

# ArtsPaper

Spring 2023

News &  
Information on  
the Arts from the  
Huntingdon County  
Arts Council

## The Art Center Celebrates Its First Year

### From Vision to Reality

It has been one year since we purchased the former 12th Street Methodist church in Huntingdon. During this time, we have been working hard to transform this space—now known as The Huntingdon County Arts Center—into a hub for artistic expression and community engagement. Our monthly art exhibits and musical concerts have been well received, and we are excited to continue showcasing the talents of artists and musicians from central Pennsylvania.

But the Arts Center is more than just a venue for performances and exhibitions. We also are committed to providing you and your family with opportunities for learning and creativity through our workshops, classes, art walks, and summer art camps

### CELEBRATION OF THE ARTS

On Saturday, June 10, we will celebrate the one-year anniversary of the Huntingdon County Arts Center. A lot has happened since we opened our doors in April of 2022 with *Spring Thaw*, the first exhibit in our new building. Since then, we have offered monthly exhibits and concerts, a variety of workshops and classes, a summer art camp for children, a year-round arts store, and the opening night of the Art Cat Jazz Club.

To celebrate a highly successful first year, we are initiating an annual *Celebration of the Arts*. The event will feature three types of activities for your enjoyment and inspiration. First, there will be demonstrations of a variety of art forms, including painting, working with fiber, and jewelry making. Other sessions will involve hands-on activities for adults as well as children. For example, children and adults will be able to paint rocks and create other fun items that can be taken home.

Second, there will be live music all day. (See the schedule that accompanies this article.) Biscuit Jam, a popular music duo from State College, will be one of

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for kids. Additionally, we have opened our doors to a diverse set of community groups and allowed them to use our building for meetings and events. We have provided



*Anthony Bullett performs at Keyboard Fest*

space for the Girl Scouts, the Camera Club, a knitting group, poetry readings, a German language group, vegan potlucks, folk jam sessions, and others. Through offering these resources to the community, we hope to foster a sense of belonging and connection among all who visit our center.

The opening of the Arts  
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### Summer Art Camp for Students

The Arts Council will run Summer Art Camps for students ages 5-8 and 9-12. The classes will be organized into one-week blocks, starting on June 19 and continuing through August 3. Separate sessions will be held in the mornings (9-11 a.m.) and afternoons (12-2 p.m.).

Students will be able to choose if they would like to attend a morning or afternoon class or participate in both. If students choose to do both, they will have a one-hour break to eat lunch and socialize.

Art teachers Olivia Gennaro and Andrea Darby will be the instructors. The topics will include drawing, painting, portraiture, and 3-D art. Some classes will focus on trees and how they can be recreated with different types of media.

The cost will be \$85 per week per session (morning or afternoon). More details and information on how to register are available at [huntingdoncountyarts.com](http://huntingdoncountyarts.com).



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The *ArtsPaper* is a publication of The Huntingdon County Arts Council. We are funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, local government and your membership.

Memberships and contributions help us fulfill our mission to provide opportunities to experience the arts.

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**Layout & Design**  
John Kearns



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# Executive Director

## Dear Member:

**M**y first connection to the Arts Council was our folk music festivals. I started out going to the concerts, asked to be a volunteer, and the rest is history.

If you like music, please, please, please avail yourself to the absolutely wonderful Folk College concerts on Friday and Saturday nights, May 26 and 27. While the whole Folk College weekend is geared to amateur musicians, with lots of workshops on a range of topics, the evening concerts are open to the public and are a real treat. Each night's concert is different, and we are able to bring truly outstanding performers to Huntingdon County. I hope you take advantage of this opportunity.

We do have a jam packed spring/summer lined up for you. From great art exhibits, a lineup of great music concert AND Concerts on the Quad, several workshops, and more. We are especially pleased to again offer an expanded version of last year's successful Summer Art Camp for Student.

But please mark your calendar for a special day: Saturday, June 10, our *Celebration of the Arts*. We wanted

to continue the great momentum we received from last year's Grand Opening, and we plan to have an annual *Celebration of the Arts* to showcase our building, our artists, our musicians, and the many activities we have to offer the Huntingdon County community.

The Arts Council was pleased to be recognized for a Community Improvement Award (see below), by turning the church into the **Arts Center**.

We appreciate your continuing support of our Capital Campaign, your memberships and general donations that help make the Huntingdon County Arts Council a stronger organization, so that we can do more for you!

We hope to see you soon.

John Kearns  
Executive Director



# CouncilNotes

## Council Receives Community Improvement Award

**T**he Huntingdon County Planning Commission gave the Arts Council a Community Improvement Award at their dinner on March 9. The award recognizes the Arts Council's "significant contribution to the county in the field of community development."

As readers of this newsletter know, the Arts Council purchased the former Methodist church on 12th Street in Huntingdon last year and transformed it into an **Arts Center**. The award recognizes the many advantages the new **Arts Center** brings to our community, such as monthly concerts and exhibits, a public meeting space for formal and informal community groups, a youth summer arts camp, and a year-round shop where local artists can sell their work.

The Arts Council's long-term objectives have been to promote cultural activities and stimulate interest in and awareness of the arts in our county. The community improvement award demonstrates that our efforts are being appreciated and applauded, and we are grateful to the Planning Commission for their recognition and support.



## Mail Campaign Begins Soon

**T**he Huntingdon County Arts Council conducts a mail fundraising campaign once a year. Although memberships are an important source of revenue, we can't survive on membership fees alone. That is why we ask everyone, members as well as nonmembers, to contribute a little something extra at this time.

We hope you share our goal of making Huntingdon County a more interesting, colorful, and artful place to live. We have been working hard during the last year to make this happen, but we can't do it without your help. When a letter reaches you early this summer, please consider responding with a donation of some sort. Let's work together to make good things happen in our community.

## Volunteers Wanted

**W**ould you like to become more involved with the Arts Council? Although we welcome all kinds of assistance, we currently are looking for volunteers to help out in the following areas:

- Working with the social media committee to share information about Arts Council events.
- Hosting during art exhibits and helping in the Art Shoppe.

Note that helping in the Art Shoppe during concert days provides you with free admission to the performance.

If you would like to volunteer for these or other tasks, contact John Kearns at 814-643-6220.

## From the Editor

I hope you are enjoying the current issue of the **ArtsPaper**. Our colorful, 12-page newsletter comes out four times a year and is another benefit of your Arts Council membership. As the Editor, I write most of the articles, and John Kearns, our Executive Director, is responsible for the layout and the overall look of the newsletter.

Notice that our newsletter has several recurring sections. The first page contains articles that we think are newsworthy and of general interest to our readers. The second page features *Council Notes*, where we highlight business and board related issues, such as the election of new board officers, changes in memberships, and Capital Campaign contributions.

The *Recent Events* section provides short summaries of activities that have occurred since the previous newsletter, whereas the *Upcoming Events* section highlights activities that will take place in the near future.

*Focus on the Arts* is where you will find articles of general interest. Recent newsletters have included articles on Impressionism, the Hudson River School

of Art, Australian Aboriginal Art, and the Historic Architecture of Huntingdon. We hope you find these articles to be interesting and informative.

In the *Artist Spotlight*, we profile one or more Huntingdon County artists. In recent newsletters, we have featured a variety of potters, fiber artists, quilters, painters, and other creative souls. With so many talented and productive people in our community, there will be no shortage of material for this section.

The newsletter also includes a one-page *Arts Calendar* with information on a variety of upcoming arts-related activities in a convenient form. It serves as a supplement to the more detailed Arts Calendar on our website.

How are we doing? Your feedback is welcome. Which aspects of the newsletter do you especially like or find useful? What topics or artists would you like to see covered in future issues? How could the newsletter be improved? Feel free to send suggestions and comments on any topic to paulamato00@gmail.com. I'm looking forward to hearing from you.

Paul Amato

# Thank You!

## Capital Campaign Update

We are continuing to solicit contributions for our Capital Campaign to address necessary repairs and renovations to our new building. Thank you to the following people who donated to our Capital Campaign since that last newsletter. We continue to welcome your donations to make capital improvements to the **Huntingdon County Arts Center**.

### \$10,000 and Above

Tom & Pat Kepple

### \$5,000 - \$9,999

Anonymous

### \$500 - \$1,499

Linda Esch  
Mary Ann Lemke

### Any Gift Up to \$499

Anonymous  
Christos + Partners, LLC  
John & Barb Eastman  
John Kearns & Kathy Tweed  
Thomas & Rebecca Miller  
Keith Sutton & Jeanne Nagurny  
Dale & Helen Wright  
Carol Yoder



## The Arts Calendar is Online

**H**ave a look at our new online Arts Calendar by going to huntingdoncountyarts.com and clicking on the *Arts Calendar* tab. Here you will find a listing of the many arts-related events and activities coming up in our area. Each entry includes an image, the time and date, tickets prices (if relevant), and other useful information. Arts Council events also include tabs for purchasing tickets. Check the Arts Calendar regularly so you won't have to kick yourself later for missing an event of interest.

Thanks to ACCO Brands for wonderful donation of art supplies. The supplies were used as prizes for the 50 winners of Spring Thaw 2023.



The Huntingdon County Arts Council is supported in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts for our 2023 Folk College.

The Huntingdon County Arts Council receives state arts funding support through a grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.



# Recent Events

Since the last newsletter in early February, the Arts Council has been busy with concerts, exhibits, workshops, and other events. Here is a quick recap on what we have been up to during the last three months.

## Exhibits Old Crow Wetland

An exhibit of art inspired by the Old Crow Wetland was on display in February. A total of 22 people contributed items to the show, including paintings, photographs, woodcarvings, sculpture, textiles, and poetry. In addition to art, the exhibit included a display of newspaper clippings about Old Crow, a simulated pond, charts of bird sightings at Old Crow, and recordings of bird sounds. The opening reception attracted a large and enthusiastic crowd. The exhibit ran from February 3 to March 4.



## Spring Thaw

The annual *Spring Thaw* exhibit of student art is one of our most popular shows. This year, local students from kindergarten through high school submitted a total



Kendall Barton stands next to her picture at Spring Thaw

of 307 art works (a 37% increase over last year). Judges awarded 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place ribbons for different categories of art within age groups.

We thank Norm and Cathy Wilson, Barb Fisher, and Pam Kavanaugh for serving as judges.

The exhibit ran from March 10 to April 1.

## Tasteful Art, Alex Ramos

*Tasteful Art*, paintings by Alex Ramos, ran from April 14 (reception) to May 6. Alex is a self-taught artist who specializes in realistic still-life paintings. Using small brushes, careful color selection, and a great deal of patience, he executes lifelike depictions of everyday objects, ranging from fruits and vegetables to manufactured items like glassware and pottery. His paintings, which are often mistaken for photographs, compel viewers to slow down and observe objects in a new light. The exhibit ran from April 14 to May 6.



## Workshops

The following workshops were offered since our last newsletter:

- Teri Smith, of Baron Hill, taught a two-session class on wire wrapping techniques for gemstones, pebbles, and shells.
- Prudence Ingerman taught a 6-week class on creative writing.
- Ginny Mutti led three Pysanky Ukrainian egg decorating workshops.
- Brian Ford taught a workshop on techniques for nature-based ink drawing.

## Acoustic Music Jams

Acoustic music jam sessions are now held at the Arts Center on the first Monday of each month. Participants enjoy a variety of musical styles, and all types of acoustic instruments are welcome. The sessions provide opportunities for people to sing and play familiar tunes and perhaps learn new ones as well.

## Art Walks

We continue to have Art Walk activities at the Art Center on every third Thursday of the month. On recent evenings, people have made origami roses, created watercolor rainbows and zentangle designs, and painted used cans and planted seeds (for Earth Day).

## Poetry

A second poetry open mic took place on April 16. The event provided an opportunity for local poets and poetry fans to come together and share their fascination with the written word. Some people read their own poems, other people read poems by their favorite authors, and others just enjoyed listening. Beverages and popcorn were provided.

## Concerts

### Keyboard Fest on Sunday, February 19

Our first Keyboard Fest was held on February 19. Six local musicians (Anthony Bullett, Guy Croyle, William Lamberson, Donna Rhodes, Loren Rhodes, and Keith Sutton) provided an outstanding show of keyboard music. Musical styles ranged from hymns to classical to folk. The event attracted a lot of attention, and our concert hall was close to maximum capacity!



Keyboard performers (from left) Guy Croyle, Keith Sutton, Loren Rhodes, Donna Rhodes, William Lamberson, & Anthony Bullett

### Callanish on Wednesday, March 15

Callanish, a popular Irish musical act, performed on March 15, just in time for Saint Patrick's Day. The five musicians played a variety of jigs, airs, and reels that had people tapping their feet and wishing they could dance in the aisles. The group entertained the audience with a variety of instruments, including flute, concertina, fiddle, guitar, baouzouki, drums, and banjo.



Callanish performs for St. Patrick's Day at the Arts Center

# Recent Events

## JANO Duo on Sunday, April 23

The JANO Duo, which consists of Naomi Seidman on flute and Jonathan Dexter on cello, performed on April 23. These two highly accomplished, classically trained musicians performed a series of delicate works from contemporary composers, including several inspired by poetry. The combination of flute and cello sounded heavenly in our concert hall.



JANO Duo Naomi Seidman & Jonathan Dexter

## Mayfest

As in previous years, the Arts Council had a booth at Mayfest. The annual event, held on the last Saturday of April, provides an opportunity for us to meet new people and share what we are doing. We also added two art activities this year: painting wooden hearts and decorating a mural.

This year we teamed up with Standing Stone Coffee Company, who graciously donated all the proceeds from their coffee sales to the Arts Council. Many thanks to Standing Stone Coffee for their support of the arts.

## The Art Cat Jazz Club

Our effort to turn the basement of the Arts Center into a jazz club was a big success. The room was decorated to resemble a 1920s speakeasy, with dim lights, candles, and lots of ambiance. The band, *No Filter Jazz*, was hot, and the audience responded to their spirited renditions of jazz standards with copious rounds of applause. Standing Stone Coffee Company provided delicious snacks, and



No Filter Jazz performs at the Art Cat Jazz Club

Three Twelve Kitchen & Cocktails ran a cash bar at happy hour prices all night. The evening also included a variety of door prizes and a cash raffle. The event was sold out, and judging from the many enthusiastic reactions we received, people had a great time. In fact, some people already are asking, "When is the next one?"

## The Art Center Celebrates Its First Year continued from page 1

Center marks a significant step forward in our mission to offer artistic and cultural activities to people like you in our community. We are grateful for the support of our patrons, volunteers, and community partners, and we look forward to growing and evolving in the years to come. We invite you to come and explore the many possibilities that the Arts Center has to offer. Our annual *Celebration of the Arts*, on Saturday June 10, (see article on page 1 for details) is a great chance for you and your family to experience more art and music right here in Huntingdon.

## Celebration of the Arts June 10 continued from page 1

our featured acts. And third, visitors will be able to see our current gallery exhibit, *Beyond Realism: Freeing Our Imaginations*.

The event is free and tickets are not required. The Arts Center's doors will open at 9 a.m. and activities will continue through 4 p.m. The Arts Center is located at 313 12th Street in Huntingdon.

So drop by on June 10 and check out the action. If you haven't been to the Arts Center yet, this will be a great time to have a look.

## Celebration for the Arts Music Schedule

- 10:00 a.m. **The Unusual Suspects**, Bluegrass & folk
- 11:00 a.m. **Nick Miller**, Indian sitar & folk
- 12:00 p.m. **Biscuit Jam**, Acoustic versions of classic rock songs by this popular State College duo
- 1:00 p.m. **Paul Amato**, Acoustic guitar: Spanish, classical & rock
- 2:00 p.m. **The Pluto Duo**, Classical guitar duets from Wayne Osgood & Paul Amato
- 2:30 p.m. **RSVP**, Light, big band, & Latin jazz

# Upcoming Events

## Folk College Concerts Open to the Public

The public is invited to attend the outstanding evening concerts associated with Folk College on Friday and Saturday night, May 26 and 27, which this year will be at the Brumbaugh Academic Center. Friday's concert features host folk duo *Simple Gifts*, country blues duo *Piedmont Blüz*, and new "old fashioned" duo *Resonant Rogues*. Saturday's concert features Appalachia-meets-Asia group *Appalasia*, Celtic duo *Rakish*, and a folk/Americana group with tight vocals, *Buffalo Rose*.

The full weekend of Folk College is designed for amateur musicians to acquire skills, learn songs, and play with other musicians. There are workshops at all levels—from beginning to advanced. Our *Try An Instrument* workshops are especially popular. Note that local residents who don't want the full Folk College weekend can take individual workshops for only \$45.

We pride ourselves on providing a fun and friendly weekend, and we go out of our way to make Folk College a welcoming, encouraging environment. For more details on how to participate in Folk College or to hear these great performers in concert, go to [www.folkcollege.com](http://www.folkcollege.com) or call 814-643-6220.



Buffalo Rose will be at Folk College

# Upcoming Events

## Celebration of the Arts

As noted on page 1 in the newsletter, our one-year anniversary event will take place at the **Arts Center** on Saturday, June 10, between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

## Exhibits

### Silver Linings Exhibit: A Call for Entries Show

The 8th annual Call for Entries show is coming up. This year's theme will be *Silver Linings*, and all artists are invited to participate. The exhibit will run from May 12 to June 3 at the **Arts Center**.

All artwork should be based on, inspired by, or related to the *Silver Linings* theme. As in previous years, however, artists are welcome to interpret the theme in any way they wish.

All types of media are welcome, including drawings, paintings, prints, photography, 3-D art, poetry, and prose. All 2-D art should be framed and ready for hanging. Entries will be accepted at the **Arts Center** on Tuesday, May 9, and Wednesday, May 10, from 2 to 6 p.m. or by appointment.

We have had great call for entry shows in the past, including *Equinox* in



2022, *Luminosity* in 2019, *Along the Juniata* in 2018, *Latitude, Longitude: Celebrating the 250 years of Huntingdon Borough* in 2017, *Explore, Reclaim, and Conserve: Huntingdon County* in 2016, *Contours* in 2015, and *The Raven* in 2014.

Call for entry shows are popular with the public and provide a great opportunity for all of our local artists to show their work. This will be the first Call for Entries show in the new **Arts Center**.

Art and silver linings tend to go together. The arts help us to retain a positive outlook on life, even in the midst of personal difficulties. In stressful times, we need the arts more than ever!

### Quilters See the LIGHT, May 12–June 3

An exhibit of quilts will accompany the *Silver Lining* show. Recently, quilters from the Redbud Quilt Guild responded to a challenge to make 24 x 24 inch quilts expressing the theme of "Light." All techniques and styles were acceptable. The exhibit of 31 quilts is based on entries created by members of the Redbud Quilt Guild and other quilt organizations in our region. There will be a reception on May 12 at 6 p.m.



The Redbud Quilt Guild consists of quilt-lovers from Huntingdon County who meet every month in Mill Creek. The group organizes an annual quilt show in April and is represented every year at our county fair.

### Beyond Realism: Freeing Our Imaginations, June 9–July 8

Our June exhibit, *Beyond Realism: Freeing Our Imaginations*, will feature four local artists: Andrea Darby, Evgeny (Geny) Krayushkin, Rebecca (Bex) Reck, and Paul Amato. Their works, which include sculpture as well as painting, draw on various forms of nonrealism, including Surrealism, Expressionism, and Geometric Abstraction. (See the article on nonrealism in the current issue of the newsletter.) The opening



Paul Amato, *Untitled*, part of the *Beyond Realism* exhibit

reception will be on Friday, June 9, at 6 p.m., and the show will continue through July 8.

### Dream & Myth, July 14–August 12

In July, Jim Bright and Joanne Landis will have a joint exhibition titled, *Dream & Myth*. Jim is a sculpture who works in wood, bronze, and stone, whereas Joanne Landis is a painter who works exclusively with the human figure. Both artists reside in central Pennsylvania. The exhibit will begin with a reception on July 14 at 6 p.m.

## Workshops

### Living Your Wildest Dreams in Art Workshop, June 12

*Living Your Wildest Dreams in Art*, taught by Evgeny Krayushkin, will explore the use of Abstraction, Surrealism, and Expressionism to tell personal stories in art. Designed to accompany the exhibit on nonrealism, the session will be held on Monday, June 12, 6-8 p.m. in the Art Center. The cost is \$35 for nonmembers and \$30 for members; a canvas, acrylic paint, and brushes are included. This is your chance to experiment with painting in a completely uninhibited, expressive style.

### Storytelling with the Figure & Drawing Our Hometown, July 16

Jim Bright and Joanne Landis will teach two drawing workshops on July 16. *Storytelling with the Figure* will be held (indoors) in the morning, from 10 to 11:30 a.m., and *Drawing Our Hometown* will be held (outdoors) in the afternoon, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. The latter session will focus on local architecture and will include composition tips along with a discussion of perspective.

The cost for each workshop is \$35 for nonmembers and \$30 for members.

# Upcoming Events

## Concerts

### Rick Hirsch 5 on Sunday, June 4

The Rick Hirsch 5 will perform on Sunday, June 4 at 3 p.m. Rick Hirsch is an award-winning composer, arranger, and saxophonist who began his career as a personal music copyist for Bob Mintzer and Toshiko Akiyoshi. He has written music for jazz icons Yusef Lateef, Tito Puente, and Eddie Henderson; the Capitol Quartet; and the storied Penn State Blue Band. His album *Pocono Git-Down* is available on all major streaming and download platforms.

The Rick Hirsch 5's performances are an homage to the pioneers of Soul Jazz—a form of jazz that emerged in the 1950s and 1960s with roots in bop, blues, soul, gospel, and rhythm and blues. In addition to Hirsch, the players include Ryan Kauffman (saxophone), Kevin Lowe (drums), Bob Hart (bass), and Clay Wulbrecht (piano).

Tickets are \$20 general admission and \$16 for Arts Council members and students with ID. Children 12 and under are free.



### Deacons of Dixieland on Sunday, July 16

The Deacons of Dixieland will perform on Sunday, July 16 at 2 p.m. The Deacons play traditional Dixieland music, based on a style that developed in New Orleans during the first decades of the 20th century. In addition to traditional jazz, they play blues, waltzes, polkas, and country western tunes, but always in the Dixieland manner.

The Deacons have been entertaining audiences in Central Pennsylvania and other parts of the country since 1988. They are especially noted for their performances outside the Bryce Jordan Center prior to Penn State home football games. If you enjoy old-fashioned songs like "Bill Bailey," "Sweet Georgia Brown," and "When the Saints Come Marching In," you will get a kick out of this group.

Tickets are \$20 general admission and \$16 for Arts Council members and students with ID. Children 12 and under are free.

## The Art Cat Jazz Club

Due to popular demand, the Art Cat Jazz Club will be opening its doors again soon. Arthur the Art Cat and his friend Jaz are looking forward to having another evening of revelry in our slightly disreputable speakeasy. In the meantime, we are working to expand the available space in the Club. This will give patrons a little more room to stretch out and even create some space for dancing!

We will continue to arrange for jazz evenings, but we also may include some evenings of blues music in our schedule. Although a date has not been set for the next event, we hope to see you later in the summer. Stay tuned for more information.

## OVOID

A sphere,  
nearly perfect  
mathematically concise  
but lacking  
that inherent warmth  
an egg supplies,  
smoothly tapered,  
more intriguing in  
its asymmetry  
along one axis,  
and fitting  
so comfortably  
within the hand.

Pam Kavanaugh

## Concerts on the Quad

Our summer Concerts on the Quad series will resume on June 29. Concerts begin at 6:30 p.m. and are held on the lawn in front of the Halbritter Center for the Performing Arts at Juniata College. The rain location will be in the **Arts Center** at 313 12th Street. These concerts are free, although donations for the musicians are encouraged. Bring a blanket or a lawn chair, and perhaps something to eat or drink, and enjoy a warm summer evening of music in beautiful Huntingdon.

June 29	Stone Creek Blues
July 6	Jackson Pavlik
July 13	Big Band Sound
August 3	Acoustic Express

## The Huntingdon County Fair

Every year the Arts Council operates the Art Station at the Huntingdon County Fairgrounds. The Art Station features paintings, drawings, sculpture, photography, and other types of art created by local children as well as adults.

The public is encouraged to submit entries (Department 19, Art, Photo). You can enter items by preregistering online at [entries.huntingdoncountyfair.com](http://entries.huntingdoncountyfair.com). Entries are then accepted on Saturday, August 5, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Art Station.

The exhibit will run from Sunday, August 6 through Saturday, August 12. Make sure to stop by the Art Station when you are at the fair this year. You will be impressed with the quantity and quality of art produced in our small county!

Our concert series  
is underwritten by a  
generous grant from



# Focus on the Arts

## Nonrealism in Art — More than Meets the Eye

During the Renaissance, European artists learned how to represent the objective world more realistically. An understanding of perspective made it possible to create the illusion of three-dimensional space on a flat canvas. The study of anatomy allowed artists to render the human body more accurately. And new techniques for capturing the effects of light and shadow made it possible for artists to add drama and depth to their creations.

Realism culminated in *trompe-l'oeil* (deceive the eye) painting, in which objects are depicted so precisely that casual viewers might mistakenly think they are viewing the real thing. In a realist sense, “good” paintings are ones that look much like photographs.

Nonrealism is a general style of art that avoids depicting people, objects, or scenes in a strictly representational manner. Rather than attempt to mimic the world with photographic accuracy, nonrealism exaggerates or distorts reality for the sake of artistic expression. In its most extreme form—pure abstraction—artists dispense with representations of external reality altogether.

Impressionism, which developed in the second half of the 19th century, was a forerunner to nonrealism. Impressionist painters worked quickly to capture the fleeting effects of light, and they also softened and blurred the outlines of people and objects, resulting in canvases of pure, shimmering color. Post-impressionists, like Vincent Van Gogh, Paul Gauguin, and Paul Cezanne, pushed the boundaries even further to create strikingly original works of art.

The Impressionists and Post-Impressionists paved the way for a variety of nonrealist traditions that emerged early in the 20th century. Some of the most prominent were Fauvism, Expressionism, Cubism, Surrealism, and pure Abstraction.

### Fauvism

Fauvism emerged in France during the first decade of the 20th century. These painters were inspired by the post-impressionists but worked in even more uninhibited ways. Their paintings typically involved bright and unusual color choices, vivid images, and simplified forms. Rather than represent reality objectively, Fauvists were more interested in expressing emotional and subjective responses to their subject matter.

The term “Fauvism” derives from the French word for “wild beasts.” (Conservative art critics at the time derided their work as wild and savage.) Some of the key artists



Maurice de Vlaminck, *Restaurant de la Machine à Bougival*

associated with this movement were Andre Derain, Maurice de Vlaminck, and Henri Matisse. The painting shown here by Vlaminck (painted in 1905), with its intense colors, is typical of this style. Fauvism was short lived, but its emphasis on individual expression and the free use of color influenced many subsequent artists.



Ernst Ludwig Kirchner, *Brandenburg Gate*

### Expressionism

Expressionism emerged in Germany during the first two decades of the 20th century. As a movement, its influence extended not only to painting, but also to theater, film, dance, and literature. These artists frequently used distorted shapes, extreme angles, and intense colors to heighten the impact of their work. Many Expressionists were reacting against what they saw as the destructive and dehumanizing effects of industrialization and modernism, and their works often conveyed a sense that the world is a troubled and fragmented place.

Ernst Ludwig Kirchner (1880-1938) was one of the founders of Expressionism. As a young man, he fought in World War I and suffered a mental and physical breakdown from which he never fully recovered. His painting of the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin (1915) uses a warped perspective and harsh colors to create a sense of unease and foreboding. The Nazis thought that Expressionist art was decadent, and during the 1930s and 1940s, they seized and destroyed many of Kirchner's works, along with those of other Expressionists.

### Cubism

Cubism originated in the early 20th century and was pioneered by artists like Pablo Picasso, Georges Braque, and Juan Gris. Cubists sought to represent objects by simplifying them into their basic geometric forms, such as cubes and spheres. Their paintings also challenged traditional ideas of perspective by showing a subject from multiple viewpoints simultaneously—a technique that conveys a sense of movement.

In contrast to the bright canvases of the Fauvists, cubists tended to use neutral colors, like gray, brown, and black. The 1913 painting by Juan Gris, *Still Life with a Guitar*, shows how the artist took elements of the scene (guitar, table top, music, newspaper, glasses) and reorganized them into a unique configuration. Many cubists also incorporated collage elements, such as pieces



Juan Gris, *Still Life with a Guitar*

of newspaper or found objects, into their paintings.

Cubism was relatively short lived, and most cubist painters, such as Picasso, went on to explore other styles of art in their careers. Nevertheless, cubism had an important influence on subsequent art movements, such as surrealism.



Rene Magritte, *The Therapist*

landscapes, and unexpected juxtapositions of objects. The movement also emphasized automatism, a technique in which artists created without conscious thought or planning, allowing the subconscious mind to guide the process of creation.

Some of the key figures in the surrealist movement were Salvador Dali, Joan Miro, and Rene Magritte. *The Therapist*, painted by Rene Magritte in 1937, is a good example of surrealism. This painting is rich in psychological symbolism. The man's open cloak reveals two white doves, one caged and one free, which might refer to the struggle to set oneself free from a dark and lonely place. As with most surrealist art, multiple interpretations are possible.

### Pure Abstraction

After absorbing the early lessons of Fauvism and other nonrealist movements, some artists took the next logical step and embraced pure abstraction. Abstract art can take many forms, but its focus is on color, form, and texture, with no attempt to represent objects in the “real” world. A key idea is that an artwork can exist for its own sake, independently of and without reference to the objective world. In a sense, the art-

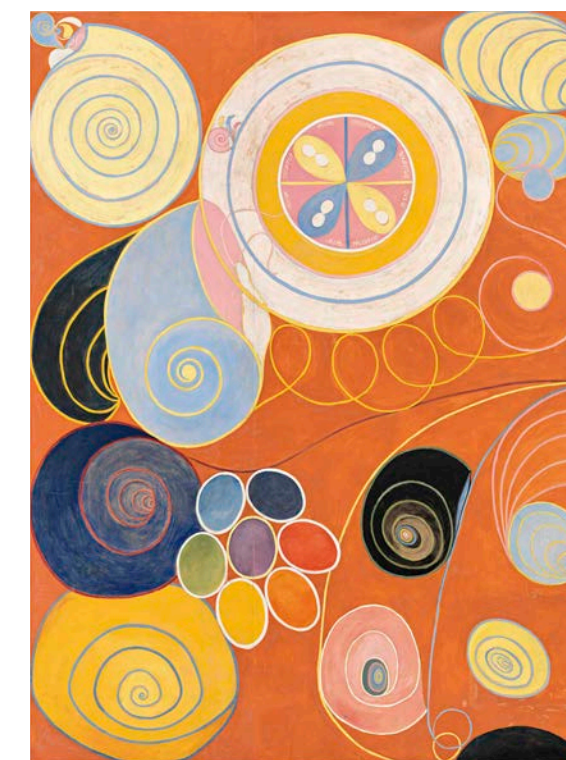
work is its own reality—a feature that allows the viewer to engage with the work at an entirely intuitive level.

Some of the key people in the development of abstract art were Wassily Kandinsky, Kasimir Malevich, and Piet Mondrian. Although less well known than her male counterparts, the Swedish artist Hilma af Klint created some of the first entirely abstract paintings. Her painting shown here was produced in 1907—at least a decade before other well-known artists began to work in this style. Her paintings, which sometimes resemble colorful diagrams, were meant to be visual representations of complex spiritual ideas.

It's common for critics of abstract art to claim that “a child could do this.” In fact, most abstract artists are well trained in the classical arts and are quite capable of painting in realistic styles. They paint the way they do because they choose to and enjoy it. And, of course, we should not underestimate the playful creativity of children. Being able to “paint like a child” is no easy feat and is something to which great artists of all persuasions have aspired.

It is important to note that abstract art has been common outside of formal, western art traditions for many centuries. One can find examples in such varied places as Islamic art, ancient Greek pottery, Navajo blankets, Sudanese baskets, Australian Aboriginal bark paintings, Indian mandalas, and traditional American quilt designs. Indeed, abstraction appears to be a universal feature of human artistic expression.

An exhibit of nonrealism, *Nonrealism: Freeing the Imagination*, will occur at the Art Center in June. Come and see some unusual creations from local artists working in this intriguing tradition.



Hilma af Klint, *The Ten Largest, No. 3, Youth*

# ArtistSpotlight

## Larry Cloz: Seeing the World Through a Camera Lens

Life-long hobbies sometimes begin at early ages. Larry Cloz was an elementary school student in Yellow Springs, Ohio, when his parents gave him a Brownie camera—an antique today but a treasured possession for a young child in the 1950s. He used his new camera to take pictures of birds, his family, and his classmates.

Larry's interest in photography continued into his high school years when his grandfather, an avid outdoorsman and photographer, gave him a sophisticated 35 mm camera. He also learned to develop his own black and white images in a friend's father's darkroom. Larry developed a reputation as a camera enthusiast, and he was asked to take photos for his high school yearbook.



Larry Cloz: has camera, will travel

When his wife delivered their first child, Larry entered the delivery room with two cameras around his neck—with his doctor's permission—and captured the event on film.

For several years, the combined demands of work and parenting made it difficult for Larry to spend time on his hobby. His interest in photography was rekindled in 2002, however, when his brother-in-law purchased a "point and shoot" digital camera. Larry "thought that was pretty neat" and soon bought one of his own. By this time, his boys had moved out of the house, and Larry had more free time.

Soon he "had the bug again" and was exploring the possibilities of digital photography. As he said, "With a film camera, you used to take a picture and wait for 10 days to see what you've got." With digital, in contrast, you have "instant gratification." And although photography has a reputation for being an expensive hobby, "With digital, the cost is in the equipment, not in the pictures themselves," that is, you can take as many

Larry Cloz, Flower, 7 Points Beach House, Raystown Lake, 2022



Larry Cloz, Osprey, Idaho Creek Wild Area, Longmont, Colorado, 2022

photos as you like and keep the best.

He currently owns two Canon digital cameras, which he uses to capture images of nature, landscapes, family gatherings (especially his grandkids), sports events, and the social activities of his local church group. He especially likes to take photos of large birds, and he often travels to areas rich in wildlife to capture images of eagles, egrets, snow geese, and other avians. Larry's prodigious output as a photographer is apparent to anyone who visits his home: The walls of every room are covered with 100's of his photos—each, he says, "with a unique story behind it."

Larry's involvement with the Arts Council started about 10 years ago. As Larry said, "At the time, I didn't know much about the Arts Council. I knew nothing about ceramics or painting. But I heard they were putting on a photography show, so I went to the reception." Larry began to attend receptions after that, and on several occasions he heard people discussing the idea of a photography club. Intrigued by the prospect, Larry



Larry Cloz, WWII Weekend, Reading, PA, 2017

began to "bug" Board Members about it, and eventually a club was formed.

The Photography Club's first coordinator had to step down because of scheduling conflicts, so Larry took her place the following year. The Club has been getting together since then under Larry's leadership, although there was a hiatus during the Covid-19 pandemic.

*continued on Page 12*

# ArtsCalendar

The Huntingdon County Arts Council is the hub for local arts and cultural activities. Check here to see what's coming up. Have an art activity? Send details and we will put it on our website arts calendar. Send to [info@huntingdoncountyarts.com](mailto:info@huntingdoncountyarts.com).

**Bold = Huntingdon County Arts Council activity**

May–July 2023

When	What	Where	Details
Friday/Saturday, May 5, 6, 12, & 13; Sunday Matinees 7 & 14	Girls' Weekend, a comedy	The Playhouse at McConnellstown	7:30 p.m. Sunday Matinees 2 p.m.
Friday, May 12 to Saturday, June 3	<b>Silver Linings A Call for Entries Exhibit Plus Quilters See the LIGHT</b>	Huntingdon County Arts Center	Opening reception May 12, 6 to 8; open Tuesday thru Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Thursday, May 18	Art Walk Huntingdon	Various locations in borough	5 to 8 p.m. Art activities
Thursday, May 25	<b>Camera Club Meeting</b>	Huntingdon County Arts Center	Open to all, 7 p.m.
Friday, May 26 to Sunday, May 28	<b>Folk College: Workshops, Concerts, &amp; Jamming</b>	Juniata College	See page 5 Full details at folkcollege.com
Friday, May 26 & Saturday, May 27	<b>Folk College Concert</b> Different concert each night	Brumbugh Academic Center, Juniata College	7 p.m., tickets \$20/\$16 Arts Council members
Sunday, June 4	<b>Rick Hirsch 5 Concert</b>	Huntingdon County Arts Center	3 p.m., see page 7
Monday, June 5	<b>Acoustic Music Jam</b>	Huntingdon County Arts Center	Open to all, 7 p.m.
Friday, June 9 to Saturday, July 8	<b>Beyond Realism Exhibit</b> Amato/Darby/Krayushkin/Reck	Huntingdon County Arts Center	Reception June 9, 6 to 8 p.m., Tues - Sat, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturday, June 10	<b>Celebration of the Arts</b>	Huntingdon County Arts Center	9 a.m. to 4 p.m., see page 1
Monday, June 12	<b>Living Your Wildest Dreams in Art Workshop</b> , Evgeny	Huntingdon County Arts Center	6 to 8 p.m. Register online, see page 6
Thursday, June 15	Art Walk Huntingdon	Various locations in borough	5 to 8 p.m. Art activities
Thursday, June 22	<b>Camera Club Meeting</b>	Huntingdon County Arts Center	Open to all, 7 p.m.
Thursday, June 29	<b>Concerts on the Quad: Stone Creek Blues</b>	Juniata College campus quad in front of Halbritter Center	6:30 p.m., all donations go to the musicians
Monday, July 3	<b>Acoustic Music Jam</b>	Huntingdon County Arts Center	Open to all, 7 p.m.
Thursday, July 6	<b>Concerts on the Quad: Jackson Pavlik</b>	Juniata College campus quad in front of Halbritter Center	6:30 p.m., all donations go to the musician
Thursday, July 13	<b>Concerts on the Quad: Big Band Sound</b>	Juniata College campus quad in front of Halbritter Center	6:30 p.m., all donations go to the musicians
Friday, July 14 to Saturday, August 12	<b>Dream &amp; Myth Exhibit</b> Jim Bright & Joanne Landis	Huntingdon County Arts Center	Reception July 14, 6 to 8 p.m., Tues - Sat, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturday, July 15	<b>Storytelling with Figure Workshop</b> , Joanne Landis	Huntingdon County Arts Center	10 to 11:30 a.m. Register online, see page 6
Saturday, July 15	<b>Drawing Our Hometown Workshop</b> , Jim Bright	Huntingdon County Arts Center	1 to 2:30 p.m. Register online, see page 6
Sunday, July 16	<b>Deacons of Dixieland Concert</b>	Huntingdon County Arts Center	2 p.m., see page 7
Thursday, July 20	Art Walk Huntingdon	Various locations in borough	5 to 8 p.m. Art activities
Friday/Saturday, July 21, 22, 28, 29; Matinees 23 & 30	Something's Afoot	The Playhouse at McConnellstown	7:30 p.m. Sunday Matinees 2 p.m.
Tuesday, July 25	Community Summer Band	Sharrar House, Mt. Union	7 p.m.
Thursday, July 27	Community Summer Band	Blair Park, Huntingdon	7 p.m.
Thursday, July 27	<b>Camera Club Meeting</b>	Huntingdon County Arts Center	Open to all, 7 p.m.
Friday, July 28	Community Summer Band	Memorial Library, Alexandria	7 p.m.
Thursday, August 3	<b>Concerts on the Quad: Acoustic Express</b>	Juniata College campus quad in front of Halbritter Center	6:30 p.m., all donations go to the musicians
Saturday, August 5	Submit entries to Huntingdon County Fair Art & Photo	Art Station Huntingdon County Fairgrounds	11 a.m. to 5 p.m. entries. <a href="http://huntingdoncountyfair.com">huntingdoncountyfair.com</a>



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## CELEBRATION OF THE ARTS SATURDAY, JUNE 10



Address Service Requested

### Larry Cloz: The World Through a Camera Lens continued from page 10

At each Club meeting, a member of the club (or sometimes an outsider) gives a presentation on a topic, such as night photography or using negative space. The group also holds a monthly competition with different themes. Members take photos after the theme is set, and their submissions are displayed anonymously at the meeting and voted on. The Photography Club also has an annual exhibit at the Art Center, which provides members with opportunities to display their work to a wider audience. The winning photos from the previous year's monthly competitions form part of the exhibit.

One of Larry's most important pieces of advice to new photographers is, "Be aware of the background. You don't want telephone poles coming out of people's heads." He also stresses the importance of filling the frame with your central image. As he said, "Most people don't get close enough." And you should be clear about your subject matter. According to Larry, "If it doesn't add to your picture, get rid of it. It's a distraction." Moreover, "You don't need an expensive camera to take great images these days. Cell phones can do that."



Larry Cloz, *Grandsons Sam and Zach*, 2020

Producing a carefully composed and captured image requires imagination as well as skill. By focusing our attention on an object or scene, photographs can reveal things that we didn't notice before, either because they are difficult to see or because they are hiding in plain sight. Good photo-

graphs can spark our interest, move us emotionally, lead us to wonder, and provide insights into other worlds. For all these reasons, photography has a prominent place among the arts.

The Photography Club meets on the 4th Thursday of each month, except for November and December, when it meets on the 3rd Thursday. Meetings are held at 7 p.m. at the **Huntingdon County Arts Center**, and new members are always welcome.

### THROUGH A GLASS, LIGHTLY

Through just-washed  
panes of kitchen glass  
philosophy sifts  
and drifts like light  
granting a larger  
clearer world-view  
the discrete elegance  
of knobby pear tree  
the rococo lilac  
art-deco cedar  
and skyline poplars  
chill against  
an early winter sky.

*Pam Kavanaugh*