

ARTS COUNCIL LAKE ERIE WEST

NEWS RELEASE

Common Space Centers for Creativity

1700 N. Reynolds Road • Toledo, Ohio 43615 • Toll free 877.297.6645 • 419.531.2046 • Fax 419.531.5049

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 20, 2011

CONTACT: Martin Nagy

martinnagy@aol.com

419-290-0995

Visual Arts Initiative Exhibition in Tanzania – Call for Visual Art Entries
May 20, 2011 Deadline for Exhibition in July 2011

Visual artists are invited to enter an exhibition in a program sponsored through a grant by the U.S. State Department Bureau of Cultural and Educational Affairs to be held in Tanzania, East Africa during July 2011. One work of art and up to five digital images may be submitted to the Arts Council Lake Erie West through the May 20, 2011 deadline for the Actual and/or the Virtual exhibitions. A VAI-TZ prospectus may be obtained by email at: martinnagy@aol.com, or download at www.aclew.org, or by calling 419-531-2046.

Visual arts (max. 30"x36"x1.5" deep) to be included in the Actual Exhibit may include: drawing, painting, printmaking, photography and design and crafts that are primarily visual in nature. Sculpture, ceramics, video, filmmaking, applied arts such as graphic design, fashion design, interior design, and decorative art will also be considered and may be included as visual art in the Virtual exhibition. Up to thirty works of visual art will be selected for the Actual public exhibition in Dar es Salaam, Zanzibar and Tanga, Tanzania in July 2011. Professional development workshops for artists will be held in conjunction with the exhibition.

The program is a collaboration between the Public Affairs Office of the U.S. Embassy Dar Es Salaam; Tanzania United States Alumni Association (TUSSA); Tanzania Women Artists Network (TZ-WAN); Great Lakes Consortium for International Training and Development (GLC), and implemented by the Arts Council Lake Erie West.

The U.S. Tanzanian Embassy and its partners will work directly with Martin Nagy, American arts consultant and trainer having knowledge of the arts of both Tanzania and USA, and having successful experiences in arts programs in Tanzania. He is quoted as saying: "Facilitating visual

arts projects and exhibitions is an important way to foster goodwill, engage foreign audiences, and provide insight into American culture and values. The goal of this program is to bring Tanzania visual artists into contact with leading U.S. artists to illustrate how the visual arts can be better utilized to develop the economy through increases sales, express issues of value and culture, and engage others through workshops to equip Tanzanian artists with increased knowledge, resources and skills to create artwork that is more appealing and appropriate for sale to the international visitor / consumer.”

VAI program efforts include linking artists with cultural and heritage institutions, chambers of commerce, business and other organizations to advance the arts and artists in Tanzania as a resource for economic, cultural and educational advancement. We envision that participating Tanzanian artists will illustrate and provide example for a systemic change in attitude through an on-going dialogue and proactive methods. In the long-term, artists' educational, professional and subsequent economic empowerment will contribute to improved family welfare, higher education goals, and an improved economic growth for Tanzanian society.

Deadline May 20, 2011 for receipt of one (1) artwork to ACLEW/Common Space.

Deadline May 20, 2011 for receipt of up to six (6) jpg images of artwork to martinnagy@aol.com for virtual exhibition and workshops.

Artwork size: no larger than 30"x36"x1.5" deep framed – no glass – Plexiglas only.

Artwork must be ready to hang including wire and/or hanging device.

Artwork should include an explanation of or the 'story' behind the work.

Exhibition in Tanzania: July, 2011

Return of artwork: after August 22, 2011

Artwork will be insured and shipped via air freight.

If you are shipping artwork to Common Space, please include return postage.

Contributions of visual art supplies to be shipped to Tanzania are being accepted.

For further information, please contact Martin Nagy at 419-290-0995. The Arts Council Lake Erie West is a nonprofit regional arts and education organization providing spaces, programs and services since 1983 to build community, increase cultural participation, celebrate the arts, and engage people in arts and educational experiences.

Online at: <https://sites.google.com/site/tzwan1/> and www.ACLEW.org

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