September 2014

It's been a busy month for the Commission and September is looking to be even busier. Stay connected to all facets of the Commission's work by reviewing this e-newsletter monthly and by linking to the Commission's website, Facebook page, Twitter feed, and YouTube channel.

Cohansey RiverFest Plein Air Competition

Working in partnership with Gallery 50, Inc., the Commission fielded a plein air competition on Saturday, August 23rd, to coincide with Bridgeton Main Street's Cohansey RiverFest celebrations. This was the 4th year of the competition with a total of 30 artists from the tri-state region participating, making it the most successful competition to date. Highlighting the beautiful Cohansey River and its watershed, which runs through Greenwich and Fairfield Townships, up through the heart of Bridgeton and then continues into Upper Deerfield Township, over 36 works of art express the river, landscape and communities of the region.

The reception held during the monthly First Friday festivities of Gallery 50 on September 5th showcased not only the plein air work but also the Gallery's annual exhibit, Nature and the Landscape. Competition winners for plein air included first place to Yvonne Mucci's piece entitled, "Leaving Mary Elmer", second place going to Joe Rademan's work entitled, "Across the Cohansey", and third place going to Dennis Young of New Castle, Delaware with his piece entitled, "Chancing the Rain".

All of the plein air submissions may be viewed (and purchased) at Gallery 50 (50 E. Commerce Street, Bridgeton) through Friday, September 26th. To learn more about Gallery 50 click the image to go to the Gallery's website.

Grant Writing Workshop Now on YouTube

The Commission hosted a workshop entitled, "Grant..."
Workshop attendees

The workshop provided a step-by-step guide to the Commission's re-granting application, recently released. As well, Rachel Dukeman presented on benchmark methods to collect audience information. The event was attended by 38 individuals representing arts, history and education organizations throughout Cumberland County. However, the impact of this workshop does not stop there. This is the first workshop conducted by the Commission which was recorded in HD video by SNJ Today, edited, and then placed on the Commission's YouTube channel. The entire workshop and all the information presented can now be viewed by anyone. Simply click the YouTube link to the left and you will be taken to the Commission's channel. All future workshops and educational events conducted by the Commission will be recorded and uploaded to YouTube, building a great resource to help build your expertise in non-profit management. Just one more way the Commission is helping your organization grow.

Artists' Day in Mauricetown - Saturday, September 13th

Come down to Mauricetown on Saturday, the 13th, for a relaxing getaway of art and music amongst the historic architecture of this bygone village.

"Artists' Day was started nearly two decades ago by the Commission to celebrate the art of nature and the nature of art," said Matt Pisarski, Director of the Commission. "Originally held at East Point Lighthouse, last year the Commission moved the event to Mauricetown with tremendous success."

Partnering with the Mauricetown Historical Society, the event includes numerous artists practicing "plein air" producing amazing works of their surroundings along with music by Steve Byrne and the Snake Brothers. The Mauricetown Historical Society opens their numerous buildings for the day and food and craft vendors abound.

The event is free and is meant to be a laid-back day of artistic enjoyment. Listen to the music, interact with the artists, try your hand at watercolors, tour the Society's museum and enjoy the sublime experience of Mauricetown in the late summer. Open from 10 am to 4 pm - to learn more click the image to go to the Artists' Day Facebook page.

21st Century Public Relations Workshop - Thursday, September 18th

The Commission is planning an innovative and eye-opening workshop on Thursday, September 18th on 21st Public Relations. Facilitated by SNJ Today in their headquarters in the Glassworks Building at 1101 Wheaton Avenue, Millville. As 2015 quickly approaches, the term "media" is changing in dramatic and fundamental ways. For cultural and history non-profits who rely on public audiences, it is more important than ever to build audiences through new media. This workshop will present both new and traditional communication and marketing best practices, social media tools, search engine optimization, and video-focused media technologies. The workshop will include breakout sessions in each subject for more in-depth conversations and recommendations for individual organizations. This is a not-to-be-missed event hosted by experts in the top of their fields. Registration is required prior to the event and can be done by
visiting the events calendar on the Commission's website.

9th Annual Art of Two Palettes - Wednesday, September 17th

Held each year by Elwyn New Jersey to support its important work, the Art of Two Palettes event this year honors the memory of Janice Peroni. Janice Peroni was introduced to painting during occupational therapy in 1965. Due to limited mobility caused by paralysis, Janice did not start painting until her therapist strapped a paintbrush to her hand with a bandage. Her world of imagination was reborn and art became a passion and an adventure of color, line, light, and movement.

The Ninth Annual Art of Two Palettes will be held on September 17, 2014 at 6pm on the grounds of Elwyn New Jersey in Vineland. This premier event will benefit those served by Elwyn New Jersey and will be a fun-filled evening with fine food, entertaining music and eye-pleasing items in a silent and live auction. Tickets are $50.00 per person and are available by contacting Susan Sauro by phone at (856) 794-5281 or via email at sauros@elwyn.org.