

MINUTES
Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture (GJCAC)
Wednesday, June 26, 2019 Parks and Recreation Office, Lincoln Park

Commissioners Present: Ron Cloyd, John Cooper, Sarah Dishong, Donna Fullerton, Kristian Hartter, Matt Janson, Kelley Raymond, Honora Thompson

Commissioners Absent: Gary Ambrosier, Dean Harris,

Others Present: Lorie Gregor

Chair Sarah Dishong called the meeting to order at 4:00pm. Donna Fullerton moved to approve the minutes of the May 22 meeting. Kristian Hartter seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Creative Brainstorming: Discussion will be ongoing

- Photo Selection Committee for City Calendar - Lorie
- Brochure featuring grant recipient events
- Getting events on hotel channels
- Facebook post asking Creative Community what they want & need

Grant Absenteeism Policy: The following policy was adopted

Any member of the Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture who is able to attend the grant presentations and cannot attend the regular meeting may do the following:

- Receive a grant packet
- Submit values for the matrix by the Wednesday of the regular meeting by 9:00am
- Phone into the regular meeting and participate in the decision making process

Any member of the Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture who is unable to attend the grant presentations may do the following:

- Receive a grant packet
- Submit values for the matrix by the Wednesday of the regular meeting by 9:00am
- May not participate in the decision making process at the regular meeting

Art Exhibits: July 8

City Hall @ 8:00am Sarah, Ron, John, Lorie

Avalon @ 2:30pm Honora, Kelley, Lorie

OLD BUSINESS

Take Part in Art: Very positive review. Lorie will compile feedback and share with the committee.

Grant Adoptions: Grant adoptions were reviewed.

Art Aspen: Everyone is on their own for making arrangements.

REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Zikr: Kristian gave his evaluation of The Oracle. Evaluation is attached.

Jazztopia: Donna & John gave their evaluation of Jazztopia. Evaluation is attached.

Geek Parties: Donna & Kelley gave their evaluation of Much Ado About Nothing. Evaluation is attached.

D51: John Cooper is our representative for D51. He updated us on his meeting with the Art Heritage coordinator, Tracy Lefebre.

The next regular meeting of the GJCAC will be 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, July 24, at the Parks and Recreation Office. As there was no further business, Sarah declared the meeting adjourned at 5:30p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorie Gregor

Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture Event/Project/Program Evaluation

Organization: Western Colorado Jazz Orchestra
Name of Event: Jazztopia
Evaluation by: John Cooper, attended the KAFM Student Combos & Robinson Rehearsal
Donna Fullerton, attended the 730 pm performance on June 13th
Date of Event: June 13th 7:30, June 14th 3:00, and June 14th 7:30
Number of attendees: 55, 150, 200+
Number of Artists: 46 Students in Combos, Jazztopia, 6 in the adult combo and 18 Jazz Orchestra
Ticket Prices: Donations \$10 & \$5 for KAFM, Robinson - \$15 Adults, \$5 Students

The first concert: was held at the KAFM's Radio Room, 7:30 pm on Wednesday the 13th. This is a small venue but was perfect to simulate a small, intimate jazz club.

There were 46 students divided into five combos (according to age/level of accomplishment). This year's enrollment represents a 60% increase over last year's. Approximately 70% of the students were first timers to the camp. Each combo performed from one to 3 musical numbers with numerous solos featuring every individual at one time or another.

Credit was given to the Commission in the introductory remarks leading up to the performance and our logo was on the Jazztopia T-shirts that the students, instructors and adult "roadies" wore.

On Tuesday, Darin and John Riley were on KAFM for a 15-minute segment of the community affairs program. They both gave mention of the Commission's support for Jazztopia. This public affairs segment was a good opportunity for the listeners to learn more about the program. I suggested to Darin that he should plan to do it every year but earlier in the season to alert more students about the camp and more adults about the performances. Jazztopia was also publicized on the KAFM website and has been mentioned on KAFM's Community Arts Calendar for the past several days, five times a day.

I estimate that there were 55+ attendees in the audience. The suggest donation was \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. 50% of the gate went to Jazztopia and the remaining half went to KAFM.

The quality of music was surprising considering that the kids only had three days together. Darin had the help of ten assistants who were each assigned to one of the combos. John Riley instructed the most senior group and you could tell that he had been giving "his" students tips on jazz style and improvisation.



The second concert: was the afternoon Dress Rehearsal – 3:30 pm, Thursday, at Moss Performing Arts Center, CMU. There were approximately 150 people in attendance. The students ran through their numbers and the audience seemed quite appreciative of the music.



John had a chance to speak with Darin prior to the performance. He gave me more details on the camp curriculum. The students spend four days studying major points of jazz including history, composition, improvisation and instrument mastery. According to Darin, this camp, now in its sixth year, has built an excellent reputation in the state.

3rd concert: The Jazztopia Performance,

Jazztopia with John Riley and the Western Colorado Jazz Orchestra was well attended and a wonderful example of the level of Jazz musicianship in the valley. The smaller combo consisted of John Riley and some



of the workshop instructors. They played five songs spotlighting the different instruments to standing ovations.



The Western Colorado Jazz Orchestra played several jazz standards featuring various instruments such as the Baritone Saxophone, Tenor, Trumpet, piano and drums. Dr. Kamstra thanked the GJCAC nicely between performances. There was no program for this event.

Publicity:
Program:

Was the GJCOAC logo used in the following:
No, but mentioned several times at performances and is listed as a sponsor on their T-shirts.

Advertising on Facebook:
GJCAC link on organization's website:
Organization's website linked on our website:
Organization:

Yes and GJCOAC was listed as a sponsor
On CMU website, Sentinel Ad
Yes, WCJO
POCs: Dr. Darin Kamstra and Trish Weber were very communicative and helpful. The instructors are very passionate about helping kids to find their Jazz voice.

Weaknesses none noted other than not having a program which wasn't that important as they announced the songs.

Strengths: Overall, I think this is an excellent program. The increase in enrollment clearly demonstrates that the camp is gaining a very positive reputation. From talking to a couple of the students, it was obvious to me that they were enjoying themselves and were fueling their interest in jazz. Bringing a master-level performer such as John Riley was such an inspiration to the students and faculty. John plays with the Vanguard Jazz Orchestra which is a multiple Grammy Award-winning 16-piece jazz orchestra, comprised of a Who's Who of New York City's finest musicians. The nightclub opened in 1935 and became a Jazz club in 1957.

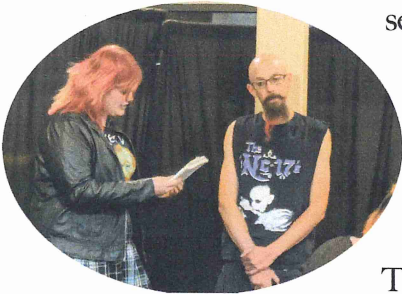
Grand Junction Commission on Arts and Culture Event/Project/Program Evaluation



Organization: Geek Parties of the Grand Valley
Name of Event: Much Ado About Nothing
Evaluation by: Kelley Raymond, Attended Saturday 2pm performance, Edgewater Brewery
Donna Fullerton, attended the Friday 7:30 performance, Edgewater Brewery
Date of Event: June 13th, KAFM, June 21st, 22nd Edgewater Brewery
Number of attendees: KAFM 21, Edgewater nighttime 58 daytime 65
Number of Artists: Actors, 15, Production Crew 5
Ticket Prices: \$15 for the KAFM performance, free at Edgewater Brewery

Description: The Summer Shakespeare Series of Much Ado About Nothing by the Geek Parties of the Grand Valley was a contemporary adaptation of the comedic play using traditional Old English, some modern costumes and phones for props. The full plays were held in a room in the back of Edgewater Brewery. It was a simple set at the back of the room with minimal set changes and some costume changes. One of the members narrated from the back during the performance to cue the audience to different settings or scene changes. He was hard to hear.

The Strengths: Upon arriving we were greeted promptly and kindly, given a playbill and a pencil with a line from the play. The room was pretty full so we shown to open seats. All participants seemed very engaged and into their character roles and happy to be there. Food and drinks were available from the establishment during the performance. The audience was receptive and seemed delighted with the play. The parts seemed well cast and the playbill was well done. It had a game for the audience to complete and a page for autographs. The biggest plus was that the cast was very enthusiastic. Edgewater Brewery was very receptive including having a drink special with drinks such as Much Ado, Plain Dealing Villain and more. They thanked and announced partial funding by the GJACC. The cast included young and old, with a 12-year old giving a fine performance.



The Weaknesses: Some performers stumbled over lines or referred to a phone in hand or script. Cell phones may have been a deliberate tool, but was not effective as the cast was constantly looking down at their phones which does take away from the overall performance as very little facial expressions are used when reading lines (no audience eye contact). We had a hard time hearing the dialogue. They stated they needed mics and hoped to purchase some in the future. There was some distracting noise from the Kitchen but the staff were trying to be quiet once the play started. Also, the dress was more like ones used for a rehearsal.

Suggestions to improve the event: Mics on some of the quieter characters, memorize lines or mostly do so. Give a little more information on the game. I've asked for information on KAFM's ads or aired segments on the radio to be included in their presentation. Send free KAFM tickets at least a week before the event. It would have been helpful to have had them earlier to give to another commissioner since it was the same night as Jazztopia.

Publicity:

Was the GJCOAC logo used in the following:

Program:

Yes, we are listed in program

Advertising on Facebook:

Yes but GJCOAC was not listed as a sponsor

GJCOAC link on organization's website:

No

Organization's website linked on our website:

No info on our website

Organization:

Summer Shakespeare Series by Geek Parties of the Grand Valley

GRAND JUNCTION COMMISSION ON ARTS AND CULTURE
EVENT/PROJECT/PROGRAM EVALUATION

Organization: Zikr Dance Ensemble

Name of event: Oracle

Your name: Kristian Hartter

Date(s) of event: June 14, 2019

Date you attended: June 14, 2019

Number of people in attendance: about 70

Number of participants (artists): 16

Describe the event: Modern dance performed by classically trained performers

What were the strengths of the event: It was very well executed and enjoyable bringing something unique to our Valley

What were the weaknesses of the event: It was not well attended

What suggestions do you have to improve this event: Moving the event date to within the CMU school year, improved marketing

Publicity: Was the GJCOAC logo used in: Check appropriate boxes (Please attach samples)

Posters: yes

Program/brochure: yes

GJCOAC listed as a donor/supporter: yes

Received professional pictures from organization: no

Public Service Announcement mentions GJCAC: unknown, I did not hear any

GJCAC link on organization's website: no

Is the organization's website linked to our website: no

Organization worked with you before/during /after event: yes

