

# Keep <sup>Your</sup> ArtsAlive!

## ALLEGAN COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION ARTS & CULTURE COMPETITION

### ArtsAlive! Ambassadors

Paula Baker

Rob Marciniak

Steve Angle

John Mahan

David Balas

Nancy Fifelski

Jodi White

Mark Dobias

Brian Marr

Lynn Etheridge

Julie Abel

Midge Stamas

Susan Smith

Lee Wittkop

Angie Brown

Theresa Bray

Dear Friends,

Whether you are new to ArtsAlive! or one of the supporters who helped us kick off ArtsAlive! last year, we are asking for your support of **Keep Your ArtsAlive! 2011**.

Please look over the enclosed form and consider supporting ArtsAlive!. The financial strain on these organizations has not eased. They are still struggling, still providing all they can on a shoestring budget while trying to stay in business. ArtsAlive! remains a collective effort and it will take all of us to keep our arts and culture alive in Allegan County.

Thanks to the incredible response from voters and sponsors last year, the results were outstanding:

- Votes came in from all over MI plus CA, FL, IN, OH, IA, GA, NY, AZ, CO, MO, VA, NC & IL
- There were over 500 people who voted in ArtsAlive! – several of them voting for multiple participants
- There was a difference of only 108 votes between the 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> place!
- The outpouring from the community was very encouraging; they expressed their support and their appreciation for shining a light on the financial environment facing our arts and cultural organizations in Allegan County.

At the ArtsAlive! Bash we recognized the five organizations that received the most votes, *which were converted into dollars* (100% of which went back to the organizations). While it may have been difficult to have the totals hidden from view the last week of voting, I have to tell you, the competitive spirit kicked in. The last voting total visible to the public was 11,150. The final total was 24,333! This last push resulted in the following results for the top five organizations... who also shared a \$20,000 prize for placing in the top five!

**Children's Museum of Fennville – VOTES: 4,486 + \$4,000 in prize money!**

**Mason Street Warehouse – VOTES: 3,981 + \$4,000 in prize money!**

**Waterfront Film Festival – VOTES: 3,208 + \$4,000 in prize money!**

**Mid-Lakes Chorus (Sweet Adelines) – VOTES: 2,572 + \$4,000 in prize money!**

**Allegan Area Arts Council – VOTES: 1,524 + \$4,000 in prize money!**

In the end, every single organization received votes. And it couldn't have happened without the people in our communities who value the rich arts and cultural presence in Allegan County. I hope you will join me in keeping the arts alive in Allegan County.

Warm Regards,



Theresa M. Bray  
Allegan County Community Foundation  
CEO/Executive Director

**Allegan County Community Foundation**  
524 Marshall Street ☐ Allegan, MI 49010 ☐ 269.673.8344