

## Together again

Newly revived  
Arts Panel brings  
a Cincinnatus  
passion back to  
the forefront



Photo courtesy of the Baker Hunt Foundation

Art classes are part of the programming at Baker Hunt, where Cincinnatus member Ray Kingsbury is the executive director.

**R**ay Kingsbury comes by his love of the arts rightfully. His day job is executive director of the Baker Hunt Foundation, a community arts education nonprofit located in the Historic Licking Riverside Neighborhood of Covington.

On any given day, Baker Hunt's studios buzz with activity, as students learn to paint, to draw, to photograph and to shape wet earth (you, know, mud) into pottery.

Ray, a relatively new member of Cin-

cinnatus, wondered what happened to our Arts Panel. Did the arts somehow slip in importance to us? They did not; but we lost the panel's champion and chair, Robin Gehl, who moved away.

Over the summer, Ray agreed to be the Arts Panel's new champion. Now, he is reconstituting the panel. The first meeting was tonight but it is by no means too late to join this panel and help guide it back to vitality.

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## WE WANT OUR ASSOCIATION TO MATTER

### MEMEBERS WEIGH IN ON THE FUTURE OF CINCINNATUS

In our last edition of *Hot Off The Press* and in email communications since, the Cincinnatus Association Executive Committee invited members to take a survey about our organization's future.

The results are in — and they turned out to be informative as the EC completes strategic planning for programming, mission and funding.

Perhaps no message came across more clearly than this one: Our members want Cincinnatus to matter. Our association has a role to play in educating ourselves, our community and our leaders. We also have a role to play in shaping public opinion.

The survey clearly shows that our members want a Cincinnatus that has a strong influence, but we are concerned that we lack the impact we want: 97% of the respondents said we have too little influence into today's public arena.

As one respondent put it, it's time to "once again be a potent advocate for changes in government to increase our region's prosperity and quality of life."

Another said it like this: "Make such an impact in our community that potential members would be knocking on the door."

**You can read the full survey results on our website. Go to the "For Members" section. Scroll to the message board. You will need to log in.**

**TONIGHT'S MEETING SPONSOR:** Thank you to Cooney Faulkner & Stevens, LLC. Take a moment tonight to say thank you. **WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS:** Colin Groth, Kurt Reiber, Cindy Rowland, C.K. Wang and Moira Weir. Take a moment to say hello. **WEB NOTE:** Don't yet have a log-in for the Members Only section? See Roger Smith to get registered for access.

## Presidential promise: I've listened ... we'll act

**O**ur new president, Bob Schrage, loves history. So he's particularly aware of the history of the Cincinnati Association, which includes a record of being a change agent.

Can we be that again? His answer is a resounding "yes" — and he has some thoughts for how.

"Cincinnati has a great history, but it can only take us so far," Bob says in a Q&A about his vision of his presidency.

"We need to become more relevant in the community. There are so many issues facing the region, and we need to focus on a select few that are high impact and consistent with our mission and strategic plan."

He continues: "We cannot achieve a new level



of impact and involvement without first getting our internal house in order. This includes first breaking the 80 plus member barrier. We have a limit of 100 members but are consistently approximately 20 members below that threshold.

"As an association we continually run an annual operating deficit of several thousand dollars. Part of this problem can be fixed just by having the 100 members allowed.

"However, that will not get us to a higher level of impact in the community. I would like to see Cincinnati have money in the bank to use in support of

the projects that we feel are important. This will involve new sources of revenue. As president I want to start the dialogue with members and address these important issues."

**Read the full Q&A on our website.**

## Our best recruiter is you ... and now you have a toolkit

We need new members. That's just a fact. To understand the point, read President Bob Schrage's remarks above. How do we get them? Our members are our best recruiters. You can identify potential members, talk to them, tell our story, and, finally, recommend them to the Membership Committee.

To help do this more effectively, Executive Committee Member Elliot Grossman has developed a robust array of "how to" tips and documents It's a toolkit for recruiting. Go to the website to put it to use. Find it under the "For Members" tab. Or go to it directly at: [cincinnatiassoc.org/recruit](http://cincinnatiassoc.org/recruit).

## Sir Silbersack, we salute you and your service

As we begin a new season of Cincinnati, we have new officers, including a new president. But take a moment to say, "Here, here!" to our

newest past president for a job well done. Thank you, Mark Silbersack, for your leadership, your vision, your commitment and your service.



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"The first order of business will be a clearly defined purpose statement," Ray told us in a Q&A about the panel's rebirth.

"Before we institute another panel, it is important that everyone is on the same page and has bought into our direction. Personally, I would also like to consider expanding the Arts

Panel to include the term 'culture.' This would allow us to weigh in on issues such as funding for the Museum Center or the streetcar."

*Footnote: A former panel member notes that "culture" once was part of the name. So this idea is a revival, too. Cheers to that!*

**Read the full Q&A on our website.**

## Sign up with Kroger and support CA

It's quick, it's easy and it's easy income for Cincinnati. Go online and take 59 seconds to designate the Cincinnati Association as the recipient of your Kroger loyalty points at [www.kroger.com](http://www.kroger.com).

## Learn more about Dayton's approach

Dayton is becoming known as one of America's most immigrant-friendly cities. TIME took note of this in a story earlier this year. Noting Dayton's declining population (down 40% since 1960), TIME reported the city's new strategy: "And so in 2009, Dayton began plotting an unlikely path to renewal—growing its economy by courting immigrants." Google "time + Dayton + immigrants" to read more.

## Homeless to Homes is our topic for Oct.

Our October meeting will inform us of an inspirational new effort to transform the homeless service system in Hamilton County. The "Homeless to Homes Plan" will be outlined by panelists on Oct. 14, when we meet at the Freestore Foodbank Distribution Center, 1250 Tennessee Ave., Bond Hill. Cincinnati Cooks! (the Freestore's catering service) will serve our buffet.

## An update on shared services in Nov.

Our November meeting will provide an update from the Shared Services Committee by John Frank and Al DeJarnett. Cincinnati has been in the forefront of this effort.

## Silent auction items needed for Dec.

Speaking of the holiday meeting, we'll have our third annual silent auction. We need donations! Maybe your favorite restaurant would donate a night out. Maybe you have a gift certificate from a shop. Or a bottle of wine. Let Roger or Bob know what you can donate.