

Laurel Arts

Arts for everyone

Studio Kids
PRESCHOOL

Laurel
Arts
DANCE

ArtLink • A Newsletter for the Members of Laurel Arts • **May 2021**

Rotary, Laurel Arts host *Race We Must* during May

Whether you're a *Star Wars* aficionado or a fan of the footrace, The Rotary Club of Somerset and Laurel Arts invite you to participate in our **May the Fourth Be With You** Virtual Race.

Of course, it's not really a virtual race (you can't do it from your couch) ... you still have to put in the miles, but at your own pace, walking, running and/or biking.

Visit Laurel Arts Facebook page to find the registration link. Last day to register and post times is May 31, but why wait! Once you are registered, you can begin posting your times and up to five photos.

Racers will receive a personalized bib, Race We Must Finisher Medal, Race We Must Buff, and a Race We Must Long Sleeve Hoodie Shirt.

If you have questions or need more information, email Angi Tennant, angi@askangi.com.

For over 95 years, the Rotary Club of Somerset has supported humanitarian efforts, locally, nationally, and



internationally. Key focuses are clean water, sanitation, mother/ children's health, education, peace resolution and disease prevention. Rotary has led the charge in eradicating Polio, which is very close to success.

Making an impact locally is also a focus of the Rotary Club of Somerset. Historically, the club has been able donate over \$25,000 annually to local organizations.

Laurel Arts was established in 1975. Our mission is to enhance the quality of life in Somerset County by offering an array of arts and educational opportunities, and making them accessible to all. From classes to events, preschool programming to art exhibitions, Laurel Arts strives to engage, educate, and connect residents and visitors alike through arts-based opportunities.

For more information about Laurel Arts and our variety of programs and events, check out www.laurelarts.org, or visit our Facebook or Instagram page.

Don't miss Jazz Night May 21

Kenny Blake and Friends will perform at 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 21 at Somerset Country Club. The event is in memory of long-time Somerset Area High School Band Director Herb McDowell who died February 14, 2021.

Pittsburgh jazz saxophonist Kenny Blake will be joined by special guest and Grammy Award winner Wayne Shorter in

Tickets are \$20 and are available at www.somersetcountryclub.com. Seating will be limited. The Herb McDowell Memorial Jazz Night is sponsored by Brian Zeigler and Jeff Mishler.

SOLD OUT!



Upcoming exhibits ...

May 11-June 10
Christopher Boring &
Bridget Mayak

Christopher Boring is a Pittsburgh based artist; Bridget Mayak is from Somerset. Together, they will present an exhibit in two and three dimensions (earthy and organic.)

June 22-August 5
11th Annual Triennial
Building Bridges is the theme of this year's Triennial. This exhibit will draw works from local and regional artists in a variety of media. Explore our galleries to see how these artists propose to unite us or how they choose to illustrate what seems to divide us.

Opening Reception & Awards
(tentative)

6-8 p.m. Friday, July 2

Our galleries will be
open during
Music on the Lawn
events.

Feel free to browse!



Located upstairs at
The Philip Dressler Center
for the Arts

Office/Gallery Hours:
Noon-6 p.m.

Monday-Thursday
 Closed Friday-Sunday except
 for special events.

Summer's coming!

Join us for Music on the Lawn

Laurel Arts is proud to present another summer of lawn music. The offerings vary from Irish Folk to Alternative Rock and everything in between. These are family-friendly concerts. Feel free to bring lawn chairs, blankets, and your own refreshments, although there will be food available on some of the dates.

Saturday, May 22 5-8 pm	The Irish Pretenders	Irish Folk Music	Stairs Bolie Wagon
Saturday, June 12 6-9 pm	Randy Myers / The Laurel	Folk, Storytelling, Classic Rock, Oldies	Morguen Tool Co.
Sunday, June 20 3-4 pm	Somerset County Community Band	From J.P. Sousa to Stevie Wonder	Complimentary Ice Cream Sundaes
Saturday, June 26 6-9 pm	Day by Day And Friends	Alternative & Classic Rock	Stairs Bolie Wagon
Saturday, July 3 6-9 pm	The Evergreens & Matt Otis & the Sound	Oldies, Indie Rock, Classic Rock, Folk Rock, Originals	
Saturday, July 17 6-9 pm	Guest JD & Cindy	Folk, Classic Rock	
Saturday, July 31 6-9 pm	Red Law Whitehorse	Oldies, Classic Rock, Rock	
Saturday, Aug. 14 6-9 pm	Jenny Wilson Trio	Jazz	Scooper Bowl* *Gallery Committee Fundraiser
Saturday, Aug. 28 6-9 pm	Jessica Lee & Guitarist Mark Strickland	Jazz	Morguen Tool Co.
Saturday, Sept. 25 4-8 pm	Randy Myers Tim & Stacey	Folk, Storytelling, Classic Rock, Oldies	Morguen Tool Co.

Around the Alleghenies, ABC23, features GAP National Museum

The Guild of American Papercutters National Museum, located on the second floor of The Philip Dressler Center for the Arts, was recently featured on ABC23's *Around the Alleghenies*. To view the video, visit *Around the Alleghenies* on Facebook and scroll down to an April 30 posting which has a link to the video.

Kathy Trexel Reed and Linda Harrill Peck are featured; Kathy talking about the museum and Linda demonstrating a papercutting technique.

The museum is open to the public during regular gallery hours. The Guild of American Papercutters will also be participating in Laurel Arts' 11th Triennial Exhibit, *Building Bridges*, June 22-August 5.

Making it work

Annual dance recital WILL happen May 29

Believe me, this is big news ... Laurel Arts Dance WILL have a recital this month, and it will be in an auditorium!

We have a saying at the dance center, "We make it work." And, that's what we've been doing for 14 months. As you know, we had to be closed from mid-March through mid-June 2020, so we regrouped, rehearsed and redesigned last year's annual recital. It was held outdoors at Georgian Place in mid-August, and it worked!

Until mid-March of 2021, we weren't sure where we would be able to present our annual show. We had been investigating outdoor venues, tent rentals, and stage options. On March 23, we received approval to have our recital in the Rockwood Area School auditorium! The board and staff at Rockwood have been wonderful, and we are very appreciative.

We still have to limit ticket sales to 75% capacity; and we have choreographed our finale so that only one class at a time will be on stage. The audience will wear masks, as will our students unless they are on stage. But, we will at least be approaching a normal recital experience!

The 2020-21 dance year was a bit shorter than usual. We didn't start until mid-September, and we were closed for December and part of January. We had to record our annual *Rhythms of Christmas* show in February (without an audience), but we did produce an entertaining video that was provided to several nursing homes and schools for their viewing pleasure.

Our performance company attended two dance competitions and qualified for Nationals!

Overall, although we had a few pandemic-related set-backs, we have had a good year; we've provided our students with opportunities to grow as dancers and enjoy the fellowship that is only possible when we get together in person and in the dance studio! We will also say goodbye to five seniors.

On behalf of the board of Laurel Arts, I want to thank our dedicated staff, volunteers, dancers and parents for "making it ALL work!"

Our new dance year will begin in late August, and we are accepting registrations now. We offer classes for children as young as three years old. Preschoolers and children in early elementary (K-3) may enroll in a combo class that provides instruction in ballet, tap and creative movement or jazz. In addition, acro and hip hop classes are available.

As students progress, they may select the styles of dance they prefer (although we do require ballet). We are also happy to accommodate older students who haven't danced before.

Children and adults with special needs also have a place in our hearts and in our dance program.

For information and/or a registration form, contact Melanie Sarver, 814-443-1835, or email office@laurelarts.org.

Cindy Breen, Laurel Arts Board of Directors (and dance instructor)

Our Dressler staff ...

Jaclyn McCusker
Executive Director

April Davis
Business Manager

Mike Baker
Maintenance Director

Rebecca Frola Biss
Office Assistant

Senda Harvey
Administrative &
Event Assistant

Alison Leer
Office Coordinator &
Administrative Assistant

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

Laurel Arts Board of Directors

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Erin Mayak, vice president
Mark Addleman, treasurer
Rebecca Frola Biss, secretary
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Lois Caton

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

NOT ALL AFFILIATES ARE MEETING REGULARLY. CONTACT INFORMATION IS INCLUDED FOR EACH GROUP SO PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL FOR MORE INFORMATION!

Botanical / Culinary Arts

Somerset Garden Club: Contact Andrea Falchek, 814-442-4359, andreafalchek@yahoo.com

Needle / Fabric Arts

Crochet Guild: Contact Sheena Pile at 444-2419.

Knitting Guild: Contact Susan Barclay, 443-2482.

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 outdoors at Grace United Methodist Church, Somerset.

Somerset Auxiliary JSO: Contact Sam Hanson, 814-754-5230, or Gay Reed, 814-279-7134.

Somerset County Community Band: Rehearsing at 7:15 p.m. Thursdays, Suite 111, Georgian Place. Contact Dave Breen, 701-1515, email photo@davebreen.com.

Visual Arts

Laurel Highlands Photography Club: Contact Roz Pugh, 814-701-1170. The club meets at 6:30 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month from September through June, St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 1845 N. Center Ave., Somerset.

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

Somerset County Artists Association: Contact Dave Greene, 814-442-3934.

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

Reservations required for Chorale Concerts

It is with great joy and much excitement that the Laurel Highlands Chorale announces its upcoming 2021 Spring Mini Concert. This concert will include old-time favorites chosen to brighten your day and uplift your spirits. Considering the current COVID virus situation, there will be a few changes to make everyone attending feel comfortable. There will be a maximum number of seats available for each concert. No tickets will be sold prior to the concert or at the door. Instead, a call must be placed to reserve your desired date and time; payment will be collected upon entry. Masks will be worn at the discretion of the attendee.

Concert dates are: **Sunday, May 16 at 3 and 6 p.m. and Monday, May 17 at 7 p.m.** at Somerset Church of the Brethren, 606 Berlin Plank Road, Somerset.

Admission is \$5, payable at the door. Reservations **must** be made prior to the concert on a first call, first served basis. Contact Dorene Friedline at (814) 926-3610 or (814) 442-0460 for reservations or questions.

Kudos to Somerset Garden Club

In April, Somerset Garden Club member Sheila Croushore was installed as the new President of the Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania 2021-2023.

According to local club president Andrea Falchek, Sheila has been a remarkable leader in all areas of the Garden Club. In 2017, she was named a National Garden Club "5 STAR" Member by becoming a Master in Gardening, Landscape Design, Environmental Studies, Floral Design, and she is also a flower show judge.

Somerset Garden Club has been selected as a recipient of the 2020 Gardening Know How School and Community Garden Sponsorship! The award letter stated, "Your project really stood out among an unprecedented number of applicants." The \$1,000 award is specifically earmarked for the Youth Gardening Program at the Children's Aid Home under the chairmanship of Sharon Fieri.

At Somerset Inc.'s Earth Day Celebration, the Garden Club was on hand with useful information about protecting the environment as well as hosting a fun scavenger hunt for young attendees who looked for painted rocks in Trinity Park and in uptown Somerset. Participants not only gained information about the insects and plants that help the environment, they were also awarded an Earth Day prize and wildflower seeds to plant.



Classes offer a special kind of relaxation, promote creativity

Bob Ross Painting Workshop

Monday, May 17, 10 am to 3 pm

Certified Bob Ross Instructor, Al Just has another beautiful piece to paint this month: a lighthouse scene.

The class takes place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, May 17 at the Education & Dance Center. The fee for the workshop is \$48 members, \$60 non-members payable to Laurel Arts. This includes all materials. Students only need to bring paper towels, baby wipes and old rags.

Preregistration is required and students are asked to pay in advance. A minimum of 4 students is required for the class to run. Call or text 814-442-6217 or call Laurel Arts at 814-443-2433 to register.

Morning Yoga Flow & Wine Tasting

Sunday, May 16, 10 am

Join us for a slow vinyasa-style yoga flow to get energized for the day, followed by complimentary snacks and wine tasting led by Tara Kane (Wine Shop at Home). You'll have the opportunity to order wine after tasting.

Please go to Schedulicity: <https://www.schedulicity.com/scheduling/MMYCP2/classes> to reserve your spot.

Father's Day Cake Workshop

Tuesday, June 8, 5:30 to 7:30 pm

Cake Decorator Meagan Richter will show students how to create an amazing cake for Father's Day. The workshop will include icing and fondant work. This one of a kind creation will make a great gift for Father's Day, or sign up Dad and work on it together!

Meagan is the owner of Heirloom Pines Farms. She and her husband will be opening a shop in Somerset. The shop will provide the community with delicious coffees and baked goods created from family recipes.

The class will be held from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 8 at the Education & Dance Center. Class fee, payable to Laurel Arts, is \$20 members, and \$25 for non-members. Materials fee is \$20. Call/Text 814-442-6217 or call Laurel Arts at 814-443-2433 to register by June 1.

Maker Mondays for little ones

Drop in at Laurel Arts for our all new **Maker Mondays!** During this session, students ages five and under will take part in games, science experiments, songs, stories, and of course ART! No need to register ... just drop in Mondays from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Recently, students celebrated National Deep Dish Pizza Day! Little Makers created their own hat, apron, pizza dough and planted tomato seeds. The following Monday was National Farm Animal Day!

The cost for each Maker Monday is \$5 to help cover supply expenses. Classes take place at the Education and Dance Center. Call or text 814-442-6217 for information.

CreARTivity Camps for kids 12 months through 7th grade

Laurel Arts is excited to present a new series of summer camps for children as young as 12 months old through 7th grade. All camps will be located at the Education and Dance Center, 601 Georgian Place. For more information or a brochure and registration form, call Marsha Schmuck at 814-442-6217.

ART Explorers, ages 12 to 18 months, will meet for 90 minutes on Thursdays and Fridays. The first camp will explore the **Best of Disney** June 10-11, followed by **Science & Art** July 1-2, and **Favorite Storybooks** August 19-20. Register for one, two or all three. Camp fee is \$20 for members of Laurel Arts; \$25 for non-members. We ask that parents stay with their children to help them as they create and explore.

ARTventurers are children ages 18 to 36 months. Two-day and three-day sessions will be available (each session is two hours long.) Campers will explore the **Best of Disney** as they paint with ice and build with clay during the week of June 7 through 11. The week of June 28 through July 2, these youngsters will explore **Science & Art** including dinosaurs, fossils and volcanoes. **Favorite Storybooks** will be the theme of the camps held the

continued on next page



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

CreARTivity Camps for kids 12 months through 7th grade (continued from previous page)

week of August 16-20. Camp fee for three-day sessions is \$32 for members of Laurel Arts; \$40 for non-members. The camp fee for five-day sessions is \$40 for members; \$50 for non-members.

Young at ART is for children Pre-K through 3rd grade.

These are our traditional five-day, full-day camps. Students will use lots of art media to create projects, will make delicious snacks, and will participate in fun theme-based games. These camps are from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Camp fees are \$80 for members of Laurel Arts; \$100 for non-members. June 21-25 will be **Camp Crayon**; July 5-9 will be an **Art Safari**; July 19-23 will be **Story-inspired Cooking**; and August 9-13 will be a **Croods Camp**.

ARTolescents is designed for children entering grades 4-7. This group will experience more advanced art lessons. These camps are from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through

Friday. Camp fees are \$80 for members of Laurel Arts; \$100 for non-members. **Arts Galore**, June 14-18, will explore a variety of media from clay to wire to paints. Campers will **Get to Know Our Community** the week of July 12-16 as they learn about famous people from our area. They will also spend a day touring local businesses. Campers will be **Time Travelers** the week of July 26-30, exploring the time of the dinosaurs, jumping ahead to the Renaissance, and finding their way to the 1960s. A **Special Events Cooking Camp** August 2-6 will provide campers an opportunity to make foods for a luau, a fiesta, a camping weekend, and a pizza party.

Siblings attending the same camp (applies to **Young at ART** and **ARTolescents** camps only) will receive a \$10 discount for each additional sibling attending.

Campers in day-long camps will need to bring their own lunch. All campers should plan to bring a water bottle.

FORE: 14th Annual Charity Golf Tournament set for June 4

It's not too late to register for the 14th Annual Charity Golf Tournament benefiting the Dorothy Dressler Scholarship Fund and Children's Programming.

The Las Vegas Scramble will be Friday, June 4 at Somerset Country Club. Registration and lunch begin at noon, Friday, June 4. Scramble begins with a 1 p.m. shotgun start. Hors d'oeuvres will follow after golf, prepared by Somerset Country Club.

Cost to participate is \$150 per player and includes your cart, 18 holes of golf, lunch, hors d'oeuvres after golf, foursome photo, prizes & awards. The activities package

is also included (power ball, mulligans & skills contests.)

Awards will be presented for gross & net. Ties will be broken by a card-off. Prizes will be provided by Somerset Country Club and Laurel Arts.

Tournament is limited to 18 foursomes.

Part of our mission is to make the arts accessible to all. We will not turn away a student; thus participation in this event, as well as continued support, is greatly appreciated. For more information about the tournament, contact Laurel Arts, 814-443-2433.



REGISTER NOW FOR 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

Creative hands-on learning in
arts * language * math * science * play

- ◆ **Half-day and full-day programs.** You may choose a two-day a week morning or afternoon program or opt for the full-day / three-day program.
- ◆ **Unique, academic and arts-focused curriculum** aligned to state standards, plus keepsake craft projects with Miss Marsha.

For more information, email studiokids@laurelarts.org

Mom, momma, mommy, ma, mother ... we love you.

And just to prove it, Laurel Arts is going to have a YETI raffle. Check out this awesome YETI package! (FYI ... it's pink.) Chances are \$10. So, if you are a mom or looking for the perfect gift for a mom, take your chances on this!

To purchase a ticket, go to Laurel Arts' Facebook page and scroll to ONLINE RAFFLE #7, Mother's Day Yeti Package which includes: Pink Roadie Yeti Cooler, 1 Pink Yeti Rambler, 1 Pink Yeti Can Insulator, and Spartina 449 Bag. You Must be 18 years or older to play. Price is \$10.00 per tip (there is a link with the Facebook post.) Winner will be determined via 100 Tip Sure Tip Board (S/N 64323) drawn via Facebook live on Laurel Arts Facebook page. Winner will be required to provide Photo Identification for verification purposes. Winner MUST pickup during business hours, Monday through Thursday noon to 6 p.m. at Laurel Arts. Shipping is not available. All Small Games of Chance Laws apply. Once all tips have been sold, the back of the tip board with numbers will be published prior to the LIVE winning announcement.

All proceeds benefit Laurel Arts. Don't delay ... tips sell fast!



Imagination Garden open for visitors

Our musical garden is in bloom and just waiting for visitors. Our grounds are open to the public during daylight, and children are encouraged to make music in the garden. More instruments will be added soon!

LAUREL ARTS WISH LIST ...

We need **BUBBLEWRAP** (not packing peanuts, please.) Instead of tossing bubblewrap you receive with packages, consider dropping it off at Laurel Arts.

We need three **32" MONITORS** (TV or computer.) Two will be used in the lobby of the Education and Dance Center so that parents/families can view preschool and dance while in session. We also plan to have a video that will run during certain times to showcase Laurel Arts.

Education & Dance Center staff ...

Amanda Bergstresser
Lead Dance Teacher

Melanie Sarver
Office Assistant

Dance Instructors

Cindy Breen
Megan Edwards
Melissa Gindlesperger
Aubree Maus
Bethany Thomas

Angela Fullard
Preschool Teacher

Patricia Ohler
Preschool Aid

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



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

Laurel Arts

PO Box 414
Somerset, PA 15501



**Our
Imagination
Garden
is in
BLOOM!
We hope
you'll visit
soon!**

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Current resident or

... for your generous support of Laurel Arts



Laurel Arts is partially funded by a grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts. Other foundations and agencies providing support to Laurel Arts are: The Community Foundation for the Alleghenies Somerset Borough Somerset County

- 1st Summit Bank
- Ameriserv
- Aspire Grant and Development
- Atlas Printing Co. (Dave & Cindy Breen)
- Petros & Nita Argyres
- Barbera Law
- CME
- Randy & Barb Davies
- Fraternal Order of Eagles
- Geochemical Testing, Inc. (and the Bergstresser Family)
- Guild of American Papercutters
- Highland Tank
- Nick Jacobs
- Joy & Gerald Knapp
- Luther P. Miller & Alan and Lana Miller
- Mark & Ann Persun
- Bob & Kathy Trexel Reed
- Riggs Family Foundation
- Riggs Industries
- Mary Ann & Bill Riggs
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- Romesburg Media Group (and the Romesburg Family)
- Rotary Club of Somerset
- Somerset Trust Company
- UPMC Health Plan
- U-Stor Mor, LLC
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- Wheeler Family Charitable Trust
- Wheeler Fleet Solutions

Thank you to ...