

Dear Arts Patron,

Thanks to your generous support, Allied Arts has successfully kicked off its donor program at OSU. Funds donated last season helped us to begin an annual Allied Arts banquet and offset marketing costs, allowing us to create more awareness for our organization.

Allied Arts has been providing the highest quality cultural and artistic programming for the OSU Campus and the Stillwater Community for more than 80 years.

Cultural programming is vital to any community for its intrinsic values that bind it together emotionally, intellectually and in a spirit of shared humanity. It is also vitally important to a community such as Stillwater which is actively engaged in growth through bringing new business concerns to the area.

Quality of life issues, of which cultural activities are a major part, are high on the list of factors sought by individuals and corporations looking for a place to locate or relocate.

The problem that Allied Arts is facing at the present time is that as the fees demanded by world-class artists have skyrocketed over the past two decades, the Allied Arts budget has not gone up very much at all.

The days when Allied Arts could bring in artists such as Itzhak Perlman, Van Cliburn, The Boston Pops, Elton John, and Dolly Parton are now just fond memories. While Allied Arts still brings in the best artists in the genres that are affordable, there is a definite limitation to the programming because of lack of funding.

We can afford the Orion String Quartet, but we cannot afford the St. Louis Symphony. We can afford Arlo Guthrie, but we cannot afford Bob Dylan or even Jimmy Webb. Even bringing in classical artists such as Joshua Bell or Yo-Yo Ma are just wishful dreams. I could go on, but you get the idea.

This is why we are asking you to come forward at this time to register your support for the arts in our OSU/Stillwater community. OSU's institutional support subsidizes student ticket prices so that students can afford to attend the Allied Arts cultural series, but we need university faculty and staff and friends from the Stillwater community to enable Allied Arts to bring the very finest cultural experiences to Stillwater. Working together, we can all make this happen.

You will find the various packages of support as well as the donor form inside the season booklet, which you should receive in the mail soon. Please help us Support the Arts at OSU.

Sincerely,
Joe C. Ray
Coordinator, Special Events