



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Delaware Arts Alliance to Hold Kent County Arts Advocacy Event Featuring Former Representative Darryl M. Scott and a Presentation of the Dover Downtown Development District Plan

February 19, 2015 WILMINGTON---Delaware Arts Alliance (DAA) Executive Director Guillermina Gonzalez announced that DAA will hold an arts advocacy event, *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. The program will feature a presentation by Former Representative Darryl M. Scott (D-Dover) entitled "Lobbying and Legislation 101" and a discussion led by Ann Marie Townshend, ACIP, City of Dover Director of Planning & Community Development, on the Dover Downtown Development District plan. The program is open to the public and all are invited to attend.

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

Scott served in the Delaware General Assembly from 2008 to 2014 as the 31st District State Representative. During his tenure in the Legislature he was an advocate for public education and access to higher education for Delaware students. One of his most significant legislative accomplishments was the creation of the Inspire Scholarship program that provides Delaware students tuition assistance for up to six semesters to attend Delaware State University. Outside the legislature, Mr. Scott expanded local and State partnerships on service projects such as the Community Gardens program.

The Dover Downtown Development District plan will also be shared 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.

DAA Executive Director Guillermina Gonzalez discussed the impact of the *Arts Rendezvous* events, "In 2014 DAA launched its *Arts Rendezvous* program, bringing together civic and arts professionals in each county to network and discuss issues of arts advocacy. *Arts Rendezvous in Kent County* program is our first event planned for 2015 and we anticipate it will help educate and connect the arts community in the county."

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 nmercado@delawareartsalliance.org to attend by February 23. The Dover Century Club is located at 40 The Green Dover, DE 19901. DAA is proud to count the Delaware Division of the Arts and Amtrak among its supporters.

The Delaware Arts Alliance is the unifying voice for the arts and arts education throughout the state, advocating for the central role of the arts in advancing dynamic communities and a creative citizenry. For more information, please visit www.delawareartsalliance.org.

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