

Weekly News 7/17/09

- 1. National Summit on Careers in the Arts for People With Disabilities**
- 2. Vote for your favorite Arts Festival**
- 3. Women Encouraged to Join Boards**
- 4. Lincoln Events at Drake**
- 5. Join our listserv**
- 6. Strategic Restructuring for Nonprofits**
- 7. Upcoming meetings**
- 8. A WOW moment**

National Summit on Careers in the Arts for People With Disabilities

The NEA is convening the first national summit in 10 years on Careers in the Arts for People With Disabilities. The schedule and information about connecting to this webinar event are attached. More information can be found at <http://www.arts.gov/news/news09/Disability-summit.html>.

Vote for your favorite Arts Festival

American Style Magazine is conducting a survey to find the Top 10 Arts Fairs and Festivals Vote for your favorite at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=8ylvXK7UsBti5q_2bPo2B2Bw_3d_3d

Women encouraged to join boards

Earlier this year, Governor Chet Culver signed into law House File 243, a bill that will require gender balance on all local boards and commissions by January 1, 2012. This law will help increase the voice of women in government, develop community leadership, and help ensure that government boards and commissions are more representative of Iowans.

Lincoln Events at Drake University

Would you like an opportunity to learn about **active learning techniques** and approaches specifically for **teaching history**? If so, we have a great opportunity for you! Cowles Library is offering a **FREE** course, "***Making Presidential History Come Alive***," this summer that corresponds to two traveling exhibits that we will host later in 2009 and early 2010.

More specifics about this free course:

Meeting days:

* July 15 (9:30-Noon; 1:30-3:00) – a guest speaker, James Percoco, will do a morning session on content about Abraham Lincoln and John Adams. In the afternoon, he will focus on active learning techniques for making history interesting to middle school and high school students. He is a history teacher from West Springfield High School in Springfield, Virginia. He has won numerous education awards and has written several books.

* July 22 (9am-Noon) – a guest speaker, Matthew Pinsker, an American history scholar from Dickinson College, will offer a workshop on presidential history. Dr. Pinsker will also present a lecture at 7pm that same night which is open to the public. The topic: "Abraham Lincoln: Private Man, Public Leader"

* July 23 (9am-11am) – Dr. Pinsker will join the class on a tour of the Jordan House in West Des Moines.

If you are interested in attending either one or both of these sessions, please contact Claudia Frazer at claudia.frazer@drake.edu or 515-271-3776. For more information, see our Citizens Arise website (<http://citizensarise.drake.edu/>)

Join our listserv

We've discovered that for a lot of us it's just too much trouble to participate in the CHAT Facebook page, but it's still really important for us to be able to quickly and easily share ideas. So we're going old school! We have established a CHAT listserv.

To join, please go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/> and search for Iowa_CHAT. You'll see our logo there☺ There is an easy sign in process. You are required to create a yahoo account (if you don't have one) but can then select your primary email account as the way you want to share information. Please consider joining—this will be one way we distribute the Weekly News and share legislative information in the future.

Don't worry, we'll still have Facebook and our webpage; this is just one more way to communicate!

Strategic Restructuring for Nonprofits

Nonprofits today are looking for the best way to address smaller budgets and increased demand for their services. Strategic partnerships offer a creative solution. This workshop is facilitated by Robert Harrington, a national consultant from La Piana Consulting.



Join us for Strategic Restructuring for Nonprofits.

Time: 10:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Date: July 30, 2009

Place: Iowa State Historical Building, 600 East Locust, Des Moines.

Cost: \$75, which includes lunch and the *Nonprofit Mergers Workbook Part I: The Leader's Guide to Considering, Negotiating, and Executing a Merger*

For more information and to register, please visit the Grants and Nonprofit Resources section of the Community Foundation's Web site at www.desmoinesfoundation.org. Register early as seating is limited.

Upcoming meetings

Please let deirdre.giesler@iowa.gov know if you've scheduled your next regional CHAT meeting. We'll announce it in the CHAT Weekly News!

Wow Moment

Wow! Wow, Wow, WOW! I went looking for a Wow Moment and boy, did I find one! Check out this absolutely inspirational volunteer story. What an amazing individual. See <http://therobject.com/> to find out what Iowan Robby Marvin is doing with his year.

--Deirdre