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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Arts Center opens 2016 on 2nd Friday, Jan. 8 with a melding of written words and visual art

OCEAN CITY, MD — **Dec. 29, 2015** — "Shared Visions" is the opening show for 2016 at the Ocean City Center for the Arts, where painters and writers interpret great quotations.

The public is invited to the free, opening reception for the writers and artists on 2^{nd} Friday, Jan. 8 from 5 – 7 p.m. at Arts Center on 94^{th} St. bayside.

"Shared Visions" is a partnership between the Art League of Ocean City and the Ocean City branch of the Worcester County Library, home of the Ocean City Writers Group.

"This is the third year for the collaboration," said Rina Thaler, executive director of the Ocean City Center for the Arts. "It is a great coming together of words and images and demonstrates the different forms of self expression."

The Writers Group, headed by Ruth Wanberg-Alcorn, chose several great and historical quotations, and then reinterpreted them in contemporary poetry and short passages. To accompany the writers' words, members of the Art League of Ocean City painted their own interpretations in various media.

On Tuesday, Jan. 19 from 6 – 8 p.m., the Ocean City Writers Group will perform a reading of their work and discuss what inspired them in a free presentation, also open to the public.

The show will run through Jan. 30 at the Arts Center.

Also hanging in the galleries of the Ocean City Center for the Arts is an all-media Artists' Choice show by members of the Art League.

Painter Crystal Collins occupies Studio E in January. A native of the Eastern Shore, she is inspired by the colors and quietness of the landscape and the views of land, sea and marsh.

Photographer and writer Charlie Ewers is the Spotlight Artist during January. He currently teaches creative and professional writing at Frostburg State University, and sees fine art photography as the equivalent of creative nonfiction.

The Artisans in Residence for January are Susan Keller and Ed Strough, partners in marriage and jewelry making. Keller specializes in wire-wrapped precious stones, and Stough experiments in chainmaille jewelry.

The Ocean City Center for the Arts at $502\,94^{\rm th}$ Street is the home of the Art League of Ocean City, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the visual arts in the Ocean City area through

education, exhibits, scholarships, programs and community art events. The arts center is supported by memberships, corporate and civic funding, donations and sales of art.

More information is available at 410-524-9433 or www.artleagueofoceancity.org.

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