

# CROSSROADS CARNEGIE ART CENTER

Member Newsletter

January 2015

## DATES OF INTEREST

**January 10th** - Elkhorn Swingers Square Dance group welcomes newcomers to learn contra or square dancing in the downstairs studio of Crossroads from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. This dance is open to the public – \$5.00 a person or \$2.50 for Crossroads Members. No experience needed! If you have ever wanted to try out this dance form, this is your chance – come join the fun!

**February 2nd** - First Friday—Featuring Maja Shaw of Richland, WA and Amy VanGaasbeck of Baker City, OR.

### CROSSROADS WISH LIST

Copy Paper, #10 envelopes, Toilet Tissue, rolls of paper towels, Windex, Lysol, liter bottles of Sprite or 7up, small cocktail napkins, and any additional type of office supplies.

### VOLUNTEER JOBS TO BE FILLED

- Once a week for 1 hour: come in and clean the bathrooms and empty the trash
- Once a week for 1 ½-2 Hours: come in and sweep and mop floors.
- Once a month for 1 hour: come in and fold and tab the newsletter.
- Once a month: stuff the membership thank you letters about 1 hour.
- Once a month: call for refreshments for First Friday about 1 hour.

## NEW STAFF EMAILS

The staff is currently changing our email addresses; effective immediately the new emails for the organization are:

- Ginger Savage  
ginger@crossroads-arts.org
- Cynthia Newman  
cynthia@crossroads-arts.org
- Derek Hosler  
derek@crossroads-arts.org
- General Information  
info@crossroads-arts.org

## What Ails Rural Philanthropy?

In December I received the newsletter from the Non-Profit Association of Oregon, which Crossroads is proud to be a member of. NAO does a great deal of research and supports the Oregon Non-Profit sector and can provide excellent training for an organization as small as Crossroads. In their December newsletter, they had an article from the Non Profit Quarterly entitled, "What Ails Rural Philanthropy and What Must Be Done," written by Rick Cohen. Here's the link: <https://nonprofitquarterly.org/>

Crossroads ends 2014 with one of our most successful grant years in history, including getting a coveted National Endowment for the Arts Grant. So things must be great? Right?

Well, yeh...sort of.

For me this article hit the nail on the head. "The notion that volunteerism replaces philanthropy in modern life is a pleasant and seductive trope used by both government and foundations in their mythification of rural America's self-help, mutual aid tradition, but it's a non-starter about real life. Rural communities and rural nonprofits need resources and cannot be expected to compete based on assumptions that rural people simply volunteer for each other, work for significantly less pay when they are employed to do community work, and carry out multiple jobs when comparable organizations in metropolitan areas are permitted, encouraged, and funded to recruit people to do one job at a time."

Let me be clear...Crossroads is blessed with amazing volunteers. But we know our volunteers also volunteer at the Interpretive Center, the Museum, the Library, the Food Co-op and help out and volunteer at dozens of wonderful events like the Baker City Cycling Classic and the We Like'M Short Film Festival. All of the Crossroads Board Members are volunteers and most sit on a minimum of one other board in the community. As a community, we need to understand and work to create a balance of passionate volunteers and equally passionate paid employees to grow all of our community's non-profits. I have noticed with larger community art centers they have more staff with singular job titles and job duties. They can achieve this with the support of foundations to fill those critical needs, but the sustainability of those positions comes from the support of the local community. Last year we focused heavily on Legacy Giving, and we will continue to do so. If we want to grow and SUSTAIN Crossroads, we have to start doing business a bit differently.

So now that we have completed 2014, let's take a look at Crossroads Economic Impact on Baker City and Baker County:

### WHERE DOES CROSSROADS RECEIVE ITS FUNDING?

#### 2014 INCOME

##### Classes 12%

Down significantly highlighting the need to recruit new instructors.

##### Donations & Memberships 14%

We saw significant increases in membership thanks to Derek Hosler our membership coordinator. But let's remember, we should be raising 30% of our total income from Donations and Membership. Be looking for the work we have done on Legacy Giving to increase donations and for a membership drive in 2015.

##### Gallery Sales 14%

We feel very good about that number as we are now in a highly competitive gallery market. More people are making a point of coming to Baker City to buy art.

##### Grants 42%

This year we have received \$86,180 in grants. We have not received our funds from the National Endowment for the Arts so, technically, we have been awarded \$96,180.

*Who are our grant funders, and where do their funds come from?* We received two grants for a total of \$7480.00 from the Oregon Arts Commission / Oregon Cultural Trust or state government. We will receive \$10,000 from the Federal Government this year from the NEA Grant. All other grants were from local or state wide private foundations.

##### Special Events (gala), small fundraisers and open shows 15.7%

##### Misc Income (Pottery Studio, Building Rental, Interest, etc) .03%

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## *This New Year - Get Involved – Become A Member – Make A Difference*

We invite you to experience firsthand the importance Crossroads Carnegie Art Center plays in our community. Become a volunteer!

As the longest active non-profit art center east of the Cascades we have decades of experience impacting the lives of our community, as a non-profit organization we rely heavily on volunteers throughout the year. We offer people of all ages a supportive and welcoming place to experience and learn exciting ways to explore and expand their creativity.

You have the unique opportunity to become a vital part in the programs and opportunities that Crossroads provides in our ongoing mission to our entire community to be engaged, inspired and transformed by the arts through participation in classes, workshops, exhibits, mentorships and partnerships.

If you have an interest in the arts and want to support your community through volunteering a day or two each month, then we have many opportunities for you to become involved as a volunteer.

We place a high value on your time. Here are just a few benefits you gain from volunteering.

- You will have the opportunity to meet and become familiar with the artists, teachers, students, members and supporters of Crossroads Carnegie Art Center.
- Become part of a dedicated team whose mission is to create opportunities for the entire community to be engaged, inspired and transformed by the arts while honing or expanding your skills, learning something new that will enhance your resume or life experience.
- An opportunity for your talents and skills to be utilized and recognized, is there some life experience or insight you can bring to Crossroads to share.
- Volunteering is one of the most rewardable experiences we can share with our community.

Some volunteer opportunities include:

- First Friday Art Walk – Gallery Sales, Hosting, helping to greet guests to the gallery, we can always use a hand on the evening of First Friday, a very fun and energetic atmosphere to work in.
- Mailings – during the first week of each month we forward, (electronically and via standard mail) information to members regarding events, classes and membership status. We can always use help with the getting the mailings together. A few hours to help with labeling and stuffing envelopes and getting them to the post office.
- Planning and helping with Special events, Gala and other Fund Raisers. Come be a part of the planning process, we are always looking for fresh ideas and opinions in developing events to support Crossroads Mission.
- Gardening – We need someone with a green thumb to help with our garden area. Do you have a passion for the garden, like to get your hands dirty.

Bring your talents and skills and help us in making Crossroads the strongest community asset we can be. Become a volunteer today by simply filling out and submitting the online Volunteer Form or print the Volunteer Application and mail it to or drop it off at: Crossroads Carnegie Art Center  
2020 Auburn Avenue, Baker City, Oregon 97814  
Please call with any questions: 541-523-5369

## *Rural Philanthropy, continued*

### 2014 EXPENSES

#### **Commissions to Teachers, Artists and Salaries 63%**

Crossroads puts back into the community \$110,663.00. Arts and teaching organizations clearly have their greatest expense in people.

#### **Crossroads Programs and general business expenses 20%**

Includes printing, mailing, supplies, scholarships, etc.

#### **Carnegie Library Building 13%**

Costs of the care and upkeep, utilities and costs associated with the Carnegie Library Building as our home. We receive no additional financial support for the Carnegie Library from the City of Baker other than lease obligated costs which are minimal to the taxpayer. This continues to be one of the biggest misconceptions we face at Crossroads.

#### **Marketing 3%**

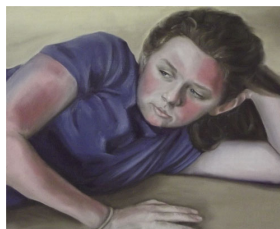
For 2015, we have received two grants which will assist us in greater promotion of Crossroads Carnegie Art Center.

As you can see, we are an important part of the local economy. Your board of directors works hard to keep this non profit on track and fulfilling our mission. But we need your help. In the months ahead, we are going to be asking for your help to further our mission, increase membership and legacy giving and to continue to work towards sustainability.

I encourage you to read this entire article and get a better understanding of the issue facing rural philanthropy.

## *February in the Gallery*

In February we welcome local artist Amy VanGaasbeck and visiting artist Maja Shaw. The show opens **Friday, February 6th**, with an opening reception from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm. There will be an *informal artist talk starting at 5:30 pm*. This exhibit is made possible through the generous support of Scott and Sharon Bannister and will be on display through Saturday, February 28th.



**AMY VANGAASBECK** will be showing charcoal and oil paintings. She says, "I believe that creativity and the ability to create art -- whether music, dance, drama, or fine art -- is in every person. Creativity is a gift from God, and my goal is to use my artistic abilities to reflect God's beauty in some way, even if the subject is not overly spiritual."

**MAJA SHAW** will be showing watercolors. She feels, "with modern technology... we get used to seeing images which preserve details, but not necessarily the emotional impact of an object or scene. I want the viewer to enjoy the beauty of color and shapes based on the world around us. At the same time, sometimes to see a subject most clearly requires using colors or shapes which are unexpected."



## *Thank You's – December 11th through December 31st*

*Sustaining Donors:*  
Chaves Consulting and  
Garchar and Colton CPA's

*Donations to Crossroads :*  
Anonymous

*Endowment Fund:*  
Physician Family Financial Advisors,  
Suzanne Kahle, Nan King, Hope Buckner,  
Gary Dielman

*Hand To Heart Scholarship Fund:*  
Sue Orlaske, Della Steele, Gypsy Burks

*Hand to Heart Scholarship Fund In Memory of Judy Hosler:*  
Dennis and Terri Axness

*New or Renewed Members:*  
Barbara Haynes, Brian and Corrine Vegter, Hope Buckner, George James, Kim Anderson, Loren and Sue Henry, Patricia Bell, Paula Benintendi, Richard Edmondson, Suzanne Kahle

*First Friday Sponsors:*  
Chaves Consulting, Scott and Sharon Bannister, Baker Heritage Museum