

## Donors Making a Difference

### Neighborhood Art House Marks its 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Appeal



It is with a resounding applause that we celebrate and thank this year's annual appeal donors for helping us to reach 84% of our goal in such a short period of time! You have made a great impact on our students' being engaged and having fun, all while learning and creating a foundation of process, critical thinking, and evaluation. And the best part is that if you thought you missed out – it is not too late. Visit our website's donation page at [neighborhoodarthouse.org](http://neighborhoodarthouse.org). Help us achieve 100% of our goal while providing funding for the classes that have continued throughout the pandemic.



### Gannon University's Schuster Re-Grant Initiative Awarded



Since 1999 the Inner-City Neighborhood Art House has been the beneficiary of Gannon University's Schuster Re-Grant Initiative for funding the arts. This year's award will assist the Fiber Crafts and Wearable Art classes by providing necessary materials. In addition to the amazing wearable items that the children produce, students also achieve a better understanding of each craft and its value in arts and culture. We are very thankful to Schuster Program for the Arts for their continued assistance over the many years.



### EITC (Educational Improvement Tax Credit) Major Donor

*Donors Making a Difference* - nothing could be truer than the phenomenal, unwavering support for our Visual Arts Program that we receive from Erie Insurance through Pennsylvania's EITC program. This year Erie Insurance has chosen to dedicate an astounding \$77,400 in funding for the visual arts classes that allow the students we serve to experience Digital Photography, Video Editing, Computer Design, Graphic Design, Drawing, Painting, Polymer Clay, Mosaic, Chalk Pastel, Print Relief, Sewing, Knitting, Clay, Weaving, and Ceramics.



Erie Insurance understands and places great value on the programs we offer our students to supplement their education through the after school and summer programs. If you want to know more about EITC, please call Kelly Stolar at 814-455-5508.



201 East Tenth Street  
Erie, PA 16503

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## What's New

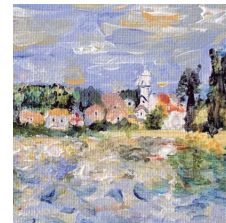
### Congratulations, Students!

Twenty framed pieces were submitted to the Barber National Institute's Annual Art Show & Sale. Submitted art is judged for awards and, at the discretion of the artist, is available for sale. Congratulations to Best of Show winners Tania Butler for her reductive relief print, and to Tejanae Johnson, age 14 and Yeslian Vargas, age 13 for their collaborative digital inkjet print depicting current social issues. Congratulations also go to Aiva Sadler, age 13 for her Honorable Mention digital inkjet print highlighting issues of food insecurity.



### Painting Mini Masterpieces

It's hard to recreate a masterpiece on a 3" x 3" canvas! Teachers and students who chose to take on this challenge recreated paintings of their choice as part of an out-of-the-ordinary workshop. We are proud of all the entries for a show at the Hoyt Art Center, and congratulate Nhu Tran on her winning entry.



Erie's stylish new laundromat, the *Launderie Room* at 28<sup>th</sup> & State St, is hosting a display of framed art by our students. Many thanks to owners Angela Magee and Melissa Pagliari for their invitation to increase our visibility in the Erie community.

**Executive Director**  
Annette Marshall, OSB  
**Program Director**  
Margaret Ann Pilewski, OSB  
**Development Director**  
Kelly Stolar, CFRE

### Neighbor to Neighbor Contributors

**Faculty**  
Sarah Everett  
Loures Jasso  
Margaret Ann Pilewski, OSB  
Kelly Stolar, CFRE  
Annette Marshall, OSB, Editor

**Student – Front Page**  
*Waterlily* - Watercolor, Aaralyn, age 11  
*Daffodil* - Watercolor, Elvira, age 10  
*Cardinal Song* - Sculpture, Espoir, age 11  
*After Georgia O'keeffe* - Watercolor, Estella, age 14

Beauty  
Vision  
Hope  
Inner-City  
Neighborhood Art House

Non-Profit Org.  
US Postage  
PAID  
Erie, PA  
Permit No. 425

Spring 2021

## NEIGHBOR to NEIGHBOR



It's  
Spring!



## Kid's Corner

### Virtual Classes

Covid cases were on the rise in December, so out of an abundance of caution we made the difficult decision to begin our Winter/Spring Semester with virtual class offerings. Teachers prepared packets of materials for each class for the students to pick up. Thirty-three students took advantage of these classes.



Baubles, Beads & Bracelets teacher Barb Hauck watches her students repeat the knots she has just demonstrated.

Live-streamed classes gave us the opportunity to stay connected to our students. There were offerings included Cardio Dance Stretches, Digital Photography, Baubles, Beads & Bracelets, and Drawing.

Pre-recorded art classes were also offered through our YouTube Channel and included Sculptured Painting, Resist Method Painting, and Drawing. These videos will remain available for the general public on the Neighborhood Art House YouTube Channel.



Nhu Tran applies what she has learned in her virtual chalk pastels class with Mary Kay Geary.



Larisa Melodinskaia keeps students on their toes.



Elvira looks up from her sculptured painting taught over YouTube by Leslie Ford

### In-person Classes



CLAY SCULPTURE



PRINTMAKING



GARDENING: SPRING CLEAN-UP



DANCE

In-person classes resumed March 1 with 40 students enrolled. Six piano students continue to take their lessons virtually. Students were so happy to be back to in-person classes that the quality of their art has been remarkably high.



Social Distancing Requirements keep class size low.

## Kid's Corner

### The Urban Litter Project



Green Team members used the new iPads to record their data for the International Coastal Clean-up. They cataloged and mapped their data to identify litter hot spots.

Collaboration was key in the NAH Green Team's efforts to reduce urban litter. Green Teams from Collegiate Academy and the JFK Center also participated in this project funded by PA Sea Grant.

Using a Neighborhood Survey developed by Michigan State University, youth walked through their target neighborhood looking at land use, traffic, natural features, culture and diversity. Emily Fetco, Assistant Director of the Downtown Partnership discussed the history and architecture of the area with the youth. They also interviewed business owners and citizens in the neighborhood.

After analyzing and organizing their data, they decided that their efforts to get the word out would include posters, a presentation, PA Announcements at the Art House, postings on the Art House Website, Facebook and Instagram. They teamed up with Mrs. Jasso's Digital Media Class to prepare the Posts which are now available on our platforms.



Getting the word out including making PA announcements at the Art House

## Teachers and Volunteers

Art House teachers were asked to share what they are doing when not at the Art House. Here are a few of the responses.

**Sarah Everett**, Art House Program Assistant and teacher, was one of twelve artists selected to create public art projects on 19<sup>th</sup> street between Cherry and Parade Streets. This is part of the Active Erie Transportation Plan's initiative to create safe and attractive bike paths within the city. The project is a partnership between Erie Arts & Culture and the city of Erie's Engineering and Planning Department.



"There hasn't been much extra time to make my own artwork, but I did some experimental ice dyeing combining shibori folds and the ice dye process over the winter."

She recently finished a ten-part series of printmaking and drawing lessons for a virtual artist residency through a partnership between Erie Arts & Culture and the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts. The lessons will be used to teach supplemental art lessons at the United Way of Erie County and Erie's Public Schools. She also taught Printmaking at Mercyhurst University this spring.



**Passle Helminski** has been a volunteer teacher at the Neighborhood Art House for many years and, as a professional artist, has shown her work in many exhibits across the country. One of her many awards was for "Good Times" which received an Honorable Mention Recognition in the Juried National Exhibit "Imagined Realities" Feb 27 - March 26, 2021.



**Debbie Sementelli**, sewing teacher here at the Art House and one of Erie's well-known fiber artists, has been busy in her studio at Saint Mary's turning vintage linen tablecloths into summer wearables and exploring small, quilted pieces focused on the importance of protecting honeybees. Thursday evenings she hosts Erie Open Figure Sessions at the studio.



Three years ago, **Barb Hauck**, long-time weaving teacher at the Neighborhood Art House, opened a weaving studio for teaching adults located in the Studio at St Mary's. With 10 looms available, students have learned complex weaving techniques and rug weaving. The photo shows Susan Smathers (left) and Lynne Elia working diligently on their looms.

## Take Note . . .



Share your **Art & Sole UnRun/UnWalk** experience by submitting a digital photo.

Submit your "day-of race" photo wearing your Art & Sole event shirt. Three entries will be selected at random to **win a \$25 Meeker Marshall New Balance Gift Card** and Neighborhood Art House **Student Artwork**.

Since a city run is not possible this year, we are instead asking you to participate in the **Art & Sole UnRun/UnWalk** on or before June 19. Even though we won't be running/walking together, your donated registration of **\$25 or more received by May 17th** will qualify you for a long-sleeve performance event shirt sponsored by Great Lakes Insurance.

Check out [www.erieartssole.com](http://www.erieartssole.com) for event details and to register/donate. If you prefer to register by mail, please contact us for a printed form.

*Your support is needed now!*

**We look forward to your participation in the 2021 Art & Sole UnRun/UnWalk!**

**Taste of the Arts**, beginning **September 14**, will be a virtual experience again this year. Watch for details to be posted during the summer.

### WISH LIST

- Perennials: Coneflowers, Cardinal Flowers, Black-eyed Susans, Yarrow, Bee Balm
- Annuals: Marigolds, Cosmos, Snapdragons, Zinnia, Pansies
- Small house plants
- Individually packaged healthy snacks (no peanuts)
- Gift cards to stores that sell art supplies, snacks, or general office supplies

## From the Desk of Sr. Annette



It's Spring! The blossoming trees, the smiling daffodils, the melodic bird songs, and the laughter of children playing outside bring a special joy and sense of wonder. The winter is over and done and there's a glimmer of light at the end of the pandemic tunnel.

The children and teachers have caught this "spring fever" and have been busy with their art of the season, samples of which are on the front of this newsletter.

Julian of Norwich, a Medieval mystic, sums up this surge of hope when she says "And all shall be well. And all shall be well. And all manner of things shall be well."

*Sister Annette*

## MEMORIAL

A special thank you to the family of

**Mary Carol Brown**

for designating a memorial to the Neighborhood Art House in her memory.

## DATES OF NOTE

**June 19** Art & Sole UnRun/UnWalk  
**June 21 - July 23** Summer Session  
**September 14 -** Taste of the Arts begins  
**September 20 - December 3** Fall Term