

CATA's 2006-2007 program year was one of unprecedented achievements involving program and staff growth as well as prestigious grants, honors and awards. Take a look back at some of our memorable moments.

The week-long artist-in-residency with MOMA educator, Gordon Sasaki, brought together CATA participants, artists, faculty, board members and members of the community.



Over 500 people attended the annual performance and gala, "Stars in the Ocean, Sand in the Sky" making it our most successful fundraising event ever.



Rebecca Tucker-Smith, Shirley Edgerton and Megan Whilden enjoy the CATA art show at Storefront Artist Project in Pittsfield in December.

CATAdirect's booth at the Berkshire Botanical Garden's Harvest Festival. Cathy Marden and Kellie Ward helped sell the jewelry and accessories they create as part of CATA's creative employment program.



"Just thought you'd get a kick out of knowing that Teresa attended her 1,180th workshop in December. Thanks so much for all these years of making her life so fulfilling. We love you!"

-June Thomas



Sculptor, David Millen, captures Dawn Lane and Marissa Yudkin in their dance, "Moving Chronicle." The sculpture was on display at Jacob's Pillow during their 75th Anniversary exhibit, "Memories and Reflections."



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MISSION

Community Access to the Arts nurtures and celebrates the creativity of people with disabilities through shared experiences in the visual and performing arts.

Dear Friends,

It's hard for me to believe it's been 15 years!! When I began with one workshop in 1993, I wanted to make it possible for all people to be noticed and honored for their talents and abilities, to be a part of their community in the ways many of us take for granted. I saw that with compassion, energetic advocacy and persistence, everyone can impact the world. I'm so grateful to all of you for the many ways you've supported this mission. Please mark your calendars for our 15th anniversary celebration on May 3rd & 4th! I promise it will be an unforgettable & joyful experience for all!

Sandy Newman
Founder & Executive Director

These days I'm working in our creative employment program. Here's what happened in a CATAdirect workshop not long ago:

Participants were talking about cell phones as they made things for the holiday sale. I have this model, oh I had that one, this is my ringtone, what service do you use? A quieter participant spoke up, the first time his voice had been heard in one of these workroom chats. Oh, you have a phone is it a flip phone does it take pictures what's the reception like do you have games on it? Well, he said, I only have it in case my parents need to call me. It basically never rings. Pens and paper were seized. Ooh can I call you I love getting calls what's your number I'll call you lots of times here give me your phone I'll program my number in it.

So like we do any other week, we made wreaths and bracelets and necklaces. And that day we also made some friends. Thanks for your support of this work, and for all the moments like these you make possible.

Janet Reich Elsbach
Board President

2007-2008 Highlights



■ CATA expands North County workshops thanks to a generous gift from **Jane's Trust** and grants from the **City of Pittsfield**, the **Coolidge Hill Foundation**, the **James & Robert Hardman Fund for North Adams & Berkshire Life Charitable Foundation**.

■ Staff changes: **Rebecca Tucker-Smith** is now Program Director for North Berkshire County; and **Liana Toscanini** is Development and Marketing Director.

■ CATA received its first grant from **National Endowment for the Arts** to fund A.R.T. (Artistic Realization Technologies) training workshops at Williams College in March.

■ CATA's new Studio/Gallery space opened February 2nd at 70 Railroad Street! This project was made possible by a generous grant from **Berkshire Life Insurance Company** and a gift from **Lee Bank**.

SAVE THE DATE: 15th Anniversary Gala & Performance
Saturday, May 3rd and Sunday, May 4th

