

Laurel Arts

Arts for everyone

ArtLink • A Newsletter for the Members of Laurel Arts • July 2020

Studio Kids
PRESCHOOL

Laurel
Arts
DANCE

Lucky Leprechaun 5K rescheduled for August 1

Break out your finest green and join us for the first annual Lucky Leprechaun 5k race/walk rescheduled from March.

This event is the collaborative effort of the Rotary Club of Somerset #5250 and Laurel

Arts, and will be held on Saturday, August 1 at The Philip Dressler Center for the Arts (Laurel Arts.) The event will include a 5k run/walk race with a special performance by The Evergreens from 1 to 2 p.m. on the lawn stage.

The event will be free to attend. Only race participants will have a registration fee. Same day registrations will still be accepted, and t-shirts will be available while supplies last. Race will begin at 2 p.m.

Contact Laurel Arts at 814-443-2433 or by email at arts@laurelarts.org.

Through this event, we hope to bring the community together to enjoy a day of both fitness and fun, with the ultimate goal of raising funds to help support the programs, projects and initiatives of the Rotary Club of Somerset and Laurel Arts.

Oh, and don't forget to dress in your finest Irish attire!



Please note (due to the COVID-19 pandemic):

- ✘ Event will consist of the race with a special performance by The Evergreens from 1 to 2 p.m. at Laurel Arts. Unfortunately, the festival portion of the event has been cancelled, but we hope to incorporate it in next year's event!
- ✘ In accordance with the guidelines set forth by the Pennsylvania Department of Health and other health organizations, we ask that racers maintain social distancing (of 6 feet). Masks should be worn if in close proximity of others not from the same household prior to and/or after the race (if still mandated by the Commonwealth of PA on Aug 1.)
- ✘ Due to the efforts to maintain a proper level of social distancing, this race will NOT be timed. We welcome racers to bring their own personal devices if they would like to track their own times.
- ✘ Race participants will still receive an AWESOME green race shirt with logo and participation medal!
- ✘ For the safety of all involved, if you feel sick or are experiencing COVID-19 related symptoms, we ask that you do not participate.

We understand that these changes may make it difficult for some to participate, so please contact us if you have further questions regarding the race or would like to request a refund. If you are unable to participate, but would like to donate your registration fee, you will still receive your shirt and medal as a token of our gratitude for your support.

Upcoming *Music on the Town* and *Films on the Town*
dates, times, locations inside ... keep reading!

Upcoming exhibits ...

August 11-September 3

Karen McElfish

Karen works with many different media, including fiber. She is a member of Somerset County Artists Association.

September 15-October 22

***Somerset County Artists Association
Member Show***

All members are invited to exhibit work. This show will have a variety of art forms and media represented.

Opening reception

6-8 p.m. Friday, September 18

November 3-December 17

Select Pieces / Permanent Collection

Part of Laurel Arts' mission is to collect, preserve and exhibit work of area artists.

Opening reception

6-8 p.m. Friday, November 6

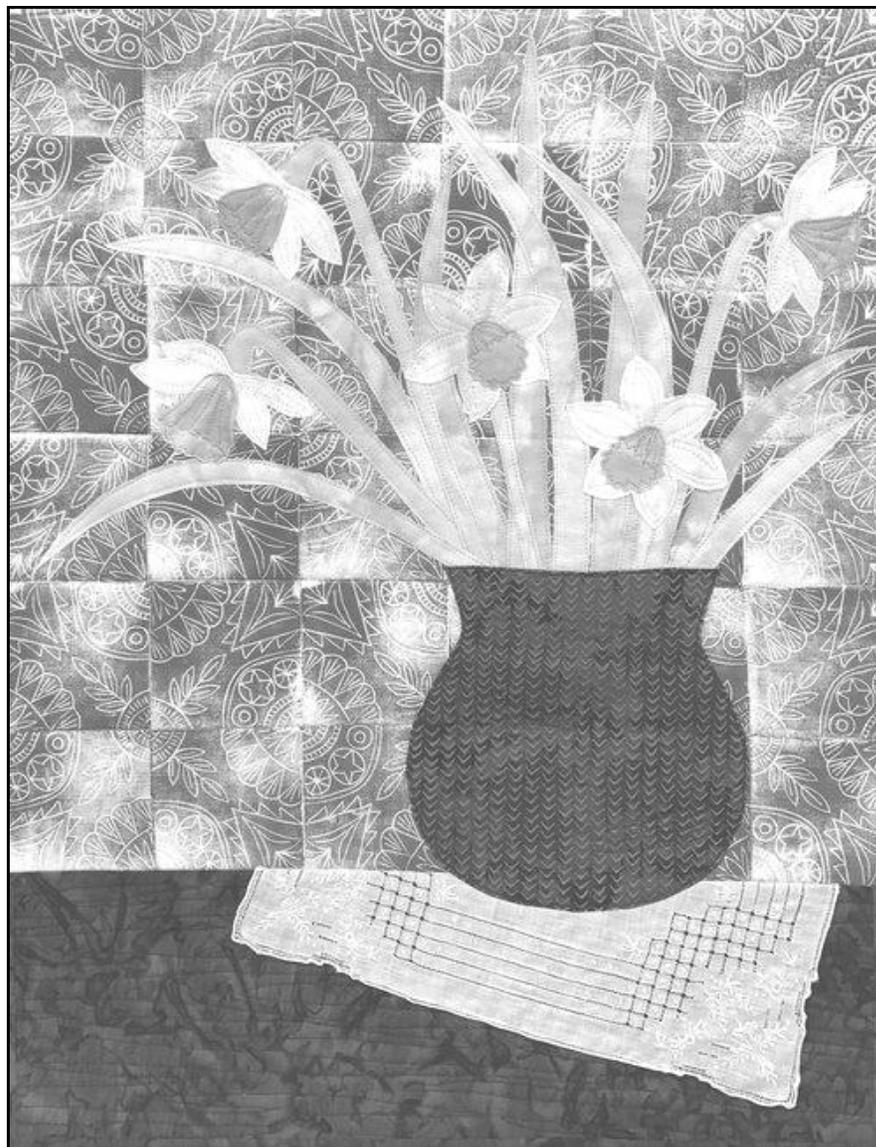


Located upstairs at
The Philip Dressler Center for the Arts

Office/Gallery Hours through July:

Noon—4 p.m. Monday-Thursday

Closed Friday-Sunday except
for special events.



DAFFODILS IN MY KITCHEN BY KAREN MCELFISH: Karen McElfish will be exhibiting in our galleries August 11 through September 3. Karen's lifelong love of fiberarts began early, as she learned such traditional skills as quilting and embroidery from her mother and grandmother. She has taken and taught many workshops and experimented with surface design techniques from dyeing and painting fabric, to stamping, printing, stitching, piecing and appliqué. Excited to explore, her favorite question is, "What would happen if...?"

Karen expresses her love of the outdoors in colorful, abstracted images of flowers, foliage and landscapes. She takes a painterly approach to develop "floral portraits" and landscapes out of fabric and thread.

Karen retired from a long career in medicine to pursue art full time in 2018. She maintains a studio in her home in Arlington, VA. An award-winning artist, she has participated in many shows in Pennsylvania, Virginia and California. Her work has been featured in Quilting Arts and Art Quilting Studio magazines. She is a member of the Somerset County Artists Association.



LA Nights returns Saturday, July 25

Laurel Arts, along with the Mary S. Biesecker Public Library and Somerset, Inc., is pleased to present the second *Music on the Town* event of 2020 ~ LA (Laurel Arts) NIGHTS!

There will be music on the lawn and something for everyone as the one-and-only Randy Myers graces our stage Saturday, July 25, followed by one of Somerset's favorite bar bands, Diamond Star Halo. Morguen Toole will be on hand with food.

The evening starts at 6:30 p.m. and will end around 10:30 p.m. for you early-to-bed types. Bring your favorite lawn chair and enjoy an evening of music.

We ask that guests to the event adhere to the recommendations set forth by the Pennsylvania Department of Health and other health organizations with regards to the COVID-19 virus by wearing a mask when you can't be at least 6 feet apart from people who are not part of your household and by staying at home if you feel sick or are running a fever.

This event and future events are made possible through grant funding from the Community Foundation for the Alleghenies Forging Unity Grant. Mark your calendars for August 15 and September 19, our next Music on the Town events.

Somerfest & the Somerfest Parade

The months and days leading up to mid-July typically mean a flurry of activity here at Laurel Arts; however, this year has been a different experience for all of us. Our intention was to make this announcement earlier this year, but it did not seem appropriate once we had felt the impact of COVID-19.

Earlier this year, Laurel Arts decided that it would be best to take a break from Somerfest for a while and although COVID-19 would have prevented us from having the festival anyway, we wanted to share this information with you, our supporters.

Our plan is to continue hosting the parade in 2021, but due to COVID-19, there will be no Somerfest Parade this year.

We thank you for your support, understanding, and look forward to serving you in other ways through the arts!

Our Dressler staff ...

Jaclyn McCusker
Executive Director

April Davis
Business Manager

Mike Baker
Maintenance Director

Adam Davis
Maintenance

Senda Harvey
Administrative &
Event Assistant

Alison Leer
Office Coordinator &
Administrative Assistant

Linda Harrill Peck
Gallery Assistant / Curator

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

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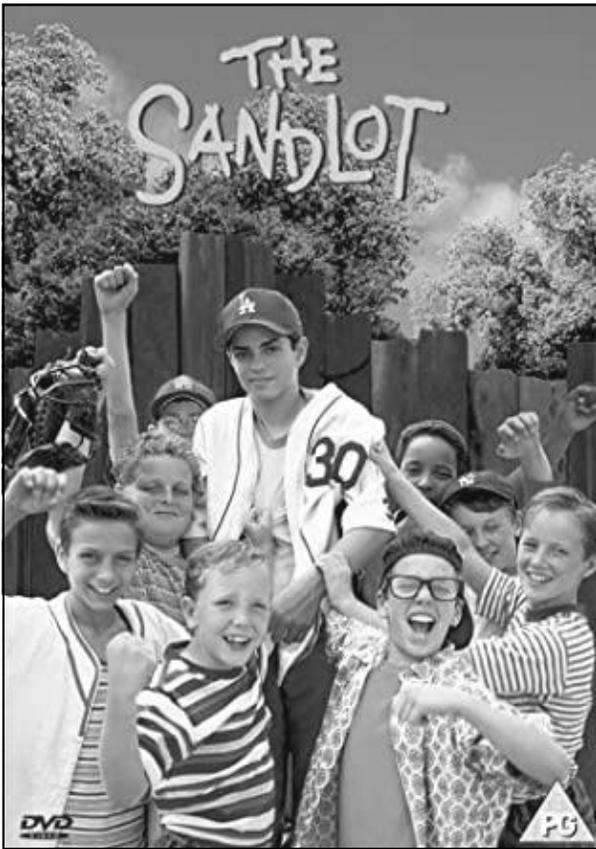
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814-443-2433

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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-

FILMS ON THE TOWN

FilmsOnTheTown.com



Films on the Town will move to Gibbs Stadium (Stadium Drive baseball field) for a showing of *The Sandlot* on **Friday, July 24**. The film will start at 8:45 p.m.

The story begins in the summer of 1962 when brainy, reserved fifth grader Scotty Smalls moves with his parents to the San Fernando Valley. He has trouble making friends, but is eventually invited to join a group of boys who play baseball in a sandlot by their leader and best player, Benny Rodriguez. When Scotty attempts to retrieve a homerun ball the other boys tell him about "the Beast", a junkyard dog who is a neighborhood legend.

On the Fourth of July the team plays a night game by the light of the fireworks, and Scotty realizes that baseball is Benny's true passion. Later, they are challenged to play against a rival Little League team whom they handily defeat. To celebrate, they try chewing tobacco and ride a spinning carnival ride; you can probably guess what happens.

Later in the story, a ball autographed by Babe Ruth comes into play; and eventually the Beast is tamed. To find out how, you need to see the movie.

The movie is FREE, and was made possible through grant funding from the Community Foundation for the Alleghenies Forging Unity Grant. There are more movies planned, so stay tuned.

Please note:

- **Somerset County Artists Association:** The regularly scheduled SCAA meeting (July 28) has been cancelled.
- **Woodcarvers:** The Woodcarvers continue to meet at 6 p.m. Wednesdays on the lawn stage, weather permitting.
- **WE WELCOME** new affiliate **Laurel Highlands Photography Club**. Roz Pugh (814-701-1170) serves as president. Although active year-round, the club meets at 6:30 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month from September through June at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 1845 N. Center Ave., Somerset.
- **Violin lessons:** There will be no in-person violin lessons at the Dressler Center during July. Deese is doing her lessons online at this time. For more information about violin lessons, contact Deese Smith at 814-418-7114.
- **Yoga:** Yoga classes have been suspended temporarily. When classes resume, we will post information on our website and Facebook page.



Anxious for a day at the canvas?

Join Al Just for a Bob Ross Workshop

Certified Bob Ross Instructor Al Just has another beautiful piece picked out for students to paint at his workshop Monday, August 17. The workshop is a step by step class in creating an oil painting of the sunset pictured above. The workshop will run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, August 17 at Georgian Place. Please register for this workshop by August 10. Tuition is \$48 for members of Laurel Arts (\$60 for nonmembers.)

At the Education & Dance Center:

- **Summer Camps:** There are four more summer camps planned, but they are filling up fast. Survivor Week is July 20-24; Gold, Silver and Bronze Week is July 27-31; Museum Week is August 3-7; and our most popular Favorite Recipes Cooking Camp is August 10-14. For more information or to register, contact Marsha Schmuck at (814) 442-6217. Tuition for members of Laurel Arts is \$80 for the week, and there is a \$15 discount for siblings. Camps are appropriate for ages K-6th grade and run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.
- **Studio Kids Registration:** Registration is open for Studio Kids Preschool. We offer two programs; one is half-day two days a week (Tuesdays and Thursday with a morning session and an afternoon session), and the other is three full days (Monday, Wednesday and Friday.) Email angi@laurelarts.org for more information.
- **Studio Kids Open House:** Miss Angi invites interested parents to attend an open house at Studio Kids Preschool from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, July 30, 601 Georgian Place. Unless orders from the Commonwealth change between now and then, parents and children are asked to wear a mask. We appreciate your cooperation.
- **Laurel Arts Dance Recital:** Our extended summer session (to give our students a chance to perform their long-awaited recital) is underway, and performances are scheduled for Saturday, August 15. The shows will be at Georgian Place.
- **Laurel Arts Dance Registration:** The new dance year will begin in mid-September with a recital planned for mid-June 2021. We are accepting registration for the upcoming year. Disciplines offered include ballet, tap, jazz, lyrical and hip hop; and we plan to offer acro and musical theater classes. For more information or to register a child for dance classes, please email office@laurelarts.org, and we'll send you a registration form. We have classes for dancers as young as three years old. We also offer classes for children and adults with special needs. We will continue to follow guidelines set forth by the Health Department, and we will be reducing class sizes. Email office@laurelarts.org to receive a registration form and/or more information.
- **Adult tap classes:** Is learning to tap on your bucket list. Join us for drop-in classes from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Tuesdays at the dance center. Classes are only \$6.40 for members of Laurel Arts (\$8 for nonmembers.) Class is designed for all levels including beginners.



Please consider supporting **Laurel Arts** by ordering through smile.amazon.com and note Laurel Arts as your charity of choice.

Education & Dance Center staff ...

Amanda Bergstresser
Lead Dance Teacher

Dance Instructors

Cindy Breen
Megan Edwards
Melissa Gindlesperger
Aubree Maus
Bethany Thomas

Taylor Davis
Education & Dance Center
Administrator

Angela Fullard
Preschool Teacher

Patricia Ohler
Preschool Aid

Marsha Schmuck
Preschool Aid
Classes & Programs Coordinator
Summer Camps Instructor
Fundraising Coordinator

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