



Arts REACH

Spring-fall 2020



CREATING DURING A PANDEMIC



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ArtsReach, Spring-Fall 2020

A copy of the official registration and financial information of the Perry County Council of the Arts may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within PA, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement. © 2020, Perry County Council of the Arts

Cover art: "Consciousness Crashing Through" by Gail Walden Coleman



One S. Second Street, Newport PA
Wednesday - Saturday: 10 to 4



67 N. Fourth Street, Newport PA
Available by appointment through 2020



PCCA receives state arts funding support through a grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.



Local Treasures

October
20-27

PCCA's Virtual Fundraising Event



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DROP-IN ART
@ home 🎨 ✂️ 🏠

While we continue to social distance due to the coronavirus pandemic, join us for our popular drop-in arts and crafts time for families in a NEW digital format, Drop-In Art @ Home, on our website and YouTube channel!

Follow along with Janice Bailor, PCCA member artist and owner of La Rue de Fleurs, to create some fun and educational art activities with supplies you may already have at home.

Kids/parents, show off your artwork!

Post your Drop-In Art @ Home project photos on Facebook or Instagram and tag us!

CREATIVE. ADAPTIVE. RESILIENT.

PCCA's creative juices are flowing in the face of adversity.

We are proving to be a community of positive thinkers and problem solvers.

Not to be discouraged, our members saw how they could help and stepped up. They rallied to keep people safe by sewing masks and opened lines of communication by sharing their art form with uplifting intentions. Musicians performed in their living rooms to silent audiences of emotionally exhausted and appreciative listeners. Community members scrawled positive messages of love and hope to anyone who could benefit from the connection.

We are exploring ideas and areas we may not have previously had the time, need or opportunity to pursue.

PCCA Gallery continues to be open to the public with an inspiring collection of member artwork carefully curated by our staff. We also now have an extensive online selection of gallery merchandise for shoppers to peruse remotely. Considering a pause to some of our in-person and on-site activities, we have asked local parks with walking trails to act as outdoor art galleries.

We are adopting new systems that will become complementary companions to our typical programming.

Drop-In Art now has tutorial videos on YouTube that will extend in-person sessions. We are developing virtual training opportunities for teaching artists, businesses and writers. We are improving internet access at Landis House so that future meetings, classes and presentations will have consistent WiFi throughout the space.

We were made for this.

We are creative, adaptive and resilient. However, we still depend on the support of our members, artists, volunteers and donors to help PCCA continue to bring community building arts programming to our local region. Please consider a donation or purchase through our upcoming *Local Treasures* online auction that provides valuable operational support.

You may find more details on our website at perrycountyarts.org/donate.

Your support is greatly valued and makes a big impact.

Thank you,



Jasmine Colbert
Executive Director

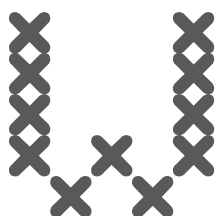




LOOK FOR THE HELPERS



Left to Right: Masks by Gloria McPherson and Wendy Weyant



When our year as we knew it turned upside down, many of us were left stunned, stressed, worried, adapting to new routines, cancelling or changing plans, and trying to make sense of our new normal in 2020. This year has been a challenge for everyone and it can be easy to be pulled down by the weight of it all. There are certainly good days, and there are not-so-good days.

But, amid the stress, depression, worry, painful losses, and grief, we were reminded that bright spots still exist, and artists have exceptionally beautiful ways to share love and creativity with the community.

As we witnessed our Member Artists spring into action, we remembered the powerful words of Fred Rogers. "When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, 'Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.'"

We barely had to look. Breaking through the heavy fog of quarantine and stressful news cycles, a bright light shone on social media. PCCA member artists got right to work lending a creative hand, making masks to help protect people during the coronavirus pandemic.

Becca Emerick rolled up their sleeves and learned how to use their mother's old sewing machine, whipping up reusable cloth masks to gift to friends and family. As they found their groove creating their handmade gifts, they decided to continue producing them to donate. Throughout the year, Becca donated handmade masks to Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, Polk Personal Care, and Manna Food Pantry—a ministry of Penbrook United Church of Christ.

"I was motivated to do this early on, as I had a machine and my mom had tons of unused fabric boxed away, and since I was unemployed and home from college early, I had plenty of time. I wanted to donate because of the PPE shortage that we faced in the beginning," Becca says. With a variety of fun fabric patterns, kids and adults alike have kept themselves protected with Becca's masks.

Janice Bailor, of La Rue de Fleurs, has had a busy 2020 keeping up on mask orders for her online customer base and people in her local community. Her designs feature modern patterns and nods to nature. In one week during quarantine, Janice created 50 handmade masks to donate to field technicians and essential office staff at HB McClure, where her husband works.

"Throughout history, artisans—especially women—have used their talents to support the patriotic needs of challenges faced in this country. From Betsy Ross sewing the first American flag in the Revolutionary War to the countless women of the WWII era working in factories or growing victory gardens, craftswomen have always risen to meet the needs of



Becca Emerick

the moment," says Janice. "I felt like this was my chance to join the ranks of craftswomen like these to use my talents and abilities to do what was needed for my community during a difficult time in world history."

Molly Cahill, of MollyauContraire, echoed a similar sentiment. "It was as close to a 'Sew For Victory!' WWII propaganda poster I ever hope to get," she quips. "Mask sewing is at times tedious and mundane, but completing a whole stack is so satisfying. And though I hope I can stop making them soon, the time I spent sewing them is a memory I will not soon forget!"

She found herself like many other mask makers—creating day and night and night and day, to keep up on sales in her online store and to donate to medical staff locally, as well as in Atlanta and Orlando. As of early October, Molly estimates that she has created about 1,000 masks during the pandemic. She believes it was creatives' time to shine, to produce something that is both high demand and of significant need.

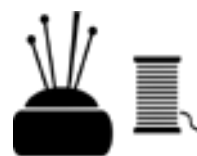
Retired Newport High School art teacher Wendy Weyant used her time in quarantine to get back to one of her first true loves that many may not know about: sewing. Holding a BFA concentration in weaving and fiber and a minor in textile design, Wendy got busy channeling her creative energy into sewing and donating handmade masks to friends

and family, including her 96-year-old godmother who was unable to leave her independent living care room unless she was wearing a mask. Once she received her handmade masks, she was able to go outside for walks.

"Making masks was an easy way to share a skill I have to help others. It also gave me a purpose when we were quarantined inside before I made other adaptations," says Wendy. "I also don't want to use disposable and hate how people are leaving them as litter everywhere."

With the skills needed and the supplies already on hand, Gloria McPherson also worked on masks of various colors and patterns to gift to friends, family and members of her community. She was initially motivated to produce masks, because sewing is one of her strong points and she had all the materials needed to get started.

"The cost of supplies was in the past, and I had more than enough free time to sew," explains Gloria. "My other motivation was my conviction that masks do indeed help. They are not foolproof. Additional precautions are needed, but I feel that if I can do something of benefit, then I should. Sewing masks is, for me, a labor of love. I sew them carefully, so each one takes time. I am not able to be out doing other things that might help to combat this terrible pandemic. I do not have medical training or other skills that might be needed now. But, I have fabric, thread, and a sewing machine, and a willing heart."



Creating for Good

Throughout the year, PCCA member artist Gail Walden Coleman has been painting a series of abstract bookmarks with the mission of giving back to her community and the message of, "We're all in this together." Gail created these beautiful gifts as creative 'thank-yous' for anyone who donated to local food banks. People would simply make a donation and send a copy of their receipt to Gail. In about a week or so, these artistic gestures of her appreciation would arrive at their doorstep. Over the course of Gail's creative initiative, she helped to raise \$1,700 for local food banks!

"I was hoping to make a little difference and inspire others to also make a little difference," relays Gail, whose artwork is also featured on the cover of this issue.



gailwaldencoleman.com

Creating during COVID

How we all became MIXED MEDIA artists

By PCCA member artist Deborah Fingerlow



In the beginning, like everyone else, I viewed quarantine as a pause. A finite time to catch my breath, until science solved the problem and we moved on. As the quarantine expanded, so did my “artistic pursuits.”

As primarily a weaver, I happily warped up the loom and started on rug-making. Then, I finally wove that baby alpaca into a scarf and added glass beads my friend brought home from Italy years ago. Her housecleaning supplemented my art. Then I moved to abstract painting, using the rag rugs as inspiration. Luscious and organic, all of it.

I pulled out the tapestry loom for wall hangings. I used my stash for a series of woven mug mats. I made things. Like masks. I researched styles, checked the fabric scraps I had and plugged in my 1952 Singer sewing machine that I bought five years ago and never touched. I googled YouTube videos to learn how to thread a machine and how to operate, since the last machine I touched was in Home Economics when I was in 7th grade. A very long time ago. I learned new things that I never thought I would need.

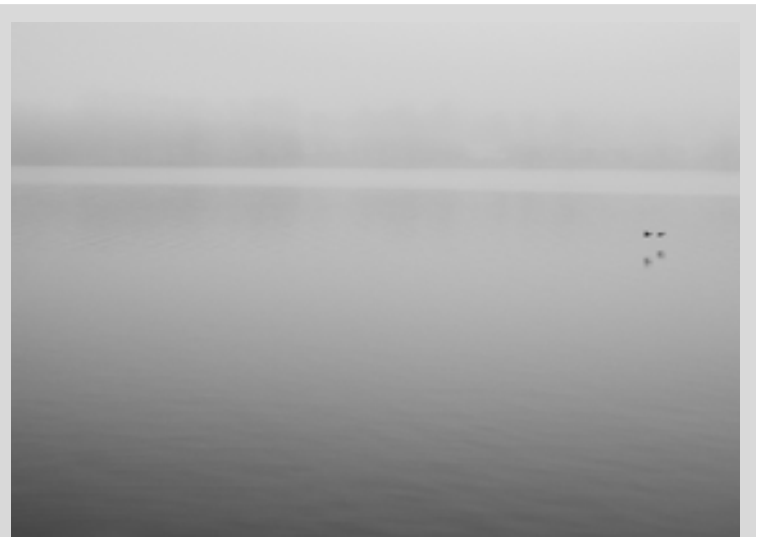
Not all the days were bright and creative, regardless of what Instagram said. When my friend died from COVID19 and his wife was forced to say goodbye via iPad, the colors weren't so bright. Paintings with India ink-inspired, virus-looking, buggy shapes. A figure study where I didn't realize what was happening until I stood back and saw a bound, mummy-like figure.



The darkness had to leave, and my art was what helped to let it go. To let it out.

Artistic outlets including cleaning out. Admiring the fiber lined up and binned by color. It included the long process of warping the floor loom, thread by thread, through each heddle, letting the hands take over some of the mind's work and worry. Food became an art form in and of itself as I cooked and baked and pretty-plated my creations by channeling my grandmother. There were flowers to plant and herbs to gently run my hands through. Rosemary, lavender and that unique tomato-plant-scent on my fingers. There was mint to pull from the garden and tea to brew. There was a rocking chair on the front porch. There was art in music on the back patio, listening to the birds' morning conversations and my neighbors practicing their old-style, Appalachian fiddling, soft notes floating over the fence. There was hoping my son would be safe working at the grocery store through the pandemic.

Today, we're not done yet. And neither am I. Sixty pounds of "wooly worms" delivered this week means that there are plenty of rugs in my future. And I've just signed up for a new online abstract art class. Oh, and there's this collage I'm working on, and... well, you get the idea. I'm keeping my mask on, eyes and ears open, and remembering to wash my hands. Be creative. Be safe. Be well.



**Photograph and words by
PCCA Member Artist Louise Thomas**

Seeking Silence & Simplicity

When the flow of life gets re-channeled, creativity sometimes submerges. This was the case for me. Watching my toddler grandson for 3 months when daycare was closed both filled my days and my heart while emptying (or so I thought) my creative output. Yet even as the cacophony of the screen-world we now inhabit reached its full-throated pitch, watching him play, listening as he made up his world, gave me deep inspiration. My photography and writing has thus been pushed more deeply towards a bare-bones approach, seeking to express a silence and simplicity that is often pushed to the side, and yet for which we all deeply yearn.

Sequencing in a Pandemic

Symptoms

1: if then creative process
cycles of - permeation to
permutation
mutation to
mute
2: getting past barriers –
would-be foraging, sniffing
around
no sense of smell
no taste for
ingestion
3: gestation period
labored breathing
inspiration
lost appetite
or starvation
full plate
fully expired

Recommendations

4: do/don't take this/that
idea
run with it
clumsy breathless
footfalls fading...
5: face forward
masked/unmasked
truth will not
tell itself
or does it? don't leave your
nose out of it
6: look away/at/toward
a toddler's
imaginative play
take blocks
make shape form
into/out of
simplicity
maybe
a world

CREATING DURING COVID

Perry County Council of the Arts Member Artists get creative at home in quarantine

New Creative Outlets

COVID-19 has changed all of us and is here to stay until we have a vaccine, which is most likely next year sometime if we are lucky. That said, artists will have to find other ways to be creative and make a living. I think this is a great opportunity, as well as a hardship on many of us.

My personal world fell apart the day we heard that we had a virus that was going to affect all of us in so many ways. I lost my best friend to this virus and this brought home to me that all of us will be affected in some way and that we are in a new normal.

I am an author, teaching and jewelry artist and my last day of work was March 14. I had all my national and local events canceled for the rest of the year. I cannot teach any classes or sell any of my work in person now. This has presented both a hardship and an opportunity to do something different. After much soul searching, I decided to create videos and put them online so I can both teach again and have an outlet for my own creative energy. I just finished a new video for colored pencil on copper jewelry, which is up and available for anyone to purchase.

I have missed the interaction of my artistic friends that have both supported and inspired me over the years, so I have learned to use Zoom and other ways of reaching out to my artist friends right now. In many ways, this crisis has given me a way to stretch my creativity and find new ways to do things that I would have not otherwise thought about. My hope for other artists and craft groups is to find new ways of doing what you used to do and to grow from a terrible situation.

By PCCA Member Artist
Roxan O'Brien



Homemade cheese by Peg Belcastro



New scorched pressed flower picture series by Judy Boudier



Upcycled cupboard with Pennsylvania Dutch motif by Valerie Moyer



Gardening by Devera Lang



Wine cork staircase by Carolyn and Jeffrey Pio



Custom trellis by Kenny Brady and Adia Walker



Donated afghans and prayer shawls by Karen Van Newhyzen



VIRTUAL ART ROOM

Perry County art students create quarantine works of art
By PCCA Member Artist & Newport High School Art Teacher Jessica Barlup

Teaching from a non-traditional perspective allowed my students and I to really think outside the box and practice critical thinking skills and problem-solving abilities to the highest degree. So, although my preferred methods of teaching art still favor a hands-on, tactile approach, technology has added another level of creativity that I believe to be relevant and relatable to 21 Century learning.

Many of my students expressed that they enjoyed the outside-of-the-box lessons and activities, which has encouraged me to incorporate some of these things into brick and mortar teaching methods. So, when life resumes "normalcy," I have intentions of continuing some of the lessons I have implemented and found to be most effective and relevant during the quarantine, while also preserving traditional art teaching methods.

In addition, my students expressed appreciation for making art in their personal spaces at home and having unlimited time to create, rather than having to start and stop when the school bell rings. In many ways, my students felt that the quarantine inspired their creativity. They took advantage of the time they had to create art for loved ones, especially relatives who were isolated. They also seized the opportunity to experiment with ideas they tucked away, but never had the chance to execute due to their busy schedules. And, they used their artistic talents to enhance their living spaces/bedrooms or clothing.

The connection between a person's emotional well-being, mental wellness, and art is a topic that I discuss early in the school year in my art room. It is important to me that my students understand the value art has in their lives, even if they do not want to pursue a career in the arts. During our Google meets, we discussed how isolation can present some unexpected wellness challenges and how art can be used to inspire self-expression and/or help us respond to worldly events in a healthy way. We talked about how art can help tell stories, preserve history, and serve as a platform for inventions, and discussed how creating artwork can heal our egos, fulfill our need for communication, provide self-worth, and lead us to adventure. Art can also allow us to escape from reality for a bit when we feel overwhelmed. Being able to talk to my students about these things made me feel confident that they understand that art has purpose in their life, even if they live on a farm or are an aspiring nurse or want to serve in the military.

One of the first open dialogues I encourage at the start of the school year is regarding the importance of art in our world. From our houses to our blouses, I explain that an artist somewhere had to invent it all. And now, I think this quarantine has only reinforced this concept and has made it a personal experience for my students. To me, the quarantine provided an applicable experience that they will never forget.



Newport High School students made artwork in quarantine with virtual assignments, including the Getty Museum's challenge to recreate famous works of art at home.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS!

from the margins
of a pandemic

CATEGORIES

Poetry	1-3 poems
Flash Fiction	<1000 words
Prose (Fiction/Nonfiction)	1000-3000 words
Visual Art	1-5 jpg images
Photography	1-5 jpg images

WHO IS ELIGIBLE:

Any Perry County resident and the work they created during/about the COVID-19 pandemic. If you are a current student or an alumni of any of the Perry County schools, please indicate that in your submission cover letter!

DEADLINE NOVEMBER 20, 2020

Send questions or queries to:
fromthemarginsimage@gmail.com



Local CREATIONS



Decorate Your Home
Give Unique & Thoughtful Gifts
Support Local Artists

SHOP ONLINE
OR IN STORE!



The Last of What Has Passed
Oil Painting
Chris Lyter | \$2,459



Breaking Light
Mixed media
Angela White | \$260



A Walk in the Woods
Photography
Jean Macaluso | \$95



Baby Screecher
Acrylic painting print
Leah Keilman | \$45



Assorted pumpkins
Glass, Jeremy Friedly | \$30-45



Serving platter
Pottery, Nancy Gallagher | \$40



Watercolor earrings
Watercolor on paper, Carolyn Pio | \$15



Potato Masher Basket
Basketweaving, Teena Beutel | \$30



Upcycled zipper flower pins
Jewelry, Jill Smith | \$6



Ash Burl Vase
Woodturning, Toby Boudier | \$85

See something you like? Visit perrycountyarts.square.site

Or find PCCA Gallery on the square in Newport, PA | 1 S. Second St. | 717.567.7023 | Wed-Sat, 10-4

Help us practice safe shopping at PCCA Gallery! Please wear a mask and maintain safe social distancing.



Wooden trinket box

Woodworking, George Burns | \$47



Decorative bracelet

Metalworking, Marlene Quigley | \$35



Blue Gill

Woodcarving, Paul Beutel | \$50



Assorted Guitar Pick Earrings

Jewelry, Betsy Oberheim | \$5



Cactus birdhouse

Pottery, Jamie Truett | \$28



Three Fish

Watercolor, Bonnie Lorey | \$40



Mixed media colored pencil vase

Woodturning, Francis Ranck | \$45



Sock monkey

Knitting, Becca Emerick | \$60



Agate pendant and earring set

Jewelry, Amy Brightbill | \$32.95

Shop Small at PCCA GALLERY



Black Friday November 27, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

We invite you to shop locally on this big box store kind of day. No chaos or mad dashing. Just a relaxing shopping experience with unique, handcrafted gifts and works of art to impress your family and friends. The best part? Your dollars stay in your local community to support PCCA, local artists, and the local economy!



Small Business Saturday November 28, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Shop Small for handcrafted, locally made gifts at PCCA Gallery on Small Business Saturday, and support small businesses and independent artists and crafters right here in your community! We will have limited gifts to thank our customers for shopping small on Friday and Saturday.



Cyber Monday November 29, 12 a.m.-11:59 p.m.

Enjoy socially distant shopping on Cyber Monday and browse a wide selection of handmade gifts and original artwork in our new webstore. Shop some great sales and snag some one-of-a-kind gifts from the comfort and safety of your home.

EXHIBITIONS

ART UPLIFTS OUTDOOR EXHIBITION

Millerstown Community Park
110 West Juniata Parkway
September 21 – October 18

Little Buffalo State Park
1579 State Park Road, Newport
October 19 – November 15



"Bluejay" mosaic art by
Amanda Rife

We invite you to slip away from the stress and challenges of everyday life and tap into your imagination and sense of wonder, as you enjoy an uplifting and inspiring outdoor art exhibition. Featuring a variety of works created by local artists, this vibrant show explores the powerful role that art plays in creating solace and providing hope during challenging times.

On display from September 21 to October 18 at Millerstown Community Park, "Art Uplifts" will then be on display from October 19 to November 15 at Little Buffalo State Park, Newport. This special outdoor exhibition offers an artistic experience outdoors, as a beautiful complement to your time spent at the park. We hope that it brings you joy and inspiration during this difficult year. "Art Uplifts" is also displayed in our online web store, where much of the artwork is available for purchase.

PCCA created this exhibition to safely engage and lift up the community during 2020's challenges, and while the local non-profit arts council limits on-site exhibition offerings. Uplifting artwork centered on the themes of inspiration, encouragement, hope, perseverance, etc., are displayed on outdoor yard signs along the Millerstown Park river walking trail.

"As we were cancelling our in-person exhibitions due to the coronavirus pandemic, we wanted to still safely offer our artists and the community a beautiful and inspiring art exhibition, so we decided to move the experience outdoors," says Jasmine Colbert, PCCA Executive Director. "This exhibition allowed us to continue providing display and sales opportunities to our artists, while they channeled their creativity toward the idea that art has a powerful role in creating solace and providing hope during challenging times. The community can now enjoy an unexpected and uplifting art show alongside of the already lovely experience of being in our local parks."

"Art Uplifts" is also featured online through January 11, 2021, where most of the original artwork is available for purchase. Featured artists include Lynn Fry, Biruta Hansen, Cynthia Holleran, Evgeny Krayushkin, Thom Kulp, Chris Lyter, Michelle McBurney, Amanda Rife, Louise Thomas, Don Uvick, James Wheeler, Robin Wheeler, and Angela White.



"Dreams" photo and exhibition
image by James Wheeler



"If Twilight Were Not" oil painting
by Chris Lyter



ARTISAN MARKETPLACE

PCCA Gallery, 1 S. Second St., Newport
October 16 - January 9, 2021

Shop our holiday exhibition of locally made fine art and handcrafted items by emerging and professional artists. Find unique gifts for the special people on your shopping list, including original artwork, jewelry, pottery, woodturnings, knitted accessories, holidays items, and more.



6TH ANNUAL JURIED EXHIBITION

Virtual Exhibition | perrycountyarts.square.site

with an opportunity to see the art in person at the Veterans Memorial Building, New Bloomfield
November 13 - January 22, 2021

Original artwork in a variety of media will be featured during our annual juried exhibition, with featured works chosen by Danny Bracken, of The Mattress Factory, Pittsburgh. Many of the works will be available for purchase.

2020 Exhibitions are supported in part by PPL Electric.





YOUTH ART DAY VIRTUAL EXHIBITION

Explore this year's award-winning entries at perrycountyarts.org/youth-art-day



BEST IN SHOW

Isabel Owens
graduating senior
Newport High School

"Thrown Together" ceramic piece

Isabel received the top visual art honor out of 747 entries, winning a \$250 cash prize and the grand prize trophy to display at her school.

VISUAL ART | LITERATURE | VIDEOS



"Modern Femininity" by Presley Wilson
Susquenita High School



"Mi Perra" by Aivrey Sutton
Greenwood Middle School



"Tea Time" by Emma Clouse,
Kelsey Kline and Dylan Knisely
West Perry Middle School

DIRECTOR'S CHOICE AWARDS

Browse a highlighted virtual display of standout artwork by K-12 students chosen by our Director to be featured in this special showcase, normally held in person at PCCA Gallery.



2020 SENIOR ARTISTIC AWARDS

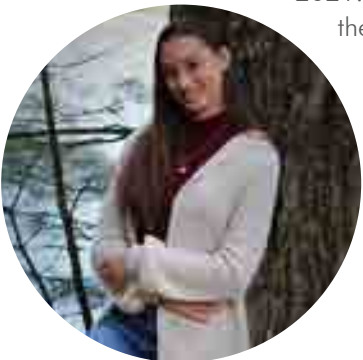
Each year, one graduating senior from each school district is chosen by their art teachers to receive the Senior Artistic Award. Each student exemplifies passion or proficiency for the arts—literary, musical, visual art, dance or theater.

Greenwood High School: **Leah Kerstetter** is a graduating senior from Greenwood High School and the daughter of Kevin and Tina Kerstetter. Leah will be attending DeRielle Cosmetology Academy this fall. Leah is involved in National Honor Society, French National Honor Society, Cheerleading, Track and Field, Swing Choir, Chorus, Color guard, Student Council, and Students Offering Support. Throughout middle and high school, she has taken many art classes and has been involved in Art Club since seventh grade. Leah enjoys singing and dancing, playing piano and dabbling in the ukulele. Leah will carry on her artistic abilities by being a hair stylist and a nail tech.



Newport High School: **Isabel Owens** has demonstrated many artistic talents throughout her high school career that include, but are not limited to drawing, painting, sculpting, playing the piano and the French horn. Passionate about sharing her time and artistic talent with others, Isabel has volunteered at various PCCA programs and events and has worked with Newport High School Adaptive Art students. Isabel has not only encouraged other students to see the value in the arts, but she also consistently exhibited patience, creative solutions, sensitivity, and positivity. She was also involved in a variety of clubs and extracurricular activities that include Band, Journalism, and Student Council. Isabel also received PCCA's Youth Art Day 2020 Best in Show Award for her unique wheel-thrown functional tea pot that she taught herself to create.

Susquenita High School: **Audrey Claybough** has consistently dedicated her talents to the arts, from visual, to musical, to theatrical. Within the realm of visual arts, she has received several awards for her projects and has had opportunities to paint several murals at different schools, including Susquenita. She enjoys making soap carvings, jewelry, sculptures, paintings, sketches, and street or graffiti-style works and playing piano, guitar, cajon, and many unconventional instruments. In addition, Audrey has participated in various choirs since elementary school, her favorite being the West Side Singers of Susquenita, which she joined her Senior year. She also participated in the Susquenita Blackhawk Marching Band, Drumline, Concert Band, Percussion Ensemble, and Theatre Stage and Makeup Crew. She has also achieved Honors status throughout her educational career, and has taken Advanced Placement classes like Literature and U.S. History. She served as a Teacher's Assistant during her Senior year, and has taken part in Leadership groups at other schools. Audrey plans to take some time to prepare for college, and hopes to take a missions trip to Trinidad in 2021. Audrey hopes to be a source of inspiration for others to experiment and practice the arts themselves.



West Perry High School: **Sarah Magee** was a four-year participant of the West Perry High School Concert Band. For the past two years, Sarah served as the Principal Player of the Trumpet Section, and she represented West Perry High School at both the 2019 and 2020 Perry County Band Festivals. Sarah has been a part of yearbook Club for two years, and served as Editor her senior year.

**Interested in sponsoring our Artistic Awards or Joni Williamson Scholarship?
Get in touch at pcca@perrycountyarts.org or 717-567-7023.**

Joni Williamson SCHOLARSHIP

Nicole Hostler, Greenwood High School

Joni Williamson served as Executive Director of Perry County Council of the Arts for 10 years. Under her guidance, PCCA evolved into an organization that supports the arts, arts education, and arts-related tourism on a regional level, but pays deference to its local, rural roots. In 2008, the Board of Directors established the annual Joni Williamson Scholarship Fund to present a graduating Perry County senior, who has shown dedication to and/or an aptitude for the Arts, with a \$250 scholarship.

Nicole Hostler is a graduating senior from Greenwood High School who has achieved much academic success, while holding various leadership roles in her school. She developed a love of singing at a young age and participated in PCCA's "Broadway My Way" program, which led her to performing in her high school's musicals, including landing a lead role in "Godspell." She was a member of her high school's National Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, Future Farmers of America, Future Business Leaders of America and Greenwood's Swing Choir, while maintaining a part-time job at a coffee shop with a mission to employ people with disabilities. She was also a key member of the Mini-Thon fundraising event to raise money to support children with pediatric cancer. Nicole also participated in Messiah College's Emerging Health Professions programs, which includes classes three days a week at Messiah and two days a week shadowing at local hospitals. She will continue her education, as well as musical and cheerleading activities at Robert Morris University. She will be majoring in nursing in hopes of pursuing a career as a pediatric nurse.



"The art of singing became a large part of my life at a very young age. When I was only 11, I tried out for Broadway My Way at Landis House. I had little confidence at this point in my singing career and working with the host of the program, Miguel Gonzales, I was able to build up confidence that I had never felt before. I knew after the performance that singing was something that I was very passionate about and that was going to be in my life for a while. Not too long after this, I became involved in my high school's musicals. By my sophomore year, I had a leading role in our production of Godspell.

Singing has not only brought me joy on my worst days, but has also allowed me to express myself in ways that I can't in any other activity that I do. Singing is a large part of the reason I have the self-confidence I have today. This confidence is not only shown on the stage, but also in my everyday life. I encourage anyone I know to get involved in the arts, no matter the form. Art helps you to grow into someone that you never thought you could possibly be."



National Gold Key Medal Winner Jacob Smith & West Perry High School language arts teacher Lynne Reeder

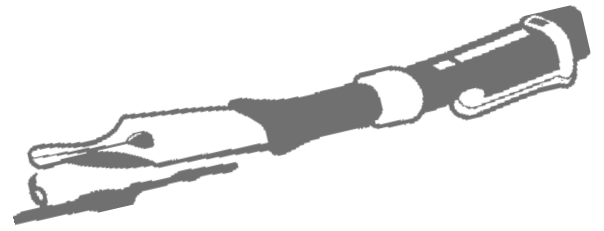
Jacob Smith, graduating senior from West Perry High School was awarded a national Gold Key Medal by the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards for his essay "Winter Boy." He won both a state Gold Key and the national medal for his essay about the pain, internal struggle and outward search for acceptance of his own sexuality as a gay man in an environment that often shunned or denigrated him.

In addition, Jacob received three additional regional awards for his poems "Heartbreak in a Polaroid Cartridge," and "St. Augustine" and "hops halos and homes," which also won awards in our annual poetry contest (see next page and insert.) He also placed first in the essay and poetry categories in this year's Youth Art Day. You can read his winning entries on our website at perrycountyarts.org/youth-art-day.

The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards have a more than 100-year history as a prestigious honor for school-age artists and only about 1 percent of submissions win a medal. Accomplished winning writers include Stephen King, Joyce Carol Oates and Truman Capote. Jacob is the second West Perry student to receive this national honor, with Ben McCorkel receiving a national gold medal for his memoir writing in 2019.

Learn more about the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards and read Jacob's winning works:
www.artandwriting.org

Poetic Excellence Awards



Please join us in congratulating this year's Poetry Award winners!



2020 Perry County Poet Laureate

Lynne Reeder, Duncannon

for "Measuring Infinity"

Kenneth P. Allen Award | Theme: Exposed

Crystal Flauaus, Richfield

for her poem

"Life Exposed"

1st Place

Jacob Smith, New Bloomfield
for "Hops, Halos and Home"

2nd Place

Jacob Smith, New Bloomfield
for "St. Augustine"

3rd Place

Lynne Reeder, Duncannon
for "call me woman"

Honorable Mentions

Ingrid Mara Hansen Guderle, York, "The Swim"

William G. Davies, Jr., Elliottsburg, "On the Weariness of Winter"

Lynne Reeder, Duncannon, "Roots"

See insert to read all of the winning poems!



The in-person
PCCA Poetic Excellence Awards
ceremony has been canceled this year.

In 2020 fashion, you can help us celebrate virtually with poetry readings from the award-winning poets on our social media accounts and website throughout November and December.

You can also enjoy music performances and poetry by our Coffeehouse open mic night regulars!

In Memory: George Orthey

We are saddened to share news of the passing of longtime PCCA member and supporter, and world-renowned autoharp maker, George Orthey. During his time as a luthier (maker of stringed instruments), George made and sold more than 1,500 Appalachian dulcimers, 1,500 autoharps, 200 hammered dulcimers, and 200 psalteries. He also created some experimental instruments, including a guitar, mouth bows and harpsichords. Founder of the Mountain Laurel Autoharp Gathering, George and his wife Mary Lou began the annual event as small gatherings at their home in Perry County. Attracting autoharp enthusiasts and music lovers from around the world, the gathering is now an annual festival held at Little Buffalo State Park over five days, with concerts, workshops and around-the-clock music-making. George also created the Mini-Mountain Laurel Concert Series, bringing notable performers to our local community for free live concerts and workshops. In addition, George was the recipient of Perry County Council of the Arts' Artist of the Year Award in 1989 and the Lifetime Achievement Award in 2017. Read more about his life and work in the link below. We are remembering George and the legacy he left not only in our community, but in the world of music, and we are keeping his family and loved ones in our thoughts.



Learn more about the Mountain Laurel Autoharp Gathering at www.mlag.org.
Watch our "George Orthey's World" video on our YouTube channel.

Annual Membership Meeting & Awards

HELD VIRTUALLY ON SUNDAY, NOV. 1, 3 PM

SLATE OF CANDIDATES FOR BOARD SERVICE

Jennifer Mitchell, Newport
Lynne Reeder, Duncannon
Karen Smith, Newport

HONORING DEPARTING PCCA BOARD MEMBERS

Bryce Stambaugh, Elliottsburg
Sara Sutton, Lewistown
Jeff Trace, New Bloomfield
Robin Wheeler, Halifax

PRESENTATION OF THE 2020 ANNUAL AWARDS

Janice Bailor
Artist of the Year

Francis Ranck
Breakout Artist of the Year

Bob & Edna Baker
Volunteers of the Year

Partnership for Better Health
Service to the Arts

SUPPORTERS OF THE ARTS

Thank you to the following financial donors for their generous support of our mission.

These lists include contributions that reached our office from January 1 to June 30, 2020.

Annual Fund

Anonymous
Sherry and Edward Barben
Paul & Teena Beutel
Jane Clouser
Jasmine & Jon Colbert
Baird & Mary Jane Collins
Marylou Dudley
Dave & Kelley Griswold
Linda & Lawrence Hardy
Ann and Rod Hart
Amy Hazel
Carol and David Landis
Thomas & Donna Margetts
Shari & Jeff Mattern
Kathy R Odato
Gloria Okorn
Stoney Valley Jewelry
Carol & Tom Vracarich
James and Robin Wheeler
Cecile Willet
Pam Wolfersberger

Art Camp

Perry County Community
Foundation

Arts in Education

DuMor, Inc.
The Foundation for Enhancing
Communities
Jewish Federation of Greater
Harrisburg
Nativity School of Harrisburg

Orrstown Bank
Pennsylvania Council on the Arts

Boos & Brews/Local Treasures

Paul & Teena Beutel
Dave & Kelley Griswold
Hengst Family Dental
Riverbend Hop Farm & Brewery
Spiral Path Farm

CPARC/Arts for All

Partnership for Better Health

Charity of Choice

Orrstown Bank

Drop-In Art

The Foundation for Enhancing
Communities, Lotus Fund

Dick & Arletta Gregg Fund

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Dave & Kelley Griswold
Clair Gunnet, Jr.
Dave & Linda Kutz
Tom & Carol Vracarich

Giving Tuesday Now

June & James Bricker
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Terence & Sandra O'Rourke
The Foundation for Enhancing
Communities
The Franklin H. & Ruth L. Wells
Foundation

Little Buffalo Festival

Paul & Teena Beutel
Baird & Mary Jane Collins
Marylou Dudley
Dave & Kelley Griswold
Hunters Valley Sportsmens Club
Thomas & Donna Margetts

Tom & Carol Vracarich
Pam Wolfersberger

Match Madness

Partnership for Better Health

Miscellaneous Contributions

Amazon Smile
Benevity Fund
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Giant Food Stores
Larry Gildner
Russell Hoover
Rev. George & Phyllis Martz
Mickey Mohler
Network for Good
Debra Nyce
Joanne Pinaire & Kevin Hortens
Nancy Surridge Estate
Sara Sutton
United Way of the Capitol
Region

Summer Fundraiser

Paul & Teena Beutel
Marylou Dudley
Dave & Kelley Griswold
Dave & Linda Kutz
Tom & Carol Vracarich

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

Thank you to the following volunteers for donating their time and talent.

These lists include logged volunteer hours from January 1 to September 30, 2020.

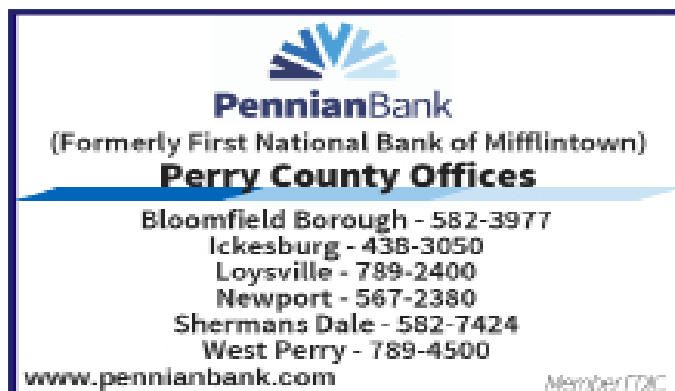
Bob Baker
Edna Baker
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Toby Boudier
Scotty Brown
Jessie Ellis
Lisa Fraker

Barb Frownfelter
Community Fusion
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Ann Shull
Bryce Stambaugh
Richard Steffy

Sara Sutton
Jeff Trace
Wendy Weyant
Robin Wheeler
Brett Ziegler

SUPPORTERS OF THE ARTS



Perry County Council of the Arts stands in solidarity with individuals of color and those working to end racism, violence and oppression.

As an organization, we commit to listening, learning, growing, and evaluating our own systems and strategies and to help create positive change through love, kindness, art, and creativity.

We invite all people, of all backgrounds, to join us in exploring art and creativity as beautiful mediums through which we can better humanity and discover opportunities for reflection and understanding.

The arts connect us all as humans.
We are in this together.



2021 WRITING WORKSHOP



A Novel IDEA

Crafting a Memoir

JANUARY 13 - JUNE 9, 2021

*Held the second Wednesday of the month from 5 to 8 p.m.
Virtual Zoom Classroom. Login information provided upon registration.*

**REGISTER BY
DEC 14**

We all have a story to tell.

Learn how to adapt a slice of your life story to an artistically composed, memorable narrative in this 6-session virtual memoir writing workshop with writer and novelist Don Helin.

CREATE lifelike scenes with rich description of senses and setting, and engaging dialogue
TRANSFORM people into compelling, fleshed-out characters that transcend the page
STRUCTURE your stories for clarity, develop your storytelling skills

**\$200, or \$175 for
PCCA members**

perrycountyarts.org

