

Donors Making a Difference

Taste of the Arts 23rd Annual Fundraiser



Taste of the Arts went virtual this year, and it was superb!

Our patrons from across the country were able to shop online from the comfort of their homes or offices. They could select from a fabulous menu featuring student art, as well as the wonderful addition of our very own faculty's artwork.

This year's event featured a fun twist on a take-out menu of art with *Appetizers*, *Entrees*, and *Desserts*. Amazingly, the *Appetizers* (small student art pieces) sold out before the event was over, and a grand total of 238 student art *Appetizers* and *Entrees* were sold! The *Desserts* were created and contributed by our teachers and guest artists (see page 4).

We would like to thank our Taste of the Arts Committee and Co-chairs Tammy Batchelor, Lynne Elia, Lynn McBrier, and Annalynn Shuttleworth, our donors, and especially this year's sponsors!

Michelangelo - Humes Chrysler Jeep Dodge & Ram; Reed Manufacturing

Vincent van Gogh - Tom & Kathy Burik; Becky & Bill Hilbert; Martha Hilbert; Mary Lincoln; JM & GE Petersen Foundation; PNC Bank; Barbara Pollock; Margaret Stolley; Times Publishing Company; Jim Toohey

Georgia O'Keeffe - Leo & Theresa Brugger; Lisa & Kenneth Chinsky; Atty. Mark & Amy Denlinger; Mary Alice & Tom Doolin; John & Nancy Hilbert; Larry Lechtner; Little Caesars; Chris & Tom Loftus; Marco & Betsy Monsalve; Morris Coupling Company; RBC Wealth Management; Al Richardson; Sharon & Shawn Rooney; The Erie Community Foundation; Tim & Annalynn Shuttleworth

Frida Kahlo - Baldwin Brothers, Inc.; Birkmire Trucking/Big Box Rentals; Dahlkemper Landscape Architects & Contractors; Home Instead Senior Care; Knox McLaughlin Gornall & Sennett, P.C.; Loesel-Schaaf Insurance; Roberta McCune; Nerthing's Heating & Air Conditioning; UPMC Hamot/UPMC Health Plan; WJET-TV

As we at the Art House reflect back on 2020, one thing is sure. We are able to provide Erie's inner-city youth with meaningful programs in a safe and nurturing environment only because of the generosity of our donors. You are a blessing. We thank you!



Jenny Weigold Geertson, (center back), a Senior Manager at UPMC Health Plan, recently visited Art House students and staff to see some of the new IT equipment purchased with their \$50,000 donation.

Erie Gives 2020



Erie Gives Day 2020 was held on Tuesday, August 11th from 8am – 8pm through the wonderful work of The Erie Community Foundation. We have been blessed by so many generous donors each year, but this year the Neighborhood Art House received \$42,837.80, nearly doubling last year's total. In addition, of the 280 donors participating, more than 80 were new. Their contribution is a major boost to the Performing Arts Program at the Neighborhood Art House. Thank you.

#iGiveCatholic is a national effort promoted by the Catholic Diocese of Erie. It is presented here as an opportunity that may be of interest to our friends and donors. #iGiveCatholic advanced giving opens on November 16th - 30th for anyone wishing to donate by cash or check. #iGiveCatholic takes place on #GivingTuesday, December 1st. It is a "giving day" for Catholic ministries, schools, and churches. Please check out our giving page at: <https://erie.igivecatholic.org/organizations/neighborhood-art-house>.



201 East Tenth Street
Erie, PA 16503

Address Service Requested



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

Art Exhibit

In conjunction with WQLN and with the welcome of Ember & Forge, the photo-study of the NAH neighborhood by advanced photography students was made available to the public. When Covid-19 interrupted this display, the Northwestern Pennsylvania Art Association graciously extended an invitation for these insightful photos to be part of their *Sense of Place* Art Show held at the 10/20 Collective located across from the Art House. This and other art displays affirm each student's development of self-expression and their realization of self-worth, both key aspects of the Art House mission.



Executive Director
Annette Marshall, OSB

Program Director
Margaret Ann Pilewski, OSB

Development Director
Kelly Stolar, CFRE

Tree Nursery

On a wet rainy day In October, Sister Pat Lupo and her students planted 25 saplings in a grassy area behind the Art House building. Art House youth will care for this Tree Nursery over the years until the saplings grow into small trees; then permanent homes will be found for them.

The Art House is participating in ReLEAF, an initiative of LEAF (Lake Erie Arboretum at Frontier) with the goal of planting 275,000 trees over the next 5 years. Staff from LEAF and Master Gardeners showed the students how to dig a hole sized for each sapling then tightly pack the soil and wrap wire around the young branches to protect and support them throughout the winter. The youth then took over until all 25 trees were in the ground.

"Planting trees is good for the Earth", Espoir, age 10, explained. "It makes the Earth look good; it gives us oxygen and takes away carbon dioxide, so it's good for the air. Planting the Tree Nursery was a good project and fun. I liked working with Mike; he showed me how to plant trees."



Neighbor to Neighbor Contributors

Faculty

Sarah Everett
Lourdes Jasso

Margaret Ann Pilewski, OSB

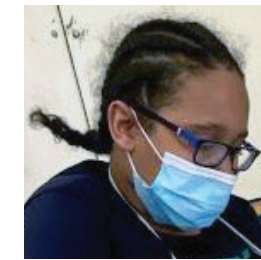
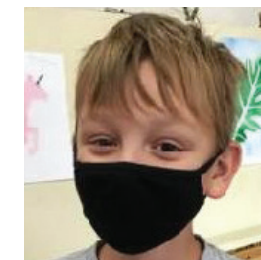
Kelly Stolar, CFRE

Annette Marshall, OSB, Editor
Student Celeste (age 13)



Winter 2020

NEIGHBOR to NEIGHBOR



Wishes for 2021

The year 2020 will go down in history as a most difficult one. As we begin to turn the page to a new year, we asked the children, their parents, the faculty, staff and committee members to offer their wishes for the new year. Their responses were amazingly similar. Here are some representative samples.



Love and peace around the whole world.

There would be no more coronavirus.

That people will be kind.

End the use of fossil fuels.

We love and celebrate our diversity.

I could get shoes and go back to school.

For my Dad to come home.

To be able to see my friends and family.

To be healthy.

To have everything back to normal.



That everyone accept each other for who they are.

No violence.

We relearn the art of civil conversation.

A vaccine for everyone.

Equal rights.

To get a dog.

Peace.

Kid's Corner

Covid descended on the world, the country, and our city. Doors were closed and everyone stayed home. The level went from red to yellow to green and then the children came to the Art House. Temperatures were taken of masked students, Covid-19 screening questions asked, hands sanitized, and the youth returned to create art. Fewer students arrived due to social distancing, but they came, nevertheless.

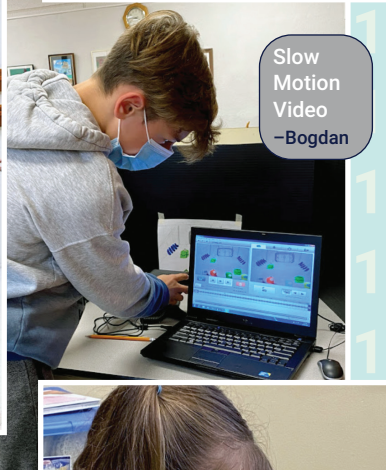
Muffled laughing, scratching of drawing pencils, carving linoleum, painting, creating videos, stretching dance muscles, collecting urban litter, and documenting life through photography—all the signs of life and activity at the Art House. Yes, Covid is present in our world, we are mindful of the dangers, but creativity and hope abound at the Art House.



3-d Sculpture
—Andriana



Hoop Dance
—Luz



Slow Motion Video
—Bogdan



Apple-head doll construction
—Grace



Data collection using new iPads
—Julia



Digital Photography
—Teajanae

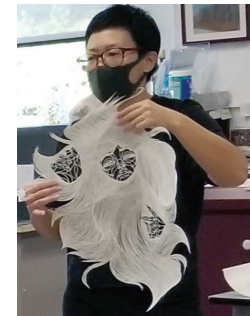


Painting on Fabric
—Jacob

Kid's Corner

Visiting Artists

Erie Arts and Culture has provided two outstanding workshops for selected Art House youth through their visiting artists residency program. The first, held in September, was with Hiromi Moneyhun, a kirie artist originally from Japan. She demonstrated kirie, an art process involving cutting designs by hand from a single sheet of paper. The second, held November 23, features Gonzalo Hernandez, a multidisciplinary artist originally from Lima, Peru. He will engage ten students in a self-portrait workshop. Student participation under the guidance from the visiting artist is the key to the success of these experiences.



Lover

by Celeste (age 13)

An acrostic style poem created in an Art House Poetry Class.



Letting all the bad feelings go

Opting to let my heart take control

Valuing myself for the better

Enjoying myself's presence

Releasing these heavy fetters



Teachers and Volunteers



1

Taste of the Arts this year was a virtual event. However, the silent auction was a real treat because the items were from the faculty, staff, and friends of the Art House. It was exciting to see the wide variety of art available for auction. The depth of talent that envelops the children and staff on a daily basis feeds the creative spirit.

- 2nd Best Sunsets in the World**
Michael Agresti
Acrylic Painting
- Satisfaction**
Reductive Relief Print
Sarah Everett
- Eva's Waterlilies**
Oil Painting, Chris Bowler
- Curiosity**
Quilted Wall Hanging
Debbie Sementelli
Hoenes
- Yellow Holding Drops**
Digital Photograph
Margaret Ann
Pilewski, OSB
- Everyday I Love You**
Mixed Media Antique Table
Sharon Bannon



4



5



2



3



6

Not shown: Hoop Dance Lesson, Jennifer Dennehy; Tap Dance Instructions, Kelly Stolar; Voice or Piano Lessons, Rhonda Berlin; Leather and Wood Vessel, Passle Hielminski; Watercolor and Pencil, Jonilee Hlusko; Chalk Pastel, Mary Kay Geary; Scarf - Weaving, Barbara Hauck; Ceramic Vase, Eliza Wolfe.

Take Note . . .

From the Desk of Sr. Annette

Now, more than ever, we are challenged to adopt an "attitude of gratitude." With Coronid-19 raging throughout the country, unbelievable fire destruction on the west coast, extreme weather events in the south, and tumultuous political and social unrest, it is easy to be distracted from our blessings.



I, for one, am thankful for Thanksgiving. It gives me pause to ask: what prompts an "attitude of gratitude" at the Neighborhood Art House?

- OUR STUDENTS**
 - ♦ their excitement, concentration, and desire to learn
 - ♦ their willing compliance with pandemic restrictions
 - ♦ their attention to the needs of each other and of our world
- OUR FACULTY and STAFF**
 - ♦ their creativity, talent, and professionalism
 - ♦ their care, support, challenge, and support for each individual
 - ♦ their dedication to whatever they do - development, teaching, or care of the building and grounds
- OUR VOLUNTEERS and DONORS**
 - ♦ the readers, tutors, volunteer teachers and program assistants -we cannot wait until you can return.
 - ♦ our donors who grasped the vision born 25 years ago and continue to love it into being.

May we all recognize that our blessings far outweigh our challenges so that we live each day with an "attitude of gratitude."

Sister Annette

DATES OF NOTE

- November 20** Fall Term ends
- December 1** Virtual "Open House" posted on NAH website
- December 23 – January 1** - NAH offices closed
- January 11** Winter/Spring term begins

MEMORIALS

A special thank you to the families of

Lisa Chinsky

Vitus Kaiser

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



Vitus Kaiser and Lisa Chinsky, pictured above with Core Committee member Barbara Pollock, were both exemplary members of the Neighborhood Art House's extended family. Vitus, widely recognized local artist, provided a beautiful watercolor for every Taste of the Arts since its inception. Lisa brought a bright spirit of commitment and joy as she served as a member of the Core Committee, volunteer tutor, and four-time Taste of the Arts co-chairperson. Vitus and Lisa will be greatly missed.

WISH LIST

- Small computer desk
- Gift cards to stores that sell art supplies, snacks or general office supplies.

For the safety of all during the pandemic, the Art House is not accepting donations of supplies.