

Murray Arts Advisory Board
Minutes for March 17, 2015

Attendance: Kevin Westenskow, Bonnie Tollefson, Scott Mooy, Alisa Brousseau, Brandon Beckstead, Wendy Richhart, Mary Ann Kirk (staff).

Excused: Shauna Hart

1. Minutes for February 17, 2015 were approved with a few minor corrections.
2. Winter series total was reviewed. We have sold 1 adult, 18 senior, 2 child/student, and 1 family (6) for a total of 27 tickets. This is up from the last 3 years. Our peak was 60 in 2007-2008. Kevin asked how it was advertised. He had never seen it. Mary Ann said it is in multiple places through schools, newspapers, facebook, city press, etc. Brandon said it is very difficult because people don't pay attention.
3. Mary Ann thanked those who helped with Todd Green performance while she was gone. The daytime performance for grades 6-9 and workshop for high school included about 1000 students and almost 200 for the evening public show. Many of those were comp tickets but Mary Ann was very pleased with the numbers. The public surveys were all very positive.
4. The symphony had attendance of 335. We had another facility problem. The district tried to change the final rehearsal date a few days before their performance and the high school music teacher was able to help solve the problem while Mary Ann was out of town.
5. The storytelling workshops have been very effective in the classrooms. We have four more musicals. We have had a few sound issues and a few complaints about the director at one of the schools. We have had difficulty with the facility arrangements and cast problems at the new charter school. But overall the musicals have been a success.
6. The upcoming events were reviewed with volunteer assignments for Missoula.
7. Mary Ann encouraged board members to attend the master plan openhouse. She will send out an email about place and time.
8. The summer season is finalized and tickets are being ordered and brochure being printed. Peter Pan had around 90 audition for their production. Annie Get Your Gun auditions are in April and Camelot in May.
9. Mary Ann asked for artistic ideas for the Murray Fun Days parade. She has recruited a clown who makes balloons and an Afro-Brazilian Martial Arts group. We are trying to limit the number of

business entries and encourage them to decorate their entries to make them interesting. Board members recommended a Chinese dragon. Mary Ann will also look at the July 24th entries.

10. Board members thought it was ok to use use the same judge as in the past for the music competition since we only get a few entries. He is very qualified.
11. Board members were invited to attend the Mountain West Conference on May 7 and need to tell Mary Ann if they want her to register them. They must commit to attend the full day.
12. The county will be announcing the Regional Arts Facility in the next few weeks. The city revised the presentation by adding the arts elements which seems to have improved the response from the county committee. The amphitheater upgrade schematic design with construction costs will also be finished soon. The city was looking at applying for TRCC funds this fall.
13. Next meeting will be April 21.