From the Desk of Sister Annette

Just like anyone who visits the Neighborhood Art House, my first impressions as Executive Director were “amazed,” “delighted,” “inspired,” and “proud.” Now that I have been here for a bit, I would most definitely add “grateful.” I am grateful . . .

for the vision and dedication of Sisters Mary Lou Kowalski, Joan Chittister, and Anne Wambach that brought the Neighborhood Art House to life fifteen years ago.

for all who provide the financial and material resources for inner city children to learn to see and create beauty.

for the talented and committed faculty and volunteers whose love for children and for the arts is so evident,

and for the children who bring their “best selves” to NAH, not because they are required to come, but because they are seeking the loving atmosphere and creative experiences that the Art House provides.

The next time you visit the Neighborhood Art House, listen to the murmurs of children intent upon their projects; to the encouraging tone of volunteers reading to or tutoring young learners; to the strains of violin and piano or the rhythm of dancing feet; to the calm and kind voices of teachers explaining, demonstrating and challenging their students . . . and you will be grateful too, that nestled into Erie’s center city there is such a place for children as the Inner-City Neighborhood Art House.

Sister Annette

Happy Holidays and a Blessed New Year be yours!
“Gratitude can transform common days into thanksgivings, turn routine jobs into joy, and change ordinary opportunities into blessings.”

William Arthur Ward

A Star-Studded Thank You

Because of its many donors and support-
ers, the Neighborhood Art House is able to
continue its mission and ministry to enable
the inner-city children of Erie “to experience
beauty, grow in positive self-expression and
self-discipline, and develop into full and produc-
tive human beings.” It is with deep gratitude
that NAH is pleased to share that it has been
the recipient of a number of grants, gifts,
donations, and support from local businesses
through the PA tax credits (ETC) program:
- Jensen-Landsl Golf Outing—
12th and final year of their event—$1,000
- Burger King—$5,000 donation (ETC)
- PNC—Ernie Insurance
- Charity Challenge—$2,000
- Arts Erie Grant—$21,189 operating
- budget; $1690 music recitals
- [Clarence E. Beyers]
- Waste Management—$5,000 (ETC)
- Scott Enterprises—$1,284 (ETC)
- Schuster Program for the Arts, Gannon
- University [Grant]—$1,250 for the
NAH Poetry Book project

Opportunities to Give

Children from the Neighborhood Art
House participate in many projects that allow
them to give of their time and talents. Throughout the Fall session, those oppor-
tunities have included:
- Decoration of Place Mats for the Sisters of
St. Joseph Thanksgiving meal at Benetwood
Apartments, a senior citizen living center ad-
ministered by the Benedictine Sisters of Erie.
- Decorating a Christmas Tree for Festival of
the Trees sponsored by the St. Vincent Health
Center Auxiliary. This year’s tree, “A Jeweled
Holiday,” will feature sparkly gold and silver
handmade birds created by the children in
paper, clay, fabric, paint and mosaics.
- Art Show of children’s works at Whole Food
Co-op Cafe.
- Dream Rocket Project under the direction
of Fiber instructor, Deborah Sementelli who is
working with three NAH classes to produce a
2’X2’ square of the class’s hope for the
future. The Dream Rocket aims to connect
art and education through a global collabora-
tive initiative and hopes to inspire individuals
to not only to dream, but also recognize their
talent to pursue their dreams.
- Recycled Paper
- Printed on
Recycled Paper

September 14 was a beautiful, balmy evening made even more memorable by “Fly
Me to the Arts,” the annual Taste of the Arts event held at the Neighborhood Art House.
Imaginations were stretched; enthusiasm overflowed. An evening of fun, food, friendship
and fundraising was enhanced by a wonderful display of children’s art work as well as an enter-
taining stage performance showcasing their many talents. Guests had the opportunity to
participate in both silent and live auctions alike, purchase art pieces created by the children,
and make a donation for a chance on special prizes. Thanks to chairwoman, Lynn McBrier,
and her committee, the evening was a grand success.

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The Plymouth Tavern
Joanna and Roger Zumm

Long time NAH participant Precious Johnson

MEMORIAL
A special thank you to the family
of Irene Lojewski
who designated memorials to the
Neighborhood Art House
in her memory.

Taste of the Arts 2010

Benedictine Sisters of Erie
251 East Tenth Street
Erie, Pennsylvania 16503-1007

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Printed on Recycled Paper

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