

Laurel Arts

Arts for everyone

Studio Kids
PRESCHOOL

Laurel
Arts
DANCE

ArtLink • A Newsletter for the Members of Laurel Arts • August 2021



Artist: Bridget Mayak

Artist: Kathy Trexel Reed



Artist: Susan Wilson

Artist: Jane Holt

Artist: Peggy Black



Oh, What A Night

Saturday, August 14 at Laurel Arts

Bidding opens for chair auction (see pictures above)
Scooper Bowl (buy a handmade bowl & enjoy a dish of ice cream)

Jenny Wilson & Peggy Black Exhibit

Music on the Lawn with the Jenny Wilson Trio

More information on page 2

*Upcoming exhibits ...***August 9-September 2*****Jenny Wilson & Peggy Black***

Ms. Wilson describes her paintings as contemporary landscape or abstract. She composes her paintings much the way she performs jazz.

Peggy Black is an artist from southwestern Pennsylvania. She makes art using fabric - vibrant, original wall quilts - inspired by color, value selection, and abstract patterning. Her pieces have been in juried exhibits all over the United States.

Opening Reception**6 to 8 p.m. Friday, August 13****September 6-30**

Reflections of the Human Spirit – America's County Responds to the Tragic Events of September 11

Laurel Arts will exhibit photographs, art work, artifacts and special art installations as well as host a variety of guest speakers and musical performances as a tribute to the men and women who embodied the American spirit in the face of tragedy. See page 3.



Located upstairs at
**The Philip Dressler Center
for the Arts**

Office/Gallery Hours:**11 a.m.-6 p.m.****Monday-Thursday****Noon to 4 p.m.****Saturday**

Oh, What A Night ...

CHAIR AUCTION

Local artists decorated chairs donated by Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Somerset. Members of the Gallery Committee (Erin Mayak, Becca Frola-Biss, Joy Knepp, Peggy Black, Kathy Trexel Reed, Jane Holt, Susan Wilson and Bridget Mayak) took on the project to create one-of-a-kind pieces of "sittable" art.

The chairs will be on display from 5 to 7 p.m. Saturday, August 14. They will also be on display at the art center until bidding closes at 6 p.m. Tuesday, August 31. Bidding will be done in a silent auction format at the art center. Opening bid for each chair is \$30.

Proceeds from the chair auction will benefit the Laurel Arts Clay Studio.

SCOOPER BOWL

Join us from 5 to 7 p.m. Saturday, August 14 and select a one-of-a-kind, handcrafted bowl made by local artists. With your donation of \$20 you will receive your bowl and an ice cream sundae! The bowls are to be taken home and serve as a reminder that ***food feeds the body and ART feeds the soul!***

There will be no advance ticket sales, and all selections are first come, first serve. Proceeds from the event benefit the Laurel Arts Clay Studio, Humane Society of Somerset County and the Somerset Mobile Food Bank.

JENNY WILSON & PEGGY BLACK EXHIBIT

Jenny Wilson and gallery committee member Peggy Black will exhibit their contemporary works in the galleries through September 2. The galleries will be open the evening of August 14.

Jenny was born in New York City in 1958. She studied art at the High School of Art and Design in Manhattan and was a freelance graphic designer and commercial artist for several years. She changed course and earned her Master of Music Degree at West Virginia University and is a full-time jazz and classical performing musician. Her group, the Jenny Wilson Trio, can be heard in many venues throughout the Mid-Atlantic region. Encouraged by Robby Moore, currently Director of the Beckley Arts Center, she was juried into Tamarack Center for the Arts and has been painting along with her flourishing music career ever since.

Peggy explains her art by saying, "I am an improvisational textile artist. The rhythm and repetition of piecing fabric, cutting those pieces to create new configurations and rejoining them - without ruler or measurement - creates vibrant, abstract structures. Bold color and value choices further underscore the musicality of these compositions. The works are densely quilted, resulting in dynamic fabric painting."

The opening reception will be from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, August 13.

JENNY WILSON TRIO ON THE LAWN STAGE

Laurel Arts' Music Nights continue with the Jenny Wilson Trio from 6 to 9 p.m. Saturday, August 14. Legend Caribbean Grill will be offering food for sale; Vin De Matrix will also be on hand with wine that can be purchased by the glass or bottle. Bring your lawn chairs or blankets and enjoy a summer evening at Laurel Arts.

Reflections of the Human Spirit

How America's County responded to the tragic events of September 11th

Not long after the events of September 11, 2001, Mr. Rogers was quoted as having said the following, "When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, *Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.*"

On this 20th anniversary of September 11th, Laurel Arts will showcase a first-of-its-kind exhibition - paying tribute to the men and women of Somerset County who embodied the American spirit in the face of immense tragedy following the events of September 11th, 2001.

This month-long exhibition will showcase artifacts collected from the National Park Service, county fire departments and EMA, Flight 93 Ambassadors and residents of Somerset County. Local photography, art pieces, and special art installations will also be on display.

In addition, special events and performances will take place the weekend of September 10-12.

SEPTEMBER 10

The galleries will be open from 3 to 8 p.m. Friday, September 10. Highlights of the day include an evening performance by Somerset County Community Band performing ***Flight of Valor***. Flight of Valor was composed by James Swearingen as a memorial for the victims of Flight 93. It was commissioned in 2002 by Somerset County Community Band. The composer will be on hand to talk about his inspiration for the piece. Historian Tom McMillan, author of ***Flight 93: The Story, The Aftermath and The Legacy of American Courage on 9/11***, will give a lecture that day. Other guest speakers, film/slideshow presentations are also planned.

SEPTEMBER 11

On Saturday, September 11, the galleries will be open from noon to 8 p.m. In addition to the remarkable gallery exhibit, there will be guest speakers including local and state representatives. The evening will feature a special musical performance by members of the prestigious Johnstown Symphony Orchestra. Pittsburgh-based composer Tommy Dougherty composed a piece for oboe, viola and harp which will debut that evening.

SEPTEMBER 12

The galleries will be open from noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, September 12 with more guest speakers.

A complete schedule of events and guest speakers will be available soon as well as more information on the exhibit, itself.

We hope that you will join us as we REFLECT upon the lives lost, THANK our local heroes and helpers, EDUCATE our younger generations, and CREATE a special moment to remember that in times of tragedy, there is always HOPE.

If you would like to learn more about the exhibition, please contact Jaci McCusker, Executive Director, jmccusker@laurelarts.org or at 814-443-2433.

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.

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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

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 Lee Ann Schrock, leann265@yahoo.com, 814-233-6434.

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

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.

Many thanks to our affiliates for all they do to promote our mission of ...

arts for everyone!

Garden Club resumes in-person meetings

The Garden Club has had the Joy of meeting in person again. Members are also planning a floral excursion to the Rusted Root later this month.

The club is planning a fundraising bulb sale with some wonderful bulbs from the Van Engelen Company. Check with members for more information.

Club members have also spent the summer working to restore the The Children's Aid Home garden, utilizing a sponsorship from Gardening Know How. The garden at the Home is designated a Penn State Pollenator Garden.

"The children at the Home enjoyed creating their floral designs from flowers we picked that morning.

They did a terrific job," Judy Rach reported.



Find *harmony* with the Roof Garden Chorus

The Roof Garden Barbershop Chorus is happy to be rehearsing again. Members meet at 7 p.m. Tuesdays at Grace United Methodist Church, Somerset.

Barbershop vocal harmony is a style of a cappella (unaccompanied) vocal music, characterized by four-part chords. Each of the four parts has its own role: generally, the lead sings the melody, the tenor harmonizes above the melody, the bass sings the lowest harmonizing notes, and the baritone completes the chord, usually below the lead.

Men of all ages are welcome to attend a rehearsal and find relaxation in the harmony of Barbershop singing!

Learn to play the guitar ...

Guitar lessons are offered at Laurel Arts on Wednesdays, taught by Bob Bretz. Bob has decades of experience and teaches all styles of guitar. Contact Bob directly, 814-421-8134, for more information.



Residents of The Patriot learn to make their mark!

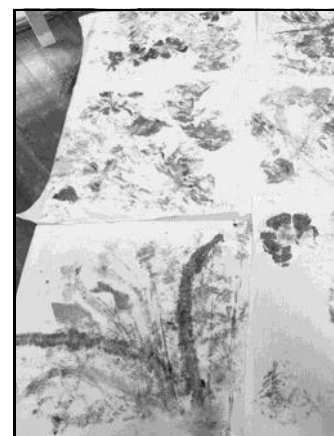
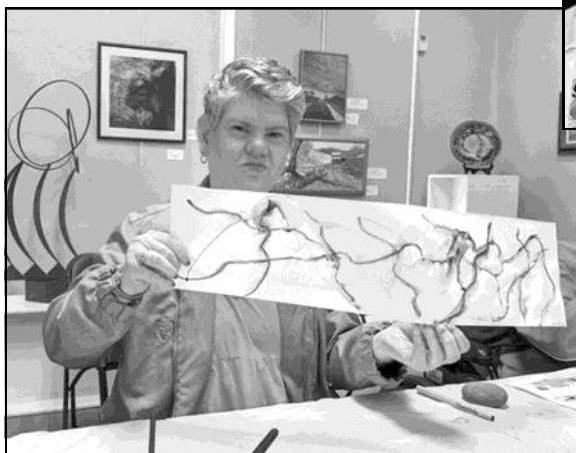
Members of Laurel Arts Gallery Committee have been devoting several hours every week to instruct a group of residents from The Patriot in the art of "Making Marks." The program is being presented as an artist-in-residency through Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art (SAMA.)

Participants, 10 in all, have been meeting for two hours a day Tuesdays and Thursdays through July and August. One participant is 99 years young.

Presenters include Bridget Mayak, Peggy Black, Jane Holt, Joy Knepp, Susan Wilson and Kathy Trexel Reed.

During the final two weeks in August, participants will discover how to use their artwork to create other things which could include note cards or unconventional books.

This two-month arts experience for residences of The Patriot is another way Laurel Arts is meeting its mission to make the arts accessible to all.



Laurel Arts
Arts for everyone

See Grease, Goonies or both ... coming soon!

Bring your lawn chairs, blankets and snacks as *Films on the Town* presents ***Grease*** (PG) at 8:15 p.m. Friday, August 20 on the lawn stage at Laurel Arts.

Good girl Sandy Olsson and greaser Danny Zuko fell in love over the summer. When they unexpectedly discover they're now in the same high school, will they be able to rekindle their romance?

The nights will be getting longer and the movies can start a bit earlier. *Films on the Town* will present ***The Goonies*** (PG) at 7:30 p.m. Friday, September 17 at Trinity Park (uptown Somerset.)

A group of young misfits called The Goonies discover an ancient map and set out on an adventure to find a legendary pirate's long-lost treasure.

These film are made possible by The Community Foundation for the Alleghenies through their Forging Unity Grant. This is a partnership of Laurel Arts, Mary S. Biesecker Public Library, and Somerset, Inc.

Follow us on Facebook for classes & events ...

Sourdough "Starters" for Starters Friday, August 20, 5 to 7 p.m.

Learn how to care for a sourdough starter and bake the easiest loaf of bread (Sourdough Boule). Instructors Pam Frola and Rebecca Frola-Biss will go over how to care for your sourdough starter and the importance of routine feedings. We will make a few loaves in class, and each participant will be given their very own starter and dough to take home and bake themselves.

Class will be from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, August 20 at Laurel Arts. Class fee payable to Laurel Arts is \$20 for members of Laurel Arts; \$25 non-members. Materials Fee: \$10. Couples can sign up together and pay one material fee! This would make a perfect date night! Call/text 814-442-6217 or call Laurel Arts at 814-443-2433 to register by Friday, August 16.



LA NIGHTS
PRESENTS:

August 14 (6-9 pm):
Jenny Wilson Trio
 PSB Scooper Bowl (Fundraiser)
 Legend Caribbean Grill (Food)
 Vin De Matrix (Wine)

August 28 (6-9 pm):
**Jessica Lee
 & Guitarist Mark Strickland**
 Morguen Toole Co. (Food)
 Vin De Matrix (Wine)

September 25 (4-8 pm):
Randy Myers / Tim and Stacey
 Morguen Toole Co. (Food)



Miss Amanda and her daughter Avalyn, center, look over the “ugly” tutus to select the best! Laurel Arts dancers celebrated Christmas in July at a picnic at Georgian Place.

2021-22 dance year begins August 23

Laurel Arts will begin its 33rd season Monday, August 23. There is still time to register for dance classes.

Preschoolers in our dance program are enrolled in Combo Classes which include an introduction to ballet, tap, hip hop and tumbling. Primary grade students receive instruction in ballet, tap and jazz. They may also take hip hop and/or acro. As our students progress, they are enrolled in individual classes in ballet and may choose to take classes in tap, jazz, lyrical and hip hop. Students who are interested in taking more ballet may enroll in a Pre-Pointe class at the age of 12. If a student has developed appropriately, she may go *en pointe* the following year.

We also offer a theater dance class. You do not have to be enrolled in dance classes to enroll in theater class.

We are pleased to offer classes for students with special needs (children and adults.) These classes emphasize movement and rhythm. Students will learn a dance and participate in the annual recital.

For more information or to register, email office@laurelarts.org or call 814-443-1835.)

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Lead Dance Teacher

Melanie Sarver
Office Assistant

Dance Instructors

Cindy Breen
Megan Edwards
Melissa Gindlesperger
Aubree Maus
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own this
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this issue.

Artist:
Jane Holt



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...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



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