

COVENTRY SCHOOL STUDY COMMITTEE

MODELS OF COMMUNITY ART CENTERS

2000 census

Cleveland Heights population 49,958

Estimated median household income: \$46,731

7.4% of families and 10.6% of the population were below the poverty line, including 10.6% of those under age 18 and 15.2% of those age 65 or over.

1. Fitton Center for the Arts

Hamilton, Ohio population 60,690

Estimated median household income: \$35,365

10.6% of families and 13.4% of the population were below the poverty line, including 18.1% of those under age 18 and 9.8% of those age 65 or over.

2. New Union Center for the Arts

Oberlin, Ohio population 8195

Estimated median household income: \$41,094

6.7% of families and 19.4% of the population were below the poverty line, including 11.6% of those under age 18 and 7.5% of those age 65 or over.

3. Beck Center for the Arts

Lakewood, Ohio population 56,646

Estimated median household income: \$40,527

6.1% of families and 8.9% of the population were below the poverty line, including 11.7% of those under age 18 and 8.5% of those age 65 or over.

4. Goggleworks

Reading, Pennsylvania population 81,207

Estimated median household income: \$26,698

22.3% of families and 26.1% of the population were below the poverty line. 36.5% of those under the age of 18 and 15.6% of those 65 and older were living below the poverty line.

5. The Fine Arts Association

Willoughby, Ohio population 22,621

Estimated median household income: \$43,387

4.3% of families and 5.8% of the population were below the poverty line, including 8.4% of those under age 18 and 7.6% of those age 65 or over.

1. Fitton Center for the Arts, Hamilton, Ohio

Arts education and performance center

www.fittoncenter.org

Rick H. Jones, Executive Director

513-863-8873, ext. 112 / rick@fittoncenter.org

Jackie Quay, Director of Riverside Academy/Site Supervisor Options Academy

513-863-8898, ext. 118 / jackie@fittoncenter.org

2008.03.17 conversation with Sonya Krahbuhl x130

Fitton is 15 years old and the Hamilton Community Foundation owns the building

Annual budget \$1.1 million (majority of income from sponsorships and individuals)

No endowment currently but maintenance budget

40,000 square feet

Facilities staff of 4, 1 full-time in charge of maintenance and contracts (computers, etc.)

\$50,000 contract with Jobs and Family Services for Arts In Common, an arts outreach program that impacts 11,000 annually (Head Start, etc.)

Miller Brewing a sponsor-liquor license, rental of space for class reunions, weddings, corporate events, annual holiday ball

110,000 annual visitors over the threshold (Miami U, Dayton, Cincinnati, Indiana)

3 galleries

Performing arts center (post performance receptions)

Options Academy of the Arts, an alternative school run through Butler Tech with 70 juniors and seniors who work on online curriculum then arts rest of the day

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SPECTRA+ program an arts education model has ended (3 3/year grants)

-<http://www.culture.ohio.gov/>.

The Fitton Center for Creative Arts Releases SPECTRA+ Report The Fitton Center for Creative Arts in Hamilton, Ohio, released its third and final research report on the SPECTRA+ arts in education program. The Fitton Center began development of SPECTRA+ in 1992. It is a multi-disciplinary, comprehensive, schoolwide arts education approach.

Dr. Richard L. Luftig of Miami University in Oxford researched the latest study as well as two previous reports titled The Schooled Mind: Do the Arts Make a Difference? The studies confirmed that the arts are a significant contributor to school reform and student success.

This final study features a full report on the 14-year history of SPECTRA+, results from the research, a description of the research methodology, and most importantly—a full implementation guide that takes you through the development of a SPECTRA+ program from philosophy to evaluation.

To read a free preview report summary and learn how to order the full report and implementation handbook, visit www.spectra-plus.org.

SPECTRA+ is a registered trademark of the Fitton Center for Creative Arts.

<http://consumer.discoverohio.com/searchdetails.aspx?detail=60231>

Reporters have called Fitton Center for Creative Arts “a Mecca for the arts” and “the cornerstone of downtown Hamilton’s renaissance.” It is popular with residents and visitors alike, attracting over 100,000 visitors annually.

The arts center is an educational facility that offers classes for people of all ages and is home to the Great Miami Youth Symphony, the Hamilton-Fairfield Symphony Chorale, the Little Chicago Jazz Society, and the Butler County Woodchippers. There are also continuous art exhibitions in the Fitton Center galleries, which City Beat Magazine called “Greater Cincinnati’s most beautiful gallery space.” Exhibitions are all free. Riverbank Poetry, Music Café, luncheon lectures, the resident drama group “The Mad Anthony Theatre Company”, and a performing arts series round out the annual programming.

Dr. John Hasse, curator for the Smithsonian Institution said of Fitton Center, “Every community in America should have a facility like this. It’s a gem!” The building is totally accessible with on-site parking.

2. New Union Center for the Arts, Oberlin, Ohio

owned by the Nord Foundation

The Tenants of the New Union Center for the Arts include the following not-for-profit arts organizations:

[Choral Spectrum](#)

The Firelands Association for the Visual Arts (FAVA)

[The MAD* Factory](#)

[Northern Ohio Youth Orchestras](#)

[Ohio Dance Theatre](#)

[Oberlin Choristers](#)

Firelands Association for the Visual Arts

39 South Main Street

Oberlin, Ohio 44074

phone: (440) 774-7158

fax: (440) 775-1107

email: favagallery@oberlin.ne

Since May, 1996, FAVA has been located in the New Union Center for the Arts, a beautiful 3-story brick and sandstone building in downtown Oberlin, owned and renovated by the Nord Family Foundation. Constructed in 1874, the award winning handicapped-accessible building (formerly Westervelt Hall) is on the National Register of Historic Places. FAVA's elegant and spacious ground floor galleries have a total of 1525 square feet under 14' antique pressed tin ceilings in three adjacent rooms. A staffed reception area is located in the west gallery.

2008.03.04 Phone conversation with John Mullaney, Executive Director, The Nord Family Foundation 800-745-8946

The Nord Family Foundation purchased the New Union Center for the Arts from a private owner to preserve it, and has retained it for charitable purposes. They spent \$3 million to refurbish it and established a \$1 million endowment with a Community Foundation for maintenance. Each tenant pays a subsidized rental fee (\$500), and also receives 20-40% of its budget from Nord grants. They do not cooperate on fund-raising, and are a collection of tenants rather than tenants with a shared vision.

Suggestions: you'll need to draw on an endowment after 5-7 years

Look into a PRI from Cleveland Foundation-Program Related Investments are loans with good terms, sometimes for 30 years, and sometimes forgiven and paid out as grants. Charter schools use them.

He would be happy to provide more information if needed.

3. Beck Center for the Arts

17801 Detroit Avenue

Lakewood, Ohio

(216) 521-2540

www.beckcenter.org

Brief Description

The Beck Center for the Arts is a non-profit, performing arts and arts education organization dedicated to enriching the quality of life for Northeastern Ohioans. We combine professional theatrical productions with comprehensive curriculum-based arts education in Creative Arts Therapies, dance, music, theater, and visual arts, serving over 100,000 annually in Cuyahoga, Lorain, Lake, and Summit Counties.

The Beck Center professional theater productions include a traditional, yet diverse combination of musicals, dramas and comedies on two separate stages, serving an average of 30,000 patrons each year. A 20-year veteran, Artistic Director Scott Spence has linked some of Cleveland's top directors with titles you would expect (or not expect) from the Beck Center, including Seth Gordon of the Cleveland Play House, an artist-in-residency with Chicago's Timothy Mooney and Cain Park's Artistic Director, Victoria Bussert. Some daring, some courageous, yet all the quality and value you have come to expect from the Beck Center for the Arts.

With regard to arts education, the staff and faculty believe that quality arts education can be provided to all people regardless of age or ability. Classes are led by experienced and trained professionals who encourage each student to stretch to his or her artistic potential. Over 6,000 served annually.

The Creative Arts Therapies department assists individuals with a variety of special needs by enhancing their quality of life through the creative arts. 1,800 individuals are served each week in this capacity.

The Outreach Education department provides 21,000 students high quality and participatory arts instruction annually, both inside local schools and on the Beck Center campus with particular attention to the underserved.

Art exhibits at the Beck Center are ongoing with exhibits by local and regional artists along with student and faculty exhibits. In addition, a partnership with the Cleveland Artists' Foundation provides exhibits of historical and scholarly importance for free to the public.

President and Chief Executive Officer – Lucinda (Cindy) B. Einhouse, Main x24
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216.521.2540

4. Goggleworks Center for the Arts

Reading, Pennsylvania

<http://www.goggleworks.org/>

5. The Fine Arts Association

Willoughby, Ohio

<http://www.fineartsassociation.org/>

established 1957

6. The Torpedo Factory

Alexandria, Virginia

<http://www.torpedofactory.org/index.html>

Resources:

<http://www.tidessharedspaces.org/news-events/events/index.html>

<http://www.greenenergyohio.org/page.cfm?pagelid=315>

www.theprojectroom.org

www.messhall.org