

June 4, 2010



The Children's Museum
OF FENNVILLE

TO: Friends of the Children's Museum of Fennville

FROM: Mary Cone Kasprzyk, Executive Director

RE: Keep Your ArtsAlive!
Allegan County Community Foundation Arts & Culture Competition

The Allegan County Community Foundation has presented us with an exciting opportunity that will enhance our visibility and could result in significant additional funds while engaging our communities. This opportunity is being spearheaded by the Allegan County Community Foundation because they are concerned about the effect the sharp decline in state and federal funding has had on the arts & cultural non-profits. In the last few years, state funding has been cut from \$25M to \$2M. Our arts and cultural organizations are hurting.

Keep Your ArtsAlive! is a competition among the arts and cultural non-profit organizations within Allegan County. Basically, community members are being encouraged to 'vote' with their dollars for organizations (like us!) that they aren't willing to let disappear, because of the toll the economy has taken on the non-profit sector these last two years. Each vote costs one dollar, and people can vote as much as they want, as often as they want, for as many organizations as they want. If we receive 657 votes, we receive \$657 dollars when the competition comes to a close with the ArtsAlive! Bash on September 24, 2010.

In addition to ALL of the voting dollars coming back to us, the top 5 vote getters will split the net proceeds of the ArtsAlive! Bash! Your votes/dollars could get us to the final five! We could receive thousands of dollars to support our operations and programs!

How can you help? You can vote to keep Children's Museum of Fennville alive! You can spread the word among your friends, family and neighbors. You can check the ArtsAlive! website to keep tabs on how the voting is going. You can help us spread the word about the ArtsAlive! competition. We need your support and your votes!

Votes will be accepted until September 5, 2010. Votes can be made by check, online at www.artsaliveallegancounty.org or at our office using an ArtsAlive! donation envelope. For more information, please call me at: 269-561-8494

Keep ^{Your} ArtsAlive!
Allegan County Community Foundation Arts & Culture Competition