

artnews



(Left) Workers lower a section of "Written Words" into place for the sculpture plaza at the West Regional Library. (Center) Artist Steve Gillman, pictured at right, works with one of the components. (Right) The finished installation

'Written Words' Welcome Library Patrons

A new public art installation by Katherine Keefer and Steve Gillman, "Written Words," will welcome visitors to the new West Regional Library, located at 8601 W. Broward Blvd., Plantation. The work comprises a sculpture plaza containing such diverse elements as granite blocks etched with words, moss-colored cast concrete and four Japanese Fern trees. According to the artists, "The sculpture plaza, like the library itself, is both a sanctuary and a challenge. It broadens our knowledge as the ripples flow out from the central idea/seed. It shows us the world from other perspectives (the outer grid imposed on the inner). It is a place where one can be alone or a place where ideas can be shared. It is a place for contemplation and expansion."

Artist Selected to Create Port Everglades Master Plan

The Broward Cultural Division's Public Art and Design Program has selected artist Mikiyoung Kim to conduct an in-depth study of future opportunities for Public Art and



Mikiyoung Kim

Design in the context of the major master planning effort underway at Port Everglades.

Kim of Brookline, Mass., is an environmental artist and landscape architect whose work ranges from sculptural installations to large-scale master plans. She has taught environmental design at the Rhode Island School of Design since 1994, where she has been the chairman of the Urban Design Department since 2005. Known for projects that encourage the multi-sensory experience of interior and exterior art environments, Kim has created arts master plans for SeaTAC Airport in Seattle, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in White Oak, Md., and the city of Chapel Hill, N.C.

In order to develop the Port Everglades Art Master Plan, the artist will conduct research; interact with the community, Port Everglades staff and constituents and agency master plan

consultants; and recommend art opportunities, locations, budgets and schematic timelines.

The Port Everglades Master Plan is intended to assess the potential for creating integrated and site-specific artworks as a component of future projects such as construction or renovation of cruise terminals and other facilities. "People depend on the Port, so this is the right direction for us," says Mayor Josephus Eggleton Jr.



Young At Art Featured in New Documentary

An acclaimed new documentary about the arts education crisis in America, *Class Act*, features a familiar place and face – Young At Art Children's Museum in Davie and its executive director, Mindy Shrago. The film weaves former Miami Beach Senior High drama teacher Jay W. Jensen's personal story with the fate of arts education in America today, providing a report card on what lies ahead for America's children.

In collaboration with the Fort Lauderdale International Film Festival and the Broward Cultural Division, Young At Art hosted a preview screening at Cinema Paradiso prior to the film's release this fall. Heather Winters, who produced the film, participated in a question-and-answer session with audience members following the showing. Winters was co-executive producer of the Academy Award® nominated documentary film, *Super Size Me*. The film was directed by Sara Sackner.

"During our two-year journey making this film, we learned how

the arts ensure that a student's creativity is awakened and nurtured and how the arts keep kids in school, therefore creating better citizens," Winters and Sackner state on the *Class Act* website. "We learned that creative people are needed for the future of our country and the new global economy." For more information, visit www.classactthemovie.com.

Arts Teacher of the Year Celebration Set for Oct. 24

A gala awards ceremony honoring the 2007 Broward County Arts Teacher of the Year, Dr. David Lazerson, will take place on October 24 beginning at 6 p.m. at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts. "Dr. Laz," as he is popularly known, is the special needs music teacher at the Quest Center in Hollywood. (Please see page 12 for a profile of this colorful and inspiring teacher.)

The Arts Teacher of the Year Award was created by the Broward County Cultural Division in 1985 to annually recognize an outstanding arts teacher in Broward County schools. The winner receives a cash stipend of \$2,500, a scholarship to Nova Southeastern University, a Tiffany crystal apple, an inscribed brick on Riverwalk and an assortment of gifts from cultural organizations and businesses.

Sponsors of the 2007 Arts Teacher of the Year award include the Adler Group, AutoNation, BankAtlantic, BellSouth, the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Children's Services Council of Broward County, Commerce Bank, the Florida Marlins Community Foundation, Scott and Fran Mulcahy, Nova Southeastern University, Publix Super Market Charities, the School Board of Broward County, FL, and the *Sun-Sentinel*.

The awards ceremony is free and open to the public. To make a reservation, visit www.broward.org/arts and click on "workshops" or call (954) 357-7321.



Earlier this year, the Broward County Board of County Commissioners voted to designate the Broward Center for the Performing Arts as our community's first international cultural embassy.

This action not only served to recognize the outstanding contributions that the Broward Center has made since it opened in 1991, but also to acknowledge the critical role that the organization plays in enhancing the economic strength of Broward County.

A cultural embassy brings together culture and commerce. It's a place where international visitors will gather to do business and explore the many cultural venues that Broward County has to offer.

The importance of having a cultural embassy in our midst was validated when the Broward Center hosted the World Mayors' Reception during the 51st Sister Cities International Annual Conference in Fort Lauderdale.

The Broward Center is just one of many cultural organizations that, together, tremendously enhance our county's appeal to thousands of international visitors each year.

We applaud everything you do to serve as ambassadors of our community. Please know that your efforts are invaluable – and appreciated. ★

Sincerely,
Josephus Eggleton Jr.
Broward County Mayor



Creative Team Introduces Pompano Beach Artwork

Artists Bill and Mary Buchen and the Broward County Office of Transportation recently invited members of the community to learn and comment about *The Drum Circle*, the interactive public artwork designed for the new Northeast Transit Center in Pompano Beach. The new facility will consist of a transit hub, parking and transit amenities.

Located on a paved circle, *The Drum Circle* will include a grouping of sculptural instruments that invite communal music making. The artwork draws upon the musical traditions of the diverse cultures represented in the Pompano Beach community and aims to connect these traditions through the universal language of rhythmic percussion. The artists also paid attention to the fact that the Blanche-Ely High School's marching band is an award-winning ensemble, of which the City of Pompano Beach is very proud.

Bill & Mary Buchen / Sonic Architecture have designed interactive installations for museums, galleries and public sites throughout the

United States, including sound parks and science playgrounds, aeolian (wind) harps and designs for urban and natural environments.

Florida Center for the Book Receives 'Big Read' Grant

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) has named Florida Center for the Book at Broward County Library as one of 117 organizations to receive grants to

support "Big Read" programs between September and December 2007. The Big Read, launched nationally in 2006 by the NEA in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services and Arts Midwest, encourages literary reading by asking communities to come together to read and discuss a single book.

The Big Read in Broward County, scheduled for November 1-30, will feature *The Joy Luck Club* by Amy Tan. Big Read events will include book and film discussions, cultural programs and "The Big Read for Little Readers," which will focus on Amy Tan's picture book *Sagwa: The Chinese Siamese Cat*. For information, call (954) 357-7386.

Bonnet House to Launch Around the World Tour

Members of The National Trust for Historic Preservation will kick off an "Around the World by Private Jet" tour at Bonnet House Museum & Gardens on January 5, 2008. Travelers will be joined by world-class historians, scientists and cultural experts to explore 13 of the world's most treasured and legendary places, including Easter Island, the Great Barrier Reef, the Taj Mahal and the Sphinx.



Special visitors will enjoy the Bonnet House and its surrounding grounds and gardens on January 5, 2008.

The group's visit to Bonnet House will include a private tour through the home and studio of Mr. and Mrs. Frederic Clay Bartlett, tea on the veranda, a stroll through the nature trails and a walk through one of the country's largest orchid collections.



Broward County Tops Florida Arts Plate Sales

Broward County led the state in 2006 sales of the Florida "State of the Arts" license plate. The 3,279 arts plates sold here exceeded the totals in both Palm Beach County (2,671) and Miami-Dade County (2,061). Since the program began in 1995, Broward County has earned more than \$800,000 in revenues from license plate sales.

And if one arts plate isn't enough, you can now purchase a specialty license plate gift certificate for a family member, friend or colleague. It's a great gift idea for the upcoming holidays or a unique birthday present. Gifts certificates can be purchased at any authorized motor vehicle office in Florida and can be redeemed at any other office. For details, visit www.hsmv.state.fl.us/specialtytags/slpgift.html.

Funds from arts license plate sales have been earmarked for the Sailboat Bend Artist Lofts project, which is currently under construction. "The arts tag fund has been a valuable resource used to plan Florida's first housing projects with studios for artists," notes Mary A. Becht, director of the Broward Cultural Division.

Cavendish Speaks at Shanghai Forum

Kim L. Cavendish, president and CEO of the Museum of Discovery and Science in Fort Lauderdale,

was recently a guest of the People's Republic of China as a featured speaker at the China-U.S. Science Popularization Forum, hosted by the Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology in Shanghai. The Forum was co-hosted by the China Science and Technology Exchange Center and the U.S. National Science Foundation.

Cavendish was one of six U.S. delegates invited to the Forum, which was attended by hundreds of scientists, researchers, government officials and museum leaders from throughout the People's Republic. The Forum focused on science and technology dissemination and public scientific literacy. Cavendish was the sole representative of U.S. science museums, and addressed the group on "The Role and Function of Science Centers in the U.S. in Science and Technology Literacy."

"The Chinese take the issue of public science literacy very seriously and are making it a priority of the Chinese people to do everything they can to advance it," Cavendish said. "The government there understands that science centers have a major role to play in this effort and



Kim Cavendish

it is investing major funds in building state-of-the-art science museums in the major cities, and smaller science centers in outlying areas. They know that schools cannot do the job alone."

Hooray for Our Volunteers!

The Broward County Cultural Information Center is run almost entirely by volunteer staff – each of whom is enthusiastically dedicated to directing local residents and tourists alike to Broward County's finest arts events and attractions. Three of the individuals listed below – William Aberbach, Esther Farhy and Gerson Frank – have been with the CIC since its inception in 2001. To all of our volunteers, thank you!

- William Aberbach
- Joan Belfiore
- Suzanne Berta
- Sandra Brassard
- Nancy Burch
- Elaine Cohen
- Esther Farhy
- Abe Farhy
- Gerson Frank
- Nancy Fulmer
- Mel Gelb
- Evelyn Gelb
- Jill Gentile
- Frank Gliboff
- Sara Gliboff
- Elaine Goldman
- Will Groves
- Ann Hefler
- Lester Horne
- Howard Lanege
- Jane Lefkin
- Susan Manchester
- Jane Moguillansky
- Phoebe Satlin
- Shelly Satlin
- Ruth Solomon
- Sally Wollenstein

Where Do YOU Read CQ?

We recently invited readers to send us photos from far-flung places to show us how far and wide *Cultural Quarterly* travels. We were delighted to receive the photo on the next page



SIGRID TIDMORE

Faculty members at the June 2 session included (from left) Rafael Cruz, Susie Frazier Mueller, George Gadson, Nerissa Street and Joan Perch.

Arts and Business Blend in Workshop Series

More than 50 dedicated artists spent four consecutive Saturdays in June focused on the process of cultivating and advancing their business skills in the Artist as an Entrepreneur Institute (AEI), presented by the Broward Cultural Division, ArtServe and the Community Partnership for Arts and Culture (CPAC) in Cleveland.

“Artists are the most important ingredient for a creative economy and healthy cultural ecosystem,” said Mary A. Becht, Cultural Division director. “Through this program, we are investing in the professional development of our artists.”

Designed by CPAC to help visual, performing and literary artists operate in the marketplace more effectively, the AEI course curriculum showed artists how to identify and develop their personal brand, develop strategies for communicating with their target market, raise capital and identify a variety of tools for protecting their work legally. “It’s really been gratifying to hear from artists about how much the course has meant to them,” said Megan Van Voorhis, CPAC’s senior director. “They are taking away lessons that are helping them launch successful small businesses, and we’re working to make sure that the course provides them with every opportunity to do so.”

This course will be repeated in Spring 2008. Call (954) 357-7502 for more information.



George Gadson fields a question.



CQ in St. Thomas

from Linda Bird of Fort Lauderdale’s Bird Realty, which shows her and her husband, Dennis, with an issue of CQ in St. Thomas in the U.S. Virgin Islands. If you would like to be featured in an upcoming issue, send a high-resolution digital photo of yourself with an issue of the magazine to jleshinsky@broward.org. You might just see yourself in print!

Short Takes...

- ▶ **Judy Drucker**, who founded the Concert Association of Florida and served as its artistic director for 40 years, has joined **Florida Grand Opera** as senior artistic advisor. Her principal responsibilities will include creating a new series featuring internationally acclaimed singers in concert with the Florida Classical Orchestra – the ensemble that accompanies the opera throughout the season. Drucker will also offer advice on repertory, singers and upcoming artists.
- ▶ **Sami Klitzman** of Weston, a student at International Dance Academy in Sunrise, was featured in the role of Baby June in the New York City Center’s Encores! Summer Stars production of *Gypsy*, starring Patti LuPone and directed by Arthur Laurents. Sami, 11, who uses the stage name Sami Gayle, won the role after competing with more than a thousand talented young hopefuls from across the nation. ★