

ICAS

INSTITUTE for Community Arts Studies

PARTICIPATING FACULTY FROM THE UO ARTS & ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM:

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The Institute for Community Arts Studies (ICAS) was established in 1965 by June McFee with a founding gift from the Lila A. Wallace Foundation as a research and public service organization in the School of Architecture & Allied Arts. Institute projects have involved studies of the relations between communities and the arts. The focus of the Institute has been how issues of environment and setting/place relate to a broad spectrum of the arts. Institute projects include:

1966-1968: The Community Arts Study Program examined specific Oregon cities with the goal of resolving problems of urban renewal.

1966-67: Community Arts Center Conference Sponsorship brought together over 30 art organizations from throughout the state of Oregon to discuss effective community service through the arts.

1984-1986: Study of Arts Education in the Community examined what is taught and presented in the arts, by whom, and in what contexts. Several community arts programs in one city were examined with foci on policies and related practices.

1995: ICAS in Collaboration with the Arts & Administration Program

This collaboration led to the establishment of ICAS ON-LINE. Other current projects include the establishment of a clearing house for research in arts and administration and a cross-cultural comparative study of community arts programs in Eugene, Oregon and Koga, Japan.

1996: ICAS ON-LINE: ICAS On-Line is an electronic forum for the discussion and dissemination of current community arts and cultural policy issues. The three main components of ICAS OnLine are the Forum, the Archive, and CultureWork.

<http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~aad/icas/online.html>

FORUM: The Forum contains current information about the field of community arts.

<http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~aad/icas/forum.html>

ARCHIVE: The ICAS Archive houses the abstracts of research done by the graduates of the Arts and Administration graduate program, texts of visiting lecturers, and back issues of CultureWork. <http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~aad/icas/archive.html>

CULTUREWORK: A periodic broadside, this promotes the sharing of timely, work-oriented information for professionals in the fields of arts, culture, and the humanities.

<http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~aad/culturework/culturework.html>

PUBLIC POLICY & ARTS ADMINISTRATION (PPAA): An affiliate of the National Art Education Association (NAEA). <http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~aad/icas/PPAA.html>



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The Institute for Community Arts Studies was established at the University of Oregon in 1965 by a founding gift from Lila A. Wallace, as a research and public service organization in the School of Architecture & Allied Arts. The Institute established renewed focus in 1995, in collaboration with the newly formed arts management graduate degree in the Arts & Administration Program. The original goal of the Institute continues to be the promotion and implementation of research, professional education and community programs concerned with public understanding of the arts in a broad context. Current emphases for the Institute include studies in community arts and cultural policy.

All of the endeavors through the Institute, from its inception in 1966 involved study of the relations between communities and the arts, with the goal of nurturing and developing an engagement between the two. Historically important to the Institute has been a broad definition of the arts which includes environmental design.

Among the projects undertaken by the Institute in its early phases of operation, three were particularly extensive. "The Community Arts Study Program", which ran through the years 1966 to 1968, was the largest and most complex. This was a series of related projects, including an initial conference titled "Oregon Communities: Visual Quality and Economic Growth", and the "Three Communities Study", which looked closely at specific Oregon cities and the problem of community renewal. A third major enterprise was the sponsorship of two Community Art Center conferences in 1967 and 1968. These conferences brought together, for the first time, over 30 art organizations throughout the state of Oregon. A central focus was to help the organizations provide more effective community service.

In the 1980s a 3-part study was funded to examine several community arts programs in one city. The focus was on policies and related practices in the context of administrators, community arts educators, and students of several community arts centers. Current projects of the Institute include establishing a clearing house for research in arts administration, with an emphasis on case studies, and a cross-cultural comparative study of community arts programs involving Eugene, Oregon and Koga, Japan.