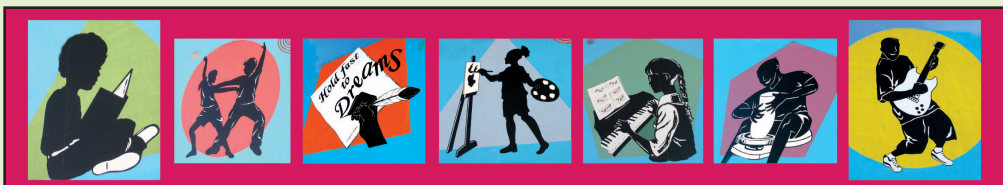


# NEIGHBOR to NEIGHBOR



JULY  
2016

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)

## 9th Annual ART & SOLE 5k

benefit for the Neighborhood Art House

As the saying goes, “a picture is worth a thousand words.” Here are a few photos to tell the tale of a very successful 9th Annual Art & Sole 5k Run/Walk.

They're off!



Volunteers make all the difference!



Awards from the children



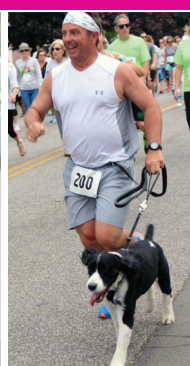
First Place Finishers



Overall Individual Best Time:  
Men—Dylan Stevens, 16:05  
Women—Gabby Kennelley, 19:20

Winning Team: Lincoln Recycling

Runners – Walkers – Seniors – Children



Thank you to our amazing Art & Sole Committee, Matt Catrabone and Jeff Shaw, co-chairpersons, Michael Agresti, Christina Katen, Trevor Nash, Shannon Wiertel and Patti Eichen, Development Staff. You continue to make Art & Sole one of the premier 5K events in northwestern Pennsylvania! Thank you, too, to our Platinum Sponsors, Lincoln Recycling and Great Lakes Insurance, and our Gold Sponsors, Interim Health Care and GE Volunteers, and to all our event sponsors. Your financial support of Art & Sole, which is ultimately support for the inner city children at the Neighborhood Art House, contributes to the overall effort to lift young hearts and minds to a wide world of possibilities.

Mark your calendar for this year's **Taste of the Arts!**



Tuesday, September 13, 2016

201 East Tenth Street, Erie, PA

5:00 pm – 8:00 pm



Dedicated instruction from teachers such as Larisa Melodinskaia (left) and concentrated effort from the children, enables them to develop their talents and stretch beyond expectations. “Taste of the Arts is an important opportunity for them to showcase what they have learned” Sr. Peg, Program Director explained, “and through their performance, to give back to those who have made it all possible.”



**Taste of the Arts** co-chairpersons, Lynne Elia and Karen Clark, assemble the first of over 40 terrariums, centerpieces for this year's event. The plantings will be done by students in Sr. Pat's environment classes; small sculpted rabbits, birds, turtles and frogs made by Sue Hunter's clay students will add the finishing touches to these depictions of *Nature's Treasures*.

“I feel proud to do a table. . . it's never been done before,” remarked Jahir Rodriguez to his mosaics instructor, Sharon Bannon, as they prepared the mosaic-decorated console table for this year's Silent Auction. Jahir, now 14 years old and the 2016 Taste of the Arts Featured Artist, has been a student at the Art House since he was 7. He has tried his hand at most of the art media offered and has been featured in various monologues at previous Taste of the Arts celebrations.

**Mary Alice and Tom Doolin Honored**



Sister Annette congratulates Mary Alice and Tom Doolin, recipients of the Edward C. Doll Community Service Award, and thanks them for selecting the Neighborhood Art House along with Emmaus Ministries and the Bay-front East Side Taskforce to share in the \$12,000 they received from the foundation to be given to the charities of their choice.

The Erie Community Foundation presented the 2016 Edward C. Doll Community Service Award to Mary Alice and Tom Doolin. The Doolins have been long-time supporters of the Neighborhood Art House. What is more, Mary Alice was one of the original *Women of Vision* (later the Women's Core Committee) who brought the dream of a neighborhood art house to life for the children of Erie's inner city. Sister Mary Lou Kownacki, OSB, founder of the Neighborhood Art House stated that “Without Mary Alice Doolin there might not be a Neighborhood Art House. When we began the project she was relentless in pursuing support, giving countless hours to meeting with potential donors and spreading the vision among her peers. For over 20 years Mary Alice has remained faithful to Erie's inner city children by serving as a member of the NAH Women's Core Committee. She is a model of loyalty, compassion, and self-giving.”

Congratulations, Mary Alice and Tom. On behalf of the thousands of children who have attended the Neighborhood Art House, thank you!

**SUMMER AT THE ART HOUSE**

has something for everyone! From youngsters age 7 learning to cut and glue, to middle and high schoolers learning to throw on the wheel or enamel jewelry, summer classes were challenging, exciting and full of fun. Children who chose “off campus” offerings in photography, chalk pastel drawing or Green Places (environment) found themselves in the woods, at the beach, in the wetlands or fishing.

Take a vicarious walk through some of the early summer classes. **1** Plaster - Cast and Paint **2** Beginning Yoga **3** Clay for Beginners **4** Photography - Field Trip **5** Guitar **6** Knitting **7** Large Colorful Painting **8** Environment - In the Wetlands **9** - Computer Brain Games vs. Board Games





From the Desk Of Sr. Annette

A committee of faculty members was writing up measurable goals for the Art House programs. As we developed ways to measure the development of program specific skills, a safe after-school environment, and growth in self-assurance we ran into a stumbling block. We all included “a love of beauty” in the goals, but finding a way to measure loving beauty, was like trying to catch a fish with your hands - slippery, wiggly and impossible to achieve. Just what is beauty, how do we recognize it, how do we know if the children are developing a soul-touching love of beauty?



I think I got a glimpse of the answer during the cello/piano concert that Calgary based Kirill Kalmykov and Julia Haager so generously provided for our children on July 1. Seventy or more children and their teachers were seated in the “gathering space” as they were each morning at the beginning of their summer program day. As the exquisite vibrations of cello and piano washed over the audience, the active listening was so encompassing that the only thing present was the music itself. The exquisite quality of the performance called to each person, absorbing their attention and resonating within. From the mellow melody of Tchaikovsky’s Swan Lake, to the intense, jarring sounds of Spain’s Manuel de Falla, the children heard for themselves how versatile and expressive an instrument can be under the hands of a true musician.

For nearly an hour, the children, many of whom were less than ten years old, uttered not a sound except to applaud the performers or to ask questions. Did the children “experience beauty” that morning? Did their love of beauty grow? They probably wouldn’t put it this way, but I know that their inner spirits were touched by beauty and that the concert experience, whether consciously or unconsciously, will be part of the person that they become.

The Neighborhood Art House is many things. A place of beauty is an essential one.

As you enjoy the warm days of summer, I urge you to pause to experience the beauty around you, to let it seep into your soul. No matter what age we may be, “experiencing beauty” adds depth and richness to our lives.

Sister Annette

Student Artists Recognized

Watercolor, videography, photography, block printing, acrylic painting, tempera painting, colored pencil, and chalk pastels: these are the media represented in the 48 art pieces created by 35 NAH students that were submitted to various local, regional and state art competitions. Congratulations to all of these children whose works were chosen to represent the Neighborhood Art House.

Two NAH artists were recognized at the Barber Center’s Dr. & Mrs. Robert Guelcher Art Show. Mariana P. received Best of Show in Youth Photography and Joseph S. was awarded an Honorable Mention, also in photography.

Twenty art pieces were submitted to the *Presque Isle Woman’s Club*. Of these, nine received First Place and moved on to the regional level, and of these, six moved on to the state level where three received First Place!

Nine pieces by NAH children joined the 111 other works by area students that were displayed at the Tom Ridge Environmental Center’s Youth Art Contest where four received First Place Medals and one received a Third Place medal.



Geurchom W, age 11; Acrylic Painting, Mixed Media Student Art Competition, Tom Ridge Environmental Center, First Place Medal



Mariana’s photograph, *My Pond*, was recognized with the youth photography *Best of Show Award* at the Dr. & Mrs. Robert Guelcher Art Show. Take a close look – you may be surprised at what you see.



Mariana sees beauty in places that often go unnoticed. Here she captures the veins in a flower petal.



Delilah H, age 11; Block Print, Mixed Media Student Art Competition, Tom Ridge Environmental Center, First Place Medal



Joseph S, age 11; Photography, Women’s Clubs – State Level, First Place



Yana S, age 11; photography, Women’s Clubs – State Level, First Place

WISH LIST

- Healthy snacks (pretzels, cheese crackers, breakfast bars, animal crackers, etc.)
- Health care products (shampoo, comb, brush, body wash/bar soap, deodorant, tooth brush, tooth paste, etc)
- Socks for children ages 7-14
- Boxes of tissues, Tide laundry soap, dryer sheets
- 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)

DATES OF NOTE

July 23	Summer Program Picnic Noon - 1:00 p.m.
September 6	Fall Program Begins
September 13	Taste of the Arts, 5:00 pm

MEMORIALS

A special thank you to the family of Shirley Bloomish for designating memorials to the Neighborhood Art House in her memory.

**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

Non-Profit  
Organization  
US Postage  
PAID  
Erie, PA  
Permit No. 247

Erie Gives  
6th Annual Erie Gives Day  
August 9, 2016

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 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 9, 2016  
**Time:** 8:00 am to 8:00 pm  
**Gift Amount:** Minimum \$25  
**Credit Cards Accepted:** Visa, MasterCard, Discover

Learn more about Erie Gives at [www.eriegives.org](http://www.eriegives.org). You can even sign up for a reminder email!

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.

DONOR CORNER

Hat’s off to all of the individuals, organizations and groups who have initiated many creative opportunities to assist the Art House with funds, supplies, and greater public awareness. They include:

**Relish Beach Glass Studio and Gallery** included the Neighborhood Art House in the Beach Glass & Coastal Arts Festival by naming us as the recipient of the funds raised through a Gift Auction featuring contributions from the artists participating in the festival. Their efforts brought over \$1,600 to support classes at the Art House.

The **Birkmire Transportation Solutions** 4th Annual Cruise-In is held to honor Sandy Birkmire. This year, the Neighborhood Art House is very fortunate to have been selected at random along with the ANNA Shelter to receive the charitable donation generated by this event.

The third **TailGREAT**, an event sponsored by Side Project, Inc. was again held on the Art House grounds. In addition to the Neighborhood Art House, proceeds will be donated for a scholarship for a Physical Therapy Student at Gannon University and to Linked by Pink.

Maya, an eleven-year old who attends Our Lady’s Christian School, and **Esa Blucas** who recently celebrated her 7th birthday, both delivered boxes filled with art supplies and healthy snacks for the NAH students. They had asked their friends to bring donations for the Art House instead of presents for them when they came to their birthday parties.



**Students from St. Luke’s School** participated in Walgreens Red Nose Day to help children in poverty. One of the children had suggested that they combine Red Nose Day and a Jeans Day to benefit the Neighborhood Art House.



St. Luke’s students Sheila Gonzalez, Julianna Sergi and Alexa Constantino presented their donations to Kelly Betts, Walgreens, (far left) and Patti Eichen, Neighborhood Art House (right).

Whether as individuals or groups, children reaching out to help other children is a blessing for both the recipient and for the children who are learning at a very young age to give of themselves to others in need.

“Like us on FACEBOOK.”



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