

CROSSROADS CARNEGIE ART CENTER

Member Newsletter

April 2014

*Congratulations to
Gypsy Burks and
Terry Drever Gee
for being
Elected to the Board*

DATES OF INTEREST

Sunday April 13th – Special Second Friday Literary Night

April 14th – All Summer Kids Classes need to be scheduled to be included in the newspaper.

April 16th – Crossroads Board Meeting

April 18th – Third Friday Art Guild at Short Term Gallery

April 22nd, 23rd, & 24th – Northeast Oregon Assessor's Conference Luncheon

April 24th – Thursday Art Night at the Eltrym Theatre

May 2nd – Classes due for Summer Classes

May 2nd – Variations on 7 First Friday Art Show

May 9th – Second Friday Literary Night

CROSSROADS CARNEGIE WISH LIST

Toilet Paper, Windex, Toilet Bowl Cleaner, Ziploc, 9 x 13 Manilla Envelopes, Kleenex, Multi-purpose, plastic forks, spoons, punch cups, liter bottles of 7 up or Sprite. A small chest deep freezer for food donated to Crossroads After School Programs.

Note to members:

The By-Law Change passed in the recent membership vote.

Kids Craft Days at Crossroads – Thank You Juan Young Trust

On March 22nd and 29th, Crossroads was thrilled to offer two free kids craft days as the last event to celebrate our 50th Anniversary. On the 22nd, we hosted over 58 kids and family members for 1960's inspired crafts! On the 29th, we welcomed over 68 kids to the event doing modern 2014 crafts.

Thanks to our volunteers for both weekends including members of Threadbenders Weaver's Guild: Cynthia Newman, Kirsten Badger, Margaret Mead and Kata Bulinski. Terry Drever Gee, Becky Litke, Forest Hynek, and Nancy Coffelt who helped both weekends. Angie Smith, Bill Albright, Derek Hosler, Brian Watt, and Isabella Evans who helped at stations on week two.

Special Thank you to Lisa Britton who jumped in and helped on week two when seven volunteers did not show up and huge thanks to Heather, Nina and Aryanna from Baker High School Art Department who came and volunteered.

Baker City Fire Department graciously let us set up snacks in the last bay of the Fire Department and gave kids tours as well.

The names of all the kids who came to both weekends we placed in a drawing for a Free Class at Crossroads and the winner was: Kathryn Nelson.

A huge thanks goes to the Juan Young Trust who made these weekends possible with a grant to Crossroads. Our goal was to celebrate Crossroads 50th Birthday to see if there was an interest for drop-in craft classes and the answer was, a resounding yes! We plan to use the leftover supplies to have more complex classes for kids at an affordable price. So join Crossroads so you can get the newsletter with our class schedule. After the great success we had with our Spring Break Craft class, can you teach a one-two hour craft or art class at Crossroads? Kids and families are clearly wanting fun, quick project classes, but would like to have more time with the projects. Crossroads has many supplies already on hand to help keep costs low to encourage kids to come and join the fun at the art center. If you are interested or know someone interested, send them to Crossroads at 541-523-5369.

Crossroads Gala

After much discussion Crossroads Board decided to move the Gala back into October to avoid conflicts with an ever busier September. This year's gala will be Saturday October 18th at the Event Center. The Board is making the last of the final framework decision about gala and then will be recruiting a Gala Committee. There will be lots of fun changes this year and the board is stepping back from the hands on management of gala. We will have committee assignments such as decorations, tables, setup, cleanup, food, etc. Some of these committees are complex-- some are easy. The nice thing about the gala committee is we meet once a month for an hour leading up to Gala. Want to help? Let me know.

Fleetwood Circle – April 2013

April 15th is such a busy day for our accountant friends in the community. A huge thank you to Kristin Colton of Garchar and Colton, CPA's, who does Crossroads taxes for us every year. We want to bring together any interested accountants, lawyers or financial planners to assist Crossroads in the creation of our legacy giving program, AFTER tax season is over. This advisory committee will allow Crossroads to have first rate and accurate information about legacy giving to our members. If you are interested in helping out for an hour or so twice a year to help Crossroads, please call Ginger at 541-523-5369. We hope to meet in May.

Volunteers and Membership

I want to take a moment and speak to the importance of your membership and how your contribution assists Crossroads in fulfilling our mission to engage and inspire our community in the arts and why that is so vital, now more than ever that we as a community art center provide access to artistic instruction for the kids in our community.

A fine arts education – including music, theatre, drawing, painting, or sculpture – has been a part of any well-rounded curriculum for decades – but that has been changing. Many schools today are cutting back or eliminating art programs due to budget constraints. Over the past decade numerous studies have demonstrated the amazing benefits of such an integral education facet. Students who don't have access to art classes may not only miss out on a key creative outlet, but might also face greater difficulty mastering core subjects, higher dropout rates and more disciplinary problems.

Crossroads has tried to balance those losses by offering art education programs for children, and with the Hand to Heart Scholarship Fund, generated through donations of members and non-members alike, we turn no child away due to financial reasons. This is one way your donation(s) can enrich the life of a child.

Another way your membership allows Crossroads to pursue our mission is ArtSpeak. A program established by Crossroads in 1998, working with the school principals and counselors to refer students who are at-risk to the program. So for one hour each week these kids have art instruction with an art teacher.

A 2005 report by the Rand Corporation called "A Portrait of the Visual Arts" argues that art education does more than just give students a creative outlet. It can actually help connect them to the larger world, ultimately improving community cohesion. (<http://rand.org/pubs/monographs/MG290.html>)

A bold assertion, but not one without merit. Students from lower income families often get little exposure to the arts if they are not provided by the schools. The report shows that arts education can help close the gap between socioeconomic groups, creating a more level playing field between children who may not be exposed to these enrichment experiences outside of school and some of their more privileged peers.

In 2007, just to be balanced, Ellen Winner and Lois Hetland, published a study stating that arts don't actually improve academic performance, but it shouldn't matter. (<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/08/04/arts/design/04stud.html>) While the backlash from their report was swift and brutal, the researchers stuck by their findings. And for good reason. They believe it shouldn't matter whether or not art courses improve test scores or grades, and that art education should garner support for what it offers on its own merit – not in relationship to anything else. Regardless, their study did reveal that arts education has some larger benefits which can't be easily quantified through test scores. Namely, it helps students improve visual analysis skills, learn from mistakes, be creative and make better critical judgments.

The children of our community deserve the right to the benefits arts education affords. Thankfully we have the resources to provide that even as schools face more and more cuts. As a Crossroads member you have the opportunity to help change a child's life for now and even into their future. If you are already a member, thank you. If you aren't (or know someone else who would jump at the chance to make a difference for a child), consider the possibilities a yearly membership to the Crossroads Art Center—shining a light on creativity and possibility for our community.

May in the Gallery



This month we welcome seven artists with diverse styles for a show titled "Variations In Sevens." Antonia Carriere (pastels), Sharol Chandler (acrylic), Wix Covey (clay), Coco Forte (gouache, ink, colored pencils), Judi Miller (oil, watercolor, colored pencils), Ivy Wreden (encaustic, mosaic) and Phil Wreden (digital photography), present their own unique view of the same images. The group decided upon four photographs of Eastern Oregon taken by Phil Wreden. Each artist then created one piece inspired by each photograph. The artists used the medium they felt best suited their interpretation of each photograph. The show includes a total of 32 pieces, both two-dimensional and three-dimensional.

The show opens with a reception on First Friday, May 2nd from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm. We will have an informal artist talk starting at 5:30 pm. Light refreshments will be served, and there will be live music. This exhibit is made possible through the generous support of Scott and Sharon Bannister. We hope you will join us in welcoming these talented artists from Halfway.

May in the student gallery: The artwork of Baker Middle School art students.

Thank You's MARCH 5 - APRIL 4

Sustaining Members: Chaves Consulting and Garchar and Colton CPA's

Donation to the BHS Art Scholarship: Brenda Johnson and Vickie McConnell

Donation to Crossroads Endowment Fund: Vickie McConnell

Donation to Crossroads Hand to Heart Scholarship Fund: Robin Coen and Vickie McConnell

Grants Awarded: Baker County Cultural Collation for a marketing of Baker County Arts in the Idaho Shakespeare Festival Guide

and Kinsman Foundation for repainting all the windows and doors on the Carnegie Library

New or renewed Memberships: Baker Dental Group • Barbara Peden • Betty Ann Clark • Brenda Johnson • Brian Watt • Byron and Deni Smith • Dorthy Wooters • EJay Weber • Erin Callahan • Gene Yates • Jerry Nolte • John and Jan Kirby • Juniper Lanmon • Betty McClinton • Karen McClinton • Kevin Flynn • Kira Reoch • Lori Daniels • Marlene

Kingman • Mary Tomlinson • Pam Bingham • Randy Sandknop • Rich Bergeman • Robin Coen • Roxanna Swan • Suzanne Fouty • Tracy Martinez • Vicki Wares • Vickie McConnell

Show sponsors: Powder Basin Watershed Council, Scott and Sharon Bannister

Refreshments: Friends of Crossroads, Wine Steward Paul McNeil of Zephyr Bakery and Deli

Musicians: Larry Lambeth

Hosts: Bill and Jenny Albright, Kaylalynn Monges

Featured Artists: 34 artists from around the region entering artwork in our April Open Regional Show, Antonia Carriere, Sharol Chandler, Wix Covey, Coco Forte, Judi Miller, Ivy Wreden, Phil Wreden.

Student Gallery Artists: Haines Elementary School students.

2015 Featured Artist Committee: Terri Axness, Ann Mehaffy, Sue Orlaske, Mary Sue Rightmire, Kristy Sandefur, Stan Smith, E'Jay Weber, Sandy Zimmer