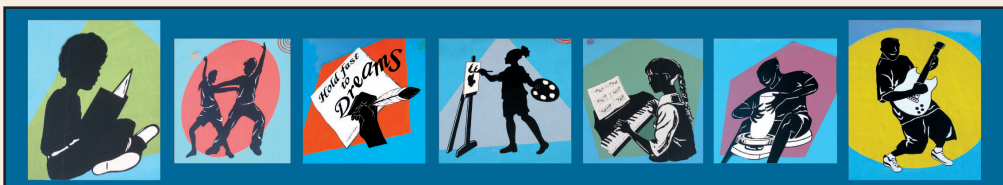


# NEIGHBOR to NEIGHBOR



**JANUARY  
2017**

Inner-City Neighborhood Art House • 201 East Tenth Street • Erie, Pennsylvania 16503 • 814-455-5508  
— A MINISTRY OF THE BENEDICTINE SISTERS OF ERIE —  
[www.neighborhoodarthouse.org](http://www.neighborhoodarthouse.org)



*A new year is a blank canvas,  
and the paint brush is in none  
other than your own hands.  
Paint away and create a  
beautiful picture for yourself.  
Happy New Year!*



## From the Desk of Sr. Annette



It's a New Year, and, like all new beginnings, a perfect time for reflection. Who are we? What are our values, our dreams? What do we do, and why?

### Who is the Neighborhood Art House?

Primarily, it is the children who come to the Art House after school because "it is fun; I love helping and doing activities" (student, age 13). "I like coming to the Art House because they care about safety and care about us." (student, age 7) "I have encouraging teachers who help me express myself and get my mind off school and other things." (student age 13) [Quotes from program evaluations by students]

The Art House is the faculty, each one accomplished in their own specialties, who challenge and prod, love and nurture the children who choose to spend their afternoon "free time" here. It is all those who volunteer as readers, tutors, and aides, serve on committees, or support this work for inner city children.

**What are our values, our dreams?** We value beauty, whether found in nature, in a painting or sculpture, in the rhythms of music and the fluid movement of dance. Most especially, we value the beauty of a young mind full of questions and a young heart developing a sense of self that will weather whatever life sends. . . . Our dreams? We dream of a world where everyone has enough so all are free to be their best selves. We dream of a world characterized by hope rather than fear, by concern for others rather than selfishness or envy. We dream that our children will be happy, caring and loving people throughout their lives.

**What do we do, and why?** We teach; we administer; we volunteer. We maintain a clean and inviting environment; we develop beautiful outdoor spaces. We serve on committees; we sponsor events; we donate supplies; we contribute financially. Whatever our role, we do all we can to enable the children to dream their own dreams, to become their best selves, to embrace beauty and to create it. We do this because we believe along with Eleanor Roosevelt that "the future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."

Happy New Year!

*Sister Annette*

**You won't want  
to miss the**

**10th Annual**

**ART 5K  
& SOLE**

benefit for the Neighborhood Art House

**5K Run/Walk and  
Team Challenge  
Saturday  
June 3, 2017**

Watch for registration information in the April Newsletter.

**Save The Date!**

## Fall Term Open House



Little Hoopers



Drumming Rainmakers



Handbell Jingle Bells



Advanced Hoops



Mosaics



Advanced Dancers

The first major snow-fall of the season didn't keep parents and friends away from Open House on December 8. Displays throughout the building gave testimony to the creative development shown in the various visual arts. Program highlights included a rain storm presented by the drumming students, beginning to advanced violin and cello, enthusiastic dancers keeping to the beat, a parade of animals from the youngest singers, and hand-bell ringers watching for the signal to play. Tim Horton's provided cookies and hot cocoa or coffee, perfect for a snowy night. The Holiday Season was off to a great start!



String Ensemble



Beginning Dancers



Canvas Prints



Singers



Photography

## Core Committee Member Honored



Neighborhood Art House Executive Directors Annette Marshall, OSB (current) and Anne Wambach (former) join with the Art House staff and Core Committee to sincerely congratulate Bobbi on her recognition as Northwest Pennsylvania Outstanding Philanthropist!

**Bobbi Pollock**, long-time member of the Women's Core Committee, was honored recently by the Association of Fundraising Professionals, Northwestern PA Chapter as their 2016 Outstanding Philanthropist. The Neighborhood Art House,

The Erie Playhouse and Temple Anshe Hased jointly nominated Bobbi for this award to honor her for her many years of dedicated service and financial support for them and for other organizations in Erie.

When something is happening at the Art House, count on Bobbi to be there. Whether it is setting up for Taste of the Arts, assisting in the annual holiday cookie decorating with Art House children, or sleeves rolled up cutting oranges for Art & Sole refreshments, Bobbi prefers a role of quiet service. She consistently thanks us for "allowing me to be involved doing things I love for the children." In addition to being a major donor for the Art House, Bobbi notices needs and quietly provides the means to make them happen. On several occasions, she merged her love for the Erie Playhouse and the Neighborhood Art House by providing tickets for the children and their families to attend major performances that particularly appealed to children.

**The Dr. Barbara Behan**

**Souper  
Book Swap**

**Friday, January 13, 2017  
11:30 am—1:30 pm**

**Mercyhurst University -  
Student Union**

**Donation \$5.00**

Enjoy delicious  
homemade soups and  
rolls, topped off  
with mouth-watering  
desserts!  
and then



Buy as many books as you can carry!  
(hard cover \$1.00 and paperback \$.50)

All proceeds benefit the Neighborhood Art House, located at 10th and Holland Street. This facility offers literacy programs, classes and events in the fine arts for inner-city children.

Holiday Blessings

We send a heartfelt thanks to EVERYONE who so generously donated to the Neighborhood Art House over the Holiday season. Whether you gave as an individual, a group, an organization, or a business, your gift in support of the children in Erie’s inner city will ignite a spark of creative expression in their hearts. May you in turn know amazing blessings throughout 2017.

“Tickets anyone?” Katie Shewan Young ’87, **Saint Benedict Academy Alumnae Board President**, greeted nearly 400 Alumnae at their annual Christmas dinner. As the Benedictine ministry awarded the proceeds of this year’s basket raffle, the Neighborhood Art House received \$5,400. Way to go, Lassies!



As an expression of their gratitude, the **Murphy Advisory Group** sent Thanksgiving cards to their clients. Enclosed was a copy of a watercolor by one of the Art House students with the message that a donation had been made in their name to the Neighborhood Art House.



**Interim Healthcare** employees Marybel Abbott, Brigid Farr (shown here with Sr. Peg, NAH Program Director) and MaryBeth Lombardi were the inspiration behind a donation of hats, gloves, socks, art supplies and cash collected from Interim staff. These items will help keep our students warm this winter. Thanks to all!

DATES OF NOTE

January 13	11:30 am	Souper Book Swap
January 26	7:00 pm	Music Recital
June 3	9:00 am	Art &Sole

MEMORIALS

A special thank you to the family of  
**Harry Honard**  
for designating memorials to the  
Neighborhood Art House  
in his memory.

Go the Extra Mile and Make Us Smile!



Brooklyn telephoned the DowntownErie Partnership and won their full support for the bus stop project.

*Brooklyn Brewington. I am 9 years old. I am in the Green Team with Sister Pat. I participated in the ICC. I saw a lot of cigarette butts and litter at the bus stop. People would stop littering if they had a place to put it.*

*With the Green Team I created a project to help reduce littering. The project is to place garbage cans, recycling cans, and cigarette butt containers at the 10<sup>th</sup> & Holland bus stop. I contacted the Downtown Erie Partnership. They said they would purchase and place the containers at the bus stop, and would take care of them being emptied. Go the extra mile and make us smile!” Sister Pat reports that the cans will be placed at the bus stop by the first of the year.*

Raptors Visit The Art House



Excited children gave their full attention to Carol Holmgren, Tamarack Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Center Director, who is shown above with Sophia, a Barred Owl, who decided to “stretch her wings.” Photo: Franco (age 12)

as soon as his cage was opened. They let out a spontaneous “ah” when presented with Jasper (red) and Willow (grey), both Eastern Screech-Owls, Pennsylvania’s smallest variety. Perhaps the most regal of the birds presented was a red-tail hawk with a most unusual albino-like coloring.

*This assembly provided a perfect opportunity for Photography students to practice their skills.*



Sophia, Barred Owl  
Photo: Lucy (age 12)



Jedi, Merlin Falcon  
Photo: Itzel (age 10 )



Red-Tail Hawk with near albino coloring  
Photo: Hadija (age 13)

Fairview Cares



Dr. Erik Kincade, superintendent, accompanied a delegation of Fairview School District teachers and students on a visit to the Neighborhood Art House to announce their selection of the Art House as one of the designated charities for their fundraising this school year. Known as *Fairview Cares*, this annual district-wide campaign generates funds through a variety of activities in Fairview Elementary, Middle and High Schools. All of Fairview gets involved, especially in the major activity, a walk involving the students of all three schools and much of the community as well. They have set an ambitious goal and, of course, we wish them well in their efforts to achieve it. The Neighborhood Art House is honored and very grateful to have been selected!

Students Nominated For Leadership Program



Jen Schibler, co-owner of several area Tim Hortons, surprised four students during the December Open House, presenting them with Tim Horton’s Hoodies and announcing to the assembly that they had been chosen to apply for the very prestigious Tim Horton’s Youth Leadership Program. Based on reports from their camp counselors at the Tim Horton’s Summer Camp Program last summer, invitations were issued for them to apply for the five-level program designed to teach life-long leadership skills focused on Teamwork, Goal Setting, Expression, Wilderness Connections and Community Engagement. Jen is shown above with program applicants Franco Harris, Lucy Ventura, Abby Aguilar and Empathy Langdon and teachers Lourdes Jasso and Sr. Pat Lupo.

WISH LIST

- Healthy snacks (pretzels, cheese crackers, breakfast bars, animal crackers, etc.)
- No peanuts added
- Health care products (shampoo, comb, brush, body wash/bar soap, deodorant, tooth brush, tooth paste, etc)
- Warm Socks for children ages 7-14

- Sweat pants and sweatshirts - youth and regular size
- Gift cards (to stores carrying art or office supplies)
- Art supplies: fiber fill, acrylic paint (bright colors, small bottles), Tacky Glue, Modge Podge, Drawing pads, Polymer clay, heavy paper plates, transparencies, glass flat-bottom gems (many colors), markers (both thick and thin), scotch tape, masking tape (1” - 3” wide) large manilla envelopes (to store children’s artwork)

Springhill Hats



Springhill residents organize hats for distribution to the Neighborhood Art House children.

It was almost 80 degrees out on October 18 when Lori Burek brought residents from Springhill Senior Living to the Neighborhood Art House to present the 80 hats they had knitted for the children. The children were excited to choose among the brightly colored hats that



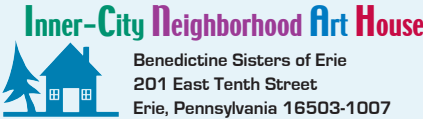
are now keeping them warm during these cold winter days.

Rickimarie gets to choose the first hat during distribution held October 18.

Cookie Decorating



It wouldn’t be holiday time without COOKIE DECORATING! Whether it’s directions from Renie or packing the cookies to take home with Brady, the Louis’s faithfully head up the dedicated volunteers who supply the cookies, icing and candies that will be transformed into holiday treats. An Art House tradition for two decades, cookie decorating has become a much anticipated and delectable art class.



Benedictine Sisters of Erie  
201 East Tenth Street  
Erie, Pennsylvania 16503-1007



Donor Corner

“As I discuss funding proposals with foundation program officers,” explains Patti Eichen, grant-writer at the Art House, “I am always impressed by the enthusiasm they express for our work. They recognize that children are the future, and that quality after-school programming in the Arts for at-risk children supports their personal and academic development while providing them a safe and rewarding place to be during those potentially dangerous after-school hours.” Whether the funding is designed to support specific programs or provides general funding, we are very grateful to the foundations and their very helpful program officers.

Schuster Re-grant Program of Gannon University



**Weaving Classes** Yadielys, age 9, works on her project while her teacher, Barb Hauck, looks on.

Erie Arts & Culture



**Acrylic Painting Classes** Painting by Rickimarie, age 7

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Erie



**Ponchos and Umbrellas** for Environmental Program and Photography outdoor activities.

First Niagara Foundation

Mosaics - Polymer Clay Classes

Jennifer, age 9, attaches polymer clay canes that she designed to a wood box.



Additional program grants were provided by Keep PA Beautiful for green space enhancement and the Erie Community Foundation for outdoor surveillance equipment.