



City of Dallas

DALLAS DELIVERS

CITY HALL HIGHLIGHTS

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National Arts Program winners honored at City Hall

More than 200 works of art were displayed in the lobby of City Hall as employees, retirees and family members showcased their talent during the 20th Annual National Arts Program. A total of 26 City departments participated.

"When all the art work was displayed, it was gratifying to see everyone in awe of the incredible talent of our employees, retirees and their families," said Park and Recreation employee **Mike Hunter**, who coordinated the exhibit.

Certificates and cash awards were handed out during a City Hall ceremony April 15. Best of show was awarded to **Frank Hamilton** for his black and white photograph called *Journey*. Hamilton, a graphics designer in Public Works and new City employee also won first place professional overall; and first and second place in the professional photography category. If you have a hidden talent, look for the call for entries for next year's National Arts Program in March 2009!

2008 National Arts Program cash winners

Intermediate and Professional -

- 1st Place - \$75 - Emily Brideau - Housing
- 2nd Place - \$50 - Michael Robin - Housing
- 3rd Place - \$25 - Jonathan Martin - Parks

- 1st Place - \$300 - Kimberly Affat - OEQ
- 2nd Place - \$200 Olusina Ogunleye - Parks
- 3rd Place - \$100 - Jocelyn Zepeda - Library

- 1st Place - \$300 - Frank Hamilton- Public Works
- 2nd Place - \$200 - Carrie Cook - Zoo
- 3rd Place -\$100 - Jason Wozniak- Public Works

Youth Under 12

- 1st Place - \$75 - Diego Quinones – Son of Ricardo Quinones and Ana Torres -EHS
- 2nd Place - \$50 - Brady Allen – Son of Chris and Claire Allen Police
- 3rd Place - \$25 - Quinn Torres- Son of Lea Ann Stundins and stepson of Karl Stundins - EDS

Youth 12-18

- 1st Place - \$75 - Emily Brideau - Daughter of Charles and Jane Brideau- Housing
- 2nd Place - \$50 - Michael Robin - Son of Rick and Jill Robin-- Housing
- 3rd Place - \$25 - Jonathan Martin - Son of Bill and Melissa Martin - Parks



Four-year-old Diego Quinones, son of **Ricardo Quinones** and **Ana Torres** in EHS, was the youngest winner. He took first place and a \$75 prize for his piece called *Tree*, in the *Works on Paper* category.

We salute the City departments who work behind the scenes, bringing live video coverage to employees and residents.

“Dallas’ top rankings prove that our community’s commitment to the creative sector is making a difference in the economic vibrancy of the City,” said Director of Cultural Affairs Maria Munoz-Blanco.

Department Spotlight

Employees work behind the scenes to provide coverage

It’s important for employees, residents and business owners to be informed about City services, City Council briefings, agenda meetings and committee hearings, since critical decisions about our City are being made each day. The dedicated and innovative efforts of the Office of Cultural Affairs (OCA) and the Department of Communication and Information Services (CIS) make that possible.

Under the leadership of Cable TV Manager **Bennie Wilcox**, OCA’s **Tommy Reyna** and **David Zepeda**, along with CIS’s **James Jones** and **Bennie Jones**, this live programming is brought into homes and offices. The coverage is made possible by state-of-the-art digital equipment, including 10 robotic cameras in Council Chambers and the briefing room.



The team also has taken Special Community Meetings on the road, to Dallas Executive Airport in February and Richland College May 7. Much attention and detail go into making sure the proceedings go smoothly; David, Tommy, James and Bennie are the ones who make sure the council microphones work and the Power Points run smoothly. They may make it look easy, but it requires experience and dedication to pull these telecasts off week in and week out.

Many thanks to the Office of Cultural Affairs and the Department of Communication and Information Services for what they do behind the scenes to keep the public informed.

Dallas ranks in top ten in number of arts-related businesses

The City of Dallas ranks among the top 10 cities nationally in the number of arts-related businesses and arts-related employees in *Creative Industries 2008: The 50 City Report*, a new study released April 1 by Americans for the Arts. The study presents detailed analysis of arts-related businesses, institutions, and organizations in the country’s 50 most-populated cities. Dallas ranks seventh in arts businesses, with 4,297 businesses identified through the research, and sixth in the number of employees in arts businesses, with 27,883 people employed in the creative industries sector.

“Dallas’ top rankings in this study prove that our community’s commitment to the creative sector is making a difference in the economic vibrancy of the city,” said Director of Cultural Affairs **Maria Munoz-Blanco**. “Over 27,000 people make their living employed in the creative sector, and that includes not just actors, artists and musicians, but also technicians, marketing professionals, accountants and others who support the business of the creative industries.”

Here's your Green Dallas update

Green is the new building standard in Dallas

Dallas has become one of the first major U.S. cities to pass a comprehensive building standard for both residential and commercial construction. This green construction ordinance, aimed at reducing energy and water consumption in all new houses and commercial buildings, in Dallas will be implemented in two phases beginning in 2009.

While a Green Building standard for city-owned buildings exists, requiring those over 10,000 square feet be built to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver standards, a standard did not exist for private development. A Green Building Task Force, comprised of members of the development sector, was created to develop recommendations for all new private development in Dallas.

Among the new requirements: homes and commercial projects less than 50,000 square feet must be 15 percent more energy efficient than the current base energy code. Water conservation strategies are included and commercial roofs must meet the EPA's Energy Star low-slope roof requirements and outdoor lighting restrictions. For more details on the new ordinance, visit www.GreenDallas.net.



Dallas grows greener with national garden initiative

As part of a national Keep America Beautiful (KAB) and the Scotts Miracle-Gro Company initiative, the City of Dallas has been chosen as one of five cities nationwide to receive a grant to create a beautiful, healthy green space. Volunteers from the community and Keep Dallas Beautiful gathered on April 12 to build the new Community Gardens of Lake Highlands, 7901 Goforth Road. The previously unused City land is now a landscaped 12,000 sq ft area complete with flower beds, vegetables, shrubbery and a healthy lawn. Any excess food grown will be donated to the North Texas Food Bank.

Area children decorated potted plants with nationally recognized Master Gardener Rebecca Kolls. As part of a national outreach initiative, volunteers also distributed door hangers with tips on sound water use practices. To find out more about how the City of Dallas is an environmental leader and what residents can do to 'build a greener Dallas,' visit www.GreenDallas.net.

Special community meeting will focus on green issues

The City of Dallas will hold a special community meeting at 6:30 p.m. May 7 in Fannin Performance Hall, on the Richland College campus. City staff will present briefings on the City's environmental efforts and the Green Dallas initiative, which is aimed at environmental responsibility and encourages public and private sector involvement. Air quality, energy efficiency, alternative fuel fleet, recycling, water conservation, green building standards, green space, trails, parks, the urban forest and the Comprehensive Land Use Plan will all be discussed.

Some of Dallas' accomplishments include being the number one municipal purchaser of renewable power in the nation, possessing the largest clean vehicle fleet any city in Texas, and becoming the only pilot city chosen for the EPA's Sustainable Skylines Initiative aimed at improving air quality. Along with their "green" power point briefings, various departments will set up educational display booths showcasing their own green practices.

Green Apple Festival comes to Fair Park

On April 20, Dallas was one of eight U.S. cities simultaneously playing host to "America's largest Earth Day celebration." Green Apple Festival and Earth Day Network presented by Chase and sponsored by the City of Dallas' Green Dallas Initiative, brought music, interactive exhibits and awareness to Fair Park to celebrate Earth Day 2008.



The event was part of a massive national undertaking; eight free festivals held simultaneously in landmark parks in Washington DC, New York, Chicago, Miami, Denver, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Dallas. Approximately 500,000 people nationwide attended the Green Apple Festivals.

“We’re very proud to be a part of this important multicultural event in the City of Dallas,” said Director of Libraries Laurie Evans.

“The Children’s Book Fair and Literary Festival is a wonderful way for children to experience the magic of books and reading,” said Dr. Harry Robinson, Jr., who started the book festival 13 years ago.

Children’s Book Fair to showcase national authors

A multicultural event in Dallas May 16-17 is bringing together children, families and an impressive roster of children’s authors and illustrators. The Dallas Children’s Book Fair and Literary Festival is a partnership between the Dallas Public Library, the African American Museum and the Dallas Independent School District, for children in grades pre-K through sixth. This year’s honorary chair is Mrs. Laura Leppert.



The Book Fair begins on Friday, May 16, with authors and illustrators visiting schools, libraries and recreation centers across the city from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Book Fair and Festival then begins at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, May 17 in the Plaza of the Central Library, 1515 Young St.

“We’re very proud to be a part of this important multicultural event in the City of Dallas,” said City of Dallas Director of Libraries **Laurie Evans**. “There’s nothing more rewarding to a librarian than helping to foster a love of reading and learning among our children, and that’s what the Children’s Book Fair and Literary Festival is all about.”

The Dallas Children’s Book Fair and Literary Festival was started 13 years ago by **Dr. Harry Robinson, Jr.**, president and CEO of the African American Museum in Fair Park. Proceeds from the fair and festival sponsorships benefit the Museum’s Multi Cultural Summer Camp for students ages 6 to 12. Special features of the all-day camp include daily instruction in reading and Spanish language skills. Students will also explore how America’s diversity in music, drama, visual art, folk art, literature and media has been influenced by historical events, people and places.

“The Children’s Book Fair and Literary Festival is a wonderful way for children to experience the magic of books and reading,” Robinson said. “With this event, we are reaching out to our children, inspiring them to read and write by giving them a unique opportunity to meet and talk with authors and illustrators of some wonderful books.”

For more information about the Children’s Book Fair and Literary Festival, contact **Ronnie Jessie** at (214) 671-8076 or **Emma Dawson** at (214) 565-9026, ext. 307.

City of Dallas receives Public Sector Unidos Award

The City of Dallas received the 2007 Public Sector UNIDOS Award during the Greater Dallas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce’s 2008 Partners Appreciation Breakfast March 14. Pictured from left, are Cici Rojas, President and CEO Greater Dallas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce; **Ade Williams**, Director, Business Development and Procurement Services; and Frank J. Rosello, Chairman of the Greater Dallas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.



Fourth Friday event brings smiles to departments



Throughout the day, Strategic Customer Services teams from the Mystery Shopper program went to the DWU Lobby, DMV, Civil Service hallway, Vital Statistics, Main Lobby and Parking Adjudication to distribute water, snacks, Mystery Shopper brochures - and smiles! If you'd like us to highlight your Fourth Friday event, send your photos to us at: richard.hill@dallascityhall.com.

City employee softball league hits a home run

After a three-year absence, they're back! The City Employee Softball League is composed of 10 co-ed teams, with over 250 registered players. Many City departments are supporting teams: three from the Dallas Police Department; two from Dallas Water Utilities; one each from Park and Recreation, Public Works and Transportation, and EBS; a split team of the Mayor/Council Office and Property Management; and one "independent" team of employees from various departments.

The season kicked off in late March and lasts for eight weeks. All games are played at the fields of Kiest Park in southwest Dallas, and at the end of the season, the top four teams will qualify for the playoffs. Because of the overwhelming interest from employees, another league may be planned in the future. Joker's Wild team coach **Shaun Davis** of the Property Management Division in Development Services enjoys playing at City of Dallas parks. "Having the opportunity to practice and play games at several City parks has left me impressed with how well they are maintained," he said.

"Playing softball has been a great way to meet new friends and get some exercise too," said Joker's Wild team member **Erin Schwie Langston** of the Communication and Information Services department. "And, I think that all league players would like to extend a big thank you to **Gabe Hernandez** in the Public Information Office for organizing the spring league.

Online e-Payment system for citations now in place

Paying traffic tickets is now a lot more convenient, thanks to the City of Dallas Court Services new e-Payment System. "We want to give customers every possible opportunity to pay their tickets," said Director of Court and Detention Services **Gloria Carter**. "We're pleased to be able to offer this online option, which we believe will make paying traffic citations simpler and more convenient."

To pay your tickets online, visit www.dallascityhall.com and click on "other tickets" in the left hand margin. After reading the "Terms and Conditions" page, click on "Make Payment" at the bottom of the page and enter the information on the citation. The system will provide a total due and accept payment by credit card or personal/business check.

This 24 hour convenience is in addition to the 24 hour, seven days a week window operation for handling Class C Misdemeanors at the Lew Sterrett Justice Center Lobby, 111 W. Commerce.

Grandparents Resource Center opens at Lancaster-Kiest

The Dallas Public Library, in partnership with the Dallas County KinCare Network, opened the fifth Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Resource Center at the Paul Laurence Dunbar Lancaster-Kiest Branch. Grandparents, Dallas County KinCare Network members, Lancaster-Kiest Branch Friends Members, staff and patrons celebrated the opening of a resource collection which will serve an area with the second highest concentration of Grandparents Raising Grandchildren in Dallas.



Each center includes books on parenting, computer resources, grandparent rights, kinship care issues and picture books on topics that relate to grandparents as caregivers. The Hampton-Illinois branch also started its Support Group and Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Program Coordinator

Belinda Glenn in the Office of Senior Affairs will represent the Network at the Grand Rally in Washington D.C. May 7.

Every Child Ready to Read @ Dallas hosts workshop

Every Child Ready to Read @ Dallas recently held a workshop at the Latino Cultural Center (LCC) in partnership with AVANCE, a nonprofit organization that supports Latino families with programs on parent education and early childhood development. From left, facilitators **Drema Chavez** from LCC and Children's Librarians **Paige Poe** and **Lindsey Snelling** conducted a Talkers Level (ages two to three) workshop for mothers in the AVANCE parent education program.



Homer Canales of AVANCE assisted the library and cultural center staff at the workshop and also with the children enjoying a story and craft time, coordinated by **Denise Lyons**, Children's Librarian **Renee Horn**, and a group of library volunteers.

Every Child Ready to Read @ Dallas workshops provide parents and caregivers the opportunity to learn the six basic pre-reading skills to help their children become ready to learn and ultimately be successful in school. Every Child Ready to Read is part of the Dallas Arts Learning Initiative (DALI), a partnership with the Dallas Public Library and other arts and literacy organizations

For more information go to <http://dallaslibrary.org/ecrr/ecrr.htm>.

Thousands attend TLA conference in Dallas

An estimated 8,000 librarians, library supporters and exhibitors attended the Texas Library Association's (TLA) annual conference in Dallas April 15-18. TLA last met in Dallas in 2002 with the highest attendance ever and will return to Dallas in 2014. The TLA exhibit hall contained more than 700 booths with 1,700 exhibiting representatives from 375 companies.

Park and Recreation Department wins ASLA award

The historic restoration of Flag Pole Hill at White Rock Lake has earned the Dallas Park and Recreation Department top honors from the Texas Chapter of the America Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA).

Each year the Texas Chapter of ASLA selects outstanding projects from a large pool of nominees and recognizes the best work with "Award of Excellence," "Honor" or "Merit" status. The Flag Pole Hill restoration won the 2008 Honor Award in the Public Design - Constructed Projects category. The project, to preserve the historic legacy of the popular picnicking area at White Rock Lake, involved updating and improving features and facilities at Flag Pole Hill in context to the original construction master plan prepared in the 1930's by the National Park Service.

The collaborative work of a preservation architect and a landscape architect included restoring the site's historic shelter and landscaping of the entire area. New pedestrian walks and accessible routes were added with care not to detract from the natural beauty of the rolling open space. For the City of Dallas, this project highlights a strategy in their overall Renaissance Plan for the park system. Park and Recreation has begun the process of getting White Rock Lake Park on the National Register of Historic Places. For more information, contact **Trent Williams** at (214) 670-4100.

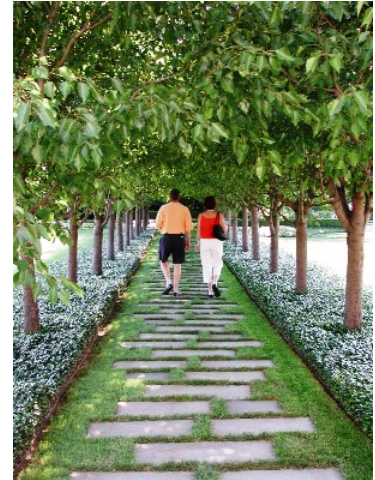
“There is a recognized therapeutic benefit that comes from connecting with nature,” said Arboretum Speakers Bureau Director Kathleen Cunningham.

Just 10 minutes from downtown Dallas, Bahama Beach Waterpark is a great place to cool off this summer.

The Dallas Arboretum wants to talk to you

Work-life balance and stress reduction are important to your general wellness, so why not use the Dallas Arboretum to feed your soul and refresh your spirit? The Dallas Arboretum's Speakers Bureau will provide a presentation to your neighborhood association, social group, or your company, to show how to reduce stress and enhance your work-life balance.

“Stop and smell the roses is not just a worn out cliché,” said Arboretum Speakers Bureau Director **Kathleen Cunningham**. “There is a recognized therapeutic benefit that comes from connecting with nature. We would be pleased to schedule our colorful photographic tour *The Diamond in Dallas - The Dallas Arboretum* to any association or group,” she said.



The beautiful gardens and lush lawns of the Arboretum, on the shores of White Rock Lake are photographically presented as the speaker describes the history of the gardens and the DeGolyer home, along with current events that make the Arboretum an ever-changing place to visit and enjoy.

“We bring our own digital projector and table for the program,” Cunningham said, “so all organizations just need to provide a screen large enough for their group. There is no charge for the program, although an honorarium is very much appreciated, as it makes our entertaining programs possible.”

To schedule an Arboretum talk, call Kathleen Cunningham at (214) 662-1982 or (214) 515-6501.

City's Bahama Beach Waterpark opens May 24

Located less than 10 minutes south of downtown Dallas, Bahama Beach is a convenient and affordable place to cool off this summer. Opening day festivities May 24 will include drawings for free tickets, season passes and other great giveaways. While you're there, purchase a season pass and make Bahama Beach your regular hangout all summer long. Reserve a cabana, kick back in your own private hut and enjoy the day! You can also book your child's [birthday party](#) at Bahama Beach.

The Dallas Park and Recreation Department is proud to be the new operator of Bahama Beach and we look forward to providing you and your family the best service, value and fun that can be had in the Dallas city limits. The department has hired more than 75 new staff to ensure a successful summer at Bahama Beach! For more information contact **Robin Steinshnider** at (214) 671-0820.

Park Department summer activities catalog now available

Dallas Park and Recreation Department offers summer fun for everyone! Adults seeking a fitness class, parents looking for youth day camps or teens wanting recreational activities can find a variety of leisure activities in the department's activities catalog. *Leisure Connection* is available at recreation centers and online at www.dallascityhall.com and www.dallasparcs.org. For more information call **Ken Brack** at (214) 670-4285.

It's all happening at a City Cultural Center near you

The City of Dallas cultural centers provide a wide range of community-based and culturally diverse artistic programs. Here are a few of the events coming up:

Bath House Cultural Center

Through May 24 – *Naturally* – The wonders of nature expressed by the paintings of Melodee Martin Ramirez and Bob Nunn address the very soul of environmental preservation and the urgency to conserve Dallas' own natural resources. Free.



Through May 24 – *Un-Ordinary Horizons* – Six artists reinvent the tradition of landscape art with innovative creative approaches. Free.

May 13, 7:30 p.m. *Echo Reads: Waiting to be Invited* – In 1961 Atlanta, four women stage a sit-in at a whites-only lunch counter. Donations accepted.

May 23 and 24– *White Rock Rhythms Music Festival* - An exciting music festival featuring musicians and bands from a wide array of genres, includ-

ing jazz, blues, folk and rock.

Ice House Cultural Center

May 6-June 6 *Lake of Fire* – Multi-media art installation by Dallas artist, Joshua S. Goode. Free. Opening reception 6 p.m. **May 10.**

Latino Cultural Center

May 10, 11a.m. to 4 p.m. – *Target Saturdays!* – A day of culture and tradition for the entire family, including children's theater in Spanish, Rondas infantiles, films in Spanish, and dance & craft workshops. Free.

Through June 28, Tuesday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. – *Los Méxicos de Mariana Yampolsky: Ritos y Regocijos* (Mariana Yampolsky's Mexicos: Rites and Rejoicings) – Stunning photographs by one of the most prominent and influential photographers of the Americas. Free.

Through July 19, Tuesday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. *Benito Huerta Solo Exhibit* – Regarded as one the most innovative Latino artists of his generation. Free.



South Dallas Cultural Center

May 10 – June 30 Tue, Wed, Fri, 1-7 p.m.; Thu 1-8 p.m.; Sat 10a.m. to 4 p.m. - *Bruthas With Something to Say*. Works by Houston artists Nathaniel Donnett & Michael Khalil and Dallas artists Jeremy Biggers and Chris Herod. Free.

May 10 – June 30, Tue, Wed, Fri, 1-7 p.m.; Thu 1-8 p.m.; Sat 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Exhibition by Dallas emerging artist Ron Davison. Free.

May 16, 17, 23 & 24 – *Black Men's Film Festival* – Films screened by Black Cinematheque Dallas for, by or about African Diaspora men. \$5.

May 25, 7 p.m. – *The Listening Room* – Dallas trombonist Calvin Sexton plays his original jazz compositions. Free.

For a list of cultural center locations and other information go to www.dallasculture.org and click on "cultural centers."

