



Help us spread the word: Membership Information

The BCAC mission is "to enhance the quality of life for people throughout Boone County by promoting the endowment, development and enjoyment of the Arts."

Our current members have made the mission of our organization possible, and are our best public relations agents .

If someone you know believes the arts are an important part of a community's life, then please ask that person to consider becoming a member of the Boone County Arts Council. Call 815-544-6242 and we will send out a brochure and provide contact information. Our membership categories are:

- Individual \$ 10
- Family \$ 25
- Friend \$ 50
- Sponsor \$100
- Patron \$250
- Sustaining \$500

Jay Allen named Chamber's "Distinguished Citizen"

To some he's known as "Mr. Mural", to others, a connoisseur and practitioner of all things artistic -- but to his fellow board members at the Boone County Arts Council, Jay Allen is a dear friend, an artistic visionary and a trusted advisor.

Now, Jay can add one more distinction to his repertoire – that of 2008 Distinguished Citizen, bestowed upon him by the Belvidere Area Chamber of Commerce, in March.

The Distinguished Citizen Award recognizes outstanding volunteer service to Boone County through community organizations, activities or projects. Jay's work has touched all three areas.

Jay has served various agencies over the years; he is currently a long-term BCAC board member and liaison member of the Mural Mile Association.

As owner and president of Shawcraft Signs, Jay has been the recipient of 15 international awards in 26 years in the sign making business. His signs grace all the major entrance roads into the City of Belvidere.

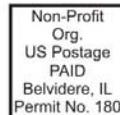
But locally, Jay is, perhaps, best known for his avocation of mural creation, and as the driving force behind Belvidere's recognition as Illinois' City of Murals, and an Illinois Municipal League Arts Friendly Community. As a member of the Wall Dogs, an international organization of muralists and graphic artists, Jay orchestrated a June 1997 festival of 300 artists from all over the world to paint 6,000 square feet of mural art on 10 building walls – all in only 72 hours! That event was the impetus for the many murals enjoyed by our citizens, and thousands of visitors each year.

Thank you, Jay, for your leadership, your enthusiasm, and your devotion to the Boone County area. You are truly "distinguished" in our eyes.



Jay Allen was awarded the distinction of 2008 Distinguished Citizen by the Belvidere Area Chamber of Commerce. Shown with his mom, Pauline Schoepski, (left), his wife, Jody, and fellow BCAC board member Jean Twynning (right).

boone county arts council
P.O. Box 311
Belvidere, IL. 61008



boone county
arts council
board of directors

Sam Yoveff, President
Jan July, Vice President
Jean Twyning, Secretary
Karen Shifo, Treasurer
Lee Ladenburger, Membership
Jay Allen
Colleen Carroll
Donna Denning
Jane Eurek
Al Freeburg
Jerome Jones
Donna Leone
Matt Levy
Sherry Lindquist
Pat Richter
Gary Simon
Michael Swinton
Maria Werchowec
Troy Yunk
Patty Zickert

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Newsletter masthead created by
Beth Luhman and Gary Simon

The programs of the
Boone County Arts Council
are partially supported by the
Illinois Arts Council, a state
agency.



BCAC goes Green!

If you'd prefer, we can now send your Boone County Arts Council newsletters to you by email (in .pdf format).



This helps us save paper – and allows us to target more of your membership dollars to arts programming, rather than postage.

If you would like to help this initiative and begin receiving your newsletter by email, please provide us your email address(s), either by phoning our office (815-544-6242) or emailing our board secretary Bonnie Bartell at cjbonbartell@aol.com

We won't provide this list to any other organization or group -- it will only be used to communicate our newsletter to our members.

If you don't elect email, we will continue to mail your newsletter to you.

Thank you, in advance for helping us abate cost and be better environmental stewards.

The Boone County Arts Council Board

"The Arts... Share The Vision"
boone county arts council

So Young...yet So Talented

The All-County Student Art Show was held at Belvidere North High School between April 30 and May 10. Art teachers from all schools in Boone County were invited to participate.

Belvidere North art teacher and Boone County Arts Council Board Member, Troy Yunk, organized the exhibit.

His advanced students hung the artwork and helped select the best of each grade level. The Arts Council hosted a reception for students and their families from 3:00-5:00 p.m. on Friday, May 8.



Notice of Annual Meeting

The Boone County Arts Council Annual Meeting will be held June 3, 2009 @ 6:30 p.m. at the Baltic Mill meeting room, immediately before the regularly scheduled monthly board meeting. New board members and officers will be elected. The proposed slate is:

President:	Sam Yoveff
Vice President:	Jan July
Secretary:	Jean Twyning
Treasurer:	Karen Shifo

Baltic Mill Art Fair

SUMMER 2010



"The Arts... Share The Vision"
boone county arts council



We are excited to announce that plans have begun to hold a juried fine arts fair at the scenic Belvidere Park, late next summer.

The Baltic Mill Art Fair will be a two-day outdoor arts event with music, food and judging/sale of fine arts, including painting, photography and sculpture.

The event's promoters include the BCAC, the Belvidere Park District and the Illinois Arts Council. A separate planning board has been developed to address all facets of the festival.

According to one of the organizers, Jerome Jones, "The Mill is a perfect backdrop for this event, melding art with the beauty of the park, for a truly unique experience." Jones is a board member of the BCAC and Boone County Photography Club, and has been instrumental in organizing past Greenwich Village Art Shows in Rockford. Jones and BCAC President Sam Yoveff have led the Art Fair planning and board development.

Sponsors and volunteers are being sought – if you are interested in learning more about this special project, please call our offices or contact any board member.

Why Do I Support BCAC?

A friend of mine recently asked me why I was serving as a member of the board of the Boone County Arts Council.

I told him that I believed support of the arts was more important than ever, and by serving on the board I was doing my small part to promote that effort.

We discussed the many worthwhile projects and events that BCAC sponsors, including the Summer Concert Series and the Children's Theater Workshop, the annual 5th Grade Music Experience, and Student Art Show – not to mention various art exhibits and receptions for the community.

Finally, we discussed the murals that adorn buildings throughout Belvidere and the county, and the recent bronze sculptures of "Children Crossing the Stream" in the Mill Race at Belvidere Park.

None of this would exist without the Boone County Arts Council membership, our all-volunteer board, and the community support we enjoy.

I mention this conversation because I believe that, more than ever, the arts deserve your support. I would ask that you join us by becoming a new member of the Arts Council, or renewing your current membership.

Memberships provide an important source of revenue and also verify to state grant agencies, and other funding sources, that we have strong community support for the work we do.

Without your support, those funding sources would also be in jeopardy, and could result in decreased arts programming in this community.

As a member, you will receive invitations to special receptions and mailings throughout the year, like this newsletter. All donations are tax deductible, in accordance with current law.

Your support will help us fulfill our mission, "To enhance the quality of life for people throughout Boone County by promoting the endowment, development, and enjoyment of the arts."

We have many events planned for 2009, and beyond, that will enhance our reputation as an "Arts Friendly Community." This newsletter describes some of those efforts. Come join us – we welcome you, and your ideas!

Sam Yoveff

President, Boone County Arts Council

2009 Concerts in the Parks

The 19th annual summer Concerts in the Park series promises to be another fabulous year.

As a reminder -- unless otherwise noted below -- the concerts start at 6:30 p.m. at the Baltic Mill Stage in Belvidere Park. The rain site is the Community Building at 111 West First Street, near the corner of First and South State Street.

Bring a blanket or lawn chair and enjoy the sounds of summer.

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| June 7 | Kickin' Brass – Big Band and Classic Rock
Sponsored by Sue Appleby, CFP,
Edward Jones, Belvidere Office |
| June 14 | The Dean Moriarity Jazz Band – Contemporary Jazz
Sponsored by Alpine Bank |
| June 21 | The River City Sound – Women's Barbershop Chorus
Sponsored by Byron Bank |
| June 28 | Silver Creek Band – Country and Bluegrass
Doty Park (7:00 p.m.) for the Mural Mile Festival
Sponsored by the Boone County Arts Council |
| July 5 | The Jodi Beach Trio – Contemporary Pop and Jazz
Sponsored by the Belvidere Wal-Mart |
| July 12 | Rockford Pipe Band – Highland Bagpipe Music
Sponsored by The Law Office of Rene Hernandez |
| July 19 | The Mayvilles – '80s Pop and Rock
The Candlewick Lake Rec Center
(rain site: inside Rec Center)
Sponsored by The Candlewick Lake Association
and the
Poplar Grove State Bank |

Dates Set for the 2009 Children's Theater Workshop

The Boone County Arts Council will present two sessions of the Children's Theater Workshop from August 3-7, 2009 at the Community Building in Belvidere.

The classes will be held each day from 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. and from 1:00 - 4:30 p.m., with performances on Friday evening at the Community Building.

This is the 21st year that the Arts Council has offered a theater workshop to students in the area. Students aged 7 through high school are welcome.

The cost of the workshop is \$55 for BCAC members and \$65 for non-members. If you would like to become a BCAC member, you can find detailed information on the back page of this newsletter.

This class will introduce students to acting concepts and the theater. Erik Uppling will again lead the class and plans to adapt plays from three stories of J.K. Rowling's new book, **The Tales of Beedle the Bard.**

Forms are available at the Park District Office and the Ida Public Library. The registration deadline is July 20. For information, call 815-544-6242.



Photos shown are from prior years' workshops and courtesy of the Boone County Photography Club.



New Park Plan in Place for Concert Series

As we mentioned in our last newsletter, the Belvidere Park District is undergoing some significant upgrades in the arts festival area surrounding the Baltic Mill.

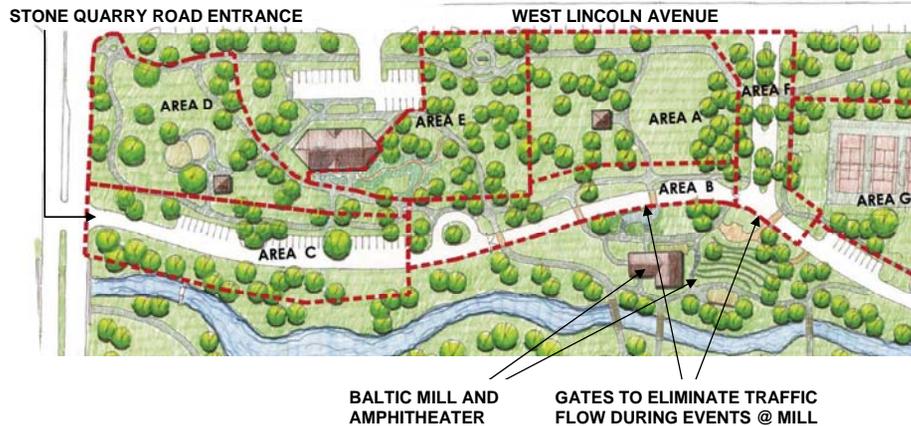
BCAC Board Member, and Park District Liaison, Jean Twynning explains that the Lincoln Avenue entry road (Area F shown below) will become two divided lanes for easier entry and/exit to the Park.

Gates will be installed in Area B to control traffic flow during Mill/amphitheater events. “We are responding to citizen feedback to better insulate events at the Mill and the amphitheater from loud cars and car stereos,” says Twynning. “This is an especially welcome feature for our Summer Concerts in the Park series.”

As in the past, visitors with special needs are encouraged to use the drop-off drive at the front door of the Mill.

Also, parking will be reconfiguring several small parking lots with winding pathways to the Mill. Twynning explains that the first two areas (Area B and Area C) are projected for completion before the start of the Concert series.

Additional renovations will be staged over the coming months. The full plan is available for viewing at the Belvidere Park District Administration Building at 1006 West Lincoln Avenue.



The Rockford Pipe Band will again perform this July. Photos are from the 2006's performance, courtesy of the Boone County Photography Club.



Back, by popular demand, the River City Sound (above) and Jodi Beach (right), will grace the Baltic Mill stage this summer.



A special thank you to the Belvidere Park District and the Community Building Complex Committee of Boone County. This concert series is partially supported by the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency.

5th Graders go “Around the World in 50 Minutes”

On April 21, nearly 800 5th-grade students from Belvidere School District 100, Immanuel Lutheran School, and St James School enjoyed a wonderful musical adventure, “Around the World in Fifty Minutes.”

Rockford musician David Stocker, and four members of his group ONE DRUM brought the students the heritage of cultures from around the world in the form of music.



Using voices, many drums and other instruments, students learned about their ancestors, the world around them, and their place in it.



The two performances at the Community Building were presented by the Boone County Arts Council and funded, in part, by a Project Grant from the Rockford Area Arts Council.

The Boone County Arts Council annually sponsors an artistic experience for local 5th graders.

Photos: Courtesy of The Boone County Photography Club

