



Northern Arts News

A Publication of the Region 2 Arts Council

September/October 2010
Vol. 13 No. 2

Guest Commentary: An American Phenomenon Comes to Town

By Marsh Muirhead

By now, most of you know Billy Collins, former Poet Laureate of the United States, is coming to Bemidji on Sept. 25th. Many of you have already purchased your \$20 general admission ticket, aware that this event may sell out. If you haven't decided to take advantage of this opportunity, I'm here to change your mind.

Billy, nearing seventy, has been the rock star of poetry in this country for some time. A New York Times writer recently called him "the point guard and prom king of amiable American poets." Several years ago his six-figure book contract turned the publishing world upside down.

Billy Collins packs auditoriums wherever he goes. In the wake of his departure, the ripples continue for some time. People who didn't think they'd enjoy the evening (dragged there, perhaps, by an insistent spouse or friend) come to work on Monday quoting Billy, perhaps reading from one of his books—maybe the poem about the cranky dog, writing from heaven, or the one with the blues singer who sings, "If you don't love me baby, would you please try to fool me good."

He has been called "an American phenomenon" and the most popular poet since Robert Frost because he is funny and profound, honest and very entertaining. Most importantly, he is a flawed everyman—someone who illuminates and confesses his (and our) shortcomings—self-importance, jealousy, cynicism, real and imaginary fears—and then forgives us all, embracing our flawed humanity.

There is more to Billy's appearance here besides the "evening with" at the

Bemidji High School Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. on Sept. 25th. At 10 a.m. that day, Billy will present a ninety minute craft lecture (it's more fun than that sounds) at the Paul Bunyan Playhouse (PBP) in downtown Bemidji. The event is free and everyone is welcome. This informal and wide-ranging discussion should have great appeal for teachers, readers and writers both beginning and advanced. It will feature a question and answer session. A book signing at Book World, just next door, will follow the event at the PBP.

Finally, this: After the reading at the high school, your ticket stub will get you admission to the reception honoring Billy, at the Headwaters School of Music in downtown Bemidji. There will be refreshments, appetizers and music by The Clearwater Hot Club. A Poet Laureate, music, free food and drinks—all for \$20!

This non-profit endeavor comes to us via The Headwaters School of Music and the Arts, under the direction of Janet Brademan. Although it sounds like a cliché, this event, truly, would not be possible without a generous grant from The Neilson Foundation, an Arts and Cultural Heritage Grant from Region 2 Arts Council and further support from Bemidji Area Arts Endowment.

Billy once said that babies are born with a knowledge of poetry because the lub-dub of the mother's heart is in iambic pentameter. Then, he said, life starts to choke the poetry out of us. He will return much of that poetry back to us on September 25th. I hope you will be there.

Marsh Muirhead is a Bemidji area dentist, flight instructor, photographer and writer.

Workshop Funding Available

R2AC invites individuals and organizations from Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, Lake of the Woods and Mahnommen counties to propose workshop ideas for direct funding. The workshop is funded with no financial risk to you.

The workshop must focus on learning experiences for adult artists and be open to the public. Any group that wants to bring in an artist to do a workshop is eligible, as are regional artists who wish to present a workshop themselves. Proposals are considered on an ongoing basis, but funds are limited. The sooner you contact us, the better.

For an application, visit <http://r2arts.org> or call the R2AC office at 218-751-5447 or 800-275-5447.

The Golden Years

by Billy Collins

All I do these drawn-out days
is sit in my kitchen at Pheasant Ridge
where there are no pheasants to be seen
and last time I looked, no ridge.

I could drive over to Quail Falls
and spend the day there playing bridge,
but the lack of a falls and the absence of quail
would only remind me of Pheasant Ridge.

I know a widow at Fox Run
and another with a condo at Smokey Ledge.
One of them smokes, and neither can run,
so I'll stick to the pledge I made to Midge.

Who frightened the fox and bulldozed the ledge?
I ask in my kitchen at Pheasant Ridge.

R2AC Welcomes New Board Members

The R2AC would like to welcome Malotte Backer and Diana McLain to our Board of Directors!

Malotte Backer will represent Clearwater County and has been an art enthusiast for most of her life. She spent years focusing on painting, has dabbled in rosemaking and is a musician. She taught piano in Bagley. Malotte has dedicated her creative energy to pottery for the past six years and was the recipient of an Individual Artist Grant through the R2AC. Malotte values the impact R2AC grants have on individual artists and communities in Region 2 and looks forward dedicating her time to the council.

Diana McLain will represent Lake of the Woods County. She is an artist of many flavors, pursuing drawing, photography, painting and poetry. She sings, plays guitar and has dabbled in song writing. Diana looks forward to promoting the arts in Lake of the Woods County and doing all she can to help create opportunities for area artists to pursue their interests and projects.

We are thrilled to have Malotte and Diana on board and look forward to their insights as we begin the new year!

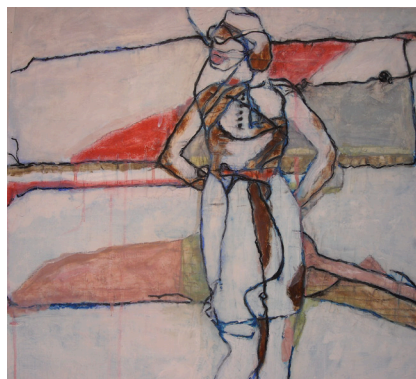
MPR Launches New Online Service

Minnesota Public Radio (MPR) announced the debut of "Minnesota Today," a new online service that aims to amplify Minnesota arts, culture and statewide current events. Visit www.mntoday.mprnewsq.org/scenes to view this new service.

Showcase Artist

Ashleigh Buck

"Tall Girl #1"
20" x 20"
Acrylic on canvas



~See Page 4 for more from Ashleigh~

NORTHERN ARTS NEWS is a free publication of the Region 2 Arts Council, published 6 times per year, with a distribution of over 1,300.

Funded by a grant from the McKnight Foundation, *Northern Arts News* provides news and information to artists in Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, Lake of the Woods, and Mahnommen counties of north central Minnesota.

We welcome:

- story topic ideas;
- guest commentary topic ideas;
- names to add to our mailing list;
- collaboration and registration notifications.

To submit information and/or to be added to our mailing list, contact the R2AC office:

Call: 218-751-5447 or 1-800-275-5447

FAX: 218-751-2777

E-mail: staff@r2arts.org

Website: <http://r2arts.org>

Northern Arts News
Region 2 Arts Council
426 Bemidji Avenue
Bemidji, MN 56601

Fiscal Year 2011 Board of Directors

Karen Edevold, <i>Chair</i>	Clearwater	694-6201
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Sue Hopkins, <i>Secretary</i>	Lake of the Woods	634-3343
Germaine Riegert, <i>Treasurer</i>	Mahnomen	473-2566
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Kathy Gustafson	Beltrami	586-2973
Malotte Backer	Clearwater	694-2388
Sandra Fynboh	Hubbard	652-3212
Lois Schaedler	Mahnomen	935-2843

Executive Director: Terri Widman
Program Coordinator: Katie Carter
Executive Assistant: Holly Alcott
Newsletter Editor: Amy Zimmermann

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GUEST COMMENTARY inquiries are invited. Submit your topic idea to Terri Widman by telephone, FAX, or e-mail. Selected works must be previously unpublished and fit within the space allotment.

Due to the advanced print deadlines of this publication, we suggest that you call to confirm dates, times, and other pertinent information about events and opportunities listed here.

R2AC Awards \$3,000 in Artist Mentor Grants.

Eric Haugen, Bemidji, received \$600 to help cover the costs of attending the Bowdoin International Music Festival in Brunswick, Maine.

Mitchel Hoffmann, Laporte, was awarded \$600 to work one on one with Guthrie metal artist, Paula Jenson.

Gabriela Karam, Nevis, received \$600 to study jazz and improvisational saxophone under Dr. Steve Konecne.

Carl Graefe, Bemidji, was awarded \$600 to work with ukulele builder Jeff Burger to create his own instrument to play and then pass on to generations after him.

Miranda Rosequist, Bemidji, received \$600 to work with mentor Nina Lubarski to fine tune the shading and texturing in her pencil drawings.

Open Mic Performance at Long Lake Theater

Every Saturday night in September at 7 p.m.
Each performance will benefit the Hubbard County Food Shelf

Admission: A cash donation or non-perishable food item.

Performers of all sorts including writers, musicians, comedians and actors are encouraged to step up to the mic.

For more information, contact Long Lake Theater at 218-732-0099 or longlake-theater@hotmail.com. The theater is located in Hubbard (8 miles SE of Park Rapids).

Plains Art Museum Upcoming Events Fargo, North Dakota

Sept. 10 *Andrea Carlson: VORE*

Carlson draws from a deep well of influence and focuses on the shared significance of occurrences like museum exhibitions and exploitation films, each carrying their own distinct values in portraying culture. Carlson is a Minnesota native and has received the McKnight/MCAD Foundation Fellowship for Visual Artists. Her work has been shown throughout Minnesota and abroad.

Sept. 15 5:30-7 p.m. *Mike Swenson, a singer/songwriter.*

Growing up between big cities and desolate prairie, his music and poetry tends to bring a sense of just how crazy life can be. Mixing a blend of old country/pop with a bit of a modern folk twist, he keeps things original and often humorous, leaving audiences wanting to know how the story is going to end.

Sept. 23 *The Photography Collection of Fred Scheel*

This collection includes 167 photographs by Frederick Benedict Scheel, a serious and accomplished photographer who studied with Ansel Adams and other notable photographers and amassed one of the best collections of photography in the nation. Opening reception 6:30-8:30 p.m. Sept. 23.

More information, contact 701-232-3821 or visit www.plainsart.org.

R2AC Offers Grants

R2AC has several upcoming grant deadlines for eligible artists and art organizations in the five-county area of Region 2, which includes Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, Lake of the Woods and Mahanomen Counties.

Arts Project Grants

September 15 & March 10

For any organization, school or community group that needs funding assistance with an arts project or event.

Anishinaabe Arts Initiative Grants

October 6 & March 2

Grants awarded to individuals for projects that address AAI's mission of supporting, maintaining and promoting traditional and contemporary Native American art.

Individual Artists Grants

October 7 & February 10

Designed for artists at various career stages for production or exhibition of art, performances, workshop fees, materials/equipment, mentorships and projects.

R2AC/McKnight Career Development Fellowship

January 19

Provides artists with substantial financial support for advancement in their careers and innovating their work.

Arts and Cultural Heritage Grant

January 19

Available to artists, arts organizations, cultural heritage groups, nonprofit organizations and local governments. The grant supports arts activities in Arts and Arts Access, Arts Education and Arts and Cultural Heritage to produce high quality arts activities, public art, artist residencies in schools, life-long arts education and arts and cultural heritage projects.

For information and applications, contact R2AC. 218-751-5447 or 800-275-5447. Visit: <http://r2arts.org> or e-mail: staff@r2arts.com.

Headwaters School of Music and the Arts

Beginner's Watercolor Class

Join local artist Malisa Van Maasdam for her popular watercolor class. Learn basic watercolor techniques as a fun, creative outlet and make art to take home. Cost of the class is \$25.

Adult beginner's class:	Ages 8-13
Thursdays, Oct. 7 and 14	Thursdays, Oct. 7 and 14
4 - 5 p.m.	5 - 6 p.m.

Crafts Class

Malisa Van Maasdam has no limit to creativity in this class. Create fun clothing, jewelry, art and accessories out of simple, reusable items. For ages 8-13.

Thursdays, Oct. 21 and 28	5 - 6 p.m.
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Beginner's Watercolor Collage Workshop

Join local artist Terry Honstead for her autumn collage workshops. This workshop will use washes and several types of collage from magazines, papers and napkins to complete paintings. Participants will learn about focal point, importance of light and dark and texture with watercolor, salt, spattering, dripping, etc.

At the end of the workshop, participants will have a completed painting to take home. Cost: \$45, supplies included. This workshop is for adults and teens.

Saturday, Oct. 16	10 - 3 p.m.
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Clay Workshops

A recent grant from Region 2 Arts Council has allowed us to purchase four new pottery wheels. Come celebrate with us as we offer new workshops and classes!

Wheel Throwing Demonstration

Tom Daly will be at HSMA with a wheel throwing demonstration using 20 pounds of clay to throw a bowl. He will focus on off-the-hump throwing techniques. Each participant will get a chance to try a variety of techniques. Free workshop.

Thursday, October 21	2 p.m.
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Working Wet Workshop

Tom will demonstrate ways of altering the form and surface of freshly thrown pots. Pots made in this way can look spontaneous and animated, reflecting the process of working with wet clay. Squaring, ovaling, fluting and faceting will be shown. Cost: \$60.

October 28 and 29	10-3 both days
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Monthly Clay Classes with Tom Daly offered Mondays, Oct. 4, 11, 18 and 25.

Cost: \$55/month.

Ages 8-13: 4:15 - 5:30 p.m.	Ages 14-Adults: 6:30 - 8 p.m.
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Songwriting Workshop

Composer and musician Andrew Green will teach Beginning and Intermediate songwriting classes. Learn how to write music and lyrics and create finished songs. Cost: \$75 for all four session dates. Saturdays: Oct. 2, 9, 16 and 23.

Beginning Songwriting
12:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Intermediate Songwriting
3 - 5 p.m.

Wildflower Design Studios
presents:

The Opener Arts Festival Art Sale

Visual arts/fall gift show open to all areas of visual arts. 48 booths available. Electricity, tables and chairs available upon request for \$10 for tables and chairs.

Festival date:	Sat. Nov. 6
Open:	9-5

Set up Friday Nov. 5 from 6-9 p.m.
Cost: \$75 for 10x10 booth

Location: New City Ballroom
2300 2nd St. NW, Bemidji
(Behind Target and Home Depot)

Artwork will be juried - please submit 3-5 photos of proposed art along with applications.

Send applications to:
Wildflower Design Studios
PO Box 610
Bemidji, MN 56619

Open until full.

For information and applications, visit www.wildflowerdesigns.wordpress.com or call 218-556-5907.

Northern Arts News

Submission deadline

October 7

for the

Nov./Dec. issue

Please send to:

amy.zimmermann@hotmail.com

or

Katiecarter@r2arts.org

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FIRST FRIDAY ART WALK

September 3
October 1

Downtown Bemidji

More information in our
"Calendar of Events" under each
participating business or gallery.

SEPTEMBER

Through September and October Bemidji Community Art Center presents Works in Wood - an exhibit of functional, handcrafted work by nine local artists. Join us for the **First Friday** Art Walk opening reception Sept. 3rd from 5-7 p.m. This exhibit runs through Oct. 23rd. The BCAC is free and open to the public. Visit the Art Center and Shop 426 at 426 Bemidji Ave N (Carnegie Library) or www.bcac.wordpress.com. Contact us at 218-444-7570 or at bcac@paulbunyan.net. Hours are Tues.-Fri. 12-5p.m. and Sat. 12-4 p.m.

Through September 29 **Wild Hare Bistro and Coffeehouse** presents fiber artist Kristin Majkrzak. She uses wool or cotton warp yarns and wool and silk weft yarns in her work, weaves on various size frame looms and will feature one woven piece from hand spun and hand dyed yarns. Join us for her opening reception during the **First Friday** Art Walk, Sept. 3rd from 3-5 p.m. After the Art Walk, experience Wild Hare's own culinary artists at the **First Friday** Wine Bar, from 5-9 p.m. featuring a new menu every month with a wine and beer list to match. 523 Minnesota Ave. in downtown Bemidji. 218-444-5282.

Sept. 23 **The Beltrami County Historical Society** presents the first ever "Historic Downtown

Bemidji Pub Crawl" at 7 p.m. The crawl starts at the History Center and will encompass a historic walking tour of downtown Bemidji with reenactments of the life and times of area residents portrayed by local actors. This event includes a T-shirt and beverage at each pub/restaurant. Tickets may be purchased at the History Center, 120 Minnesota Ave. SW. For details, call 218-444-3376.

Sept. 25-26 **Art Leap** in Park Rapids. A driving tour of artists' studios and other cultural destinations. Meet artists and artisans in their studios and workshops. Live performances at Long Lake Theater, Terrapin Station and the Minnesota Folklore Theater. Maps available online at www.parkrapids.com and www.prlaac.org. Maps can be picked up at the Park Rapids Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce.

Sept. 26 **The Bemidji Concert Series** presents Tien-Hsin Cindy Wu at the Thompson Recital Hall at Bemidji State University. Tickets at the door: \$20 adults, \$5 students. For more information, 218-755-2915.

Sept. 26 **Myles Reif Performing Arts Center** presents Golden Dragon Acrobats. This

performance features astounding acrobatics, traditional Chinese dance, contortionists, tumblers and jugglers. 7:30 p.m. Tickets: Adult \$25, Senior \$23 and Students \$13. For more information, www.reifcenter.org.

OCTOBER

Oct. 1 **Bemidji Symphony Orchestra** presents "Testament of Spirit" featuring Stephen Carlson and Beethoven's "Emperor Concerto." Premiere of Joseph Adam's Soul Discovery written following the events of Sept. 11, 2001 and Grieg's Peer Gynt Suite No. 1. 3 p.m. at the Bemidji High School Auditorium. Tickets: at the door and Lueken's North: \$20 adult; \$15 senior/student.

Oct. 1 **Bemidji Community Art Center** presents writer Maureen Gibbon as a part of the Spoken Word Series at the Art Center. Join us for the reception and reading Oct. 1st from 5-7 p.m. during the **First Friday** Art Walk. This activity is made possible, in part by the Bemidji Area Arts Endowment, a component fund of the Northwest Minnesota Foundation. For more information on the Spoken Word event or other BCAC activities, visit www.bcac.wordpress.com.

Bemidji Area Arts Endowment Oompah for the Arts 8th Annual Fundraiser Friday, September 17, 2010

The \$50 ticket price includes Wine and Beer Tasting from 6-7 p.m., German dinner at 7p.m. and music by Tuba Jim and Friends.

Bemidji Town and Country Club
\$50 per person

For tickets:

Contact Mike Tangen at 218-444-8310

The Bemidji Area Arts Endowment is a component fund of the Northwest Minnesota Foundation.

Oct. 1 Wild Hare Bistro and Coffeehouse presents "The Art of Survival" for Domestic Abuse Awareness Month in October. The kick off event will be held from 3-5 p.m. and will feature the poetry and art of Kathryn Anne Lavelle as well as speakers and advocates for survivors of domestic abuse in our community. Call 218-444-5282 for details.

Oct. 1 Myles Reif Performing Arts Center presents Mad Science: CSI Live at 7 p.m. Tickets: Adults \$15, Seniors \$13 and Students \$10. For information, www.reifcenter.org

Oct. 16 The Beltrami County Historical Society presents "Finding Your Roots - Journals, Journey and Generations" history conference 8:30-4 p.m. at Beltrami Electric, Bemidji. Conference includes six speakers, silent auction and catered lunch. Advanced tickets available at the History Center: \$30 for BCHS members, \$35 general public and \$40 at the door. For more information, call 218-444-3376.

Oct. 23, 24, 30, 31 "In the Family Way" an original musical comedy by Beverlee Olson and Jane Muller. Matinee 2 p.m. Evening 7 p.m. at the Lake George Senior Center. Tickets on sale at Bad Cat Gallery, Bemidji, Beagle Bookss, Park Rapids, and Lake George Cafe. Adults \$15, Groups of 8 or more \$10, Children 12 and under \$7.

Oct. 25 Myles Reif Performing Arts Center presents the Vienna Boys Choir. Tickets: Adults \$25, Seniors \$23 and Students \$13. For information, www.reifcenter.org.

Oct. 30 The Bemidji Concert Series presents VocalEssence at the Thompson Recital Hall at Bemidji State University. Tickets at the door: \$20 adult, \$5 students. For more information, 218-755-2915.

KG Entertainment and the Paul Bunyan Playhouse

present

"Out of the Hat"

Saturday, Sept. 25

8 p.m.

Bemidji's Famous Chief Theater

General admission: \$10

Bemidji's finest actors, directors techies and playwrights work for 12 hours to produce six adult comic plays from one word on a scratch piece of paper Friday night. In 26 hours, 24 actors, 6 local directors, 6 local playwrights, 6 local musicians and a large handful of techies equals 2 hours of a "one time only" magically funny night at the Chief Theater.

Tickets will be available at The Wild Hare Bistro, Harmony Natural Food Co-op and at the door Sat. night or call 218-280-6602.

If interested in the creative side of this hilarity, send Greg an e-mail at ggasman@paulbunyan.net.

An Evening with former U.S. Poet Laureate Billy Collins!

No poet since Robert Frost has managed to combine high critical acclaim with such broad popular appeal.

Saturday, September 25

7:30 p.m.

Bemidji High School Auditorium

General Admission tickets: \$20

Tickets available at Lueken's North and Headwater's School for Music and the Arts. Ticket requests can also be mailed to: PO Box 542, Bemidji, MN 56601.

For more information visit www.hwschool.org.

This event is made possible by generous grants from The Neilson Foundation, Region 2 Arts Council and Bemidji Area Arts Endowment.

Pequana Playhouse Annual Party and Election

Saturday, September 11

2 - 4 p.m.

Timber Mill Park in Baudette

The theme is Alice in Wonderland. Come in costume as prizes will be awarded. It will also be potluck. Bring your favorite dish and name it to keep with the theme. You may win a prize for your creativity. We will have games and activities with an Alice in Wonderland theme.

Copies of the annual report will be available and we will elect some new board members (or maybe re-elect old ones).



REGION 2
ARTS
COUNCIL

Region 2 Arts Council
426 Bemidji Ave.
Bemidji, MN 56601-3139

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NORTHERN ARTS NEWS is a free publication of the Region 2 Arts Council, funded by a grant from the McKnight Foundation. Mission: "The Region 2 Arts Council strengthens the presence of the arts by supporting opportunities for arts creation, promotion, education and funding for the people of Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, Lake of the Woods and Mahnommen Counties."

Noteworthy

Two of **Marsh Muirhead's** poems have been selected as finalists in The Ledge magazine's (Bellport, NY) annual poetry contest and will appear in the next issue. Another poem was one of 24 (out of 10,000) selected for the summer Humor Issue of Rattle (Studio City, CA). Other poems have been selected and will appear in Minnetonka Review and in Talking Stick.

Delina White has been awarded \$50,000 in a 2010 Bush Fellowship award. White focuses on an era in Anishinaabe history when Anishinaabeg garb changed markedly with the trade of brightly colored satins and ribbons. She will use the fellowship award to focus on creating traditional pieces to be placed on public display.

"The Game of Crumbs" written by **Deborah A. Davis** will be published in the 18th edition of Talking Stick, a Minnesota Collaboration of poetry, creative collaboration, creative nonfiction and fiction.

Terry Honstead was awarded second place in the Bigfork "Art on the Edge" juried show held during July. She donated her large painting of Chief Bemidji to the tourist information center. Honstead was included in the online site of www.conservationminnesota.com/news/?id=5058 for July and August and will be featured in their newsletter.

On Days Like This, a poetry collection by local author Patricia Conner, is now available. A publication reading is planned for October and will be hosted by Loonfeather Press.

Fair Creatures of an Hour by Lynn Levin and published by Loonfeather Press was a finalist in this year's Next Generation Indie Book Awards.

Three Zombies and a Movie

Saturday, October 30
7:30 p.m.

Chief Theatre, downtown Bemidji

Cost: \$10 per person

3 One-Act Plays:

How to Make Brain Souflee
Tenure
Marriage. . . After Death

One Short Film:

The Day Lufberry Won It All

All the plays and the film were co-written by Bemidji playwright Roy C. Booth. The film was set in Bemidji with all local actors.

*Where the spirit does not
work with the hand there is
no art.*

- *Leonardo da Vinci*