

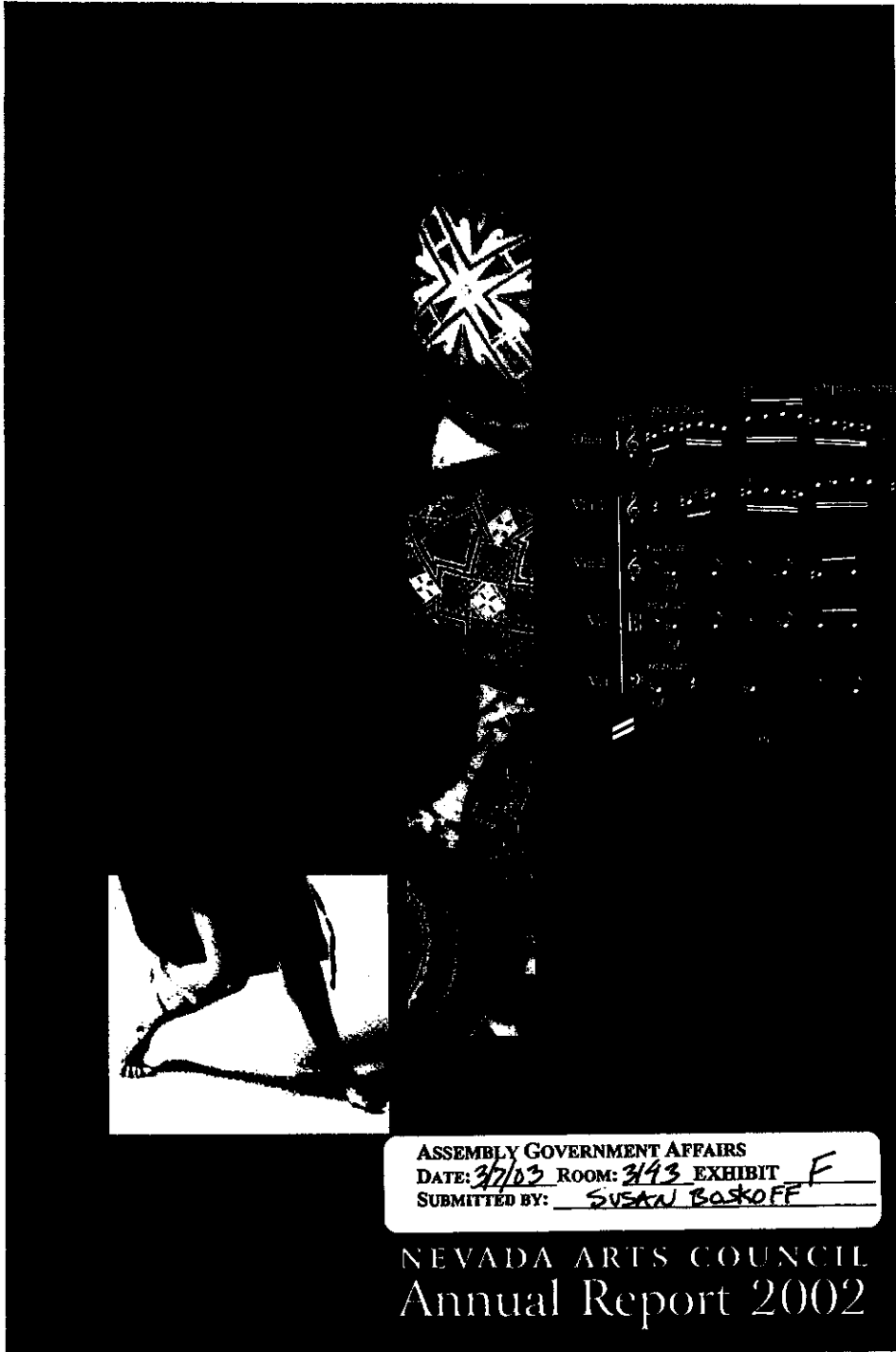
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SUBMITTED BY: SUSAN BASKOFF

NEVADA ARTS COUNCIL
Annual Report 2002

nevada

arts council

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The Nevada Arts Council is a division of the Nevada Department of Cultural Affairs.

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Governor, State of Nevada

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*Interim Director,
Department of Cultural Affairs*

Nevada Arts Council 2001-2002

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in formation

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Nevada Arts Council

A division in the Department of Cultural Affairs, the Nevada Arts Council (NAC) was established as a state agency in 1967. A nine-member council, serving rotating terms of four years, oversees NAC policy and makes final decisions on grant allocations. Council members are appointed by the Governor of Nevada and are selected for their knowledge of and experience in the arts, and to ensure geographic and ethnic representation of all areas of the state. Staff develops and administers programs and projects that support the mission and goals of the agency.

The Nevada Arts Council complies with all local, state and federal laws and regulations concerning civil and human rights, including Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975. NAC ensures that its programs, grants, and employment practices are free of any discrimination based on race, color, national origin, disability, sex or age.

The Nevada Art Council is funded by the Nevada State Legislature, the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency, and other public and private sources.

mission

Statement

To enrich the cultural life of the state through leadership that preserves, supports, strengthens and makes excellence in the arts accessible to all Nevadans.

Goals of the Nevada Arts Council

- ☉ To enhance the environment in which the artist's work and contribution is valued and supported.
- ☉ To encourage and support diverse organizations that produce, present, and promote excellence in the arts.
- ☉ To increase access to excellence and diversity in the arts.

Marta Wallof, ceramist, works with students at Robert Mitchell Elementary in Sparks, Arts in Education Special Project Grant, FY02.



commitments



Steve Furimsky (deceased) demonstrating Ukrainian egg decorating, or pysanky. He worked with Zoria Zetauruk of Las Vegas during a Folk Arts Apprenticeship in FY02.

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Artists' Services Program

The Nevada Arts Council (NAC) encourages the work of Nevada artists of all disciplines through its Artists' Services Program. With a focus on the needs and concerns of the individual artist, the program components allow NAC to provide resources and technical assistance to, and communication with artists statewide.

Program Highlights 2001-2002

The work of four Nevada artists — Catherine Angel, Henderson; Robert Beckmann, Henderson; Paul Ford, Minden; and Christine Pinney Karkow, Reno — received accolades during **The De-Constructed West** exhibit at the Millennium Arts Center in Washington, D.C. Curated by Lowery Stokes Sims, director of the Studio Museum in Harlem, **De-Constructed West** featured 16 visual arts fellowship recipients from Idaho, Nevada, Utah, and Wyoming. The two-month winter exhibit was organized through the efforts of the four state arts councils in collaboration with the Millennium Arts Center.

Seven **Artist Fellowships** were awarded in Fiscal Year 2002, one more than usual, thanks to funding from the *Hilliard Endowment Fund* of Reno, which supported a third fellowship in Literary Arts.

Created in 1988, Artist Fellowships provide financial support to Nevada's artists of merit. Since the program's inception, NAC has recognized the work of 86 actors, poets, sculptors, musicians, filmmakers, dancers, photographers, playwrights, choreographers, painters and writers, each with a \$5,000 fellowship award.

In addition to using the award to produce art during the fellowship year — spending more time in the studio, developing a marketing strategy or researching new techniques — each fellow provides a public presentation relevant to his or her discipline. The results of a fellowship year are shared with communities around the state through readings, exhibitions, performances and master classes that are free and open to the public.

Last spring panelists reviewed 178 applications — 85 in literary arts, 27 in performing arts and 66 in visual arts — and recommended seven artists to the Arts Council for FY02 fellowships. The review panels also recognized 14 finalists.

The De-Constructed West...what a great collaboration and exhibition. My compliments to all those involved in putting together this well-constructed project. Surely this initiative will be a very useful tool in the development of multi-state exhibits and programs in the future.

Rhoda A. Pierce,
Executive Director,
Illinois Arts Council

Artist Fellowships FY02

Literary Arts

Roy A. Chavez Alvarado, poetry, Carson City
Dayvid Figler, poetry, Las Vegas
Funded by the Hilliard Endowment Fund
Joanna Frueh, prose/non-fiction, Reno

Performing Arts

Cathy Allen, choreography, Las Vegas
Virko Baley, music composition, Las Vegas

Visual Arts

Robert Beckmann, painter, Henderson
Diane Bush, photography/new genre, Las Vegas

Honorable Mentions

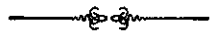
Gabriel Brandt, photography, Henderson
Betty Buehler, poetry, Las Vegas
Margot Mink Colbert, choreography, Henderson
Cameron Crain, theatre direction, Las Vegas
Curtis Fairman, painting, Henderson
Jeanette Farr, playwriting, Las Vegas
Diane Glazman, prose/fiction, Reno
Stefan Karlsson, music performance, Henderson
Louis Lavours, choreography, Las Vegas
Elaine Parks, sculpture, Henderson
Tamara Sevance, sculpture, Reno
Corinne Veltine, poetry, Carson City
Jeanine Wolfson, poetry, Las Vegas
L. Martin Young, dance performance, Reno

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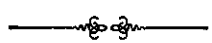
Artists

Services

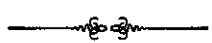
Night, the NAC's in-state traveling exhibition, provided a "canvas" for eight Nevada artists to create powerful and engaging works of art. Considering various aspects of the theme, including "night as a state of mind" and "night as a place in the heart," were Reno artists Michael Greenspan, Christine Karkow and Robert Morrison; Liedeke Bulder from Spring Creek, Gail Rappa from Tuscarora; and Fred Sigman with Charles Morgan, Yek Wong, and Almond Zigmund, all of Las Vegas. During FY02, the exhibit traveled to Carson City, Fallon, and Reno.



The Office eXhibition Series, **OXS**, featured visual artists in both Carson City and Las Vegas offices who have received recognition through various Nevada Arts Council programs. Represented were Las Vegas artists, Diane Bush, Ann Hoff, and Tom Umholtz; and Reno artists Christine Pinney Karkow, Erik Lauritzen, and Paula Morin.



At last year's **White House** holiday reception, four Nevadans were recognized for their unique ornaments created for the First Family's Christmas tree, along with artists from across the nation. Jill Atkins, Reno; Carol Folvary-Anderson, Carson City; Steven Liguori, Boulder City; and Dolores Nast, Las Vegas responded to Mrs. Bush's request to create miniature replicas of historic Nevada homes, illustrating the theme, "At Home for the Holidays."



Writers from Nevada and the western region presented 22 free readings, writing workshops, and lectures in communities throughout the state during the eighth season of **Tumblewords**, NAC's statewide literature project. Tumblewords was initiated in 1993 to increase awareness of literature as a vital art form by bringing together contemporary writers and new audiences. As well, Tumblewords increases the visibility of regional writers of note and Nevada contemporary writers who have been active in NAC programs or are recipients of grants and awards that acknowledge their artistic merit. Tumblewords is supported in part by the Western States Arts Federation.

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Arts in Education Program

The Arts in Education (AIE) Program supports the goal of lifelong learning in the arts by promoting and expanding quality arts education opportunities for all Nevada citizens. Arts education helps students of all ages to develop essential life skills and problem-solving abilities that prepare them to succeed in our global, technology based society. The audiences of tomorrow are born in today's schools. Studies have shown that academic performance is enhanced with quality arts education programs. To encourage participation in the creative process, the components of the AIE Program include grants, statewide initiatives, and professional development opportunities.

Program Highlights 2001-2002

The Arts in Education Program went electronic in FY02 with **Culture Grants Online**. A project of the Western States Arts Federation, NAC's online grant application process was created with input from staff and constituents, and designed to help applicants create stronger and more competitive grants.

The Artist in Residence (AIR) Program places professional artists in schools, public institutions and communities for one week to four months at a time. These residencies enable students and others to participate in the creative process with artists in varied disciplines through workshops and other methods of direct engagement. Two examples of FY02 residencies are:

☛ *Imlay Elementary* sponsored a 10-day summer residency with visual artist Emily Silver, and two residencies during the school year with folk artist Norma Smokey and dancer Christian Swenson. Each artist worked with the teachers of this pre-school through 5th grade school, as well as with students and community members.

☛ *Lincoln County Arts Council* sponsored residencies at six schools in three rural communities with storyteller John Beach, theater artist Deanna Duplechain, and musician Chris Bayer. All three artists focused on improving student writing skills.

Dear Sidne, Thank you so much for teaching our class how to draw. I have a great time drawing, now I can draw faces better. My mom was very impressed with my drawings. Now she understands how much I love art.

Student response to artist residency with Sidne Teske, Battle Mountain

During the spring, eleven new artists were added to the AIR roster for FY 2003-2004. The roster provides AIR sponsors with a bank of 50 artists in the disciplines of creative writing, dance, folk arts, music, theater, storytelling, and visual arts. A panel of professional artists and educators reviewed applicant artists using criteria based on quality of work, the ability to share the creative process, and educational skills and experience.

Special Project Grants (SPG) for Schools and Organizations provide funding for first-time projects that integrate creative and innovative arts programming in school and non-school settings for populations of all ages. Examples of FY02 Special Projects include:

☛ *Reno's AREA-51 Dance Theatre* created "Studio-51," a modern dance studio environment for at-risk teens intended to cultivate self-esteem, discipline and professional dance skills. Students participated in two modern dance classes per week for ten months, and received dancewear and transportation. The program culminated in a studio performance for family, friends and the community, and a performance in the "Conservatory of Movement's" recital, held in the Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts in Reno.

☛ To enhance its reading program, *Rex Bell Elementary* in Las Vegas engaged author Dan Gutman as part of its project, "The Art of Baseball." Using a multidiscipline approach, students worked with Gutman to write baseball stories, learned about baseball themed music with the music teacher, and designed baseball cards with guidance from the art teacher.

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education

Moapa Valley Arts Council rescued its school music programs by organizing a preparatory choir and two performing choirs, involving approximately 200 children, ages 5-14. Project goals were to provide a choral/vocal experience for students at critical stages of development; to cultivate community support for an elementary/middle school vocal program; to develop future arts audiences by fostering a greater appreciation for the arts through participation; and to develop a touring community children's choir to sustain the vocal program.

Nevadans continue to drive home the message of arts education by bolting the **Rich in Arts License Plates** to bumpers across the state. More than 3,500 arts license plates have been purchased, raising awareness for arts education and providing additional funding for arts education programs of the Nevada Arts Council and VSA arts of Nevada. The design by Beth Finta, a Las Vegas student, features Nevada flora and fauna in bright primary colors. Though other states have plates to support arts education, Nevada's remains the only one actually designed by a student.

Professional Development Grants (PDG) for Educators and Teaching and Discovering the Arts (TADA) grants support professional development opportunities for teachers, artists who teach and arts administrators. Two of FY02 Professional Development projects were:

The arts resource person for elementary teachers at Reno's Smithridge Elementary School, *Marye Anne Read*, attended a one-week photography class to learn new techniques to share with her colleagues to enhance their literacy and art programs.

Patricia Coyne attended the N.A.S.A. Space Camp to learn how to integrate science and theatre at Harley Harman Elementary School in Henderson.

AIE Grant Statistics FY02

Artist in Residence Program

\$25,290 in matching grants, sponsored 29 residencies involving 17 elementary schools, 5 middle schools, 4 high schools, 1 summer youth camp, and 1 Boys & Girls Club. The residencies involved more than 4,917 students in grades K-12 and 2,553 community members.

Special Project Grants for Schools and Organizations

\$34,326 in matching grants supported innovative arts education initiatives for 6 elementary schools, 1 university youth program, and 8 arts and cultural organizations.

Professional Development Grants for Educators

\$21,383 was awarded to 30 educators, 1 art therapist, 1 arts administrator and 4 artists in residence, from 4 school districts, 3 colleges, and 2 arts organizations, to attend conferences, create productions and exhibitions, conduct research, and work with artists to learn new skills and techniques.

Teaching and Discovering the Arts

\$1,500 was awarded to the Art Educators of Nevada for their annual teacher conference.

The AIE program offers artists and educators varied professional development opportunities throughout the year—to network with other like-minded professionals, to attend skill-building workshops, and to discover new approaches to arts education. Last spring, seven **AIE program and grant writing workshops** were presented in Carson City, Reno, Las Vegas, Henderson, Elko, and Fallon. The **Summer Arts Institute** attracted participants from Winnemucca, Minden, Paradise Valley, Reno, and Las Vegas, who explored methods of integrating the arts into the K-12 curriculum and lesson plan development. **Pre-conference workshops of Arts All Ways VI**, featured arts education programs of the Nevada Museum of Art and the Guggenheim Museum, Las Vegas.

Grants Program

The Grants Program reflects a significant commitment by the State of Nevada to support the creation of art, access to the arts, and life-long arts education for its citizens. NAC grants support nonprofit arts groups, public institutions, community service organizations, and individual artists to make cultural activities and experiences widely available to those who live in or visit Nevada. The reach of this program is expansive. Grant recipients can be found in every corner of the state, and sponsor activities such as concerts, exhibitions, festivals, and literary publications. Grant monies also support our opera, ballet, and theatre companies; symphonies, orchestras and choral groups, and local arts councils statewide. Though a NAC grant, ranging from \$450 to \$50,000, may be as little as 2% of a total project budget, the importance of these dollars reaches far beyond actual cash value, serving as a catalyst for other public and private support.

Program Highlights 2001-2002

The Grants Program **awarded 113 grants totaling \$786,854** to arts organizations during its annual spring panel hearings held at the Nevada State Library & Archives in Carson City. For the fourth year in a row, NAC received a record number of grant applications. 114 applicants in five categories requested a total of \$1,505,115 to support programs, projects and operations for FY02. This figure reflects a 34% increase over FY01 requests. Quality and merit of applications were noted by panelists through their scores — 41 were recommended to receive 80% or more of what was requested. Because the aggregate total of dollars recommended exceeded the allocated Grants Program budget by \$194,756, panelists unanimously voted to take a 25% cut across the board in the Project and Partners in Excellence grant categories, maintaining the integrity of the discussion and scoring.

The arts are an important part of our community and few of us would be able to provide cultural outlets were it not for the support of the (Nevada) Arts Council.

*Marianne Lorenz,
Executive Director,
Las Vegas Art Museum*

In FY02, NAC was selected by Western States Arts Federation (WESTAF) along with the California Arts Council, to participate in the pilot online grants system, **Culture Grants Online**. The decision to convert all NAC grant categories in the Grants Program and Arts in Education Program from paper to electronic was made after a thorough investigation of the advantages of online applications. Culture Grants Online (CGO) is a technologically advanced system designed to accommodate changing constituent needs. Through its internal "checks and balances," CGO encourages applicants to develop stronger proposals that can compete in various state and federal funding environments. Throughout the year, staff gathered feedback from constituents and worked with WESTAF to refine CGO and enhance its usability.

In preparation for spring grant deadlines, NAC staff presented eight **grant writing workshops** in Carson City, Reno, Elko, Las Vegas, and Henderson to more than 150 participants. This year's workshops featured interactive demonstrations of the Culture Grants Online system, Artist Fellowship Program, general grant requirements, and specific application technical assistance.

Grant Program Statistics 2001-2002

Number of applications	189
Number of awards	166
Total amount requested	\$1,573,516
Total amount awarded and spent	\$833,990
Percentage of applicants funded	53%
Total budgets of funded projects	\$36,258,718
Percentage of project budgets supported	2%
Audience members served	2,220,469
Artists served	7,078
Children served	529,559

revenue

Revenue

Nevada State Funds	\$ 1,471,261
Nevada State Legislative Appropriation	1,426,559
Arts License Plate	44,702
Federal Funds	502,782
National Endowment for the Arts	497,782
U.S. Forest Service (Honest Horses Exhibition)	5,000
Private Grants	9,500
Hilliard Endowment Fund (Artist Fellowships)	5,000
Don Frazier (Honest Horses Exhibition)	2,000
Western States Arts Federation (Tumblewords)	2,500
Conference & Event Registration	13,341
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 1,996,884

The following NAC grantees and institutions also received a direct grant from the National Endowment for the Arts in FY02:

Churchill Arts Council, Fallon	Creativity Program Grant	15,000
Clark County Cultural Affairs Division, Las Vegas	Heritage & Preservation Grant	25,000
University of Nevada Las Vegas, The Institute of Modern Letters	Arts Learning Grant	40,000
University of Nevada Las Vegas, University of Nevada Press	Creativity Program Grant	10,000
Nevada Museum of Art, Reno	Arts Learning Grant	28,000
Western Folklife Center, Elko	Heritage & Preservation	28,000
Youth ArtWorks, Reno	Positive Alternatives for Youth Grant	10,000

Expenditures

Artists' Services Program	\$ 65,656
Arts in Education Program	153,075
Community Arts Development Program	90,301
Folklife Program	76,554
Governor's Arts Awards	3,000
Grants Program*	784,215
Public Information/Arts Initiatives	53,858
Program Staff Salary/Travel**	336,169
Administration	280,174
Western States Arts Federation Dues***	22,556
Total Expenditures	\$ 1,865,559

OBLIGATED BALANCE FORWARD FUNDS	\$ 131,325
Arts License Plate	31,965
Challenge Grants	90,410
Millennium Trails Grant (federal)	8,950

*This figure includes the costs of the Grants Program review process that covers panelists' honoraria, travel and per diem.

** This figures includes salaries for the Executive Director, Fiscal Services Coordinator, Management Assistant, rent, and other costs associated with the operations of NAC offices in Carson City and Las Vegas.

***The Western States Arts Federation (WESTAF) is an association of twelve western state arts agencies. One of WESTAF's many services and programs, TourWEST provides funding directly to performing arts presenters throughout Nevada. In FY02, WESTAF funded:

Brewery Arts Center, Carson City	\$ 625
City of Henderson, Henderson	700
City of Las Vegas, Las Vegas	1,000
Comstock Arts Council, Virginia City	1,875
Pershing County Arts Council, Lovelock	1,125
Sierra Arts, Reno	2,500
Wells Presenters, Wells	2,625
Yerington Theatre for the Arts, Yerington	1,698

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expenditures