

Wednesday, November 26, 2008

The following is an excerpt from Life Columns Lee published in The Journal Times on Wednesday, November 26, 2008 written by Lee Roberts. The column title was “A witty holiday duo”.

Making it possible

If you read the recent story on our A+ page about Main Gallery’s new, fall program and wondered how it is funded, here’s your answer. The program, which employs area high school students who are interested in the arts, is funded in part by the Racine County Workforce Development Center Youth Services area, which provided money for staffing, materials and evaluation of the fall pilot program. Other funding sources for Main Gallery’s fall program include the Wisconsin Arts Board and the City of Racine’s Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department. While the City’s PRCS Department (along with the Racine Arts Council) has long been associated with the Main Gallery’s initial program - which has been providing summer employment for area youth since 1995 - the WDC took on a major support role in development of the fall, after-school program.

The WDC’s involvement in Main Gallery stems from its interest in seeing how an increased focus on work skills development within the Main Gallery framework could help participants learn practical lessons about interviewing, application writing, job etiquette, soft skills, and other transferable skills and knowledge, according to Mark Gesner, youth team leader with the WDC.

The Workforce Development Center is also interested in seeing if this program is a good fit for youth enrolled in the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) program, which supports youth in pursuing their educational and career development goals, Gesner said.

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