

Arts for All

KENTUCKY

Seasonal Newsletter

JANUARY 2026

VOLUME 8 | NUMBER 1

Selections from the 2026 Student Traveling Exhibition

The 2026 Student Traveling Exhibition titled *A Matter of Perspective* will tour through the state this Winter and Spring. Dates are tentative as the weather has added some travel complications. Please follow our social media for information about locations.



Jonah's Marigold Art

Jonah Bemiss
Watercolor, Oil Pastel
Grade 8

Artwork description of the above image: On a gray background are three flowers from a central stem. In all four corners the shading covers the faint image of a leafy green fern. The flowers are yellow with petals outlined in red. The leafy stems are light green, outlined in darker green.



Watercolor Techniques

Jesse Rister
Watercolor, Ink
Grade 9

The above image features a large, centrally-place diamond shape with tape-like borders from edge to edge. Inside the diamond, and the triangular shapes surrounding it, are watercolor patterns in various shades, from orange to red, to blues and greens. The white borders are decorated with squiggly, straight, and arched ink lines.



Watermelon Penguin

Landon Seger
Mixed Media
Grade 8

The above image depicts a kitchen with a blue wall. Atop a circular table stands a penguin with the torso of a watermelon. Above its head is a small window looking out onto a green horizon with a yellow sun and white puffy cloud in a blue sky. Next to the table, in the lower left corner, is a brown chair. Along the right side of the image is a white refrigerator with a calendar on the door.

Greetings, Friends!

We hope you are safe and warm as winter settles in. In this seasonal newsletter, we're excited to share updates on our youth programming; including in-school, after-school, and summer opportunities, as well as our Adult Accessible Arts programs offered at adult day centers, community centers, and other local gathering spaces. You'll also find information about upcoming Professional Learning opportunities and news from our statewide nonprofit organization.

Our application deadlines are rolling throughout the year, and we're here to help you navigate the process, please feel free to call or email anytime. We are always happy to work with you to design a fun, accessible arts program for your community.

Highlights in this Newsletter Include:

SIDE BY SIDE Program Information

KET Partner Project Information & Professional Learning Opportunity

AfA KY Board Member Spotlights

YOUTH PROGRAM: *Side by Side*

We are now taking applications for SIDE BY SIDE Sites. In this program, Students with disabilities participate in a series of art classes. Then they are partnered with an artist from their community to create a collaborative piece. The final event is an exhibition of all the artists' work. Family and friends are invited to a reception where the artists are recognized for their accomplishments.

Locations in and **Richmond, Oldham County, Bowling Green(2 elementary spots), and Lexington** are taking participants. Let us know if you have a young artist interested and we can put you in contact with the site coordinators; open to K-12 Students (depending on site).

SIDE By SIDE

Students pair with artists to create, collaborate, and display art work.



THANK YOU!

SIDE BY SIDE SPONSORS:

WHAS Crusade for Children

KDE OSEEL

KIWANIS of BOWLING GREEN, KY

SNOWY OWL FOUNDATION

Would you like to bring a Side by Side program to your school or community? Do you have a child/student that might be interested?

Send an email or call 270-792-0023 or more info.

Inspiring Accessible Arts with *Carl the Collector*

Arts for All Kentucky has been partnering with Kentucky Educational Television (KET) to bring the creativity and inclusion of PBS KIDS' *Carl the Collector* into classrooms and homes! Together, we've developed accessible arts projects inspired by the show's themes of friendship, self-expression, and neurodiversity. These fun, accessible activities help students of all abilities explore their creativity while celebrating what makes each person unique. See more about this new guide below!

Now Available!



COLLECTING CREATIVITY

ADAPTING THE ARTS FOR EVERY CHILD

Collecting Creativity: Adapting the Arts for Every Child brings the world of Carl the Collector to life through thoughtfully adapted art activities that connect directly to episodes of the PBS KIDS series. Designed to support children on the autism spectrum and those who benefit from varied learning approaches, these sensory-friendly projects make artistic expression engaging and accessible for every child.

[The Collecting Creativity Parent & Caregiver Activity Guide](#) is now available!

Inside, families will meet Carl and his friends and explore a variety of hands-on, family-friendly art projects that encourage children to collect, create, and share their work. The guide also offers practical tips for parents and caregivers, along with additional resources to extend learning at home, including links to Carl the Collector videos, printable activities, and digital art games that invite children to imagine, make, and share.

Attention TEACHERS! An online Professional Development course via Kentucky Educational Television (KET) is being developed so that you may bring some of these

FREE PROFESSIONAL LEARNING WEBINAR -- FEB. 10



Collecting Creativity: Pairing Carl the Collector with Ability-Inclusive Art Activities

The Kentucky Arts Council will offer a free Creative Industry Summit Series on **Feb. 10 at 5 p.m. Eastern**. Presented in partnership with Kentucky Education Television and Arts for All, this session features "Carl the Collector," a PBS KIDS series that celebrates the many ways children think, learn, communicate, and express themselves—while building confidence and sparking creativity.

Designed for families, educators, and caregivers, this session explores how "Carl the Collector" supports inclusive learning through storytelling and creative play.

Participants will be introduced to new resources, including educator guide and the "Collecting Creativity Parent & Caregiver Activity Guide", which pairs the series with thoughtfully adapted, sensory-friendly art activities. These tools are especially supportive for children on the autism spectrum and for learners who benefit from different approaches to engagement.

This session will share practical strategies you can begin using right away, including:

- Extending the show's themes through inclusive, hands-on artmaking
- Supporting learners of all abilities through sensory-friendly creative activities
- Encouraging imagination, communication, and self-expression at home and in classrooms
- Using videos, printable activities, digital art games, and caregiver tips to support creative learning

Register HERE now!

<https://artscouncil.ky.gov/creative-industry-summit-series/>

Arts for All Kentucky has an exceptional group of Board Members who help guide the direction of the organization, bringing insights from a wide range of professionals with years of experience. The success of Arts for All Kentucky since 1987 is due to a strong commitment to access and the ongoing support of these dedicated advocates over the decades. We are proud to share some of the outstanding work they do in their communities and to recognize their continued commitment to keeping the Arts accessible to ALL.



Alice Gatewood Waddell
Executive Director of the
Bowling Green Human Rights
Commission
Arts for All KY Board Member,
since 2022

**Western KY University 2025 Distinguished Medal
of Community & Public Service – Alice Gatewood
Waddell ('74)**

A native of Bowling Green, KY, **Alice Gatewood Waddell** is an award-winning artist who is recognized for her humanitarian efforts and volunteerism. Alice's career includes teaching art as a means of intervention for local at-risk students, serving as interim Artist-in-Residence at the Kentucky Museum on WKU's campus and teaching classes at the Housing Authority of Bowling Green and Warren County Public Library. Her artistic trademark is creating images that appear to metamorphize into vivid colors of movement before a viewer's eyes. Alice's work can be found in public and private collections across the U.S. and abroad.

[**LINK TO MORE AWARD INFORMATION**](#)

Congratulations to our Board President, Debi Danielson, on the completion of the new Murray Art Guild building in Murray, KY. The effort has been a 6 year capital campaign project now with a complete building and just a small portion of funding left to raise to pay for the remaining cost of the overall project. Arts for All Kentucky is excited to move the main office into this new Community Arts space starting February 1st. We still have the same PO BOX, but will have a new street address.

MURRAY ART GUILD IN THE NEWS



Debi Danielson
Executive Director,
[**Murray Art Guild**](#)
Arts for All KY Board
Member, 2008, Current
President



WELCOME! Carrissa Johnson

Satellite Office Manager, [Center for Accessible Living, Murray, KY](#)

Newest Arts for All KY Board Member

We are excited to have Carrissa Johnson as a new Board Member starting in 2025. Currently on four boards statewide including: Independent living Council, Calloway County Salvation Army, Advocado Press, and the Kentucky Assistive Technology Loan Corporation. She also serves on the coalition for rights of parents with disabilities. She currently works for the Center for Accessible Living and has in some capacity for 20 years.

CURRENT ARTS FOR ALL KY BOARD MEMBER LIST

Thank you to all for your commitment to the Arts for All KY mission with your time and support!

Interested in being on the board? See how to apply below!

Nada Denison, Vice President

Retired Elementary School Teacher
Bowling Green, KY

Claude Robertson, Treasurer

Retired Financial Advisor for Edward
Jones Investments
Bowling Green, KY

Preetesh Patel, Secretary

Owner, Hotel SYNC
Bowling Green, KY

Angela Kniery

Lawyer & Photographer
Bowling Green, KY

Judy Sizemore

Arts, Education, & Cultural Research
Consultant
Annville, KY

Mary Margaret Villines

Kentucky Arts Council Peer Advisory
Network Consultant
Munfordville, KY

Erica Cutright

Positive Behavior Support Specialist,
Marpé Therapy Services
Bowling Green, KY

Leslie Nichols

Asst. Professor, Southcentral Kentucky
Community and Technical College
Bowling Green, KY

Arts for All KY Board Application

Arts for All Kentucky

**NOW ACCEPTING
BOARD POSITIONS**

**If you are passionate about the arts or
an advocate for folks with disabilities or BOTH,
the Arts for All Board of Directors might be a
good fit for you! Apply at link**

questions? contact us

e. director@artsforallky.org

p. 270-792-0023

Arts for All
KENTUCKY

www.artsforallky.org

**BRING US TO YOUR SCHOOL!
LEARN MORE ABOUT YOUTH PROGRAMS
HERE**

Arts for All Kentucky Arts Inclusion

KENTUCKY

Accessible art programs for the classroom in KY public schools

\$1600 Award -- Using UDL 3.0 Guidelines



KENTUCKY
Arts
COUNCIL

OSEEL
Office of Special Education & Early Learning

- **Arts Inclusion program**

Bring a guest artist, musician, or storyteller to your school through this program

- **Side by Side**

This program is hosted at your school, community center, arts organization or local library

- **Special Initiative**

Offer an after school program, Arts Festival or Camp for your kids or adults

- **Learn more at the website artsforallky.org**

AREN'T SURE WHICH PROGRAM WORKS FOR YOU?

Contact **Catie Bates Robertson** at phone: **270-792-0023**

or email: programs@artsforallky.org with your questions.

Rolling Application Deadlines!

Arts for Adults

*Arts classes for Adults in Day Centers, Community Centers, Libraries.
Visual Art, Music, Theatre and more!*



Arts for All
KENTUCKY

270-792-0023 or email sonja@artsforallky.org.

Adult Programs

Classes can be offered in day programs and community settings.

Contact Programs Assistant, **Sonja Byrd** to learn more about these opportunities.
[email: sonja@artsforallky.org](mailto:sonja@artsforallky.org)

**Stay informed, Follow and Like
Arts for All Kentucky
on Facebook & Instagram!**

KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS

Arts for All Kentucky is part of the Kroger Community Rewards program now. Through this program, Kroger donates a portion of purchases to nonprofit organizations.

To Use the Kroger Community Rewards Program: Visit <http://www.kroger.com>. Once logged into your Kroger account you can search for ARTS FOR ALL KENTUCKY either by name or SG327 and then click Enroll. New users will need to create an account which requires some basic information, a valid email address and a *rewards* card.



THANK YOU!



OSEEL
Office of Special Education & Early Learning



FS FOUNDATION



Kiwanis®
BOWLING GREEN, KY



**The Community Foundation of South
Central Kentucky:
ALLEN COUNTY**





The Kentucky Arts Council, the state arts agency, provides operating support to Arts for All Kentucky with state tax dollars and federal funding from the National Endowment for the Arts.



Arts for All Kentucky | P.O. Box 1504 | Murray, KY 42071 US

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