

## Sprout Festival Stars Shine on the Silver Screen

### Save the Date!!

You're about to experience a whole new world of entertainment this spring as The Arc of Arizona brings its first-ever **Sprout Touring Film Festival** to the ASU West campus on **Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup>**!

A celebration of films featuring, and sometimes created by, individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD), *Sprout* films are an enjoyable and enlightening way to help break down stereotypes about the lives, interests and talents of persons with I/DD.

Unlike the caricatures of people with disabilities familiar to most moviegoers, the *Sprout* festival offers accurate, nuanced portrayals of people with developmental disabilities.

"For many people, the only representations of this population on film are Sean Penn, Cuba Gooding, Jr., or Juliette Lewis playing the role of someone with a developmental disability," says Anthony Di Salvo, founder of the Sprout Film Festival. "We'd like to change that."

The 2015 *Sprout Touring Film Festival* includes screening of eight to ten short films in 90 minutes – some poignant, some fascinating, all memorable. Following the films, Mr. Di Salvo will lead a Q&A session for audience members.

Festival screenings take place at 1:00 pm and 7:00 pm on April 17<sup>th</sup> in the University Center Building-La Sala Ballroom at

ASU West. For more information or to purchase tickets, call The Arc of Arizona at (602) 234-2721 or visit [www.arcarizona.org](http://www.arcarizona.org). To learn more about the Sprout Touring Film Festival, visit [www.sprouttouringfilmfestival.org](http://www.sprouttouringfilmfestival.org).



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### In This Issue...

- Sprout Festival Stars Shine on the Silver Screen
- Disability Issues Front-and-Center in 2015 Legislature
- Wings for Autism Soars!
- The Arc of Arizona Welcomes 3 New Board Members
- Did You Know...?
- Ways to Support The Arc of Arizona!
- Upcoming Events



## Disability Issues Front-and-Center in 2015 Legislature

Arizona legislators have their plates full this session trying to cope with the state’s fiscal woes, but budgets for coming years cannot be balanced on the backs of those least able to fight for themselves. Your voice is a powerful force to ensure our elected officials make the right choices for residents with disabilities.

Gov. Doug Ducey’s proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2016 contains improvements for Arizonans with I/DD, such as reinstating preventative and emergency dental care for ALTCS recipients. The Arc of Arizona is hard at work advocating for this and other vital measures – among them creating a pub-

licly available online registry of persons classified as abusers by Adult Protective Services (H2021) and reinstating emergency dental care for adults receiving AHCCCS benefits (H2492). Both issues affect a large number of Arizonans with I/DD.

Make your voice heard by contacting your State Senator and Representatives today. Let them know their decisions affect thousands of constituents with I/DD – constituents who count on them to protect resources they vitally need. For information on how to reach the representatives from your district, visit [www.azleg.gov](http://www.azleg.gov).

## Wings for Autism® Soars!

The Arc of Arizona’s inaugural *Wings for Autism*® airport rehearsal last October was a rousing success – for our airline and airport partners, for our sponsors, and for the 275 children and parents who participated in this life-changing event. Hosting the largest *Wings* to date anywhere in the U.S., The Arc, Sky Harbor International Airport, and American Airlines and Southwest Airlines were able to provide an experience few will soon forget. Families in attendance called it “awesome”, “perfect”, and “wonderful”. Kudos to the airport and airline staffs, donors, and dozens of volunteers who gave so generously of their time and talents. Your compassion, patience, and understanding did not go unnoticed!



*You have given us hope that after 9 years, we can finally take a family vacation!*

- Allison Adam, *Wings for Autism* participant and parent

Planning is already underway for our 2015 *Wings for Autism* event. Look for information coming to The Arc of Arizona website and newsletter in early summer.

## The Arc of Arizona Welcomes 3 New Board Members

We couldn’t be more pleased to welcome three new members to The Arc of Arizona’s Board of Directors for 2015-2016 – each of whom brings unique talents to The Arc’s advocacy and education work on behalf of Arizonans with I/DD:



Kim Dorshaw serves as program director for Fenix Group, a multifaceted disability services provider in the Phoenix area. She has worked in the disabilities field for the past 13 years in Pennsylvania and Arizona.

Michael Leyva is grant/contracts coordinator for the Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council. He comes to the disabilities arena after a distinguished career in business development and banking.



Dr. Susan Marks is a professor of special education at Northern Arizona University where she teaches in the special education teacher preparation program. Through her more than 35-year career in the special education/developmental disabilities field she has been a classroom teacher, innovation researcher, and residential program director.

### The Arc of Arizona Board of Directors

**Robert Snyder** *President*  
**Michael Leyva**, *Vice President*  
**Michael Remus**, *Immediate Past President*  
**Jamie Lee Applewhite**, *Treasurer*  
**Kim Dorshaw**, *Secretary*

**Nita Kauffman**  
**Dr. Susan Unok Marks**  
**Ken Tocker**  
**Richard Travis**

Chapter Staff:  
Jon Meyers, *Executive Director*  
Kristi Short, *Executive Assistant*

**Achieve with us.®**

# Did You Know...?

## YOU CAN KEEP UP WITH THE ARC OF ARIZONA ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Stay on top of the latest news from The Arc of Arizona and get updates on issues and events affecting individuals with I/DD by checking us out on these social media sites:



Follow us on Twitter – [www.twitter.com/TheArcAZ](http://www.twitter.com/TheArcAZ) (@TheArcAZ)



Like us on Facebook – [www.facebook.com/TheArcofArizona](http://www.facebook.com/TheArcofArizona)



Follow us on LinkedIn – [www.linkedin.com/company/the-arc-of-arizona-inc](http://www.linkedin.com/company/the-arc-of-arizona-inc)

## MEMBERSHIP OFFERS YOU AN ARRAY OF BENEFITS

For as little as \$10.00 a year, your Membership in The Arc of Arizona adds your voice to the growing call for protecting the rights of all Arizonans. And, because membership in The Arc of Arizona includes membership in The Arc of the United States, it provides you timely updates from state and national leaders; discounts on The Arc's trainings and materials; and exclusive newsletters and legislative alerts.

To find out more, and to start or renew your membership today, visit [www.arcarizona.org](http://www.arcarizona.org) or call Kristi Short at (602) 234-2721.

## YOUR USED VEHICLE CAN HELP "DRIVE" THE ARC'S SUCCESS

If you're getting rid of a car, truck, boat or RV, let The Arc of Arizona's Vehicle Donation Program take it off your hands – and give you the possibility of a nice tax deduction, too!

Simply visit [www.thearc.org/donate-my-car](http://www.thearc.org/donate-my-car) or call (877) 272-2270 to speak with a representative. No hassles (we'll even haul it away for you and provide all the necessary documentation for your records), just a great opportunity for you to support a great cause!

## YOU CAN CREATE A LASTING LEGACY FOR THE ARC

A Memorial or Planned Gift ensures your impact lives on long after you or a loved passes away. To learn more about the many ways to make a Memorial or Planned Gift to The Arc, and the tax advantages that may be available to you, contact Jon Meyers, Executive Director, at (602) 290-1632 or [jon@arcarizona.org](mailto:jon@arcarizona.org).

## **Supporting The Arc – As Easy as Spending on Yourself!**



Now you can feed your family and support The Arc of Arizona through the

### **Fry's Community Rewards Program.**

Simply link your Community Rewards card to The Arc of Arizona at [www.frysfood.com](http://www.frysfood.com). There's no additional cost to you — and there's a huge benefit to Arizonans with intellectual and developmental disabilities!

Visit our website at [www.arcarizona.org](http://www.arcarizona.org) to find out more — and get involved today!

### **AmazonSmile. You shop. Amazon gives.**



AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service.

With every qualifying purchase, though, Amazon will donate a percentage of what you spend to The Arc of Arizona.

Visit [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and choose **The Arc of Arizona** before you shop!



With the **BBVA Compass For Your Cause** program, every purchase you make supports the vital advocacy and outreach of The Arc of Arizona.

And you get to keep the stuff you buy!

By opening a BBVA Compass Checking Account using The Arc of Arizona's unique Affinity code – **110904** – your purchases automatically generate a donation from Compass Bank to The Arc. Compass even makes an initial \$50 donation every time an account associated with The Arc is opened. Best of all, there's no additional cost to you. It's a winning proposition all the way around!

For more information about the BBVA Compass For Your Cause program, visit [www.arcarizona.org](http://www.arcarizona.org) or [www.bbvacompass.com/checking-accounts](http://www.bbvacompass.com/checking-accounts).

If you wish to make an online donation to The Arc of Arizona, please visit our website at [www.arcarizona.org](http://www.arcarizona.org). From the home page, click on the **Donate today!** button. You will then be taken to our donation page where you can make a secure donation via PayPal.

**All donations made to The Arc of Arizona are tax deductible.**

WAYS TO SUPPORT THE ARC OF ARIZONA!



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**4<sup>th</sup> Annual African American Symposium on Disabilities**  
February 27<sup>th</sup> – Desert Willow Conference Center, Phoenix  
[www.abil.org/2015AAS](http://www.abil.org/2015AAS)

**11<sup>th</sup> Annual American Indian Disability Summit**  
March 26<sup>th</sup> – Desert Willow Conference Center, Phoenix  
[www.arcarizona.org](http://www.arcarizona.org)

**2015 The Arc of Arizona/Sprout Touring Film Festival**  
April 17<sup>th</sup> – ASU West Campus, Glendale  
[www.arcarizona.org](http://www.arcarizona.org)

**6<sup>th</sup> Annual Disability Empowerment Center Health & Wellness Fair**  
April 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> – Disability Empowerment Center, Phoenix  
<https://healthandwellness2015.eventbrite.com>

**National Down Syndrome Congress Annual Convention**  
June 25<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> – JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort, Phoenix  
<http://convention.ndsccenter.org>

Email us at [arc@arcarizona.org](mailto:arc@arcarizona.org) ♦ Visit us on the web at [www.arcarizona.org](http://www.arcarizona.org) ♦ Call us at (602) 234-2721

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