

A Note from the President



Thank you for supporting the arts in Watertown! 2020 is off to a great start, with a January display of area artists just wrapping up. The Board has been busy planning new and exciting events for the upcoming year that include a new Fall version of our Annual Meeting with events to coincide with Main Street's Pumpkin Palooza, as well as old favorites such as the Art Walk on Main Street this Spring.

The start of a new decade seems like a good time to reflect. In this newsletter you'll find a sample from our archives, photos from the 2019 Set Apart Art camp we helped sponsor, a "Where are they now" from some past UWGB Summer Art Scholarship recipients, an update on our library donation, an introduction to our newest board member, and more!

Also included in your mailing is a renewal slip for 2020 membership and an addressed return envelope. Your contribution makes a difference in this community. -Dave Pawl, WAC President

LOCAL ARTISTS IN THE LIBRARY

Throughout January WAC featured 9 local artists in the lobby display case of the Watertown Public Library. During this interactive exhibit, forms were available for viewers to leave words of encouragement for artists, vote for their favorite pieces, and to join the Arts Council.

Over 150 voting slips were collected during the first four weeks of January, and ribbons were placed on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place works for the last week of the show. Many of the works also received heartfelt positive feedback slips. Thanks to members Varla Bishop, Sue David, Paul Dominguez, Ramona Hackbarth, Kiara Haseleu, and Jenni Hopfinger for helping create the display.



Original Artwork of Local Women Is on Display at Merchants Bank

Throughout the year, the Watertown Arts Council sponsors shows of original art in local banks bringing in work by artists from all over the Midwest. This month the Arts Council is featuring the talents of two area women, Dorothy Cuccia and Katherine Raue Maas. Both were born and raised in Watertown and often include local landmarks in their work — the Octagon House, the old Jaeger

Mill and Riverside Park.

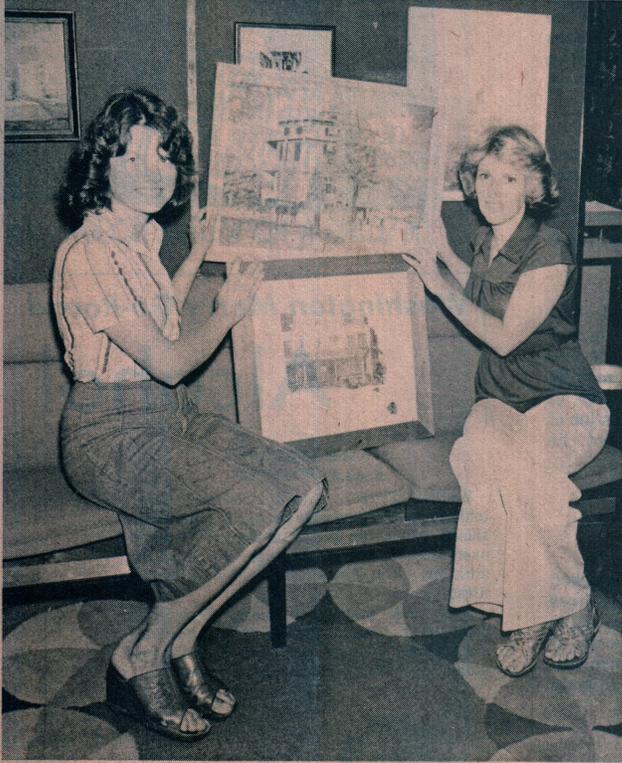
Mrs. Cuccia, the former Dorothy Minning, has had no formal art training, but her oil paintings have a very professional quality. Most of the paintings included in the show are landscapes, delicately colored and finely detailed. Of special interest is a painting of the Octagon House based on an old photograph. Mrs. Cuccia and her

husband, Joe, have three children. Their daughter, Julie, is also a talented painter. Many of her paintings were included in a show by Watertown High School seniors held in May at the Merchants National Bank.

Printmaking is the specialty of Kathy (Mrs. Tom) Maas, whose work consists of woodcuts, etchings and a lithograph of the old Jaeger Milling Company located on South First Street until it was razed several years ago. Also included in the exhibit are drawings of grain elevators sketched in Canada, and a large crewel embroidery based on these sketches. Mrs. Maas received a B.F.A. in graphics from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and is a member of the Watertown Arts Council Board of Directors. She also frames most of her own work and plans to open a custom framing shop in October.

The show and sale will continue through August at the Merchants National Bank.

The Watertown Arts Council reminds art enthusiasts of the 13th annual Outdoor Arts Festival which will be held on Sunday from noon until 6 p.m. on the Riverside Park Island.



THE ARTWORK OF two local women, Katherine Maas (left) and Dorothy Cuccia, are on display at the Merchants National Bank. Mrs. Maas and Mrs. Cuccia were born and raised in Watertown and have used the local landmarks in much of their work. Mrs. Cuccia uses oil in most of her work while Mrs. Maas finds printmaking her specialty. The artwork will be on display through August.—(Daily Times Photo)

NEW BOARD MEMBER



After serving the Board for many years and working hard to coordinate the Spring Into the Arts Silent Auction and Artists' Breakfast, Mark Klass has decided to step down from his Board position. Michaela Rae Mueller was appointed to fill this vacancy. She is a WAC member and artist, as well as a professional fashion model.

"I grew up in Watertown where I graduated from WHS in 2014. Art was a huge part of my school years, especially once I was in high school. I was very involved in anything that pertained to art, including visual arts classic, art club, AP art classes. Once I graduated high school I became a member of the Watertown Arts Council. At the time I believe I was the youngest member to be involved in the council.

The idea of bringing art and events to the Watertown community excites me and I am so happy to be on the board. I hope to bring fresh ideas and try to connect the generations of our town through art. I couldn't be more excited to work alongside some of my most influential teachers and other creatives to bring more art to the city of Watertown!"

DIGITAL ARCHIVE:

Thanks to Board Member Varla Bishop who single handedly digitized the WAC Archive of newspaper clippings and other print materials. Having the scanned versions will preserve our history even while the original documents are starting to show signs of wear and age.

New Season for the 2020 Annual Meeting

At a recent meeting of the Arts Council Board it was decided to move the 2020 annual meeting from its traditional date in March to a date in the Fall. The historic Watertown Elks Lodge will continue as the venue, and the event will take place on October 31st to coincide with the Main Street Pumpkin Palooza festivities.

While planning for this new event is just beginning, the Board is already working on some great ideas such as a themed fall art contest, a costume contest, a special guest artist and more. If you would like to help plan the events please contact pawld@mywusd.org or call 608-345-6407.

watertownartscouncil.com

WAC ARTWORK LOOKING FOR A HOME



Two of the works of art available for public display.

The Watertown Arts Council is proud owner of a collection of more than 300 works that are displayed in public locations around Jefferson and Dodge County. Works currently rotate between approximately 30 locations.

There are a number of Two-Dimensional and Three-Dimensional works available from recent acquisitions and pieces that have been rotated out of their former locations. All of the 2-D work is framed and ready to hang. If you know of a location open to the public that could benefit from having some art on display, feel free to contact us at pawld@mywusd.org or call 608-345-6407.



HANNAH ST. LOUIS

"In the summer between my Junior and Senior year, I attended the UWGB Art Camp with a scholarship provided by the Watertown Arts Council. It was a very educational experience. Not only did I get to learn from experienced artists, but I got to make art in a college setting. This was a very telling experience because it confirmed my curiosity about college and if I wanted to go. I am now getting my Fine Arts degree at UW-Whitewater and hope to move on to a Master's Program in the future."

WHERE ARE THEY NOW? CATCHING UP WITH PAST WINNERS

For Decades the Arts Council has been providing scholarships for middle school and high school students to attend the University of Wisconsin Green-Bay Summer Art Camp.

Students who would not be able to afford the experience on their own, and have demonstrated serious dedication to the visual arts are recommended by their teachers for scholarship consideration. Chosen students typically also have volunteered at community arts events, such as WAC's Art Walk and Spring Into the Arts. Those who are chosen to attend the camp regularly describe the experience as life changing, and bring the skills and excitement they gain back with them to their Watertown classmates. Here are testimonials from two past winners, both of whom are now pursuing careers in the fine arts.



MARY (STRUPP) BLUM

"I am currently completing my last semester in the Art History Masters Program at UW Milwaukee. For me the UWGB Summer Art Camp allowed me to explore avenues and art mediums I wouldn't normally have access to, and provided me experiences to be able to talk about various processes of making in a knowledgeable way."

You make a difference.

WAC Donation Helps Support New Summer Art Program

WAC Member Wendy McDonnell runs Set Apart Art Studio in Watertown in the historic Train Depot. Last summer she created two brand new art camps for local youth. One camp was for children 5th grade through high school, and the other

was for First through Fourth graders. Both camps culminated with shows of artwork.

To provide equitable access for all students, Wendy sought out sponsors from around the community. WAC contributed to the camps by providing funding for a full scholarship for one elementary aged student to attend. The program was a great success and will return next summer.



Photos provided by Set Apart Art Studio

save these dates

February 23rd Watertown High School
12:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Arts Beats & Eats: Student showcase of Visual, Musical and Culinary arts

May 26th Art Walk on Main Street
4:30 pm - 7:00 pm
Art Walk includes art displays in over 30 downtown businesses as well as a free raffle and children's activities

October 31st Annual Meeting and Art Contest
Elks Lodge

Library Paver Donation

Thanks to the donations of the WAC members recognized in our last newsletter, we were able to participate in the Paver Program. WAC will be represented in the new library expansion with an Engraved 8x8 tile in front of the new Watertown Library Center.

