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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Art League of Ocean City announces honorees of 2019 SHero Awards

OCEAN CITY, MD — Oct. 19, 2019 — The Art League of Ocean City announces the honorees of the 2019 SHero Awards, honoring Delmarva women who have shown courage in facing adversity and turned that around into something positive. The awards will be presented on Friday, Oct. 25 at 7 p.m. at the Ocean City Center for the Arts on 94th St., and the public is invited to the free event.

The SHero Awards are part of the October-long all-women art exhibition entitled “RISE” at the Arts Center. Curated by Deborah Rolig of Berlin, the exhibition seeks to empower women through art, emphasizing women overcoming adversity. The exhibit is sponsored in part by the Women’s Fund of the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore.

“The SHero Award winners are filled with courage and tenacity,” Rolig said, “the kind of women who have overcome a major challenge in their lives — be it health, family, job, or something similar — yet have dug-in to thrive and persevere. These are the women we honor as SHERos.”

This is the second year for the SHero Awards, and seven women will be honored on Oct. 25.

Pamela Ann Greer Buckley has lived Ocean City for more than 35 years and “helped make Ocean City what it is today,” according to her nominator, Tommie Morrison. A real estate appraiser by profession, she donated her time and talents to the Town of Ocean City on the Planning and Zoning Committee for many years. A dedicated member and lay leader of the Atlantic United Methodist Church, she supports many nonprofits and is also a family caregiver.

Robin Cook of Bishopville met her nominator, Judy Tremellen, at a foster care parent support group. She and her husband, Seth, had one adopted son, and over the years, they adopted and fostered four more children of mixed races whom she loves, inspires, and home schools. Tremellen said, “[Robin] defies life’s expectations and ... does so with a unique internal grace.”

Chrissy Ehrhart of Berlin, co-owner of Zenna Wellness, was nominated by Art League executive director, Rina Thaler, who said, “I admire the spirit and positive attitude that Chrissy has kept despite her health issues and the challenges she faces.” In 2011, while Ehrhart endured two heart surgeries, she practiced guided visualization and visualized her cells regenerating and becoming new at the incision. She now shares this healing technique with others and is also certified in sound healing and therapy. “By collaborating with area artists to show their work at Zenna Wellness, she has helped to build community,” Thaler said.

Marie Gilmore of Ocean Pines, nominated by Sharyn O’Hare, is serving her second term as president of the Worcester County Veterans Memorial. The foundation hosts annual Memorial Day and Veterans Day events that Gilmore funds by running a golf tournament. She is also past president of the Sinepuxent Post 166 American Legion Auxiliary in Ocean City and the Women’s Club in Ocean Pines and past chair of the Parrot Head’s Mardi Gras in Ocean City. Gilmore is a caregiver to family members while she herself deals with multiple sclerosis.

Brittney Herz Glenn of Salisbury is the founder of the non-profit Lemonade Bookstand, a non-profit that bring bibliotherapy to young children by sending books, activities, toys, and educational material geared towards their special needs. A caregiver to her health-challenged daughter, she also wrote a book about her struggles with being a parent of a child with psychological and behavioral challenges, *You're Going to be Fine: A Short Version of a Long Story about Special Needs Parenting.*” She was nominated by Sharon Owens.

Dianne Shearon of Rehoboth Beach is founder of the Food Pantry program at the Community Resource Center in Rehoboth Beach and was nominated by one of the center’s volunteer day managers, Susan Morrison, for “her vision, her persistence, her persuasion.” Shearon handles fund-raising, food donations, and pickup and delivery of food for the center’s clients, plus setting up a volunteer program. She is also active in the artist-owned and operated Gallery One in Ocean View.

Amy Wood of Ocean City, nominated by Olive Mawyer, is the mother of Alex, a survivor of a pituitary brain tumor. She founded the Raymond A. Wood Foundation to provide life support for childhood brain tumor survivors and their families by creating connections to innovation and information. To date, the foundation has provided more than \$100,000 of medical equipment and supplies to pediatric brain tumor patients. Wood also launched Art of Surviving, an online art exhibit to showcase art as a form of therapy and self expression.

Admission is always free to the Ocean City Center for the Arts at 502 94th Street, home of the Art League of Ocean City, a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing the visual arts to the community through education, exhibits, scholarship, programs and community art projects. More information is available at 410-524-9433 or ArtLeagueOfOceanCity.org.

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Thank you!

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