

Laurel Arts

Arts for everyone

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PRESCHOOL

Laurel
Arts
DANCE

ArtLink • A Newsletter for the Members of Laurel Arts • **October 2019**



ALL HALLOWS HOUSE PARTY
LAUREL ARTS, DRESSLER CENTER
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 7PM -10PM

We could not think of a better setting for a night of SPOOKtacular fun than the historic (and slightly creepy) Philip Dressler Center for the Arts! Come dressed to impress as your favorite haunted house guest to this spooky soiree, which will include live entertainment provided by the Allison Borek Trio and Chelsea Biehl, as well as some extra-creepy activities. Enjoy an evening of fun, great live entertainment, and who knows, you may even experience something out of this world! Admission is FREE, but donations are welcome and appreciated!

Find out *How the West Was Sung* Sunday, October 27



Members of the Roof Garden Barbershop Chorus will be bringin' you a stampede of Country-Western Songs along with a rip-roarin' good ole romp in the Wild Wild West at its annual show, 2 p.m. Sunday, October 27 at Somerset Area High School

Skits & jokes featurin' rustlers & bandits will be sure to entertain. The boys promise a good time for the whole family!

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Upcoming exhibits ...

October 29-December 17

Eight Create

Eight hard-working members of Laurel Arts Gallery Committee are also prolific and well-known local artists. They will take on the blank canvas of The Philip Dressler Center and fill it with a wide variety of work in many different media.

Exhibiting will be:

Peggy Black
Erin Glessner
Jane Holt
Joy Knepp
Bridget Mayak
Linda Peck
Kathy Trexel Reed
Susan Wilson

Opening reception

6-8 p.m.

Friday, November 8

At Eternity's Gate

to be shown at 7:30 p.m.
 in the Green Room



Located upstairs at
 The Philip Dressler Center
 for the Arts

MUSEUM & GALLERY HOURS:

Monday-Thursday

11 am to 6 pm

Saturday

noon to 4 pm

closed Friday & Sunday

(except for exhibit openings)

Artisan Area will offer hand-made work just in time for the holidays

New for Christmas this year will be an **Artisan Area**. Plans are to invite local arts vendors to sell their hand-made work in two of the downstairs galleries from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Friday, December 6 (during our annual First Night of Christmas), and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, December 7. The Artisan Area will take the place of our Christmas Craft Shoppe, so plan to shop accordingly!

Fall into a new hobby by taking a class

We are excited to be able to offer so many classes and workshops. The mission of Laurel Arts is to make the arts accessible to all. What better way to do that than to offer classes in a pleasant and encouraging environment. There are all kinds of benefits to participating in the arts from relieving stress to improving brain function; and don't worry if you "can't draw a straight line." You may be surprised to find your hidden talents.

If you have an idea for a class you'd like to take, please let us know. And, if you are a potential instructor, we want to work with you. Contact Marsha Schmuck, our programs coordinator (call/text 442-6217 or email marsha@laurelarts.org.)

Take a look at all we have to offer!

PREREGISTRATION IS REQUIRED for classes & workshops (exception is drop-in tap and yoga classes.) Please call/text 442-6217 or call Laurel Arts at 443-2433 to register.

Stained Glass

New session begins October 21

Talented stained glass artist Dottie Borosky returns this fall to Laurel Arts for another fun and productive series of classes. She will walk students through the process to create their own unique stained glass piece. These are generally six-week classes, but you may enroll at anytime. Classes run from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Education & Dance Center, 601 Georgian Place. Class fee is \$57.60 for members; \$72 for non-members. There is also a materials fee (cost depends upon the project). Contact Laurel Arts at 443-2433, or call/text 442-6217 for more information or to register. Pre-registration is required.



Holiday Slime Lab Series

5-7 p.m. Fridays, Nov. 8 & Dec. 13

Lab Professor Marsha Schmuck has returned to the laboratory at Laurel Arts for more slime making fun. We will be offering one class per month and will be creating slimes based on that month's holiday: 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, November 8 Thanksgiving Slimes; Friday, December 13 Christmas Slimes.

Turkey and cranberry slimes for Thanksgiving, Reindeer slime for Christmas and much more! If you are a slime addict, you won't want to miss these workshops! Each class is \$12 members/\$15 nonmembers payable to Laurel Arts plus a \$10 materials fee payable to Marsha Schmuck. Classes take place at the Education & Dance Center.

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Dorothy Dressler Scholarships recipients appreciate opportunities provided

The Dorothy Dressler Scholarship Fund was established to honor a great lady and benefactor of Laurel Arts. Mrs. Dressler and her husband Philip purchased a home in Somerset in 1968. They lived there until Philip's death in 1973. Three years later, in honor of her late husband, Dorothy deeded the property to Laurel Arts.

Laurel Arts celebrated the 20th anniversary of the opening of The Philip Dressler Center for the Arts with a garden party in July 1996. In recognition for all she had done for Laurel Arts, the Board developed a scholarship fund in her name. Board members each made a contribution to seed the fund. The announcement was made at the party; and Mrs. Dressler immediately wrote a check for \$5,000.

During her remaining years (Mrs. Dressler died in 2005), she continued to make contributions to the scholarship fund, as did her daughters.

The purpose of the Dorothy Dressler Scholarship is to provide families who have financial need the opportunity to participate in Laurel Arts programming. We continue to fund scholarships through our annual golf tournament and with proceeds from Rhythms of Christmas. This year, we have awarded over \$15,000 in scholarships to students attending our dance and/or preschool programs.

These are excerpts from several scholarship applications.

Tristann: Dancing helps raise my self-esteem. It makes me feel good about myself. Participating in dance helps to make me feel more confident.

Kynslee's mom: With Kynslee having Asperger's, this (preschool and dance) will teach her how to act in a classroom and to follow the rules, how to function without her dad, sister and me ... to shine on her own!

Molly: This is my 14th year of dance. Dance has helped me to gain confidence, learn and improve motor skills, balance and coordination. Dance has helped me with anxiety and sensory issues, as well as depression ... providing me with an amazing sense of community and family.

Alexa: Without dance, I would not be the person that I am today and will take these skills and experiences with me and to heart.

Caroline: I'm so grateful that my mom signed me up for dance three years ago, and I never want to take it for granted. Dance has made an enormous impact on my life.

Kaydence's mom: My oldest child was part of the (preschool) program and it helped prepare her for the school years to come. The structure children develop from this program is wonderful.

This school year, our scholarship program is assisting 26 students with dance and/or preschool tuition. Some of these children are being raised by grandparents, some families have had health or job related issues that have significantly reduced their family income. We ask our recipients to give back by volunteering their time to help with fundraisers and other Laurel Arts activities.

Many thanks to those of you who participate in the golf tournament and donate at Rhythms of Christmas! Please know that your contributions are appreciated and make a difference.

Our Dressler staff ...

Jaclyn McCusker
Director of Development

April Davis
Business Manager

Mike Baker
Maintenance Director

Senda Harvey
Administrative Assistant

Alison Leer
Administrative Assistant

Linda Harrill Peck
Gallery Assistant / Curator

Marsha Schmuck
Classes / Programs Coordinator

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

214 S. Harrison Avenue
Somerset, PA 15501
814-443-2433

jmccusker@laurelarts.org

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 Andrea Falchek, 814-442-4359, andreaFalcheck@yahoo.com
Meeting 2nd Monday of the month, 11 a.m.

Needle / Fabric Arts

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

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

Performing Arts

Laurel Highlands Chorale: Contact Jan Burkett, 443-3085 for more information.

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 7 p.m. 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, 701-1515 or email photo@davebreen.com, Christmas rehearsals begin October 17, 7:15 p.m. Thursdays, Somerset Junior High

Visual Arts

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

Somerset County Artists Association: Contact Dave Greene, 814-926-4223. Meetings 6 p.m. fourth Tuesday of the month.

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

Community band begins Christmas rehearsals

Somerset County Community Band has started rehearsals for its Christmas season. The band rehearses at 7:15 p.m. Thursday evenings at Somerset Area Junior High School.

The band will join North Star Band for its concert on Thursday, December 12; participate in Rhythms of Christmas, 1 p.m. Saturday, December 14; and will play at Siemons Lakeview Manor on Sunday, December 15.

Adults and high school students are invited to play with the band. For more information, contact Dave Breen, 814-701-1515, or photo@davebreen.com.

How the West Was Sung

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Tim Custer & Company will be in attendance bringin' that bluegrass twang to the stage. A few stray quartets may be a wanderin' on stage, too!

Don't miss this unique, once in a lifetime, musical experience! Tickets are \$12 in advance (available from members of the chorus) and \$15 at the door the day of the show.

Garden Club to sell wreaths

Somerset Garden Club will host its annual wreath sale Tuesday, December 3 at the Dressler Center. Wreaths are \$25 and include the club's signature decorations of pine cones and ribbons.

Contact any Garden Club member or email Andrea Falcheck to reserve your live Christmas wreath.



At Eternity's Gate to be shown Nov. 8

Join us for a showing of *At Eternity's Gate*, 2018 biographical drama film about the final years of painter Vincent van Gogh's life, following the gallery exhibit opening reception of *Eight Create* Friday, November 8. The reception is from 6 to 8 p.m. The film will be shown in the Green Room upstairs beginning at 7:30 p.m.

The film dramatizes the controversial theory put forward by Van Gogh biographers Steven Naifeh and Gregory White Smith, in which they speculate that Van Gogh's death was caused by mischief rather than suicide.

The film will be shown as part of Films on the Town, part of the Forging Unity project provided by The Community Foundation of the Alleghenies and in partnership with Mary S. Biesecker Public Library and Somerset Inc.

Design, create, explore ... so much to learn & do

Day of the Dead Celebration

2-4 p.m. Saturday, October 26

High school Spanish teacher Andrea Minor, will help us celebrate Halloween in a different way. Have you seen the Disney PIXAR film Coco? Whether you did or not, we are hoping you might like to learn a little bit more about "El Dia de los Muertos," the Mexican "Day of the Dead." As we take a look at this colorful holiday, we discover some Mexican culture and traditions. The theme of the holiday is remembering loved ones. We will read, practice some Spanish vocabulary, learn facts about the holiday, develop our own altars, design a skull, and decorate a sweet treat. The class is from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, October 26 at the Education & Dance Center. Ages pre-k through 6th grade are welcome. Fee is \$16 members/\$20 nonmembers payable to Laurel Arts plus a \$10 materials fee payable to Andrea Minor.



Halloween Cake Decorating Workshop

2-4 p.m. Sunday, October 27

Keri Brown has yet another amazing cake creation to share with students at Laurel Arts. Keri will walk you step by step through creating this spooktacular cake just in time for Halloween fun.



Students will each have their own individual cakes to work on and take home. Class fee is \$17.60 members/\$22 nonmembers payable to Laurel Arts plus a \$15 materials fee payable to Keri Brown. Class is from 2-4 p.m. Sunday, October 27 at the Education & Dance Center. This class fills up quickly and is limited to 14 students.

Macrame Plant Hanger Workshop

2-5 p.m. Sunday, November 3

Macrame has regained its popularity in wall decor, chairs, plant hangers and many other fun items. In today's workshop, Instructor Cindie Bennett will teach multiple macrame knots and guide participants as they begin a macrame plant hanger. Class will be from 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday, November 3



at the Education & Dance Center. Class fee is \$52 members/\$65 nonmembers payable to Laurel Arts plus a \$15 materials fee (includes 100 feet of rope and hoop for plant hanger) payable to Cindie Bennett. Class size is limited to 15 so sign up early! Students should be able to stand for a majority of the class. Please note: **The minimum age for this class is 8.**

Learn to Crochet with Nelli

5-6:30 p.m. Wednesdays beginning November 13

Instructor Nelli King will be sharing her crochet talents with a beginners crocheting workshop. Nelli lives in Champion and is originally from Cheboksary, Russia.

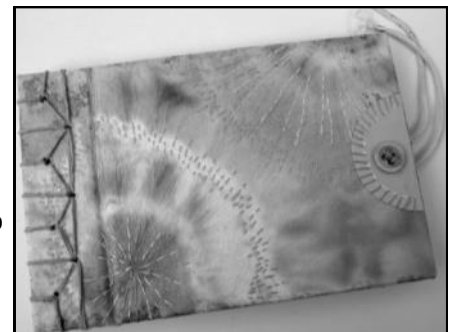


She has acquired her knitting, crochet, and painting skills from her mother and grandmother. In this crochet workshop you will learn easy and simple crochet techniques (and some secrets) for making fun and functional items for gifts or personal joy. In this 4-week program, you will have a chance to work on up to 4 projects and any level of experience will find some new ideas! Classes are from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays, November 13, 20 and December 4 and 11 at the Dressler Center. Class fee is \$52 members/\$65 non-members payable to Laurel Arts plus a \$10 materials fee payable to Nelli King.

Making Unconventional Books

1-3:30 p.m. Saturday, November 16

Travel with Kathy Reed through the land of Unconventional Books. She will help you make your own hand-made books to record mood and energy in imaginative ways.



Folding, cutting, gluing, painting, printing can lend interesting content to your original book "pages." Perhaps even "asemic marks" that resemble words, but are more like textures with no specific meanings, will become expressive and abstractly meaningful for you.

Continued on next page

Get ready for the holidays with these classes

Class is scheduled from 1 to 3:30 p.m. November 16 at the Education & Dance Center. Optional no-fee Saturday art studio dates are available from 5 to 7 p.m. Saturday, October 26 and from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, November 9 at the Education & Dance Center for students who are registered for the class. Class fee is \$16 members/\$20 nonmembers payable to Laurel Arts and a materials fee of \$7 payable to Kathy Reed. Give yourself permission to play with the book format and to create without overthinking the outcome.

Bob Ross Painting Workshop with Al Just 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Monday, November 18

We are so excited to have Certified Bob Ross Instructor Al Just teaching again at Laurel Arts! Al assists students to create beautiful paintings of landscapes, seascapes, wildlife, and florals. He has been teaching for 15 years and currently offers classes at his studio in Johnstown, Community Arts



Center of Cambria County, Johnstown Hobby Lobby, and Altoona Penn Highlands Community College. Al has several certifications including Bob Ross, Dorothy Dent, Joyce Ortner and has studied with James Sulkowski, Robert Warren, and Valerie Stewart.

The workshop he is offering here will be a step by step class in creating an oil painting of the landscape pictured. The workshop will be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, November 18 at the Education & Dance Center. Fee for the workshop is \$48 members/\$60 nonmembers payable to Laurel Arts. This includes all materials. Students only need to bring paper towels, baby wipes and old rags.

Preregistration is required by Monday, November 11 and students are asked to pay in advance. A minimum of 4 students is required for the class to run.

There is another Bob Ross workshop with Al Just planned for Monday, December 16. See next month's newsletter for details.

Thanksgiving Cake Decorating Workshop 2-4 p.m. Sunday, November 24

Professional Cake Decorator Keri Brown has yet another amazing cake creation to share with students at Laurel Arts. Keri will walk you step by step through creating this Thanksgiving-themed cake just in time for your family gatherings. Students will



each have their own individual cakes to work on and take home. The finished product will be similar to the one pictured. Class fee is \$17.60 members/\$22 nonmembers payable to Laurel Arts plus a \$15 materials fee payable to Keri Brown. Class is from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, November 24 at the Education & Dance Center. This class fills up quickly and is limited to 14 students.

Drop-in classes

Yoga with Hazel Weighley

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

Tap **FUN**damentals 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 non-members. We have some shoes available if you don't have your own. For more information, email cindy@atlasprintco.com.

Music ... individual instruction for children and adults in violin and guitar is available at Laurel Arts. Call 814-443-2433 for more information.

Get the most up-to-date information on new classes and workshops by following Laurel Arts' Facebook page.

Tickets available for Mother-Son Superhero Dance Sunday, November 3 at Glades Pike Winery

Join us for our second annual Mother-Son Dance. This year's theme will be "Superheroes!"

The dance will be from 4 to 7 p.m. Sunday, November 3 at Glades Pike Winery, 2208 Glades Pike, Somerset. Your ticket will include dinner prepared by Listie Catering, a 5X7 photo taken by Photographer Dave Breen, superhero crafts, and entertainment by DJ Dan Breckenridge. Additional photos can also be purchased.

Moms and sons are encouraged to dress up in your Sunday best or, better yet, come as your favorite Superhero! You are sure to have a fun-filled evening dancing, crafting, and spending some quality time together.



Tickets are \$45 per mother/son couple. Please note that this event is not limited to moms and their sons ... grandmothers, aunts, special friends, etc. are welcome, too. Additional tickets are \$15 per person.

Purchase tickets at the Education & Dance Center, 601 Georgian Place from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. Call 814-442-6217 for more information.



A big thank you to Somerset Volunteer Fire Department for visiting us at Studio Kids.

Dance year underway, but some classes are open

Dance has been underway since late August, and we're having a great year.

If you have a young child or know of a child or adult with special needs, it's not too late to register for dance.

We have a few spots open for children 3, 4 and 5 years old. Students (children and adults) with special needs are always welcome.

Contact Laurel Arts, 443-1835, or email office@laurelarts.org for more information for class times and tuition information.

Education & Dance Center staff ...

Melissa McCusker
Education & Dance Center
Administrator

Amanda Bergstresser
Lead Dance Teacher

Dance Instructors

Cindy Breen
Megan Edwards
Melissa Gindlesperger
Aubree Maus
Bethany Thomas

Angela Fullard
Preschool Teacher

Patricia Ohler
Preschool Aid

Marsha Schmuck
Fundraising Coordinator &
Preschool Aid



Laurel Arts
Education & Dance Center
601 Georgian Place
Somerset, PA 15501
814-443-1835
office@laurelarts.org

Follow us on Facebook
**Laurel Arts Education
and Dance Center**

Rhythms of Christmas

1 p.m. Saturday, December 14, Somerset Area High School

Laurel Arts
PO Box 414
Somerset, PA 15501

How the West Was Sung

Find out on page 1

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Joy & Gerald Knepp
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Thank you to ...