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Summertime, And the Livin’…
How’s your arts livin’ these days? Easy? Hot? On vacation?

Given what the Arts & Business Council does—serve arts organizations, engage the business community—it’s a 365-days-a-year role. We don’t have a “season.” But the summer seems both slower (fewer articles in the e-news below? or maybe it’s my attempts to move in this weather? I have to say, I love NYC so much that I’m even proud of our unbearable—but-record-high 104 degree temperature last week) and faster.

Surely it was just yesterday that Maday led the ABC/NY summer intern site visit at José Limon and Daniel led his at Repertorio Español, that we all went to see Jerusalem and Make Music NY. Nope, that was back in June, at the start of the intern program. And tonight we’re going to Hannah Joy’s site visit at Manna House, then there’s Brian’s at NY Public Radio… and it all comes to a crescendo at Con Edison (in their twelfth year as lead sponsor, thank-you-very-much) on August 11. If you want to hear lucky 13 interns’ stories of transformation (if you want to be an arts host next summer? if you want to be a mentor? or a lucky intern?), shoot me an e-mail and we’ll try to get you into this moving closing ceremony.

And how proud am I of the Emerging Leaders (ELNYA) cohort! They are developing a brilliant Fellows program and got 30+ applicants for a couple of slots to start this fall. Stay tuned. It’s not that these 20-somethings/30-somethings are smarter than I was at that age—I’ve known that all along. It’s the creeping realization they’re smarter than I am now. (Note to self—and all executive directors: make sure Succession Planning is on the To Do List.) A great complement and feeder program for ABC/NY’s Arts Leadership Institute, which will by next week have selected its class of 2011. Stay tuned for the exploits of this amazing group as well. Want to come to a cocktail party with 20 people who should be running New York’s arts community? Mark October 25 on your calendar.
One last summary, summery comment on Leadership: sometimes, it manifests itself in letting your colleagues do what they want to do and surely about which they know more and better. Look: we’ve switched (actually returned) to using the PatronMail platform. And are grinding our way to moving to the PatronManager CRM system and database. Faster, easier, cheaper, and integrated at capturing, nurturing, and growing relationships (that’s the part of technology that gets me excited). And maybe, Jo, you’ll stop getting two copies of this e-news!

Will Maitland Weiss, Executive Director

"The Culture Club"
Brava, Alessandra DiGiusto, CAO of the Deutsche Bank Americas Foundation (and—full disclosure—member of ABC/NY’s board), who made the three-page spread on arts supporters in yesterday’s Crain’s NY Business, “Who’s who when it comes to the most important private funders of New York City’s unparalleled cultural offerings? The list would be long. But it would have to include these powerful patrons of the arts.”

Special tips of the cap to Anita Contini (now with Bloomberg) and Tim McClimon (president of the Amex Foundation, and a member of the Americans for the Arts board), who have both led both nonprofit arts endeavors and corporate philanthropy (McClimon is also a presenter in ABC/NY’s Arts Leadership Institute). And good for you, Crain’s, for applauding these difference-making individuals and institutions. “As [DiGiusto] explained, ‘The arts make cities vibrant places to live.’ And to do business.” And from McClimon: “Through the arts. creativity prospers, diversity is celebrated, and local businesses thrive.”

9/11 Month of Service and Remembrance
In observance of the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks and in tribute to the 9/11 victims and those who rose to volunteer in response to the attacks, the Manhattan Chamber of Commerce is planning a 9/11 Month of Service & Remembrance. They will put together teams to volunteer for a half or full day on September 11 and also will be featuring other volunteer opportunities throughout the month for those who are unable to volunteer on the actual anniversary day. Featured opportunities will be sent out to MCC’s 10,000 members and subscribers. If your nonprofit organization has a volunteer opportunity for a half-day or full day in the month of September, e-mail project details and your contact info to Brenda@manhattancc.org for consideration.

Links We Like
How Introverts Are Better Networkers
A common assumption that isn’t necessarily true is that an extroverted "people person" is the best type of networker. While an extroverted person might be better at meeting new people, someone who's more introverted can be better at the second part of business networking—communicating his or her ideas and forming meaningful relationships.

How do you thank your donors?
Make me, the donor, feel special. Tell me why my gift matters. Explain how my investment makes a difference. With all that, I’ll understand that I matter…me the donor. Then I’ll suspect that my future investments will matter, too. And I’ll keep on giving.

The audience is dead—let’s talk participants instead
In terms of the audience being the receivers of a performance or service, ‘audience’ does not seem like the best way for us to describe the modern museum consumer. These are people who live
increasingly digital lives, where they are not spectators, but active participants, positively engaged through outreach programmes and projects.

**You Don't Know What You're Missing**

Our Facebook page has daily doses of information, articles, and job listings. Follow us on Facebook and find out what you're missing—you don't have to have an account to view our page.

*If you don’t ask, the answer is sure to be no.* So we're asking: will you please make a tax-deductible contribution to ABC/NY to support and help us continue our work? We're counting on you!

[Donate Now]

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