GET INVOLVED WITH YOUR COMMUNITY WITH AN ART STUDIO MEMBERSHIP TODAY.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

WITH AN ART STUDIO MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP FORM ON PAGE 3.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZERS
MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

HOPE YOU ARE WELL and had a refreshing holiday.
We continue the repair work around The Studio. Brian Diamond has taken on the task of replacing the glass pans in the skylights and false windows. We are using plexiglass instead of glass mostly because it’s cheaper, but also because it’s easier to cut to fit as our frames are a variety of different sizes.

We were bombarded with the structure of our neighbor’s roof as it was hurled across the street and embedded in the skylight, roof and wall of our building.

Three weeks after we rood the roof of the clay studio, Ike jammed two new holes in it. Repair costs were $1,500 but we are dry once again.

The overhead door is still in limbo. We would like a permanent structure that adds 300 sq. ft to the gallery/theater space.

Along with Bruce, we’ve received a huge boost from Lamar University’s art student organization, Artist Common. Their goal is to rebuild the kilns that have sustained tremen-

dous damage from Rita, Humberto and Ike, and help The Studio regain its ceramic facility.

As of now we are using only electric kilns and a rudimentary raku kiln.

It is my hope that Lamar students will take advantage of the facility and expand their knowledge of art making. We can offer students the opportunity to enroll in field study or independent study for college credit on a real-world experience in their field.

It doesn’t have to be fine arts. Arts administration, curating, engineering, business, public relations, media services, library and archival work are available. I think you get my drift — talk to your advisor.

We’re also had a surge in volunteers who helped a daunting task become surmountable.

There is always room for more assistance. See you then and remember, Hope Springs Eternal!!

And an important issue: We've also had a surge in volunteers who helped a daunting task become surmountable.

There is always room for more assistance. See you then and remember, Hope Springs Eternal!!

A thank you to the volunteers who helped out with the Jan. 17th cleanup, especially the Key Club from West Brook High School.

I'm sure there's more but I can't think of it right now so it will have to wait until next month. See you then and remember, Hope Springs Eternal!!

Get involved with your community with an art studio membership today. Community organizers make a difference.
WHEN BEAU DUMESNIL DECIDED to organize a cleanup day to kick start post-Ike renovations at The Art Studio, Inc., he had high hopes that the community would rally around the 25-year-old arts institution. Not only were his hopes realized, but Mother Nature decided to pitch in as well.

Almost 50 volunteers showed up on a clear, pleasant day, Jan. 17, to help clean and mow, and to break down the bent and beaten barn facility. “It’s matched my expectations in some ways and also exceeded my expectations,” Dumesnil said. “It went a lot quicker than I expected.

“Today was the quintessential day. Once we get the building down, then we can get along with all the other stuff we need to do.”

Dumesnil was quick to praise the volunteer workers.

“Everyone is telling me thank you for doing this and that, and I say, don’t thank me, thank everyone for coming out,” he said. “We had the West Brook Key Club kids, people from the Take-A-Bow theater group, as well as lots of individuals. And I’m really pleased with the media support.”

Dumesnil, who is a long-time Studio tenant, said the facility serves a valuable service to the community.

“The Art Studio is an important place in the community for people to make art, to get feedback on their work, and to give people a chance to explore their creative side.”

Kathryn Vincent, West Brook High School Key Club president said that the group felt that helping The Studio clean up after Hurricane Ike was a worthy cause.

“It’s what we do,” she said. “They call us and they say, ‘We need so many people’ and that’s what we do — we help.”

Vincent said the group enjoys getting out and helping in the community.

“As long as we are all together we make it fun,” she said.

TASI director Greg Busceme said the financial equivalent of time donated to the cleanup was more than $2,500.

“It’s a great thing to have a lot people show up,” director Greg Busceme said. “It’s so good to see something happening, it’s been driving me crazy looking at (the damage) every day,” he said. “Now

See CLEANUP on page 15
Andy Coughlan hopes to give everyone a break from the norm on Feb. 6 when he displays his work in the show “Ruff Trade” at The Barking Dog in downtown Beaumont. Local rockers the Crazy Ivans will play a free gig during the opening.

Accessibility seems to be the theme of the show. In addition to the larger, more expensive pieces, Coughlan will also have affordable prints and even T-shirts.

“I’m going to have three different designs for the shirts and I’ll be taking orders during the show. Then with some of the newer pieces, I’ll be making smaller digital prints that will also be for sale. It makes it more accessible. People who can’t spend $800 on a painting can plunk down 40 bucks for 5 small prints,” Coughlan said.

“Some of these large pieces take so much time; you’re talking 24 or so hours over a period of time for something that has a lot of detail in it — so they’re expensive. A lot of times that puts them out of the price range of people who just like my work. I like people to see my work and I would like as many people as possible to own it.”

The T-shirts fit perfectly into the concept of blending art and commerce.

“The shirts I’m really proud of because it’s like a double-edged sword. It’s pretty cheap to make them and also you’re like a walking billboard. I mean, if Tommy Hilfiger wants you to plunk down 40 or 50 bucks to advertise his name, maybe you can pay 12...
Lamar students to exhibit creations made from post-Ike trash at TASI in February

“I don’t know what the artists are making out of their things, but we aren’t necessarily using traditional materials or media to make art for this show,” she said. “We are trying to give people something other than blueswomens and sunsets, which can certainly be moving if they are done well, but it’s more about recognizing the ‘good’ in art.”

“Not all art is self-narrative or representational. When you study the history of sculpture of art, it all starts to make a lot more sense. A lot of people look at artists like Picasso, who were more expressionistic and less reliant on photographic realism and the kind that they are not very good artists but that in taking their work completely out of context.”

“When you look at the history, you see they were playing more mentally with art to bring it to a whole different level. By then, you could already take a photograph to represent something so they had to find a way to up the ante.”

“Art history is a good breaking point for anyone to realize why people who could paint photo-realistically decided not to and be more ‘childlike’ in their work.”

Havard said art is a lot like music. People’s tastes may differ but the art itself is valid. “I’ve been an art student for five years and haven’t even scratched the surface of what’s all about,” she said. “It’s like the difference between a Willie Nelson song and a Wagner song — both of them can touch your heart. Some of the ideas come from experience and discipline and some of them come from the heart. It’s a lot like music in that way — there are all these different approaches and none of them are right or wrong if it’s good. I don’t know where the ‘good’ comes from — that it is not so much the most interesting thing about art. Regardless of what your natural tastes and tendencies lean towards, most everyone can recognize something good in a particular genre.”

Havard said she is excited to see younger artists showing their work at The Studio and participating in the art community. She said the earlier an artist gets involved the easier it is to learn the ins and outs of the business, make contacts and express themselves to creative ideas and ways of doing things.

Havard said Artist Common is dedicated to being a part of the art community and is looking forward to future projects with The Studio.

The Art Studio is located at 728-Franklin in downtown Beaumont.

For more information, call 409-838-3303.

Jamie Havard, left, in The Art Studio’s barn which was damaged during Hurricane Ike, shows off the piece of trash she will turn into art for “The Artist Common Recycled Show” on display at The Studio Feb. 7-28.
The Art Museum of Southeast Texas is leaping into 2009 with a powerful exhibition from one of America’s most accomplished 20th century artists. ‘Gordon Parks: Crossroads’ is on view through April 12.

“Crossroads” is a 45 photograph retrospective captaining the life’s work of Parks (1912-2006), a photographer, poet, novelist, composer, musician and filmmaker. He spent a lifetime shattering barriers in pursuit of truth, beauty, social justice and artistic expression. Crossroads includes Parks’ most iconic and inspirational works, such as the works of Dizzy Gillespie, Washington D.C. “Malcolm X,” Addressing Black Muslims Rally in Chicago,” and “Muhammad Ali.”

The wide range of subject matter in Crossroads enables the visitor to walk away with greater insight about our past and future and, in appreciation, the life and work of one of the truly ‘Renaissance men of the last century’ Karen Hamilton, AMSET’s curator of exhibitions and collections, said.

Parks was born in Fort Scott, Kansas, the youngest of 13 children of a tenant farmer. In 1938, in his mid 20s, Parks purchased his first camera at a pawn shop. Photography became more of a passion than a hobby, and he pursued it with enthusiasm.

Within months, despite his lack of formal training, his probing portraits of African-American women were exhibited in the windows of the Eastman Kodak Company in New York City. In 1940, he was given a $100-

At the age of 50, his work continued to be celebrated as a true Renaissance man with an ability to walk in parallel worlds and make people appreciate the artistic intersection. Tilley said.

AMSET is located at 500 Main Street in downtown Beaumont.

For more information, call 409-832-3432, or visit www.amset.org.

The Art Museum of Southeast Texas has accreditation, the highest national recognition a museum can achieve, “It strengthens the museum profession by recognizing excellence,” according to AAM’s website. Accreditation is a very rigorous but high honor. It takes commitment to excellence, accountability, high professional standards, and continuous improvement. Accredited museums attract more visitors and a larger, more diverse audience.

It took 10 years to resolve those problems with the Felix “Fox” Harris collection. The current accreditation application took almost 18 months. The commission cited conservation problems that saved the boy’s life and paid for a new home for his family. Parks continued to challenge stereotypes and break through barriers during his own, his own, his own, his own, his own career.

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The assassination of Martin Luther King Jr., the
Vietnam War: the year 1968 was one of the most turbu-
I laugh at first because it was such a silly misconception.
I understand my parents are divorcing.
In 1960, I was a Beatnik--I mean, I was a Beatnik.
The Power of the Press addresses the upheaval of the period: the assassinations, riots, and
The museum is located at 1724 Green Ave. In Orange.
For information, call 409.888.ARTS (2787), or visit
www.starkmuseum.org.
Brown will speak from 4-5 p.m.
I wrote a note and submitted it with all the regular decorum.
I only called it 'remember me' and another issue went to bedding.
It was a note I wrote one day to speak to my family for my Poppy.
I wrote a note and submitted it with all the regular decorum.
I wrote a note and submitted it with all the regular decorum.
I'm sorry to keep you holding, sir.
I kind of doubt I'd do it here.
and if I was...
I laughed at first because it was such a silly misconception.
I'm going to be honest here.
I feel that my dog loves me.
I dream of world peace.
I understand my parents are divorcing.
I say that God is real.
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THINK YOU CAN WRITE A PLAY?
WANT TO TRY?

Your 8 X 10 Goes Here
Ten-minute Playwriting Competition and Festival

Deadline is March 1, 2009. Send entries to:
Take A Bow Theatre
8x10 Playwriting Competition
720 Franklin Street
Beaumont, TX 77701

Please use standard American format and do not waste space on stage directions and directorial comments. Our directions are very good and so are our designers.

Ten pages are usually ten minutes, so please don't go over or under limit.

Cover sheet must include the name of the play, your name, your address, your email that you actually check, and the phone number you actually answer. The second page will list characters, with minimal information, where and when.

WANT TO TRY?

Ten-minute Playwriting

Mission Statement
Founded in 1983, The Art Studio, Inc. is devoted to: providing opportunities for interaction between the public and the Southeast Texas community of artists; furnishing affordable studio space to originating artists of every medium; promoting cultural growth and diversity of all art forms in Southeast Texas; and providing art educational opportunities to everyone, of every age, regardless of income level, race, national origin, sex or religion.

PURPOSE
The purpose of The Art Studio, Inc. is to: provide educational opportunities between the general public and the community of artists and to offer sustained support for the artist by operating a non-profit cooperative to provide studio space and exhibition space to working artists and craftspeople, and to provide an area for group work sessions for those artists and craftspeople to jointly offer their labor, ideas, and enthusiasm to each other.

GOALS
1. To present public exhibitions
2. To provide educational opportunities
3. To provide accessible equipment for artists
4. To provide peer feedback through association with other artists and craftspeople

OBJECTIVES
1. To present 10 art exhibitions per year
2. To maintain equipment for artists in a safe working environment
3. To provide better access to artists for the public
4. To regularly schedule adult and children's classes
5. To develop and maintain public activities with all sectors of the community
6. To develop and maintain equipment to aid artists in their work
7. To provide a display retail outlet for artists
8. To expand programming and activities with increased facility space

No Children's Theatre • No Musicals
Entry Fee is $10. You may enter as many pieces as you like.

Judges are professional playwrights and screenwriters. Prizes will be awarded to the top eight selections. Winning plays will be staged at the 8 X 10 Playwriting Festival at The Art Studio, Inc. in Beaumont, Texas on May 23.

Winning plays will be staged at the 8 X 10 Playwriting Festival at The Art Studio, Inc. in Beaumont, Texas on May 23.

We have a chance to put new things in this place and start looking at what we have for the future. It's a great thing. Busceme said it is gratifying to see young faces among the volunteers.

“We really got an amazing amount of work done,” Dumesnil said. “We are going to have another day on Feb. 14 to get the other half of the barn done.

And helping knock down a building is a great way to get rid of some relationship frustrations so you are nice and relaxed for the evening,” he said with grin.

Cleanup on Feb. 14 begins at 10 a.m. Lunch will be provided.

No reservations needed,” Dumesnil said. “You can just show up and we’ll put you to work.

And you may make some new friends in the process.”

$5 admission
Live original music by In Search Of Mercy, Circle The Sky, Deadly Obsession, We Took The Sky, and Kill The Theory.

All ages welcome • 21 and up BYOB and have your ID.
To book your band or for more information, visit www.myspace.com/artstudio
IINNSSIIDDEE

• TASI POST-IKE CLEANUP
• THOUGHTCRISE: HUNGRY FROM AREA POETS
• ART AND ROCK AT THE BARKING DOG
• PLAYWRITING CONTEST INFO

ISSUE

When you support The Art Studio with your membership, you receive ISSUE, Southeast Texas' and Southwest Louisiana's alternative press as well as class schedules, invitations to opening receptions and various Studio functions.

Volunteers
These people are the life blood of our organization. We COUNL'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU! To volunteer, drop by The Art Studio, Inc., or call 409-838-5393.

Bryan Castino
Katy Hearne
Heather Eager
Brene Bernard
Clint Darcason
Rhonda Rodman
Sue Wright
Cyndi Grimes
Rhonda McNally
Andy Coughlan
Renee Coughlan
Olivia Busceme
Jannell Rigaldo
Uriah Keneson
Les Warren
Tandy
Colleen Bonmin
Beth Gallapy
Lige
Joanna Clark
Chris Domkowski
Terri McKasker

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SEE PAGE 14 FOR DETAILS

ISSUE

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