

MAKING THE CASE FOR THE ARTS

DAA at the 2015 JFC Hearings

Each February, the General Assembly's Joint Finance Committee (JFC) meets in Dover to discuss appropriations for Delaware's upcoming fiscal year budget. This is an important opportunity for the Delaware Arts Alliance to share the significant role Delaware's arts sector has on the state's economy, public schools, and cultural life. We encourage you to attend one or both of the following JFC hearings to show your support for the arts in Delaware.

Wednesday, February 4, 2:00 p.m. – Department of State budget hearing. This review includes the budget for the Delaware Division of the Arts, which distributed \$2.9 million in grants to organizations in Delaware's arts sector for FY2015.

Wednesday, February 18, 1:00 p.m. – Public education budget hearing. The DAA will present the importance and impact of the arts in in school curriculums.

Make your voice heard by attending these important hearings! Please contact Nivea Mercado to sign up.

nmercado@delawareartsalliance.org

DAA EXCEEDS 2014 MEMBERSHIP GOAL BY 438%

2014 was a milestone year for DAA's Individual Membership. In January 2014 at the Free Membership Launch event at Woodburn, the Governor's Residence, DAA made a goal of signing on 500 DAA Free Individual Members by December 2014. We not only met but also exceeded this goal!

In January 2014, DAA had 126 individual members. A year later DAA has 553 new members throughout the state of Delaware who have taken the DAA Acts of Advocacy Pledge—an increase of 438%!

A BIG thanks to all our Individual Members for signing up! You are the reason we reached our membership goal. And we aren't stopping here—in 2015 DAA will keep reaching out to the arts community and continue to build up our Individual Member base. Spread the word to your friends and network! Sign up at www.delawareartsalliance.org.

SAVE THE DATE: FEBRUARY 23

Arts Rendezvous in Kent County

Join DAA members and friends for an Arts Rendezvous in Kent County on Monday, February 23 from 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm at the Dover Century Club on The Green.

Our Keynote Speaker is Darryl M. Scott. Scott will share advocacy tips in his presentation, "Legislation 101". He served in the Delaware General Assembly from 2008 to 2014 as the 31st District State Representative (D-Dover). During his tenure, he was an advocate for public education and access to higher education for Delaware students.

The Dover Downtown Development District plan will also be shared with a discussion led by Ann Marie Townshend, ACIP, City of Dover Director of Planning & Community Development. Dover was one of the three communities selected by Governor Jack Markell to receive a Downtown Development District grant award.

Arts Rendezvous is a series of DAA learning and networking events for Kent, New Castle, and Sussex Counties. The gatherings educate and engage the arts community while creating a strong base of advocates through DAA's Free Individual Membership Campaign.

Arts Rendezvous in Kent County is \$5 for DAA members and \$10 for non-members (payable at the door). Light fare will be served and advance reservations are recommended. Please rsvp to Nivea Mercado at nmercado@delawareartsalliance.org to attend by February 19. The Dover Century Club is located at 40 The Green Dover, DE 19901.