

### President's Message from Bruce Labadie



I received a note a few days ago from the Julia Olin, the head of the National Council for the Traditional Arts. She said that the tour of Crooked Road musicians, which they organized and California Presenters helped fund, was "among the most popular and successful tours, by any measure, that the

NCTA has ever mounted". This organization has been putting artists together for 20 years. That is a strong testament to the program that CP started two years ago and has made a commitment to fund each year as long as we are able. This is just one of the four initiatives that your board has agreed to pursue. The others are: advocacy to and for the field; encouragement and development of emerging leaders; and continuing to present and improve our information exchange conference. Two years ago we decided to bring in experts in the field from a wide variety of locations, and will continue this in 2008, at our conference at Humphrey's Halfmoon Resort in San Diego. Mark your calendars for May 28-30, and thank you for your support of the arts in California.

Bruce Labadie  
[brucelabadie@yahoo.com](mailto:brucelabadie@yahoo.com)

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### NEW WORK TOUR SUPPORT PROGRAM

### REQUEST FOR 2009-2010 ARTISTIC PROJECT PROPOSALS

**Proposals Due: Monday, January 28, 2008**

California Presenters seeks proposals for exceptional new performing arts projects for touring in the 2008/2009 season.

Representatives of top ranked projects will be invited to make "California Presenters New Work" presentations to share the artistic visions of their new performance pieces with California Presenters' membership on May 29, 2008 at the Artist Information Exchange (AIE) conference to be held in San Diego, California. Following the conference, California Presenters will select one, or possibly two, projects for block booked touring.

The selected project(s) will be eligible to receive substantial financial support through CP's Tour Support Program of grants to California presenters presenting the work(s) during the period July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010.

RFP may be downloaded at  
[www.calpresenters.org](http://www.calpresenters.org)

### SAVE THE DATE!!

### 2008 ARTIST INFORMATION EXCHANGE CONFERENCE

**Humphrey's Half Moon Inn &  
Suites, San Diego**

**May 28-30, 2008**

## Job Listing Sites

Association of Performing Arts Presenters  
<http://www.artspresenters.org/networking/jobbank.cfm>  
Western Arts Alliance  
<http://www.westarts.org/jobs.html>  
California Arts Council  
<http://www.cac.ca.gov/157/>  
Arts Northwest  
<http://www.artsnw.org/NewJobOpps2004x.htm>  
Western States Arts Federation  
<https://artjob.com>  
International Society for the Performing Arts Foundation  
<http://www.ispa.org/jobs/index.html>  
Southern Arts Federation  
<http://www.artsopportunities.org/>

Send your job listings to  
[admincoordinator@calpresenters.org](mailto:admincoordinator@calpresenters.org) and we'll post them  
in our email bulletins.

### California Presenters

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[www.calpresenters.org](http://www.calpresenters.org)

#### Board of Directors

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Craig Springer

Ruth Rosenberg  
Administrative Coordinator  
[admincoordinator@calpresenters.org](mailto:admincoordinator@calpresenters.org)

#### Newsletter

Ruth Rosenberg, editor

#### Contributors

Bruce Labadie  
Cal Poly Arts  
Ruth Rosenberg

## Employment Opportunities

### Production and Events Coordinator Job Description

The Levitt Pavilion-Pasadena, a non-profit performing arts organization, seeks production and events coordinator and assistant to the Executive Director.

This position is full time during June, July, August and September and part-time or full time, depending on capabilities, the rest of the year.

Duties include: booking performers, contracting performers, arranging hospitality and accommodations for performers, overseeing sound and lighting engineers, collecting pre-production artist information and stage plots, overseeing production interns, overseeing concert volunteers and donation collection, managing sponsor set up at concerts, concert stage manager, overseeing security, managing artist and crew payment, managing equipment inventory, arranging all backline orders, liaison to all performers, and overseeing production of Levitt Loves Kids program.

Must have previous experience in concert production. Experience in sound and/or lighting a plus.

References required. Compensation negotiable.

Please respond to CJ Whitcomb, Executive Director  
[CJ@LevittPavilionPasadena.org](mailto:CJ@LevittPavilionPasadena.org)

87 N. Raymond Ave., Suite #250  
Pasadena, Ca 91103  
[www.LevittPavilionPasadena.org](http://www.LevittPavilionPasadena.org)

### California Presenters' Statement of Professional Ethics

- Professional ethics should be adhered to by member organizations and their representatives.
- Inherent in the relationship between presenters, artists, and artist management, which form the core professional activities in the presenting field, should be a commitment to honesty and integrity in the performance of one's professional duties.
- Members will conduct their professional activities in good faith.
- Members will not breach professional confidences.
- Members will not abuse their professional affiliation by seeking inappropriate benefits that result in personal gain.
- Members will not engage in or participate in activities where one has a real or perceived conflict of interest.
- Members will conduct their business within the letter and spirit of all applicable laws, and governmental and institutional regulations.



## California Presenters Meeting At APAP

California Presenters will hold its Special Interest Session on Monday, January 14, 2008 during this year's Arts Presenters Conference in NYC.

This roundtable discussion is open to all California presenters, regardless of membership status. Listen to and share ideas gleaned from the first three days of the conference. The meeting will take place from 8:30-9:30am in Conference C of the Sheraton Hotel.

It's early, but worth it! For more info, contact Ruth at [admincoordinator@calpresenters.org](mailto:admincoordinator@calpresenters.org).

## Nominations Sought for James Irvine Foundation Leadership Awards

The James Irvine Foundation (<http://irvine.org/>) is accepting nominations for the 2008 James Irvine Foundation Leadership Awards. Nominations are due January 18, 2008.

The awards recognize individual leaders and leadership groups that are advancing innovative and effective solutions to some of the challenging issues facing California, as well as making a demonstrable difference to California's future. Nominees may be working within any sector — nonprofit, public, or private — and within any field (e.g., education, health, housing, economic development, or the environment).

The foundation anticipates making four to six awards in 2008, the program's third year. Award recipients will each receive \$125,000 of flexible support for their work to benefit the people of California. At least \$100,000 will be designated for core support of the leader's project or organization and up to \$25,000 for the leader's own professional development, as determined by the recipient. The award also includes strategic communications activities, undertaken together by the award recipients and the foundation, to educate policy makers and practitioners about the effective solutions implemented by these leaders.

A nominee may be either an individual or a leadership group working in any sector or field. The nominee must be a resident of California. Nominations are welcome from people who are well-acquainted with the leader or leadership group and can attest to their qualifications. Self-nominations and nominations by family members are not eligible.

Visit the Irvine Foundation Web site for complete program information:  
<http://irvine.org/leadershipAwards/>

## NEW MEMBERS

California Presenters added these new members in 2007:

Len Alexander, *Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center*

Scott Belding, *Moving Arts*

Catherine Evans, *Donovan Entertainment, Inc.*

Tracy Henry, *Chickadee Productions*

Tram Le, *John Anson Ford Theatres*

John Loyd, *Loyd Artists*

Beth MacMillian, *Artown Reno*

Sharon Parker, *Thomas Pandolfi-Concert Pianist*

Bud Pico, *Dept. of Cultural Arts & Tourism, City of Henderson*

Maryl Ryan, *Mondavi Center, UC Davis*

John Michael Schert, *Trey McIntyre Project*

Susan Sluka, *Victoria Gardens Cultural Center, City of Rancho Cucamonga*

Arian Winn, *Trey McIntyre Project*

Andrew Wood, *San Francisco International Arts Festival*

Sharon Yazowski, *The Friends of the Levitt Pavilion-MacArthur Park*

## It's time to renew!

Your 2007 California Presenters membership is about to expire.

Watch your mail for a 2008 renewal form. Your prompt renewal will keep CP going and growing!

## New Work Tour Support Program Update

The California Presenters Board of Directors began a new initiative two years ago aimed at creating and presenting new work. Designed as an annual initiative, the first year was partially funded by WESTAF, and also involved a substantial commitment from California Presenters, a commitment that will continue into future years. Our first tours met with resounding success and included:



### ***“Music From the Crooked Road: Mountain Music of Virginia”***

The National Council for the Traditional Arts’ *Music From the Crooked Road* tour celebrates the vibrant, living musical culture of

Southwest Virginia. Winding for over 200 miles across the mountains, ridges and valleys of the region, the Crooked Road (Route 58) passes through some of the most musical places on earth. The outstanding artists appearing on this tour link the past, present and future of these deeply rooted American traditions.

The California Presenters supported tour traveled to:

*UC San Diego*

*UC Santa Barbara*

*Cal Poly*

*UC Santa Cruz*

*The Marin Center, San Rafael*

*Gallo Center for the Arts, Modesto*

*Lincoln Theatre, Yountville*

*Elko, Nevada*

*College of Southern Idaho, Twin Falls*

*Rexburg, Idaho*

*Pend d’Oreille Arts Council, Sand Point, Idaho*

*Medford, Oregon*

*Humboldt State University, Arcada*



The feedback from the tour organizer and presenters was excellent:

“The recent Crooked Road tour, which was supported as as California Presenters Initiative, was a stunning success. I would say that it ranks among the most popular and successful tours, by any measure, that the NCTA has ever mounted.” – Julia Olin, NCTA

“The artists were absolutely flawless and authentic; the marketing materials provided were beautiful and thorough; communication and dealings with the group at every stage of the process was meticulous; the performance was solid...” — College of Southern Idaho

*Crooked Road photos courtesy of Cal Poly Arts, San Luis Obispo*

“Without CP touring support, we could not have undertaken this project which was so beneficial and noteworthy for our community” – UC Santa Barbara



“The pre concert lecture was excellent. Folklorist Jon Lohman was a great moderator and including some of the artists made it extra special. The concert was excellent and the audience loved the artists. It was like a love fest in the lobby during intermission.” – Cal Poly

“For almost 30 years now, Sandpoint and surrounding communities have looked to POAC to ensure an enriched, homegrown lifestyle and provide unique cultural and inspirational experiences that are second to none. *Music from the Crooked Road* tour will go down in POAC’s history as one of our most shining moments, and we are so thankful for the opportunity to present them to our community.” – Pend Oreille Arts Council

### ***Perla Batalla’s “Discoteca Batalla”***

Perla Batalla recently completed the first block of her CP-funded tour with performances in Lake Tahoe, Tracy, Chico, Los Angeles, Pasadena and Tucson, AZ. Another block will continue in Spring '08 with performances in Modesto and Cal Tech.

Perla Batalla’s “Discoteca Batalla” is an unforgettable journey through the rich landscape of Latin American *cancion*. An opportunity for audiences of all types; those who already know and love these songs get the chance to hear “one of the best singers of our age” interpret them anew; while many hearing them for the first time will leave with both a newfound appreciation of the art form, and just maybe a greater understanding of some of their fellow Americans as well.



Presenters report admiration for Perla’s musical talent and for the CP support:

“Perla is a rare blend of Latin and American influences, fusing together her own history into a unique musical tapestry... Given the limited music budget at LACMA, it was vital to have the matching grant from Cal Presenters so that we could afford to present Perla in our free concert series”- L.A. County Museum of Art

“Excellent outreach to the Spanish language community and very good attendance by college age students seeking a multicultural experience. We forged a strong tie with the local Spanish TV and Radio stations that will be of great help in the future.” – Chico Performances

# Transitions



## **Peter Lesnik to Lead Carmel's Sunset Center**

The Board of Directors of Sunset Center in Carmel has announced that effective January 1, 2008, **Peter Lesnik** will be the new Executive Director.

Lesnik has most recently been the Executive Director of the Carpenter Performing Arts Center at California State University Long Beach. He has more than 25 years experience in theatre and performing arts as director, producer, presenter, manager, teacher and literary advisor at the professional, university, public and private non-profit levels.

Jim Price, Chairman, stated that "Peter Lesnik's selection as Executive Director for the Sunset Center was the unanimous choice of the Board of Trustees. He has outstanding credentials for the position and brings Carmel years of experience in theater operations, facility management, financial development and fund raising. We anticipate that Peter very quickly will become part of the community when he assumes the Sunset leadership role in January."

Lesnik is ambitious about this new position. He hopes to commission new works, perhaps have an artist-in-residence program and definitely get children in the community involved in the performing arts.

## **Adam Philipson Named Managing Director of Santa Clarita Performing Arts Center**

Adam Philipson will become the Managing Director at the Santa Clarita Performing Arts Center. SC PAC is a newly constructed 900-seat theater on the College of the Canyons campus in Valencia 35 miles outside of Los Angeles.

Adam leaves the Stage at Santa Monica (formerly the Madison Project) after 9 years and will officially begin with SC PAC on January 2, 2008.

## **Rebecca Carson Named New Managing Director of Pepperdine Center for the Arts**

Rebecca Carson of St. Louis, MO, has been selected to be the new Managing Director of Pepperdine University's Center for the Arts in

Malibu, CA. She was chosen from a field of nearly 100 applicants from across the country, and assumed her duties at Pepperdine on October 15, 2007.

Carson replaces Marnie D. Mitze, who held the position from 1992 until August 2007, when she was named Associate Vice President and Chief of Staff at Pepperdine.

Carson was most recently Director of Performing Arts at COCA (Center of Creative Arts) in St. Louis. From 1999 to 2007, she supervised artistic and logistical aspects of hundreds of performances at COCA, a multidisciplinary community arts center.

She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Theatre from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire in 1996, and a Master of Fine Arts degree in Theatre Management from the University of Maryland in 1999.

Before moving to St. Louis, Carson served as Acting Theatre Manager for the University of Maryland and had worked with other recognized theatre organizations, including Arena Stage, Young Audiences of Maryland, and Waukesha Civic Theatre.

In 2002 she was selected as one of the top-20 young leaders in the country by the Association of Performing Arts Presenters.

At Pepperdine, Carson will be responsible for the programming and operations of the Center for the Arts, including managing a staff of 10 and presenting over 300 public performances each year with an annual operating budget of just over \$2 million.

The Center's facilities include the 500-seat Smothers Theatre, 118-seat Raitt Recital Hall, 99-seat Helen E. Lindhurst Theatre, and 3,000-square-foot Frederick R. Weisman Museum of Art.

Carson will also work actively in fundraising for the Center's operations, including overseeing the single largest volunteer group at Pepperdine, the Center for the Arts Guild. Annually the Guild contributes almost \$200,000 to the Center and brings nearly 10,000 schoolchildren to Pepperdine as part of its ARTSReach program, which provides, free of charge, around 20 performance experiences and several museum tours each season.

"I am thrilled for the opportunity to manage this thriving, dynamic arts center at such a prestigious university. I look forward to collaborating with all members of the Pepperdine community," Carson said.

# Transitions

## UC Santa Cruz names new director of Arts & Lectures

Jeanette Pilak became the new director of the Arts & Lectures program at the University of California, Santa Cruz on October 1, 2007.



A native of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Pilak has an extensive background in arts management that spans both coasts. She became the first festival manager at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC, where she was responsible for coordinating regional, national, and international performing arts festivals. During her tenure, she produced the annual Kennedy Center Open House Arts Festival, a one-day festival of more than 300 artists on seven stages, attracting 100,000 attendees. She also served as director of programs for the 30,000-member Friends of the Kennedy Center and the National Symphony Orchestra.

In 1993, Pilak moved to the West Coast to become director of programming and marketing at the Hult Center for the Performing Arts in Eugene, Oregon, where she managed a 30-event annual performance series, as well as Cuthbert Amphitheater, a summer outdoor venue.

Pilak moved to Portland in 2000 to become the director of the Oregon Creative Services Alliance, a trade association with an economic development mission to create a regional brand awareness of the more than 6,000 creative firms in Oregon. For the past several years, she has worked as an independent management consultant, serving nonprofit and economic-development clients across the Pacific Northwest.

"I'm looking forward to working with the entire UCSC campus community," said Pilak. "In my first incarnation as a performing arts presenter, I was driven by a love for the arts and a deep respect for the artists. Now, after several years of working in the area of cultural economic development, I have a much broader appreciation for the foundational role the arts plays in our communities," she added.

**Laura Connelly** has been named the Director of Presentations for the Los Angeles Philharmonic Association specializing in jazz and world music presentations at the Hollywood Bowl and Walt

Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles. She joined the Association in 1998 as a Production Assistant.

During her time at the LA Philharmonic, she has produced and developed KCRW's World Festival concert series at the Hollywood Bowl. With her innovative programming ideas, broad knowledge of world music and pop music and her vision to meld these two genres, this series has now become one of the most successful series at the venue annually – last year, all six concerts in the series sold out. In 2000 she took over producing the annual Jazz at the Bowl series and helped develop the position of Creative Chair for Jazz with the LA Phil. She works closely with the Chair (the first was vocalist Dianne Reeves and is currently Christian McBride), to put together jazz, blues and R&B concerts that celebrate the past, present and future of the genre. As well as programs at the Hollywood Bowl, Laura produces a jazz and world music series at the new Walt Disney Concert Hall in downtown Los Angeles and has helped build the venue's commitment to artistic excellence and inclusion of the many different communities of Los Angeles in her programming. She has booked world renowned names such as Sting, Keith Jarrett, and Wynton Marsalis as well as exposing cutting edge and spectacular but unknown artists to the L.A. cognoscenti.

Laura is a graduate of Surrey University, England, in English Literature and Contemporary Dance. Before her tenure at the LA Phil, she was the booker at the now defunct but legendary West Hollywood night club LunaPark, known for its sophisticated and progressive entertainment ranging from rock, pop, cabaret and world music to comedy and beyond. Before moving to the United States from the U.K., she was a staff writer for Time Out and prior to that helped to produce an in-house magazine for the independent record distribution company Rough Trade. Her first job after graduating was organizing music workshops for teenage school children and people with mental and physical disabilities.

She is currently a board member of California Presenters and is a member of Western Arts Alliance, International Association of Jazz Educators and the Association of Performing Arts Presenters.

*Have something you'd like included in the next CP newsletter? Send it to [admincoordinator@calpresenters.org](mailto:admincoordinator@calpresenters.org)*

# California Arts Council News

California



Arts Council

## Artists in Schools—Application Process Open from the California Arts Council

The California Arts Council announces that the application is now available for the 2008-09 Artists in Schools program. Artists in Schools is designed to support artists in residency activities that take place in schools, both in the classroom and in after-school settings. Final application and supplementary materials are due on January 30, 2008.

“Artists in Schools has been extremely successful in bringing professional artists into the classroom and supporting day-to-day visual and performing arts education in our schools,” said Muriel Johnson, Director of the California Arts Council. “The program emphasized the importance of teachers and artists working together to provide quality music, theater, dance and visual arts education to California students.”

This is the third round of funding available for the Artists in Schools program, and the intent is to integrate community arts resources—artists and professional art organizations—into a comprehensive, standards-based program that underscores the critical role that the arts play in shaping a student’s overall well being and academic achievement. “The California Arts Council’s wants to see music, dance, theater and visual arts in every classroom, for every child, in California,” said Johnson.

California arts organizations of all disciplines may apply. All residencies require matching funds from the arts organization, or jointly by the arts organization and the school. The hard-copy materials and the online component of the application must be received by the California Arts Council no later than January 30, 2008, for funding during the 2008-09 school year.

The California Arts Council is committed to arts in education and sequential arts instruction in California schools. The Council’s strategic plan outlines a program direction that ensures at least 50 percent of agency program funds are allocated in support of arts in education priorities. The Artists in School program augments efforts by the Department of Education to provide sequential visual and performing arts education in music, dance, theater and

visual arts. Artists in Schools is specifically designed to bring professional artists into the school setting to work with students and provide new techniques to arts education as well as to other core subject matter.

Interest applicants should review the application first, and then direct additional questions to Arts Specialist Wayne Cook at 916-322-6344 or [wcook@caartscouncil.com](mailto:wcook@caartscouncil.com). The Artists in Schools program is supported by proceeds from the sale of the Arts License Plate, a specialty plate designed by noted California artist Wayne Thiebaud to support arts education and local arts programming. Full application can be found at [www.cac.ca.gov](http://www.cac.ca.gov) — click the “AIS” icon.

## “Creating Public Value” Grant Application Open

The California Arts Council has opened the application process for its “Creating Public Value” grant program. Through this program, the California Arts Council seeks to partner with California arts organizations in rural or underserved areas to implement projects that make a positive contribution to communities utilizing tools identified as “The Three R’s”: Relationships (building partnerships), Relevance (to audiences and community), and Return on Investment (making the case to the authorizing environment).

“The Creating Public Value program supports arts organizations making positive contributions to individuals and impacting the collective lives of all Californians,” said California Arts Council Director Muriel Johnson.

Up to \$10,000 in grant funding is available. The Creating Public Value program is in line with the California Arts Council’s 2006 Strategic Plan that identified core elements to achieve its goal of becoming a public-value-driven agency: Advocating for the Arts, Public Awareness, and Programs.

Deadline for applications is January 23, 2008, and applications can be found at [www.cac.ca.gov](http://www.cac.ca.gov). Interested applicants may contact Arts Specialist Lucero Arellano at 916-322-6338 or [larellano@caartscouncil.com](mailto:larellano@caartscouncil.com).