25 Years
The Arts Council
of Spartanburg County, Inc.

1968 - 1993
The History
Executive Director's Message

The Arts Council’s 25th Silver Anniversary culminates with the Annual Meeting on January 11, 1994 and the distribution of this history publication. Indeed, the past year’s events and promotions were “fit for a Muse.”

The Muses first began to gather in July with the Artists’ Guild of Spartanburg exhibition “A Salute to the Arts Council 25th Anniversary.” Members of the Guild hosted a summer evening preview and exhibited an excellent variety of media. Nine new members were featured in the show.

Those lesser gods of Olympus smiled down on us as we surpassed our campaign goal of $230,000. This brings to mind two qualities contributing to your Arts Center’s unique character: the constant striving of community volunteers – in the past and present – to achieve the maximum funds to operate one of the largest arts centers in the state; and upholding the highest standards for this Arts Council which was the first in South Carolina (incorporation date September 24, 1968). The vision of those whose ideas and innovations span 25 years culminates this winter. I invite all of you – patrons, artists, arts organizations, educational institutions and communities – to continue to join us as we celebrate 25 significant years.

In Greek mythology the Muses were often referred to as those impractical deities who cared only for art and science. Well, thank goodness for impracticalities! The daughters of Zeus and Mnemosyne (Memory), the Muses were nine in number and represented poetry, theatre, dance, music, history and astronomy. Their gifts to men were songs that made them forget their troubles. And so, we elevated your mood this past fall, and when you heard the ringing notes of flutes, the sounds of the lyre, and you saw maidens dancing and feasting, you were not far from a silver anniversary event.

The festivities began with “The Emerald Ball” in September and continued with a decorative arts lecture on silver, art shows, a celebration of the arts at the Piedmont Interstate Fair, a “Silver Hunt Breakfast,” and Dezemberfest, a holiday festival of international trees and the popular LGB express train.

Promotions included banners, buttons, a special tabloid on the arts in The Paper, a colorful billboard to travel the county, the ribbon-cutting ceremony to kick-off the House of Flowers Center Court with the statue of Calliope, a glimmering holiday extravaganza for “Business After Hours” in December, and now a publication for the Annual Meeting.

Thousands of volunteers and staff are responsible for the successes of the past 25 years. I urge you to continue to support the arts during the challenges of reorganization of our local arts agency in 1994 looking towards the year 2001.

Cassandra E. Baker
Executive Director

Cassandra E. Baker

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THE ARTS COUNCIL OF SPARTANBURG COUNTY, INC.
AN HISTORIC ESSAY IN APPRECIATION

BY

ETHEL S. GOLDBERG & MAXWELL H. GOLDBERG
JOE J. WILSON, Historian/Archivist

I. PUTTING THE BALL IN MOTION

With the assistance of Joe Wilson, our project historian and archivist, we have gone through likely materials in the file room at the Arts Center. This process has sharpened our awareness of the persons, the events, the programs, the human-interest happenings, the fluctuating moods, the developmental ideas, and the artistic and cultural contributions that have combined to produce the Arts Council as we know it today, and as we project it into a changed and changing future.

We have been deeply impressed by the archival services that the Arts Center receptionists and other volunteers have rendered—especially Sara Hucks, who has been compiling the Council yearbooks for so long.

The collections of materials are wide ranging, indeed. Long before the members and the Advisory Council had become a major entity, Mrs. Hucks was including, in her yearbook coverage, material pertaining to the whole range of the cultural arts in Spartanburg. Hence the collection of "scrapbooks" is an extraordinary mine for the individual seeking to trace the history of the cultural arts in Spartanburg from the seventies on into the nineties.

The Arts Council of Spartanburg County is the oldest chartered Arts Council in the State, taking inspiration from the first arts council in the United States—that at Winston-Salem (NC). At its founding in 1968, the Arts Council of Spartanburg County was the only such organization to include all arts and arts-related organizations. In a word, from its inception our Arts Council has been holistic. Francis Bacon said: "I have taken all knowledge to be my province!" The founders of the Arts Council of Spartanburg took all the arts to be their ultimate province.

At its founding, the purpose of the Arts Council stated that it "shall be to assist member organizations to further their aims to educate, encourage, and stimulate the practice and appreciation of the arts among the people of the city and county of Spartanburg, State of South Carolina." In terms of a vivid metaphor from chemistry, a recent statement of the purpose of the Arts Council of Spartanburg is similarly holistic: "The Arts Council shall serve as a catalyst for the advancement, education and increased awareness of the arts in Spartanburg County."

The holistic intent of the Arts Council may be rendered explicit by reference to its developed structure and mode of functioning. The Council has built up a body of some 68 member organizations. Those members (affiliates) have been arts-related either as producers or as appreciators and supporters of the Arts. In some cases they have been all three. As a member of the Arts Council, each of these affiliates is represented in the Advisory Council, which, among other things, has a key role in the election of the members of the board of the Arts Council. It is through these means of networking and representation that the Arts Council, indeed, has made good its early holistic claims. This pro-

A typical room in the Southside Elementary School prior to the Arts Council renovations.
vides historic justification for forming the “Arts 2001” Steering Committee.

The establishment of the Arts Council was preceded by an arts-and-crafts program, and by the Art Club, which, under such leadership as that of Jane Hicks, with Jeanette Ritch as curator, enjoyed appreciation and respect. It had emerged from a Garden and Book Club. The original art collection was given to the Council as a permanent reminder of the Club’s role in maintaining the continuity and the progress of the Council’s facilities and services.

For one thing, the gift of the paintings necessitated the provision of hitherto lacking storage facilities, as well as means for maintaining proper temperature, humidity and security. For another thing, the Art Club collection has stimulated the creation of a way of using the art work in the service of arts education for youngsters. They will be used as the objects of systematic study by these youngsters. To this end, the Arts Council and South Carolina Arts Commission have given a grant to Mary Lou Hightower to publish “Becoming a Masterpiece Collector at the Arts Center.” The book is to be targeted for the third grade pupil. Thus an Art Club gift and resource of the past becomes recycled, so to speak, as a teaching adjunct to arts education in the present and the future; and the Arts Council gains the benefits of functional continuity and development. As John Henry Newman put it: “That which is in itself a good is productive of good.”

The role of the Council for Spartanburg County (United Services Council) in the formative years of the Arts Council of Spartanburg cannot be over-estimated. It sponsored the cultural recreation survey (1955-56) which recom-

mended that a county-wide arts council be established, and that the governing body should consist of the members of the Cultural Recreation Survey team. For the first ten years of its existence, moreover, the Arts Council operated under the aegis of the Council for Spartanburg County, using that organization’s facilities for meetings and calling upon its staff for other services. (An early example of “networking.”)

In the opinion of “Founding Father” David W. Reid, “the principal accomplishment of the early years . . . was the establishment of the Spartanburg County Art Association, in 1963.” In 1968 the Art Association opened The Gallery with the aid of a $1,500 grant to the Arts Council from the South Carolina Arts Commission. The Arts Council matched the Commission grant so that the Association had $5,000 worth of seed money. A second main function of the Art Association was to develop, at the Center, a teaching program in the arts. This program has now grown to impressive size and quality.

“History,” declared Thomas Carlyle, “is the essence of innumerable biographies.” Certainly, this observation may well apply to the Arts Council of Spartanburg County. A number of individuals started the ball rolling, and they and their successors have kept it moving right to this Silver Jubilee year of 1993. Jeanne Harley, past president of the Arts Council and chairperson for the Silver Jubilee, has singled out, for special recognition, one individual in the for-

In 1988, Affiliate Artist Mitchell Korn, internationally known 12-string guitarist, toured Spartanburg County for one week. He is shown above performing for an enthusiastic audience at the Landrum Library.
motive years. In her Foreword to *The Arts Council of Spartanburg County*, Mrs. Harley has stated that "any institution is the extended shadow of one man, and this seems extremely appropriate in the case of the Spartanburg Arts Council." The one man named is David W. Reid.

Mrs. Harley points out that David Reid "understood the enormously enriching properties of 'THE ARTS' in the lives of individuals, and he used his own talents to nurture the developing awareness of the Arts in his adopted South Carolina home." Something of the debt of gratitude that we owe to this "Founding Father" is memorialized in the annual David W. Reid Award for Achievement in the Arts, and in the lengthening list of its recipients. David Reid was president of the Arts Council for 13 years.

Through the years, other individuals have been recognized for similarly creative service toward the realization of the Council's potentials. Thus, Nita Milliken, herself a devoted champion of the Council, has stated: "It is important to remember Georgia Allen, Executive Director until 1981, for her hard work and enthusiasm." Others have noted Georgia's deep concern for the needs of the local artists themselves. More indications of the key role of significant individuals in the development of the Arts Council are seen in such designations as the Vera Parsons Gallery and the Nita Milliken Gallery; the E. Graves Jones Jr.

The first Spring Fling festival was held in 1979, coordinated by the Arts Council and the City of Spartanburg. Above is a dance performance at one of the early festivals. (Note: The parking area and buildings in the background have been replaced by the Spartan Foods Tower.)

Full Arts Festival 1982 successfully attracted thousands to the Arts Center... celebrating the event are left to right Executive Director, Cassandra Baker; President, E. Graves Jones, Jr.; and Ava J. Hughes, Director of the Festival (alias Clara Belle).

Auditorium, the Peggy Gignilliat Society and the Gertrude Bagwell Collection and Lecture Series on the Decorative Arts; the Mary Wheeler Davis Scholarship, and the Charles and Peggy Gignilliat Scholarship. Indeed, for each person named, we could add many more whose service, devotion, guidance and leadership in the arts, and support of the arts have placed us deeply in their debt.

Volunteer Committees have also played important roles in the development of the Arts Council. One of the original ones was the Business Committee. Another fund-raising committee of the Council was the Friends of the Arts. Its most colorful and enormously successful project has been the Annual Beaux Arts Ball. The first several events were under the auspices of the Arts Council, with the first ball under the leadership of co-chairmen Mrs. Frederick B. Dent (current member of the S. C. Arts Commission and Arts Council enthusiast) and Mrs. Shirley Barre (a longtime supporter and volunteer for the arts). Proceeds from the Beaux Arts Balls have heavily contributed to the programs of the Arts Council. In particular they have helped to fund the renovations, the purchase of the building and later capital improvements of the Arts Center. Following their incorporation in the 1970s, the Friends of the Arts sponsored and funded the current Arts Center Docent Program.
Other organizations contributing, particularly in its formative years, to the Arts Council were the Spartanburg County Foundation, the South Carolina Arts Commission, the South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism, and the local Parks and Recreation Department. Various businesses, too, were sizable contributors.

In a way, the progress of the Arts Council may be marked by its changes of home. Thanks in considerable part to the generous cooperation of then-President Coleman and Converse College, the first Arts Center, established in 1970, was the college-owned Carlisle House at 151 North Fairview Avenue. (This site is now a parking area for the college.) Assistance came, as well, from the Spartanburg County Foundation and the South Carolina Arts Commission.

The second home for the Arts Council was the Southside Elementary School, remodeled section by section beginning in 1975, until the whole building was taken over and put to use. The building sits on four and a half acres, and occupies 46,000 square feet.

The rehabilitation and adaptation of the Southside School had social benefits beyond the cultural arts. It provided justification for tackling another such reclamation project locally – that of the Evans School – now so important for our community services, our social services, and our Senior Citizens Center and Council on Aging. It has also served as a model for others considering creating arts facilities throughout the Southeast. In this way, too, the remodeling of the Southside School was not only a good in itself, but it was also productive of great further good.

In this "new" and present home, the growth and development of the Arts Council has been phenomenal. The new Arts Center had a grand opening, under the leadership of President Mrs. Thorne Martin, on September 21, 1975, when some 2,500 visitors toured the building. Within six months, an estimated 25,000 people had in some way made use of the facilities – verifying the need for an enlarged center. On the first day of January 1975, the Arts Council achieved its goal of raising $200,000 which was matched by a challenge grant of $100,000 from the Romill Foundation. This assured an annual operating budget of $60,000 for five years.

The Silver Ball was rolling toward the Jubilee.

In 1976 the Arts Council of Spartanburg and the City of Spartanburg were honored with the Elizabeth O'Neill Verner Award for Achievement in the Arts. We have a picture which shows Georgia Allen, Peggy Gigliolliat (Arts Council President), the Hon. James Edwards (S. C. Governor) and the Hon. John Bachr (Mayor of Spartanburg) receiving the award.

With the enthusiastic and imaginative Cassandra Baker as Executive Director (beginning in 1982), the Arts Council staff were given broad latitude for creativity in developing arts-related programs and projects; and this

In fall of 1988, "PharaohFest" was the theme for the Fall Arts Festival. Egyptian culture and heritage were explored through the visual and performing arts. Co-chairmen for the event were (l) Jane Hart and (r) Valerie Barnet.
enabled them greatly to enjoy their work. The hope is that such freedom for the Arts Council staff will be continued. It will insure that spirit of fun and joy which has been essential for such successful entrepreneurship in Arts Council endeavors.

As we have combed the various sources for material relevant to our assignment, we have been freshly impressed by the large number of people – young and old, whom the Arts Council has touched and enriched – as with a fairy wand – a fair godmother’s wand. Also, we have been moved by the large numbers of individuals who have generously given of their time, faith, talent, and experience to bring the Arts Council to its present efficacy. More than that, we have been stirred by sensing the potential the Council has for further enhancing its broad-ranging, penetrating cultural services, through the arts, to Spartanburg County.

THE BALL keeps ROLLING ALONG

The Silver Jubilee of the Arts Council of Spartanburg County holds a paradox. It marks an end and a beginning. On the one hand, it marks finis to 25 years of spectacular growth and development. On the other hand, this Jubilee marks a beginning: the beginning of the Council’s career as part of a more comprehensive entity. Whatever the changed form and relationship, the Council’s integrity, we trust, will still hold. Its own developmental dynamic will continue to assert itself. The momentum built up by the earlier generative years will assert itself through the changed functions, forms, and relationships.

Sonia McDuffie, present Council president, surely is pondering the implications, for the Council, of the impending structural and functional changes, and is considering ways of successful transition and future growth.

The history of the Arts Council is the history of dedicated volunteer community leaders working together and with an inventive staff and with the affiliates and Advisory Council to effect the impressive developments that have made the Council what it is today, and that give promise of its far greater progress.

The Council’s responsible and enthusiastic community leaders had a vision of what the ideal Arts Council and the ideal Arts Center in Spartanburg might be. They put their hearts and energies into this vision – determined to make it a reality. They had their generous dreams. Some they realized. Some they had to leave to the future.

In spite of differences in opinion, tastes and motivations, these founding devotees were united in an exciting and challenging effort to accomplish a noble objective – to stimulate all the community to enlightenment and joy in the arts – the bench mark of cultural vigor and capacity for cultural growth.

Some of the dreams were flawed. Some were sound but premature. Such was Richard Campbell’s vision of a “Green Belt” extending from the courthouse to the Arts Center. Such, too, was the vision of a museum. These were left to the future – under the motto: “Ad astra per aspera” (“To the stars, through aspiration”).

As we traced the history of the Arts Council, we found stretches of routine activity, punctuated by sudden bursts of extraordinary energy and drive. Such a burst might be likened to a quantum jump. It marked a change of state that forever differentiated what came after from what had come before. The incorporation of the Council, in 1968, was such a quantum jump. Another was the securing of the Carlisle House as the first Arts Center. A far greater quantum jump was the determination to move the Arts Center to a new home in the former Southside Elementary School building.

It is likely that this momentous decision was stimulated partly by a project financed through the South Carolina
Commission for the Humanities and developed through the Humanities Center at Converse College. The theme was Spartanburg in Transition, and a major ongoing concern was the role of the Arts in enhancing the quality of living throughout the county. The project ran from the Spring of 1973, through the Spartanburg Sesquicentennial Celebration and the Bicentennial Community Forums. The cumulative effect of the sustained focus on the arts was not unlike the achievement of critical mass in atomic reactions. It triggered a surge of local enthusiasm for the arts and of endeavor on behalf of the advancement of the arts in Spartanburg.

Other such achievements of critical mass and quantum shift may be marked along the historic course of the Arts Council. Some have already been mentioned. Others were initiated as “one-shot” events – such as the Fall Festival (the first in 1975), the Spring Plying, and major exhibitions.

In a recent spurt of creativity, Executive Director Cassandra Baker and Director of Special Projects Ava J. Hughes, have extended the outreach services in the arts to another segment of the population. They have moved vigorously into the “Geriatric Sector.” At the Shepherd’s Center for Senior Citizens, they have staged a six-session program in arts that the aging can practice. The Arts Council had already twice played host to the annual arts exhibits by the Shepherd’s Center. It was thus taking cognizance of the coming dominance of the “graying of America” and of the aging as a major source of artistic creativity and art appreciation.

Often the quantum leaps have been at the growing edges of the Council’s entrepreneurial efforts – such as the early volunteer potting and batik programs in the schools. Thus, what Cassandra Baker has called “The silver thread marked by milestones and events” becomes “a variegated silver network for Jubilee celebration.” Meanwhile, each year, the Council record shows increased funding, and this marks increased responsiveness by the community to the Arts Council’s continuously expanding projects and programs.

Often a single innovational event has opened up new projects for later development. A vivid set of examples: the conventional Fall Festival became a week-end dedicated to the theme of “The Orient Express.” This, in turn, provided “spin-off” themes for several Fall Festivals in the following years (“Pharaoh’s Feast,” “Kultur,” and “Celebrate Gullah”). A sense of continuity from year to year was thus established.

Again, there has been a concept which has culminated, most recently, in the program entitled “Celebrate Gullah.” This “showcased the culture of the Georgia and South Carolina Sea Islands and its African roots.” The intercultural motif here enunciated has led, in turn, to fresh joint celebrative efforts with the full complex of our local international organizations and their festivals. Again, what started as an occasional program has now become a sustained major project.

A number of factors, no doubt, should be listed to account for the emergence of the full-fledged “Arts-in-Education Program” in the schools. But in addition to all others, two may here be cited; for they provided, from the outside, stimulus toward the establishment, from within, of this as a major Council program. These were the two Canvass of the People events sponsored by the S. C. Arts Commission, devoted to bringing the people-at-large of South Carolina into direct experience of the Creative Arts; and to stimulate both lay persons and professional educators to much stronger support of the arts in their communities. All in all, at the Spartanburg sessions of the first Canvass of the People (Canvass I) there were 500 participants, from various segments of the community.

Ava Hughes has put it: “Before the Arts-in-Education Program began, art for the students was left up to the classroom teacher, or in the best circumstances a traveling art teacher giv-
A present adult, Joe Wilson gives us such a picture. He recalls memories drawn from his own boyhood. He starts with a negative: There was no art in the schools. Once a year, he and his schoolmates would be taken, in a school bus, to what was then regarded as the cultural center of the county – namely, Converse College. There, they would see an occasional art exhibit. For these school children, that was it – there was no more.

The time and the scene change. The youngster is now an adult. He stops in at the Carlisle House. Here the arts now have a “permanent home.” It is here, the local historian recalls, that he saw an impressive exhibit of pottery and batik made by a new arrival from Penn State. Instead of being herded, fast, through the exhibit areas, he could pause at each piece and view it deliberately. Having viewed them all once, he might be given a few more minutes to view them again. What a difference between the art experience of his boyhood, and this—in the early 1970’s.

A staunch enthusiast of the arts, Joe Wilson would later return to the Carlisle House – this time on a blustery evening—and proceed to the second-floor porch. The only scant protection from wind and weather was provided by sheets of plastic drawn into service as substitutes for windows and walls. They billied with the gusting wind. With
this meager protection, several student potters — young and not so young — were up to their elbows in clay, with wet clay slopped all over them. In spite of the cold and the scant equipment, they were enjoying themselves. A far cry from the now-you-see-it-now-you-don’t hands-off experiences, years before, of the young schoolboy on his brief visit to an art exhibit at a distance from his school. Joe admires the contagious high spirits of the instructor and the teaching staff.

Some years later, our observer with the long memory again sees the instructor of those Carlisle House potters. She is now in a different role. One her knees, she is busily scrubbing the yellow bricks of a wall in an abandoned schoolhouse. She is trying to remove the scuff-marks of generations of pupils in the Southside Elementary School. This is being transformed into the “new” Arts Center. “By now,” recalls Joe Wilson, “I knew her name. It was Ethel Goldberg.”

Along with the scrubbing and cleaning and altering, there was the need for funds. To this end, the current potting students have been giving demonstrations at a TV fund-raising telethon. The instructor and her students are but a few of the many who have been giving of their time and skill to help realize the dream of the new Arts Center. Working together, they not only are raising funds, but are being bonded together in their common quest and their common aspirations. They are becoming the hard core of the Council workers.

Recently, we were reminded, once more, of Joe Wilson and his memories of his woefully sparse art experience at school. We had gone to the Hillcrest Mall for our daily walk. We were quickly and totally immersed in a riot of color. It was a Joseph’s coat. It covered the walls from top to bottom, from level to level; and it covered numerous tall screens. The mall seemed to be awash in art.

A closer view revealed dozens of drawings, paintings, paper mache and ceramic pieces, and other attempted art forms. These had all been produced by local school children. The objects varied from primer work to sophisticated creations of advanced artistic skill.

A closer view revealed that these were creations of Spartanburg school children. Of these the teachers and Dr. Betty Bramlett, District 7 Coordinator of Art and Music, were rightly proud. And the Arts Council of Spartanburg County could justifiably share in this pride. Through the years, it had staunchly helped provide the motivation, the milieu, and the means to such massive shows of enthusiasm for the arts by the school children.

Later, in the vestibule of a restaurant, we saw a mural along the top of one wall. It consisted of brightly colored drawings made by the youngsters of Grade 2 at Pine Street School. Another vivid testimonial to the progress and promise of arts education in our local schools! At the school itself, we found ambitiously conceived and effectively executed sets depicting different locales — including many different occupations and, in some instances, historic events. Indeed, preparations were being made for a Medieval Festival; and they were ambitious, thoroughgoing — a challenge to the constructive and artistic skills of numerous youngsters.

More testimonials to the life-giving power of the arts, and their contributions to the education and culture of the oncoming generations! And, as in the past, the Arts Council of Spartanburg County helped provide enhanced opportunities and means for the advancement of the arts in the schools.

The story of the Arts Council of Spartanburg County in the ’80’s and early ’90’s is largely one of determined growth and gratifying realization of potentials that had already asserted themselves in the generative years of the ’70’s. Members of the Board and the various committees, combined with volunteers, staff and membership to keep the Council and the Center vibrant.

Herself an historian of art, Cassandra Baker, beginning in 1982, showed herself to be a generous and effective Executive Director. Veteran staff member Ava Hughes, Director of Special Projects, embarked on a major enterprise of outreach to the schools, to the aged, to the handicapped, and thus made good on the commitments of the local Arts Council to the recommendations of the statewide Canvass of the People.

Nor can too much be said in tribute to the now 68 member organizations, representing over 43,000 men, women, and children. Long before “networking” had become a cliche, it had been systematically practiced by the Arts Council. It was a two-way affair: “a win-win” process. The member organizations provided material and moral support for the Council. The Council contributed services to the members. The vast network of relationships calls for a chronicle of its own. Collectively, they form the Advisory Council to the Arts Council. Especially since they have played a leading role in the election of the members of the Board, they merit particular notice in this account of the growth and the historic significance of the Arts Council.

Changes will continue to come — changes in locale, in organizational form and structure; changes in modes of management and administration, in executive style. All of these will be intended for the advancement of the Arts Council and the arts themselves. Yet none of these processes of change will increase the meaningfulness, the effectiveness of our agencies of the arts, unless we continue to be infused with that spirit, that zeal which until now, has
projected us on our way.

This is partly the spirit of fun, joy, and creative exhilaration. If we hold on to these distinctive attributes of our arts endeavors, then we shall be celebrating a Golden Jubilee far greater than the present Silver Jubilee. Without this spirit — this esprit de corps — our Arts Council — however prosperous and externally successful, will attain to but a fraction of its full potential stature.

The German sage Goethe has observed, in man, "the primacy of his formative nature." This primary impulse to create forms — locally it has been the Arts Council and the Arts Center Staff that have been its most comprehensive and most dynamic guardians, energizers and inspirers. In the Science Center, this unifying creative impulse may take the form of a fresh illustration of some great historic past - structure of the scientific imagination. In one of the Center's workshops, this artistic impulse may express itself as a piece of sculpture, or a ceramic "pot," or a batik, or a watercolor, or a quilt, or the plans for a new Arts Center, embodying both traditional and innovative principles of dynamic form.

It is this holistic image of artistic creativity that has motivated and empowered the gratifying development of the Arts Council from its founding in 1968. It is this holistic image of its full responsibility for the Creative Arts that has impelled this Arts Council to exercise foresight and leadership in the current determination to provide, for Spartanburg, vigorously projected organizational designs for the development of the creative arts across the length and breadth of the county, the state, and the rest of the region.

For Background and Context


Telec Imaging and Community Self-Renewal; Humanities Perspectives, ed. Maxwell H. Goldberg, ibid., 1975

The Arts Council of Spartanburg County. Spartanburg County Community Reports, Series III. Joint publication of the Friends of the Library and the United Services Council; Ethel S. Goldberg, Ch. Publication Committee, with Maxwell H. Goldberg, Susan Johnson, Joyce Cowley, Winifred Walsh, Joe S. Wilson
David W. Reid Award Recipients

Ed McGrath 1976
Peggy Giguilliat 1977
Richard Campbell 1978
Doris Dargan 1979
Thorne Martin 1980
Dr. Maxwell Goldberg 1981
Shirley Black Barre 1982
Eaddy Williams Hayes 1984
Sonia Bergan McDuffie 1985
Marguerite McGee Cates 1986
Mildred Harrison Dent 1987
Dr. J. Sidney Fulmer 1989
Barbara Ferguson 1990
Jean Price Blackford 1991
E. Graves Jones, Jr. 1992
Marianna Habishreutinger 1993

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Stanley Converse, Sr. – 1983

Not Pictured

25 Years
Arts Council Presidents

David W. Reid
1968 - 1971

Thorne Martin
1974 - 1975

Peggy Giguilliat
1976-1977

Corrie Whitlock
1978 - 1979

Les McMillan
1979 - 1980

E. Graves Jones, Jr.
1982 - 1984

Jeanne S. Harley
1984

Robert H. Chapman, III
1985 - 1987

Andrew Prola
1987 - 1989

Lawrence Flynn
1989 - 1991

Sonia McDuffie
1991 - 1993

Presidents Not Pictured

Clyde H. Hamilton
1971 - 1972

Alan Willis
1973

Ann Allen
1977 - 1978

Ray Miller
1981 - 1982
ARTS COUNCIL TIMELINE

1955-56
The Council for Spartanburg County conducted a recreational survey, one part of which was devoted to the cultural arts.

1957
The birth of the Spartanburg Arts Council, which was operated as a committee of the Council for Spartanburg County. The Arts Council’s structure was modeled after the Winston-Salem (N.C.) Arts Council (the first in the United States). Voting membership was comprised of three delegates-at-large and one representative from each cultural organization.

1963
The Spartanburg Art Association was organized as a visual arts component of the Arts Council.

1968
Arts Council was incorporated as the first local arts agency in the state of South Carolina. The founding board consisted of the following people:
- David W. Reid, President
- Mr. John Davis Smith, Vice President
- Mrs. W. Ray Miller, Secretary
- Mr. Charles W. Ebert, Treasurer
- Mrs. C. B. Barre
- Mrs. Charles Gignilliat Jr.
- Mr. Ray Lillard
- Mrs. A.J. Mitchell
- Mrs. Minning Morrell
- Mr. Allen D. Slater
- Mrs. Perrin Dargan
- Mr. Clyde H. Hamilton
- Mrs. Roger Milliken
- Mr. Walter S. Montgomery Sr.
- Mr. Charles R. Sanders
- Mr. L. Perrin Smith

THE FIRST ARTS CENTER
151 North Fairview Avenue, Spartanburg, South Carolina

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There were eight cultural member organizations.
New by-laws were adopted.

The Arts Council opened the first Arts Center in the Carlisle home at 151 North Fairview Avenue; the facility was made possible by Converse College and generous three-year allocations of funds by S.C. Arts Commission and Spartanburg County Foundation.

The Arts Council budget was approximately $30,000 per year.

1969

The Arts Council Board plans a Gallery of Contemporary Art which later becomes the Art Association's "The Gallery."

Arts Camp begins.

1970

Spartanburg's first Arts Festival was held.

The Arts Council's first outreach Arts Camp was held in the North, South and West Spartanburg areas, reaching disadvantaged young people.

The first Beaux Arts Ball was held to benefit the Arts Council.

1971

The first fund drive was kicked off by Chairmen Stanley W. Converse and Frank H. Cunningham.

A major exhibition, "Carolina's Collect," was held.

1973

The Arts Council grew to 28 affiliate organizations.

1974

A 10-week art class for Senior Citizens was held, sponsored by the Arts Council, Art Association, and Junior Woman's Club (a part of the Gulden Arts Group Program).

A 3-week Arts Camp featuring visual and performing arts was held.

The Arts Council presents the Bread & Puppet Theatre in Daniel Recital Hall.

SCORE (the South Carolina Open Road Ensemble) was in residence.

Georgia Allen, Arts Council director, attended the Harvard Institute in Arts Administration.

Model Cities Cultural Arts Classes – part of the Arts Council's Expansion Arts Program - were held in area recreation centers for underprivileged children. It was sponsored by the S. C. Arts Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts. Outreach performances were presented at Kohler Company by a guitarist and flutist. A three-day Poetry Workshop was held.

"Lights Men Live By," a series of discussions led by Dr. Max Goldberg, were held and co-sponsored by the S. C. Humanities Project on Aging, the Spartanburg Council on Aging, and the Arts Council.

Alliance Francaise sponsored a concert by the Chorale of the Children of Paris.

A series of half-hour programs on the local visual and performing arts was taped and aired on Telecable station.

The Arts Council worked with Wofford College on their "Happy Saturday Program" featuring visual and performing artists during a summer program at Wofford.

Other projects included modern dance classes at the Brotherhood Center, and a Folk Dance Concert at the Senior Citizens Center.

The Arts Council co-sponsored four Heritage Trust Lectures given by S. C. historians.

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The Arts Council presented the following performances: “Up With People,” the National Theatre of the Deaf (sponsored by the S. C. Arts Commission, the Arts Council, and the S. C. School for the Deaf & Blind – with proceeds going to the Arts Council and the S. C. Association for the Deaf in Spartanburg), and the S. C. Open Road Ensemble (performing at USCS, Wofford, Spartanburg Methodist College, and Converse College).

The Arts Council funds the Art Association for 15 free senior citizens classes.

The Arts Council benefits from the hiring of two employees, doubling the staff.

A Bicentennial Banner Contest was held at the Art Association's Sidewalk Art Show. Entries were received from all ages and were displayed throughout the county.

An Alternate Arts Camp was held for teen-agers, featuring the Al McClain Jazz Quartet, pottery, drama and filmmaking.

Spartanburg County District Seven Board of Trustees made available Southside Elementary School property.

Renovations began to the Southside Elementary School, future home of the Arts Council. In charge of overseeing the renovations was board member Stanley Converse Sr. Richard E. Campbell was the architect for the project.

A major fund-raising campaign was undertaken to raise funds for renovating and occupying the Southside Elementary School as a permanent home for the visual and performing arts in Spartanburg. Events included a telethon on the Telecable local access station, with area merchants and individuals donating items to be auctioned on the air. Al Willis and Janice Janiec were hosts, and local performing artists donated their time and talents.

Artist Mayo Mac Boggs was commissioned to do a sculpture for the Arts Center Courtyard.

The Arts Center grand opening took place on September 21 on the current site, celebrating with the a weekend celebration of the visual and performing arts. Dignitaries from throughout the state attended, including Lt. Gov. Brantly Harvey, and the first David W. Reid Award for Achievement in the Arts was given. Sculptor Charles Parks was the first exhibitor.

Five new CETA employees were added to the Arts Council staff (including two artists who were sent out into the county providing free classes and demonstrations).

A Halloween carnival fund raiser was held at the Arts Center.

The Ballet Guild began the Spartanburg Civic Ballet with the assistance of the Arts Council’s artist in residency, Michael Bates, as the first director.

Artist Elaine Wagner designed and painted a mural depicting downtown Spartanburg in the Arts Center auditorium.

The Arts Council sponsored a performance of the National Shakespeare Company from New York, with assistance from area colleges.

An exhibition by the National Press Association and the University of Missouri School of Journalism, “Pictures of 1975,” was well received.

The Arts Council and Hillcrest Theaters sponsored the film “The Magic Flute.” Arts Council sponsored a performance of the Carolina Reader's Theatre in “Appalachia Sounding.”

The S. C. Arts Commission's Crafts Truck was in residence at the Arts Center for two weeks, providing free classes to area children and adults.

The Arts Council purchased a kiln with funds from the Arts Commission and the Alternate Arts Center programs.

In 1976, the Arts Council of Spartanburg and the City of Spartanburg were honored with the Elizabeth O'Neill Verner Award for Achievement in the Arts. Shown receiving the awards are: Georgia Allen (then SAC Executive Director), Peggy T. Gignilliat (then SAC President), The Honorable James Edwards (SC Governor), and the Honorable John Baehr (Mayor of Spartanburg).
The Spartanburg Arts Council receives the Elizabeth O'Neill Verner Award for Achievement in the Arts.

Exhibitions included Swiss artists, textiles, photography, watercolors, the Diebold Schilling Chronicles of 1513 (an historical account of the Swiss confederation, and displayed with the cooperation of Spartanburg's Swiss Consul Hans Kuhn), a bicentennial costume display and silk paintings by Belgian artist Doris Kurten.

Project Chiron, a predecessor to Arts-in-Education, placed two artists in every school in Spartanburg County during 1976-77.

The first Fall Arts Festival was held in September under the chairmanship of Peggy Jones.

The bicentennial pageant "Seven Steps to Freedom" was written and produced by Al Willis and Ed McGrath, part of Spartanburg's Bicentennial Celebration.

The Arts Council sponsored a performance at the Arts Center of "You Are Getting Better," a comedy by Greenville Senior Citizens.

A full-length Broadway musical "The White House" was produced in the Arts Center and directed by Ed McGrath.

Summer dance workshops and Arts Camp were sponsored by the Arts Council.

A publicity workshop was held for Arts Council affiliates.

During December ('76), 3,050 people visited the Arts Center (compared to about 17,000 for December '92).

1977
The Arts Council completed the purchase of Southside Elementary School.

The first summer Shakespeare Festival was sponsored at the Arts Center and directed by Ed McGrath for two weeks in June. "Macbeth," "Hamlet," and "Twelfth Night" were performed by a repertory company of Spartanburg's finest volunteer actors.

A Bluegrass Festival was held in June featuring "The Gritz" bluegrass band and "Wooden Nickel" from Greenville performing at the Arts Center, followed by demonstrations of clogging. The Arts Center's clogging classes doubled in size following this.

Stage South, the state theatre of South Carolina, presented the world premiere of "Green Pond," an exciting and original production by Robert Montgomery and Mel Marvin.

The Arts Council, with cooperation of the Southern Federation of State Arts Agencies, presented the Piedmont Brass Quintet in residency at all area high schools.

More than 500 people attended the premiere performance by the Spartanburg Civic Ballet.

The Ballet Guild received a grant from the S. C. Arts Commission to hire a dance director for 1977-78.

Spartanburg Symphony celebrated its 50th anniversary; conductor Henry Janiec celebrated his 25th anniversary.

The Arts Council arranged an in-service training workshop in the arts for kindergarten teachers, with 45 attending and studying puppetry, arts and crafts, and receiving written materials on art projects for kindergarten age children.

The first Young Artist Award was given to opera singer Alexander B. "Bernie" Smalls.

The Arts Council assisted the Northside Rotary Club in presenting the 1977 Spartanburg International Festival. This was held at the Spartanburg Downtown Airport and featured booths by community organizations depicting their national heritage.

In addition to the usual Arts Camp program, an Arts Camp for underprivileged children was held and sponsored by Piedmont Community Actions. This project served 150 children.

The Arts Council sponsored the Stage South production of "Sea Island Song," a musical about the S. C. Sea Islands.

An exhibition of Catawba Indian pottery by Georgia Harris was held in the Arts Center, and arranged by the Indian Arts and Crafts Board of the U. S. Dept. of the Interior.

The arts truck was in residence on the Main Street Mall and sponsored by the Arts Council.

For the first time in its history, the Arts Council received $7,000 from Spartanburg County Council for outreach programming.

The Art Club collection of paintings was given to the Arts Council.

Exhibitions included work by Swiss artist Joe Mathis. During his exhibition, the Assistant Chancellor of the
Embassy of Switzerland (Washington, DC) and his wife (Mr. and Mrs. Franz von Atzigen), attended.

Art classes for the Senior Citizens Center were coordinated by the Arts Council.

The Arts Council participated in the formation of "Discover Upcountry Carolina," a group whose aim was to promote events and attractions in the upstate area.

1978

The German-American Club sponsored German classes at the Arts Center, and these were covered by CBS News from New York. The news crew focused on the international community in Spartanburg.

The Arts Council worked with the architectural firm Westmoreland-McGarity-Pitts to coordinate a mural contest for a large wall at the Evans Human Resource Center. Thirty artists entered. David Benson was awarded the prize, and the mural was completed in 1979.

A Marx Brothers Film Festival was held with 200 people participating.

The Fall Arts Festival expanded to three days.

The Guild of S. C. Artists Annual Juried Exhibition was held at the Spartanburg Arts Center.

Michael Tilson Thomas, conductor of the Buffalo Philharmonic, spoke to a luncheon honoring Arts Council contributors of $1,000 and up.

Affiliate Artist Carol Fonda, dancer, toured the county.

Stage South's production of "The Subject Was Roses" was presented by the Arts Council.

An article about the Arts Council appeared in the April "Sandlapper" magazine.

The Boiling Springs PTA was assisted in establishing an arts program in their elementary school. The Arts Council helped with teaching materials, selecting materials and books, and arranged for four teacher workshops and four artist visits.

The arts truck was in residence at the Arts Center for two weeks, with 625 children and adults participating.

"Bits 'n Pieces" puppet theatre were presented at the Arts Center. Their giant puppets, bright costumes and music were well received.

Ed McGrath and Mary Nicholson directed the second Shakespeare Festival at the Arts Center. Plays included "Julius Caesar," "Richard II," and "Merry Wives of Windsor." More than 700 people attended the performances.

The Arts Council received a $17,000 appropriation from County Council.

1979

A dinner featuring Young Artist Award winner Alexander Smalls drew an enthusiastic audience.

The third Summer Drama Festival (Shakespeare Festival) was held and featured "As You Like It" and "Merchant of Venice" by Shakespeare, and "Don Juan in Hell" by George Bernard Shaw.

The Arts Council presented "The Sangerbund Bumpliz" (the Chorale Society of Bumpliz/Bern, Switzerland) under the direction of Hans-Rudolf Portner.

The first Spring Fling was held in conjunction with the City of Spartanburg, featuring visual and performing artists/craftsmen on Spartanburg's Main Street Mall area.

Project TAP – Total Arts Program – began, and included a poet, guitarist, filmmaker, the Crafts Truck, and "Bits 'n Pieces Puppet Theatre."

Sponsored by the Arts Council, Swiss pianist Urs Kasser was presented as part of the Converse College Baroque Music Festival.

An ARTS line began, 585-ARTS, as an information/pr service.

David Benson's mural design, "Tribute to the Southern Past," was painted at the Evans Resource Center.

The Arts Council presented the Gran Folklorico de Mexico at Twichell Auditorium.

The first Docent Training Program was held, sponsored by the Friends of the Arts.

The Arts Council receives a county allocation of $32,500.

Spartanburg's Ballroom Dance Clubs held the first Benefit Dance for the Arts.

The Guild of S. C. Artists Exhibition was held at the Arts Center.
1980

The Arts Council grew to 51 affiliate members.

Mitchell Korn, internationally-known 12-string guitarist, toured the county.

Swiss pianist Hans Shmid-Wyss was presented in concert in cooperation with Swiss Consul Hans Kuhn.

The S.C. Arts Commission’s Canvass of the People project meets in Spartanburg.

The state-wide “Put Your Heart in the Arts” publicity campaign was launched.

French artists Marie France Lorain and Max Lewkowicz were presented in cooperation with the Alliance Francaise du Piedmont.

Project TAP continued in county schools featuring performances and residencies. Broadway singer/actor Don Oliver was one of the featured artists.

The Summer Drama Festival continued with “John Brown’s Body” and “Much Ado About Nothing” under the direction of Ed McGrath.

The first series of Jazz in the Parks concerts were held during the summer, with Dr. Bryan Lindsay coordinating talent.

The first state-wide Performing Alliance of Community Arts Showcase was hosted by the Spartanburg Arts Center and coordinated by the S.C. Arts Commission and S.C. Arts Agencies. This showcase provided an audition opportunity for performing artists/groups with sponsors/presenters from throughout the tri-state region. Individuals from as far away as New York City participated.

The Arts Council presented a concert by “Uncle Walt’s Band” with 150 people attending.

Artists Consuelo Lago and Sonia Echavera of Columbia, South America, were in residence for one week in Spartanburg.

The December ’80 issue of Sandlapper magazine featured an article about David Benson’s mural at the Evans Building.

1981

As part of the Art in Public Places program, the Spartanburg Arts Council and Greenville’s Metropolitan Arts Council received the first joint grant awarded by the S.C. Arts Commission and installed a textile mural, “Right Bank View” by Peter Bove, at the Greenville-Spartanburg Airport.

The premiere of “Bayou Relics,” an original play by Dr. Elizabeth Brown of USCS, was co-sponsored by the Arts Council and Girl Talk (an organization sponsored by the National Caucus for Black Women). Standing room only audiences were on hand each night.

Other performances sponsored by the Arts Council included: Patchwork Players’ production of “Tom Sawyer” (in conjunction with the Spartanburg Youth Theatre), three bluegrass concerts, a cello recital by Mary Fraley, a slide lecture on prints of James F. Cooper by Dr. Boyd Saunders (during the exhibition of this work on loan from the Gibbes Art Gallery in Charleston).

Five schools participated in the Total Arts Program during 1980-81.

A periodic newsletter to artists was begun to inform them of exhibition and education opportunities.

Georgia Allen leaves as Executive Director to become business manager of the Charleston (SC) Symphony. Ava Hughes serves as interim executive director.

The Summer Symphony program was sponsored by the Arts Council, providing an opportunity for students to continue their musical technique during the summer. Wilbert Kimple was the volunteer conductor.

Summer Drama Festival continued with “Suite in Two Keys” (by Noel Coward) and “Taming of the Shrew” (by Shakespeare), directed by Ed McGrath and Thom Seymour.

Arts Council monthly programs on the Spartanburg Telecable station continued.

S. C. Art Educators Association met in the Arts Center.

The Arts Camp had 79 enrollees.

The Arts Council co-sponsored a Sesquicentennial Banner Contest to celebrate Spartanburg’s anniversary.

A gallery at the Arts Center was dedicated in memory of Vera Davis Parsons, a woman who gave generously of her time and resources to improve the cultural life of the community.

The Arts Council’s first professionally developed audiovisual program was completed by Rene Royaards.

25 Years
1982
New Executive Director Cassandra Baker was hired.
The SHARE-Day concept was initiated.
The Fall Arts Festival attracted 8,000 to Arts Center
An arts camp for hearing impaired children ages 8-15 was
initiated with grant funding from the Spartanburg County
Foundation.
More than 120 children enrolled in two weeks of Arts
Camp.
Spring Fling attracted 15,000 people.
The Arts Council worked with the Arts Commission on
their "Artists in Industries" program, placing violinist Sara
Johnson of Charleston at Kohler Company.
Exhibitions at the Arts Center included the world's largest
collection of holograms, works by Hans Erni (artist laureate
of Switzerland), the S. C. Watercolor Society and sculpture by Joe Cassaretelli.
The Arts Council received $8,021 from County Council to
fund the exhibition series.
The Arts Council birthday parties project began.

1983
Affiliates increased to 63 in number.
Staff positions were reorganized to increase the council's
efficiency.
Major facility renovations were begun and Annual Fund
Campaign continued to increase.
Congress approved major increases for the National
Endowment for the Arts. The arts in 1984 saw the largest
amount of dollars NEA would receive in its 19-year histo-
y. The Council's Arts-in-Education program is funded in
part by the S.C. Arts Commission and the NEA.
The SHARE concept was expanded to include the Arts-in-
Education residencies for Spartanburg County Schools.
The first residencies were offered at no cost to the school.
An affiliate artist residency program featured opera tenor
Robert Grayson and a business-arts partnership between
The Arts Council and Westinghouse Corporation.

"Arts Camp for The Hearing Impaired" was initiated by the
Arts Council. It was funded in part by the SCSDB by
"Circuit Playhouse Theatre of the Deaf."

1984
A new Arts Council logo was introduced through special
brochures, publications and billboards.
The Arts Calendar's new design was initiated; it was dis-
tributed to S.C.'s Welcome Centers for the first time.
The first computer at Arts Center was installed.
Arts-in-Education reached 11,000 students.

1985
An endowment fund was established.
The Arts Center expanded public hours to Saturday and
Sunday.
A new bronze canopy was donated by The Friends of the
Arts.
"Girl With Red Hair" by Robert Henri returned from a
nationwide tour of five major museums.
Exhibits included the Friends of the Arts Second Regional
Juried Exhibition; an Erité show; and Robert P. Coggins
collection of Southern works on paper.
Dancer Catlin Cobb performed for a Monsanto affiliate
artist residency.

1986-87
The E. Graves Jones Auditorium at the Arts Center was
renovated.
The Arts Council was named a subgrant site agency by the
S.C. Arts Commission.
The "Orient Express" Fall Festival attracted 7,500.
The Shaver Cultural Arts Action Plan was completed.
The "Girl With Red Hair" portrait by Robert Henri traveled
to Vero Beach Arts Center, Florida.
There was increased involvement in the new S.C. Arts
Alliance, an arts advocacy organization.
1987-88

The tabloid “Arts in Spartanburg” was published in the Fall by The Paper for the Arts Council’s 20th Anniversary. Affiliates and the Arts Center were featured and $5,000 was raised for the Arts Council.

PharaohFest’88, a 10-week extravaganza of special events, lectures, films, performances and exhibitions spotlighting Egypt was held in conjunction with the Mint Museum’s Ramses exhibit. The finale day festival attracted 4,500 visitors.

A new advocacy committee for Spartanburg and Cherokee Counties began.

“Put Your Heart in The Arts” and “SAC PAC” were new publications.

Implementation began on recommendations from 1987 Shaver Study; committees were organized for the action plan and new Cultural Arts Complex.

ETV “Artsmarts,” with host Cassandra Baker, began to focus on the visual arts in Spartanburg County through 1991.

A portrait of General William S. Westmoreland was unveiled for the first time in Spartanburg County at the Arts Center.

A “Picasso and Friends Again” exhibition was sponsored by Friends of the Arts and hosted by The Arts Council.

The Ballet Guild Dance Center renovated.

New Spartanburg Science Center expanded with funds provided by The Junior League.

1989

Judy Bynum joined the staff as development director; the Council’s first development division was established with attention focused on year-round fund-raising, marketing and promotion.

The permanent art collection increased with four “Erte” graphics donated by Mr. and Mrs. Jay Kaplan; a fine acrylic on canvas by painter Tom Downing was donated by Jerry Crowley; and 65 decorative art objects and pieces of furniture were received from the estate of Gertrude Bagwell.

ETV “Artsmarts” weekly segments, airing on Mondays, was honored when WRET-TV 49 reported viewership of 28,000.

“Culture Shock” was touted as one of the best exhibitions ever held at the Art Center. The four-week Culture Shock celebration included literary readings by actor Jonathan Frid (“Dark Shadows,”) the art show and a special costume dance party. Holiday exhibits drew 10,000 visitors.

1990

The National Endowment for the Arts came under threat as it struggled for re-authorization from Congress and freedom from censorship. Spartanburg assisted with a NEA mailbag campaign in an advocate alert.

“Arts a la Carte” outreach programs for the county’s communities began.

The availability of cultural activities was ranked as third in concerns of large businesses in a recent national survey conducted by the Conference Board in New York. The Arts
Council saw interest in both Chamber recruiting trips to entice employees of adidas and TW Services (now Flagstar) Canteen Corporation to the Spartanburg area. Cassandra Baker represented The Arts Council.

“Kultura” festival opened the cultural season with a celebration of Eastern Europe. For four months the Arts Council and affiliates offered an art exhibition, lectures and special events. The “Kultura” design and brochure won an Addy Award in 1991.

Holiday exhibits attracted 10,055 visitors.

The Southern Bell telephone directory featured The Arts Council on its front cover.

1991

“Treasure Trade,” a fund-raising event featuring antiques and collectibles for sale, was held for the second year.

The “Art of the Upstate Gallery” project began at the Greenville-Spartanburg Airport. It was co-sponsored by the chambers of both cities, The Arts Council and Greenville’s Metropolitan Arts Council.

A feasibility study for a proposed new Spartanburg Arts Center was presented by the Wolf Organization and the Cultural Center Foundation.

Colorful banners were placed on the façade of The Arts Center.

“Kidsplace” from Charlotte’s Discovery Place traveled to

The Arts Center. The Science Center sponsored the hands-on show for children and the attendance numbered 10,770.

The Paper won a Business and Arts Award in Columbia for outstanding support of the arts in Spartanburg.

Fund-raising color brochure on The Arts Council won an Addy Award.

Spartanburg County Council made a resolution designating The Arts Council to operate on behalf of Spartanburg County with respect to providing advancement, education and increased awareness of the arts in Spartanburg County.

The “Masterpiece Collector” series began in The Paper.

The Mary Wheeler Davis Scholarship Fund was established.

Cassandra Baker was elected President of The S.C. Arts Alliance.

The “Arts a’ la Carte” traveling exhibition program began.

1992

The “Arts 2001” Steering Committee was formed, beginning the cultural planning process.

The Gullah celebration and festival attracted more than 8,000; it was an exciting education program focusing on the rich heritage of the South Carolina Sea Islands.

The Arts-in-Education county-wide school residencies reached more than 27,000 students.

Arts Council staff coordinated and scheduled more than 100 interviews, meeting arrangements, county-wide public...
Silver Jubilee events began.
The Arts-in-Education program reached more than 30,000 students during 1992-93 school year.
The Arts Center was acknowledged as one of South Carolina's Top 20 attractions by the S.C. Dept. of Parks, Recreation and Tourism.

Jennifer Goldsborough, chief curator of the Maryland Historical Society, presented the Third Annual Gertrude Bagwell Lecture on the Decorative Arts. Her topic was "Lasting Legacy: Silver for the South."
The annual membership campaign, led by Fred G. Williams of First Citizens Bank, raised $236,000 and surpassed its goal.

Billboards, special events and a supplement to "The Paper" promoted the 25th anniversary of The Arts Council.


sessions, town meetings, media events and publicity for the cultural planning process.
The "Muse Machine" planning phase began for this innovative program that is targeted to secondary school students.

A two-day residency by the Chuck Davis African American Dance Ensemble was the highlight performance of the Council's multi-cultural programming. The residency was a collaborative effort in conjunction with Spartanburg Methodist College, Converse College and Pine Street Elementary School.

The Annual Membership Campaign, led by L. Andrew Westbrook, III, raised more than $230,000.

Howard Gombert and Allen Edgerton create the first "Holiday Express."

More than 17,000 people attended the holiday exhibits, which featured the LGB train display, live trees and shadowboxes depicting "A Visit from St. Nick."

Telecable picked up Cassandra Baker's "Artsmarts" for 1/2 hour visual arts programming airing bi-monthly.

25 Years

Jeanne Harley
25th Silver Anniversary Chairperson
1992-1993
Board of Directors

Sonia B. McDuffie
President
10 Years of Service

Leslie L. McMillan, Jr.
1st Vice President
Past President
11 Years of Service

Lawson Hayes, Jr.
2nd Vice President
Past Treasurer
5 Years of Service

Woodrow W. Willard, Jr.
Recording Secretary
5 Years of Service

Katie A. Hodge
Corresponding Secretary
7 Years of Service

Dr. Karl H. Sedlarz
Treasurer
2 Years of Service

L. Andrew Westbrook, III
Assistant Treasurer
Past Membership Cmtn. Chmn.
3 Years of Service

Ginger Schoen
Advisory Council Chairman
3 Years of Service

E. Graves Jones, Jr.
Life Member
13 Years of Service

Justine V. R. (Nita) Milliken
Life Member
25 Years of Service

Daingerfield Ashton
Exhibitions Chairman
5 Months of Service

Kathy Edwards Bell
1 Year of Service

W. David Ellis
1 Year of Service

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25 Years
Arts Council Employees

Cassandra Baker
Executive Director

Sherry Blackwood
Information Specialist

Judy Rynum
Director of Development

Kathy Campbell
Office Services

Jean Denton
Administrative Assistant

Allen Edgerton
Maintenance Supervisor

Cindy Fisher
Membership Campaign Asst.

Anne Greene
Information Specialist

Ava Hughes
Director of Special Projects

Luther Nesbitt
Custodial Services

Bill Taylor
Director of Operations

Employees Not Pictured

David Arnold
Security

Steven Aungst
Security

Eric Rodriguez
Security

Jack Bishop
Security

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25 Years
Fund Drives: 1975-1993

$250,000
$200,000
$150,000
$100,000
$50,000


25 Years
1993 Membership
Major Business and Foundation Contributors

Benefactor – $5,000 or More
Benefit Dance for the Arts
Milliken Foundation

Sustainer – $2,500 to $4,999
Century BMW
Cryovac Division, W. R. Grace & Co.
Duke Power Foundation

The Director’s Guild – $1,000 to $2,499
Alfred Moore Foundation
Belk-Hudson Co.
Blockbuster Video
C.T.E., Inc.
Georgia-Pacific
Hoechst Celanese Corporation

Patron – $500 to $999
Barnet Southern Corp.
Carolina Travel Consultants
Cherokee Textiles, Inc.
Conn Arts
COPAC
Epic Healthcare/Drs. Memorial Hospital
First Citizens Bank & Trust Co.
Jackson Mills
Lowndes Corporation
Martex Fiber Southern Corp.
McAbee, Talbert, Haliday & Co.
Michelin Tire Co.
Palmetto Textiles

Piedmont Natural Gas Co., Inc.
Spartanburg Sales & Marketing Executives
South Carolina National Bank
J. Floyd Mortuary/Floyd Cemeteries
Southern Bell
Spartanburg Chiropractic Clinic
Springs Industries, Inc., Fort Mill, SC
Sulzer Ruti, Inc.
The Paper
Tietex Corporation
Van Waters & Rogers, Inc.
Young Office Supply

1993 Operational, Equipment and Special Project Grants
S.C. Arts Commission
Spartanburg County
Carolina Southern Bank
S.C. Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism

The Friends of the Arts
County Accommodations Tax
City Accommodations Tax
Spartanburg County Foundation
Gold & Silver Levels – $1,000 or More

Mr. & Mrs. Hans J. Balmer
Mr. & Mrs. MacFarlane Cates Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Robert A. Harley
Mr. & Mrs. George Dean Johnson Jr.
Mr. E. Graves Jones Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. John M. Kohler
Mr. & Mrs. William C. Mayrose
Mr. & Mrs. Roger Milliken

Mr. Walter S. Montgomery Sr.
Mrs. Marguerite Gignilliat Old (Lexington, VA)
Mr. & Mrs. Jerome J. Richardson
Schottzie von Lera-Schloss (Germany)
Mr. & Mrs. Glenn A. Stackhouse
Mrs. Sally Gignilliat Stebbins (Marietta, GA)
Dr. Joe & Dr. Joella Utley

Bronze Level – $500 to $999

Mr. & Mrs. Robert W. Allen
Mr. W. D. Bain Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Stanley W. Baker
Mr. & Mrs. William Barnett III
Mrs. C. B. Barre
Mr. & Mrs. John W. Beeson
Mr. & Mrs. David M. Benson
Mrs. Anna M. Black
Mrs. Anne Blythe
Dr. & Mrs. James E. Bradof
Mr. & Mrs. Walter M. Cart Sr.
Mr. & Mrs. Robert H. Chapman III
Mr. & Mrs. Robert H. Chapman Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. W. Marshall Chapman
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur F. Cleveland
Mrs. Ginevra M. Cleveland
Mr. John B. Cleveland
Mrs. Frank H. Cunningham
Mr. R. P. Dawkins
Mr. & Mrs. Frederick B. Dent
Mrs. Byah T. Doxey
Mr. & Mrs. John Dulken
Dr. & Mrs. Harold Fleming
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence E. Flynn Jr.
Dr. & Mrs. Paul F. Foerster
Dr. & Mrs. Charles M. Fogarty
Mr. & Mrs. Philip F. Foster
Dr. & Mrs. J. Sidney Fulmer
Mr. & Mrs. John O. Gerson Jr.
Mrs. Lucy H. Grier
Mr. & Mrs. Roger Habreutinger
Dr. & Mrs. Gaines W. Hammonds
Mr. & Mrs. James L. Hamrick
Dr. & Mrs. Charles B. Hannah Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas E. Hannah
Mr. & Mrs. Cleveland S. Harley
Dr. & Mrs. R. Stephen Harley
Mr. & Mrs. Lawson Hayes Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hicklin Sr.
Dr. & Mrs. G. B. Hodge

Mrs. Wallace R. Irwin
Dr. & Mrs. Victor Iskersky
Mr. & Mrs. James W. Ivey
Mr. & Mrs. Henry Jacobs
Ms. Wallace Eppes Johnson
Mrs. Lionel D. Lawson
Mr. & Mrs. Paul H. Lehner
Mr. & Mrs. B. R. Littlejohn Jr.
Dr. & Mrs. Thomas J. Malone
Mrs. Paul V. Martin, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Gaines H. Mason Jr.
Dr. & Mrs. Roger A. McDuffic
Mr. & Mrs. Leslie L. McMillan Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. T. Sam Means Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Walter S. Montgomery Jr.
Mr. Peter Moore
Mr. & Mrs. George E. Mosley
Mr. & Mrs. Trey A. Neuburger
Mr. & Mrs. Dwight F. Patterson Jr.
Mrs. Thomas P. Pennell
Mr. & Mrs. Robert V. Pinson Jr.
Mr. Harry Price
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Proia
Mr. & Mrs. John F. Renfro Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Henry Repokis
Bill & Pat Roach
Mr. & Mrs. C. Leslie Roberson
Mr. & Mrs. Robert G. Rowell
Mr. & Mrs. Frederick Schoen
Dr. Karl Sedlarz
Mr. & Mrs. Theodore E. Smith
Mr. & Mrs. George E. Stone
Dr. W. Bruce Sumerel
Mr. & Mrs. George C. Todd Jr.
Mrs. Anne J. Vandiver
Mr. & Mrs. Woodrow W. Willard Jr.
Mrs. William G. Willard Jr.
Dr. & Mrs. David Wrenn
Mr. & Mrs. Kurt Zimmerli
1993 Membership
Significant Business and Individual Contributors

Collector – $250 to $499 – Business

ABCO Chemical Co.
Achem Corporation
American Federal Bank
American Speedy Print
Armstrong Textiles
Art-Craft & Frame
Atkins Machinery, Inc.
Blackwood Associates, Inc.
Budweiser of Spartanburg
Circuit City Foundation, Richmond, VA
Cline Brandt Kochenower
Consultex Corp.
First Federal of Spartanburg
First Union National Bank
Grier & Company
JBL Division
Lockwood Greene Engineers, Inc.
LSG Advertising Inc.
Music Foundation of Spartanburg
One Price Clothing
Palmetto Bank
Pettit Textile Machinery
Precision Bearing
Quality Plating, Inc.
Riedman Foundation
Rieter Corporation
Road Music and More
S.F.M. Corporation
Security Finance Corporation
Smith Animal Hospital
Spartanburg Ski Club, Inc.
Spartanburg Steel
SSM Corporation
Sue’s Way To Your Heart
Telecable of Spartanburg
The Felters Company
The First Savings Bank
Toledo Scale
Westinghouse Electric Corp.
White’s Pine Street Exxon
Zimmer Machinery Corp.

Collector – $250 to $499 – Individual

Mr. & Mrs. Julian H. Allen
Mr. John M. Armstrong
Dr. & Mrs. Lee Arnett
Mr. & Mrs. Earl C. Baker (Camden, SC)
Mr. & Mrs. John D. Bane
Dr. & Mrs. David P. Berry
Mrs. William C. Buchheit
Mrs. Sarah S. Butler
Ann & Michael Eickman
Mrs. Elizabeth Floyd
Dr. & Mrs. Robert J. Haas
Dr. L. Derek Herring
Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Iseman
Dr. & Mrs. James J. Jakubchak

Mr. & Mrs. John Martin Jr. (Columbus, NC)
Mr. & Mrs. George B. May Sr.
Mr. Carlos Moseley
Dr. David W. Nicholson
Mrs. Carolyn D. Pennell
Mr. & Mrs. William M. Price
Mr. & Mrs. Robert P. Richardson V
Dr. & Mrs. Thomas L. Roberts III
The Hon. & Mrs. Donald Russell
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Smith
Mr. & Mrs. James L. Switzer Jr.
Dr. & Mrs. Robert H. Taylor
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Westbrook III
Marcus B. & Mary O. White
Allen Funk's Wallpaper
Allstate Insurance Co.
American Fast Print
Atherton Electric Co.
BB&T
Beverage Air
Bi-Lo, Inc.
Blackman Uhler Chemical
BMG Music
Bondex, Inc.
Build-Lease Assocs., Inc.
Carolina Southern Bank
Case Brothers of Spartanburg
Clancy's
Cleveland, White & Assoc.
Coldwell Banker Newton Co.
Colonial Trust Company
Convention & Visitors Bureau
Coté Color & Chemical
D & R Construction
Deloitte & Touche (Greenville, SC)
Douglas Pest Control, Inc.
Evans Office Supply
Executive Quality Management
First Piedmont Fed. S & L
Foothills Family Pharmacies
Fowler Bros. Cleaners
Gateway Additive
Geiss & Sons Jewelers
General Travel Inc
George L. Johnson & Sons Ins.
Glen R. Melton Ins. Agency
Green Textile Assoc., Inc.
Griffin Gear
Hammond-Brown-Jennings, Inc.
Harris, Swain, Brown & Elliott
Haysken
Health Care Corporation
Henson Law Firm
Hodge Carpets
Image Collision
Interior Design Associates, Inc.
Intra, Inc.
J. C. Penney Co.

Curator – $100 to $249 – Business

Jones Tractor Co., Inc.
Krispy Kreme Doughnut Co.
Land-o-Sun Dairies Inc.
Leatherwood Walker Todd & Mann
Liquid Air Corporation
Mahlo America, Inc.
Main Street Café & Bakery
McNeil Patterson Insurance
Minimart Food Stores
National Starch & Chemical
New York Life – Linda Wagnon
Personnel Temps, Inc.
Phillips Fibers
Piedmont Fast Foods, Inc.
Pioneer Fibers
Polydeck Screen Corp.
Price's Store for Men
Professional Collision Repair
Rose Crouch Realty, Inc.
Safeguard Business Systems
Sears, Roebuck & Co.
Smith Barney
Smith's Drug Store #1
Synder's (Greenville, SC)
Southeastern Paper Group
Spartanburg National Bank
Sptbg. Coca-Cola Bottling Co.
Sptbg. Garden Club Council
Sunrise Civitan
Tate Metal Works
Tezza Tile Co.
The Correll Insurance Group
The Prudential-Reed & Young
Travel Connections
Union Camp
Vic Bailey Ford, Inc.
Wakefield Buick Inc.
Washburn and Company
Westmoreland McGarity Pitts Architects
Willard Oil Co., Inc.
William W. Starnes Florist
Wilson World Hotel
Winn Dixie Greenville (Greenville, SC)
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<td>Dr. &amp; Mrs. Benjamin L. Allen</td>
<td>Dr. &amp; Mrs. James G. Crowley III</td>
<td>Dr. &amp; Mrs. J. Vernon Jeffords</td>
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<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Danny E. Allen</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Fred L. Curtis</td>
<td>Dr. George Dean Johnson Sr.</td>
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<td>Dr. &amp; Mrs. G. Ashley Allen</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Howard W. Cutler</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Albert B. Jolly Jr.</td>
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<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Kenneth C. Anthony Jr.</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Lawrence Davis</td>
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<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Thomas L. Arthur</td>
<td>Dr. &amp; Mrs. Robert E. Dorlan Jr.</td>
<td>Dr. Ann J. Kelly</td>
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<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. John H. Bachman Jr.</td>
<td>Ms. Juliet Eaves</td>
<td>Dr. &amp; Mrs. Larry E. Kibler</td>
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<td>Mr. William M. Baker</td>
<td>Dr. &amp; Mrs. William C. Elston</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. James E. Kistler</td>
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<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. James F. Bailey</td>
<td>Dr. &amp; Mrs. Robert Estes</td>
<td>Mr. Ernest R. Klutz</td>
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<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. John P. Barber</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. T. Alexander Evins</td>
<td>Mr. Eric Knauss (Greer, SC)</td>
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<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Jack K. Barnes</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. John P. Faris</td>
<td>Dr. &amp; Mrs. Hans Kahn</td>
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<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Henry Barnet III</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. C. Robert Faucette</td>
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<td>Dr. &amp; Mrs. John S. Featherston</td>
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<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Sam Feemster</td>
<td>Walt R. Leonard, D.M.D.</td>
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<td>Mr. William S. Bean IV</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Robert B. Ferguson</td>
<td>Dr. &amp; Mrs. Bryan E. Lindsay</td>
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<td>Dr. &amp; Mrs. Jay Bearden</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Paul C. Fleischer</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. William Lowndes III</td>
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<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Anthony Bell</td>
<td>Rev. David A. Fort (Gaffney, SC)</td>
<td>John W. Mabry</td>
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<td>Dr. &amp; Mrs. Jerome V. Bennett</td>
<td>Mrs. Robert T. Foss</td>
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<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Kurt Benz</td>
<td>Mrs. J. R. Freeman</td>
<td>Miss Helen E. Mazalin</td>
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<td>Mrs. C. A. Bergan</td>
<td>Dr. &amp; Mrs. Kenneth E. Frick</td>
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<td>Ms. Jean P. Blackford</td>
<td>Dr. Walter R. Frye Jr.</td>
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<td>Mr. Joseph J. Blake</td>
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<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Louis Blanton</td>
<td>Dr. &amp; Mrs. Theodore Gage</td>
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<td>Dr. Betty J. Bramlett</td>
<td>Mrs. Alex N. Gee</td>
<td>Mr. W. Ray Miller</td>
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<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. George Brandt III</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Morris V. Gelders</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Fred D. Moffitt</td>
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<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Walter M. Brice III</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Henry C. Giles Jr.</td>
<td>Mark &amp; Karen Monson</td>
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<td>David &amp; Susan Britt</td>
<td>Mr. Lawrence O. Goldstein</td>
<td>Betty Ann Moore</td>
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<td>Dr. James E. Brown IV</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Joel Griffin</td>
<td>Colonel &amp; Mrs. John Wills Moses</td>
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<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. W. Randolph Brown</td>
<td>Dr. &amp; Mrs. James R. Gross</td>
<td>Mr. Griff Neumeyer</td>
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<td>Mrs. Alfred G. New</td>
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<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. F. Ben Haskwel Jr.</td>
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<td>Mrs. Elizabeth C. Burke</td>
<td>Mrs. Boyce V. Hawkins</td>
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<td>Dr. &amp; Mrs. Eugene M. Busch</td>
<td>Lawson &amp; Eaddy Williams Hayes</td>
<td>Miss Mary Nicholson</td>
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<td>Dr. &amp; Mrs. Brant Bynum</td>
<td>Mr. Mark Hayes Esq</td>
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<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Roy E. Hodge Jr.</td>
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<td>Dr. &amp; Mrs. Paul Holcomb</td>
<td>Ellen &amp; Jack Rutter</td>
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<td>Mrs. Helen D. Hubbard</td>
<td>Olin &amp; Muffet Sansbury</td>
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<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. William G. Humphrey</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Harry F. Schoen</td>
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<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. E. Dick Crenshaw</td>
<td>Dr. &amp; Mrs. L. Ronald Hurst</td>
<td>Dr. &amp; Mrs. Glenn Scott</td>
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<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. John H. Cross</td>
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<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Walton H. Scott</td>
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Curator – $100 to $249 – Individual (continued)

Dr. & Mrs. Peter A. Seroque
Mr. & Mrs. Jon Schuler
Mr. & Mrs. Albert V. Smith
Mr. & Mrs. John L. Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Roy McBee Smith
Mr. L. Terrell Solvey Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd R. Stallings
Mr. & Mrs. John A. Staples
Mr. & Mrs. Earl Steadman
Mr. & Mrs. Norbert A. Stirzaker
Barbara B. Strickler
Miss Mary Ellen Suit
Mrs. Catherine C. Swain
Dr. & Mrs. John T. Tate
Mr. & Mrs. John D. Teter
Mr. & Mrs. James O. Thomason

Mr. Ray E. Thompson
Dr. & Mrs. W. Howard Tiller Jr.
Dr. & Mrs. John H. Tillotson
Mr. & Mrs. Marion E. Tisdale
Dr. & Mrs. Perry N. Trakas
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas A. Tucker
Jack & Jane Turner
Ms. Sibyl C. Uhler
Dr. & Mrs. William S. Wagner
Mrs. Thomas E. Walsh
Mr. & Mrs. John Wardlaw
Mr. Hal G. Warlick Jr.
Dr. & Mrs. David F. Weir
Dr. Fred & Ann Wenz
Ms. Alma Workman
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce White

Mr. & Mrs. John B. White Jr.
Mr. W. Lewis White
Vera and Robert Whiteside
Mr. & Mrs. Myles W. Whitlock Jr.
Mr. F. Paschal Wilborn
Mr. & Mrs. Donald B. Wildman
Mrs. Louise E. Wilkes
Mr. & Mrs. Benjamin Willard
Mr. & Mrs. Wm. G. Willard II
Ms. Angela Willes
Mr. & Mrs. Fred G. Williams
Mr. & Mrs. Harry P. Williams Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Robert W. Wise
Jon & Suzanne Zoole

Fund Drive Chairmen

1975  Jean Thomas (fund drive for 5 years' funding)
1979  Cleveland Harley
1980  E. Graves Jones Jr.
1981  Andrew Crane
1982  William Barnett III
1983  J. Michael Kohler
1984  Lamar Hammett
1985  Mackie Horton

1986  Thomas Young III
1987  John Dargan
1988  John Easterling
1989  Gaines Mason
1990  Robert P. Richardson V
1991  Robert P. Richardson V
1992  Andrew Westbrook III
1993  Fred G. Williams

Life Member Nita Milliken and Corresponding Secretary Katie Hodge discuss the arts at the Peggy Guggenheim Society tribute October 1993.

Mr. & Mrs. Roland Stebbins (Sally Guggenheim Stebbins, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Charles Guggenheim) join Mr. & Mrs. Les McMillan (vice president) at the Converse Alumnae House for the 1993 Peggy Guggenheim Society party, sponsored by Telecable and A & E.

Funded in part by the S.C. Arts Commission, which receives support from the National Endowment for the Arts

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25 Years

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