

# Laurel Arts

*Arts for everyone*



**ArtLink** • A Newsletter for the Members of Laurel Arts • November-December 2022

*Join us Saturday, Dec. 3 for ...*

## ***Merry Mugs, Makers Market & Mr. Claus***

Laurel Arts invites you to attend our First Night Holiday Happening Saturday, December 3. Doors open at 5 p.m. for a NEW event, **Merry Mugs and More**, a Laurel Arts Clay Studio fundraiser.

For a donation of \$20, shoppers get to choose a handmade clay mug, cookies donated by local bakeries, and a trip through our hot chocolate bar. A group of local artists, the Mud Ladies, has been hard at work creating these one-of-a-kind mugs. The supply is limited, so be sure to make this your first stop for the best selection!

From 5 to 8 p.m., visitors can shop at an indoor **Makers Market** featuring products from Star Cross Naturals, Vin de Matrix Winery, Covered Bridge Garlic Co., Firesong Studio, Curious Creations, Shop Dogs Woodwork, X-Clay-M! Jewelry, Gallery Shoppe Artisans and more. There will also be a holiday basket raffle (great for gift giving.)

Beginning at 6 p.m., there will be additional activities for families including children's crafts, holiday music, refreshments, and, of course, a visit from Santa Claus. The festivities wrap up at 8 p.m. (when all children should be nestled in their beds while visions of sugar plums dance in their heads.)



Shop ART this season! Visit Markers Market, treat yourself to a new handmade mug (can't wait to see these glazed), and bring the kids for a visit with Santa!

*Oh, what fun there will be ...*

Don't miss the fun at these other holiday happenings (more info inside this newsletter.)

- ♦ Laurel Arts Performance Company and members of Somerset County Community Band will help Somerset Inc. light up Somerset Saturday evening, Nov. 26.
- ♦ Laurel Highlands Chorale will present Christmas Around the World at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4 and at 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 5 at Somerset Church of the Brethren.
- ♦ Laurel Arts dancers and Somerset County Community Band will present the 16th annual Rhythms of Christmas at 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10 at Somerset Area High School.
- ♦ There are about a dozen more holiday-themed classes, workshops and events being offered this holiday season. See descriptions on pages 5, 6 & 7. Follow us on Facebook to see class listing as soon as they're posted.

*Upcoming exhibits ...***November 15-December 15  
Pieces from Laurel Arts  
Permanent Collection****Reception  
6-8 p.m. Friday, November 18****January 10-26  
Somerset County  
Elementary/Jr. High School  
Art Exhibit**

Visit the galleries to see art through the eyes of children. All Somerset County elementary schools and homeschoolers are invited to participate.

**Reception  
2-4 p.m. Sunday, January 15****February 7-23  
Somerset County  
Sr. High School Art Exhibit**

Oh, how they've grown. This exhibit follows our young artists as they mature in their art.

**Reception  
2-4 p.m. Sunday, February 12**

Visit the  
Guild of  
American  
Papercutters  
Exhibit  
Now through  
July 15

The Museum is located  
upstairs at  
The Philip Dressler Center  
for the Arts

**Office/Gallery Hours:**  
11 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Monday-Thursday  
10 a.m.-2 p.m.  
Saturday

**Discover what's in the Laurel Arts Permanent Collection**

In this final exhibit of 2022, Laurel Arts will display pieces from its Permanent Collection in the galleries of The Philip Dressler Center for the Arts. The collection contains a wide variety of works, including different mediums, created by many well-known local and regional artists, and others. The exhibit will be displayed from November 15 through December 15, with an opening reception to be held November 18 from 6 to 8 p.m.

**Who's LARPing?**

We are THRILLED to have a regionally-based larping group use the lawn of The Philip Dressler Center for the Arts for their adventures in skilled roleplay activities on Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. For those of you who don't know, larping is Live Action Role Playing, also known as LARPing.

We look forward to hosting this group in the future, so if you see more epic battles on the lawn of Laurel Arts, be sure to take a moment to watch them in action!

This activity is Weather Permitting. For information or to join the group, please contact Michael Kyle at 814-289-6981. This event is for ages 16 and over only.

**"Roots and Blossoms"  
An Exhibit of Eastern European Papercut Art****November 5, 2022 - July 15, 2023**

**Guild of American Papercutters Museum  
214 S Harrison Ave, Somerset, PA  
Mon-Thu 11am-6pm, Saturdays 10am-2pm**



Pictured are our Rhythms of Christmas student choreographers (from left to right, front) Emma Klahre, Emily Hostetler, Faith Custer, Caroline Troll; (back) Ashlyn Bittner, Ashley Ciepiela, Ella Peck, Alana Kreger and Bena Croushore. These young women are giving up every Saturday morning to work with our younger dancers, preparing for our 16th annual Rhythms of Christmas holiday show. The show is guaranteed to put you in the Christmas spirit! Participation fees paid by the dancers and donations at the door support the Dorothy Dressler Scholarship Fund.

## Looking forward to 2023 ...

As Thanksgiving approaches, the Board and Staff of Laurel Arts want to thank you for your continued support of an organization that is very special to us. Laurel Arts is more than paintings in an exhibit, a dance recital, or an outdoor concert. Laurel Arts is about sharing experiences, providing inspiration, and finding joy in artistic endeavors, whether as an audience member or participant.

As a member of Laurel Arts, you will soon be receiving a letter asking if you would consider making a year-end gift to Laurel Arts. The creative spirit is alive and flourishing at Laurel Arts. We believe the arts are vital to our collective wellbeing, and our mission is to make the arts accessible to all. Whatever amount you send will be most appreciated!

An organization is only as good as the people who support it, and we have some of the best – thank you to our artists, musicians, affiliate members, dance and preschool families, staff, volunteers, friends and members for affording us the opportunity to provide **Arts for Everyone!**

## Our Dressler staff ...

**Melanie Sarver**  
Director of Operations

**Mike Baker**  
Maintenance Director

**Vickie Baughman**  
Office Assistant

**Alison Leer**  
Office Coordinator &  
Administrative Assistant

**Jaclyn McCusker**  
Special Projects and Fundraising  
Coordinator

**Sharon Phillippi**  
Office Assistant

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

## Laurel Arts Board of Directors

Erin Mayak, president  
Cindy Breen, vice president  
Robin Henley, treasurer  
Rebecca Frola Biss, secretary  
Mike Beech  
Sharon Clapper  
Allison Finui  
Jeff Johnson  
Mike Mitchell  
Fred Rosemeyer  
Brooke Sheeler

**Legal Counsel**  
Lois Caton

## The Philip Dressler Center for the Arts

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

[jmccusker@laurelarts.org](mailto: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 Falcchek, 814-442-4359, andreaefalcchek@yahoo.com. Meets 2nd Monday, 11 am, Dressler Center.

### ***Needle / Fabric Arts***

**Crochet Guild:** Contact Kathy Martin, 814-443-3054.

**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 Lee Hoffman, 814-279-1733, or Larry Shober, 814-267-4042. Rehearsal 7 p.m. Tuesday evenings 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:** Rehearsals for Christmas are at 7:15 p.m. Thursdays at Somerset Junior High School beginning October 20. Contact Dave Breen, 814-701-1515, email photo@davebreen.com.

### ***Visual Arts***

**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.

## ***Chorale to present Christmas Concert***

The Laurel Highlands Chorale has been rehearsing for its Christmas concert and is excited to help you start off the holiday season with music. This season members will say, "Merry Christmas! From Around The World" by bringing you familiar carols that originated in other countries, as well as some from the good ole USA!

The concert will be presented at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, December 4 and again at 7 p.m. Monday, December 5 at Somerset Church of the Brethren. Rick Kimmel joins the Chorale this season as accompanist. Rick recently retired from teaching music at Northern Cambria School District and as organist at First Presbyterian Church in Johnstown, serving both for 33 years! He has returned to his home turf in Berlin and is currently the organist for the Berlin Brethren Church and virtually for the United Church of Christ in Berlin.

Tickets are \$5 and will be available at the door or from any chorale member. Covid protocols will be at the attendees' discretion. For tickets, or more information, Dorene Friedline, (814) 926-3610 or (814) 442-0460. Watch for details in various news releases, posters, and newspaper ads.



Count on Somerset Garden Club to keep uptown beautiful! Members plant in the spring, and clean up in the fall. They will also be "greening" the uptown Monday, November 21 just in time for Light Up Somerset on November 26. The club's annual wreath sale will be from 9 a.m. to noon Tuesday, November 29.

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

*arts for everyone!*

# Weather may be frightful but classes are delightful

**IMPORTANT, PLEASE NOTE:** \*\*Registration and a 50% non-refundable deposit are required to book Laurel Arts classes and camps. This 50% non-refundable deposit will be for the entire class, including the material fee. Example: \$25 tuition and \$20 material fee = \$45 total class fee; deposit due upon registration will be \$22.50.

## *NEVER MISS A CLASS OFFERING ... FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK*

### **Zumba at Laurel Arts**

MONDAY, 7:30 – 8:30 PM

Zumba combines Latin and international music with dance moves to provide an aerobic workout. Aerobic exercise can help you reach a healthy weight, strengthen your heart, and even improve your mood.

Join Zumba certified Instructor Sharon Parra each week or when it's convenient. Sharon is a former dance student at Laurel Arts where she took a variety of classes for seven years. She also studied dance for a short time in Hawaii.

These are drop-in classes on Mondays beginning September 26. Class time is 7:30-8:30 p.m. Space is limited so you can also call ahead to secure your spot if you'd like. Class takes place at 601 Georgian Place, Somerset. Cost per class is \$6 members of Laurel Arts / \$8 nonmembers.

Contact 814-442-6217 or 814-443-2433 to register, for more information, or to become a member of Laurel Arts and receive 20% off all classes.

### **Thanksgiving Fun!**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 10 AM – 12 PM

Join Instructor Marsha Schmuck for a special Thanksgiving celebration. Learn about the first Thanksgiving through crafts, games, and delicious snacks! This class is best suited for ages 3-10. Class takes place from 10 am to noon Saturday, November 19 at 601 Georgian Place, Somerset. The cost for this event is \$20 members / \$25 nonmembers payable to Laurel Arts plus a \$10 materials fee payable to Marsha Schmuck.

\*\*Preregistration and 50% deposit is required. Call or text 814-442-6217 or call Laurel Arts at 814-443-1835 to register.

### **Turkey Cake Decorating Workshop**

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2 – 4 PM

Instructor Stacie Custer will be showing students how to decorate an adorable turkey cake just in time for Thanksgiving. Stacie is in the process of opening her own bakery here in Somerset, Stacie's Sweets and Eats. She has experience in making a variety of cakes, cookies, and sweets for any and all events.

Students will create a 6" dome cake. This includes working with fondant to create details. The feathers will be made of foam and would be perfect for family & friends to add things they are thankful for at your holiday gathering. We're sure they will be thankful for this beautiful cake! It can be placed in the fridge to keep until Thanksgiving Day.

When registering, please let us know if you'd like chocolate, vanilla, or burnt sugar as your cake flavor.

The class takes place from 2 to 4 pm Sunday, November 20 at 601 Georgian Place, Somerset. The cost for this workshop is \$20 members / \$25 nonmembers payable to Laurel Arts plus a \$25 materials fee payable to Stacie Custer. \*\*Preregistration and 50% deposit is required by Sunday, November 13. Call or text 814-442-6217 or call Laurel Arts at 814-443-1835 to register.

### **Bob Ross Painting Workshop with Al Just**

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 10 AM – 3 PM

This month's painting workshop will produce the painting shown. Class will be from 10 am to 3 pm Monday, November 21 at 601 Georgian Place, Somerset.

The fee for the workshop is \$48 for 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 14 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 814-443-1835 to register.





# Make it for yourself or give as a gift ...

## Holiday Card Making Workshop

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 6 – 8 PM

Join Instructor Tracy Shultz for an evening of card making just in time for the holidays. Tracy will help students create 5 holiday cards. Class takes place from 6 to 8 pm Tuesday, November 29 at 601 Georgian Place, Somerset. Snow date is Wednesday, November 30.

The cost for the workshop is \$20 members / \$25 nonmembers payable to Laurel Arts plus a \$7 materials fee. \*\*Preregistration and 50% deposit is required. Call or text 814-442-6217 or call Laurel Arts at 814-443-1835 to register.

Meet the Instructor: Tracy Shultz has been creating hand made greeting cards since 2018. She has a YouTube channel dedicated to card making, with over 3,000 subscribers, and a Facebook Group with close to 5,000 members. Tracy is a Social Media Influencer for Spellbinders Paper Arts, and is on the Design Team for Technique Junkies, Kitchen Sink Stamps, and A Colorful Life Designs.

## Quilted Ornament Making

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2, 6 – 8 PM

Learn to create beautiful no-sew quilted ornaments. Christmas themed fabric and all supplies will be provided. Step by step instructions will be provided. These ornaments would be a great addition to your Christmas decor!



Class takes place from 6 to 8 pm Friday, December 2 at 601 Georgian Place. Cost is \$20 members / \$25 nonmembers payable to Laurel Arts plus a \$15 materials fee payable to Marsha Schmuck. \*\*Preregistration and 50% deposit is required by Friday, November 25. Call or text 814-442-6217 or call Laurel Arts at 814-443-1835 to register.

## Christmas Tree Cupcake Decorating

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2 – 4 PM

Instructor Stacie Custer will show students how to decorate adorable cupcakes just in time for Christmas. Stacie is in the process of opening her own bakery here in Somerset.

Students will decorate 12 cupcakes and create a Christmas tree shape. The best part will be using assorted candies to decorate and give it your own personal touch. The cupcakes will be 6 chocolate and 6 vanilla.

The class takes place from 2 to 4 pm Sunday, December 4 at 601 Georgian Place, Somerset. The cost for this workshop is \$20 members / \$25 members payable to Laurel Arts plus a \$25 materials fee payable to Stacie Custer. \*\*Preregistration and 50% deposit is required by Sunday, November 27. Call or text 814-442-6217 or call Laurel Arts at 814-443-1835 to register.

## Wooden Holiday Reversible - You Choose!

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 6 – 8 PM

Join Instructor Marsha Schmuck to paint and create a wood reversible decoration perfect for your favorite holidays! You will choose what to paint: Santa, Grinch, a turkey, a scarecrow, or a snowman. This class is designed for students ages 10 through adult.



Class will be from 6 to 8 pm Wednesday, December 7 at 601 Georgian Place, Somerset. The cost for the workshop is \$20 members / \$25 nonmembers payable to Laurel Arts plus a \$20 materials fee. \*\*Preregistration and 50% deposit is required. Call or text 814-442-6217 or call Laurel Arts at 814-443-1835 to register.

## Disney Style Christmas Celebration

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9, 5 – 7 PM

Join Instructor Marsha Schmuck for an afternoon of holiday fun! All of our crafts, games, and snacks will be in a fun and festive Disney theme! Students will go home with some adorable character ornaments! This class is designed for students ages 3-12.

Class will be from 5 to 7 pm Friday, December 9 at 601 Georgian Place, Somerset. The cost for the workshop is \$20 members / \$25 nonmembers to Laurel Arts plus a \$10 materials fee. \*\*Preregistration and 50% deposit is required. Call or text 814-442-6217 or call Laurel Arts at 814-443-1835 to register.

## Clear Ornament Craft Ideas

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 6 – 8 PM

Join Instructor Marsha Schmuck for an evening of crafting. Students will learn a variety of ways to use clear plastic ornaments: using a sock to give it holiday cheer; turning it into a cute snowman; filling it with a delicious dip mix... This class is designed for students ages 10 through adult.

Class takes place from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, December 14 at 601 Georgian Place, Somerset. The cost for the workshop is \$20 members / \$25 nonmembers payable to Laurel Arts plus a \$15 materials fee. \*\*Preregistration and 50% deposit is required by December 7. Call or text 814-442-6217 or call Laurel Arts at 814-443-1835 to register.

## Breakfast with Santa

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17, 10 AM – NOON

Join us for Breakfast with Santa at Laurel Arts. This event benefits Laurel Arts Performance Company Dancers, and is scheduled for 10 am, Saturday, December 17 at 601 Georgian Place. Cost is \$30 per child (ages 3-12); \$20 (ages 3 & under) and includes breakfast, a craft, and a visit with the jolly old elf, himself. Adults are \$15 (includes breakfast.) Breakfast includes pancakes, sausage or bacon, hash browns, scrambled eggs, and choice of drink.

Children must be accompanied by an adult. Dress is holiday festive. You may take your own photos with Santa. Reservations and a 50% deposit are required by December 10. Please call/text 814-442-6217 or call Laurel Arts at 814-443-1835.

## Bob Ross Painting Workshop with Al Just

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, 10 AM – 3 PM

Al Just has a lovely winter scene for December's workshop. The class takes place from 10 am to 3 pm Monday, December 19 at 601 Georgian Place, Somerset. 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, December 12 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 814-443-1835 to register.

## COMING IN JANUARY ... Clay Earring Workshop

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 5 – 7 PM

Join Instructor Caitlin Schmuck for an afternoon of fun and creativity! Students will create 5 pair of earrings. Feel free to bring along your favorite beverage to enjoy with a provided snack. Once your earrings are baked and cooled, Caitlin will show you how to add jump rings and earring backs to make your creations wearable! Don't have your ears pierced? These earrings also make great gifts!

Class takes place from 5 to 7 pm Saturday, January 28. This class is designed for ages 12 and up. The cost for the workshop is \$20 members / \$25 nonmembers payable to Laurel Arts plus a \$15 materials fee payable to Caitlin Schmuck. The class takes place at 601 Georgian Place, Somerset. Reservations and a 50% deposit are required by January 21. Please call/text 814-442-6217 or call Laurel Arts at 814-443-1835.

## Education & Dance Center staff ...

**Amanda Bergstresser**  
Dance Creative Director

**Melanie Sarver**  
Director of Operations

*Dance Instructors*

**Cindy Breen**

**Megan Edwards**

**Melissa Gindlesperger**

**Aubree Maus**

**Olivia Ream**

**Bethany Thomas**

**Madison Troy**

**Angela Fullard**  
Preschool Teacher

**Patricia Ohler**  
Preschool Aid

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



**Studio Kids**  
PRESCHOOL

**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



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

Current resident or

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



MJ Miller Family  
Agricultural Heritage Fund  
Romesburg Media Group  
(and the Romesburg Family)  
Rotary Club of Somerset  
Somerset Trust Company  
The Pittsburgh Foundation  
UPMC Health Plan  
U-Stor Mor, LLC  
Walmart  
Sallie Krawcheck  
Wheeler Family Charitable Trust  
Wheeler Fleet Solutions

**Thank you to ...**  
1st Summit Bank  
Ameriserv  
Aspire Grant and Development  
Atlas Printing Co.  
(Dave & Cindy Breen)  
Petros & Nita Argres  
Barbara Law  
Children's Aid Society Foundation  
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 Knepp  
Luther P. Miller &  
Alan and Lana Miller  
Mark & Ann Persun  
Bob & Kathy Trexel Reed  
Riggs Family Foundation  
Riggs Industries  
Mary Ann Riggs