



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
19 July 2010**

FOR INFORMATION

Lexie Boris
Communications Director
Virginia Center for the Creative Arts
154 San Angelo Drive
Amherst, Virginia 24521
434-946-7236
lboris@vcca.com

- **VCCA receives grant from DMB's Bama Works Fund**
- **VCCA is one of nation's largest artist communities**
- **In 2009, 14 Charlottesville area artists went to VCCA**
- **Next deadline for applying: 9/15/10**

Local Artists Benefit from DMB's Bama Works Fund Award to VCCA

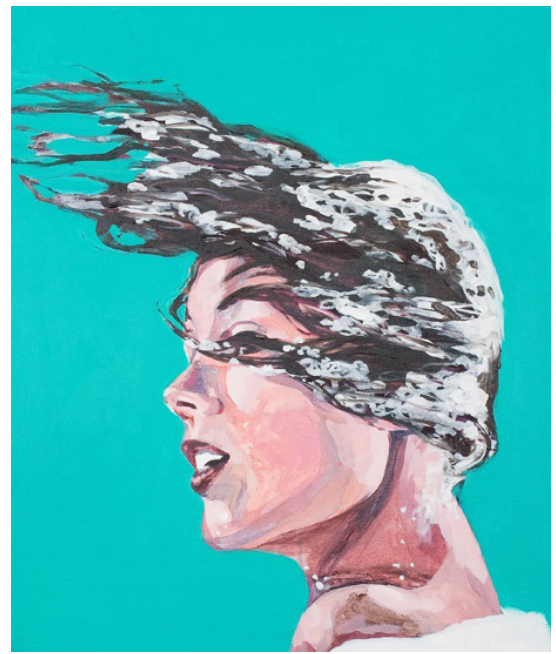
Thanks to an award from the Dave Matthews Band Bama Works Fund, even more artists from the Charlottesville area will be able to be part of one of the largest artist communities in the nation: VCCA (Virginia Center for the Creative Arts).

Nestled in Amherst County, Virginia, VCCA annually hosts hundreds of writers, composers and visual artists from all over the world, but takes particular pride in supporting the wealth of talent in its home state. "VCCA was founded in Charlottesville," explained Suny Monk, executive director, "And we are very pleased that the Bama Works Fund grant enables us to support the creativity of even more artists from the community that supported our creation almost 40 years ago."

VCCA Fellows have won nearly every major artistic distinction there is including the Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award. Their works have been seen all over the world, from The Metropolitan Museum of Art to the Louvre. Gregory Maguire, author of *Wicked*, calls VCCA a place where "...people hunker down, anchor, plant, harvest, leap, soar, return. The fruits of these efforts belong to all of us."

From the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, VCCA operates the largest international exchange program of any artists' community in America, and with the addition of the Moulin à Nef facility in Auvillar, France, five years ago, is one of only three in the world with facilities on two continents.

Last year, fourteen artists from the Charlottesville area were in residence at VCCA, thanks in part to a Bama Works Fund in CACF (Charlottesville Area Community Foundation) grant. Residencies range from two weeks to two months, and include private studios, bedrooms and all meals. The next application deadline is September 15, 2010.



"Constellations" by Sharon Shapiro, one of fourteen Charlottesville area artists who had a residency at VCCA last year. 24x20 acrylic on canvas.