

Murray Arts Advisory Board
January 15, 2013

Attendance: Mildred Horton, Alisa Brousseau, Sharon Whitney, Scott Mooy, Elaine Judd,
Jenny Simmons, David Christensen, Stephanie Pollei, Mary Ann Kirk
Excused: Shauna Hart

1. Minutes for November 20, 2012 were approved as written. New board member, Alisa Brousseau was welcomed and introduced to other board members. Scott will check with Brandon to see if he still wants to participate on the board.
2. Literary competition and workshop was reviewed. Mary Ann made adjustments to the categories and divisions as suggested last month. David's writer's group will help with the judging which will have to be done quickly so winners can be invited to the workshop on March 9. Mary Ann will ask Su Ranglack to help since she is strong on the poetry end. We may need to divide the entries between divisions and then have several ready to do the final judging between 1st place winners. Mary Ann has mailed entry and registration forms to about 50 writers in Murray. She has also included it in the arts newsletter, Murray Journal, and email blasts. David has visited the schools to encourage students at the high schools. He will follow up with the junior highs in Murray. He has also prepared certificates for winners and participants. David would like to have name tags. Mary Ann will also provide some cash stipends for the presenters up to \$100. We can talk about helping with registration for the workshop at our next meeting.
3. Mary Ann asked Mildred if the library did a history of the library for their centennial. Mildred said they did a power point video. Mary Ann said she would like a copy.
4. There are 22 individuals (15 seniors and 1 family) who are using the community art pass. This is slightly above last year. Board members asked if we could have a booth at the senior center. Mary Ann said she announces the winter series at the summer family night programs held at the senior center so they are well aware.
5. Missoula had 89 children audition with 60 cast with 343 attending the two performances. Murray Symphony had about 600 attend and the Young Choral Artists had about 300 attend their winter performances. We will review if we want to invite the Young Choral Artists in our series next year. The elementary school choirs combined for a choral festival which involved over 500 children and the auditorium was filled to overflowing. Mary Ann will meet with the music specialists to provide some suggestions if they want to do it again next year. They may need to divide the groups into two nights and they should involve an MC for noise control. Jenny suggested the audience be asked to hold their applause until the end of each song. But overall, it was an impressive event
6. The Murray Symphony full board and two members of the Concert Band received professional training in December. A training packet was passed around for board members to look at.

7. Storytelling activities are in full swing with Parkside, Woodstock, Longview, Liberty, and Grant hosting workshops over the next month. The Heritage Center is scheduled for February and the secondary workshop is set for the last week of February and the first few weeks of March. Mary Ann will email a schedule so board members can attend if they want to. Horizon and Twin Peaks finished their workshops last November. McMillan and Viewmont chose not to participate but students attending those schools could attend any other workshop. Mary Ann described how the city festival will be organized.
8. The city and district is finalizing the contract for the arts facilities. They have taken out some of the detail regarding the design and the number of nights but have indicated it will agree on minimum guaranteed use and the construction design. Murray City and its sponsored groups will not be charged a fee for use except for tech needs and possibly supervision when no employee is in the building. Each of our groups will be required to provide proof of insurance to Murray City and the School District. Mary Ann indicated that the fees for outside groups were of some concern and encouraged board members to talk with their own school board members about having different fees for residents versus non-residents. Charging \$200 for the use of a grant piano is excessive unless they are planning to tune it every time which they won't do.
9. Elaine Judd will attend an arts day at the legislature with Mary Ann on February 5.
10. An artist wrote a letter complaining about the judging for the art show related to his gem necklaces. He wondered if the judges were qualified to judge this area. Board members suggested we send a letter thanking him for his entry. We did have a judge who creates jewelry but Scott suggested we don't consider the quality of the material but rather the artistic design of how they use the material. It is a problem when we have to combine categories because we don't have enough entries or money to cover more cash awards. Board members suggested he needs validation. We may want to encourage him to look at competitions that may be better suited for his work. Mary Ann will follow through with a letter.
11. Grant applications were reviewed with the following comments and recommendations for the coming budget year:

Murray Symphony (\$2500) to provide five community concerts. In the future, we would like to have more detail for administrative costs.

Murray Concert Band (\$2500) to provide four community concerts plus the Fun Days Sunrise Service.

Murray Ballet Center (\$2500) for a performance contract for two performances in the summer Arts in the Park. They also provide two free school matinees for the winter fairytale ballet. Mary Ann indicated that this is a different type of grant. If Mary Ann booked a ballet performance and then collected ticket sales, she would be subsidizing the performance at a greater amount than \$2500. Scott asked who the personnel is. Mary

Ann said it includes the artistic director and costumer who also run the studio but this program is beyond the regular classroom instruction. They also pay other guest performers to join them.

Murray High Art Fest (\$1000) is focused on stipends for quality artists.

Horizon Elementary (up to \$500) will be focused on long term supplies and instructional books. Scott suggested the instructor check with teachers to make sure supplies are not duplicating what they already have in a regular classroom. Stephanie suggested that lesson plans may be found for free on the internet instead of buying books. Mary Ann will ask them to provide their exact plans for the money before distributing the funds.

Liberty Elementary (\$240) will bring in a professional art instructor for the third grade classes four times during the year. Mary Ann will look to see if there are funds from this year that would allow them to do it for two years. Board members suggested that if it is funded for two years, it should be done for two different grade levels or the lessons be different each year so the teacher gets training for different skills.

Miss Murray (up to \$4400) for scholarships for the top three girls. This amount will be based on the ability to match the grant amount.

12. Three float bids were reviewed with following summary.

Innovative Design Concepts

\$11,000 for first year and \$12,000 for subsequent years

No fees for maintenance and repairs for mechanical or art supplies throughout season

Creative, good balance, and strong ability to transfer design to construction

Creative Concepts

\$12,000

\$1000 limit for maintenance package

Creative, good balance and fair ability to transfer design to construction

Modern Display

\$12,000

\$1200 limit for maintenance package

Fair designs, a little too simple

Bid was awarded to Innovative Design Concepts.