



LaurelArts *ArtLink* • A Newsletter for the Members of Laurel Arts • January-February 2024







# Soup'er Bowl will be back March 16

The gallery committee's annual Soup'er Bowl will be back from noon to 1:30 p.m. Saturday, March 16 at Laurel Arts Education and Dance Center.

For a donation of \$20, attendees may select a one-of-a-kind, hand-crafted bowl made by local artists and receive a simple meal of soup, bread, a cookie, and beverage which have been donated



by local restaurants/businesses. The clay bowls are then taken home to serve as a reminder that soup feeds the body, but ART feeds the soul! Dine-in and take-out will be available.

Young artists display incredible works

The work of the county's youngest artists is incredible and heartwarming. In the galleries through February 1 is work created by students in kindergarten through junior high. Best of Show was awarded to Bethlyn Maurer, North Star Middle (pictured above left).

Other winners are, K-2nd grade: Reese Ickes, St. Peters, first place (pictured second row far left); Easton Feathers, Conemaugh Township, second place; Archer Broeker, Conemaugh township, third place; Holly Weigle, North Star, honorable mention.

3rd-5th grade: Rustie Pluta, North Star, first place (pictured second row right); Kenley Scherer, North Star Middle, second place; Hadley Hale, Rockwood, third place; Kynnsleigh Miller, honorable mention.

6th-8th grade: Madison Bent, Shanksville, first place (pictured above right); Macy King, Rockwood, second place; Paige Weaver, Shanksville, third place; Miley Lucas, North Star Middle, honorable mention.

The exhibit is open to the public. Gallery hours are Monday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Senior High School will follow with an opening reception from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, February 11.

#### Upcoming exhibits ...

#### Somerset County Elementary & Junior High Art Exhibit Through-February 1

Stop by the Art Center and experience art through the eyes of these incredible young artists.

#### Somerset County Sr. High School Art Exhibit February 6-29

This exhibit follows our young artists as they mature in their art.

Reception 2-4 p.m. Sunday, February 11

#### Somerset Area School District Art Exhibit March 5-28

Visit the galleries to see art created by students in the Somerset Area School District. Student art will hang from ceiling to floor as we present the work of students grades K-12.

Reception 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, March 10

#### *Off-The-Wall Again 3D Exhibit* April 4-May 2

We'll be *Off The Wall Again* as we journey into our 2nd year for this 3-D exhibit. Artists will be exhibiting pieces in 3-D in a variety of mediums and locations throughout the galleries (could be walls, could be floor or ceiling.)

> Reception 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, April 5

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

# Plan a visit to see ...

# The Guild of American Papercutters National Museum (Yes, it's right here in Somerset!)

Laurel Arts is proud to be the home of The Guild Of American Papercutters National Museum, the only one of its kind in the United States. The Guild of American Papercutters (GAP) was founded in 1988 by a group of papercut art enthusiasts, meeting for the first time at the Hershey Museum of American. GAP is a nonprofit organization dedicated to papercutting and paper work as an art form in all its historical and contemporary styles. By its 10th anniversary, GAP had over 500 members located in 48 states and 16 other countries. Members range from beginner to highly skilled amateur and professional full-time artists and teachers, papercutting enthusiasts, researchers,



historians, and collectors. Membership is welcomed — the Guild has no jury requirements and conducts no competitive art contests.

In 2009, 21 years after its founding, members established The National Museum of the Guild of American Papercutters in affiliation with Laurel Arts at The Philip Dressler Center for the Arts. This is the first American museum devoted to papercutting as an art form. The museum has a permanent collection of papercuts as well as changing exhibitions.

The National Museum of the Guild of American Papercutters continues to build a permanent collection of work created by papercut artists of all times and places, donated by members and well-wishers. Housing over 200 carefully chosen and curated paper artworks, the core collection has been amassed over the years from member exhibits at the Museum as well as individual donations; the substantial gift that is the McDaniel Papercut Collection contains 18th, 19th, 20th and 21st century artworks in paper.

This summer, GAP is going to the Adirondacks! Members will have the opportunity to exhibit their talents from June 1 to July 21, 2024 in an exhibition at View Arts Center in Old Forge, NY. The theme for this exhibition will be Paper Trails. What might you see on an Adirondack trail?

For more information about GAP and The National Museum, visit the group's website and Facebook page.

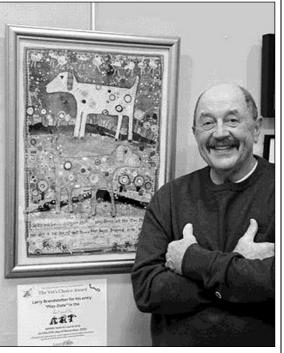
# Off-The-Wall Again 3D Exhibit

**ATTENTION ARTISTS:** We are looking for artists who make three-dimensional pieces in any medium (wood, stone, metal, plastic, glass, found objects, etc.), sculptural, welding, blacksmithing, carvings, castings, installations, reliefs, mixed media, 3-D printing, collages, mosaics, jewelry, pottery, and/or fibers. Your piece can be whimsical, abstract, or realistic. This is your chance to go completely *off the wall* with your designs. For questions, please call or email 814-443-2433 or alison@laurelarts.org.

Visit www.laurelarts.org/Exhibit Submission for full details AND to submit the entry form, images and non-refundable fee.



The year 2023 went out with a bite! Laurel Arts' exhibit featuring all animal related artwork, **Don't Feed the Art**, was well received with over 130 entries from artists all over Pennsylvania. Thank you to Laurel Highlands Animal Health



(Dr. Harbaugh) and the Animal Medical Center of Somerset (Dr. Svonavec) for sponsoring this exhibit and choosing worthy recipients for the Vet's Choice Award.

Pictured (above right) is artist Larry Brandstetter from Monroeville with his piece *Play Date*, a mixed media collage, chosen by Laurel Highlands Animal Health. "I chose this piece because it's like an entire children's storybook on one page. It is bright and vibrant, and you can tell a lot of detail went into it." - Dr. Harbaugh.

The Animal Medical Center of Somerset chose *Lucy*, an oil on board piece from artist Kevin Kutz of Bedford (above, left). "I chose this piece for the sheer emotion of it. The more you stare at it, the more alive it becomes. It was the emotion that did it for me, the old worn-out collar, and the paw prints. A lot of thought went into it." Mark May, AMC staff member.

# Our wish list ...

Here are a few things we're wishing for ..

- 6" or 10" paper plates
- Updated desk for the office (ours were designed for typewriters)
- Surge protectors
- Indoor extension cords

These are products that we use often:

- Avery Labels (#5160)
- Avery Labels (#8877)
- Copy paper (8.5 x 11)
- White card stock (8.5 x 11)

For more information, contact alison@laurelarts.org or jlong@laurelarts.org or call 814-443-1835 and ask for Alison or Jennifer.

# 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**

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

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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.

#### ArtLink

# **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 will resume in mid March at Somerset Junior High School to prepare for the summer season. New members are always welcome. Contact Dave Breen, 814-701-1515, 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.

# Thank you for your support of the arts in our community

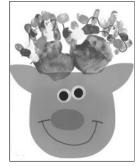
It takes a lot of community support to sustain our organization. Our affiliates, noted at left, provide arts opportunities to people in the community who enjoy a variety of artistic endeavors.

Laurel Arts has served as a robust rural arts organization for nearly 50 years. During those years, we have offered thousands of classes, programs and events; most importantly, we have touched

thousands of lives along the way. And, we've heard such wonderful stories about classes people have taken, events they've attended, and how much their children have enjoyed dance, preschool and summer art camps.

The donors listed below are helping us provide arts opportunities to the community by making a gift through our **Annual Appeal**. Thank you for believing in the arts!

Lana Miller Peggy Black J Arthur Seitz, Jr. Pete & Sally Urban Mary & Keith Landis Troy Miller, Luther P. Miller, Inc. Jon Miller Nick & Tara Tweardy Steve Zufall, Stoystown Tank & Steel, Inc. The Elder Foundation - Paul G. Elder, c/o Somerset Trust Company Beer Ream Co. Ajay & Veena Singh The Vergona Family Marge McCune Linda & Ralph Peck Mary Ann Riggs Dave & Cindy Breen, Atlas Printing Co. **Merylyn Scribner** Dottie Borosky, Dare to B Different Dr. & Mrs. James Bittner **Eugene Fike** 



**Doug Huston Ron Bruner** Zone Patcher **Donald Patcher Robert Thomas Katherine Ogline** Sherren Pensiero Kathy & Doug Bell Pam & John Morocco Brad & Ann Cober Sue Sube Suzanne Sturni Steve Shaulis, Fraternal Order of Eagles The Guild of American **Papercutters** Ann Ferry Joy Knepp **Clark Hunter Foundation in** Memory of Sallie Zoerb Allison Hoffman, Somerset Trust Company **Borough of Somerset** Senator Pat Stefano (as of 1/15/2024)

LOOKING FORWARD TO WARMER WEATHER ... Laurel Arts Maker's Market 2024 is set for Wednesdays May 8, June 12, July 10, August 14, September 11 and October 9.

# Snow, snow, stay away ... we have classes to take today!

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

# Hot Chocolate Bomb Workshop

Saturday, January 27, 2 to 5 pm

Today we will create a variety of hot chocolate bombs. We will think beyond the basic hot chocolate flavor and make six each of assorted chocolate and white chocolate bombs. This class is best suited for adults. Workshop will be from 2 to 5 p.m. Saturday, January 27 at 601 Georgian Place. Class fee, payable to Laurel Arts, is \$20 members, \$25 non-members. Materials fee is \$18.

Call/text 814-442-6217 or call Laurel Arts at 814-443-2433 to register by January 20.

# Dessert for 2

Sunday, February 4, 2-4 pm

Join Instructor Elizabeth Miller and enjoy learning to prepare a dessert for two. Make it a date or a fun night with a friend. We will be making a classic chocolate souffle, vanilla anglaise, and chocolate dipped strawberries. The class takes place from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, February 4 at 601 Georgian Place. The cost is \$40 members / \$50 nonmembers payable to Laurel Arts plus a \$25 materials fee. Preregistration 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.

# **Gob Making Workshop**

Saturday, February 17, 2-4 pm

Join Instructor Marsha Schmuck for an afternoon of gob making (whoopie pies as some call them.) Learn the history of where they began, mix the cakes from scratch, and whip up some delicious icing for inside. This is a recipe just like grandma used to make! The class takes place from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, February 17 at 601 Georgian Place. The cost is\$20 members / \$25 nonmembers payable to Laurel Arts plus a \$15 materials fee. Preregistration 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.

# **Assorted Dipped Pretzels**

Saturday, February 17, 2-4 pm

Join Instructor Marsha Schmuck for an afternoon of pretzel decorating. We will go beyond the basic chocolate

dipping and create some unique varieties; maple bacon, peanut butter meltaway, oreo, & more! The class takes place from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, February 11 at 601 Georgian Place. The cost is \$20 members / \$25 nonmembers payable to Laurel Arts plus a \$20 materials fee. Preregistration 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.

# Stained Glass 6-Week Workshop

Beginning Monday, February 5, 6:30-8:30 pm

Join stained glass artist Dottie Borosky for another fun and productive workshop. She will walk students through the process to create their own unique stained glass piece. This is a 6-week class, February 5, 12, 19, 26, and



March 4, 11. Classes run from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at 601 Georgian Place, Somerset. Class fee is \$57.60 for members; \$72 for non-members. There is also a materials fee (cost depends upon the project). First time students will be making a lampshade. Call/text 814-442-6217 or call 814-443-1835 for more information or to register. A non-refundable deposit of 50% of the fees is due with registration.

# **Crochet for Beginners**

Beginning Wednesday, February 21, 6:30 -8:30 pm

Would you like to learn to crochet? Join Instructor Tami Skavang for a 4-week session and learn the basics. Tami will show students a variety of stitches including chain stitch, single crochet, double crochet, triple crochet, and half double crochet. Learn to read patterns and what the crochet abbreviations mean so you can continue to crochet on your own after the classes. Work each week to complete a beautiful project of your choice. Students with experience can also attend to get help with a pattern. Classes take place on Wednesdays, February 21, 28, March 6 and 13 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at 601 Georgian Place, Somerset. The cost for the class is \$52 members, \$65 nonmembers payable to Laurel Arts plus an \$8 materials fee (includes yarn and crochet hook). Registration is required by February 14. Our new payment policy requires students to pay 50% of the total tuition and materials upon registration. This is non-refundable. Call/text 814-442-6217 or call 814-443-1835 to register.

# More classes and day camps for kids, too!

## **Pressed Flower Frames**

Saturday, March 2, 2-4 pm

Join Instructor Marsha Schmuck for the afternoon and create beautiful pressed flower frames. Students will choose from a variety of flowers that are already pressed and place them inside a hanging glass panel. This class is suitable for ages 12 through adult. Class takes place from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 2 at 601 Georgian Place. The cost is \$24 members / \$30 nonmembers plus a \$20 materials fee. We do ask that 50% of the fees are paid at the time of registration. This portion is non-refundable. Please call or text 814-442-6217 or call Laurel Arts 814-443-1835 to register by February 21.

## **Mosaics Workshop for Beginners**

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

Mosaics for Beginners is an 8-week class for those who are interested in learning how to create art by mortaring or gluing pieces of tesserae (material) onto another object or stubstrate. 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 substate, 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.

# Pysanky Egg Workshop

Thursday, March 14, 5-7 pm

Pysanky is a traditional craft originally done in Ukraine and Poland. Join instructor, Alicia Shussett, as she helps you to create one of these beautiful eggs. Students will learn to add patterns using the traditional method involving wax and various colors of dye. This class is just in time to decorate or to make a gift for someone special for Easter. The class takes place at 601 Georgian Place, from 2-4 pm Thursday, March 14. The fee is \$\$36 members / \$45 non-members payable to Laurel Arts plus a \$7 materials fee. Preregistration is required. Our payment policy requires students to pay 50% of the total tuition and materials upon registration. This is non-refundable. Call Laurel Arts, 814-443-1835, or text/call 814-442-6217.

# DAY CAMPS FOR KIDS

This is a year-round camp designed for ages 4-5 alone and 3 & under accompanied by an adult. The class would also be suitable for homeschooled children up to 3rd grade. The sessions include crafts, games, recipes, and storytime. Classes will run Wednesday mornings 10am to Noon. The cost per month is \$32 members/\$40 nonmembers and includes 3 sessions. Registration is required seven days before the first session of each month. Call/text 814-442-6217 to register. Camps take place at 601 Georgian Place.

## Let's Celebrate

Wednesdays, February 7, 14, 21, 10 am to 12 noon

This month, we will have fun celebrating a few well known holidays. Travel to China to learn the traditions of Chinese New Year and create a dragon. Head to Louisiana for some Mardi Gras festivities. The month would not be complete without some Valentine's Day fun.

# Easter Fun Day Camp

Wednesday, March 6, 13, 20, 10 am to 12 noon

Hop on over to Laurel Arts for some more fun! Our crafts, games and snacks will be all about Easter this month. Take part in a special egg hunt, egg dying, and bunny crafts.

# Think Spring!

Wednesdays, April 3, 10, 17, 10 am to 12 noon

"Think Spring" this month as we craft and create snacks all about this beautiful season including birds, butterflies, flowers, and more. We will also recycle and turn some unexpected items into creative crafts for Earth Day.

# Red, White, & Blue

Wednesdays, May 1, 8, 15, 10 am to 12 noon

50 stars and 13 stripes ... Join us as we learn more about our American flag and all about Memorial Day. Red, white, and blue will be the colors of the month as we create some patriotic crafts.

# **Summer Dance Mini Camps**

While you're curled up under a blanket trying to stay warm, why not plan your summer fun. In addition to the summer camps listed on the enclosed insert, we have the following mini-dance camps scheduled for summer 2024.

#### Teddy Bear Picnic for Mommy & Me with Miss Cindy

Session 1: Wednesday, June 19, 4 to 5 p.m. OR Session 2: Tuesday, August 13, 4 to 5 p.m. Join Laurel Arts for a Mommy & Me (2-3 year olds) dance class. Select from two dates, Wednesday, June 19, or Tuesday, August 13. We'll introduce your child to creative movement and learn a dance to *Teddy Bear Picnic*. Bring your favorite teddy bear and be prepared for a *beary good time*! Camp fee

\$12. To register, email office@laurelarts.org or call 814-443-1835.

#### Pirates & Mermaids, ages 3 to 5 with Miss Cindy

Session 1: Tuesday, June 25, 5 to 6 p.m. OR

Session 2: Tuesday, August 13, 5 to 6 p.m.

We'll steer the Pirate Ship to the Mermaid Lagoon, then follow an obstacle course to the buried treasure. Along the way, we'll explore movement as if we were pirates or mermaids. We'll also make a take home craft, and of course, mateys, we'll dance up a storm! Camp fee \$12. To register, email office@laurelarts.org or call 814-443-1835.

#### Under the Big Top, ages 4 to 6 with Miss Cindy

Session 1: Wednesday & Thursday, June 26 & 27, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. OR Session 2: Wednesday & Thursday, August 14 & 15, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Are you ready to join the circus? We you be the tightrope walker or the leaping lion? Join us Under the Big Top as we prepare to entertain the crowds. Each day will include a take home craft, and of course, lots and lots of dance! Camp fee \$20. To register, email office@laurelarts.org or call 814-443-1835.

#### Fun in the Sun, ages 5 to 8 with Miss Cindy

Session 1: Wednesday & Thursday, June 19 & 20, 5 to 6:30 p.m. OR Session 2: Wednesday & Thursday, August 14 & 15, 5:30 to 7 p.m. Join us for a sunny celebration at the beginning or summer or just before school starts. We'll catch a wave and kick up a beach party (a little ballet, a little jazz, a little tap, and even a little contemporary.) We'll also make a beachy craft and have a snack each day. Camp fee \$30. To register, email office@laurelarts.org or call 814-443-1835.

#### **Piano lessons at Georgian Place**

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.

#### 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 Madison Troy

> > Dance Assistant Faith Custer

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

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Somerset Borough

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

Laurel Arts PO Box 414 Somerset, PA 15501 Sc

Mark your calendars ...

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Current resident or



Follow Laurel Arts on Facebook for more information on upcoming events and classes.

**Soup 'er Bowl** Noon to 1:30 pm Saturday, March 16 **Common Threads** 9 am to 4 pm Saturday, April 13