Congratulations to the students who entered the juried art show at the Gertrude Barber Center. It is a pleasure to announce that Michael Richardson received a third place award of $25 in the Youth Division.

Painting
Gerzayn Aguilar, Hy Khanh Doan

Photography
Saron Belay, Michael Richardson, Trinity Moore-Stevens, Miranda Drzewiecki

Led by the Neighborhood Art House teacher, Ehren Knapp, NAH students painted a mural in conjunction with “Viva la Fiesta Grande,” a latino-themed fundraiser for Mercyhurst College held on May 13 at the Mary D’Angelo Performing Arts Center. In the May 2011 edition of LakeErie Lifestyle, John Chacona said: “…it’s appropriate that the mural [was] painted by children from the Neighborhood Art House, the inner-city haven that is wrapped in a mural that proclaims its cultural and educational mission.”

Mr. Knapp shared that this project was an opportunity for the students to work collaboratively and cooperate with each other to express themselves in a larger venue. Thanks to Michael Fuhrman, the director of the Mary D’Angelo Performing Arts Center, this occasion allowed the talents and creativity of the young artists of NAH to blossom in a new way. Thanks to the skill and dedication of Mr. Knapp, the children will remember this awesome project for a long time to come.

General Federation of Women’s Clubs Pennsylvania Art Contest
The Neighborhood Art House participated in the General Federation of Women’s Clubs Pennsylvania Art Contest (GFWC) for the 7th consecutive year. Art work and photography, submitted at the invitation of the Presque Isle Women’s Club, moved through four divisions of competition, ending at State level. Congratulations to the FOUR state winners of competition, ending at State level.

State Winners—Art
Division 1 (Grades 1-3)
THIRD PLACE: Olivia Ortiz
Division 2 (Grades 4-6)
FIRST PLACE: Auriasia Dunn

State Winners—Photography
Division 1 (Grades 4-6)
SECOND PLACE: Auriasia Dunn
Division 2 (Grades 7-9)
SECOND PLACE: Kiersten Lohse

Viva la Fiesta Grande
Under the direction of muralist and Neighborhood Art House teacher, Ehren Knapp, NAH students painted a mural in conjunction with “Viva la Fiesta Grande,” a Latino-themed fundraiser for Mercyhurst College held on May 13 at the Mary D’Angelo Performing Arts Center. In the May 2011 edition of LakeErie Lifestyle, John Chacona said: “…it’s appropriate that the mural [was] painted by children from the Neighborhood Art House, the inner-city haven that is wrapped in a mural that proclaims its cultural and educational mission.”

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State Winners—Photography
Division 1 (Grades 7-9)
SECOND PLACE: Auriasia Dunn

State Winners—Photography
Division 2 (Grades 4-6)
FIRST PLACE: Saron Belay
SECOND PLACE: Precious Johnson
Third: Shayquanna Mims, Lacey Lavette

State Winners—Photography
Division 1 (Grades 1-3)
FIRST PLACE: Elizabeth Aguilar
SECOND: Hy Khanh Doan
Third: Alicia Rodriguez

State Winners—Photography
Division 2 (Grades 4-6)
FIRST: Saron Belay; Third: Zhadayah Lindsey

State Winners—Photography
Division 1 (Grades 1-3)
FIRST: Mary Lohitai; Second: Precious Johnson
Third: Shayquanna Mims, Lacey Lavette

POETRY CONTEST WINNERS 2011

AGE 7
First: Maryia Salanova; Second: Shayla Mims; Third: Abiezer Aguilar

AGE 8
First: Sophia Woner; Second: Jahir Rodriguez; Third: Gabriel Morales

AGE 9
First: Anna Woner; Second: Salomaya Salanova, Gerzayn Aguilar; Third: Michael Samuensko

AGE 10
First: Trinity Moses Stevens; Second: Sierra Heidelberg; Third: Krystal Jordan

AGE 11
First: Elizabeth Aguilar; Second: Hy Khanh Doan; Third: Alicia Rodriguez

AGE 12
First: Mary Lohitai; Second: Precious Johnson; Third: Shayquanna Mims, Lacey Lavette

AGE 13 and above
First: Saron Belay; Third: Zhadiyah Lindsey

Life is like a RAINBOW.
You need both the sun and rain to make its colors appear. —Author unknown

Memorial
A special thank you to the family of Patricia L. Trocki for designating memorials to the Neighborhood Art House in her memory.
It may well be that “beauty is in the eye of the beholder,” but I believe that creativity springs from the soul. Being creative is part of being human; however, it is a power that requires freedom and encouragement to develop. By sharing their own artistic skills with their students, Neighborhood Art House teachers help them build their own tool chest of information, techniques and skills.

But that is not enough! Children need to break through their own barriers. As Dr. Seuss says in *Oh, the Thinks You Can Think!*

**Think left and think right and think low and think high. Oh, the thinks you can think up if only you try!**

By encouraging, prodding, stretching, and assuring their students, NAH teachers ignite the creative spark hidden in each child. Budding poets celebrate the sounds of words, young painters experiment with color, photographers realize that “It’s not what you look at that matters, it’s what you see.” (Henry David Thoreau).

Clearly, creativity is alive and well at the Neighborhood Art House. From poetry to painting, from music recitals to photography, just look at the many accomplishments noted in this newsletter!

Let’s celebrate the creative potential in all of us and encourage its growth in each other.

Peace,

Sister Annette

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**In Memory of Barbara Behan**

(April 10, 1942 - April 4, 2011)

The staff and students of the Neighborhood Art House mourn the death of Barbara Behan, longtime Hooked On Books! board member and supervisor in the program. Her presence will be missed but her legacy of kindness and care will live on.

HOOKED ON BOOKS!

**Summer 2011**

If you would like to volunteer to be a reader for the Summer Session you can register by visiting [http://www.hoberie.org](http://www.hoberie.org)

Simply click on the READ MORE button under “It Takes a Village.” You can also sign on by calling the Neighborhood Art House (814-455-5508).

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**Annual Spring Music Recital**

The annual spring music recital at the Neighborhood Art House was an evening for excited students and proud parents. More than 30 children had the opportunity to share the amazing progress they have made on their respective instruments: violin, cello, piano, guitar and voice. It was an evening that delighted the ear and touched the heart.