

Laurel Arts

Arts for everyone

Studio Kids
PRESCHOOL

Laurel
Arts
DANCE

ArtLink • A Newsletter for the Members of Laurel Arts • January 2018



Ohh ... it's showtime!

It's that time of the year when we showcase the exceptionally talented artists in our school districts. The Countywide Elementary School Art Exhibit will be on display from January 15 through February 1 with an open house and reception from 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday, January 20.

Be sure to attend the Fire & Ice Festival uptown, then come to the Dressler Center to warm up (your body and soul) while you marvel at the work created by the county's youngest artists.

Beginning February 5 and running through March 1, Laurel Arts will host the Countywide Jr.-Sr. Art Exhibit. You will be impressed by the progress made by these students as they continue to explore various mediums and improve their technique. An open house and reception is planned from 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday, February 10.

Somerset Area School District sends its best work from students in K through 12 to the SASD Art Exhibit which will run from March 8 through March 29. An open house and reception is planned for 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday, March 10.

The receptions are free, and the galleries are also open to the public during regular office/gallery hours.

An example of work included in the Somerset Area School District K-12 Art Exhibit last year.

*January 15-February 1
Countywide*

Elementary School Art Exhibit

Art provides an important means of expression for youngsters. Visit the galleries during this show to see art through the eyes of elementary school students. All county schools and homeschoolers are invited to participate.

Open house 1-3 pm Jan. 20

*February 5-March 1
Countywide*

Jr.-Sr. High Schools Art Exhibit

This show features work from students in Grades 7—12. Junior and Senior High School students as well as homeschoolers are invited to participate.

Open house 1-3 pm Feb. 10

March 8-March 29

Somerset Area School District Art Exhibit

Artwork will reach from floor to ceiling as Somerset Area School District art teachers showcase the creative works of students in Grades K-12.

Open house 1-3 pm March 10

Come back for seconds ...

2nd annual Soup-er Bowl Event to be Saturday, March 16

Last year's Super-er Bowl Event was so successful, that we're offering seconds ... the second annual, that is.

For a \$15 donation, participants get to choose a hand-crafted bowl made in our pottery studio by local artists. The bowl is yours to keep and will serve as a reminder that soup feeds the body and ART feeds the soul!

You will also receive a simple, but lovely lunch of soup (donated by area restaurants), bread and a beverage.

Last year there was a wide variety of soups from which to choose, and we expect similar offerings this year.

The Event is scheduled from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, March 16 at the Education & Dance Center, 601 Georgian Place, Somerset, where there is an abundance of parking.

Tickets are available in advance at the Dressler Center. Tickets are limited, so be sure to get yours early.

Take out will also be available.

This event will benefit the Laurel Arts Clay Studio and a local food pantry or similar organization.



A group of local artists get together each week to work on bowls for the Soup-er Bowl Event. These are some of their creations.



Participants enjoyed not only the meal but also the fellowship during last year's Soup-er Bowl Event.

FYI ... National Museum marks 10-year anniversary

In 2009, the Guild of American Papercutters (GAP) established a National Museum in affiliation with Laurel Arts at the Philip Dressler Center for the Arts. This was the FIRST American museum devoted to the art form of papercutting.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the Guild of American Papercutters National Museum. It has truly been an honor to host such a museum, which celebrates such an amazing art form, by exhibiting artwork created all over the globe and spans decades, even centuries.

We would also like to extend our thanks to local artist and esteemed GAP member Kathy Trexel Reed for her dedication to this museum and the art of papercutting. Kathy and other members of GAP have pieces available for sale in The Gallery Shoppe at Dressler.

The museum is free to visit and is open during regular gallery hours.



Exploring new ideas, programs, opportunities

Our Director of Development Jaci McCusker asked for feedback from her Facebook friends recently about an idea that the board and staff have been kicking around. So, I will also ask for feedback from our members and friends.

From Jaci: We are working on developing new programming and potentially creating a space which would house things such as our pottery studio, artist studio space, and a *Makerspace**. We foresee this space being utilized by individuals; but it could also be used by organizations and schools.

So, the million dollar question(s) are as follows:

1. Are there things that you would like to see us offer that we currently do not have available?
2. Are there things that we currently offer that you would like to see us expand?
3. Do you think a *Makerspace** would fly in Somerset?
4. How do you feel about Laurel Arts offering classes in metal arts, carpentry, sewing/fabric arts, and possibly life-skills type workshops?

This is a very basic summary, but we would love to have some community feedback.

We are also hoping to expand our summer art camps to cover the entire season. We know there are families who struggle to find child care, so we plan to offer weekly art camps all summer long. Parents will be able to register their child for as many of the camps as they would like, but don't have to enroll the child for the entire summer.

Each week will have a different theme, and the arts, crafts, activities and special guests will support that weekly theme. Marsha Schmuck is developing the programming as I write!

We get lots of requests for ballroom / couples dance classes, but we don't have studio space available during the regular dance year. We are considering offering ballroom / couples dance classes this summer. Any takers? Let us know.

Feedback? Please share your thoughts. You may call the art center or email jmccusker@laurelarts.org or email me at cindy@atlasprintco.com.

Cindy Breen, president, Laurel Arts Board of Directors

*A *Makerspace* is a community center that provides technology, manufacturing equipment and educational opportunities to the public. Makerspaces allow community members to design, prototype and manufacture items using tools that would otherwise be inaccessible or unaffordable such as 3-D printers, digital fabrication machines and computer-aided design (CAD) software. Makerspaces are typically funded by membership fees or through affiliations with external organizations, such as universities, for-profit companies, non-profit organizations and libraries. The free exchange of ideas and resources is a central tenet of Makerspaces. Often, members will collaborate on projects and share knowledge at gatherings known as build nights or open-house days.

Our Dressler staff ...

Jaclyn McCusker
Director of Development

April Davis
Business Manager

Kristin Ferre
Administrative & Membership
Assistant

Senda Harvey
Administrative Assistant

Linda Harrill Peck
Gallery Assistant / Curator

Marsha Schmuck
Classes / Programs Coordinator

Dave Slowak
Maintenance Director

This newsletter is published by Laurel Arts for its members and friends.

Laurel Arts Board of Directors

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The Philip Dressler Center for the Arts

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The official registration and financial information of Laurel Arts may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

Our Affiliates

meetings at the Dressler Center unless otherwise noted

Botanical / Culinary Arts

Somerset Garden Club: Contact Nerita Brant, 814-445-2840, colonel38@comcast.net
Meeting 2nd Monday of the month, 11 am.

Needle / Fabric Arts

Crochet Guild: Contact Sheena Pile at 444-2519. Meeting 2nd and 3rd Monday of the month, 6 pm.

Knitting Guild: Contact Susan Barclay, 443-2482. Meeting 2nd Thursday of the month, 6:30 pm at Somerset Alliance Church. Weekly group 10:30 am at members' homes.

Performing Arts

Laurel Highlands Chorale: Contact Jan Burkett, 443-3085 for more information. Rehearsals 7 p.m. Mondays at Somerset Church of the Brethren.

Mt. Union Sacred Harp Singers: Rehearsal 2nd Thursdays of the month, Kingwood Church of God (Jan-Mar), Mt. Union Church (other months).

Roof Garden Barbershop Chorus: Contact Mike Mitchell, 442-8843, or Larry Shober, 267-4042. Rehearsal Tuesday evenings, Grace United Methodist Church, Somerset.

Somerset Auxiliary JSO: Contact Sam Hanson, 814-754-5230, or Gay Reed, 814-279-7134. Meeting 1st Thursday of the month, 12:30 p.m. Location TBA.

Somerset County Community Band: Contact Dave Breen, photo@davebreen.com, 701-1515 or email photo@davebreen.com. Rehearsals summer will begin in March.

Visual Arts

Gem & Mineral Club: Contact Sue Bittner, 445-6085, or Bob Tutko, 814-886-9418.

Somerset County Artists Association: Contact Jeanne Wagle at 863-840-2823. Meetings 6 p.m. fourth Thursday of the month.

Woodcarvers: Contact Jeff Baltzer, 814-442-6617. Meeting 6 p.m. Wednesdays.

Johnstown Symphony Orchestra plans Movie Night at the Symphony!

Hollywood comes to Johnstown's Pasquerilla Performing Arts Center as the JSO features scores from some of your favorite movie composers such as James Horner (*Titanic*), Michael Giacchino (*UP*), Henry Mancini (*Breakfast at Tiffany's*) and Howard Shore (*The Lord of the Rings*). The concert is at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, February 9. Premium seating is \$45; regular seating is \$40.

On March 9, the symphony will present **Hidden Gems: Orchestral Music of Black Composers**. The music of black composers is too rarely heard in our concert halls, but thanks in part to a new wave of scholarship, more and more is available for performance. Maestro James Blachly has carefully curated this concert of music featuring a "highlight reel" of music from this beautiful, under-performed repertoire. Composers represented in this concert include Jessie Montgomery, Margaret Bonds, William Grant Still, and Florence Price.

The following month, April 13, JSO will explore **Musical Friendships**. Brahms's friendship with Joseph Joachim was one of the most collaborative and productive in the history of music, and Maestro Blachly's long-standing musical friendship with Saint Lawrence String Quartet violinist Owen Dalby goes back many years. To round out this concert featuring musical friendships, the JSO performs Elgar's Enigma Variations, a piece of music composed as a "portrait" of his closest friends. The program will include Brahms Violin Concerto and Elgar Enigma Variations.

The March and April concerts are at 7:30 p.m. at Pasquerilla Performing Arts Center.

The JSO will celebrate its **90th Anniversary** with a concert at 7:30 p.m. May 11 at the recently-renovated Cochran Auditorium. The JSO will perform Gustav Mahler's inspiring Symphony No. 2 "Resurrection" in honor of the 130th anniversary of the Johnstown Flood, and as a rousing call for new life for the great city of Johnstown! The concert will also feature the JSO Chorus and internationally-acclaimed soloists Sarah Brailey and Sara Murphy.

Laurel Highlands Chorale begins rehearsals in January

Laurel Highlands Chorale will begin rehearsal for its annual spring concert. This year's concerts will be held at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, May 5 and again at 7 p.m. Monday, May 6 at Somerset Church of the Brethren. The Chorale is looking forward to a JAMBOREE with southern gospel music, folk songs, and a few surprises!

For more information about the Chorale, contact Jan Burkett, 814-443-3085.

Lots of new classes from which to choose ...

Stained Glass Workshop

Session begins Monday, January 14, 6:30-8:30 p.m.,
Education & Dance Center

Join the talented and always fun instructor Dottie Borosky and learn the beautiful art of stained glass. Dottie's classes are 6-week sessions. The current one began Monday, January 14, although you may enroll anytime. Class fee: \$57.60 for members; \$72 for non-members. There is also a materials fee (associated cost depends upon the project).

Couponing for Beginners

Saturday, January 19, 2-4 pm, Education & Dance Center

Are you a bit short on money after the holidays? Or perhaps your 2019 resolution is to spend less? If so, you'll want to join us for this couponing workshop with Cathy Tunstall. Cathy has saved countless dollars on groceries through couponing. During today's class, she will share her tips and strategies to help you save too. Folders with handouts, fliers, coupons, etc. will be provided. Class fee: \$22 nonmember/\$17.60 members payable to Laurel Arts plus a \$7 materials fee payable to Cathy Tunstall for materials.

Crayon Art Workshop

Sunday, January 27, 2-4 pm, Education & Dance Center

Join Instructor Marsha Schmuck for a colorful afternoon of creating with crayons. We will melt crayons to form beautiful artwork on canvas. We will also use our old and broken crayons to make a new usable shape and to create a small candle. Class fee: \$25 nonmembers/\$20 members payable to Laurel Arts plus a \$10 materials fee payable to Marsha Schmuck.

This workshop is best suited for ages 4-13 but we will accept any age. Under 4 must be accompanied by an adult.

Sugar Rush Creations

Saturday, February 9, 2-4 pm, Education & Dance Center

Join Instructor Marsha Schmuck for an afternoon of candy creations. We will use the newly released *Wreck It Ralph* movie as our inspiration. We will craft a car from candy, make a gumball machine from a claypot, and mix up some delicious candy treats. Class fee: \$25 nonmembers/\$20 members payable to Laurel Arts plus a \$10 materials fee payable to Marsha Schmuck.

This workshop is best suited for ages 4-13. Children under 4 must be accompanied by an adult.

String Art Creations

Saturday, February 23, 2-4 pm, Education & Dance Center

In today's class with instructor Marsha Schmuck you will be guided step by step in creating a string art masterpiece. Students will be contacted before the class to choose one of 3 different projects to complete. Participants will paint the wood and add the nails and their string as part of this workshop.

Class fee: \$25 nonmembers/\$20 members payable to Laurel Arts plus a \$15 materials fee payable to Marsha Schmuck. This workshop is best suited for adults.

Pottery Plate Making Workshop

Wednesday, February 27 & Wednesday, March 13,
6-8 pm, Education & Dance Center

This is an adult Pottery Workshop taught by experienced instructor Susan Wilson. Students will learn the techniques involved in creating their very own set of 4 plates created from clay. Susan will show students step by step how to create and decorate the plates using items such as lace, plant parts, stampers, and more. During the second class, students will return to glaze the plates they created in the first class. Class fee: \$35 nonmembers/\$28 members payable to Laurel Arts plus a \$20 materials fee payable to Susan Wilson for clay and glazes.

Art with Nature

Sunday, March 10, 2-4 pm, Education & Dance Center

Today we will be using rocks, sticks, wood slices and other things found in nature to make some amazing artwork. You won't believe what we can create from items found in the outdoors! Class fee: \$25 nonmembers/\$20 members payable to Laurel Arts plus a \$10 materials fee payable to Marsha Schmuck.

Crafting Jojo Style

Saturday, March 23, 2-4 pm, Education & Dance Center

Create some beautiful bows today with instructor Marsha Schmuck. We will also craft a bow holder to organize your bows. We will use Jojo as our inspiration for today's creations. Class fee: \$25 nonmembers/\$20 members payable to Laurel Arts plus a \$12 materials fee payable to Marsha Schmuck.

This workshop is best suited for ages 4-13 but we will accept any age. Under 4 must be accompanied by an adult.

Register soon ... some are already close to full!

Pysanky Eggs

Thursday, March 28, 5-8 pm, Education & Dance Center

Pysanky is a traditional craft originally done in Ukraine and Poland. Join instructor Alicia Shussett as she helps you create one of these beautiful eggs. Students will learn to add patterns to their eggs using the traditional method involving wax and various colors of dye. This class is just in time to decorate or to make a gift for someone special for Easter. Class fee: \$45 non-members/\$36 members payable to Laurel Arts plus a \$7 materials fee payable to Alicia Shussett.

Gelatin Printing Workshop

Saturday, March 30, 11 am-2 pm, Education & Dance Center

Allow nature to be your MUSE! Join Artist Edward Maier of Eddie Spaghetti Art for an afternoon of creative printmaking. Gelatin printing uses a pan of Knox Gelatin which is covered with waterbed ink. This spontaneous printing process creates unique prints using leaves and other elements of nature. Each participant will be able to create several unique works of art without having to draw. Class fee: \$40 nonmembers/\$32 members payable to Laurel Arts plus \$7 materials fee payable to Edward Maier. Children under 12 are half price with a paid adult. *All ages are welcome to attend this class.

Succulent Terrarium Building Workshop

Sunday, March 31, 2-3:30 pm, Education & Dance Center

Class Instructor Autumn Harrold will be showing us some creative tips on how to build an amazing terrarium complete with succulent plants. Amanda has started her own business called Planter's Farmhouse and has already held several classes. We are so excited to have her teach here at Laurel Arts. She will provide students with all of the materials needed to build a beautiful terrarium including a container, succulents, dirt, rocks, etc. If you have a piece you would like to bring along to add, please feel free to do so. You are also welcome to bring food and drink along for yourself as we build and create together. All ages are welcome but we ask that children under 12 be accompanied by an adult. Class fee: \$20 nonmembers/ \$16 members payable to Laurel Arts plus a \$15 materials fee payable to Amanda Harrold.

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED: All classes noted above and on the previous page require pre-registration. Please text or call Marsha at 814-442-6217 or call Laurel Arts at 814-443-2433 to register.

Drop-in classes

Yoga with Hazel Weighley

Drop-in yoga classes are offered from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Mondays; 5 to 6 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays; and 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Thursdays at the Dressler Center. Instructor is Hazel Weighley. Classes are drop-in, and are \$6.40 for members, \$8.00 for non-members. Call 814-443-2433, for more information.

Tap FUNDamentals with Cindy Breen

Drop-in adult tap class is offered from 9 to 10 a.m. Saturday mornings at Laurel Arts Education & Dance Center. Classes are \$6.40 per class for members, \$8 for nonmembers. For more information, text Cindy directly at 814-701-1699 or email her at cindy@atlasprintco.com.

*Laurel Arts presents its annual
Father-Daughter Dance
An Evening In*

Paris

4 to 7 p.m.

Sunday, March 24

Oakhurst Grille & Event Center

2409 Glades Pike, Somerset

Tickets are \$45 per couple
(\$15 for each additional child / \$20 adults)

*Price includes a free 5x7 photo by Dave Breen,
dinner, crafts and entertainment
by DJ Dan Breckenridge*

*Tickets available at the Education & Dance Center
Call 814-442-6217 for more information*



It is our distinct pleasure to entertain thousands of children at elementary schools through the county during December. Our performance company visited Somerset's Eagle View, North Star Central, Rockwood, Shanksville and Berlin elementaries. Dancers also visited the Sheltered Workshop, Studio Kids Preschool, Skills of Central PA, The Heritage at Seimons and Meadowview Nursing Center. Performing were:

Zya Belardi, Ashlyn Bittner, Abigail Burtner, Ashley Ciepiela, Avery Cook, Taylor Cook, Faith Custer, Bena Croushore, Hanna Drake, Lindsay, Frazier, Emily Hostetler, Catherine Houghton, Cali Koval, Alana Kreger, Isabella Lauer, Alexis Mallory, Makenna Messenger, Teegan Pugh, Ava Pyle, Alyssa Richard, Kenadie Robosson, Katie Romesburg, Alexa Shaulis, Hayden Sheeler, Mya Shomody, McKenzie Spiker, and Morgan Troy. The show was written by Amanda Bergstresser, lead instructor.



Imagine the students' delight when Gingerbread Men popped out of the oven!

Education & Dance Center staff ...

Brianna Smail
Education & Dance Center
Administrator

Amanda Bergstresser
Lead Dance Teacher

Dance Instructors
Cindy Breen

Megan Edwards
Melissa Gindlesperger
Aubree Maus

Angela Fullard
Preschool Teacher

Patricia Ohler
Preschool Aid

Marsha Schmuck
Fundraising Coordinator &
Preschool Aid

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... for your generous support of Laurel Arts

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- Randy & Barb Davies
- Harvey Frankel, DMD
- Fraternal Order of Eagles
- Highland Tank
- Luther P. Miller & Alan and Lana Miller
- Riggs Family Foundation
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