

QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
The City University New York

Gallery and Performing Arts Committee

ANNUAL REPORT

To: Emily Tai, Secretary, Steering Committee, Academic Senate
Academic Senate Steering Committee

From: Pellegrino Manfra: Chairperson Gallery and Performing Arts Committee

Date: August 18, 2008

Subject: Annual report of the Committee on Gallery and Performing Arts
for 2007-2008 academic year

Committee Members: Zins Rosemary (Vice president), F. Quintanilla, Gallery Director) Susan Agin (Manager and Artistic Director) Nadine Donahue (Nursing), Zivah Perel (English) , Indra Avens (Foreign Languages) Robert Sweetnam (Speech and Theater) and P. Manfra (Social Science).

Date Committee met: The Committee met the following academic year:
September 8, 2007 at 1Pm, October 10, 2007 at 12Pm, November 14, 2007, at 12pm,
February 6, 2002 at 12 Pm, and May 14, 2008 at 12pm.
In addition the committee was ready to meet upon request, in response to any necessities that might have arisen.

Summary of Activities: Under the auspices of the Performing Arts and Gallery Committee, there was a good spirit of cooperation among the directors and members. There was concerted effort by each department to promote their performance and shows to the Queens community.

The Gallery and Performing Arts Departments made a concerted effort to work and collaborate with other departments in the college. In particular the Performing Arts Department worked closely with the Speech and Music Department in promoting performances and cultural events.

Under the guidance and leadership of Susan Agin - Director of the Performing Arts Center - QPAC is widely recognized as an important regional arts presenter, bringing theater, dance and classical music. Susan Agin's program is to continue complementing the college's mission and belief that institution of higher education must take on the leadership role in providing access to the arts to enrich the quality of our lives.

There was continued emphasis and success to promote QPAC as an attractive entertainment center and a cultural destination for the members of the surrounding communities, the students and other cultural organizations.

Susan Agin had a very successful year. The Center systematically integrated Art Gallery exhibits, Holocaust Resource Center exhibits and Performing Arts productions into the learning process. The center increased classroom visits/tours of these programs by Queensborough students by 10% from 2006-2007 baseline as follows: performing Arts Center 218 to 219 students and, in conjunction with faculty, incorporate such tour/visits into curricula. The QPAC has met this Strategic goal increasing Queensborough students participation to 297. With participating high school seniors – the total participation came to a record 619 students.

The director of the Art Gallery, Faustino Quintanilla also had a very successful year displaying excellent art exhibitions and organizing art courses and seminars. The Gallery had successful exhibitions from works by the great and legendary Picasso, Jorje Quijano Ahijado and famous African Collection from Cameroon. In addition, two magnificent books were published on the accomplished exhibitions. The exhibits, which was made possible through the collaborative effort of William Sickman from Brooklyn. The Art Gallery has been given seminar courses with great success to Queensborough College Students as well as students from Queens community. More than 120 seminars lecture were given throughout the year on a variety of topics from classical to modern art - where students attendance increased by 20% over the previous year.

Report on Status of Prior Recommendations. The committee agrees with previous committees with a renewed interest in the marketing and external promotion. The main focus for marketing strategy and has been and will be on:

1. Built a more progressive and professional marketing outreach and approach to attract new audience members and students in particular to performing arts and gallery attractions.
2. Establish QPAC as a cultural destination, not only for Queens residents, but also to the surrounding Nassau communities.
3. Gradually built family oriented type programs in order to attract Queensborough community and families to the theater for a cultural destination.
4. Exchange mailing lists with other groups.

New Recommendations: The committee recommended to increase and develop additional financial support and membership drives – particularly to Art Gallery. Moreover, the members of the committee worked in disseminating marketing flyers and posters on the college campus for different events.

The committee, however, expressed major concern and recommends that additional funding should be allocated to the Gallery; for staff, proper personnel, administration, and other expense. The committee has discussed possible ways of raising funds although this projects is still in the research/planning stage.

New Committee Members for Academic year 2008-2009: Nadine Donahue, Bojin Mihala, Perez Zivan, Poulsen Jane, Sweetman Robert and Osorio Jose

In the last meeting - May 14 2008 - Nadine Donahue from Nursing Dept. was voted President of The Gallery and Performing Arts Committee for the 2008-2009 Academic year.

Sincerely Submitted
Pellegrino Manfra
Gallery and Performing Arts Chairperson
2007-2008