







ART UNITES US



ANNUAL REPORT





2016 ~ 2017



FROM OUR PRESIDENT

ART UNITES US! With all the social, economic, religious, and political polarization in our world, isn't it wonderful that there is still a common thread that unites us and embraces diversity?

Art is a universal language using visual code that transcends nations, cultures, religions, and generations. For example, ask a child anywhere to paint the sun, and it will have universal understanding.

I am delighted to see how the Ocean City Center for the Arts provides a place of unity in our community. Young and old alike are stimulated by our wide array of creative programming. Volunteers work together to make fundraising events successful. Regional exhibitors draw new audiences to opening receptions, and the corporate community appreciates the economic value that we help to bring to Ocean City.

We could not do this without your continued support through gifts of time, talent, and treasure. On behalf of our dedicated Board of Directors and hard-working staff, I thank you for your generosity. The Ocean City Center for the Arts is more than a beautiful venue – it's all about the people who unite together to create and appreciate art!

~ Marian Bickerstaff President, Art League of Ocean City

FACTS & FIGURES

- > More than 80,000 people have visited the Ocean City Center for the Arts since 2013 18,000 in 2016 alone.
- > Nearly 1,000 people are members of the Art League, with close to 100% renewal rate.
- > In 2016, 298 classes were taught at the Arts Center with 2,392 student registrations.
- > Volunteers gave 6,873 hours of their time to us in 2016, and more than 330 artists exhibited their work.
- The Art League with support from partner Katherine Ellen Brown Fund at the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore — has awarded \$32,000 in student scholarships since 1991.
- > More than 50 artists from six states participated in the "Artists Paint OC" plein air event in 2016 and 2017.
- > The Sand Castle Home Tour completed its 13th year with more than 1,000 tour takers and 200 volunteers.

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

Matthew Amey Heather Layton (14) Mitzi Ash (15) Hannibal Lee Kee Lee Jeffrey Auxer (10) Don Lehman (20) Irene Averitte Baltimore Watercolor Soc. Gwen Lehman (4) Jessica Luscombe Marian Bickerstaff Megan Burak (7) Selena Mallot (23) Nicole Maskill **Rosemary Burns** Barbara Kern Bush (3) Lesley McCaskill (11) Myrna McGrath less Cross Hannah Miller Reeves Dark (22) Jeanne Mueller Joy Davis Jan Perdue Debbi Dean-Colley Christian Peterson lose Diaz (21) Dean Peterson Dee Dobson Fred Peterson (6) Chris Dodd Marcus Pettit (2) Ed Challenger Delaware Watercolor Soc. Damon Pla **Justin Pyles** Ed Eckert Artists of Ellicott City lan Postley (17) Victor Pozhidayev Laura Ellison Stewart Emmerich Pauline Rakis Sandra Esham Ion Rees Anabela Ferguson Deborah Rolig Brian Robertson Evan Fitzgerald Carl Forsberg (12) Gregg Rosner Geri Gaskill Barbara Doyle Schmid Maria Gayhart Jospeh Scukanec Dale Sheldon Dee Gray (I) **Rickey Sears** Kate Hammen Silk Painters International Betsy Hall Harrison (18) Patrick Henry (9) David Simpson Barbara Siskind Randy Hofman Patti Smith Yumi Hogan (16) Rae Smith (13) Katrin Huber Shayn Smith Brad Hudson Kathy Huegel Barbara Stepura Nancy Ellen Thompson **Tinsel Hughes Erin Timmons** John lampieri Paul Treadway Laura Jenkins (19) Dot & Robert Truitt Norman Johansen Sydney Waters Fay Kempton **Robert Watson** Jinchul Kim (5) Gail Zinar (8) Galina Kolosovskaya

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ART UNITES ARTISTS & THE COMMUNITY









































MEET US

1) The Art League and the Katherine Ellen Brown Fund at the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore awarded five \$1,000 scholarships in 2016 to local students majoring in art. Committee members Jan Perdue, Nancy Fortney, and Judy Tremellen with Jordan Riddleberger, Tate Shockley, and Rebeka Kline. Not shown: Marley Parsons, Trent Carpenter, Velda Henry, Lyn Burr, Katy Durham.

2) The 2nd Anime/Manga Show in April brought a group of young artists into the Arts Center for a weekend show and to mingle with other enthusiasts. Erin Timmons of Savannah College of Art & Design was featured. John Sisson sponsored prizes.

3) Outreach is part of the mission of the Art League, and engaging children in art is a prime directive. The students at Buckingham Elementary School in Berlin loved painting self portraits.

4) Tinsel Hughes, artist in residence at the Arts Center, engages attendees at the April First Friday opening reception as she works in clay.

5) Free Family Art Days encourages families to create together. The free event has a new theme each month. Sponsors such as the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore and Walmart make the event free for everyone.

6) Our pottery studio hosts classes for all ages and skill levels with firing and glazing capabilities.

7) Kids & Canvas is a monthly Saturday class held at the Arts Center for children of all ages.

8) Summer Art Adventure Camp is an annual program sponsored by the Art League and Ocean City Parks & Recreation. This year, 160 children enjoyed activities taught by artists and teachers.

9) Pizza & Pottery is a monthly class for children of all ages taught by the Art League's pottery studio manager, Nancy Barnas. Children enjoy a pizza dinner and make a clay creation.





















PICASSO Macky's Bayside Bar & Grill (9)

RENOIR

Atlantic Planning Development & Design Clarion Resort Fontainebleau Hotel (12) Donaway Furniture/Kimmerly Messick (10) Dr. Kathleen Dillon & Dan Mason Farmers Bank of Willards Gold Coast Beer, Wine & Liquor Jolly Roger Amusement Park Outback Steakhouse Sello's Italian Oven & Bar

MONET

Commander Hotel (14) Cynthia B. Malament, P.A. (2) Seacrets Nite Club Sunsations (6) The Original Greene Turtle

CEZANNE

Berlin Interventional Pain Management (4)
Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore
Delaware Elevator (11)
Dough Roller Restaurants
Dunes Manor Hotel & Suites
Glitter & Gold (15)
Mancini's Brick Oven Pizzeria
Ocean City Elks Lodge #2645
Sea Quest Fashions

GAUGUIN

Albright's Associates, LLP Atlantic Dental Cosmetic & Family Dentistry Ayres, Jenkins, Gordy & Almand (8) Bank of Ocean City Bayside Skillet BJ's on the Water (7) Bonfire Restaurant Candy Kitchen Shoppes Cayman Suites (16) Chick-fil-A

Katy Durham & Rick Meehan of Coldwell Banker (10) Fager's Island Ltd. (13) Harrison Group Henry Fine Arts Heritage Financial Consultants, LLC Insurance Management Group (1) Kay Ayres Interior Design, Inc. Mann Properties, Inc Old Pro Golf. Inc. Planet Maze-Lasertron Princess Royale Oceanfront Hotel (5) The Framing Corner (3) Towboat US Ocean City Trattoria Lombardi's Tyler & Company, P.A.

IN KIND

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RECEPTION SPONSORS ACME Markets Burley Oak Candy Kitchen Shoppes Dunes Manor Hotel & Suites Guidos Burritos Hooked Liquid Assets Longboard Cafe Miss Patti Cake Touch of Italy



































Of note

1) Yumi Hogan, First Lady of Maryland, brought her work to the Arts Center this summer. Julie Madden of the Maryland State Arts Council visited. Hogan's "Yumi CARES" Foundation donated proceeds from sales to art therapy programs for children with cancer.

2) Our Evening Lecture Series covers topics both educational and inspirational. Karen Barwick speaks during the Devine Feminine Show in May.

3) The Empty Bowl Soup Dinner raised funds for the Art League and Diakonia. Volunteers Wes Page, Velda Henry, and Nancy Fortney served soup to the crowd.

4) In May, the Arts Center celebrated "The Divine Feminine — a month of art shows, workshops, and lectures — curated by Deborah Rolig and Dee Gray. The OC Writers Group and Rehoboth Women Writers with Kathleen Martens published a book by women authors.

5) The Art Center's Art & Soul Healing Series is free with a grant from the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore. The series opens the mind, body, and soul.

6) The inaugural Ocean City Film Festival showcased independent cinema in June with more than 100 films including "1984" by Rudy Childs.. The festival returns in March 2018.

7) The party of the year rocked the Gateway Grand in September with the 60s/70s themed "Peace, Love and Art." The committee got into the spirit and into costumes.

8) Cheryl Taustin sang and Kyler Taustin staged a duel during the pARTy for the Arts in April, a benefit for the Art League, Brown Box Theatre, and Gwen Lehman Foundation.

9) Brown Box Theatre Project brings live theatre to the Arts Center with original and experimental plays.

10) The annual "Artists Paint OC" plein air event brought 50 artists from six states to the area. Alison Menke of Silver Spring painted the Boardwalk during the Quick Draw event, sponsored by the Ocean City Development Corp.

11) The 13th annual fundraiser Sand Castle Home Tour featured ten unique homes over two days in September. Volunteers Merilee Horvat and Karen Hunter with Debbi Dean-Colley, volunteer coordinator.

















ART UNITES US IN FUN









FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Four years ago when we opened the beautiful new Ocean City Center for the Arts, I knew we were doing something important, but I never imagined how many people this building would unite.

From the children who look forward each year to participating in our summer art camp, to the families who come every month for Free Family Art Days, to the baby boomers who are retiring here eager

to pursue passions they delayed during their careers, the Ocean City Center for the Arts has become a place to gather and joyfully create, explore, and appreciate the arts.

This year, we have added new programs such as our "Originals Only" monthly music nights, where local millennials come together to perform original music in an alcohol-free setting. We have even grown beyond the walls, installing a Little Free Library in our courtyard.

We embarked on a successful effort to enhance our beaches with artworkembellished trash cans, through a program we call "Art Can Clean Beaches," sponsored by a grant from the "Keep Maryland Beautiful Campaign," an initiative of the Maryland Environmental Trust. With the help of local businesses who sponsored cans and artists who contributed their work, we were able to raise awareness about littering, as well as beautify our beaches.

We even introduced a new event, The Ocean City Film Festival. Held at venues across the resort, the festival brought together a new group of filmmakers and appreciators who continue to collaborate.

Together, through art, we have made an impact on our community and created a place of which we can all be proud. Because of people of vision, we have been able to accomplish so much. Thank you all for your continued support.

> ~ Rina Thaler Executive Director Art League of Ocean City

ART UNITES US IN GIVING

DONORS July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017

Harry & Deborah Adler Jeffrey & Jamie Albright **AK**|**K** Properties Tom & Carolyn Allen Laurie & Jon Andes Bebe Antonini Atlantic Dental Cosmetic & Family Dentistry Atlantic General Hospital Ann Augustine Nancy Barrett Roberta Bass Harriet & Larry Batis **Bayside Skillet** Elaine Bean Spicer & Karen Bell lamie Bennett Petra Bernstein Beverly Bassford Memorial Fund Marian Bickerstaff Blue Water Development Corp. Thomas & Mary Jo Bosley Margaret Bradach Madonna & Robert Brennan Susan Burch Lyn Burr Lewis & Betty Bush **Betty Butler** Crystal Cahoone Arthur Campbell Candy Kitchen Shoppes Laura Carnes Carousel Hotel Delegate Mary Beth Carozza Ed & Emmy Challenger Lisa Challenger

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FINANCIALS January 1 - December 31, 2016

2016 was another strong financial year for the Art League of Ocean City. While focused on offering highquality programming and an increase in staffing, we were still able to increase assets by 7% over the prior year.

One of the key financial goals of the Board for the year was to increase the level of our Endowment Fund to over \$80,000 with a goal of continued growth to provide for future sustain-ability of the organization.

We are grateful for the diversified income streams that continue to support our programming including support from the Town of Ocean City, Worcester County, the Maryland State Arts Council, Worcester County Arts Council, and the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore.

In addition to these grants, programming income accounts for the largest segment. We are also grateful for generous donors, individual members, and corporate partners.



HOW TO SUPPORT US

- Donate to our annual appeal online at artleagueofoceancity.org with a credit card. Or donate by phone or mail.
- Become a member or corporate partner, or volunteer your time and energy.
- Donate a needed item for programming, a reception or special event.
- Purchase a red clay paver in our courtyard and honor a loved one or send a message.
- Sponsor an exhibit or the Home Tour, provide a grant for tuition or scholarship or prizes for our Plein Air event.
- Honor people or events in your life by creating a memorial gift or naming an event or area of the Arts Center.
- Consider a legacy gift through appreciated assets and estate planning techniques: Make an outright gift of appreciated assets such as stocks, securities or real estate. Designate the Art League as a beneficiary of your retirement plan or life insurance policy. Leave a tax-exempt bequest of cash or property through your will or trust. Fund a Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA) with cash or securities. Create an endowment or contribute to the permanent Art League Endowment Fund at the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore. Please make your intentions known to us and become a member of our new Legacy Partners.



ART LEAGUE OF OCEAN CITY

MISSION

To promote the visual arts in the Ocean City area through education, exhibits, scholarships, programs and community art events.

VISION

To be a vibrant, fiscally sound arts organization with community sponsorship and service and valued membership benefits, offered in a spacious and functional facility.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Marian Bickerstaff, President Emily Schwab, First Vice-President John Sisson, Second Vice-President Rafael (Rafo) Correa, Treasurer Nancy Fortney, *Recording Secretary* Jamie Albright, Corresponding Secretary Emmy Challenger Katy Durham Velda Henry Laura Jenkins Joseph Mitrecic Barbara Patrick Jan Perdue John Sisson Judy Tremellen Gayle Widdowson

STAFF

Rina Thaler, Executive Director Nancy Barnas, Pottery Studio Manager Elaine Bean, Publicity Coordinator/Graphic Designer Katie Brown, Gallery Manager Debbi Dean-Colley, Volunteer/Outreach Coordinator Georgette Greason, Development/Event Coordinator Kristin Helf, Front Desk Assistant Catherine Hellsten, Education Assistant/Gift Shop Katrin Huber, Education Coordinator Nicole Maskell, Office Manager

502 94th Street, Ocean City, MD 21842 410 . 524 . 9433 ArtLeagueOfOceanCity.org

The Art League of Ocean City is a 501(c)3, organized in the state of Maryland. A copy of our current financial statement is available upon request by contacting the Art League of Ocean City at P.O. Box 3503, Ocean City, MD 21843. (Phone 410.524.9433). Documents and information submitted to the State of Maryland under the Maryland Charitable Solicitations Act are available from the Office of the Secretary of State for the cost of copying and postage.





