

VB City of Virginia Beach Cultural Affairs

Arts & Humanities Commission

ANNUAL REPORT FY2017

THE COMMISSION EXISTS TO ASSIST THE GROWTH OF WORTHWHILE PROGRAMS IN THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES IN THE CITY OF VIRGINIA BEACH.

Project Grants

- In Fiscal Year 2016 (most recent data available) the Arts and Humanities Commission funded over 500 performances and programs within the City of Virginia Beach.
- Commission-sponsored programs reached a combined audience attendance of approximately 196,000.



- This fiscal year, funding from the Arts and Humanities Commission, for example, sponsored the Virginia Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA)'s *Turn the Page: The First Ten Year of Hi-Fructose and New Waves 2017* exhibits, and Virginia Musical Theatre's productions of Disney's *Beauty & The Beast* and *Hello Dolly!* at the Sandler Center for the Performing Arts.
- Arts organizations receiving Commission grants in 2016 returned \$270,000 in direct revenue through admission taxes and venue rental to the City and returned .57 cents on each dollar of the Commission's annual appropriation back to the City.

Leadership and Organizational Development Grants

- In 2016, six eligible arts and humanities organizations received LOD grant funding which allowed representatives from each organization to attend an array of classes, workshops and conferences related to non-profit management.

Public Art

The City's Public Art Program is overseen by the Commission's Public Art Committee.

- The Sandler Center Art Gallery continues to offer exhibition opportunities for serious visual and fine craft artists exhibiting two dimensional works. Exhibits are rotated on a bi-monthly basis. The Art Gallery is located on the 2nd and 3rd floor lobbies of the Sandler Center. The gallery is free and open to the public, Monday through Friday from 10am-6pm, Saturdays from



10am-2pm and during any performance at the Sandler Center. The addition of the Art Gallery helps in establishing the Sandler Center for the Performing Arts as a world-class center for both the performing and visual arts in Hampton Roads.

- New Sculpture to Welcome Visitors to the Rich History of Lynnhaven Inlet: After an extensive national search, the Public Art Virginia Beach Foundation, along with members of the Virginia Beach Public Art Committee and the Bayfront Advisory Commission, are pleased to announce that Donald Lipski has been selected to create, *The Canoes*, a signature sculpture that will serve as a gateway to the Bayfront community. *The Canoes*, to be located on the southern pedestrian overlook heading east on the new Lesner Bridge on Shore Drive, will usher visitors into the beauty and history of the Chesapeake Bay area. The historic canoe as a medium for the sculpture creates an indelible tie to the waters surrounding it.

THE CANOES
AT LESNER BRIDGE
DONALD LIPSKI, 2018



Marketing

- The Arts and Humanities Commission is also a marketing resource for local arts groups. The Commission sponsors co-op advertisements in local newspapers to make advertising more affordable for local organizations. This year, the Arts Commission partnered with *VEER Magazine* and *The Virginian-Pilot* to provide this valuable resource. The Arts Commission also increased online advertising and marketing this year with *The Virginian-Pilot Online*, social media, and a Splashpage (www.vbarts.org) that lists local arts groups' monthly events.

2017 GRANT RECIPIENTS

Ballet Virginia International
Governor's School for the Arts Foundation
Little Theatre of Virginia Beach
The Old Coast Guard Station
Symphonicity
Teens With a Purpose
The Tidewater Winds
Tidewater Arts Outreach
Virginia Arts Festival
Virginia Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA)
Virginia Musical Theatre
Virginia Opera
Virginia Stage Company
Virginia Symphony Orchestra
World Affairs Council of Greater Hampton Roads
Young Audiences of Virginia
Zeiders American Dream Theater