

Donors Making a Difference

Art & Sole Un-Run/Un-Walk

The Neighborhood Art House 13th Annual Art & Sole 5k took a different course this year!

Instead of having runners and walkers downtown, we asked that they stay at home with their families and enjoy a run or walk in their neighborhood, or simply relax in their favorite chair.

We have received over **\$21,370** in sponsorships and donated registrations to support our efforts to inspire a better future through the arts for Erie's inner-city youth. We would like to thank all our donors and especially this year's sponsors!

- Platinum** – Great Lakes Insurance and Lincoln Recycling
- Gold** – The Plastek Group
- Bronze** – Griffith Properties, Max Pro Technologies, Morris Coupling Company, Nash Chiropractic, US Bulk Transport, and Velocity Network

In keeping in the spirit of Art & Sole, all donations were entered into random drawings for student artwork.

Program Grants

Providing materials and supplies that allow teachers to enrich their classes is the role of program grants. Some funders will offer support for a single initiative; some will review grant applications each year. Gannon University's



Mixing paint for acrylic painting is a foundational task of an artist. The students are involved in all aspects of acrylic painting—drawing their design on canvas, observing the colors, and mixing them before painting. These are the basic tools needed to paint. In Mrs. Bowler's acrylic painting class students painted large flowers *in the manner* of Georgia O'Keeffe.

Schuster Re-Grant Initiative has accepted applications and provided funding for Art House programs since 1999. The Schuster grant has allowed the Art House to begin new classes or supported special initiatives within multiple program areas which included funding to create a permanent outdoor mosaic installation, the printing of a poetry/art journal, expanding the reading library, and providing equipment for classes in printmaking, music, and digital photography. The 2019-20 grant provided a visual arts theme for many classes as they explored creating art *in the manner* of one of the great artists.

We are grateful to all those who provide program grants. We are especially grateful to the Schuster Re-Grant Initiative for being such a strong influence in the development of Art House programs for more than 20 years.



Christina Katen, Art & Sole Co-Chair, and son Jude participated in this year's Art & Sole Un-Run/Un-Walk Facebook Live event in front of the Neighborhood Art House on Saturday, June 6th @ 9am showing off their Un-Run/Un-Walk activities.

Annual Appeal 2020

This year we mailed out 3,120 letters and brochures to donors and friends of the Art House for our second-ever Annual Appeal. Last year we collected \$11,214 in unrestricted support of our programs. And if you think that is amazing, then this year's donations totaling **\$30,774** will knock your socks off! That is a **174% increase** in the amount raised from just 83 donors. We can't do what we do without the generosity and kindness of you, our loyal advocates. We're keeping our fingers crossed that we will be able to reach more donors and more students in 2021. You have our utmost gratitude.



201 East Tenth Street
Erie, PA 16503

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Are you receiving multiple copies of Neighbor to Neighbor? Is the addressee no longer residing at this address? Would you prefer not to receive Art House mailings? To be removed from our mailing list, please send us the mailing panel marked *remove from mailing list* or email nah@neighborhoodarthouse.org with the name and address to be removed.

What's New

ORDER ONLINE

Take Out Tuesday

ART TO GO

AN ONLINE BENEFIT FOR THE
INNER-CITY NEIGHBORHOOD ART HOUSE

Tuesday, September 15
through
Tuesday, September 29

Executive Director
Annette Marshall, OSB

Program Director
Margaret Ann Pilewski, OSB

Development Director
Kelly Stolar, CFRE

Monday, August 10, 2020
Check donations
Checks made out to The Erie Community Foundation, accompanied by Erie Gives Donation Form

Tuesday, August 11, 2020
Online giving
8:00 am - 8:00 pm at www.ErieGives.org

Please consider a donation to Erie Gives in support of the Performing Arts at the Inner-City Neighborhood Art House.

Neighbor to Neighbor Contributors

Faculty
Sarah Everett
Lourdes Jasso
Margaret Ann Pilewski, OSB

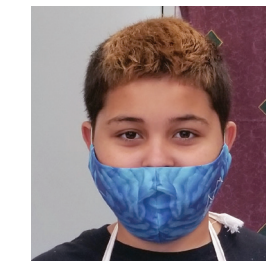
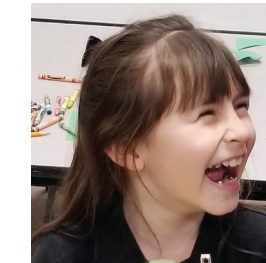
Kelly Stolar, CFRE
Annette Marshall, OSB, Editor

Student Alex M.



Fall 2020

NEIGHBOR to NEIGHBOR



Breaking the Cycle

The Visual Arts program took a huge leap forward when the Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP) approved our *Breaking the Cycle* project resulting in funding from UPMC Hamot (\$50K) and First National Bank (\$5K). With the goal of generating interest and providing skill development necessary for career selection and future employment opportunities, middle school youth will have the opportunity to experience current technology applications in the arts.

Lourdes Jasso, Associate Program Director, puts it this way:

"The struggles of being in school are hard during a regular school year; can you imagine how it is now? Our students are often [technologically challenged] and excluded from opportunities that can make a positive impact in the city of Erie, based solely on the neighborhoods where they live. We are sparking a creative interest into a new life skill that encourages our students to nurture the entrepreneur within."



Assignment: Digital Photography, Self-portraits for social media influencers.

Through *Breaking the Cycle*, the Art House purchased 10 iMac computers and software, 8 iPads, 10 digital cameras, batteries, chargers, and cases, digital photo printer, a DLP projector, Cricut cutters, and a heat press. This project also will provide improved WiFi access and wiring, and a new server. To sweeten the project, Erie Insurance added 2 laptops with docks, monitors, and keypads for our desperately needed staff computer upgrades.

The project's impact was already seen this summer. "Our students not only created amazing photographs", said Ms. Jasso, "they also learned about digital marketing, creating a brand and designing apparel. It was amazing to see their reaction once they had a finished product."



Ms. Jasso points out the features of the iMac computers.

Kid's Corner

Creative Summer Hands

Learning guitar and the ukulele demanded critical thinking. Children learned how to read notes and finger chords on the instruments. Playing to modern music enhanced the imagination and enjoyment of making music in Ms. Mandy Berlin's class.



Music



Papier Mache

After their Papier Mache bowls dried, they were covered with fabric to create colorful bowls in Deb Sementelli's Fabric Class. After the glue was liberally applied and dried the bowls could be an added accent to anyone's table - purely for decoration but not for food.



Sculpture

Do you know the elements of this sculpture? A block of wood, a wire hanger and a knee-high nylon all combine to create a unique sculpture in the manner of Henry Moore. Primer was the first coat and when it dried the students had a canvas to create their art. (Jonilee Hlusko's sculpture class)



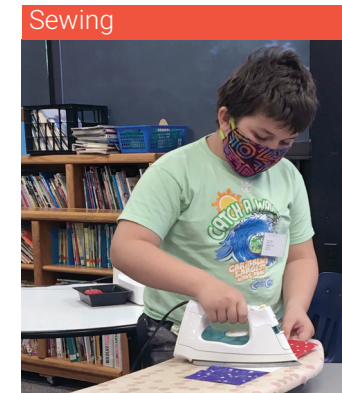
Gardening

Gardening with Sr. Pat gives the students an opportunity to create beautiful landscapes and follow the life cycle of plants. From seeds to sprouts to seedlings the children planted beautiful flowers and vegetables. They also cared for the trees along 10th and 11th Streets, pruning them and planting flowers under them.



Ice Dyeing

Folding an item for ice dyeing is the first step in this process. The children folded and rubber banded their t-shirt or cloth bag. They put their item into a colander and covered it with ice. They chose their dyes and sprinkled the dye on top of the ice. The next morning the ice melted, and the dye soaked into the article. The rubber bands were removed, and the shirt unfolded into a beautiful array of color. (Sarah Everett's ice-dyeing class)



Sewing

There are many steps to creating a quilt pillow: choosing the color palette, machine sewing the squares together, ironing the seams, sewing back to front, stuffing the pillow and closing the opening with carefully placed hand stitches. (Deb Sementelli's machine sewing class)



Shoe Strike

Sr. Pat Lupo's Environment class decided they wanted to remind people that the Climate Crisis has not disappeared. They collected about 100 pairs of shoes to represent the people that could not gather and held a Shoe Strike on the last day of Summer Session. "Because of Covid-19, we are not allowed to go out and march, and walk," said Sofia, 13, co-organizer of the Shoe Strike project. "The shoe strike is a way of saying: Climate is still an issue!"



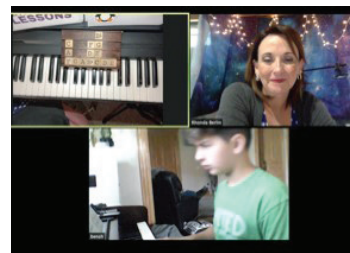
Nature Art

Nature Art provided the children with several artistic opportunities. Patterns in nature can inspire colorful designs. Take a pine cone, paint it, add feathers and wiggly eyes, and you have a cute little owl. (Leslie Ford's Nature Art Class)

Teachers and Volunteers

Online Music Lessons

All classes at the Art House came to a stop on March 18 due to the state-wide shut down of schools, but that did not stop music teachers Rhonda, Katie and Mandy Berlin. They turned to Zoom and to Facetime to offer online piano and voice lessons to their Art House students. They even held a virtual recital!



Virtual lesson in progress.



Diego, age 10, performs in the virtual recital.

Lessons will continue to be offered virtually throughout the summer and during the fall term. Hats off to these dedicated teachers who demonstrate that "where there's a will, there's a way."

MEMORIALS

A special thank you to the families of

- Carrie Ann Burbee Bongiorno
- Mildred Bloeser
- Louis Donajkowski
- Norma Ruth Green Heberle

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

Ehren Knapp, well-known muralist and former Neighborhood Art House teacher, captured the essence of activity at the Art House in his newly installed murals. Making this possible were donations from ECGRA (Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority, Erie Insurance, NWPA Food Council, Blake Family Foundation and McCain Foundation.

Take Note . . .

From the Desk of Sr. Annette

Since March we have all been called to adjust to a new reality. Every facet of our lives has been affected and we've had to stretch our patience, resilience and generosity. We learned to wear masks, wash our hands and use hand sanitizer multiple times each day, and to keep six feet of social distance. We adjusted to new work or school realities, learned to juggle home schooling while trying to work from home, found ways to stay in touch with family and friends, and tried to cope with the real health dangers facing all of us. Many of us have lost jobs or have had family members who became sick or died. The Benedictine Sisters and the Art House staff

want you to know that you and all our Art House families have been in our thoughts and prayers during this trying time.

When this time finally comes to an end, will we have become more patient, more loving, more kind? Will we have learned greater empathy, embraced quality family time, and recognized that we are sisters and brothers to all humanity around the globe? Perhaps something good can come out of this very difficult time after all.



Sister Annette

Taste of the Arts goes Virtual!

Taste of the Arts 2020: Take Out Tuesday—Art to Go will be a virtual event held at the Art House website.

You'll find a great selection of children's art, both framed art and smaller items, to whet your shopping appetite. Be sure to take a close look at the specially prepared Silent Auction items. This year's auction features art and experiences created by our faculty.

We hope that our wonderful supporters and annual Taste of the Arts patrons will enjoy this online Taste of the Arts experience. This year offers a ticket-free event open to the public that will provide a greater opportunity for our students to showcase their work.

We are ever so grateful to our wonderful Taste of the Arts committee and co-chairpersons for their creative planning of this re-designed annual event. So too, we offer our sincere thanks for the event sponsors who so generously support this, our signature fundraiser.

We look forward to you joining us for the 2020 Taste of the Arts.

How will this work?

The Doors will open for **Take Out Tuesday – Art to Go** on September 15 at 5:00 PM as the Taste of the Arts webpage becomes active. You'll be able to shop through the Children's Art Gallery, place Silent Auction bids, and purchase Benefit Drawing tickets until the event closes on September 29 at 11:50 PM. Check back on the webpage after noon on September 30th for the announcement of the Benefit Drawing and Silent Auction winners. They will also be announced on the Neighborhood Art House Facebook page.



Framed Art

Ice Dyed Items

Polymer Angels

Browse through the Children's Art Gallery to find the perfect item for your home or office, or to do some early holiday shopping. You'd be well advised to shop early.

Taste of the Arts Committee

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| Tammy Batchelor* | Lourdes Jasso |
| Christine Bowler | Beatriz Marin |
| Jennifer Cassano | Annette Marshall, OSB |
| Lisa Chinsky | Lynne McBrier* |
| Karen Clark | Peg Pilewski, OSB |
| Mary Alice Doolin | Debbie Sementelli |
| Lynne Elia* | Annalynn Shuttleworth* |
| Sarah Everett | Kelly Stolar |
| Jonilee Hlusko | *Co-chairpersons |

