

Laurel Arts

Arts for everyone

Studio Kids
PRESCHOOL

Laurel
Arts
DANCE

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

Exhibit comes down; leaves lasting impressions

The artifacts have been returned and the educational panels packed away. Laurel Arts hopes that the tribute paid to the heroes on board United Flight 93, the first responders, Flight 93 ambassadors, and to the residents of the county who offered support to the families will stay in the hearts and minds of visitors who experienced the exhibit.

Not only was the exhibit educational, telling the story of September 11 and the aftermath, it also brought history and art together. In the first gallery, Laurel Arts provided canvases and paint and asked individuals to recall the sky of September 11, 2001 and convey that imagery to canvas. For many in our part of the globe, that morning was a poignantly clear blue sky, on the cusp of autumn.

The pieces were created by visitors of all ages - artists, local community members, friends who lost loved ones aboard Flight 93, and students. We thank them for taking a moment to convey their reflections to create a shared arts experience.

Two musical performances were included in the activities the weekend of September 11. On Friday, September 10, Somerset County Community Band played **Flight of Valor**, a piece commissioned by the band to pay tribute to the heroes of Flight 93. It was directed by the composer, James Swearingen, who traveled from Ohio to be a part of the tribute.

Blue Steel Cranes was composed by Pittsburgh native, Tommy Dougherty. This piece was commissioned as a collaborative effort between the Johnstown Symphony Orchestra and Laurel Arts to reflect the events and emotions depicted in the exhibit and to recall the morning of September 11, 2001. It was performed the evening of September 11 on the lawn stage at Laurel Arts by a trio from Johnstown Symphony.



Above: Students from Rockwood Area High School see how the day, September 11, started (blue skies over Somerset County.) Below: James Swearingen conducts **Flight of Valor** Friday evening, September 10.



continued on pages 2 & 3

Upcoming exhibits ...

**October 4-28
Somerset County
Artists Association
Member Exhibit**

Laurel Arts is pleased to be able to feature the work of SCAA members and give the public an opportunity to not only view their work but also meet the artists at a reception.

**Opening Reception
6-8 p.m. Friday, October 8**

**Nov. 2-Dec. 16
Laurel Highlands
Photo Friends**

Laurel Arts affiliate Laurel Highlands Photo Friends is hosting a photography contest, and entries will be on exhibit through Dec. 16. Winners will be announced November 5.



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**

Lasting impression

continued from page 1

RIGHT: A trio from Johnstown Symphony Orchestra rehearse *Blue Cranes*, a piece commissioned for this exhibit.

BELOW: Students from Rockwood experience 1,000 origami cranes and the story of hope the cranes impart. Exhibits told the story of the Flight 93 memorial and illustrated the path forward.



ABOVE: Katie Cook interviews first responder and Somerset Volunteer Fire Department member Jim Clark for her documentary.

LEFT: Ambassadors Roxanne Sullivan, Sally Ware, Connie Stevanus and Sharon Custer visit the galleries.

Lasting impression

continued from page 1 & 2

The exhibit was also meant to educate, especially younger generations, about the response, recovery, investigation, and volunteerism provided by so many individuals from Somerset County, and to visually display the tenacity that is the American spirit!

Among visitors to the exhibit were students from Rockwood Area School District, Johnstown Christian School and Bedford County Christian School. They toured the exhibits, asked questions, and were given the opportunity to learn more about something which had occurred before they were born.

During the course of the exhibit, some very special guests passed through the doors of Laurel Arts - from first responders to Flight 93 Ambassadors to loved ones of the heroes aboard UA Flight 93.

This exhibition took on a life of its own, as new stories were told, moments were shared, and tears were shed.

Film director Katie Cook also spent time at Laurel Arts the weekend of September 11. She is developing a documentary on Flight 93 and the community's response to the tragic events. While here, she interviewed Somerset Volunteer Fire Department member, former SVFD Chief, and HAZMAT Team 601 member, Jim Clark.

From day one, the team at Blue Sky Sign Co. understood the somber importance of this exhibition and not just met, but exceeded every challenge, every request, and every hurdle we threw their way.

The National Park Service, first responders, local historians, Flight 93 ambassadors and local photographers provided the artifacts, equipment, photographs and more that helped us tell the stories of September 11. Laura Beachy's film ***We Were Quiet Once*** was also shown throughout the exhibit.

None of what Laurel Arts accomplished in September would have been possible without our sponsors:

The Wheeler Family Charitable Foundation

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Our Dressler staff ...

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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.

Laurel Highlands Photo Friends: Contact Ron Bruner, rbruner@zoominternet.net

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

Laurel Highlands Photo Friends plans fall photo contest

Laurel Highlands Photo Friends, an affiliate of Laurel Arts, has issued a call for entries for its fall photo contest. Anyone may enter.

Entries will be accepted from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, October 27 and 28 and from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, October 30 at The Philip Dressler Center for the Arts (Laurel Arts), 214 S. Harrison Ave., Somerset. Photos will be exhibited at Dressler from November 5 through December 16.

Cash prizes will be awarded for first, second and third places as well as best of show. Categories are: Scenic, Floral, Fauna & Birds, People, Digital Art & Alternative Processes, Black & White, and Nighttime, with a maximum of two entries per category. All prints must be either 8x10 (matted to 11x14) or 11x14; framed with a wire on the back for hanging.

For additional details including entry fees, editing guidelines, size requirements, and registration forms, visit www.LaurelArts.org or pick up a contest brochure at the Dressler Center.

Somerset County Community Band to start rehearsals for Christmas

Somerset County Community Band will start rehearsals for its Christmas season Thursday, October 14. Rehearsals will be at Somerset Area Junior High School. For more information, contact Dave Breen, photo@davebreen.com or 814-701-1515.

Adult as well as junior and senior high school musicians are welcome to attend.

Garden Club plans annual wreath sale, will be decorating uptown Somerset

The Garden Clubs annual wreath sale is set for 9 a.m. to noon Tuesday, November 30 at The Philip Dressler Center for the Arts. Contact an SGC member to reserve your holiday wreath. Proceeds are used to fund scholarships and various programs throughout the year.

Club members will be decorating uptown Somerset from 9 a.m. to noon Monday, November 15. Friends and volunteers are welcome to assist.

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

arts for everyone!

Time to prepare for the holidays, learn something new

Maker Mondays

MONDAYS, 10 AM to 11:30 AM

Drop in at Laurel Arts for our Little Maker Mondays! We started these workshops in the spring and had a great response. During this session, students ages 1-5 will take part in games, science experiments, songs, stories, and of course ART! Each week is different so you can come every week! No need to register ... Just drop in. Students ages 1-2 must be accompanied by an adult.

Workshops will be every Monday for 90 minutes and run from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The cost for each Maker Monday is \$5 to help cover supply expenses.

Meet the instructor: Classes will be taught by one of our very own dance moms, Tami Skavang. Tami has a degree in Elementary Education. She has taught Kindergarten and Preschool. Tami has five kids that she has homeschooled. She has taught classes in her homeschool co-op for the last 13 years in various grades. She has also been a teacher in her church, including youth groups and Bible school. Classes take place at 601 Georgian Place, Somerset.

Schrock. To register, please contact Laurel Arts at 814-443-2433 or call/text 814-442-6217.

Halloween Chocolate Making Workshop

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16, 10 AM to NOON

Sweetest Day is celebrated on October 16. It is a day similar to Valentine's Day and is meant to celebrate those you love. One way to do that is by sending them delicious chocolates! We decided to combine two October holidays into one fun workshop ... Sweetest Day and



Halloween! We will be creating some delicious chocolate dipped treats in Halloween themes; chocolate covered pretzels, Oreos, wafers, Rice Krispie treats, and more. Our chocolate workshop in February filled up fast, so register today! This event is best suited for ages 5 and up. Five and under can attend with an adult helper.

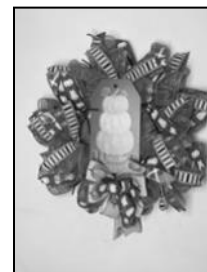
This workshop takes place from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, October 16 at 601 Georgian Place, Somerset. Cost: \$16 members / \$20 nonmembers payable to Laurel Arts plus \$10 materials fee payable to Marsha Schmuck. Call or text 814-442-6217 or call 814-443-2433.

Fall Wreath Making Workshop

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2 PM to 4 PM

Barb Cass of Barb's Country Creations will be teaching students how to create a beautiful fall wreath.

Barb arranges and sells handcrafted wreaths, swags, and centerpieces. She will walk participants step by step through creating the piece. The wreath is made up of mesh and ribbon. This would be a great decoration for your front door or as a gift to someone.



Class takes place from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, October 17 at 601 Georgian Place. The fee for this workshop is \$20 members / \$25 nonmembers payable to Laurel Arts plus a \$35 materials fee payable to Barb Cass. Preregistration is required. Call/text 814-442-6217 or call Laurel Arts at 814-443-2433 to register.

Halloween Celebration

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2 PM to 4 PM

Join us for a spooktacular Halloween Celebration of themed games, crafts, and snacks. Wear your favorite costume if you would like.

This event is best suited for ages 4 and up.

This workshop takes place from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, October 23 at 601 Georgian Place.

Cost: \$16 members / \$20 nonmembers payable to Laurel Arts plus \$8 materials fee payable to Marsha Schmuck.

Call or text 814-442-6217 or call 814-443-2433 to register by October 16.

Fall Dollar Store Crafts

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23, 6 PM to 8 PM

In this workshop, we will turn ordinary items you would find at the dollar store into beautiful fall decorations.

This event is best suited for ages 12 and up.

This workshop takes place from 6 to 8 p.m. Saturday, October 23 at 601 Georgian Place.

Cost: \$16 members / \$20 nonmembers payable to Laurel Arts plus \$10 materials fee payable to Marsha Schmuck.

Call or text 814-442-6217 or call 814-443-2433 to register by October 16.

What can you create in 2 hours ... take a class and find out

Pinterest Party

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2 PM TO 4 PM

Are you a frequent Pinterest user? There are so many great ideas and not nearly enough time to try them all! That's why we're planning a Pinterest Party!

Class fee: \$25. Party Date: 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, November 6. The class takes place at 601 Georgian Place. Call or text 814-442-6217 or call 814-443-2433 to register.

Laura Schrock's Holiday Card Workshop

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 6 PM to 8 PM

Laura Schrock will help students complete five beautiful cards during this workshop, and they will be perfect for sending to friends and family. Card making is a fun and very popular workshop offered by Laura just a handful of times each year. Her class always fills up quickly so don't miss out. There is a limit of 12 participants. Preregistration is required.

This class takes place from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, November 9 at the Dressler Center, 214 S. Harrison Ave. Class fee is \$12 members / \$15 nonmembers payable to Laurel Arts plus a \$12 materials fee payable to Laura Schrock.

To register, please contact Laurel Arts at 814-443-2433 or call/text 814-442-6217.

Bob Ross Painting Workshop

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 10 AM to 3 PM

Certified Bob Ross Instructor Al Just has another beautiful piece picked out for students to paint this month! The will be a step by step class in creating an oil painting of the beautiful scene pictured.



The class takes place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, November 15 at 601 Georgian Place.

The 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 8 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.

Be Our Guest!

Live Princess Performance
Meet & Greet
Photo Opportunities
Tea & Treats

Somerset County County Club
416 Plank Rd.
Somerset PA
Sunday October 24
1:00-3:00 PM

Book a Princess Makeover at Alluring Edge Salon! 10% of the proceeds go to Somerset, Inc. & Laurel Arts!

\$25/ticket at somersetinc.org or Laurel Arts!
*Scholarships available

Princess Costumes Encouraged
Princess Boutique Available for Shopping!

SEPTEMBER DANCE STUDENTS OF THE MONTH!



From left:
Caroline Troll
Ashley ciepiela
Mirabella Tweardy



From left:
Taylor Westley
Milee Booher
Alexis Clark



Who will be October's Students of the Month??

Cleaning closets? Donate to Laurel Arts

Need an excuse to buy some new Fall clothing? We have at least three reasons!

- Helping people in need
- Promoting sustainability
- AND funding a local non-profit ALL at the same time!

Laurel Arts is excited to announce that we are now a collection site for Mission Partners of Somerset. Your donations of clothing, bedding, and other textile materials not only help people all over the globe, but reduce waste, and translate to donations to local nonprofits such as Laurel Arts!

Mission Partners operates right here in Somerset, and it is truly an example of organizations supporting local efforts. With each donation, Laurel Arts receives a percentage of profits collected, which means your donations make a local impact as well!

We hope you will join us in doing what we can to help others, the planet, and our local nonprofits around Somerset County!



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

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Laurel Arts Education
and Dance Center



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

Laurel Arts

PO Box 414
Somerset, PA 15501



A little birdie told us ...

Somerset County
Artists Association
Member Show
in the galleries
this month!

Bird by Bridget Mayak

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Somerset, PA
Permit No. 2

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

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Thank you to ...

REFLECTIONS OF THE HUMAN SPIRIT

America's County Responds to the Tragic Events of September 11

The exhibit was visited by military personnel, first responders (police, fire, ems), Flight 93 Ambassadors, FBI personnel, Emergency Services/Hazmat Personnel, and 911 dispatchers as well as family members of those on board Flight 93, school students, and local residents.

According to our guest book, we had visitors from as far away as: Cincinnati, OH; Beaver County, PA; Andover, MN; Crescent City, FL; Boise, ID; Portland, OR; San Diego, CA; San Clemente, CA.

One visitor noted in the guest book:

Great Exhibit!

Thank you, in a time where our police are not always thanked - we need this! Top notch!

Contributing artifacts and artwork for exhibition were:

Roger Bailey

Dave Breen

Tommy Brown

Ron Bruner

Jim Clark

David Greene

Scott Kovach

Joel Landis

Jim Leer

National Park Service of Western PA/Betsy Keene, Curator

Angela Ramsdorfer

Shanksville Volunteer Fire Department

Somerset County Emergency Management Agency

Somerset Volunteer Fire Department

Christine Troll (also summer intern that assisted with hanging the cranes)

Chuck Wagner

Mishelle Walker

Alisha Wilders

Contributions of time, materials, and expertise were provided by:

Terry Shaffer Shanksville VFD , Former Chief

Dave Fox, Former county auditor

Somerset Borough Staff

Laurel Arts Staff

Laurel Arts Gallery Committee

Stahl's Jewelry provided display cases

Glenn Kashurba, MD, author/speaker, presented talks on September 10 & 11

Henry Cook, speaker, presented a talk on September 11

Katie Cook, Film Maker, presented her film trailer on September 10 & 11

Dana Winters E.D., Fred Roger's Center, lent Fred Roger's Public Service Announcement

Kathy Reed, artist, folded 1000 paper origami cranes for the exhibition

Taryn & Dan of BlueSky Design Co., created materials for exhibition display

Tom McMillan, author/speaker, presented talk on September 10

Somerset County Community Band, performed on September 10 with

guest conductors James Swearingen, composer of Flight of Valor,

and Dan Croft, former band director

Johnstown Symphony Orchestra James Blachly, Jessica Satava, Mark Addleman, Tommy Dougherty (composer), Beth Pile, presented a musical performance on September 11

Donna Gibson, Friends of Flight 93

Laurel Highlands Photo Friends, photographs

Jo-Nel Geyer, helped with exhibit set up

Ann Ferry, volunteer, helped string the cranes

Morgan Simmons, all A/V equipment and set up, helped with exhibit set up

Atlas Printing Cindy & Dave Breen, provided printing services & photographs

George W. Bush Institute

So many people embraced the concept of this exhibit. We believe their involvement further demonstrates why we are:



If we missed anyone, please know that it wasn't intentional. We are truly grateful for everyone who participated in this historic event. Thank you!