



__ P R E S S R E L E A S E __

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HCAC Celebrates the Official Proclamation of October as Arts and Humanities Month!

On September 11, 2009, County Executive Ken Ulman presented the Howard County Arts Council with an official proclamation recognizing October as National Arts and Humanities Month (NAHM).

The Howard County Arts Council (HCAC) is joining Americans for the Arts and arts agencies across the nation in encouraging people to go out and support the arts in their home towns during the month of October. HCAC will be celebrating NAHM with new exhibits and by offering special month-long discounts to its members through the new **ARTadvantage** Card Program. The ARTadvantage Card also offers all HCAC Members discounts and special offers from participating arts-related businesses throughout the year. In addition, HCAC will host a special reception on October 29th for two new exhibits *Time and Shuttles Fly: 60 Years, Greater Baltimore Weavers Guild* and *Art HoCo 2009*, a juried exhibit featuring the work of Howard County artists. Amanda Burnham, Assistant Professor and Area Coordinator of Foundations at Towson University, served as the juror for *Art HoCo 2009*.

ARTadvantage vendors participating in the NAHM initiative are:

Arthur Murray Dance Center

www.arthurmurray-md.com

Art Partners Inc.

www.artpartnersgallery.com

ARTjewelryONLINE.com

www.artjewelryonline.com

Candlelight Concerts

www.candlelightconcerts.com

CLW Designs Inc.

www.clwdesigns.net

Columbia Pro-Cantare

www.procantare.org

Damon Foreman Music Academy

www.damonforemanmusicacademy.com

Design Concept

www.designconcept.com

Drama Learning Center

www.dramalearningcenter.com

HoCoPoLitSo

www.hocopolitso.org

Howard County Ballet

www.howardcountyballet.org

Maryland Piano Service

www.marylandpiano.com

Mat About You

www.mataboutyou.com

Nightmare Graphics

www.nightmaregraphics.com

Objects Found

www.objectsfound.com

Olenka School of Music

www.olenkaschoolofmusic.com

Raphael Flute & Strings

www.raphaelfluteandstrings.com

- more-

Red Branch Theatre Company

www.shadowblock.com

Rep Stage

www.repstage.org

Sign a Rama

www.signarama.com/21046

Studio Inspire—Dance & Fitness

www.studioinspire.net

County Executive Ulman's proclamation will be posted on a special NAHM web page http://www.americansforthearts.org/get_involved/advocacy/nahm/visibility_013.asp that Americans for the Arts created to show how communities across the country are celebrating. NAHM is a coast-to-coast collective celebration of culture in America. Held every October and coordinated by Americans for the Arts, it is the largest annual celebration of the arts and humanities in the nation. From arts center open houses to mayoral proclamations to banners and media coverage, communities across the United States join together to recognize the importance of arts and culture in our daily lives.

To learn more about ARTadvantage and other Arts Council programs call 410-313-ARTS (2787) or visit www.hocoarts.org. For information about National Arts and Humanities Month, please visit www.americansforthearts.org

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The Howard County Arts Council is a non-profit organization whose mission is to serve the citizens of Howard County by fostering the arts, artists and arts organizations. The Howard County Arts Council receives major grants from the Howard County Government and the Maryland State Arts Council and sustaining annual support from corporate, foundation and individual sponsors. Howard County Arts Council offices are located at the Howard County Center for the Arts, 8510 High Ridge Road, Ellicott City, MD 21043. The Howard County Center for the Arts is an accessible facility encouraging the full participation of individuals with disabilities. For information, call 410.313.ARTS (2787), fax 410.313.2790, or email info@hocoarts.org. TDD: 711