

# Laurel Arts

*Arts for everyone*

Studio Kids  
PRESCHOOL

Laurel  
Arts  
DANCE

**ArtLink** • A Newsletter for the Members of Laurel Arts • **Holidays 2023**

## Celebrate the holidays with us ...



**Friday, December 1 \* 6 to 8 p.m.**

### ***Merry Mugs and More***

There will be lots of opportunities to shop for unique gifts Friday, December 1 at The Philip Dressler Center for the Arts.

The **and More** part is free and open to the public and includes a live demonstration of animal portraiture, face painting and our "Don't Feed the Art" gallery exhibit. There is a fee for **Merry Mugs**. For a \$20 fee, attendees can select a handcrafted mug and enjoy an "over the top" hot chocolate bar and other goodies. (More info page 4.)

**Saturday, December 2 \* 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

### ***Purrfect Pet Photos with Santa***

Santa will be hanging out on the front porch at The Philip Dressler Center for the Arts Saturday, December 2, and he invites you to bring your camera and your pets and take the "purrfect" holiday picture! (More info on page 4.)

**Saturday, December 9 \* 1 p.m.**

### ***17th Annual Rhythms of Christmas***

Laurel Arts dancers and Somerset County Community Band will come together again to create a holiday spectacular at 1 p.m. Saturday, December 9 ~ it's the show to see this holiday season. The show will be presented at Berlin Brothersvalley High School this year. (More info on page 7.)

**Sunday, December 10 \* 3:30 p.m.**

**Monday, December 11 \* 7 p.m.**

### ***Laurel Highlands Chorale Christmas Favorites***

Laurel Highlands Chorale will present its Christmas Favorites in two concerts, 3:30 p.m. Sunday, December 10 and 7 p.m. Monday, December 11 at Somerset Church of the Brethren. (More info on page 4.)



***Current Exhibit ... Don't Feed the ART***  
**Through December 14**

Artists have flocked to The Philip Dressler Center for the Arts to create this animal-friendly art exhibit. You don't want to miss this "Moo-ving" display of animal prints and more.

## ***The Gallery Shoppe @ Dressler offers one-of-a-kind gifts***

The Philip Dressler Center for the Arts is a great place to visit and a nice place to shop. In addition to our three galleries on the first floor, the National Museum of the Guild of American Papercutters is on the second floor. The Gallery Shoppe at Dressler has a wonderful selection of unique and artistic gifts in all price ranges.

## **You can help us Feed the Animals**

The holidays are for giving and we are excited to share this FUN and FURRY donation drive Laurel Arts is hosting now through December 14. The drive coincides with our current animal themed exhibit, ***Don't Feed the Art.***

The Humane Society of Somerset County has shared a wish list with Laurel Arts, and we will be collecting items listed below at the Dressler Center, 214 Harrison Ave., Somerset.

- ⊕ Clumping Cat Litter
- ⊕ Friskies Wet Cat Food
- ⊕ Purina Kitten Chow
- ⊕ Purina One Chicken Rice Dry Dog Food
- ⊕ Dry Cat Food (Preferred Brands) Rachel Ray, Purina Naturals
- ⊕ Purina Dog Chow (Chicken)
- ⊕ Pedigree Wet Dog Food
- ⊕ Vanilla Wafers
- ⊕ Peanut Butter
- ⊕ Milkbones
- ⊕ Milkbone Pill Pockets
- ⊕ Soft Dog Treats
- ⊕ Bleach
- ⊕ Fabuloso
- ⊕ Laundry Detergent

Visit [somersetpets.com](http://somersetpets.com) to learn more about the Humane Society of Somerset County.

**Office/Gallery/Museum/Gallery Shoppe  
Hours:**

**11 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Thursday  
10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday**



**Home for the Holidays ...** Dorothy and Philip Dressler, left, purchased what is now The Philip Dressler Center for the Arts in 1969. Philip died in September of 1973. Dorothy stayed on a couple more years. Not sure what the occasion was in the picture on the right, but we know where the fireplace is, although it hasn't had a real fire burning probably since the Dresslers owned the house.

## Tribute added to Imagination Garden

"It takes a big heart to shape little minds." As an organization, we know this to be true from the constant examples of dedication, care, and passion our teachers have for education and working with even the youngest of students.

Over the summer, we learned of the passing of one of Laurel Arts' former preschool educators, Jennifer Galbreth. Jennifer taught at Laurel Arts preschool when it went by the name of the "Creative Playroom" and was offered at The Philip Dressler Center for the Arts in the 1980s and 1990s.

In memory of Jennifer, and as tribute to the lasting positive impact she had on so many children who attended the program, their families, and her coworkers, an outdoor musical instrument was purchased and installed in Laurel Arts' Imagination Garden.

This beautiful memorial was made possible through the kindness of Pam Morocco and others who donated funds in support of the musical instrument in Jennifer's memory.

We were honored to welcome Jennifer's family members and friends to the garden to share in a moment of enjoyment of the memories and love that Jennifer had for those around her and her passion for education.



## Our Dressler staff ...

**Jaclyn McCusker**  
Director of Development

**Mike Baker**  
Maintenance Director

**April Davis**  
Bookkeeper

**Cora Frola**  
Office Assistant

**Alison Leer**  
Gallery Coordinator &  
Administrative Assistant

**Jennifer Long**  
Office Assistant

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

## Laurel Arts Board of Directors

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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 Sheila Croushore, 814-233-7679, sheshore@ymail.com.  
Meets 2nd Monday, 11 am, Dressler Center.

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

**Crochet Guild:** Contact Kathy Martin, 814-443-3054. The Guild meets at 2 p.m. on the first and third Tuesdays of the month.

**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 at 7:15 p.m. through December 7 at Somerset Junior High School to prepare for Rhythms of Christmas. Rehearsals for the summer resume mid-March. 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 Favorites***

Laurel Highlands Chorale will present its annual Christmas concert at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, December 10 and at 7 p.m. Monday, December 11 at Somerset Church of the Brethren, Berlin-Plank Road. Normally held the first Sunday and Monday in December, the date this year was changed due to an event conflict. We will return to that schedule for future concerts.

This Christmas, we are pleased to present ***Christmas Favorites*** and we're sure to sing at least one of your favorite Christmas songs. We are excited to have Rick Kimmel return as our accompanist. Brandon and Allyn Lambert will add their instrumental talents to the concert as well.

Tickets are \$5 and will be available at the door or from any chorale member. For tickets or more information contact Dorene Friedline, 814-926-3610 or 814-442-0460.

### ***Merry Mugs and More Friday, Dec. 1, 6 to 8 pm***

The ***Mud Ladies*** have been working harder than Santa's elves in preparation of our second annual ***Merry Mugs and More*** holiday event! For only \$20, event attendees can choose from a wide selection of handcrafted mugs by local artists. This year's event will feature many pet/animal themed mugs to coincide with our current gallery exhibit, ***Don't Feed the Art***. There will also be goodies and snacks to enjoy, as well as an Over the Top Hot Chocolate Bar.

In addition, we will host a live demo of animal portraits, face painting, and are excited to welcome the Humane Society of Somerset County to raise awareness about the animals currently at their shelter and to collect pet supply donations for their center.

Attendees can also purchase gallery gift shoppe items while attending the event. The event is free to attend. Fee is for Merry Mugs only.

### ***Purrfect pet photos with Santa, Dec. 2, 11 am to 2 pm***

Kids aren't the only ones who love to meet Santa! The big guy himself will be at Laurel Arts to meet your four-legged friend and pose for a photo to help you spread some cheer just in time for the holiday season.

Santa will be waiting to greet your furry (or not so furry) friends on the front porch at Laurel Arts. Please bring a camera or use your phone for the paw-fect holiday picture!

We kindly ask that attendees use best judgement when bringing their pets as there will be other animals present. Note that your pet must be secured (leash, carrier, etc.) and vaccinated.

This event is free to attend, but donations are always welcome, so that Laurel Arts can continue to offer fun and creative events.

## ***It's not too late to create one-of-a kind gifts***

**PLEASE NOTE:** Our new payment policy requires students to pay 50% of the total tuition and materials upon registration. This is non-refundable.

### **Christmas/Winter Embroidery Workshop**

Wednesdays, December 6, 13, 20, 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Learn to embroider with these simple and pretty tea towels! Instructor Mary Miller will show students how to transfer a pattern and use several different stitches. Participants will complete a set of tea towels, all in a winter and Christmas theme. Class takes place from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesdays December 6, 13 and 20 at 601 Georgian Place, Somerset.

The cost for the class is \$40 members / \$50 nonmembers payable to Laurel Arts plus \$17 materials fee (\$17 kit includes a wooden hoop, package of embroidery needles, assorted colors of floss, embroidery snips, and tea towels.) Registration is required. Call/text 814-442-6217 or call 814-443-1835 to register by December 1.

### **Learn to Knit**

Tuesdays, December 5 & 12, 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Would you like to learn to knit? Does the idea of working with two needles intimidate you? Join Instructor Mary Miller and learn the basics by making a simple washcloth. Discover what "knit 1, purl 2" is all about! This 2-part class will teach you the techniques of casting on, knit, purl, and binding or casting off. Class takes place from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays, December 5 and 12 at 601 Georgian Place, Somerset.

The cost for the class is \$28 members / \$35 nonmembers plus a \$10 materials fee (includes needles and a ball of cotton yarn large enough to make two washcloths). Registration is required. Call/text 814-442-6217 or call 814-443-1835 to register by December 1.

### **Yule Log Cakes**

Sunday, December 17, 2 to 4 pm

Instructor Elizabeth Miller will teach students how to create a traditional Yule Log Cake. These cakes date back to the 1600s when families would burn the real log on Christmas Eve to symbolize the coming of the new year and for good luck. They were popularized in French bakeries during the 19th century where they got their other common name, Bûche de Noël. Students will mix,

bake, roll and decorate their cake in a whimsical woodland theme for the holidays. The cake is a chocolate sponge cake flavor. Class takes place from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, December 17 at 601 Georgian Place, Somerset.

The cost is \$20 members / \$25 nonmembers payable to Laurel Arts plus a \$15 materials fee payable to Marsha Schmuck. Registration is required and class size is limited. Call or text 814-442-6217 or call Laurel Arts at 814-443-1835 to register at least one week in advance.

### **Winter Watercolor Workshop**

Tuesday, December 12, 6 to 8 p.m.

Join Instructor Cory Moreland for the evening to create a beautiful winter wonderland with watercolors. Whether you are new to watercolors or have been doing it for awhile, you will enjoy following step by step instructions to complete a piece similar to the photo. Students will learn how to use light reflection to create a beautiful snowy landscape. Class takes place from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, December 12 at 601 Georgian Place, Somerset.

The cost for this workshop is \$20 members / \$25 nonmembers payable to Laurel Arts plus a \$8 materials fee. Registration is required by Tuesday, December 5. Call or text 814-442-6217 or call Laurel Arts at 814-443-1835 to register.

### **Christmas Bath Essentials**

Saturday, December 16, 2 to 4 p.m.

Join instructor Marsha Schmuck for an afternoon of creating Christmas themed bath essentials. We will mix up some bath salts and put them inside an ornament. We will create a peppermint shower steamer, a festive sugar scrub and shaped goat's milk soap. These could all be used for an amazing winter spa day for yourself or make someone a great gift! Class takes place from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, December 16 at 601 Georgian Place, Somerset.

The cost is \$20 members / \$25 nonmembers payable to Laurel Arts plus a \$15 materials fee payable to Marsha Schmuck. Registration is required and class size is limited. Call or text 814-442-6217 or call Laurel Arts at 814-443-1835 to register at least one week in advance.

***Be the first to know what classes are upcoming ... follow Laurel Arts on Facebook!***

continued on next page

## ***Christmas celebration for kids & parent night out!***

### **Christmas Celebration for Kids**

Saturday, December 16, 10 am to noon

Join Instructor Marsha Schmuck for an afternoon of holiday fun! Students will craft some special ornaments for the tree, decorate cookies, and play some Christmas themed games. It will definitely be a festive two hour celebration! Class is designed for students ages 3-12. Class takes place from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, December 16 at 601 Georgian Place, Somerset.

The cost for the workshop is \$20 members / \$25 nonmembers payable to Laurel Arts plus a \$10 materials fee. Registration is required. Our new payment policy requires students to pay 50% of the total tuition and materials upon registration. This is non-refundable. Call or text 814-442-6217 or call Laurel Arts at 814-443-1835 to register by December 9.

### ***Looking ahead ...***

### **Mosaics Workshop for Beginners**

Wednesday, March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24

Mosaics for Beginners is a class for those who are interested in learning how to create art by mortaring or gluing pieces of tesserae (material) onto another object or substrate. We will discuss what mosaics are and view many different styles and methods of mosaics. Students will be introduced to the classic mosaic hammer and hardie in order to cut local materials such as sandstone, limestone, and coal as well as reclaimed materials such as pottery and glass. Students will also learn to use tile snips as well as glass snips. Students will even be introduced to imported Italian smalti glass that is seen on cathedrals throughout the world. The class will cover how to mix mortar and epoxy, how to build a substrate, and how to apply tesserae in flowing lines of andamento (movement). Class takes place for eight weeks from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesdays March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24 at 601 Georgian Place, Somerset.

The cost for the workshop is \$76.80 members / \$96 nonmembers plus a \$25 materials fee payable to Laurel Arts. Registration is required. Our new payment policy requires students to pay 50% of the total tuition and materials upon registration. This is non-refundable. Call or text 814-442-6217 or call Laurel Arts at 814-443-1835 to register by February 24.

### **Parents Night Out**

Friday, December 15, 5 to 9 pm

Do you have some last minute Christmas shopping to do, presents to wrap, cookies to bake? Maybe you don't know when you will get it all done because your kids are always there? Let us help you out ... Drop off your child for a fun filled night of crafts, games, snacks, and a special holiday movie. We will keep them busy for you! We do ask that you register ahead so we know how many will be coming. Event is from 5 to 9 p.m. Friday, December 15 at 601 Georgian Place, Somerset. Cost: \$20 payable to Laurel Arts. Registration is required by Friday, December 8. 50% of all fees are due at the time of registration. This is nonrefundable. Call Laurel Arts at 814-443-1835 or text/call Marsha at 442-6217 to register.



### ***What do you get a person who has EVERYTHING????***

How about a gift certificate for classes at Laurel Arts. You can purchase a gift certificate in any amount or for a particular class or workshop. For more information, call the office at 814-443-2433.

### **Piano**

Jade Boyer has over 20 years experience in piano. She is available to give lessons on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings at Laurel Arts Education & Dance Center. For more information on signing up for lessons with Jade, text/call Marsha at 814-442-6217.



# Rhythms of CHRISTMAS



The 17th annual Rhythms of Christmas will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, December 9 at Berlin Brothersvalley High School Auditorium (please note location change.)

Rhythms is a student-choreographed show. This year's choreographers are: (front row) seniors Alana Kreger and Ella Peck, (middle row) Hailey Bowlby, Teegan Pugh, Kyleigh Bailey, Tiana Augustine, and Kylee Mallory, (back row) Emma Klahre, Isabelle Schmuck, Mirabella Tweardy and Ashley Ciepiela.

In addition to the dances choreographed by our students, the Performance Christmas show which travels to local elementary schools and nursing homes will be presented. Somerset County Community Band will also participate.

Our choreographers will dance to live music when the band plays Dashing Gallop.

There is no admission charge, but we gratefully accept donations to our scholarship fund.

## ***Education & Dance Center staff ...***

**Amanda Bergstresser**  
Dance Creative Director

**Elizabeth Miller**  
Administrative Assistant-LAEDC

**Angela Horner-Parrish**  
Office Assistant

### *Dance Instructors*

**Cindy Breen**  
**Megan Edwards**  
**Melissa Gindlesperger**  
**Aubree Maus**  
**Olivia Ream**  
**Madison Troy**

**Angela Fullard**  
Preschool Teacher

**Patricia Ohler**  
Preschool Aid

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

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***Laurel Arts Education  
and Dance Center***

Laurel Arts  
PO Box 414  
Somerset, PA 15501

Many thanks to our members, affiliates, sponsors,  
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committee members, and artists for all you do  
to promote our mission of ...

*arts for everyone!*

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