

Monday Bulletin on Services to Youth

To Coordinate... To Enhance... To Serve... Through Communication...

Disability Culture

Culture is defined as the sense of a collective identity, a group of individuals who share related formative experiences and who are influenced by a common history. A culture finds expression in many ways, such as through the arts or through social organization. People with disabilities demonstrate these common experiences through their personal struggles, writings and histories.

From **Art Disability & Expression**

Please Forward or Print Monday Bulletin

E-mail your contributions, ideas and subscription requests for **"Monday Bulletin on Services to Youth"** to Cynthia Wright: wrightc1@michigan.gov or call 517/241-3957.

Views expressed in Monday Bulletin articles are not necessarily the views of the Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Growth nor Michigan Rehabilitation Services.

Disability Arts & Culture



An Online Exhibit by VSA Arts

From the exhibit forward:

Artists are creating enticing new work that reflects their experiences with disabilities. This exhibition explores the historical, emotional and sociological influences that have inspired their artistic expression. Collectively, their art reflects aspects of the universal human condition, such as the desire for dignity and equality, the celebration of individuality and the ability to find meaning in all of life's experiences. Visit this online exhibit at:

<http://www.vsarts.org/prebuilt/showcase/gallery/exhibits/disability/>

See the VSA Arts Michigan site for local activities:

<http://www.vsami.org/>

"Rolling" A Documentary Film

Physician and filmmaker Gretchen Berland gave video cameras to three Los Angeles residents who use wheelchairs and asked them to document their everyday lives. The result is *Rolling*, a frank and witty documentary that sheds light on the daily challenges of living with limited mobility.

Galen Buckwalter, a clinical psychologist who became paralyzed when he was 17, is one of the participants in the film. He mounted a camera to his wheelchair and chronicled his life - from doctor's visits to family camping trips. Buckwalter identifies himself as a "proud gimp," and voices his frustration that, not only is he defined as disabled, but he is also expected to "feel and act disabled."

Though the film began as Berland's attempt to document the experience of using a wheelchair, she says, "In the end, it's really about life. It's not about feeling sorry for someone with a disability." The documentary was featured on National Public Radio's "Talk of the Nation" and more information and short clips from the documentary can be found at their web site:

www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=17993638



Disability Rights and Independent Living Movement



The Disability Rights and Independent Living Movement Project was launched in 1996 to capture the history of a remarkable movement by people with disabilities to win legally defined civil rights and control over their own lives. Since then, more than 100 oral histories with leaders, participants, and observers of the movement in the 1960s and 1970s have preserved the living memory of the movement. A rich collection of personal papers and the records of key disability organizations join the oral histories in the Bancroft Library at the University of California, Berkeley, comprising an in-depth research resource for the study of a contemporary social movement which has changed the social, cultural, and legal landscape of the nation.

See the web site at <http://bancroft.berkeley.edu/collections/drilm/index.html>

Across the country, young people with disabilities are discovering disability pride and culture. They want equal rights and equal lives. What they need is information that will empower them to advocate for the lives they want. That's why Access Living created this web site. Most of the time, those of us with disabilities are the only ones in our families who have a disability. It's hard to explain what that's like to people without disabilities. However, at this web site you can find information by and about people who know what it's like living life with a disability. We've got REAL information for your REAL life with a disability: stuff about dating, activism, getting news, disability pride, participating in Chicago events. The Youth Center can be found at:

<http://www.alyouthinfo.org/>

DEAF! ARTS FESTIVAL

PRESENTS

Saturday, September 20, 2008
4th Deaf Arts Festival

For Information, about Featuring, Master & Mistress of Ceremonies, Fine Art Exhibits, Art Craft Booths, Student Art Gallery, direction a map, and etc. [Click here.](#)

DAF
Deaf Arts Festival
EST. 2001

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www.deafartsfestival.org

Emerging Artists Touring Exhibit

A program of VSA Arts Michigan

The Emerging Artist Touring Exhibit is a juried exhibit that features artists of all ages and every level of experience from all over the state. Each fall VSA Arts of Michigan sends out a Call for Art to art teachers, special educators and individual artists with disabilities. The deadline for submitting artwork is the second Friday of January. A committee of professional arts and former arts educators adjudicate the exhibit. Each year over 150 works of art are submitted, and approximately 50 are chosen, included works created by elementary aged children, secondary aged youth, and adults.

The Emerging Artists Exhibit tours to schools, libraries, arts and community centers, hospitals, nursing homes, malls, and other public venues, and is available for arts, education, and disability conferences throughout the year. Hosts can choose to exhibit all of the works or designate one or two age groups.

See the schedule of exhibits at: <http://www.vsami.org/ea.htm>

The Museum of disAbility

This web site is presented by People Inc., a non-profit human service agency serving people with special needs, seniors and their families in Western New York. The web site contains virtual exhibits documenting various aspects of the history of individuals with disabilities, as well as an extensive bibliography.

To visit the interactive web site go to:

<http://www.museumofdisability.com/>

Arts & Disability Web Tour

The National Arts & Disability Center has many rich resources including this tour of disability related arts on the web. The list of resources represents the most current sites featuring the work of artists with disabilities. The purpose is to highlight the talent within the disability community. The links are organized by artistic discipline-- visual arts, music, performing arts, media arts/film, literary and multidisciplinary. The nature and content of the online arts and disability community is constantly growing and changing.

Find the web tour at: <http://nadc.ucla.edu/webtour.cfm>

Save the Dates Events & Training

August

Association for Children's Mental Health (ACMH)
Parent Leadership Camp

August 7-8, 2008

Lansing

<http://www.acmh-mi.org/plc3-08.pdf>

October

Association for Children's Mental Health (ACMH)
Annual Conference- *The Family Express: Turn Your Passion Into Action*

Scholarships available

October 13-14, 2008

Holiday Inn West, Lansing

<http://www.acmh-mi.org>

Learning Disabilities Association of Michigan
Conference

October 26-28, 2008

East Lansing, MI

<http://www.ldaofmichigan.org/calendar.htm>

November

Michigan Association of Learning Disabilities
Educators- *Alphabet Soup: The Answers Lie within Research Based Interventions*

November 3-4, 2008

Comfort Inn

Mt. Pleasant, MI

Monica Harris: monica.harris@wmich.edu

T.L. Lowe: tlowe@cooperville.k12.mi.us

Michigan Rehabilitation Conference

The Knowledge Economy: Where Do We Fit?

November 5-7, 2008

Grand Traverse Resort

Acme, MI

<http://michiganrehabilitationconference.org/>

<http://www.maro.org/>