophomore at Clayton High School, Clayton; Selene Campos, 14, a freshman at Deming High School, Deming; Nicole Bartlett, 16, a junior at Oñate High School, Las Cruces; Will Lukow, 15, a junior at Roswell High School, Roswell; and Mayra L. Mendosa, 18, a senior at Santa Teresa High School, Santa Teresa.

Poetry Out Loud seeks to foster the next generation of literary readers by building on the resurgence of poetry as an oral art form, as seen in the slam poetry movement and the popularity of rap music. Through Poetry Out Loud, students master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about their literary heritage. The contest also seeks to address decreasing reading rates among young people, as cited in a recent National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) study To Read or Not To Read: A Question of National Consequence. Now in its fifth year of national competition, Poetry Out Loud has inspired hundreds of thousands of high school students to discover classic and contemporary poetry.

“Poetry Out Loud encourages students to begin a love affair with words, ideas, and imagination that will inspire them throughout their academic journeys and their careers,” said NEA Chairman Roger Lundie. in March 2009, a five-day conference centered on the purported underground base was held in Dulce and conference organizer Noris Hayakawa reported that about 120 people attended to hear lectures from UFO scholars and first-hand accounts by local law enforcement officers and area ranchers of cattle mutilation responses. Much information was exchanged, but little concrete evidence or plausible explanations resulted. So the mystery goes on.

To learn more about UFOs and extraterrestrial aliens in New Mexico, take a trip to Roswell for their annual UFO Festival over the July 4th weekend in 2010, or pick up a copy of UFOs Over Gallatin And Other Stories Of New Mexico’s History by former New Mexico State Historian Robert Torrez on UNM Press.

Savannah Armiño, New Mexican Poetry Out Loud Champion, and runner-up Savannah Armiño, at the state finals in Santa Fe on February 21, 2010.

Star of Restoration - Kevin Box - kinetic sculpture made of bronze, glass, and Jelly - 26" x 37" x 14" - Mescalero Apache Early Childhood Development Center, Mescalero
On March 26, 1880, the Santa Fe Daily New Mexican published an odd account of a balloon sighting near the newly constructed railroad tracks at Galisteo Junction. While taking an early evening stroll to enjoy the sunset, the station operator and some friends heard voices in the air and looked up to see a large fish-shaped balloon floating toward them. The fast-moving balloon’s gondola held eight or ten people who talked loudly and shouted to the observers on the ground, their language unintelligible to those below. Strains of music and laughter emanated from the strange aircraft. The revelers in the balloon seemed to control the craft and guided its course with the use of a large fanlike apparatus. They were also able to rapidly take the balloon to different altitudes, and the balloon rose quickly as it passed the curious onlookers.

As the balloon passed overhead, several items were dropped from the gondola to the astonished viewers below, one item made an audible sound as it fell to earth. It was difficult to locate the fallen objects in the fading light, audible sound as it fell to earth. It was difficult to locate the fallen objects in the fading light, but hardly the last.

By far the most famous UFO incident in New Mexico occurred in July 1947 when it was reported in a Roswell Army Air Field press release that personnel from the field’s 307th Bomb Group had recovered a crashed “flying disc” from a ranch near Roswell. The story was changed later in the day, and the “flying disc” was re-identified as a weather balloon.

A press conference held soon after displayed the recovered debris and seemed to back up the weather balloon story. The incident was soon forgotten and lay dormant until it was revived in 1978. A publication by former nuclear physicist and author Stanton T. Friedman sparked a new interest in the event. Freidman interviewed Jesse Marcel, the Army Air Corp major who had collected debris from the ranch near Corona where it was found, and transported it to Roswell and later to Fort Worth, Texas. Accounts about the incident from Marcel, and others who had served with him, popped an intense public interest in Roswell, and the not, as they say, is history.

There is apparently something about New Mexico that makes fabulous tales of extraterrestrial trials seem plausible. I’ve never understood it, but it certainly adds to our enchanted mystery.

When in my late teens, in 1970, I boarded with an ex-military veterinarian in Los Alamos who was investigating a rash of cattle mutilations that were occurring in the northern part of the state. He was convinced, or so he told me, that it was the work of coyotes, mountain lions, and other natural animal predators, and he related this in his official report. At that time, the popular press attributed the phenomenon to extraterrestrial UFOs, or US military black operations, or even satanic cults. I have never known what to believe, but have since met ranchers who are convinced that their cattle were surgically damaged by something or someone who flew in and left odd deep tracks

The Pojoa Out Loud encourages high school students to learn about great poetry through memorization and performance and is the creation of the NEA and the Poetry Foundation. New Mexico students were among the more than 300,000 students nationwide who took part this year at the classroom level.

“The public recitation of great poetry,” said John Barry, President of the Poetry Foundation, “is a way to honor the speaker, the poems, and the audience all at once. Pojoa Out Loud brings new energy to an ancient art by returning it to the classrooms of America.”

New Mexico Arts uses the CaFÉ™ electronic application and selection process online at http://www.callforentry.org. There is no application fee to apply for a project or to create an account on the system. All materials must be submitted according to the specifications outlined on the CaFÉ™ website.

The Arts in Public Places program is managed by the Acclaimed Artist Series. Born and raised in Santa Fe, Yvonne left New Mexico to obtain degrees in English Literature and Developmental Psychology from the University of Montana. She came back to Santa Fe in 2002 to follow her passion for the arts, and has worked at the Santa Fe Opera, Artwork International, and the Georgia O’Keefe Museum in Education, Marketing, Development, and Special Events. Along with her work for New Mexico Arts, Yvonne is an account executive for Santa Fean magazine, works part-time at the Spanish Colonial Arts Society, and is a managing representative for individual artists. Yvonne also volunteers as a board member of Intermezzo (a young professionals group of the Santa Fe Opera), Avant Garde, and Santa Fe Folk Art Market. She has been a grant panelist for New Mexico Arts and worked with the Diane Denish Express Campaign.

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES ANNOUNCEMENTS

Monarca de la Muerte
Oscar Lopez
silver-gelatin print
19.5” x 14.75”
New Mexico Arts Permanent Collection
Bataan Memorial Building, Santa Fe

New Mexico Arts seeks to commission up to five temporary environmentally-based artworks to be exhibited in various locations at the Village Shops in Los Ranchos, New Mexico. Available sites include both interior and exterior spaces. Artwork should be environmentally-based, respond to green technologies and/or innovative materials use, and relate to the community of Los Ranchos.

This project is open to New Mexico residents only. Artists in all stages of their careers are encouraged to apply.

The project amount is variable. The artist or artist team will be responsible for all fees and expenses: materials, equipment costs, labor, insurance, taxes, installation, project plaque, and written and photographic documentation of the completed project. Up to five artists/artists teams will be selected.

Poetry Out Loud Finalists will take place in Washington DC at George Washington University’s Lisner Auditorium on April 26 - 27 during the final days of National Poetry Month. Students grouped in three geographic regions will compete in semifinal competitions on April 26. Twelve students (four from each region) will advance to compete in the National Finals on April 27. Judges will evaluate each student’s performance on criteria including physical presence, articulation, evidence of understanding, level of difficulty, and accuracy. Both events are free and open to the public.

New Mexico Arts' Arts Jobs program. New Mexico Arts’ Arts Jobs program is supported by the Federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and is part of the National Endowment for the Arts under the 2009 America Recovery and Reinvestment Act and is part of the National Endowment for the Arts under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.
TIME – Temporary Installations Made for the Environment held in Las Cruces

New Mexico Arts, the City of Las Cruces Museums, and the Doña Ana Arts Council presented TIME – Temporary Installations Made for the Environment in Las Cruces in September and October 2009. The exhibit opened as part of the 16th annual Artshop in Las Cruces. Artists from Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas were invited to create temporary environmental artworks based on the theme regeneration. Six artworks were exhibited in various locations around Las Cruces including Branigan Cultural Center, Las Cruces Museum of Art, Museum of Nature and Science, Rio Grande Theater, Las Cruces Railroad Museum, and Cutter Gallery at the Hadley Center. The artworks were displayed for approximately three weeks, and at the end of the exhibition they were disassembled and removed, leaving no trace of ever having existed.

The TIME project was inspired by the emerging public art trend to encourage artists interested in creating more spontaneous and immediate artworks on the theme regeneration. Six artworks were exhibited in various locations around Las Cruces including Branigan Cultural Center, Las Cruces Museum of Art, Museum of Nature and Science, Rio Grande Theater, Las Cruces Railroad Museum, and Cutter Gallery at the Hadley Center. The artworks were displayed for approximately three weeks, and at the end of the exhibition they were disassembled and removed, leaving no trace of ever having existed.

**Participating TIME – Las Cruces artists included Joe Barrington, Tasha Cooper, Mary Lucking and Pete Goldlust, Susannah Mira, Glenn Schwaiger, and James Wissing.**

**Featured Work**

**Oururosos – Joe Barrington**

The artist constructed Oururosos, an ancient image of a serpent that eats its own tail. Made from reclaimed and recycled materials including discarded tires and steel, the serpent was mounted on an industrial bearing that allowed the sculpture to turn on its own axis. The imagery, recycled materials, and movement in the sculpture referenced “rebirth” represented in the use of an ancient symbol made new again from discarded materials.

**Symbiotic – Tasha Cooper**

The work harnesses wind power to create electricity. The blades of this wind turbine were made from stainless steel in the shape of cupped human hands that catch the wind to turn the turbine. Made from found objects, an alternator, fluorescent lamp, and stainless steel, the work demonstrated how a small amount of harnessed energy can have a large impact. The piece encouraged interaction and challenged visitors to think about how we use energy.

**Rag Riparian – Mary Lucking and Pete Goldlust**

The artwork was an architectural installation composed of colorful, stuffed soft sculptures. The components were made from recycled, used clothing, and batting. The materials referenced the history of the Mesilla Valley and southern New Mexico by including steel, paint, plastic bottles, plastic tubing, and five small flower pots. A hand was created with small branches that grew from the fingertips. The work included self-contained self-watering plant pots and symbolized growth and transformation.

**All in Knots – Susannah Mira**

The artist took unwanted textiles and stuffed them in polyethylene tubing, and five small flower pots. A hand was created with small branches that grew from the fingertips. The work included self-contained self-watering plant pots and symbolized growth and transformation.

**Meltdown – Glenn Schwaiger**

The artist created a solid pyramid of ice surrounded by an earthen dam. As the ice pyramid melted, the surrounding soil filled with water to represent the rising oceans, and the water ultimately breached the containment to spill away and evaporate.

**Growth – James Wissing**

The artist created a temporary sculptural installation made from recycled materials including steel, paint, plastic bottles, plastic tubing, and five small flower pots. A hand was created with small branches that grew from the fingertips. The work included self-contained self-watering plant pots and symbolized growth and transformation.

For more information about the TIME program and the Public Places Program (AIPP), contact Chuck Zimmer, AIPP Manager, at 505-877-6490, 800-878-6278 (statewide), or email chuck.zimmer@state.nm.us.

**The Las Cruces Railroad Museum interprets the impact of the railroad on the Mesilla Valley and Las Cruces. Guided tours, field trips and public programs are held throughout the year.**

**The Doña Ana Arts Council is a non-profit organization working to improve the quality of life in Las Cruces and southern New Mexico by ensuring that the performing, visual, and literary arts are an integral part of education, economic growth, and community development.**
TIME – Temporary Installations Made for the Environment held in Las Cruces

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The TIME project was inspired by the emerging public art trend to engage artists interested in creating more spontaneous and immediate artworks with short life spans. New Mexico Arts hopes this kind of project will engage both communities and artists in the public art process.

Participating TIME – Las Cruces artists included Joe Barrington, Tasha Cooper, Mary Lucking and Pete Goldlust, Susannah Mira, Glenn Schwaiger, and James Wissing.

Featured Work

Ouroboros – Joe Barrington
The artist constructed Ouroboros, an ancient image of a serpent that eats its own tail. Made from reclaimed and recycled materials including discarded tires and steel, the serpent was mounted on an industrial bearing that allowed the sculpture to turn on its own axis. The imagery, recycled materials, and movement in the sculpture referenced “rebirth” represented in the use of an ancient symbol made new again from discarded materials.

Symbiotic – Tasha Cooper
The work harnesses wind power to create electricity. The blades of this artificial wind turbine were made from stainless steel in the shape of cupped human hands that caught the wind to turn the turbine. Made from found objects, an alternator, fluorescent lamp, and stainless steel, the work demonstrated how a small amount of harnessed energy can have a large impact. The piece encouraged interaction and challenged visitors to think about how we use energy.

Rag Riparian – Mary Lucking and Pete Goldlust
The artwork was an architectural installation composed of colorful, stuffed soft sculptures. The components were made from recycled, used clothing, and batting. The materials referenced the history of the items used through work, play, and daily life, but the artwork took an imaginative non-linear track to explore the figures in relation to their environment. The used aspect of the materials reminded viewers that the components were once something else before they were joined together to form an art installation of ambiguous organic shapes.

All in Knots – Susannah Mira
The artist took unwanted textiles and stuffed them in polyethylene tubing to form a “stuffed sculpture.” The use of materials demonstrated how a community can construct something from old materials and create something thought provoking and beautiful. The knot design in the artwork referenced the traditional symbol of a tangled-form, to make the audience consider how we use our resources and how we can reshape our relationship to the environment.

Meltdown – Glenn Schwaiger
The artist created a solid pyramid of ice surrounded by an earthen dam. As the ice pyramid melted, the surrounding mound filled with water to represent the rising oceans, and the water ultimately breached the containment to spill away and evaporate.

All in Knots: Susannah Mira | textiles and polyethylene tubing | Cutter Gallery at the Hadley Center | TIME – Las Cruces

Growth – James Wissing
The artist created a temporary sculptural installation made from recycled materials including steel, paint, plastic bottles, plastic tubing, and five small flower pots. A hand was created with small branches that grew from the fingertips. The work included self-contained self-watering plant pots and symbolized growth and transformation.

For more information about the TIME program and the Public Places Program (AIPP), contact Chuck Zimmer, AIPP Manager, at 505-827-6490, 800-879-4278 (statewide), or email chuck.zimmer@state.nm.us.

The Branigan Cultural Center was established in 1986 as a means to administer 1% of capital outlay projects for the acquisition of public art. The 1% for Art in Public Places program has expanded and diversified over the years to provide a greater variety of services and tailor new programs and initiatives to better meet the needs of New Mexico’s communities.

The Branigan Cultural Center focuses on traditional and contemporary art, cultural exhibitions, classes, and programming. The Branigan Cultural Center is on the State and National Registry of Historic Places.

Growth – James Wissing
The artist created a temporary sculptural installation made from recycled materials including steel, paint, plastic bottles, plastic tubing, and five small flower pots. A hand was created with small branches that grew from the fingertips. The work included self-contained self-watering plant pots and symbolized growth and transformation.

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UFOs AND OTHER UNEXPLAINED MYSTERIES IN NEW MEXICAN FOLKLORE
Claude Stephenson, Ph. D.

On March 26, 1880, the Santa Fe Daily New Mexican published an odd account of a balloon sighting near the newly constructed railroad tracks at Galisteo Junction. While taking an early evening stroll to enjoy the sunset, the station operator and some friends heard voices in the air and looked up to see a large fish-shaped balloon floating toward them. The fast-moving balloon’s gondola held eight or ten people who talked loudly and shouted to the observers on the ground, their language unintelligible to those below. Strains of music and laughter emanated from the strange aircraft. The revelers in the balloon seemed to control the craft and guided its course with the use of a large fanlike apparatus. They were also able to rapidly take the balloon to different altitudes, and the balloon rose quickly as it passed the curious onlookers.

As the balloon passed overhead, several items were dropped from the gondola to the astonished viewers below, one item made an audible sound as it fell to earth. It was difficult to locate the fallen objects in the fading light, and the managers of two UFO sightings that are recounted in the oral lore of Native Americans, such as the Thunderbird, but I believe this was the first that made it to press, but hardly the last.

By far the most famous UFO incident in New Mexico occurred in July 1947 when it was reported in a Roswell Army Air Field press release that personnel from the field’s 509th Bomb Group had recovered a crashed “flying disc” from a ranch near Roswell. The story was changed later in the day, and the “flying disc” was re-identified as a weather balloon. The public recitation of great poetry," said John Barr, President of the Poetry Foundation, “is a way to honor the speaker, the poem, and the audience all at once. Poetry Out Loud brings new energy to an ancient art by returning it to the classrooms of America.”

Poetry Out Loud encourages high school students to learn about great poetry through memorization and performance and is the creation of the NEA and the Poetry Foundation. New Mexico students were among the more than 300,000 students nationwide who took part this year at the classroom level.

The Art in Public Places Contractor

New Mexico Arts uses the CaFE™ electronic application and selection process online at http://www.callforentry.org. There is no application fee to apply for a project or to create an account on the system. All materials must be submitted according to the specifications outlined on the CaFE™ website.

YVONNE MONToya has joined the Art in Public Places program to manage the Acclaimed Artist Series. Born and raised in Santa Fe, Yvonne left New Mexico to obtain degrees in English Literature and Developmental Psychology from the University of Montana. She came back to Santa Fe in 2002 to follow her passion for the arts, and has worked at the Santa Fe Opera, Artwork International, and the Georgia O’Keeffe Museum in Education, Marketing, Development, and Special Events. Along with her work for New Mexico Arts, Yvonne is an account executive for Santa Fean magazine, works part-time at the Spanish Colonial Arts Society, and is a managing representative for individual artists. Yvonne also volunteers as a board member of Intermezzo (a young professionals group of the Santa Fe Opera), Avant Garde, and Santa Fe Folk Art Market. She has been a grant panelist for New Mexico Arts and worked with the Diane Denish Express Campaign.

The Art in Public Places Contractor is funded by the National Endowment for the Arts under NEA’s American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and is part of New Mexico Arts Jobs program.

Prospectus #208 – TIME – Los Ranchos

Deadline: by Midnight, Thursday, May 12, 2010

New Mexico Arts seeks to commission up to five temporary environmentally-based artworks to be exhibited in various locations at the Village Shops in Los Ranchos, New Mexico. Available sites include both interior and exterior spaces. Artwork should be environmentally-based, respond to green technologies and/or innovative materials use, and relate to the community of Los Ranchos. This project is open to New Mexico residents only. Artists in all stages of their careers are encouraged to apply.

The project amount is variable. The artist or artist team will be responsible for all costs and expenses: materials, equipment costs, labor, insurance, taxes, installation, project plaque, and written and photographic documentation of the completed project. Up to five artists/artist teams will be selected.

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Monarca de la Muerte
Oscar Loyola
silver-gelatin print
13.5” x 14.75”
New Mexico Arts Permanent Collection
Bataan Memorial Building, Santa Fe
New Mexico State Champion to take part in finals of Poetry Out Loud: National Recitation Contest

Stan Gold, a senior at La Cueva High School in Albuquerque, will represent New Mexico in the national finals of Poetry Out Loud: National Recitation Contest April 25-27 in Washington DC.

Gold, 18, beat out eight other finalists on Sunday, February 21, in the 5th Annual New Mexico State Finals of Poetry Out Loud, sponsored by New Mexico Arts.

Gold receives $2,000 and an all-expense paid trip with chaperone to Washington DC to represent New Mexico at the national finals. His school will receive a $1,500 stipend to purchase poetry books for the school library. The competition runner-up is Savannah Armijo, 15, a sophomore at Clovis High School, Clovis. Armijo will receive $1,000, and $500 for the school library. The National Champion receives $20,000 in prizes.

More than 1,800 students and 39 teachers took part in Poetry Out Loud at the classroom level this year from across New Mexico.

The other participants in the state finals included Joseph Ulibarri, 17, a senior at Bloomfield High School, Bloomfield; Kaitlynn Fredericks, 16, a junior at Carlsbad High School, Carlsbad; Emily Rossen, 16, a sophomore at Deming High School, Deming; Nicole Bartlett, 16, a junior at Oñate High School, Las Cruces; Will Lukas, 15, a junior at Roswell High School, Roswell; and Mayra L. Mendosa, 18, a senior at Santa Teresa High School, Santa Teresa.

Poetry Out Loud seeks to foster the next generation of literary readers by building on the resurgence of poetry as an oral art form, as seen in the slam poetry movement and the popularity of rap music. Through Poetry Out Loud, students master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about their literary heritage. The contest also seeks to address decreasing reading rates among young people, as cited in a 2008 study by the National Endowment for the Arts. Poetry Out Loud has inspired hundreds of thousands of high school students to discover classic and contemporary poetry.

“Poetry Out Loud encourages students to begin a love affair with words, ideas, and imagination that will inspire them throughout their academic journeys and their careers,” said NEA Chairman Rocco Landesman.

In March 2009, a five-day conference centered on the purported underground base was held in Dulce and conference organizer Norio Hayakawa reported that about 120 people attended to hear lectures from UFO scholars and first-hand accounts by local law enforcement officers and area ranchers of cattle mutilation responses. Much information was exchanged, but little concrete evidence or plausible explanations resulted. So the mystery goes on.

To learn more about UFOs and extraterrestrial aliens in New Mexico, take a trip to Roswell for their annual UFO Festival over the July 4th weekend in 2010, or pick up a copy of UFOs Over Gallinas And Other Stories Of New Mexico’s History by former New Mexico State Historian Robert Torrez on UNM Press.