

Visual Arts Take Center Stage

After establishing a strong reputation as the presenter of dynamic and engaging performances, the Wilson Center is launching exciting new initiatives in the visual arts. Strategic planning discussions last fall led to a Board-approved proposal to create a comprehensive Visual Arts Program, overseen by a dedicated leadership committee. That team has been hard at work over the last year, identifying and prioritizing opportunities to expand and develop the visual arts.

Visual art activity has been an integral part of the Wilson Center's programming beginning with a building designed with artworks incorporated throughout. From Susan Falkman's towering fireplace, *Streaming*, to Steve Ferren's elegant glass chandelier, to Terese Agnew's installation of cast concrete stumps, the integrated artworks have been complemented by regular exhibitions in the Ploch Art Gallery and by the annual Hidden River Art Festival. Both of these mainstays are seeing growth and change, including the first-ever "call to artists" for Ploch exhibition proposals, and the additions of an Emerging Artists Gallery and Public Art Project to Hidden River (see page 5).

The new areas of visual arts under development will further engage our current supporters, as well as attract first-time audiences to the Center.

Art in new spaces

Already completed is the creation of exhibit space in the Lynn Chappy Arts Education Wing. This hallway is an ideal location for displaying the work produced by our youth and adult students, as well as by area school children, art teachers, and educational art collectives.

Look for short-term installations of artworks elsewhere in the building created by our Hidden River award winners, which will provide visibility for the Festival and the artists year-round.



In addition to more exhibited work, we're adding educational opportunities as well. Our strong studio art program includes new offerings each semester as well as opportunities to refine skills in core subjects. An art tour in West Bend on October 1 will provide art novices and aficionados a peek at historical and contemporary Wisconsin art (see page 7).

The Center will also host workshops for artists in conjunction with the Milwaukee Artists Resource Network (MARN). Professional development workshops exploring such issues as writing an artist statement, basic accounting, using social media, grant-writing, and photographing artwork will be held on several Saturdays throughout the year.

Moving outdoors

The most ambitious of our new efforts will be a re-envisioning of the Strohmaier Sculpture Garden, adjacent to the Grand Hall, into a botanical garden that supports and is enhanced by several outdoor sculptures. Discussions with landscape

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designers and visits to regional sculpture gardens are providing fuel for imagination. Our goal: create a sustainable, attractive outdoor space that supports a variety of sculptural works for both short-term and long-term exhibit.

Learn more

In order to share details of these exciting programs with interested supporters, the Center is planning two informal gatherings on September 22: a morning coffee meeting at 7:30 am and a late afternoon session at 5:00 pm. Executive Director Jonathan Winkle and Education Director Laura Aaron Sear will provide insight to the Visual Arts Program initiatives, and will be joined by professional artist Katie Musolff, a Hidden River award-winning artist who currently serves as Artist-in-Residence at the Pfister Hotel. RSVP for one of these sessions at (262) 373-5028.

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Mission

To be the catalyst for lifelong discovery and exploration of the arts.

Sharon Lynne Wilson Center for the Arts

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Strohmaier Sculpture and Botanical Garden

Have you noticed that the circle drive at the Wilson Center looks a little spruced up this year? It might be the addition of native plants like Echinacea (pale purple coneflower), Monarda (wild bergamot), and Liatris (prairie blazing star), or plants that attract butterflies such as Asclepias (butterfly weed) and Buddleia (butterfly bush).

In June 2009, the Wilson Center garden became an approved project of the SouthEast Wisconsin Master Gardeners, Inc. (SEWMG). Approval of the gardens allows Master Gardener Volunteers (MGV) to fulfill community service hours at the Wilson Center and provides financial support to revitalize the plant beds in front of the Wilson Center into appealing, interesting, and educational gardens to be enjoyed by the community.

Two plant beds have been transformed by Master Gardeners and community volunteers since the partnership with SEWMG began: one plant bed is dedicated to native perennials (planted in June 2009); the other is a butterfly garden with a walking path (planted in May 2010). As required by SEWMG, more than 50% of the plants are labeled to identify the plant by scientific name, common name, plant family, native origin, or cultivar name.

The Strohmaier Sculpture and Botanical Garden at the Wilson Center enhances the visual appeal of the immediate grounds, expands the perception of the arts to include botanical arts, and reduces overall landscaping expenses for the Wilson Center.

The Wilson Center programs several outdoor events annually including Hidden River Art Festival, the free Starry Nights Outdoor Concert Series, outdoor studio arts classes, and a nature-themed arts camp. In addition, community members often rent the Wilson Center to host outdoor weddings, receptions, and gatherings.

Wilson Center Marketing Director, Lisa Remby, a certified MGV, is chairperson for the Botanical Garden at the Wilson Center on a volunteer basis. For more information about the garden and volunteer opportunities, contact Lisa: lremby@wilson-center.com or (262) 373-5034.

The SouthEast Wisconsin Master Gardeners, Inc. is a nonprofit corporation that offers many service, educational, and social opportunities. Visit the SEWMG website at: milwaukee.uwex.edu/mg/



The Southeast Wisconsin Master Gardeners planting the Butterfly Garden in June. (l to r) Lisa Remby, Connie Gilsinger, Dorothy Feder, Tina Porter, Sheila Schreiber. Photo by: Donna Krischan.

Wilson Center Fall Calendar

The Wilson Center presents a full schedule of performing and visual arts in addition to hosting the concerts and performances of Elmbrook School District, touring companies, and community arts groups. For a full season listing including art classes and special events, visit wilson-center.com.

Wilson Center series performance Beyond the Classroom performance Ploch Art Gallery
 Youth classes begin Adult classes begin Festivals and Events Artist Dialogue

September 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
12	13 Emily Siegel Belknap exhibition cont. Jazz Dance Pilates Kids Cabaret	14 Pre-Ballet Dance Fitness 50+ Ballet	15 Creative Dance Tap and Ballet Sing to Your Health	16 Hip Hop Hip Hop Piano Discoveries Jazz Combos	17 Hidden River Art Festival 1-7 Music for Babies and Toddlers	18 Hidden River Art Festival 10-6 Creative Dance Tap and Ballet
19 Hidden River Art Festival 11-4	20 Recycled Creatures Nature Mosaic Chamber Music	21	22 Framing the Conversation	23	24	25 Dee Dee Bridgewater BSMember Artist Dialogue
26	27	28 Wearable Fiber Story Drama Acting: Core	29	30 Chamber Music Milwaukee Create Your Own City Landscape Painting Creative Drama Improv Comedy		

October 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Emily Siegel Belknap Artist reception Amanda McBroom	2 Amanda McBroom
3	4	5	6 2010 Style Show Drawing Circle Figure Drawing	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 Steve March Tormé	14 Susan Falkman Artist Dialogue	15	16
17	18	19	20 Valparaiso Univ Symphony	21	22 The Seasons Project	23 Metropolitan Opera Auditions
24 BCHS Spooktacular	25	26 Clay and Cookies Splash into Watercolor	27	28	29	30
31						

November 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Screen Printing Intro to Print- making	2	3	4 UWM Dance Artist Dialogue Fiction Writing	5 Joanne Engelhart Artist Reception Kurt Ollman and Jack Forbes Wilson	6 Kurt Ollman and Jack Forbes Wilson
7	8	9	10	11 BCHS musical Open Studio	12 BCHS musical	13 BCHS musical
14	15	16 Strega Nona	17	18 Lorie Line Christmas Concert Open Studio	19	20 Raul Malo Paper Making
21 Holiday Arts Festival	22	23	24	25	26	27 Civic Music Assoc Competition
28	29	30				

...Visual Arts continued from page 1

Public Art Project: New to the Hidden River Art Festival

A new addition to the Wilson Center's largest annual event will be a participatory Public Art Project, developed by sculpture artist Brock Rumohr. Brock is a former exhibitor at the Festival, and has created large outdoor installations around the country. For Hidden River, Brock has built steel-framed "pods" that will be completed by visitors to this year's Festival. Guests will weave thin lathe wood strips and plant materials into the steel frames throughout the weekend, and the pods will be assembled into a single large piece at the close of the Festival on Sunday.

The work doesn't end there, however. Throughout the fall, winter, and spring, our art students will be able to observe and sketch the sculpture, documenting its slow decomposition before the steel frames are ultimately revealed and then removed. This is the Wilson Center's first foray into temporary, or "ephemeral" installation art, and will be an exciting pilot opportunity as we develop future plans.

Indoor Sculpture Abounds this Fall

While planning continues for our external spaces, sculptural artwork will fill the indoors. The first Ploch Art Gallery exhibition of the 2010-11 season features Emily Siegel Belknap, chosen as the Best

in Show at the 2009 Hidden River Art Festival. Emily has worked in a variety of two- and three-dimensional media since her graduation from the Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design in 2008, including metals, wood, stone, egg tempera paint, and graphite.

For her Ploch Art Gallery installation, Emily is using stone sculpture to create a sense of time and describe its impact on nature. By focusing on simple patterns and movements, Emily reminds us of how fragile a moment can be. Her exhibit will be on view from September 11 through the end of October. Join us for a reception with Emily on Friday, October 1.

Also on view in early October will be a new series of small stone sculptures by Susan Falkman, the artist who carved the beautiful 40-foot fireplace which graces the Grand Hall. Falkman's latest work is a suite of sculptures, *The Robe of the Goddess*, which will be the centerpiece of the 2010 Style Show: Goddess. A public Artist Dialogue is scheduled with Susan on Thursday, October 14, at 7:00 pm. Tickets for the October 6 Style Show are available by calling (262) 373-5029 or visiting wilson-center.com.

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See the September issue of **M Magazine** for a full story about Brock Rumohr and the Public Art Project, or [click here](#) to learn more about Hidden River Art Festival. This photo by Dan Bishop.

...visual arts continued from page 5

Upcoming in the Ploch Art Gallery

The 2010–11 season will be the first to feature artists selected by the Visual Arts Program's new curatorial committee. This groundbreaking line-up includes artists who enjoy regional and international reputations, and will be highlighted in January by a site-specific installation created exclusively for the Ploch Art Gallery.

Following the fall installation by Emily Siegel Belknap, three additional solo exhibitions and a juried group exhibition round out the season:

Joann Engelhart, *mixed media*

On view: November 5–December 24

Joann Engelhart's mixed media pieces combine textile, print, and found organic materials. Joann presents us with a balanced, harmonious, and artistic use of nature. Her work was recognized with a Jurors' Choice Award at the 2009 Hidden River Art Festival.

Yevgeniya Kaganovich

mixed media installation

On view: January 14–February 23, 2011

Yevgeniya Kaganovich uses sculptural objects and installations to make a statement about culture and experience.

Her works are visually interesting and also complex and skillful, using metal, latex, nylon, rubber, and many other materials. This exhibition is being created specifically for the Ploch Art Gallery space.

Rodger Bechtold, *painting*

On view: March 4–April 22, 2011

Rodger Bechtold's colorful and vibrant oil paintings give the viewer a transformative vision of landscapes. Bechtold's works provide us with rich interpretations of the Midwest as well as a raw sense of painting and color. This exhibition of large-scale works is running concurrently with another Bechtold show at the Museum of Wisconsin Art in West Bend, featuring smaller paintings and running from January 12–May 1, 2011.

League of Milwaukee Artists, *juried exhibition*

On view: June 1–July 28, 2011

This exhibition sponsored by Lois Clementi and Karleen Haberichter

The League of Milwaukee Artists represents 150 Milwaukee area artists and has been an active organization for more than 60 years. The subjects and styles of artwork are wide ranging and represent the diversity to be found in Milwaukee.

The Ploch Art Gallery season presented by

**LYLE HUSAR
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Louse & Mites by Joann Engelhart (linen, cotton, leaves; 66" x 38"). 2000



Wetland, detail by Rodger Bechtold (oil; 50" x 70"). 2001



Balloon Mouth Pieces 11 by Yevgeniya Kaganovich (cast rubber, weather balloon, helium, plastic, cord, stanchions; 22' x 8' x 8').

Fall into Creativity!

The Wilson Center continues to provide diverse arts education experiences. This fall's featured item is the West Bend Art Tour.

The tour is a great opportunity for area residents to get out and see what other areas of the state have to offer. Starting here at the Wilson Center, participants will get a brief tour of the integrated artwork on display at the Center. Then as a group we will travel by van to West Bend for a guided tour of the Museum of Wisconsin Art, which—much like the Wilson Center—maintains a focus on Wisconsin artists. After a lunch break we will continue on to the West Bend Mutual Insurance Company Headquarters where we will tour their extensive 530+ piece art collection, 90% of which is artwork done by Wisconsin artists. To register by phone, call (262) 781-9470 x5023 or visit wilson-center.com.

The visual art classes this season include strong, skill-building opportunities such as Figure Drawing and Landscape Painting for adults. For youth, Create your Own City is an excellent class for a talented student who wants to refine their drawing skills and deepen their understanding of perspective. Other classes will help students express themselves in fun and creative ways. Wearable Fiber will teach three fiber art techniques that students can then use to create their own unique hand made accessories. For youth, Recycled Creatures teaches students (ages 10–13) how to make a great piece of art out of found materials.

The Wilson Center continues to partner with Danceworks, The Wisconsin Conservatory of Music, and First Stage Theater Academy to provide dynamic educational programs. New this season, Danceworks has created Dance Fitness for adults, which utilizes yoga, Pilates, resistance training, ballet, and dance, all wrapped up into one powerful class!

Finally, the Wilson Center's educational programming now expands to creative writing! We are excited to offer a fiction workshop this fall with best-selling author Jacquelyn Mitchard. Mitchard is known for her first novel, *The Deep End of the Ocean* which was later made into a movie. This intense and intimate three day workshop will focus on structure, description, and dialogue. For more, [click here](#).



Teaching Artist Tiffany Knopow working with a student in T-Shirt Design held this past summer.



The Wisconsin Conservatory of Music offers many music classes at the Wilson Center for all ages.

A quick look at just some of the classes offered this fall in art, theater, dance, and music:

Youth Classes

- Clay and Cookies (ages 6–9)
- Screen Printing 101 (age 9–12)
- Story Drama (grades K–2)
- Acting: Core (grades 4–6)
- Creative Dance (age 3)
- Tap and Pre ballet (age 4)
- Kids Cabaret (grades 4–8)
- Suzuki String and Guitar (grades K4–3)

Adult Classes

- Splash into Watercolor
- Introduction to Printmaking
- Paper Making
- Pilates
- Intermediate Tap
- Afro-Caribbean Hand Drumming
- Sing to Your Health!

Register for **visual art classes** at wilson-center.com or call us (262) 781-9470 x5023.

Register for **dance classes** with Danceworks at danceworksmke.org or call them (414) 277-8480, x6007.

Register for **theater classes** with First Stage Theater at firststage.org or call them (414) 267-2970.

Register for **music classes** with the Conservatory at wcmusic.org or call them (414) 276-5760.

Sharon Lynne
Wilson Center
 for the ARTS

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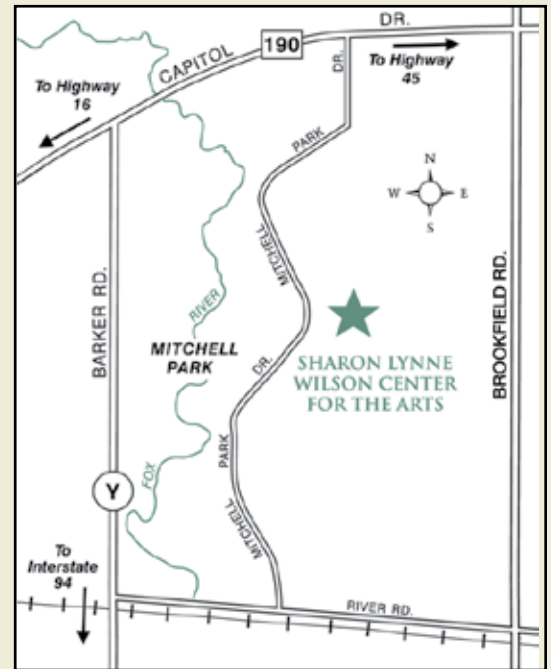
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Located south of 198th and Capitol Drive nestled in Brookfield's beautiful Mitchell Park.

Parking is always free at the Wilson Center.



Sculptural artwork from 'The Robe of the Goddess' series, 'The Skirt' by Susan Falkman

GODDESS

Style Show

Wednesday, October 6, 9:30 am

The Wilson Center's Style Show brings back the traditional luncheon event paired with the classic fashions from Lafayette 148 New York and the classical sculptures by artist Susan Falkman.

Clothing and accessories available at Faye's 1 (Mequon), Zita, and Picardy Shoe Parlour (Brookfield).

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Proceeds to benefit arts and education programming at the Sharon Lynne Wilson Center for the Arts.

2010-11 Concert Schedule

Special Appearances

Dec 11 Leahy **SOLD OUT!**

Performing Arts Series

Sept 25 Dee Dee Bridgewater
 Oct 22 The Seasons Project
 Nov 20 Raul Malo
 Dec 12 Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra
 Feb 12 Karrin Allyson
 Apr 9 Mark Morris Dance Group
 May 21 Maceo Parker

Classical Series

Sept 30 Chamber Music Milwaukee
 Oct 22 The Seasons Project
 Mar 13 PianoArts
 Apr 17 Sæunn Thorsteinsdottir

Club Series

Oct 1 & 2 Amanda McBroom
 Nov 5 & 6 Kurt Ollmann and Jack Forbes Wilson
 Dec 3 Dr. Odies Williams III Quintet
 Feb 4 Maia Sharp
 Mar 18 Kelly Brand and Juli Wood
 Apr 1 Paul Cebar
 May 6 & 7 Pete Zimmer Quartet

Matinee Series

Oct 13 Steve March Tormé
 Dec 8 Wilson Center Big Band
 Feb 9 Tish Oney
 Mar 16 Will and Anthony Nunziata
 May 4 *Straighten Up and Fly Right!*