

# CROSSROADS CARNEGIE ART CENTER

Member Newsletter

January 2016

## DATES OF INTEREST

**January 28th** – Thursday Art Night Movie – Movie TBA

**February 5th**- First Friday Opening Featuring the work of Pam Demo with her mixed media inked paper from Boise, Idaho and Melodee Sather, Potter from Boise, Idaho. Show Sponsored by: Dennis and Terri Axness. Food Sponsor: Baker County Head Start Staff. Student Show: Head Start Students

**February 10th** – Art Access Pass for Lifelong Learners Lecture Series – 10:30 to 11:30am – Downstairs Studio. This month lecture will be done by local artist Amy VanGaasbeck and her work with painting portraits. Open to the public. Refreshments provided by Tricia Everson. Funded by the Oregon Community Foundation.

**February 19th** – Baker Art Guild

**February 20th** – Feed the Arts Soup Dinner at Crossroads. Tickets \$15.00 per person. Dinner includes soup, bread, drink and a dessert and you get to select your own handmade bowl made by local potters. All proceeds go to the Crossroads Hand to Heart Scholarship Fund. Dinner starts at 5:00pm through 7:00pm.

**February 27th** – Night at Old Auburn Fundraiser for the Baker Heritage Museum. Contact a Museum Board Member or the Museum for tickets.

**March 4th** – First Friday Opening Featuring JillAnnie Margaret - Boise, ID. JillAnnie is a professor of Art at Boise State University and will be bringing her Dream Series/Fauna and Flora etchings.

**April 1st** – First Friday Garden Valley Exchange – Showcasing the Artists represented by Garden Valley Center for the Arts, Crouch, ID.

**April 2nd** – First Saturday Art Opening at Garden Valley Center for the Arts in Crouch, ID showcasing artwork from a selected group of Artists represented by Crossroads Carnegie Art Center. The Crossroads show is curated Stan Smith. Public is welcome to join us both nights and enjoy two amazing evenings of artwork. Garden Valley Exchange is funded by Leo Adler Foundation and Autzen Foundation.

*Please remember Crossroads is available for School Group or Community Group tours. Tours can be a tour of the facility and the history of the Carnegie Library Building or they can also include demonstrations by local artists.*

## CROSSROADS WISH LIST

55 gallon lawn or leaf garbage bags, gallons of windex, rolls of paper towels, copy machine paper, Murphy Oils Soap, #10 envelopes, liters of Sprite or 7up for First Friday Punch.

## Look Back on 2015

Last year in the January Newsletter I outlined the financial state of the organization as a way to start a larger conversation about the state of rural philanthropy. I was shocked by the number of you who stopped me and spoke so appreciatively of this upfront dialogue about where Crossroads makes it money and how we spend it. In 2015, the Board and staff worked very hard to “move the needle” in certain aspects of the organization. I am thrilled to say in some cases we saw the movement and we hope we are a path to long term sustainability.

### 2015 CROSSROADS INCOME

- **Grants** from foundations made up 38% of our income. This is a mixed blessing. I believe it shows grant funders from around the state value the work we do at Crossroads and we are seen as a good steward of their funds. Yet, that number is absolutely too high. It needs to be about 20-25 % of our annual income.
- **Classes** made up 12% of our income and while we saw a 37% increase in children’s classes it was matched with a 10% loss in adult classes. We continue to work to bring high quality art instruction to Baker City. Bringing diverse programming and finding instructors continues to be a challenge. Please note that our instructors are paid for their services and no one is asked to work for free.
- **Gallery Sales** were 13% of our income mix in 2015. Cynthia, the Gallery Committee and the Featured Artists Committee continue to work hard to make sure we are bringing new, exciting and challenging work for you to view and purchase.
- **Special Events** (Gala, Salt Lick and our Open Shows) were 20% of our income in 2015. Much of that thanks to a hugely successful Salt Lick Auction. Yet, Crossroads receives no benefit from this income as we turn it back to Oregon Health Science University for Parkinson’s Research. In 2016, Whit will celebrate the 10th Annual Great Salt Lick and planning is underway! We had a terrific Gala this year and received so many compliments on the whole event. People are very excited for our Jimmy Buffett inspired Gala coming October 15, 2016.
- **Membership and Donations** was 15% of our income and was the HUGE BRIGHT SPOT of 2015. We saw a 32% increase in membership and a 4% increase in donations in 2015. Yes, the Board made the difficult decision to increase membership rates in 2015 by very modest amounts. Our membership rates are still remarkably affordable at \$35.00 a year for an individual and \$50.00 a year for families. We brought on board over 100 new memberships and a huge thank you goes to Derek Hosler our Communication and Membership coordinator. We have set a huge membership goal in 2016 and I confident with your help we can continue to share with the community the good work we do and how important Crossroads is to the economic vitality of this community.
- **Miscellaneous Income** (Including building rental, pottery studio fees, etc) made by 2% of our income and we saw a 47% increase in pottery studio income thanks in large part to Judy Chamard who volunteers to help keep the pottery studio moving along.

### SO WHERE DID WE SPEND OUR MONEY IN 2015

- **Salaries, Commissions to Teachers and Artists, and Professional Services** were 59% of our expenses which is not surprising in non-profits. While we had minor increases in salaries and commissions (always good news because it means increases in classes and art sales) we had a huge leap in

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## Look Back, continued

professional services. Most we were do to the feasibility study on the Welch Building which were part of grants we had received. In 2016, we are looking at adding a part time bookkeeper to take the pressure off the ED and looking at changing staff responsibilities and hours thanks to the Collins Foundation Grant.

- **Programs and Business Operations** made up 25% of our expense in 2015. In our business our programs are our backbone and general costs of business continue to creep up and our membership can always help. Remember our wish list on the front page of the newsletter each month! For every piece of paper, envelope and bottle of windex which can be donated its less money we spend. So check out how you can help!
- **Carnegie Library Building** made up 11% of our expenses this last year. We have been in the building 8 years and the signs of wear and tear are everywhere. In 2015, the Board of Directors re-titled the endowment fund to the Crossroads Carnegie Art Center Endowment Fund to focus the attention onto the long term care and maintenance of the Carnegie Library. Over the next two years, we will be focusing attention on the endowment and scholarship fund to help our members and community understand what these funds do for this organization. If you love the Carnegie Library Building have you donated to the Endowment Fund or have you left the Endowment in your legacy giving plans? If not do so—once the Endowment is fully funded Crossroads can pull funds out yearly for ongoing costs of the building.
- **Advertising** was 4% of our expenses in 2015, up from the prior year thanks to funding from the Leo Adler Foundation, Ford Family Foundation and the Autzen Foundation and we saw a significant improvement in attendance at events and day to day visits to the Art Center.

### AREAS OF FOCUS IN 2016

- Gathering funding for repainting the interior of the Carnegie Library, restructuring job duties so that the Executive Director can work more on the large picture realities of the art center, getting more volunteers helping out at the art center in a wide variety of roles, increase membership and increase funding and awareness of the Endowment Fund and the Scholarship Fund. Thank you for everything you did in 2015, now let's roll up our sleeves and get to work on making 2016 amazing!

## February in the Gallery

In February we are pleased to welcome Boise artists Pam Demo and Melodee Sather.

**PAM DEMO** - Will be showing ink-dyed paper and mixed media works. "I steal color and shapes from nature, buff and rust sandstone; dark and orderly columnar basalt; rhythmic faulting of Idaho's Basin and Range; the frozen flow of flood basalt, stacked gneiss; translucent agate and chalcedony; faulting; fracturing; compaction; up-thrust; over-thrust; out crop; scrap; and the spread of till and sediment across the landscape. The work makes itself, I have little to do with control of it. Results are best when manipulating and contriving are minimal. Each work is a puzzle solved by balancing shape and color. Geology, topography, and the Idaho landscape provide the solutions.



**MELODEE SATHER** - Will be showing functional and sculptural pottery. "Throughout the years I have moved from medium to medium, never quite satisfied with my artistic expression in any single endeavor. Through chance I found pottery. The first time that I threw on the wheel, I felt a spark from deep within. Over the past nine years, I have had an internal drive to create and bring joy to the lives of others by combining many of the techniques that I used in other mediums with clay. My youthful obsession with horses has led me to a new expression through the sculptural pieces that I create. Looking back over my artistic development, that obsession and desire for expression has driven me to where I am today."

We welcome you to join us on **First Friday, November 5th from 5:30 to 8:00pm** for an opening reception with an informal artist talk beginning at 5:30 pm. Light refreshments will be provided by Baker County Head Start Staff. The exhibition is on display through Saturday, February 27th. In the Student Gallery: The artwork of Head Start students.

*This exhibition is generously sponsored by Dennis and Terri Axness.*

## Art Access Pass

Lifelong Learner Lecture Series

**Art Access Lecture Series for Lifelong Learners** continues in 2016 – Please join us Wednesday, February 10th from 10:30 to 11:30am at Crossroads. Join us for a tour of the latest exhibit in the gallery and meet Baker City artist **Amy VanGaasbeck** and see her oil painting demonstration and hear about her work as an artist. Light refreshments will be served by Tricia Everson. This series is free and open to the public.

Funded by  THE OREGON  
COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION



*Are you ready to head  
"southeast of disorder?"*

Mark your calendar for Crossroads Gala on **October 15th** where we celebrate the music, writing and lifestyle of Jimmy Buffet.

## Art Scam Warning

In 2015, a local artist and Crossroads were hit by an art scam from the internet. Luckily, both the artist and Crossroads caught on and avoid significant losses. Just this weekend, your Executive Director was solicited by email for this same type of scam. Which as you know is funny... as I am most DEFINITELY not an artist... but this is a serious issue.

### **The email reads:**

Greetings!

My name ++++++++ from ++. I actually observed my wife has been viewing your website on my laptop and i guess she likes your piece of work, I'm also impressed and amazed to have seen your various works too, :) You are doing a great job. I would like to receive further information about your piece of work and what inspires you. I am very much interested in the purchase of the piece (in subject field above) to surprise my wife. Kindly confirm the availability for immediate sales.

Thanks and best regards,

++++++

The same type of email -- a seemingly genuine interest in purchasing an artist work from their webpage. It all seems above board. Artists will send photos and the person loves the art and agrees to the price. They will want to send a check for the full value including shipping. The names on the scam change all the time. What they want is for you to send the artwork either before the check has cleared (it could take some time for it to come back as fraudulent) or to get excited and send the work as they send the check. If you are unsure take the email address of the email and do a simple Google search. In both cases the email popped up on a couple of art scam webpages where other artists post that they have been scammed. Please check many different search engines with the email address as when I checked the latest one it wasn't red flagged on one search engine but was on another. My concern is that if an artist was to do due diligence and the name does not pop up as a scam and you actually receive a check please take to your financial institution immediately. Let them know what is going on and take your documents. The bank will handle the check in a special way to protect you. Please turn the email address into the email hosting site so that they can close them down.

It's frustrating to be sure but it is critical that you protect your art business.

## Call to Artists

Crossroads is seeking proposals for 2017 Featured Artist Exhibitions. We are seeking high quality art by emerging, mid-career, and established artists from the local, Eastern Oregon region and larger Pacific Northwest region. We strive to show a broad and diverse range of visual art styles and mediums, representing artists in large and small groups and solo exhibitions.

**February 1, 2016** Deadline – postmarked

**March 15, 2016** Selections contacted

For detailed information on application procedures, see our website [www.corsroads-arts.org](http://www.corsroads-arts.org) or call 541-523-5369.

Mail: CCAC, 2020 Auburn Avenue  
Baker City, OR 97814

Email: [Cynthia@crossroads-arts.org](mailto:Cynthia@crossroads-arts.org)



Selection of art from previous gallery exhibits. Artists from left: Brenna Tyler, Norma Holmes, Maja Shaw, Tom Dimond.

## Thank You – December 7th through 31st

### **GRANTS RECEIVED:**

Collins Foundation, Leo Adler Foundation

### **SUSTAINING MEMBERS:**

Chaves Consulting  
Garchar & Colton CPA's

### **DONATION FOR GENERAL OPERATING SUPPORT:**

Brian and Suzi Watt, Margaret Mead,  
anonymous donor

### **DONATION TO THE CROSSROADS CARNEGIE**

#### **LIBRARY ENDOWMENT FUND:**

Sarah LeCompte and Parker Emahiser

### **DONATION TO THE HAND TO HEART**

#### **SCHOLARSHIP FUND:**

Parker Emahiser

### **FEBRUARY SPONSORSHIP:**

Dennis and Terri Axness

### **NEW OR RENEWED MEMBERS:**

Blake & Dana Marlia

Emily Becktold

Ernie & Ivy Nelson

Kathryn Collier

Eric & Katie lamb

Kitty Jury

Lynn Bean

M.J. Bohn

Margaret Mead

Mark McGibbon

Parker Emahiser

Paula Benintendi

Sarah LeCompte

Susan Hinzpeter

### **VOLUNTEER NEEDS**

- *Spring Swing Souper Dinner:* Volunteers to help us put on our Soup Dinner for the Scholarship Fund which has been in hiatus. The Scholarship fund is getting very low and we need to get funds to build it up. Event will be in February. Need folks to help with the planning, set up and serving. Also need potters to make bowls.
- Crossroads wants to start a new tradition and *Color Fun Run* to celebrate art and color and spring! Volunteers to help me plan and organize this fun family event for late March. To be inspired by the Hindu Celebration of Holi and celebrating spring. Oh and we are scheduling a Bollywood Dance Class at Crossroads!
- Crossroads is in search of three additional Board members. The Board would like to grow the Board to 9 committed and involved Board members. Board application form is on the website.
- We need a volunteer coordinator for *Make It and Take It* next year! This job will be the volunteer chair of the event, work to help come up with craft projects, help with volunteers and assist with the day.