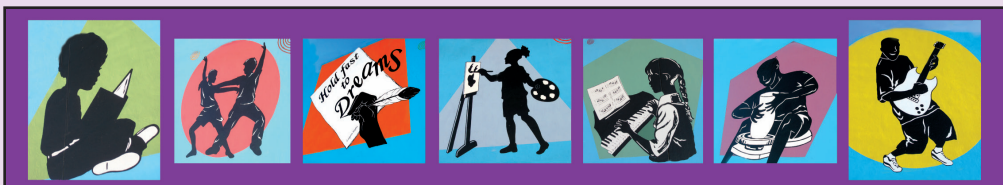


NEIGHBOR to NEIGHBOR



JULY
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

Special Projects Enhance Learning

Class projects teach more than the skills of the medium. Social skills such as working together, courtesy, peer leadership, communication and working toward a common purpose come to the forefront.



Mosaics teacher Sharon Bannon's classes used the content of any home's "junk drawer" to express their interests. With a little paint treatment and matting an art piece emerged.

Upcycled Art

"What is that hanging in the garden?" you might ask as you drive by the Art House. Created "in the manner of Chihuly," the famous glass sculpture artist who works in huge dimensions, it is the work of the Fun With Acrylics Class. However, this sculpture is made out of plastic bottles, not glass. This class project directed by Mary Kay Geary is just one of the many "upcycled art" projects recently conducted with a \$2,000 grant from Erie Arts and Culture.



Sue Hunter's clay classes used recovered wire from building relamping and wooden embroidery hoops donated over the years to form the structure for their vertical gardens. Then they populated them with clay components made with Crayola Model Magic provided through a partnership with Springhill Suites.

Sock critters made from new pair-less socks donated by the manufacturer along with lots of imagination are always popular in Debbie Sementelli's summer hand sewing class.



Going to the dogs

The children of Sarah Everett's printmaking class presented several hundred colorful bandanas to the A.N.N.A. Shelter. The intention was that these bandanas, stamped with the Art House logo and the words *Handmade with love by a student at the Inner City Neighborhood Art House*, would be worn by shelter dogs as they were adopted and moved to their "forever home." When Ruth Thompson, Director of the A.N.N.A. Shelter, came to speak to the children she brought three young dogs with her, welcome guests to be sure!



Dyeing over 200 bandanas - one at a time.



The visiting dogs each got to wear a bandana back to the shelter.

Vertical Garden

When *Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful*, an affiliate of *Keep America Beautiful*, announced its 25 in 25 initiative to award up to \$1,000



for 25 community improvement projects across the state, Sr. Pat Lupo jumped at the chance to present her plan to have the children construct and maintain a Green Wall (Vertical Garden) at the Art House. Darlene Feeny, retired educator, and Master Gardeners Ed Torres and Dan Hall assisted the children with the design and construction. Additional assistance was provided by Doreen Petri, Erie School District and Breanna Mekuly, as the children planted a beautiful garden on the fence at the east side of the property. The pollinator garden with cone flowers and nasturtiums occupies the top position; the remainder of the garden grows strawberries, lettuce, bush beans, and several varieties of tomatoes, kale, chives, and onions.



The wall was presented to the neighborhood in a program hosted by Sr. Pat's Garden Class and GREEN Team.



Master Gardener Ed Torres works with NAH children to construct the garden. He later installed an irrigation system for easy watering.

Wearable Art



The fiber reactive dye powders were then applied. As the ice melted, the color soaked into the fabric creating patterns and unpredictable color variations. Are these children proud of their new garments and totes? It's obvious!



Using various patterns of folds, twists and rubber bands, the children prepared white tee-shirts, jumpers, skirts, and totes for the dyeing process to come.



The fabric sensitive dye must be very carefully applied to the ice that covers the white fabric garment.



Taste of the Arts 2017 Preparing For One World One Family



Since its beginning, the children attending the Art House have represented an amazing expanse of ethnic heritage. For some, their family roots have been established in the Erie area



Joshua (age 10) is proud to show Emily Merski, Taste of the Arts Committee Member and Joy Knapp, Event Chairperson, the ice dyed totes that his class made for *One World One Family*.

for many generations. For others, the families are very recent additions to the Erie community. Together, they make up the Art House family. Together, they reflect a world of ethnic diversity. This year's Taste of the Arts is a celebration of the one world that, with attention and commitment, can become one family.



Empathy, 13, this year's featured artist, has attended the Neighborhood Art House for 13 semesters. She chose to paint a woodland scene on fabric under the direction of Sarah Everett as her live auction contribution to Taste of the Arts. Over the past several years Empathy has produced several prize winning pieces, primarily in printmaking.

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From the Desk Of Sr. Annette

When life gives you lemons, make lemonade. This saying has been part of the common wisdom for at least 100 years. We've also sung *always look for the silver lining, and try to find the sunny side of life* (Bud De Sylva and Jerome Kern). They both seem to say that when faced with the difficulties of life, find the good which is often hidden.



True, but *finding* lemonade is not quite the same as *making* lemonade.

The Erie School District has had to deal with quite a few lemons over the past several years. After gathering information, petitioning for assistance, studying possibilities and designing solutions, they determined that the way forward was to reshape the district's schools. This reconfiguration is the *lemonade* that was made out of the *lemons* of insufficient funding and declining enrollment.

Now, the teachers, students and their families have their own lemons. Whether they create lemonade or simply hold on to the lemons will be up to them. Since "life is 10% what happens to you and 90% how you react to it," (Charles R. Swindoll) the joy they experience in the next school year will be mainly of their own doing.

Here at the Art House we find ourselves in much the same place. Our major lemons: Pfeiffer-Burleigh will no longer include grades 6-8, meaning that most of our older students would be at a much greater distance; and dismissal for the elementary schools will be much later, well past our ordinary program starting time. These are some pretty significant lemons! What kind of lemonade could we make?

After weighing our options, a schedule change has been made (see below). Where is the lemonade? Because of the later start time, children from our other elementary schools will be able to arrive in time for the first period of classes, something that has been nearly impossible for them. Our middle school students will have a bit more time to get to the Art House from their middle schools. Our Pfeiffer-Burleigh elementary students will be able to arrive in time for two full classes. It's not ideal, but, if we all squeeze those lemons hard enough, we should have a very tasty lemonade!

May you all create great lemonade from the lemons life sends your way!

Sister Annette

Fall 2017 Program Schedule		
	3:10	Snack & Gathering
	3:15	First class
	4:00	Second class
	4:45	Third class
	5:30	Dismissal

DATES OF NOTE

July 24 & 26 and August 7 & 9	Acrylic Painting Classes for Adults
August 8	Erie Gives 8:00 am - 8:00 pm
September 5	Fall Program Begins
September 12	Taste of the Arts, 5:00 pm

MEMORIALS

A special thank you to the family of Gloria Pilewskie

for designating memorials to the Neighborhood Art House in her memory.

DONOR CORNER

Area Support Provides Needed Supplies

SPRINGHILL SUITES - SAVE ART

On April 4, employees of the local Springhill Suites arrived at the Art House with boxes and boxes of classroom art supplies provided by their *Save Art* program. Oil pastels, tempera paint, watercolors, air-dry clay, and various types of art paper are some of the supplies being put to excellent use by our teachers and children. The funds for this donation came from contributions from employees and hotel guests. When Christopher Anderson, manager, paid a visit to the Art House, he saw some of the children's art that had been reproduced on canvas. He put some on display in a nook in the hotel lobby where hotel guests and employees alike were very impressed and, to date, have purchased nearly thirty items.

FAIRVIEW CARES

Fairview Cares, a philanthropy initiative of the Fairview School District, provides significant assistance to charities that they select annually. As announced in the January Neighbor to Neighbor, the Neighborhood Art House was chosen as one of this year's recipients. As part of Fairview Cares, the middle and elementary school children collected numerous items, especially personal care items, and delivered them to the Art House. A conservative estimate of the fair market value of their donations is well over \$3,000. Many of these items have been distributed to NAH families; some are being held for their future needs.



From an idea suggested by the Development Committee ten years ago to the major fund raiser that it is today, Art & Sole has flourished because of the enthusiastic and committed leadership of its volunteer steering committee. This year's committee, busy as they are at work and at home, gave untiringly to make this 10th Anniversary A&S one to remember. Committee members: Patti Eichen (NAH Development Staff), Jeff Shaw (Route Coordinator), Shannon Wiertel (Special Awards), Matt Catrabone (Chairperson, Sponsors, Kid's Fun Run), Trevor Nash (Sponsors), Sr. Annette Marshall (NAH Executive Director), Mike Agresti (Sponsors), and Christina Katen (Publicity), not pictured.

First Place Finishers Denny Fedorchenko (Erie) and Kaite Kuttenkuler (Wattsburg) select their award from the art prepared by Sister Peg and the Art House children.



Team Challenge Winners, Gannon University



2017 Art & Sole By the Numbers
413 - People Registered
24 - Teams in Team Challenge
17 - Kids in the Fun Run
37 - Sponsors
74 - Volunteers
168 - Prizes Awarded
17:31 - Time of 1 st Finisher
\$24,067 - Funds Generated (net)



First ever Fun Run for Kids



They're Off!

WISH LIST

- Healthy snacks (pretzels, cheese crackers, animal crackers, etc.)
- Gift cards to stores carrying art or office supplies
- Sofa/chairs for Reading Area
- Art supplies: poly-fill, polymer clay, masking tape (1" wide), scotch tape, Crayola Model Magic Clay

Bosco's

An opportunity for you - programming funds for NAH! Your purchase of a \$5 ticket to Bosco's October 5 Gala Preview for a Great Cause gives you an exclusive first look as you shop Bosco's grand opening specials. You can enjoy refreshments and entertainment and register to win fabulous prizes! Plus, if you purchase your ticket ahead of time, you will receive a free gift. **How does that help the Art House?** If you buy your ticket from us, we'll be able to keep the full \$5.00 purchase price! Purchase via mail or stop by the NAH office.

Inner-City Neighborhood Art House

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

Beauty Vision Hope
Inner-City Neighborhood Art House

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Erie Gives

7th Annual
Erie Gives Day
August 8, 2017

Be part of this amazing community-wide effort sponsored by the Erie Community Foundation to support Erie's nonprofits.

The Erie Community Foundation and Erie Gives are creating a pool of funds to provide a pro-rated match for each and every donation made. Help the Neighborhood Art House dip into that pool through your contributions made through Erie Gives.

Date: August 8, 2017
Time: 8:00 am to 8:00 pm
Gift Amount: Minimum \$25
Credit Cards Accepted: Visa, MasterCard, Discover

To invest in Erie's children is the wisest choice you can make for the future of the city.

Your donation of \$25 or more to the Neighborhood Art House will help provide a safe place for children during those crucial after-school hours.

Learn more about Erie Gives at www.eriegives.org.

Acrylic Painting - Adult Classes

As visitors tour the Art House they often comment: "I wish you had classes like these for adults." This summer, we do. Adults can produce their very own whimsical acrylic painting on canvas under the direction of artist and Neighborhood Art House teacher, Mary Kay Geary. Interested? Make your selection from the four times the class is available, then register with Mary Kay Geary at mkstudio7@aol.com or call the Art House at (814) 455-5508. The registration fee of \$35.00 includes all materials, snacks and soft drinks. Date/Time: July 24, 4:00-6:00 pm; July 26, 7:00-9:00 pm; August 7, 4:00-6:00 pm, and August 9, 7:00-9:00.



HACE Honors Sister Pat

The Housing Authority Board of Commissioners recognized Sister Pat Lupo, NAH Environmental Action Teacher for her 18 plus years of service to the youth of public housing. Some of her activities have included raised gardens at the John E. Horan Garden Apartments, Ostrow Apartments and Erie Heights, coordinating the yearly International Coastal Clean-up at McDannell Run in the John E. Horan Garden Apartments, the development of a wetlands area adjacent to McDannell Run, teaching environment programs to youth and partnering with her youth "Green Team" to develop a recycling program in the John E. Horan Garden Apartments.

