

**BROOKINGS ARTS COUNCIL  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT – 7.19.17**

This has been a year of continued growth and re-vitalization of the Brookings Arts Council and the Brookings Art scene along with the soon to be completion of a roof to foundation renovation of our beloved building. We are continuing to make big changes, and we thank YOU for being a part of our journey and we want you to know we APPRECIATE YOU and your continued support.

**FESTIVAL OF TREES:** This year with the renovation process, our Festival of Trees event became an online event only. This did not inhibit the participation of our groups, with over 20 online submissions received! We look forward to our “first” Festival of Trees in our renovated space. We anticipate the participation to be greater than ever!

**PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT:** Again, due to the renovation, our Photography Exhibit became an online only event. Our entries were solid this year with the biggest participation ever. Online voting was \$1 per vote and decided the People’s Choice award. The Photography Exhibit is our first of our gallery exhibit each year and we are happy to see it growing again. We hope you will consider participating!

**SCHOOL EXHIBITS:** This group of exhibits was put on hiatus for this year and we look forward to a strong school exhibit schedule in 2018 in our new gallery space.

**LIFERS DRAWING GROUP/ THURSDAY AFTERNOON**

**PAINTERS/WOODCARVERS:** These groups have become wonderful communities housed at the Brookings Arts Council over the past few years, Lifers and Thursday Afternoon groups have seen significant and steady growth! We enjoy seeing artists create their art together and solidify the bonds of the artistic community ... thank you for making the BAC your home!

**TABLES BEAUTIFUL FUNDRAISER:** This year’s Tables Event was once again an incredible success due to the hard work, dedication, and volunteerism of the committee: Linda Hoffelt, Kris Cooper and Jean Jostad. The event is always so well organized and is such a crowd pleaser! The event was a resounding success with the most money raised ever. This is a true testament to the popularity of the event and the hard work and dedication of the committee. Tickets are a sought after commodity and typically sell out by the end of the first week and this year was no different. For the first time, the event was moved to the First United Lutheran Church to many positive comments. I anticipate that we will be back there again next year.

**SWAY SCULPTURE:** This year’s leased sculpture, a seven foot six inch tall by about four foot six inch wide abstract sculpture of high chromium brushed stainless steel was installed in May, in front of the Brookings Arts Council building. The sculpture, “Sway”, by Gregory Johnson of Georgia, will remain for one year as part of a gift from Brookings Arts Council Board Member Jean and Bob Jostad. “Sway” left our facility a bit earlier when roof renovation work began. We will seek another sculpture for our 2018 year.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Membership at the BAC continues this year with the ARTcard as part of our membership value. II businesses continue to be pARTnered with the BAC making our membership more value added and networking with established art supporters. Our membership continues to be strong, and with our recent ‘snowbird’ drive, we continue to grow our members...but we would love to have even more! As a reminder, all memberships renew

Jan. 1 of each year. The ARTcard has been well received by both members and the pARTner businesses. We will be seeking some new businesses for next years' ART card. If your business would like to participate, please contact Heather.

**ART FACTORY:** We are so thrilled with our continued collaboration with ADVANCE...the ART FACTORY: ADVANCE-ing Creativity One Artist at a Time. This program was inspired by and developed with the assistance of the Suzi Cappa Gallery in Rapid City. Thanks to the United Way for providing the financial support to continue this innovative program. The Art Factory did continue after renovation at the ADVANCE facility, but has been on a break since mid January. We look forward to Art Factory restarting and will continue to meet on Tuesdays and Fridays from 1:00-2:00 pm and we look forward to serving 12 total artists with the artist attendance varying on the day. If you would like to volunteer, instruct or donate art supplies just let us know! We appreciate your support and assistance.

**SUMMER ARTS FESTIVAL:** With the supplies in storage and prepping for moving in the next week, we did not participate in the BSAF this year. We will be back to painting the faces of young art lovers in 2018.

**2017 CLASSES TO START:** We look forward to hosting and conducting classes in our state of the art classroom! The Education Committee has been working hard to acquire educators to conduct classes. Look for that complete list on our website, facebook, weekly radio broadcast and the newspaper. If our membership has suggestions, we would love to hear them! We are always looking for new instructors and ideas for classes.

**WEBSITE:** Our website continues to be the catalyst for class registration with more and more people taking advantage of being able to register for classes, download instructor forms, exhibit forms, etc. from the convenience of their homes and after our business hours. We continue to expand the website capabilities.

**FRIEND OF THE ARTS AWARDS:** The Brookings Arts Council is so fortunate to receive the support of time, money, supplies from so many different individuals and businesses. Our board felt very strongly about reinstating this award to an individual, but also to expand it by creating a business recipient. Thank you is not often said enough...

This year's recipients are: Individual: John Miller, and Corporate: Mills Property: Andy Johnson

**OTHER EVENTS COMING UP IN FY 2017:**

**FINE ARTS EXHIBIT:** Our deadline for entry submission is August 4th. The Fine Art Exhibit will open on August 9th, with the opening reception and awards presentation being August 24th from 4:30-6:30.

**GALLERY SHOWINGS:**

**PRIVATE BUILDING OPENING:** August 10th, 5-6:30pm

**AUG:** Fine Art Exhibit: Aug 9th-Sept 2nd: Reception and awards August 24th 4:30-6:30

**SEPT:** Fine Art Exhibit closes: Sept 15th

**SEPT:** Deadline for 6x6 art submissions: Sept 15th

**SEPT:** 6x6 Exhibit opens- Sept 19th

**SEPT:** Public Grand Opening and 6x6 Art Sale: Sept 30th-4pm.

**OCT:** Eileen Binkley Exhibit Opens: Oct 4

**OCT:** Eileen Binkley Reception: Oct 5 4:30-6:30pm

**NOV:** Eileen Binkley Exhibit closes: Nov 3rd

**NOV:** Decorate trees for Festival of Trees: Nov 15-22nd  
**DEC:** Festival of Trees: November 25<sup>th</sup> – December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016

**ARTS MIDWEST WORLDVEST:** The BAC was thrilled to be the only South Dakota partner with the Arts Midwest Worldfest organization for the 2015-2017 cycle. During this two year period, we will hosted 4 different international musical acts for a week each time. We found that this 2 year global exchange program unified and excited our community building with each event held. We were able to have each residency ensemble visit with Brookings School District adding Deubrook to the last two events and then adding Flandreau Indian School. Along with the school age children, many other age groups were able to enjoy the ensembles at a variety of venues: Children’s Museum of South Dakota, South Dakota Art Museum, Brookings Activity Center and many more. We heard many many positive comments and we are currently seeking funding to see if we can continue a similar type program with other art disciplines. We would like to thank Arts Midwest World Fest Program, 3M National and local as well as many local businesses: Allegra, KBRK, First Bank and Trust, CVB, Bankstar, Larson Manufacturing, Valero, Optimist Club, and the Brookings Register. Without such local support, programming would not have been such a success. THANK YOU to all our sponsors and business pARTners!

**FESTIVAL OF TREES:** Park/Rec will deliver the trees Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> with National Honor Society helping to set up as their schedule allows. We are waiting to hear the theme from Downtown Brookings, but as soon as announced we will help to spread the word. Trees will be able to start being decorated on Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>. The public viewing will begin on Saturday, November 25<sup>th</sup>.

As always, if anyone has any questions, suggestions, or ideas for classes, or would like to volunteer-please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully submitted,

