

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MARCH 8, 2006

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: RECEIPT OF THE ALEXANDRIA COMMISSION FOR THE ARTS ANNUAL REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005

ISSUE: Receipt of the Alexandria Commission for the Arts (ACA) Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2005 (Attachment).

RECOMMENDATIONS: That City Council receive the Annual Report from the Alexandria Commission for the Arts and thank the Commission for its efforts on behalf of the City.

DISCUSSION: The Alexandria Commission for the Arts is a fifteen-member advisory board created by City Council in 1984 to lead and advocate for cultural development within the City and surrounding region. The ACA fulfills this mission in several ways, by redistributing a substantial portion of its annual appropriation from the City Council and funds from the Virginia Commission for the Arts to Alexandria-based arts organizations through a grant program and by facilitating communications between arts organizations and the public. The Commission also provides networking opportunities for ACA Commissioners and Alexandria arts groups.

Through the Commission's programs and services, the arts are made accessible for both residents and tourists to enjoy. The City of Alexandria is home to more than 200 commercial galleries, antique shops and nonprofit arts organizations who offer a wide range of artistic offerings. These offerings contribute greatly to the quality of life in the community. ACA's Fiscal Year 2005 Annual Report illustrates the Commission's activities and lists its accomplishments.

ATTACHMENT: Fiscal Year 2005 Annual Report for the Alexandria Commission for the Arts

STAFF:

Kirk Kincannon, Director, Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities

Janet Barnett, Deputy Director, Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities

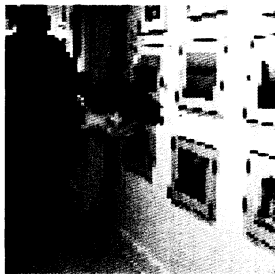
Cheryl Anne Powalisz, Cultural Arts Administrator, Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities

City of Alexandria



**ALEXANDRIA
COMMISSION
FOR THE ARTS**

Alexandria Commission for the Arts



FY 2005 Annual Report

July 1, 2004 - June 30, 2005



**ALEXANDRIA COMMISSION FOR THE ARTS
ANNUAL REPORT
July 1, 2004 - June 30, 2005**

I. INTRODUCTION

The Alexandria Commission for the Arts is an advisory board created by City Council in 1984. The Alexandria Commission for the Arts's mission is to lead and advocate for cultural development in the City of Alexandria. The Commission fulfills this mission by supporting the development and expansion of the arts in Alexandria; serving as an advisory body for the arts in Alexandria; serving as the single funding source for the arts; allocating funds to particular arts activities; and seeking national, state, and private support for the arts in Alexandria.

The Commission meets on the third Tuesday of every month from September to June at the Dr. Oswald Durant Memorial Center, 1605 Cameron Street.

II. LIST OF MEMBERS

The Alexandria Commission for the Arts is composed of 15 members. Five members are appointed to represent Arts Consumers, five are appointed for their expertise in each of the five arts disciplines (Dance, Literature, Music, Theater, and Visual Arts) and five are appointed for their expertise in arts education, business, cultural tourism or marketing.

MEMBERS SERVING DURING FISCAL YEAR 2005:

Leon Scioscia, Chair- Expertise - Arts Discipline
Mary H. Chaffe Brooks, Vice Chair - Expertise - Arts Education and Business
Ellen Harris, Secretary - Member at Large
George A. Chadwick, III, Treasurer - Member at Large
Jim Allison - Expertise - Arts Education and Business
Betsy Anderson - Expertise - Arts Discipline
Victor Ciadello - Member at Large
Marla Howell - Member at Large
Sharon Ksander - Expertise - Arts Discipline
Patricia Miller - Expertise - Arts Education and Business
Patrice North-Rudin - Expertise - Arts Education and Business
David H. Roane - Expertise - Arts Discipline
Sylvia Saborio- Expertise - Arts Education and Business
Lien Tran - Member at Large
Colette Wachtel - Expertise - Arts Education and Business

CITY STAFF:

Kirk W. Kincannon, Director - Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities
Janet Barnett, Deputy Director - Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities
Cheryl Anne Powalysz, Cultural Arts Administrator-Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities

III. ALEXANDRIA COMMISSION FOR THE ARTS PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

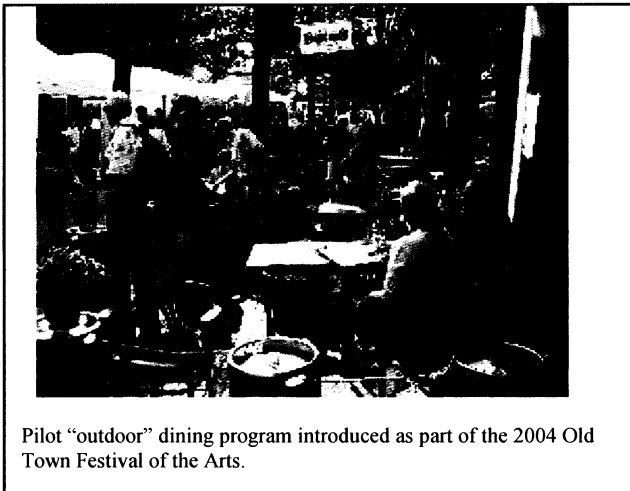
Alexandria ArtVENTURE:

The Americans for the Arts invited the Alexandria Commission for the Arts to host ArtVENTURE as part of the 2004 pARTicipate! national conference.

On Sunday, July 18, forty-five arts administrators from around the country participated in the four hour ArtVENTURE tour of Alexandria. The excursion included learning about Alexandria's history, a viewing of public art, and enjoying performances at Del Ray Artisans Gallery, Captain Rocky Versace Plaza and Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the entrance to the Duke Street Concourse, King Street Gardens Park, and MetroStage. Over fifty volunteers, including performers, helped to implement the Alexandria ArtVENTURE experience.



Alexandria Singers' ArtVENTURE performance at the King Street Gardens Park.



Pilot "outdoor" dining program introduced as part of the 2004 Old Town Festival of the Arts.

Old Town Festival of the Arts:

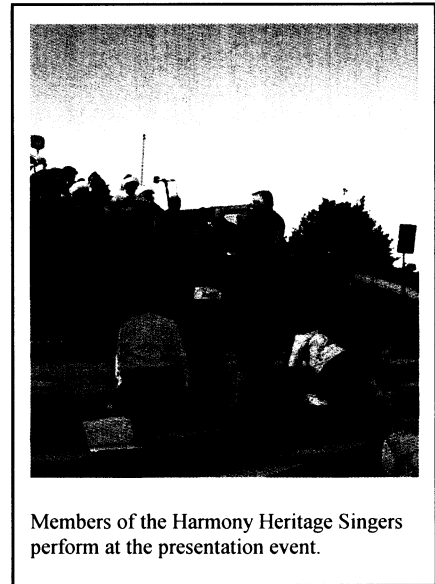
The Mayor and City Council selected the Alexandria Commission for the Arts, to lead the planning efforts for the 2004 Old Town Festival of the Arts. An Executive Committee of Planning Partners was developed and responsibilities defined: Alexandria Convention and Visitors Association—Marketing and Public Relations; Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities—City Services; and the Alexandria Commission for the Arts—Local Arts Component.

To complement the 2004 Old Town Festival of the Arts, a local arts component, highlighting local visual and performing artists, was created. The local arts

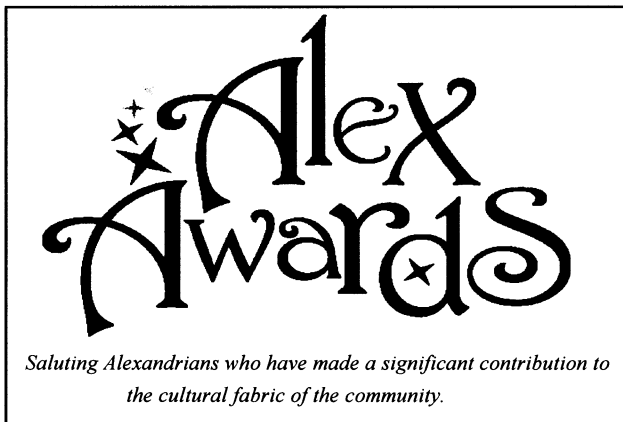
component included the first annual Northern Virginia Regional Exhibition and held performances behind the Torpedo Factory Art Center. The 2004 Old Town Festival of the Arts was also the catalyst for the establishment of an "outdoor" dining program on King Street. Over 60,000 people attended the 2004 Festival of the Arts.

2004 Capital Holiday Tree Ornament Competition:

The City of Alexandria was one of the stops for the 2004 Capitol Holiday Tree tour of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Communities were invited to create ornaments to be hung on the tree. As part of the festivities, the Alexandria Commission for the Arts held a Capitol Holiday Tree Ornament Competition. Martin Angebrannt, a local woodturning artist, won the competition. He created a turned hollowed birch ornament with a silhouette of George Washington in copper foil offset by a white paint oval background. Mr. Angebrannt's ornament was presented to the 2004 Capitol Holiday Tree Committee and hung on the national tree in Washington, DC.



Members of the Harmony Heritage Singers perform at the presentation event.

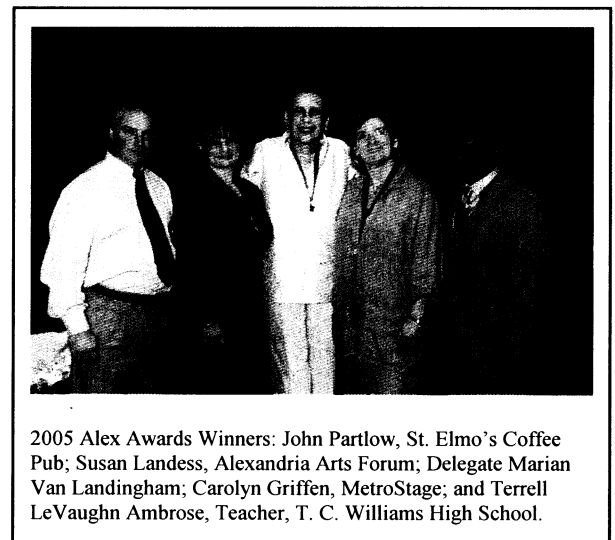


2005 Alex Awards:

Almost 400 people attended the 2005 Alex Awards on Friday evening, May 20, at the Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center, to honor 17 outstanding individuals and organizations nominated by their fellow residents for their contributions to the cultural fabric of the Alexandria community.

Each winner received a framed piece of art created by artist Matthew Harwood. The Commission selected Mr. Harwood to create the award after a "Call for Artists" competition. Matthew Harwood received a gallery showing of all five of the awards as part of an exhibition at the Dr. Oswald Durant Center, 1605 Cameron Street. The exhibition was held from June 1, through June 30, 2005. In addition, to Mr. Harwood art pieces, David M. Martin, of Gold Works, created a secondary award for each recipient of the 2005 Alex Awards. The secondary award is a brass star draped on a blue ribbon.

Bob Madigan, "Man About Town," on WTOP and Classical 103.5 WGMS, was the master of ceremonies. Mayor William D. Euille and Leon Scioscia, chair of the Alexandria Commission for the Arts also participated in the recognition of the 2005 Alex Award winners. The 2005 Alex Award winners included: A Special Recognition Alex Award to State Delegate Marian Van Landingham; Excellence in an Artistic Discipline to



2005 Alex Awards Winners: John Partlow, St. Elmo's Coffee Pub; Susan Landess, Alexandria Arts Forum; Delegate Marian Van Landingham; Carolyn Griffen, MetroStage; and Terrell LeVaughn Ambrose, Teacher, T. C. Williams High School.

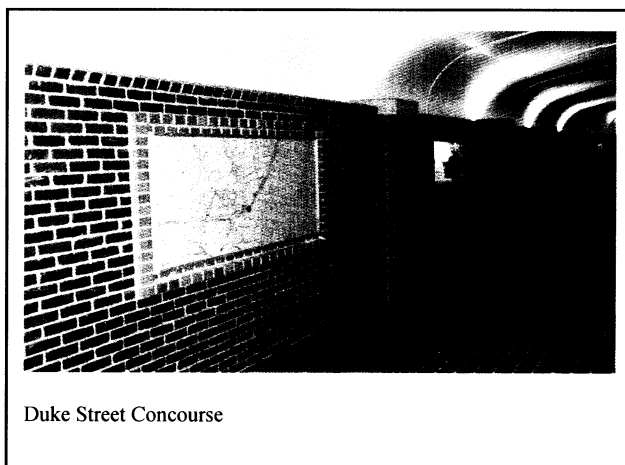
MetroStage; Excellence in Service to the Arts to the Alexandria Arts Forum; Outstanding Contributions in Arts Education to Terrell LeVaughn Ambrose, teacher T.C. Williams High School; and Innovative Partnership between Business and the Arts to St. Elmo's Coffee Pub.

Major producing sponsors were Alexandria Hyundai; Art on the Avenue; Wm. D. Euille & Associates; First Night Alexandria; Jack Taylor's Alexandria Toyota; Amanda Lenk and Boyd Walker; The Honorable Lois L. Walker; and Washington Mutual Home Loans. Presenting sponsors were Alexandria Performing Arts Association; Gail Crider and Leon E. Scioscia; Fannon Fine Printing; Mr. & Mrs. Gant Redmon; The Honorable Paul C. Smedberg and Virginia Commerce Bank. The event, jointly sponsored by the Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities, is anticipated to be an annual event.

Public Art Installations:

Duke Street Concourse:

As part of the 20th Anniversary activity of the Commission, and to coincide with the opening of the Duke Street Concourse, the Commission hosted a "Call for Artists" with the anticipation of commissioning art work for the Concourse. Ashley Spencer was selected and commissioned, to create twelve panels consisting of six reproduced maps and six murals depicting scenes of the development of the early West End area. During Fiscal Year 2005, these panels were complete, and installed in the Duke Street Concourse.

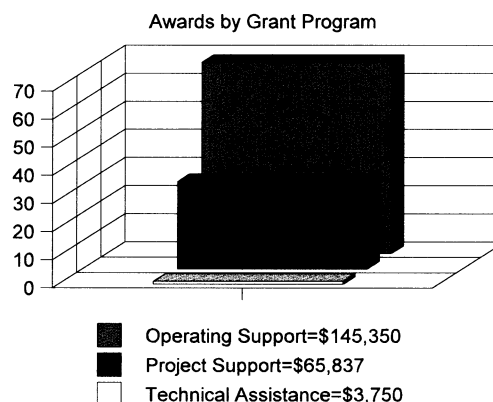
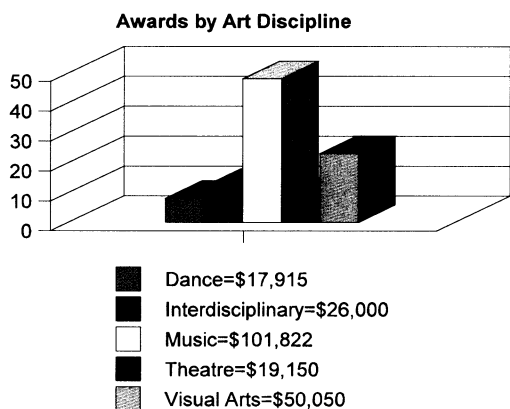


Shipbuilder Monument:

In the fall of 2004, the Shipbuilder Monument was installed in Waterfront Park. The Shipbuilder was a gift to the City as part of the 250th City-wide Celebrations in 1999. It was unveiled and dedicated on Saturday, October 31.

IV. RECOGNITION OF FISCAL YEAR 2005 GRANTEES

The Alexandria Commission for the Arts (ACA) acts as the official funding mechanism of the Alexandria City Council in awarding grants to artists and arts organizations. During Fiscal Year 2005, the ACA made \$214,937 in awards of which \$209,937 was in City appropriated funds and \$5,000 was in Virginia Commission for the Arts funds provided through the Local Government Challenge grant program.



Fiscal Year 2005 Grant Awards by Grant Program

OPERATING SUPPORT:

Alexandria Choral Society	\$13,000.00
Alexandria Harmonizers	\$13,000.00
Alexandria Performing Arts Association	\$ 4,500.00
Alexandria Singers	\$13,000.00
Alexandria Symphony Orchestra	\$13,000.00
Art League	\$13,000.00
Del Ray Artisans	\$ 7,700.00
EcoVoce	\$ 2,000.00
First Night Alexandria	\$13,000.00
Friends of the Torpedo Factory Art Center	\$12,000.00
Kathy Harty Gray Dance Theatre	\$ 8,000.00
Northern Virginia Fine Arts Association	\$13,000.00
Port City Playhouse	\$ 3,650.00
Springwater Fiber Workshop	\$13,000.00
Tapestry Theatre	<u>\$ 3,500.00</u>
	\$145,350.00

PROJECT SUPPORT:

Choreographers Collaboration Project	\$ 2,665.00
Eclipse Chamber Orchestra	\$ 9,536.00
Fairfax Choral Society	\$ 3,536.00
Jane Franklin Dance Company	\$ 3,000.00
MetroStage	\$12,000.00
Mount Vernon Chamber Orchestra	\$13,000.00
National Rehabilitation & Rediscovery Foundation	\$ 3,500.00
Northern Virginia Youth Orchestra	\$ 4,000.00
Retired Senior Volunteer Program	\$ 600.00
Tenants' & Workers' Support Committee	\$ 3,000.00
Virginia Grand Military Band	\$ 1,000.00
Virginia Opera	<u>\$10,000.00</u>
	\$65,837.00

TECHINCAL ASSISTANCE:

Alexandria Choral Society	\$ 750.00
Alexandria Harmonizers	\$ 750.00
Alexandria Singers	\$ 750.00
Art League	\$ 750.00
Kathy Harty Gray Dance Theatre	<u>\$ 750.00</u>
	\$ 3,000.00

Total Amount Awarded: \$214,937.00

V. FUTURE EFFORTS:

The Alexandria Commission for the Arts will continue to lead and advocate for cultural development in the City.

The Commission will also support the Old Town Festival of the Arts, and other cultural programs through its local component arts committee.

The Commission will continue offering the Alex Awards which salutes Alexandrians who have made a significant contribution to the cultural fabric of the community.

In addition, the Commission will continue to facilitate the administration of the Commission's grant program

The Commission will continue to welcome citizens to its meetings, which are held at 7:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month at the Dr. Oswald Durant Center, 1605 Cameron Street.