



**District of Columbia
Arts Center**

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DCAC Archive: Director's Letter January : February 2009

Happy New Year!

Why yes, this is a totally new format for our bi-monthly calendar. We thought we'd try and spice up its appearance and include more information about all the great things going on at DCAC. And believe it or not, thanks to our good friends at Select Printing (www.selectprinting.net) it is not costing us any more than the calendars you have been receiving all these years! We are very thankful to Frank and Will at Select for their continuing support of DCAC and we hope you like the change.

January 2009 kicks off our 20th Anniversary season, and we are already excited about the great exhibitions, performances and special events that we have planned. Mark your calendars now for the **20th Anniversary Gala**, to be held Friday, May 29th at Halcyon House in Georgetown. I know you're probably thinking that with the current economic climate that this is a terrible time to try and celebrate 20 years of service to new, emerging and underserved artists. But you know, 1989 wasn't exactly a boom time either, and yet **Herb White, Aaron Levine** and others banded their resources together to create an organization that has endured some pretty hard financial times. We are still here today because Herb donated our facility rent free until his death in 2007, and now, thankfully his family is continuing that legacy. That donation is valued at \$75,000 per year and provides us a terrific location in the very heart of the ever bustling Adams Morgan. Our members and programs provide the entirety of the remainder of our budget. DCAC is not supported by the District of Columbia or any local Foundation. That makes our patrons pretty special people and we thank all of you for your support.

In December of 2008 we brought on a new Gallery Manager, **Carolyn Law**, to take over from **Karen Joan Topping** who is focusing her work at DCAC on **Sparkplug**, our artists' collective program, which is organizing two shows in 2009, one at the Arlington Arts Center in the summer and another one at DCAC in the fall. Our **Curatorial Initiative** is now underway with our established curator, **Laura Roulet**, working with her apprentice curator, **Landria Shack**. Laura will be curating an exhibition in the spring, and Landria will present hers in the fall. We also welcomed four new members to our **Board of Directors** in December, **Bridget Sue Lambert, Buck Downs, Anita Walsh** and **Andrew Baughman**. Bridget and Anita are visual artists who have presented work at DCAC, Buck is a poet and founder of the **In Your Ear Avant-Garde Poetry Series** and Andrew is the director of **Landless Theatre**. Our by-laws require that 30% of our board must be artists.

We hope you will come by and see our exhibits and performances soon, please give us feedback on our new calendar and watch for some changes on our website. 2009 is going to be a great year at DCAC and we don't want you to miss a thing!

B Stanley,
Executive Director