

## **CULTURAL ARTS/HERITAGE**

All educational chairmen are expected to work together to integrate their programs of work when possible. This subject will cover an appreciation of our heritage, fine arts and culture as well as that of others. The chairman should be aware of the following when planning their program of work:

- Promote programs that broaden the understanding of our nation, state, and communities; citizenship, history, etc.;
- Promote and develop cultural diversity programs;
- Promote the study of historical preservation and restoration of public buildings, interiors and furnishings;
- Revive traditional art forms and continue teaching the heritage skills such as; basketry, knitting, crocheting, embroidery, quilting, doll making, carving, painting, pottery, etc.;
- Promote Extension Master Volunteer Programs to teach and preserve arts and heritage skills;
- Encourage self-expression through all forms of creative, visual, and performing arts;
- Conduct an awards program in arts and promote participation in the State Cultural Arts Exhibit;
- Promote the study of cultural heritage through literature and museums. Utilize libraries and encourage written and oral histories of families and communities. Promote genealogy programs;
- Promote reading especially of Kentucky authors; and,
- Explore home-based business opportunities utilizing hand made arts and crafts.

# Cultural Arts and Heritage

## 2007-2010 Program of Work

**Situation:** In Kentucky, the arts have played a pivotal role in the development of our culture. Early household items that were essential elements in family survival have evolved into precious antiques. Skills that enabled our ancestors to survive in an isolated society have, in many instances, become almost forgotten techniques in our modern world. “Fine traditional and contemporary crafts define our cultural landscape as vividly as horses, basketball, and our pathway to excellence in education. However, the arts in Kentucky today are as dynamic as the world itself, new disciplines and art forms are emerging, along with technologies and the new economy.” (The Kentucky Arts Council)

**Goal:** To provide experiences for expression and appreciation of the arts with a special emphasis on preserving our cultural heritage.

**Objectives:** To promote the preservation of heritage art and craft skills  
To encourage creativity in art and craft skills  
To encourage creativity in composition writing  
To encourage reading books that represent a variety of interests

### Activity Suggestions:

Preservation of heritage skills

1. Promote the study of historical preservation and restoration of public building, interiors and furnishings in your community and support for local museums.
2. Tour the Kentucky Artisan’s Center at Berea
3. Preserve family history through scrapbooking. Include scrap-booking as a workshop at an annual meeting.

Develop creativity in art and craft skills.

1. Select one heritage craft each year and study the history related to the development of the skills needed and its ultimate use.
2. Encourage participation in the KEHA Cultural Arts Exhibit at the Annual Meeting.
3. Encourage members to attend heritage skills camps where they can learn different craft skills. For craft camps outside your area, look for a reference guide to all heritage skills camps listed in the KEHA Newsletter.

Develop creativity in composition writing.

1. Encourage participation in the annual KEHA creative writing contest and give recognition to members who submit entries.
2. Continue to publish, at the state level and with permission from the authors, the entries submitted each year.

3. Continue to recognize winning authors and present awards for the KEHA Creative Writing Contest at the KEHA Annual Meeting.

Participation in the KEHA Reading Program.

1. Counties are requested to compile an annotated bibliography to document local authors from their counties.
2. Continue the KEHA Reading Awards program which offers individual awards for reading books with topics within ten different categories. A KEHA Book List is published each year with new selections in each of the categories.
3. Present an exhibit of local Kentucky authors in your county.

### **Contests**

The KEHA Cultural Arts and Heritage program includes several contests that are offered on an annual basis and form much of the structure of the statewide plan of work. The KEHA Cultural Arts Exhibit which takes place at the Annual Meeting features items submitted by members from counties through a process determined by counties and areas. There is a list of eligible categories representing different skills. The Exhibit is judged and ribbons are awarded.

The KEHA Creative Writing Contests in short stories, memoirs, and poetry are also annual events for members and are submitted directly to the State Cultural Arts chairman. Awards are announced at the State Meeting, and winners are recognized at the General Sessions held during that meeting. With the author's permission, creative writing entries are published by KEHA in a booklet each year.

### **2007-2008**

**Situation:** Stress the need to preserve history to build on for the future. Older buildings, books and pictures need to be preserved for future generations.

**Goal:** To provide experiences for appreciation and preserving of our heritage through books, buildings, and pictures

**Focus:**

1. Historical preservation and restoration of our heritage.
2. Identify preservation and restoration projects in your own area.
3. To research and record the history, restoration and preservation in your communities.

**Goals:**

1. Make Homemakers more aware of Historical sites in Kentucky.
2. Teach Homemakers how to preserve pictures and books.
3. Learn what your area is doing to preserve history.
4. Find old pictures and identify them.
5. Learn history from our elders to pass onto our children and grandchildren.

**Objectives:** To promote preservation and restoration of history statewide.

**Activities:**

1. Work with and attend Historical Preservation meetings in your own area.
2. Find someone doing restoration work and ask questions.
3. Read about and visit historical places all over the state.
4. Invite a speaker to share Restoration success stories.
5. Adopt a historical place. Learn the age of the building. If it is a home, research who lived there and what kind of life did they have there. If it is a business, learn what kind of businesses the building housed previously.
6. Plan an activity during May (National Preservation month).
7. Work with your library and have a special display during National Preservation month.

**Lesson:**

***Discover the Past! Revitalizing Your Community through Historic Preservation***

Your community has a past as well as a present and a future. Learn more about your community heritage through historic preservation and the important contributions that older landmarks and buildings “with a past” make to the social structure and economic vitality of your community. This lesson focuses on historic landmarks and architecture in Kentucky as well as working with resources and organizations in a community.

**2008-2009**

**Situation:** A lot of History comes from pictures. We need to learn how to take photos and how to preserve them for future generations.

**Focus:** Digital Photography, electronic storage, preservation of pictures, and scrapbooking.

**Goals:** Teach Extension Homemakers effective photography skills and how to label, record, and preserve them.

**Objectives:**

1. Preserve our pictures.
2. Learn the best ways to take pictures.
3. Learn how to organize photos.
4. Learn the importance to future generations to have history of pictures

**Activities:**

1. Scrapbooking classes at the State Meeting.
2. Class on Digital Photography.

**Lessons:*****Family Photos – Care, Preservation, Identification, and Display***

Develop an awareness of the types of materials and methods of storage for family photographs. Be informed of the alternatives in storage systems and display old family photographs. Individuals are encouraged to evaluate and use storage and display techniques that will preserve treasured family photos as a visual record of family history.

**2009-2010**

**Situation: To promote creativity on a larger scale to beautify old buildings and barns. To follow our heritage through Quilt Blocks.**

**Focus:** The Kentucky Quilt Trail

Learning about, participating in and following the trail of quilts.  
Get all areas of the state interested and involved.

**Goals:**

1. Make Homemakers aware of the Kentucky Quilt Trail.
2. Make Homemakers aware of how they can join in and beautify their own counties.
3. Promote tourism in your own area.

**Objectives:**

1. Promote creativity and tourism.
2. Learn more about our heritage through the quilt blocks.

**Activities:**

1. Make up a quilt pattern or find an old pattern.
2. Make a group effort to paint it and mount it on a barn or old building for all to see.
3. Have a photography contest for pictures taken on the “Kentucky Quilt Trail.”

**Lessons:** Travel the Kentucky Quilt Trail

*Lesson proposed to be ready for 2009.* What is the Kentucky Quilt Trail and how did it get started? Learn how to participate in the Kentucky Quilt Trail.