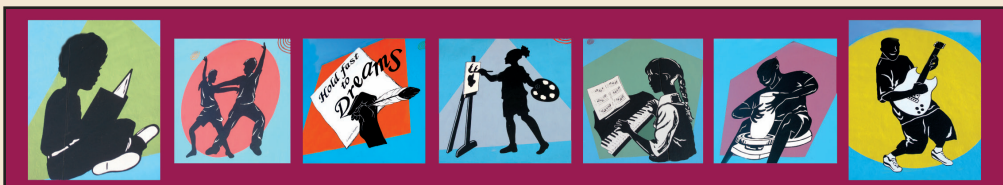


NEIGHBOR to NEIGHBOR



April
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

Focus On Music

The studies are many; the research is clear. Music programs for children show amazing results. This is especially true for children like those who attend the Neighborhood Art House. Clearly, results such as those shown here are more than enough to affirm the need for a quality music program. This alone, however, does not tell the whole story.

Our mission calls us to “enable children to experience beauty.” This is not just the beauty around them, it is the beauty within and the desire to give it expression.

Our teachers know: music lifts the soul.



Svetlana Kurochkina (piano and strings), wants parents to realize that “at first the children are very excited about learning, then they realize that it takes hard work and focus. It is the rare child who can maintain interest and practice consistently without parental guidance and encouragement.”



Erin Carey (piano, general music), recent graduate of St. Benedict's College in Minnesota and participant in their post-graduate service program, volunteers at the Art House as music teacher and tutor. “The children approach music with such excitement. They are intrigued with new instruments, sounds and songs. They are naturally curious and excited about making music. I like taking that energy and helping them try something new.”

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Vitaly Volchansky (strings), long-time Art House teacher, explains that “music helps us to live a life that is more attractive and colorful. The children here have a chance to learn what is usually very exclusive because their lessons are free.”



Nathan Barber (drums) “I think everyone is born a drummer! Look at an infant sitting in a high chair banging out a rhythm with a spoon! I see teaching drumming as a way to help students learn to organize their rhythm and then grow with it.”

Multiple studies report that children engaged in music programs at a young age

- Have larger vocabularies
- Have better focus
- Demonstrate higher scores on reading and spelling tests
- Are more likely to excel in mathematics
- Are better at making predictions
- Show greater language development

- Demonstrate significant growth in non-cognitive skills
- Show better brain development

Studies of after school music programs for disadvantaged youth showed that their participants

- Were more likely to develop future plans
- Engaged in fewer risk behaviors such as drug use
- Developed stronger friendships than their peers.



Janice Marquand (guitar, general music) knows that “if they can get through the initial difficulties, they begin to have a sense of accomplishment and are on their way to developing a means of emotional self-expression.”

Holly Sydow

(flute) volunteers at the Art House “to pass on the gift I received. I loved playing the flute in my school program, but could not afford the private lessons needed for me to move ahead. An amazing chance encounter resulted in my having free lessons from key members of the Chicago Symphony. I’ve had a wonderful lifetime career in music; now retired, I am excited to offer lessons to these children.”



Matt Catrabone, Art & Sole Committee Chairperson shown with Kevin Bannon, volunteer, said he was a bit amazed when he realized that this year will be the 10th annual Art & Sole.



“Ten years ago a small group came up with an idea to raise funds for the Art House . . . look how it has grown! Last year we had over 400 registrations, some from as far away as Cleveland, Buffalo and State College.” Matt and the Committee are planning to celebrate this notable anniversary year by adding prize drawings for participants, and a special memento for each person as well.

“There’s a great new opportunity for children,” Matt explained. “We’ve added a **1K Fun Run for Kids** open to children 6 – 12 years of age. It will be timed for those who love to compete, but, of course, everyone will be a winner.”

The Committee is particularly grateful to Kathi Danielson, coordinator of Erie’s Wild Rib Cook Off and Music Festival, who welcomed us to hold our event on the last day of the Rib Fest, even though that would require some logistical adjustments on their part.



5K Run/Walk and Team Challenge

Saturday, June 3, 2017

Registration:
7:45 - 8:45 a.m.

Race Start: 9:00 a.m.

NEW Fun Run for Kids
1K – 10:00 a.m.

Special opportunity for children 6 - 12 years old. Check the **FUN RUN** box to register.

Special 10th Anniversary
Celebration drawings included
for all participants.

Easy, online registration and additional downloadable forms at
www.neighborhoodarthouse.org.

ENTRY FEES	By May 15	After May 15
Adult/Youth	\$20	\$25
Child 12 & under	\$10	\$12
Max per family	\$50	\$60

Family Pricing - please send your completed forms to the Neighborhood Art House in one envelope. Family Pricing: parents, children, grandchildren, foster children, grand-parents in one household.

Pre-Packet Pickup

Friday, June 2nd: 10AM - 4 PM
Neighborhood Art House

REGISTRATION FORM

ONE REGISTRATION FORM required for each participant including team members & families.

Please print and complete the entire registration form.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Art & Sole Shirt Selection

Registration before **May 15** guarantees you a 10th Anniversary Art & Sole Long-sleeve Performance T- Shirt. Shirts for late entries are based on availability. To assure proper sizes please complete this section.

Adult Shirt Size (Please circle)

Men	Small	Med	Large	XL	XXL	XXXL
Women	XS	Small	Med	Large	XL	XXL
Child Shirt Size		Small	Med	Large		

I AM JOINING A TEAM - Each team member must complete this form.

Team Name: _____

Team Captain: _____

Prizes will be awarded to the top three teams. Top three times on each team will be used to calculate team scores. Minimum 5 runners/walkers per team.

ALL TEAMS MUST BE PREREGISTERED.

PAYMENT Please return payment to: **Neighborhood Art House**
201 East 10th Street, Erie, PA 16503

☐ Enclosed check made payable to **Neighborhood Art House**

OR Pay by: ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐ American Express ☐ Discover

Name on credit card: _____

Credit Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____

CSC (3 digits on back of card): _____ Billing zip code: _____

I am registering for:

☐ **5K RUN**

☐ **5K WALK**

(Participant must **WALK** the entire race to be eligible for awards.)

☐ **1K FUN RUN for Kids**

GENDER

☐ Male ☐ Female

Age _____
(as of 6/3/17 - needed for timing and awards)

Waiver & Release: In consideration of the acceptance of this entry, I do hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators waive and release and discharge the organizers, sponsors, the Inner-City Neighborhood Art House and any and all employees, successors, volunteers, service organizations, affiliates and assignees connected with the operation and running of this event from all claims or liabilities of any kind arising now and in the future from my participation in this event. I am aware that, because of insurance limitations, no bicycles, skateboards, roller skates or blades, etc., will be permitted on the course. I know that competing in a road race is potentially dangerous. I certify that I have trained sufficiently for this event. I assume all risks associated with this event. I further agree that I may be photographed or videotaped and that these images may be used for promotional purposes by the Neighborhood Art House. Parent or guardian must sign if entrant is under age 18.

Signature of Entrant
(or parent/guardian for entrants 18 years of age or under)

Date: _____

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



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Sponsors listed as of March 15, 2017

"The best BBQ party this side of anywhere."



Erie's Wild Rib
Cook Off
& Music Festival

May 31, June 1, 2 & 3, 2017

**Perry Square Park,
Downtown Erie, PA**

Free Admission to the Public

YEAR AT A GLANCE

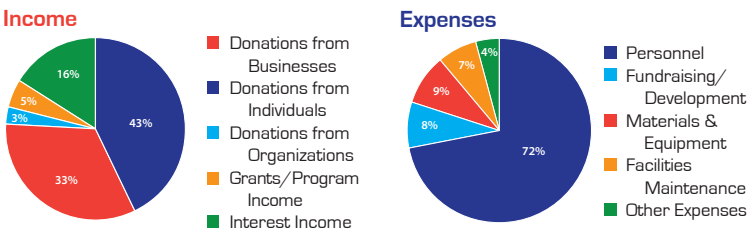


2016 FINANCIAL REPORT

Visitors to the Art House are often surprised to learn that the Art House has no direct government funding nor is it part of the Erie School District. Rather, the at-risk children in Erie’s center city are the direct beneficiaries of the gifts we receive from you, our donors. The accompanying income graph tells the story of your generosity. Here are some of the details for the three largest categories.

INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS \$235,320: Ranging from \$1 to \$30,000, we treasure each of the 324 direct contributions that you made from your personal resources which totalled \$159,039. Participation in our fundraising events raised \$40,531 and sponsorships generated \$35,750.

BUSINESS DONATIONS \$183,254: Erie area businesses provided 33% of our income in 2016. Nine businesses donated \$128,044 through the PA Educational Improvement Tax Credit program; 6 businesses contributed a total of \$12,260; and 55 event sponsors donated \$42,950. We are

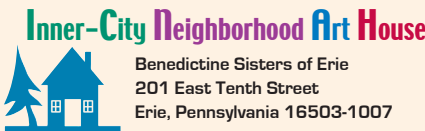


grateful to each one of our business supporters and make special note of the \$75,000 gift from Erie Insurance.

INCOME FROM INVESTMENTS: The \$91,000 in interest income reflects the long-term benefit of bequests from NAH supporters who included us in their wills. Recognizing that such donors intend to leave a legacy, the funds received through bequests serve as an endowment to provide ongoing support for our work with children.

DATES OF NOTE

May 4	7:00 pm	Music Recital
May 18	7:00 pm	Open House
June 3	9:00 am	Art & Sole
	10:00 am	Fun Run for Kids
June 19	10:00 am	Summer Session Begins
July 21	11:00 am	Summer Session Picnic
September 12	5:00 pm	Taste of the Arts



MEMORIALS

A special thank you to the families of
Mary Ellen Bujnoski
for designating memorials to the
Neighborhood Art House in her memory.

From the Desk of
Sr. Annette

It's here! Crocuses and daffodils have burst upon the scene and tulips cannot be far behind.

The departure of winter seems to have taken forever this year. We just couldn't seem to shake the season of colds and flu and pneumonia.

I wonder if our longing for what is to come, makes it difficult to live in the present. It's impossible to see the beauty in a snowflake if we cannot wait for it to melt. While we share Thich Nhat Hanh's certainty that "life is available only in the present moment," the responsibilities of family and work often require that we plan ahead to lay the groundwork for the next project. Unless we consciously call ourselves to experience the present, we will miss the everyday joys that life offers.

It's a new season, one of new life and hope. We have a new opportunity to experience for ourselves the beauty that we hope to share with the Art House children.



*Oh, give us pleasure in the flowers to-day;
And give us not to think so far away
As the uncertain harvest; keep us here
All simply in the springing of the year.*

From A Prayer in Spring by Robert Frost

Sister Annette

Guest Presenters



The Art House is fortunate to have many partners and friends interested in sharing what they know with the children. Members of the Master Gardeners have been an effective resource as they share their love of gardening with the children. Most recently, Mike Bailey took Sr. Pat's gardening class on a see, touch, smell tour of the raised beds at Emmaus Grove, the Urban Farm located behind the Art House. With his guidance the children were able to recognize the signs of new life in a dormant winter garden.

Victoria Coleman, former Art House student 2005 – 2010, paid a second visit to the Art House to share her college experiences with some of the older students. Her intent was to show by example that a college education can be their goal if they just want it badly enough.



Children Reaching Out To Children



As part of their celebration of Catholic Schools Week, students at Blessed Sacrament

School collected socks of every color and style to be given to NAH children who need them.

Student Art



Early in December, Sister Peg, Program Director, had several student paintings, photographs, prints and drawings reproduced on canvas as gifts for our Women's Core Committee and to display in our gallery space. Little did she know how popular these would be!

The canvas prints were so well liked by the Erie Community Foundation that they chose them to use as gifts and put them on display in the reception area of the Foundation's new building, The Susan Hirt Hagen Center for Transformational Philanthropy, home of the Nonprofit Partnership.

Colleagues Honor Dr. Steven Raj with Art House Donation



It's very clear that Dr. Raj's colleagues in UPMC Hamot's Anesthesiology Department thought the world of him. What could they do to honor him on the occasion of his retirement? After consulting with his wife, Lalida, long-time Art House volunteer tutor, they collected \$8,640 which they presented to the Art House in his name. Pictured above are Dr. Steven Raj and Lalida Raj with Sr. Anne Wambach, Prioress of the Benedictine Sisters and former Art House Executive Director and Sr. Annette Marshall, current Executive Director.

WISH LIST

- Heavy duty wood bookcases
- Healthy snacks
- Personal care products
- Gift cards (to stores carrying art or office supplies)
- Art supplies