



WALWORTH COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL

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P.O. Box 446 • DELAVAN, WI 53115
WALWORTHCOUNTYARTS@GMAIL.COM
WWW.WALWORTHCOUNTYARTSCOUNCIL.COM

*The Walworth County Arts Council is a nonprofit organization
dedicated to the promotion and sharing of all forms of the arts.*

SPRING 2022

SCHOOL PROGRAMMING

This time of year is a busy and wonderful time for the Walworth County Arts Council! A number of our school-based programs are in full swing and we are enjoying connecting with students and educators in the arts around the county.

School Day Concerts -

We have been proud to support the Lake Geneva Symphony Orchestra School Day Concert program for many years. Each season, the orchestra goes on tour to give specially-programmed concerts for elementary school students right in their own school. For many children in attendance, it will be the first time they hear a symphony orchestra in person. The Arts Council made a donation to support the three school day concerts this year.

Scholarships -

One of our flagship programs is our Scholarship Program. We offer \$1,000 scholarships in the areas of Music, Visual Arts, Dance and Theater for students in Walworth County High School students who are planning on enrolling in a college/university and majoring in these areas of study. Scholarship applications are currently under review and winners will be notified shortly so we are able to present awards at the school's scholarship awards nights. Thank you to all of our volunteer judges and Sybil Klug, who helps organize this program each year!

Winning Words -

The Arts Council seeks to recognize outstanding student writers who attend Walworth County high schools. We have collected prose and poetry entries, with freedom for students to choose their own topics and style. Students may also choose to send a recently completed school writing assignment.

It is a privilege to get a glimpse into the students' lives through their writing and a heartwarming experience to learn of their excitement when they are awarded one of the Arts Council prizes. Thank you to all the English teachers who encourage submissions from your students. We love reading their work!

Art Show -

We are again hosting the Elementary & Middle School Arts Show virtually. Art is being submitted and curated over the next few days and you can watch for a video on our website and YouTube page shortly!

THANK YOU!

We want to extend a resounding '*Thank You*' to Mary Kaye Merwin and Ginny Hall after years of wonderful and committed service on our Board of Directors. They have resigned from the Board as of this spring and will continue to focus their efforts on their friends, family and communities.

In their time with the Arts Council, both Mary Kaye and Ginny have spent countless hours working to further support arts in our communities. Ginny lead the Art for Kids program (formerly, The Picture Lady), a favorite of many school students and teachers. Ginny had been in charge of this program from its inception and saw it through many transitions, including the recent work of digitizing and cataloging the prints.

Mary Kaye has diligently served as our Treasurer on the Executive Committee and ensured our fiscal responsibility with accuracy. She also coordinated the popular Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra program, which has drawn many people to our organization.

Thank you both for all of your time, energy and efforts in supporting the arts in Walworth County!

STRATEGIC PLANNING ... LOOKING FORWARD

As we look toward wrapping up the school year and heading into summer, we will shift our focus to our Membership Drive and organizing the MSO trips again. We are working as a Board to think about our membership process and if there are areas for improvement. We have a goal of growing our membership and would love to hear from you if you have any ideas on how to do that! We know that some programs, such as the MSO program, have been attractive to new people and useful in introducing them to the Arts Council.

We are excited to continue sharing ideas and adjusting the way we operate, while retaining our fabulous programs in the schools and the community. The world around us continues to change and we want to continue to adapt and be part of those changes so we may best serve the people in Walworth County.



Now Recruiting! Board of Directors

Our recent Board resignations have left a few open spots and opportunities for you to lend your voice to our mission! Please reach out if you have any interest or questions we can help answer.

APRIL ARTIST OF THE MONTH Displayed at Government Center: Linda Oeffling



Oeffling is a glass artist and graphic designer. She has worked in stained glass and fused glass for over 20 years, and is a self-taught artist, learning primarily through research and experimentation. She works out of her home studio in Spring Grove, IL, using glass in all forms - sheets, crushed particles, and thin strands.



*Midnight Garden,
Fused Glass Tabletop Sculpture
Linda Oeffling*

“The art I create is based in the feeling that I get when immersed in the forest, or wind-blown on a prairie path. Walk through a meadow and view the impression of waving grass and glorious color, or slow down and find the minutiae in all of its infinite detail. My art pieces provide a meditative focus to absorb overall beauty or contemplation of the fine detail that makes up the whole.”

PARTNERSHIPS

Please take a few minutes to read about the organizations we have partnered with and helped support financially over the past year. Each of these are incredible organizations, supporting neighbors in our communities and celebrating the arts! The Walworth County Arts Council is proud to be able to support their work and looking forward to deepening our relationship with these organizations and many more throughout the county.



LAKE GENEVA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA



STUDIO 84



ASSOCIATION OF WI ARTISTS