

# CALLBOARD

ARTS CENTER OF THE OZARKS

Volume 3 • March 2010

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## Cool Stuff, Hot Fun!



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Six-night stay, airfare for two



ACO Ball Offers Auction Excitement  
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# MARCH 5-29 CELEBRATE ART!

## ELEMENTARY STUDENTS LEARN FROM BEAUTY

By Becca Bacon Martin

CALLBOARD EDITOR

**P**atti Brigham "never thought (she'd) teach elementary art." Now she's lead elementary art teacher at the Springfield School District. She will submit more than two dozen of her students' entries for the 11th annual Celebrate Art! Showcase March 5-29 at the Arts Center of the Ozarks. Celebrate Art! Show's annual arts director expects more than 400 artworks from students in Madison, Carroll, Benton and Washington counties. An open house awarding prizes is set for 13 p.m. March 6.

Brigham chose the artworks her students will hang in the show, saying she didn't want the youngsters to compete for prizes. "Kids are tested and driven in so many academic areas," she explains. "Art is 45 minutes a week when they get to come and express their feelings about what they are. The arts is right or wrong — well, except when they don't follow directions. And sometimes the wrong answer is better than I expected!"

Brigham became an art teacher in 2005. She had a degree in art, loved kids, and had been working as a library aide. "I thought non-traditional would be a good fit into the classroom at Walker Elementary and added Shaw when it opened in 2007.

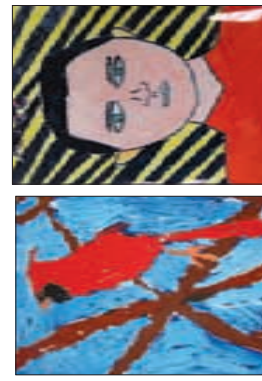
Art is important to children for lots of reasons, Brigham says. "It gives them a way to be creative, to express their cultural literacy."

"I love it when they say, 'Hey, I saw...' a piece of art,



whether it's 'The Scream' or Grant Wood's 'American Gothic.' I'm able to expose them to artists from around the world, and they realize art is everywhere, even in their video games."

Among the lessons her students learn, Brigham says, worth doing well. Having art



45 minutes a week teaches kids that quality takes time. Not everything happens in the classroom. Hopefully that overflows into their writing and what they're doing in the regular classroom."

For Brigham, art is part of everyday life in college and did this, she says. "I never want to squelch any creative person!"

# PLAY ALONG WITH POOH!

## ACO Ready To Welcome Bear And Buddies March 6

**T**he only thing he likes better than adventure is eating honey," Christopher Robin says of his bear buddy, Winnie the Pooh.

So...  
"One day he was out walking in the forest when he came to an open place. To his right, on the edge of it, he saw a large oak tree. He sat down under it and ate his honey."

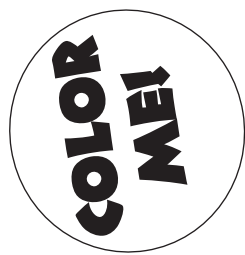
Thus begins Kristin Sergel's adaptation of A.A. Milne's "Winnie the Pooh." In the Child's Play production, directed by Evan Crawford, Arts Center of the Ozarks audiences will meet all of Pooh's friends, encounter bees, learn about baths and try to avoid Kangaroo's "Strengthening Medicine."

For more information, call 417-862-5856. Tickets are \$8-\$16. Get your family ready by coloring along with Pooh!



### CAST

- Christopher Robin:** Josh Blount
  - Winnie-the-Pooh:** John Crochet
  - Piglet:** Kyra Lickel
  - Owl:** Janis Duley
  - Eeyore:** Jo Hunt
  - Kangaroo:** Becky Vesper
  - Roo:** Matthew Gotes
  - Rabbit:** Allison Stricklen
  - A Bunny:** Alle Welsh
  - A Skunk:** Helen Hammond
- Robyn Benson, assistant director



FREE COLORING INFO

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Temple Moore  
Linda Newkirk-Camp  
Northwest Athletic Club  
Northwest Arkansas Naturals  
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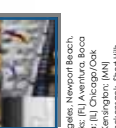
# Cool Stuff, Hot Fun!

## ACO Ball Offers Auction Excitement Feb. 20

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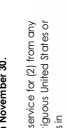
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**Hyatt Hotels** - Three-night stay at participating Hyatt Hotels.

**American Airlines** - Round-trip coach class service for (2) from any American Airlines destination in the 48 contiguous United States or Canada to anywhere American Airlines flies in the 48 contiguous United States or Canada subject to availability.

For complete auction item list, see event program.

**Costa Rica Luxury Resorts 6-Night Stay with Airfare for (2)**

Suggested Retail Value: \$9,086

Enjoy a total of (6) nights at either of both of these luxury Marriott resorts in Costa Rica. Transportation between these two locations is not included.

**JW Marriott Guanacaste Resort & Spa (Guanacaste)** - Located approximately 116 miles northwest of San Jose International Airport, on a pristine secluded beach surrounded by the splendors of Costa Rican nature with an on-site championship golf course, an equestrian center, world-class spa and more.

**Available year-round.**

**Las Sirenas Marriott Ocean & Golf Resort (Playa Herradura)** - Located approximately 60 miles southwest of San Jose International Airport, this luxurious resort is nestled between the warm waters of the Pacific Gulf of Nicoya and a 1,100-acre tropical rainforest. **Available May 1 through November 30.**

**American Airlines** - Round-trip coach class service for (2) from any American Airlines destination in the 48 contiguous United States or Canada to anywhere American Airlines flies in the 48 contiguous United States or Canada subject to availability.

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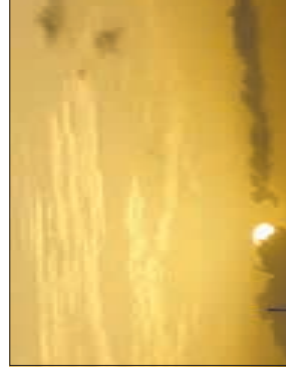
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# Barbados: A Personal Journey

## Travel Film Reveals Tropical Paradise March 11



By **Becca Bacon Martin**  
CALLBOARD EDITOR

Steve Gonser has a very special gift. He has taken his love of Barbados, one that goes far beyond most travel filmmakers. He married Yvonne, a woman he met there.

Complete returned to the Caribbean last summer to film "Barbados: Island in the Sun," the next in the Passport to Adventure Travel Film Series at the Arts Center of the Ozarks. Gonser will be on the island from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. March 11. A presshow reception starts at 1 p.m.

Gonser's first journey to Barbados took a long and winding road, as did his career path in making travel films.

"To you, you might not start at the beginning," he asks, then laughs. "Well, then that's a cross-country bicycle trip in 1998. I went from the Golden Gate bridge to the Statue of Liberty."

Accompanying Gonser was Julian Gromer, a pioneer in the travelogue business. While the travelogue business, while Gonser was shooting photos, Gromer was making a film, "The Last Days of Pompeii."

"I'd heard of that medium — travel films — before," says Gonser.

Gonser went on to show the slides of his journey in churches and for service clubs.

When that business folded, Gonser turned to himself, but the death of his first wife, her medical bills and ailing parents forced him back to teaching science for 15 years. It wasn't until 1991 that Gonser returned to Barbados, plus years of travel filmmaking had ever done either one as an individual subject."

Travel film participants will hear the history of the Indians who populated the island before the British arrived. Gonser met the most venerated potter currently working there and visit "what I believe to

be the last of the traditional pottery in Barbados," Gonser says.

"He's commanded everything from square-rig sailing ships to superfighters — and now he's working on a houseboat behind a coral reef and no one will bother him."

"The personality of the people is what makes this island a pleasant place to visit," he says. "They speak English, but they're not us North Americans — and they're the friendliest people anywhere in the Caribbean."

2008, traveling to St. Vincent (Wyome) is from," he explains. That trip produced a travel film shown at ACO last season.

"Then last summer, we went back to Barbados," he adds. "In 2008, Gonser's first journey to Barbados took a long and winding road, as did his career path in making travel films."

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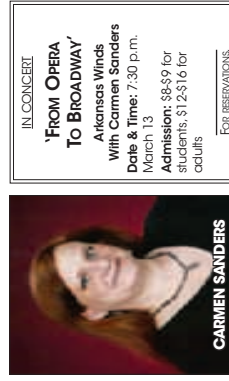
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# From Opera To Broadway

## Mezzo-Soprano Appears March 13 With Arkansas Winds



By **Becca Bacon Martin**  
CALLBOARD EDITOR

Carmen Sanders has the throaty voice of a lounge singer, so it's no surprise that her March 13 performance with the Arkansas Winds will be two numbers by Nat King Cole.

But that's not Sanders' first vocation. Most of her singing is classical, including mezzo-soprano with the Nashville Symphony and the Oklahoma State Opera.

"This is one of Neil Simon's lesser known comedies, but it still is totally Neil Simon in its wit and writing," says Harry Blundell, ACO director of theater.

"Fools," the residents of the fictional village of Kulyenchikov have been cursed to be born and live and die in stupidity until the evil curse can be lifted.

"It's going to have a lot of fun," says Sanders. "I guess my first musical training was in Pine Bluff when I was a kid," she says. "They have such good time and each of their concerts has something for everyone."

"A chance to sing at home is a way to come home with a chance to come home and celebrate with some of my friends from high school and college, see my folks and do a couple of things for me."

"There is a place for everyone in music," she adds. "You just have to find it. Admittedly sometimes that place is the audience."

But she promises that will be a hard pressed to find a better evening's entertainment."

**IN CONCERT**  
**'FROM OPERA To BROADWAY'**  
Arkansas Winds  
With Carmen Sanders  
Date & Time: 7:30 p.m.  
Admission: \$8-\$9 for students, \$12-\$16 for adults  
FOR RESERVATIONS, CALL 751-5441.

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# Fools

## a comedy by Neil Simon

# 'A Charming And Hilarious Tale'

## Auditions Feb. 22-23 For Neil Simon's 'Fools'

**AUDITIONS**  
**'Fools'**  
By Neil Simon  
Dates & Times: 7:30 p.m. Feb. 22-23  
Performances: April 10-18 & 23-24  
FOR INFORMATION, CALL HARRY BLUNDELL AT 751-5441 OR EMAIL HARRY@ARTSCENTER@THEOZARKS.ORG

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# An Open Letter

To Patrons And Participants Of The Arts Center Of The Ozarks

Dear ones,

**A**s Kathi and I embark on our 35th year at the ACO we want to sincerely and humbly thank you for your support and care for these many years!

You have provided a beautiful and enriching life for us. You have given your time, talent and financial support. You have made it possible for our collective dream of what a community arts center can be come true, thrive and survive. You are the reason we come to work. You are the reason we exist. You are the inspiration that colors our world and adds dimension to it.

Without your help and continued interest, we would be unable to provide Northwest Arkansas with the continuity of arts programming that the ACO is known for and appreciated by the over 100,000 folks the ACO



touches each year.

Thank you, deeply, from the bottom of our hearts, for this gift you have and continue to give us.

Our hope is that you too have found the joy of discovery, the depth of thought and the exhilaration of the arts

that can only come when a community stands behind its assets and treasures as you have done for over 44 years!

**Thank you.**  
**Thank you!**  
**THANK YOU!**  
Harry and Kathi

## Grateful Thanks!

### Increased Support

Since Jan 15, 2010

Jay & Sarah Berryman

Oleta Bronson

Lorraine Holland

Glen & Patti Plumlee

Denise Richards

Michael & Janice Zoller

### New Members

Since Jan 15, 2010

Jaquita Ball

Larry Fisher

Linda Hill

Jo & Barney Hunt

Kelly Milbrodt

David & Melanie Pelkey

THE MORNING NEWS

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