Supporters urged to spread the word about art's value

Arts and cultural representatives from 66 Oakland and Wayne county groups converged at the Costlek Activities Center Friday to discuss the importance of arts funding.

Nancy Coumoundouros, cultural arts coordina' in for Farmington and Fr. inington Hills, said Friday's Arts and Culture Legislative breakfast was a way for state lawmakers to learm more about the arts community's vital role and meet with arts supporters.

ers.
While arts funding is proposed to be cut 50 percent to help balance a multi-billion dollar state deficit this fiscal year, arts representatives said they are looking in this diffi-cult time to do something

cult time to do something positive. They are making every attempt to spotlight the arts and cultural programs' importance, bring their message to a wider audience.

State Sen. Samuel "Buz? Thomas III, who is co-chairman of the Wichigan Senate Arts Caucus, said his parents instilled in him the importance of arts and culture." I'm a better person because I was exposed to things,' he said.

While arts funding has



Arts supporters listen to speakers.

taken a hit in state funding, it's up to people to let their legislators know how important arts programs are to maintain, the senator said. Business leaders also spoke about why they support of arts and cultural programs. Fred Hoffman, director of state relations for Daimler-Chrysler, said the company is known for supporting arts programs and sponsoring arts and cultural revents.

sponsoring arts and cultural events.
"Art does add value to the community," Hoffman said, noting DaimherChrysler is the title sponsor the recently popular Arts, Beats and Eats in downtown Pontiac.
"Why does this company invest so much in art?

Because we feel it boosts employee morale. We have 100,000 people who work for us and we want them to feel good about it.

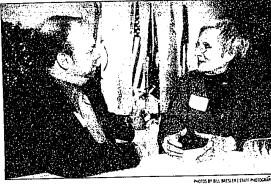
"We can't have a competitive community unless we

tive community unless we have a talent that loves the arts and arts community," he

arts and arts community, ne said.

Joanne Winkleman Hulce of the Plymouth Community Arts Council spoke about the importance of art and music in public education programs and in the community recreation system.

"It's futile to go to the well that's almost empty," she said. Let's put our time into networking and informing the public and getting volunteers and bombard our legislators."



Fred Hoffman of DaimlerChrysler and art maven Joanne Winkleman Huice of the Plymouth Community Arts Council commiserate after the Arts & Culture Legislative Breakfast.

Paul Hillegonds, president of the Detroit Renaissance. said a study among young professionals and their choice of where to live and work has much to do with a city's cul-tural environment. He said Michigan is being left behind such places as Chicago for young professionals.

Barbara Kratchman, president of ArtServe Michigan, and State Sen. Gilda Jacobs also spoke.

Jacobs said arts leaders should get to know their legislators better and pass along sidest or them as a way of nickets to them as a way of encouraging their involveDeborah Mikula, executive director of the Michigan Association of Community Arts Agencies, the group that sponsored Friday's event, told attendees to stop preaching to their choir and to get their message outside of the usual group. group. ppace#oe.homecomm.net | (248) 477-5450

Section 105 deadline set May 14

application for Section 105 Out-of-District Schools of Choice openings is Wednes

Choice openings is Weenesday, May 14.

Families who are in the Oakland County Intermediate School district which includes Clarenceville are eligible for the program which will be offered by the Farmington Public School District for the

first time this fall.

There will be a total 20 openings in grades k-3 for the pilot at William Grace and Flanders Elementary Schools for the 2003-2004 school year.

A lottery will be held for the 200 open alots.

There is no cost for the program and accepted students will be allowed to attend Farmington Public Schools

through high school comple-

through migh schools of the following state of the administration building, 32500 Shiawassee, east of Farmington Road in Farmington Road in Farmington and on the district's Web site, www.farmington.ktz.mi.us Call (248) 489-3327 for more information.

Hills Police seek help in locating missing man

The Farmington Hills Police Department is hopeful that media coverage will help a loving family locate a missing family member.

The missing person is William Jones Jr., a 62-year-old retiree who was last seen at his apartment on May 2. Jones may be emotionally

unstable and may not nave an of his medication.
According to Farmington Hills Police Chief William Dwyer, "There is no evidence leading authorities to believe foul play is a factor."
The Chief believes Jones could be hospitalized, but detectives are unable to

obtain patient information from medical facilities because of medical privacy

because of medical privacy laws. Chief Dwyer is asking any-one with information to con-tact the Farmington Hills Police Department, 24-hour Command Desk, at (248) 473-9695.

Advanced Technology Academy Public Notice

The Open Enrollment Period for 2003-2004 School Year begins on Eriday, March 13, 2003 and ends on Jone 13, 2003, Applications for enrollment are available at

Advanced Technology Academy Advanced Technology Academy
Room M-214 Buell Management Building
Lawrence Technological University
21000 West Ten Mile Road • Southfield, Michigan 48075
E-mail: ataltu@isml.net • Web site: Itu.edw/ata
Telephone: 248-204-3980

Michigan Public Law requires that a lottery process be implemented when the number of applicants exceed the projected capacity for the charter public school. The Advanced Technology Academy will host its lottery for the 2003-2004 school year on the following date, time and location.

When: June 20, 2003 (Friday) Where: Science Building S-100

Lawrence Technological University
Time: 7:30 PM

The Advanced Technological Academy will administer the Open Enrollment Program and Lottery in accordance with the laws of the State of Michigan.



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