



BRUSH CREEK **K**COMMUNITY PARTNERS
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BRUSH CREEK CORRIDOR CHRONICLE

April 2011

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Dear Kathy,

There is a lot of great news in this edition of the *Brush Creek Corridor Chronicle*. Lots of awards, not the least of which is a Pulitzer Prize for a member of the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music and Dance. And people are planting trees, real ones and an artistic one, to enhance the Brush Creek Corridor.

While we usually report on positive news in the *Chronicle*, sometimes we must focus on some sad news. In this case it's real bad news in the making. However, it can be avoided.

The Heart of America Shakespeare Festival (HASF) may have to cancel its 19th season if it cannot raise \$100,000 by next Wednesday, May 4.

People, we cannot let this happen!

The Festival has been a part of the fabric of our Cultural Corridor since its founding. Almost 500,000 people have enjoyed these FREE, professional productions in Southmoreland Park. It is a substantial employer of our local, robust theatre community.

In the interest of full disclosure, I was a member of the HASF Board of Directors for six years. I have always

believed in the transformative power of the arts and their significance in a vibrant and healthy community. I witnessed the impact of the Shakespeare Festival on the life of our community on so many levels when I was on the board, and continue to do so when I take my lawn chair and picnic basket to the park every summer.

Like so many other cultural offerings in the Brush Creek Corridor, the productions are offered free for a reason...to make them accessible to everyone. So even if Shakespeare is not your cup of tea, it's been there for someone else, enlightening, educating, and yes, transforming.

So let's find away to keep the gates of the festival grounds open this summer so a few thousand people can experience *MacBeth*. Visit www.kcshakes.org for more information or to make a contribution...today!

Thank you!

Carol Grimaldi
Executive Director
Brush Creek Community Partners

UMKC CONSERVATORY PROFESSOR GARNERS PULITZER

University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music and Dance Research Professor of Music Composition Zhou Long has won a Pulitzer Prize for Opera, for his composition *Madame White Snake*, which premiered on February 26, 2010 by Opera Boston. *Madame White Snake* is a deeply expressive opera that draws on a Chinese folk tale to blend the musical traditions of the East and the West. Zhou, who joined the UMKC faculty in 2001, brought with him a long list of prestigious awards and commissions, as well as a compelling life story.



Born in 1953 in Beijing, he grew up in a family that encouraged his musical talents, especially on the piano. His lessons were interrupted during China's Cultural Revolution, when he was relocated to a rural state farm. He resumed his musical training in 1973. Zhou and his wife,

the renowned composer Chen Yi, were invited about five years ago to compose a production for Opera Boston.

The Pulitzer Committee also announced UMKC Alumnus Mike Keefe has received this year's Pulitzer Prize for editorial cartooning. He is a cartoonist for The Denver Post. Keefe received his B.A. and M.A. degrees at UMKC while also teaching Math in the College of Arts and Sciences.

FERMENT DEDICATION TOMORROW



Photo courtesy of the Nelson-Atkins' web cam.

For the last two weeks, people traveling the Brush Creek Corridor have watched the construction of a 56-foot stainless steel sculpture of a tree in the Kansas City Sculpture Park of the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art. The tree, *Ferment*, by internationally acclaimed artist Roxy Paine, will be dedicated tomorrow, April 29, at an event that begins at 10 a.m. in the Bloch Lobby of the museum. *Ferment* was constructed at Paine's studio in Treadwell, NY and transported to the museum. It was commissioned by Martin Friedman, Hall Family Foundation consultant for the museum's Sculpture Park for 20 years, and was funded by the foundation.

SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL LITERALLY ASKS "TO BE OR NOT TO BE?"

After 18 years of offering free, professional Shakespeare in Southmoreland Park, the Heart of America Shakespeare Festival faces canceling its 2011 season if it cannot raise \$100,000 by Wednesday, May 4.

This year's production - *MacBeth* - is scheduled to run June 14 through July 3. Over half a million people have enjoyed the Shakespeare Festival, a major employer of theatre professionals in Kansas City, since it was introduced in 1993. The John C. Griswold Foundation is matching a portion of the donations received.



Visit www.kcshakes.org for more information or to make a contribution.

HOORAY, PEMBROKE HILL!!



*Congratulations to the team: Austin Caldwell,
Foster Honeck, Riley Sloan, Jeffrey Rubel,
Hossain Ghassemi and alternate, Ryan Hrinya.
The Advisor for the Pembroke Hill team is
SueAnn Wright.*

Pembroke Hill School's Envirothon team took first place at Missouri competition for the third year in a row, earning it a trip to the Canon Envirothon this July in New Brunswick, Canada.

The team won three of the six resource events at the state competition: Oral Presentation, Aquatic Ecology, and Forestry.

HABITAT IMPROVEMENTS PLANNED FOR BRUSH CREEK OXBOW

Volunteers Needed to Help Plant in May

Green Works in Kansas City, a program to provide environmental education and workforce development for urban teens, will undertake planting native plants, shrubs and trees in the natural oxbow formation of Brush Creek, located just west of the Benton Bridge. Volunteers are needed to join the Green Works students and their partners from the Kansas City Parks and Recreation Department, the Missouri Department of Conservation, and Burns and MacDonnell for a couple Saturday mornings in May.



On May 7 approximately 100 shrubs and 36 trees will be planted and beaver fencing will be installed around the trees. On May 21st, 3600 native plants will be planted along the banks of the creek. The work is scheduled from 9 a.m. to noon. Volunteers are asked to provide their own gloves, and, if they have them, a large shovel on the first day and a planting spade on the second Saturday. Parking is available at the Brush Creek Community Center, 3801 Brush Creek Boulevard.

The project is funded by a grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. For more information, contact kate@greenworkskc.org.

ROCKHURST RESTRUCTURES MBA



The Helzberg School of Management at Rockhurst University has restructured its master of business administration program to give students a more intensive focus on personal growth. The program will still include standard foundational courses in disciplines such as finance, economics and marketing but will now involve an integrated approach that includes tools to improve self awareness, and leadership capacity, personalized career coaching. Students will also be paired with a mentor in the business community and invited to educational and social events with Rockhurst MBA alumni and other corporate leaders. In addition, the new program allows students greater flexibility by offering five points throughout the year to begin the program. Visit www.rockhurst.edu/hsom for more information.

SOUTHTOWN AWARDS RECOGNIZE IMPACT

Several Brush Creek Corridor standouts are being recognized by the Southtown Council for their positive impact on the community. On May 17, University of Missouri-Kansas City Chancellor Leo Morton will receive the business organization's Public Achievement Award. UMKC will also receive beautification awards for the new Student Union and the expansion of the Miller Nichols Library.



Leo Morton



UMKC Student Union

Also being honored for community improvement and investment are the Kansas City Area Transportation Authority for the introduction of the Troost MAX bus rapid transit line, and Swope Community Builders and Swope Health Services for the opening of Swope Health South Community Medical Clinic.

COMING UP IN THE CORRIDOR

Kansas City Art Institute End-of-Semester Exhibition and Sale

Friday, May 6

5:00 to 8:00 pm - Exhibition and Sale
6:00 pm - Performance art, digital filmmaking, audio art, music and new media event in Epperson Auditorium in Vanderslice Hall.



Saturday, May 7

10:00 am to 5:00 pm - Exhibition and Sale

Sunday, May 8

Noon to 5:00 pm - Exhibition and Sale

Fees: Free

Location: Pieces will be displayed in the various studio building on campus at 4415 Warwick Boulevard, Kansas City, MO

The exhibition and sale will showcase contemporary student artwork in a wide range of media, featuring two- and three-dimensional work by students in the departments of ceramics, digital filmmaking, fiber, graphic design, illustration, painting, photography, printmaking and sculpture. Work can be purchased beginning on Friday, but in some cases it will not be permitted to remove the purchased work from the exhibition until Sunday. Visit www.kcai.edu for more information.

Roxy Paine: Scumaks and Dendroids
Exhibition Compliments

Ferment Sculpture Installation at Nelson-Atkins

Date: April 29 to August 28
Time: Wednesday, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm
Thursday & Friday, 10:00 am to 9:00 pm
Saturday, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm
Sunday, Noon to 5:00 pm

Fees: Free

Location: Bloch Building Lobby of the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art at 4525 Oak Street, Kansas City, MO

The *Roxy Paine: Scumaks and Dendroids* exhibition provides visitors a rare look at art while it's being created. A sculpture-making machine designed by artist Roxy Paine melts plastic polyethylene beads with pigments and periodically extrudes them, creating unique, bulbous-shaped sculptures. The completed sculptures will be displayed on pedestals for the duration of the exhibition. Forty-two sculptures are expected to be created throughout the course of the exhibition.

Visit www.nelson-atkins.org for more information.



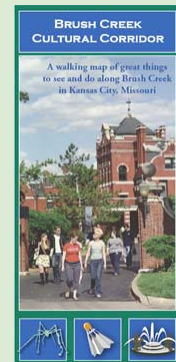
Roxy Paine. Scumak No. 2, 2001. Aluminum, computer, conveyor, electronics, extruder, stainless steel, polyethylene, Teflon, 90 x 276 x 73 in. (228.6 x 701 x 185.4 cm). Copyright the artist. Courtesy James Cohan Gallery, New York/Shanghai. Photo: Mitch Cope

For a complete listing of events and activities in the Corridor, visit

www.kcartswalk.com

BRUSH CREEK CULTURAL CORRIDOR WALKING MAPS AVAILABLE

Brush Creek Cultural Corridor maps identify and connect our community's cultural assets along Kansas City's Brush Creek Corridor. Copies of this map are available by contacting Brush Creek Community Partners at 816-523-2991 or email kathy@bccp.org.



For more information about

Brush Creek Community Partners,
visit our website at
www.bccp.org

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