

# Neighbor to Neighbor

December 2011



Inner-City Neighborhood Art House  
201 East Tenth Street  
Erie, Pennsylvania 16503-1007  
(814)455-5508  
[www.neighborhoodarthouse.org](http://www.neighborhoodarthouse.org)

—A MINISTRY OF THE BENEDICTINE SISTERS OF ERIE—

*Gratitude Is the Heart's Memory.* French Proverb

## Women's Core Committee HOSTS RECOGNITION RECEPTION

It takes 94 faculty, staff, and program volunteers to make the arts come alive for the children at the Neighborhood Art House! That is what Sister Annette Marshall, Executive Director, realized while assembling the invitation list for the Recognition Reception held October 26 to honor faculty and program volunteers involved, particularly those marking their 5<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, or 15<sup>th</sup> year at NAH. The reception, hosted by Women's Core Committee members Karen Clark, Lynne Elia and Becky Hilbert was a well-received opportunity for the Art House to say "thank you" to everyone, be they from the Neighborhood Art House founders who brought the dream to life in 1995 or those who started with the Art House this past September.



Awards marking 15 or more years at the Neighborhood Art House were presented to Cathy Miller (front), Sister Margaret Ann Pilewski, OSB (Sister Peg), Program Director and Janet Mattes (2<sup>nd</sup> row) Sister Mary Lou Kownacki, OSB, NAH founder, Mary Lubowicki and Lalida Raj (3<sup>rd</sup> row). Not present for the photo were Sister Mary Ellen Plumb, OSB, Sister Jerome Eustace, OSB, Sister Cecilia Sullivan, OSB, and Joe Wiczorek of Bridal Flower Shop.

## NEW FACES at the ART HOUSE

### Women's Core Committee

The Women's Core Committee, the Neighborhood Art House advisory board, recently welcomed four new members, Lisa Chinsky and Karen Clark (pictured right) along with Lynne Elia and Susan Dicara. Since assisting in the establishment of the Art House 16 years ago, the Core Committee continues to foster new NAH friends, sponsor the annual Taste of the Arts, and participate in Art House future planning.



### Featuring a New NAH Teacher

Peggy Brace comes to the Neighborhood Art House after eight years of experience on the faculties of the State University of New York at Jamestown; Mercyhurst College, Erie; Penn State Erie, the Behrend Campus; and the Jefferson Educational Society.

She is K-12 certified in Art Education and has taught in the Erie City and County schools as well as in Cincinnati, Ohio. Peggy is currently teaching Acrylic Painting to her students and comments that "NAH students show a lot of ability and aesthetic sense. The Art House gives them a perfect atmosphere to recognize and hone their understanding and skill, and to grow in confidence."

Welcome, Peggy!



## NAH ACTIVITIES

### TEEN PROGRAM TAKES OFF

The NAH Teen Program had a real boost this fall when the timeframe was changed so that classes could begin at 5:30. Chuck Dill, who coordinates this program for teens ages 12 through 18, commented that "Early evening can be a challenging time for young teens to be 'on the streets.' The Teen Program, which, for some of the participants is actually an extension of the After School Program, provides both access to personal art instruction and a safe, caring environment away from the pressures and problems that sometimes undermine vulnerable youth."

### PHOTOGRAPHY STUDENTS VISIT ERIE ZOO

Lourdes Jasso's photography students, pictured here with volunteer Joanna Zurn, turned a very gloomy and cold afternoon into a picture-taking opportunity to capture very different kind of subjects than those ordinarily found in the NAH neighborhood.



## From the Desk of Sister Annette

During the year-end holiday season we tend to get caught up in finding just the right gift for this person or that. This is a good thing. The care that we take in our gift-giving is a sign of the love and respect that we have for the recipient.



But there is more to a gift. The very act of gift-giving creates a bond between giver and receiver. So it is with us here at the Neighborhood Art House. When our volunteers and donors gift us with their time and support they become an integral part of all that is done here on behalf of the children.

*"As we express our gratitude,  
we must never forget that the highest  
appreciation is not to utter words,  
but to live by them."*

John Fitzgerald Kennedy

As the recipient of your gifts, we recognize that it is not enough to say "thank you." Along with the gift itself and its resulting connection to you, comes our responsibility to steward your gift wisely to further our mission. Together we can do great things for the children we serve.

*Sister Annette*

Thank you, thank you to everyone who participated in Erie Gives! Your donations to the Neighborhood Art House of \$13,500 were matched with \$2,758.45 for a total income of \$16,258.45. This unique on-line fundraising initiative was developed by The Erie Community Foundation as part of its 75<sup>th</sup> year celebration.



Look for Erie Gives in 2012!

## WISH LIST

There are many ways to be involved at the Neighborhood Art House. One of these is to help us obtain items on our WISH LIST. This can be done through in-kind donations (donate the item itself) or by providing the funds for the Art House to purchase the item. Either way, you will be helping us fulfill our mission to Erie's inner-city children.

• Digital camcorder • Flat screen monitors • Sound system for dance program • Desktop computer—Windows 7, 4g • Air dry clay for clay classes • Photo paper for digital photography classes • Art supplies • Healthy snacks (pretzels, juice, etc.) • Socks, winter gloves, hats • Health care products (shampoo, soap, etc.) • Gift cards to art supply vendors (Michaels, AC Moore, etc.)

Please contact us for specifics  
and to avoid duplication:  
[NAH@neighborhoodarthouse.org](mailto:NAH@neighborhoodarthouse.org)



BUSINESS AND ORGANIZATION SUPPORT

Whether donations to the Neighborhood Art House are made through PA Education Improvement Tax Credits, sponsorship of Taste of the Arts or Art and Sole, grant funding for particular Art House programs, special events or in-kind donations, it is with full hearts that we express our gratitude for the businesses and organizations that support NAH programming.



Neighborhood Art House children help Karla Murray of Patterson-Erie Corp. show off her presentation check representing a contribution of \$9,000 from Burger King through the PA Education Improvement Tax Credit program. Other businesses contributing through this PA EITC program this year are: Bayside Development Corp., C.A. Curtze Co., Erie Insurance Group, MacDonald Illig Jones and Britton, Marquette Savings Bank, PNC Bank, Scott Enterprises and Waste Management Inc.,



Gannon's *One Green World Café*, developed and operated by international and local students as an environmentally sustainable business, accepts tips to be given to a local charity. The Neighborhood Art House is honored to be the first charity chosen to receive these contributions.



Custom Engineering named the Neighborhood Art House as their charity in the Erie Insurance Charity Challenge. Congratulations to David Tullio, Jim Ohrn, George Clark and Andy Tompkins who took 2<sup>nd</sup> place in this golfing event.



Char Mashyna, ArtsErie Executive Director, left, and Patti Eichen, NAH Development Staff, pause for a picture at "Fall for the Arts" at which two grants for NAH were announced, one from the Clarence E. Beyers Music Performance Fund and the other an ArtsErie Project Grant.

SINCERE GRATITUDE

Thank you to all those who so generously supported Taste of the Arts 2011. This gives the Neighborhood Art House reason to celebrate throughout all the seasons.

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**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

Taste of the Arts 2011  
Seasons to Celebrate

...AND SO WE DID. Thank you to everyone whose presence made the evening a great celebration!

From clay and mosaic centerpieces and colorful scarves all hand-made by Art House children to season-inspired refreshments and table appointments, we were immersed in the joy of each season. The children's new poetry compilation, *Imagine the Seasons*, was the inspiration for this year's theme.



Taste of the Arts Co-chairpersons Bobbi Pollock and Lisa Chinsky display Sierra Heidelberg's tempera painting, *Day and Night*, which was raffled during the live auction.

Threaded throughout the stage performance of music, poetry and dance were poetry enactments by students and by the audience as well. Stunning pieces contributed by generous and renowned artists for the silent auction, *Day and Night* a delightful tempera painting by Sierra Heidelberg (age 10) for the live auction, a raffle of cash and a seasonal celebration basket, and over 45 framed pieces of art work contributed by the children assured that there was "something for everyone."

New NAH Poetry Book Sets Theme



Student poets Saron Belay and Shane McClelland sign *Imagine the Seasons* during Taste of the Arts.

"I feel like a star!" proclaimed one of the student poets when asked about the poetry book signing. Poetry students of Sister Mary Lou Kownacki had focused their field trips and their writing on the four seasons of the year. Publication of *Imagine the Seasons* was funded in part by a grant from the Schuster Re-Grant Initiative—Gannon University and by Printing Concepts, Inc.

