

FEBRUARY 2007

The Arts in Mesquite? You bet!

Accompaniment

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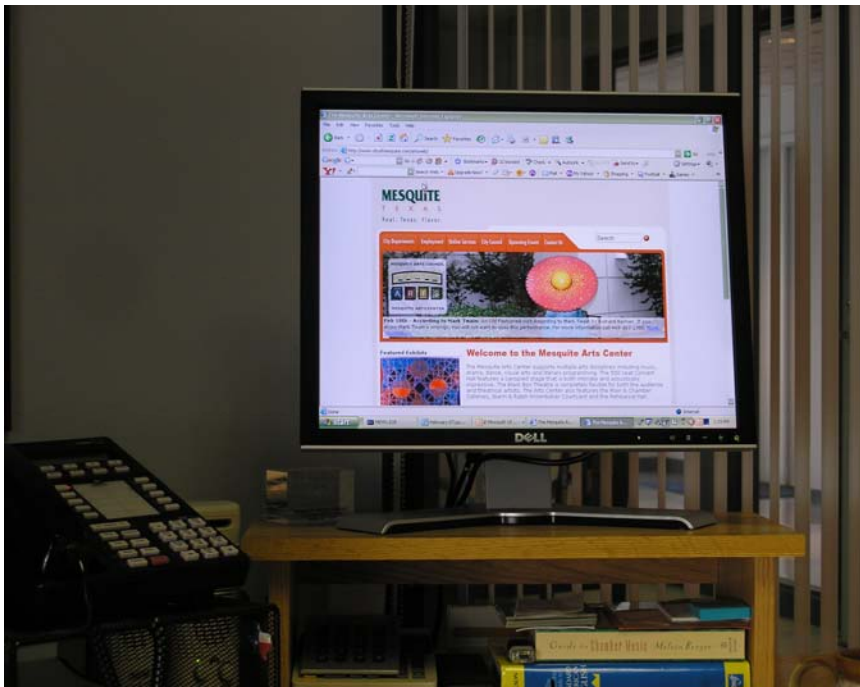
MESQUITE ARTS COUNCIL



MESQUITE ARTS CENTER

New website design for Mesquite Arts Center/Arts Council

A new website design for the Mesquite Arts Council debuted in mid-January. In the second phase of strategic branding for the City of Mesquite that began in late 2006 with the introduction of a new logo and graphics, the MAC website has undergone a redesign. The address is the same and located at www.mesquiteartscenter.org.



The bold, cleanly designed site provides expanded information on exhibits and other events in an easily accessible format.

One of the main features of the new website is the easy-to-read calendar, which provides a day-to-day listing of events taking place at the Arts Center on the front page. A scrolling banner provides quick notice of current events.

Additionally, comprehensive information on the public art program, grants program, and information on renting space at the Arts Center is available. Links to arts organizations and artists are also provided.

Individuals or groups wishing to sign-up for tours of the Arts Center may do so on-line

or by calling the office at 972-216-6444. And, by adding your name to the on-line sign-up form you will automatically receive newsletters, Art@Lunch invitations and e-postcards.

Great appreciation to Zak LaJoie, Manager of MIS-City of Mesquite, for his design and implementation of the new website. Zak is a member of the Mesquite Arts Council and supports the arts in the region.

Texans for the Arts working on behalf of Texas Commission on the Arts

The 80th Legislative Session began this past January and our representatives and senators have been hard at work. Prior to each session the Legislative Budget Board provides the legislators with budget scenarios for each agency.

This year Governor Perry has weighed in through his budget recommendations with the following. He proposes a one-time investment of \$29 million in to the Texas Cultural Endowment Fund and transferring the functions of the Texas Commission on the Arts to a Trusteed Program within the Office of the Governor. According to the proposal, the funds would increase the total amount of funds available for art grants from \$3.3 million annually to \$5.5 million.



The LBB has recommended that the TCA have access to a designated amount of interest earnings from the Texas Cultural Endowment. Currently, the endowment balance is approximately \$20 million. Since its creation in 1993 the endowment has grown because of Texas' car and truck license plates sales. That's the good news.

The TCA's original Legislative Appropriation Request (LAR) proposed that TCA be granted Endowment interest **specifically to increase the grant budget**. That language is important because success would mean that more money would come to arts constituents across the state through TCA grant programs.

However, the second part of the LBB recommendation was that TCA be given \$1,067,556 in FY 2008 and \$1,159,758 in FY 2009 in Endowment interest money, as a replacement for General Revenue of the same amount — giving with one hand and taking with the other, as my grandmother would say. The effect of this recommendation is that **our ultimate goal, to increase the grant budget**, will not be reached.

The governor's request and the LBB recommendation of granting access to the Endowment interest, but to remove the language replacing general revenue, merit support. Both of these scenarios should be considered with a significant amount of debate. For up-to-the-minute information please go to www.texansforthearts.com and click on the Legislative Action Center.



East Texas Baptist University Band Concert

Is in concert on March 6th at 7:30p. The free concert will be in the Concert Hall with doors open at 7p. Under the direction of Brent Farmer, the ensemble performs concerts for the Marshall, Texas community in addition to performance tours throughout Texas and the Southwest United States. The Symphonic Band Concert Programs from 2007 includes the following repertoire.

Leonard Bernstein, *Overture to Candide*

Richard Saulcedo, *Windsprints*

Robert W. Smith, *Iliad and Ithaca from Symphony No. 2*

John Williams, arr. Paul Lavendar, *Midway March*

Morten Lauridsen, arr. H. Robert Reynolds, *O Magnum Mysterium*

Medicine Wheel/Phases of the Moon

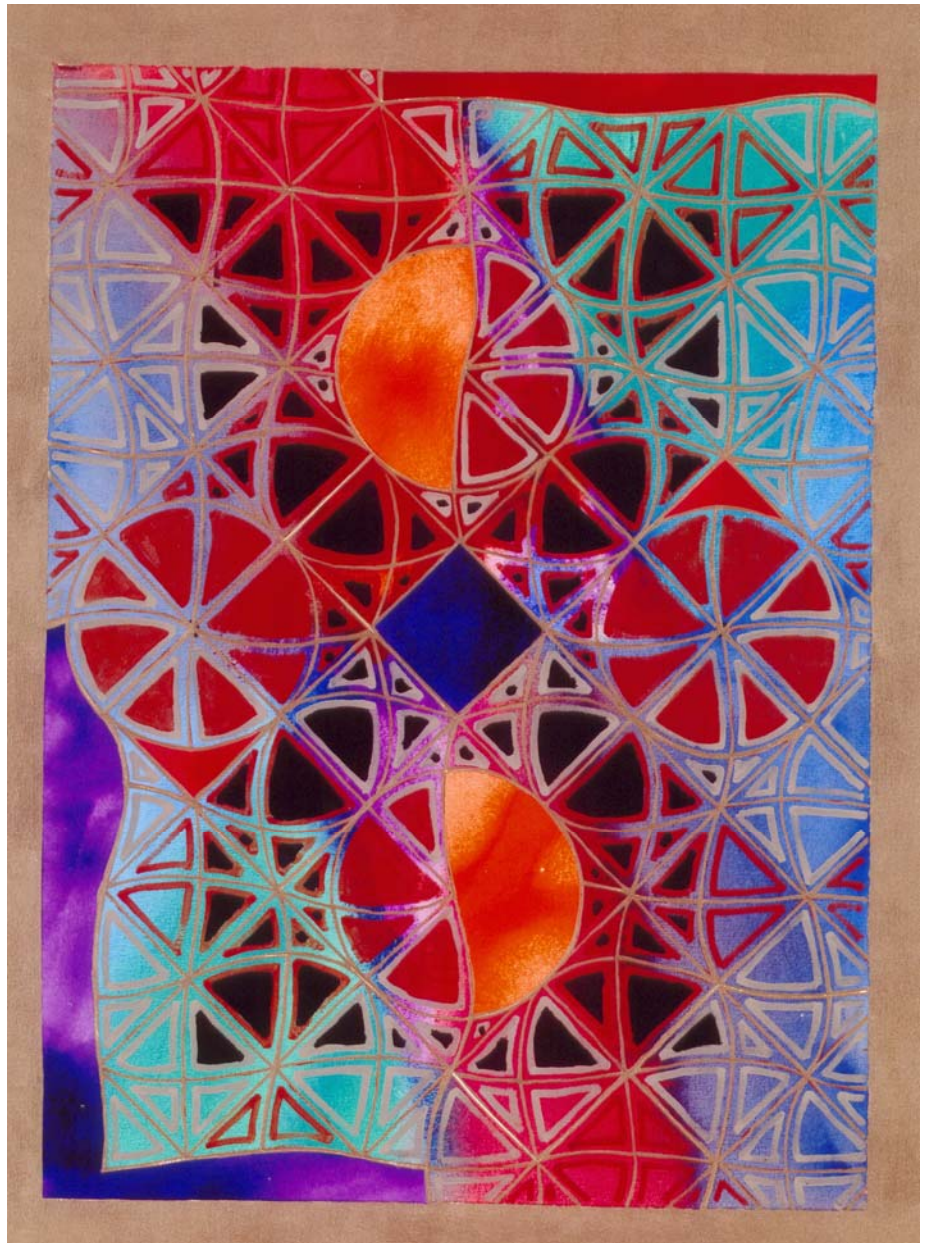
Michael Tichansky Exhibit

Michael Tichansky is often asked, “why do I paint?” Although clichés could come easily, Michael defers to the questioner with a question of his own, “why do you look?” And, as if the challenge couldn’t be any more transparent, the conversation begins. After all, it is about the image on the canvas, whether or not it’s globs of acrylic or a collage, the final act of the artist is to provoke communication. While expressing oneself through both emotion and intelligence, an artist should be able to articulate the answer to the question, “why do I paint?” from the image on the canvas or board.

Michael’s work is considered a folk style in mosaics. His influence varies greatly from early modernism and antiquity to eastern and western cultural influences.

Michael says this about his work, “the paintings are layered with color first, then, a grid and shapes, to create color, line, fusion and dimensionality. The mosaics start with hard symbolic shapes in wood or marble. Broken tile and grout create the grid effect. The interaction of color, light and shape create order from chaos into a harmonious vision.”

Stop by the Main Gallery from April 2 through May 10 Monday through Friday 8a to 5p and during performances. Come and ask the artist “why do you paint?” on April 7th at an artist reception from 4:30 to 6:30pm. **It’s free!**



Note cards Available Now!

Sales of the popular note card "Downtown Mesquite 1870" by Inez Wallace have been brisk. Of the original printing of 1,000 cards there are only about 200 left. Cost of the "fold over" card is \$1 each and that includes the plain envelope.

Call 972-216-6444 or come by the office during business hours to purchase.



"Downtown Mesquite 1870" by Inez Wallace **The Arts in Mesquite? You Bet!**

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Mesquite, TX 75149
ph: 972.216.6444

Courtyard COLORS

MARCH

- 1-10 "Dial M for Murder" continues in the Black Box Theatre. Call 972-216-8126 for tickets.
- 2 Student Government Day is hosted by the city of Mesquite at the Arts Center. Call 972-216-6244 for information
- 3 Texas Area Artists host their annual Awards Show through April 1st in the Main Gallery.
- 5-6 George Washington Slept Here is presented in a staged reading by the Mesquite Community Theatre at 7:30p, FREE!
- 6 East Texas Baptist University Band Concert at 7:30p
- 12 A "Care & Collections Management Workshop" will be presented in the Rehearsal Hall from 8a-5p. Call 972-216-6468 to pre-register.
- 24 "Not Just for Kids-Animal Tales will be presented by the Mesquite Symphony Orchestra at 7p. Call 972-216-8127 for tickets.