

# Arts Council promotes arts in the city

*Special to The Clinton Courier*

The Arts Council of Clinton promotes arts in the city with a variety of programs. Exhibits at local events often feature a pottery wheel for boys and girls to experience the art of throwing a clay pot or materials to decorate an item or paint a picture. The designated arts agency for the city since June 1983, the Council is a nonprofit organization that provides area students with art scholarships, promotes area artists and supports arts programs and educational efforts.

An annual meeting at Mississippi College's Gore Galleries begins the new year for the Arts Council each June.

"This is the usual time for new members to join and for current members to renew their memberships," said Robert Blanton, who serves as president. "However, we welcome new members throughout the year. Members are supporters of the arts and not necessarily artists themselves," he added.

Another June attraction is the

Thacker Mountain Radio Hour, which has been a highlight for the past three years in Clinton through



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*Diane Pleasant (above), an Arts Council member, art teacher and artist, shows a young Clintonian how to throw a pot.*

*The model railroad display (above right) created by artist Lucky Osborn for the Clinton Train Depot, dedicated this past year, was funded by the Arts Council.*

Arts Council efforts and support of the community. Tentative plans are underway for a 2019 radio hour. The show, which is broadcast on Mississippi Public Radio at 7 p.m. on Saturdays, is held in the Clinton High School auditorium. En-

thusiastic audiences have enjoyed professional entertainers including folk and blues musicians, writers, cartoonists, writer and radio personalities.

The Taste of the Arts-Artists Showcase in the fall is a highlight



in collaboration with the Episcopal Church of the Creator.

The Clinton Fire Department and the Arts Council sponsor the October Fire Prevention art competition for boys and girls in the area schools. The winners are announced at a program at Fire Station 2, and their winning paintings are framed and on display at the station throughout the next year.

The group also supports community projects throughout the year, as they arise. A model railroad display created by artist Lucky Osborn for the Clinton Train Depot, dedicated this past year, was funded by the Arts Council.

Arts Council monthly board meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at Northside Baptist Church. Arts Council activities are reviewed in a newsletter, with plans for the upcoming year to include a calendar focusing on a variety of area artistic events. A website is available for interested persons to visit at [www.artscouncilofclinton.org](http://www.artscouncilofclinton.org).

of the year, featuring an art show, entertainment, a silent auction and refreshments. Area artists are invited to show their works, which are available for sale. Fund-raising efforts of the Council support art scholarships. The fall event is



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