



PRESS RELEASE

April 27, 2010

The Arts Council, Inc.

80 E. Ocean Blvd., Stuart, FL 34994

Nancy Turrell, Executive Director – 287-6676

mARTies Awards Announced

What: mARTies Awards

When: April 1, 2010

Where: Hutchinson Island Marriott Resort

Stuart, Florida: The Arts Council serving Stuart and Martin County is pleased to announce the mARTies awards recipients. The awards were announced at the mARTies Awards luncheon celebration at Hutchinson Island Marriott Resort on April 1, 2010.

“The Arts Council is proud to present the mARTies Awards, so we can celebrate the arts and what they mean to each of us,” state Arts Council chairwoman, Jeanette Mueller. She continued “The mARTies celebration is just a mere moment in time, compared to the lifetime many of those we are honoring have invested in the arts; however, is a very special and meaningful time of appreciation and celebration!”

The talented nominees in the seven categories were judged in three areas: artistic excellence, civic responsibility and leadership in improving the quality of life in our community. Those receiving the mARTies awards were:

Outstanding Digital Media Artist: Steven Martine
Outstanding Visual Artist: Ruthann Hewson
Outstanding Performing Artist: Douglas Jewett
Outstanding Volunteer for the Arts: Pamela Waxler Fogt
Outstanding Student Digital Media Artist: Nicholas Lively
Outstanding Student Visual Artist: Sarah Tranter
Outstanding Student Performing Artist: Martha Sturm

In addition to the awards announced at the mARTies luncheon on April 1, others were recognized for their support of the arts including:

Lifetime Achievement: Sandra Thurlow
Excellence in Arts Education: Tracy Canada
Philanthropy in the Arts: Julie & Peter Cummings
Corporate Leadership: UBS
Arts Leadership: Ethel Christin
Special Recognition: Margaret “Peggie” O’Neill

The Arts Council Inc. serving Stuart and Martin County is a 501(c)3 non-profit membership organization that supports the arts and artists. Revenues from events benefit both the artists and the Arts Council. The Arts Council and the Court House Cultural Center Gallery are located at 80 E. Ocean Boulevard, Stuart, Florida. For information visit the Arts Council website at www.martinarts.org or call 772-287-6676.

The Arts Council is sponsored in part by the Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Arts Council, City of Stuart, Martin County Board of County Commissioners, and private contributions.

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Information about each award recipient is attached.



l-r: Ethel Christin, Sandra Thurlow, Pam Waxler Foyt, Douglas Jewett, Steven Martine, Ruthann Hewson

MARTIES – 2010 - Award Statements

LIFETIME ACHEIVEMENT

Sandra Thurlow

Sandra, a long-time Martin County resident, has a passion for the history of her beloved community and the arts. She is one of the Treasure Coast's preeminent historians, a fifth generation Floridian, and a graduate of the University of Florida. She is the author of *Sewall's Point, the History of a Peninsular Community on Florida's Treasure Coast*, which was first published in 1992 and republished in 2008. Thurlow is also the author of three additional books; *Stuart on the St. Lucie*, published in 2002; *Historic Jensen and Eden on Florida's Indian River*, published in 2008; and *Gilbert's Bar House of Refuge Home of History*, which was produced with her daughter-in-law, Deanna Wintercorn Thurlow.

EXCELLENCE IN ARTS EDUCATION

Tracy Canada

Tracy has served as a fine arts teacher at Jensen Beach High School since 2005. Mrs. Canada studied at Florida State University and received a B.S. in Art Education. During her tenure at JBHS, Mrs. Canada has invited her students to engage in community activities while pursuing their artistic passions. In doing so, she established a chapter of the National Art Honor Society for JBHS, a first in Martin County. The NAHS students have held numerous art benefits to raise money for the Invisible Children in an effort to end child soldiery in Africa. The next benefit, a dinner and art auction at Indian Riverside Park on May 21st, is open to the public, if any of you would like to attend. Recently, under Mrs. Canada's leadership, her students have been working with the Environmental Studies Center and local artist and muralist, Brenda Leigh, to bring a mosaic mural to life at Stuart Beach (a public art project for Martin County).

PHILANTHROPY IN THE ARTS

Julie & Peter Cummings

Julie Fisher and Peter D. Cummings share a profound belief in the importance of the arts and arts education for our children. They divide their time among Detroit, which is Julie's hometown; South Florida, where Peter's business is based; and New York, where Julie recently went back to school. Working toward her master's in social work at Columbia University, she combines her academic work with a full schedule of philanthropic activities. As lead director of the Max M. & Marjorie S. Fisher Foundation, she devotes considerable time to setting the priorities for this recently funded foundation, which includes arts and culture among its major areas of focus. Peter is a real estate developer who started as a journalist in the early 1970s in his birthplace, Montreal, Canada. His passion is music—almost all kinds of music but classical music in particular. As chairman of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra (DSO) from 1999 through 2003 and an active board member to this day, he spearheaded the Orchestra Place project, which rejuvenated the neighborhood surrounding historic Orchestra Hall with a \$225 million mixed-use development, including a new high school of the arts. Julie and Peter have been dedicated to Martin County and its cultural development for over 3 decades demonstrating leadership by championing the effort to create the Arts Council, by providing on-going

sustaining support for the Council, by providing naming gifts for the Cummings Library in Palm City and more.

CORPORATE LEADERSHIP

UBS

UBS espouses three global philanthropic commitments, two of which are arts-based: classical music and contemporary art. UBS's primary aim is to enable the finest musical talents to create memorable experiences for audiences, as well as to provide new opportunities for composers, musicians, teachers and students. Craig Price, a UBS financial advisor, has supported with matching funds from UBS corporate, an excursion to Art Basel Miami Beach which ranks among the world's leading art dealers representing both established artists and emerging talents. With a rich collection of paintings, photographs, drawings, sculptures and video art by some of the world's major artists from 1950 onwards, UBS is recognized as having one of the world's most important collections of contemporary art. UBS believes it upholds their commitment to support and encourage the artistic communities in places where they do business. We recognize UBS for their strong leadership example in our community with both Michael Dadko and Craig Price as past board members and volunteers.

ARTS LEADERSHIP

Ethel Christin

Ethel Fine Christin is a native of Pittsburgh but has lived in Palm City, since 1996. She graduated from the University of Michigan, the University of Pittsburgh and University of Pittsburgh's Graduate School of Social Work. While in Pittsburgh, she served as President of Comprehensive Facility Services Inc., President of Caliguiri/Schmeiser Interiors, and was a consultant to Blue Cross, Oxford Development and Continental Design, an affiliate of Interstate Hotels Corporation. In addition to her professional accomplishments, Mrs. Christin has served on numerous community boards. In Stuart, Ethel is now serving her second term as President of the Lyric Theater having been involved with them in a leadership role since 2002, has been a member of Women Supporting the Arts since 2006 and of the Council since 2004, and is involved with other community organizations such as the Martin County Library Foundation.

OUTSTANDING DIGITAL MEDIA ARTIST

Steven Martine

Whenever something needs to be done-and it needs to be pro-bono, Steven is the first to step to the plate. Steven has selflessly donated the photography and video production for The Lifesavers Goombay Bash for the Martin Memorial Foundation for many, many years. He has gone above and beyond and brought staff with him to the event to capture all of the action. He also has spent countless hours on the video production of the sponsor video-all while making it look easy. Gathering sponsor logos, setting the video to the right music, including all the committee members in the video and gathering testimonials-it is in a days work for Stephen. Not only does he do all of this—he also takes The Lifesavers official committee photo-on location.

OUTSTANDING PERFORMING ARTIST

Douglas Jewett

Doug is a dreamer. Doug's dreams and his outstanding leadership resulted in the creation of the area's only community choral organization. That organization, the Treasure Coast Community Singers, now boasts a 120-member contemporary choir, a 60-member classical choir and a 30-member traveling ensemble. Doug's expertly honed his skills as a choral director allow him to bring out the best in singers no matter what their musical ability or experience. He makes time to work with area high school and college students as well as adults who want to improve their own skill set. He continually improves his own vocal skills by performing with the award winning national choral group Centurymen or as a tenor soloist. Doug's dreams are good for our community. He deserves to be recognized and encouraged for his sake and for ours. He is currently enrolled in a PhD program in educational administration to prepare himself to realize his next dream for our community.

OUTSTANDING VISUAL ARTIST

Ruthann Hewson

Ruthann captures beauty on an ever-changing canvas that is Martin County. Whether her work is of The Old Stuart Causeway, now history, or the new Sunset Bay Marina, it reflects realistic likeness of time and place as well as the unique spirit of its subject. Ruth was part owner of Waterways Gallery, which held numerous fundraisers for non-profit organizations including Pink Tie Friends and the Humane Society. Art instructions and Demonstrations were provided to the public at monthly art salons. A leader in Palm City Art Associates, Inc., she remains on its Board of Trustees, having served three terms as its president. She has participated in Are is Everywhere Tours both as hostess and docent. She has volunteered at her church in numerous capacities. An award winning artist, Ruth has donated her art to causes too numerous to list in entirety. They include: The Arts Council, Hibiscus House, Historical Society of Martin County, 4C's, ARC, Humane Society, Easter Seals, Red Cross, Volunteers in Medicine and the Florida Oceanographic Society, and many others.

OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER FOR THE ARTS

Pamela Waxler Fogt

Pamela has long been a tireless volunteer for the Elliott Museum and lifetime devotee of the arts and culture of Martin County and many of our nonprofit organization. Pam founded "Old Home Week" at the Elliott Museum, a program that aims to preserve a sense of community and our rich local history. Leading the charge for the New Elliott Museum, Pam has worked shoulder to shoulder with the architects and exhibit designers to ensure that the new museum will encompass all that it can with regard to art and culture. She, her husband and her sister gifted a theater to the new museum to provide a venue for cultural films and presentations. Community and its people, its art, and its culture is at the core of Pamela Waxler Fogt.

OUTSTANDING STUDENT DIGITAL MEDIA ARTIST

Nicholas Lively

Nick has worked with many community projects through talents in TV production. Nick has been a leader in taping the school's daily news show, the Prowl", graduation, video taping plays such as The Lion King, Thoroughly Modern Millie, and Frankenstein and has been an assistant

producer for the school's annual Senior Memories video and is currently this year's producer. Nick has volunteered with community organizations such as Red Cross, the Big Bear Brigade, Mary's Soup Kitchen, and Habitat for Humanity. Nick exhibits integrity in his work and shows leadership. He not only stays focused on his projects but is willing to pitch in and help other students and faculty. Nick has concurrently received the Bronze, Silver and last year the Gold Congressional Award, the American Legion Award and has achieved academic excellence and is a senior who plans on attending Florida State University to study film production.

OUTSTANDING STUDENT PERFORMING ARTIST

Martha Sturm

Martha has made music an integral part of her life encompassing most of her waking hours. A gifted trombone section leader and officer in the band, she is the Pathfinder Nominee in Instrumental Music for Martin County High School. Throughout high school Martha has performed in the Treasure Coast Youth Symphony, in various services at her church, and in other local churches as well. An accomplished and talented pianist, Martha has volunteered by performing at many assisted living facilities in Palm City and Stuart. In addition, she has raised money for Hospice, Tykes & Teens, ARC and Children's Emergency Resources by playing in annual music-thons at the Treasure Coast Mall. She performs in the annual National Guild Auditions and Federation Festivals where she consistently earns Superior ratings. Martha's total dedication to music, her striving for excellence, and her compassionate nature are commendable qualities which set her apart from others.

OUTSTANDING STUDENT VISUAL ARTIST

Sarah Tranter

Sarah is not only an extremely talented artist but also a wonderful volunteer to the Jensen Beach High School Arts program. She has been awarded two Silver Keys and five Honorable Mentions in the past two years for her work in photography in the Scholastic Art Show. Recently, she 1st place for a mixed-media piece she entered into the Keiser Art Show, which includes high schools from both Martin and St. Lucie Counties. Sarah is a dedicated member and officer in our National Art Honor Society and Art Club where she helps in any way she can to promote art. She has donated several pieces of her art and has volunteered time in many community art projects. Sarah has aided in our many art benefits for the Invisible Children, helped with set-ups for the Eco-Art project with Zavier Cortada and donated art to the Pink Tie Organization. Currently, Sarah is spending her weekends helping Brenda Leigh with the community mural project at Stuart Beach. Last summer, Sarah continued her art education with a six-week intensive summer art program at The Art Institute of Boston and received six college credits for her art studies.