

Ways to Connect with Celebrating the Arts

“I would love to see the arts engage the imagination of our community in such a way that people would see themselves as being made in the image of God, and that there would be joy and a sense of responsibility with that revelation. We don’t talk about Jesus of Nazareth as an artist, but we do talk about him as a storyteller and I think storytelling is an art. Through it he engaged people. It was a powerful event in people’s lives—they were drawn into it and were forced to respond.”

~Kenny Woodall, New City Community

Make a Difference through Your Life

- Take advantage of the wealth of artistic venues and cultural opportunities that are present in the Knoxville area.
- Engage artists within the arts community in dialogues about your faith.
- Encourage Christian artists to get involved in our community.

Make a Difference as a Volunteer

Connect with the following organization that celebrates the arts:

The WordPlayers: 865-539-2490, www.wordplayers.org

A community of Christian theatre artists that provide artistically excellent programming and a dedication to the mission of using theatre to explore Judeo-Christian values for education, enlightenment, and entertainment.

- Help with mailings, marketing, and publicity.
- Sew costumes, make props, or work backstage in preparation for a show.
- Serve as an usher during a show.
- Assist teachers as they provide acting instructions for young people.
- Groups: Serve as a production team to build, put in, and strike sets.

Make a Difference through Your Church

- Church leaders are encouraged to contact WordPlayers (865-539-2490) to bring touring shows to their congregations.

Make a Difference through Prayer

- Pray that The WordPlayers will have consistent sources of financial support and be able to find quality scripts to present productions that impact audiences for Christ.
- Pray that additional dedicated Christian artists would make their home in Knoxville.

How to Learn More

- The WordPlayers (865-539-2490) offers acting instruction for young people during the summer. For additional information, visit www.wordplayers.org.
- The Arts & Culture Alliance (www.knoxalliance.com) provides information on the

amazing variety of performing arts venues, programs, performances, historical attractions, and museums that create East Tennessee's unique character and appeal.

- Downtown Knoxville (http://www.downtownknoxville.org/play/annual_events.cfm) hosts a wide variety of festivals throughout the year, including:
 - **First Fridays on Market Square**
The first Friday of the month on Market Square features a gallery walk of art, unique shops, music and more.
 - **Market Square Farmers' Market**
Producer-only regional farmers' market featuring baked goods, organic produce, fresh herbs, artisan crafts, free range meat and eggs and more.
 - **Rossini Festival Street Fair**
The Knoxville Opera Company celebrates the annual Italian festival, Rossini, with a street fair, stage performances, children's activities and more on Gay Street.
 - **Dogwood Arts Festival**
From festivals and garden walks to Easter egg hunts and art exhibitions, the Dogwood Arts Festival, is an annual Knoxville event you won't want to miss. Visit www.dogwoodarts.com for a complete list of events.
 - **Sundown in the City**
Market Square is the place to be on Thursday nights for free, outdoor concerts. Enjoy music from local and national acts while enjoying all that downtown Knoxville and Market Square has to offer.

Additional organizations that celebrate the arts in the Knoxville area:

Arts & Culture Alliance of Greater Knoxville: 865-523-7543, www.knoxalliance.com
Serves and supports a diverse community of artists, arts organizations, and cultural institutions by assuring their creative, financial, and operational well being. Provides leadership and advocacy that establishes and maintains the success of the arts and cultural environment of greater Knoxville, as well as providing for a strong climate for cultural and economic interaction between the arts and the community as a whole.

Joy of Music School: 865-525-6806, www.joyofmusicschool.org
Provides quality music education programs for financially disadvantaged youth. Founded in 1998 upon the belief that all young people should have the opportunity to experience and create music regardless of income.

Jubilee Community Arts: 865-522-5851, www.jubileearts.org
A regional, community cultural center dedicated to preserving and presenting the traditional arts of the Southern Appalachians.

The Nativity Pageant of Knoxville, Inc.: 865-579-323, www.knoxvillenativity.com
A powerful and dramatic hour-long presentation of the Christmas story that involves realistic settings, effective lighting, real animals, orchestral and choral music, and

authentic costumes. Volunteers from the community make up the 120-member cast, as well as the 150-voice choir, and include people of all ages, both sexes, and a variety of races.

New City Community: 865-544-0100, www.newcitycommunity.org

With an emphasis on missional arts, they are committed to come alongside local, regional, and national projects and help them achieve authenticity. Principally concerned with inspiring the Church with a vision for missional living and equipping God's people to live lives of faith, hope, and love as embedded witnesses within an alien culture.