

2022 Newsletter

PAC Expands Again!

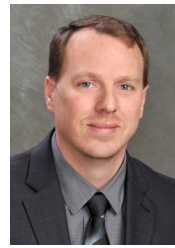
Piqua Arts Council expanded their organization – again – in 2022 by hiring a new Program Director. Accepting this new position was Seth Regula, who joined us from Jackson Center, Ohio. Seth was added to the PAC family in the beginning of April, where he was warmly welcomed by Executive Director, Jordan Knepper, and Marketing Director, Lily Stewart.

Seth earned his Bachelor of Arts with a major in Music Business and a minor in Business Administration from Bluffton University, where he acquired many skills in management. After graduating from Bluffton in 2019, Seth served as the Assistant Programmer at Gateway Arts Council in Sidney, Ohio, where he aided in overseeing various events, managing volunteers, and ensuring all hospitality needs were met for visiting artists and bands.

With the addition of Marketing Director, Lily Stewart, and several new events & projects in 2021, the Piqua Arts Council cultivated an increase in revenue, sponsorships, social media subscribers and more. “As we continue to grow and take on new challenges, having someone with Seth’s experience, skills and abilities on the team has been a great asset,” states PAC Executive Director, Jordan Knepper.



PROGRAM DIRECTOR
Seth Regula



PRESIDENT
Mike McCorkle



VICE PRESIDENT
Mike Cox



TREASURER
Ann Epperly



SECRETARY
Joe Shaffer

2023 TRUSTEES

Nicole Bayman
Randall Breden
Michael Brendel
Greg Clem
Mark Greenwood
Lisa McGraw
Brittany Peltier
Melanie Walker
Tim Wells
Tom Younce

NEW TRUSTEES



TRUSTEE
Greg Clem



TRUSTEE
Lisa McGraw

Welcome 2023 Board Members

After an amazing year for the Piqua Arts Council and much to look forward to, the organization welcomes new trustees and Executive Board members this year. Serving another year will be Mike McCorkle (President), Mike Cox (Vice President) and Ann Epperly (Treasurer). Serving alongside them and elected as Secretary is Joe Shaffer (previous trustee). PAC also welcomes two new trustees, including Greg Clem and Lisa McGraw, who will be serving a term of 2023 – 2025. Celebrating their second term with PAC is Ann Epperly, Mark Greenwood, Joe Shaffer, Melanie Walker, Tim Wells and Tom Younce. Other trustees include Nicole Bayman, Randall Breden, Michael Brendel and Brittany Peltier.

With an MFA in fine art from the University of Cincinnati, Greg Clem has taught at Wright State University and the University of Cincinnati, and has been teaching art history and studio art at Edison State Community College since 2008. In addition to teaching courses at Edison, he serves as a staffing and program coordinator for Art, Theater, Religion, and Humanities as well as art gallery coordinator/director. Greg has exhibited his work both locally and nationally, working in a diverse range of techniques including painting, photography, sculpture, and printmaking.

Lisa McGraw is a 35-year resident of Piqua, Ohio. A mother of 5 and grandmother of 6, Lisa has been working in commercial cash management since 2004 and is currently a Vice President at Piqua’s Park National Bank. Lisa’s board service includes United Way, Citizens for Quality Piqua Schools, Salvation Army, Piqua Area Chamber of Commerce and Piqua Indians Athletic Boosters. Lisa brings organizational skills and is a highly structured individual who has a creative soul and loves to sing.



Kick-Off Celebration

Piqua Arts Council rang in the new year with their annual Kick Off Celebration on the evening of Thursday, January 13. Held at the Fort Piqua Plaza, the event featured a summary of the achievements of 2021 as well as the goals and new programs for 2022. With the addition of 2 brand-new events – the Bourbon Affair and Art 4 Everyone – the Kick Off Celebration brought even more excitement and hope for 2022 at the Piqua Arts Council. Hosted by PAC’s Board of Trustees and presented by Executive Director, Jordan Knepper, the event also served as the annual meeting, the installation of PAC’s new Board members, and the appointment of the Executive Board.

2022 Newsletter



2023 calendar of events



KICK OFF CELEBRATION

(invitation only)
Thursday, Jan 26 | 6p
Fort Piqua Plaza

POETRY OUT LOUD

Thursday, Feb 9 | 7pm
Edison State Community College, Piqua

DANCING WITH THE PIQUA STARS MATINEE DINNER

Saturday, April 22 | 1p Saturday, April 22 | 6p
Tickets \$15 ea. Tickets \$40 ea.
Romer's Catering, Piqua

TIM SATERNOW WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP

May 8-11 | 9a-4p
\$325/PAC members | \$350/Non-members
Apple Tree Gallery, Piqua

6TH ANNUAL ROCK 'N ROLL CAR SHOW

Saturday, June 17 | Noon-5p
Downtown Piqua

ROCK PIQUA FOOD TRUCK & MUSIC FESTIVAL

Saturday, June 17 | 3p-10:30p
Downtown Piqua

JILL WAGNER PASTEL WORKSHOP

July 10-13 | 9a-4p
\$325/PAC members | \$350/Non-members
Apple Tree Gallery, Piqua

ART 4 EVERYONE | 4 KIDS

Aug 5
TBD

AWARDS RECEPTION

31ST ANNUAL PIQUA FINE ART EXHIBITION

Thursday, Sept 7 | 6p-9p
Tickets \$25 ea.
Apple Tree Gallery, Piqua

31ST ANNUAL PIQUA FINE ART EXHIBITION

Sept 8 - Sept 29
Monday - Friday | 10:30a-5p
Saturday | 10:30a-4p
Apple Tree Gallery, Piqua

ART 4 EVERYONE | AFTER DARK

Thursday, Oct 5 | 5p
Tickets \$30 ea.
The Clubhouse @ Orrmont Estate, Piqua

KENNETH YARUS OIL PAINTING WORKSHOP

Oct 16-19 | 9a-4p
\$325/PAC members | \$350/Non-members
Apple Tree Gallery, Piqua

BOURBON AFFAIR

Saturday, Nov 4 | First course 6p
Tickets \$100 ea.
The Gallery Venue & Event Center, Piqua

SOUNDS OF THE SEASON HOLIDAY CONCERT

Saturday, Dec 2 | 5p
Tickets \$5/individual or \$10/family
All proceeds to benefit local food bank.
St. James Episcopal Church, Piqua

NEW in 2022!

events

Art 4 Everyone

Many art organizations say, "Art is for Everyone", but don't always focus on delivering that. At Piqua Arts Council, we genuinely believe this and we're working towards creating events that bring the patrons in and let them get hands on. In this brand-new event, we did just that.

With 8 diverse art-learning activities, PAC's first-ever Art 4 Everyone served as a great opportunity for anyone to engage with the arts, gaining skills with each technique. This inaugural event included cake decorating, guitar, drawing, acrylic pouring, origami, pastels, printmaking and watercolor. These 20-minute stations were led by local creatives Luke Boyd, Jimmy Felts, Tom Lehman, Judy Belvo, Yufeng Wang, Joanne Von Sossan, Libby Slauenwhite and Yuki Hall.



Sponsored by the Ohio Arts Council, Premier Health – Upper Valley Medical Center, Celina Music Store, Winans Chocolates + Coffees, Greenville National Bank, Melcher-Sowers Funeral Home and Ganger Images, the event included food by Mrs. B's Catering and took place at the new Clubhouse at Piqua's Orrmont Estate. Over 120 people of all ages, skillsets, and abilities were engaged and excited to partake in Art 4 Everyone this year.

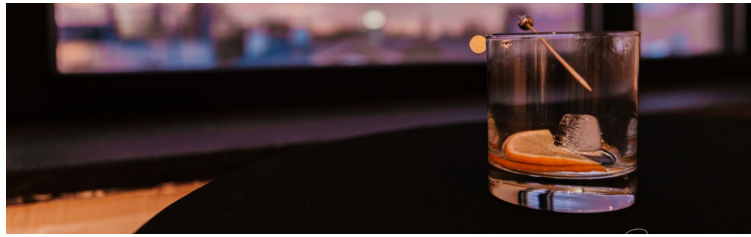
Piqua Arts Council was honored to be able to present this new and affordable event to the community and, with the great success that it was, we're thrilled to be planning an even better event next year. With a clear vision and dedication, Piqua Arts Council worked hard at making this opportunity possible, and we're excited to see where its future takes us.



NEW in 2022!

events

events



Inaugural Bourbon Affair

A 5-course tasting menu, barrel-picked bourbons, fine wines, live entertainment and large silent auction – Piqua Arts Council’s brand-new bourbon tasting was undoubtedly a hit. The Inaugural Bourbon Affair was held at The Gallery Venue & Event Center in Piqua, Ohio on Saturday, November 5, combining elegance, laughter, and art into just one night. With a choice of bourbon or wine tastings for the evening, the first course was served promptly at 6pm by Rich Taste Catering. Each course was served with a bourbon or wine tasting that was paired especially with the flavor profile of its complimenting plate.



THE GALLERY
Wedding &
Events Venue



Focusing on rare, hard to find, allocated or barrel-picked bourbons and higher-end wines, Piqua Arts Council’s tasting event featured Angel’s Envy Rye Whiskey finished in Caribbean Rum Casks, Elijah Craig Toasted Barrel, Starlight Distillery Bourbon Whiskey finished in Sherry Barrels, Heaven Hill Bottled-in-Bond and Eagle Rare 10. The wines included Emmolo Sauvignon Blanc, Caymus-Suisun Grand Durif, Rutherford Ranch Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley, Domaine Drouhin Pinot Noir Dundee and RoseRock Chardonnay. In addition to these fine picks, the event’s cash bar featured a local variety of bourbons and wines, as well as numerous signature cocktails.

After emcee Jamie Suttle illustrated the tasting notes for each course, live entertainment was provided by Viva La Strings, and patrons were encouraged to explore the silent auction items. Some of the items were a Signed Four Roses Small Batch bourbon, opening night Dayton Live tickets, 12 free growler fills and other items from Moeller Brew Barn, a large YETI cooler, and more. It was safe to say that this inaugural event was a huge success, and will continue to elevate each year.



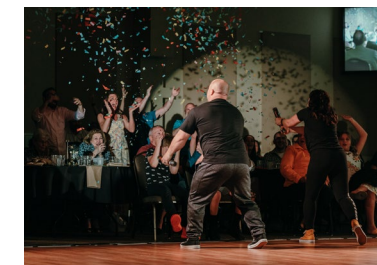
Judges for the afternoon performance were Lorna Swisher – Executive Director of Mainstreet Piqua, Melissa Leingang of Park National Bank and Rachel Castle – Sr. Program Manager at P E Systems, Inc. Judging the evening performance were Jim Oda – retired Executive Director of the Piqua Public Library, Rick Bowerman – owner of RJ Ballroom & Dancing with the Piqua Stars instructor of many years and Amy Kiser – dance instructor at Dance Expression Studio. With their work cut out for them, the judges determined Fred & Lynn Labs performed the most entertaining routine, but claimed that it could have been awarded to any of the dancers. Champions of the 2022 competition with the most votes were Craig & Nancy Mullenbrock, as they took home the coveted Mirror Ball Trophy. The Mullenbrocks also earned the technical merit award, which was most apparent in their fancy footwork.

A huge thank you goes out to Hartzell Propeller, for once again sponsoring the event, as well as Jim Gover as emcee, Ella Gover for audio services, AJ Ganger at Indian Nation Station and Erik Ganger of Ganger Images. And to all of the 2022 Dancing with the Piqua Stars sponsors, donors, instructors and volunteers – thank you. The success of this fundraiser was not possible without every hand on deck, and for the generous support of our Piqua Stars and the Piqua community.

..... Dancing with the Piqua Stars

Lights, camera, DANCING! Piqua Arts Council hosted yet another unbelievably successful Dancing with the Piqua Stars for the eleventh time in April of 2022. With over \$34,000 in donations supporting PAC, it’s safe to say that this year’s cast dominated in fundraising and on the dance floor. The annual event took place on Saturday, April 23 with a matinee show at 1pm and the dinner performance at 6pm at Romer’s Catering in Piqua, Ohio.

The 2022 cast was surely an energetic one, as Jeremy & Kat Weber kicked off the event with their lyrical jazz routine to a mashup of “Let’s Hear it for the Boy” by Deniece Williams and “Footloose” by Kenny Loggins, choreographed by Liz Maxson. Following the Webers with a hip-hop routine – also choreographed by Liz Maxson – was Jim & Shellie Drake as they danced to “The Time (Dirty Bit)” by the Black Eyed Peas. Next up on the dance floor were Fred & Lynn Labs. The couple performed a theatrical style dance to a mashup of “Hernando’s Hideaway” by Archie Bleyer and “Another Cha Cha” by Santa Esmeralda, choreographed by Michael Shepherd. After a small intermission, Craig & Nancy Mullenbrock took the stage as they performed a stylized ballroom routine to “Love You I Do” by Jennifer Hudson, choreographed by Amanda Horn and Orion Gullett of Arthur Murray Ballroom in Dayton, Ohio. Closing the competition out with a bang – quite literally – were Scott & LeeAnn Foster. Their hip-hop routine was choreographed by Tammy Bellamy Chaney, with a mashup of a wide variety of songs that was kept secret until their performance.



Rock Piqua Food Truck & Music Festival

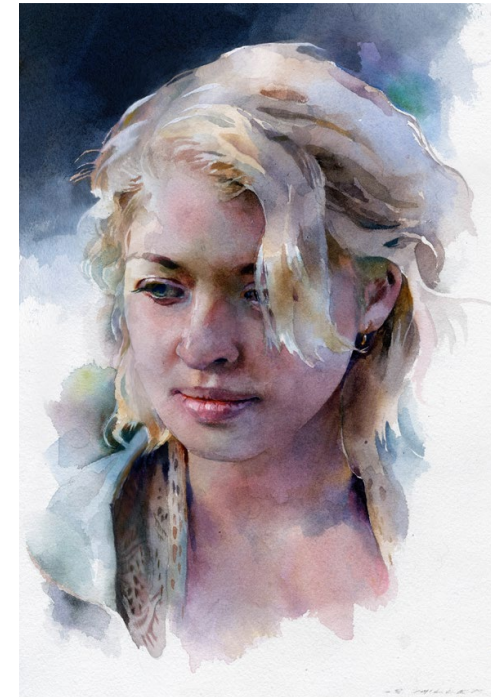
Piqua Arts Council and Mainstreet Piqua's renowned music festival time traveled all the way back to the 1960's on Saturday, June 18, 2022. With the best hits from the 60's performed by the event's headliner – Aftermath: Experience the Sixties, a variety of cover songs by Hi-Fi Honey and Driving Force, and original tunes from Cole Ritter and the Night Owls and Matt Waters and the Recipe, this year's Rock Piqua Food Truck & Music Festival brought close to a record crowd to downtown Piqua.

In addition to great music, the free concert also featured various food trucks and local craft and domestic beer. Patrons enjoyed food from Chicago Gyros and Dogs, G's Cue BBQ, Raging Bull Woodfired Pizza, Susie's Big Dipper and Tin Roof Mobile Cuisine.



The day began at noon with the 5th Annual Rock 'N Roll Car Show, displaying over 125 cars that lined the streets of downtown Piqua. Awards included People's Choice, Best 60's Era, Best Paint Job and more. Kicking off the concerts at 3pm was local band, the Driving Force, followed by Matt Waters and the Recipe, Hi-Fi Honey, Cole Ritter and the Night Owls, and finally, Aftermath: Experience the Sixties to close out the night. The Aftermath show recreates the sights and sounds of the 60s, featuring authentic reproductions of some of the most memorable songs from that era. With period-correct costuming and specific sounds, it's easy to be sent back in time while experiencing the spot-on, family-friendly show. This was surely the case at the 2022 Rock Piqua Food Truck & Music Festival.

The free event is made possible through the generosity of our sponsors, the helping hands of our volunteers, each band and food truck, and the community members, families and friends who participate. It is part of Rock Piqua's mission to unite our community through the art of music, and this year's event did just that.



Howard Friedland Oil Painting Workshop

Nationally and internationally awarded artist Howard Friedland visited Piqua from Monday, October 31 through Thursday, November 3, 2022 to teach an oil painting workshop. Held at Apple Tree Gallery from 9am to 4pm daily, the workshop brought in artists from Ohio, Nevada, New Jersey, and even as far away as Costa Rica.

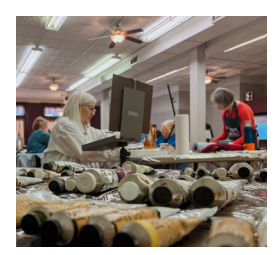
After studying fine art and commercial art at New York's High School of Music and Art, Howard Friedland went on to The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Art and Science in the department of Art and Architecture in New York's Greenwich Village. Friedland holds various board positions, publications, and exhibits all around the nation and beyond. He has painted, taught, and exhibited extensively in New Mexico, Montana, Italy, Croatia, China, Mexico, and more. Howard states, "The challenge for me is always to see the world with fresh eyes and respond spontaneously to the beauty before me...This is what the magic of painting is about for me. This allows the viewer to use his or her imagination and participate in the painting."



Stan Miller Watercolor Workshop

Piqua Arts Council was thrilled to invite nationally and internationally awarded artist, Stan Miller, to Piqua to instruct a four-day Watercolor Workshop. The seats filled up fast at Apple Tree Gallery, as the workshop began on Monday, March 7 and ran through Thursday, March 10 from 9am to 4pm daily.

Stan Miller has been a professional painter in watercolor and egg tempera for more than forty years, earning many awards; exhibiting paintings in numerous exhibitions, galleries and museums; instructing workshops and jurying art events around the world along the way. Born on a small farm in Southeastern South Dakota in 1949, Stan was influenced by various events in his childhood, but it wasn't until his third year of college that he took his first watercolor class. He then started selling his paintings for as little as \$2 each, and in 1973, he finally made the decision to make a living as a full time, professional watercolorist. Now he enjoys teaching nearly as much as painting, as he teaches weekly classes in Spokane as well as workshops around the world. Stan spends most of his time in his studio painting, hoping never to retire.



2023 Workshops

In addition to PAC's signature watercolor and oil painting workshops, we're thrilled to offer a pastel workshop in 2023. "It's truly an honor to invite significant artists to Piqua that are not only nationally awarded, but have achieved such excellence on the international level as well," states Executive Director, Jordan Knepper. "The opportunity that we're able to provide for our local artists is unmatched, and we're privileged to be investing in our creatives in this way." Piqua Arts Council will be hosting three workshops in 2023, including the Tim Saternow Watercolor Workshop, Jill Wagner Pastel Workshop and Kenneth Yarus Oil Painting Workshop.

Poetry Out Loud

For the third consecutive year, Piqua Arts Council hosted the West Central Ohio Regional Finals for the National Poetry Out Loud Competition. National Endowment for the Arts, the Poetry Foundation, Ohio Arts Council and regional organizations all partner in hosting this national poetry recitation competition, in which the winner takes home a \$20,000 cash prize. This stage of the competition took place at the Upper Valley Career Center Hartzell Auditorium in Piqua on the evening of Thursday, February 10. Piqua Arts Council is responsible for a twelve-county region, with this year's competitors coming from Piqua High School (Isabella Reyes), Xenia High School (Hiba Loukssi), Newton High School (Molly Norman) and Chaminade Julienne Catholic High School (Amaira Cochran).

Each student competed in two rounds of poetry recitation for judges Kevin Milner, Jamie Suttle, Countess Winfrey and Nate Funderburg. Not only did the 2022 judges take part in determining which student would move onto the next round in the competition, they also provided live entertainment for the evening. After astounding performances from the participating students, the judges reached their decision.

The winner of the regional competition was Amaira Cochran, sophomore at Chaminade Julienne Catholic High School, with her poems, *Abcedarian Requiring Further Examination of Anglikan Seraphym Subjugation of a Wild Indian Rezervation* by Natalie Diaz and *Respectability* by Tina Boyer Brown.

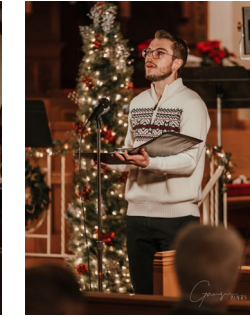
The 2022 competition was sponsored by National Endowment for the Arts, the Poetry Foundation, Ohio Arts Council, and Winans Chocolates + Coffees. Complimentary gift bags were provided for each student, sponsored by Elite Etc., Jay & Mary's Bookstore, Premier Health – Upper Valley Medical Center, Scott's Family McDonalds. Photos were provided by Ganger Images and video was provided by the Indian Nation Station.



Community Nights

This year, Piqua Arts Council was fortunate to benefit from 2 different community nights. The first was held in Beavercreek at The Greene's Condado Tacos on Wednesday, July 27 from 6-9pm where 10% of all food and drink sales that evening were donated back to the Piqua Arts Council. Patrons enjoyed tacos, margaritas, and nachos as they were accompanied by Steven Gregory of Dayton, Ohio on the guitar and greeted by demonstrating artist, Lydia Williamson of Dayton, Ohio.

The second community night that benefitted PAC was held at Moeller Brew Barn in Troy, Ohio on Tuesday, September 13 from 5-9pm where 20% of all food and drink sales were donated to the Piqua Arts Council. Piqua Arts Council invited back Steven Gregory for live entertainment, as well as Lydia Williamson with her father, Chip Williamson, for live art demos. In addition to these artists, Piqua Arts Council also held a one-night art exhibit that featured landscape-themed artwork from some of the best artists around the area. Moeller Brew Barn was able to donate more than \$600 to the Piqua Arts Council, all thanks to the staff at Moeller and patrons who attended.



Creative Classrooms

Through our creative classrooms program, we're able to provide opportunities for Piqua students, grades Kindergarten through Fifth Grade, where they're given access to high quality performing art experiences through either in-school performances or field trips. This year, Piqua Arts Council was able to add Piqua Catholic School to the program in addition to Piqua City Schools.

These programs in 2022 included in-school performances by the Dayton Children's Traveling Opera (CTO), Dayton Contemporary Dance Company and a Dayton Philharmonic Brass Quintet that visited Piqua Catholic School. In addition to these performances, each school embarked on a field trip to Dayton Live's Victoria Theatre on Friday, March 4 of this year where they experienced "School House Rock". The performance included lessons on verbs, conjunctions, how a legislative bill is made and more.



Sounds of the Season

It surely was the most wonderful time of the year – and another record-breaking event. This year's Sounds of the Season Holiday Concert seated nearly 75 in the pews of St. James Episcopal Church on Saturday evening, December 3rd, which stands as the highest attendance for this special concert. Not only did we host some of the area's best musicians and bands, but PAC also donated all proceeds to the Bethany Center. Together, Piqua Arts Council and its community members were able to raise \$400 for the Bethany Center, Piqua's local food pantry, clothing bank and soup kitchen.

Kicking off the evening at 5pm was Quintessential Winds, followed by various students of the Troy High School Orchestra and a solo by Nathan Mamitag. Then holiday classics were sung and rung by the Randall Ringers of the Randall Residence of Tipp City where they were led by Krissy O'Malley, founder of Senior Music Connection and a soloist at the event. Next up was the Nashville United Church of Christ's Handbell Choir, as well as St. James Episcopal Church members Patti Haller and Ryan Ramey. The concert ended with Mike Epperly on handbells and Dana Geuy on piano.

Holiday classics like *It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas*, *Silent Night*, *Angels We Have Heard on High*, *Mary Did You Know?* and more rang in the holiday spirit that night. And with each performance, the new season was welcomed.



Holiday Open House

Citizens of Piqua, organizational sponsors, friends and donors all gathered together at the Fort Piqua Plaza on the cold, winter evening of Thursday, December 8. With hors d'oeuvres by Romer's Catering, festive desserts and a diversified cash bar, the event served as an end of year celebration for the organizations of Piqua and the generous businesses and donors who supported them. The event was hosted by the Piqua Area Chamber of Commerce, Piqua Arts Council, Mainstreet Piqua, Grow Piqua Now and the City of Piqua. Photography services were provided by Ganger Images.

Annual Piqua Fine Art Exhibition

It was a special year for Piqua Arts Council as artists from all across the state exhibited their artwork for the 30th year of PAC's Annual Art Show. With over 200 works of art, the exhibition currently stands as one of the largest shows in the entire Miami Valley. Works ranged from watercolor, photography, oil & acrylic, three-dimensional, drawing and miscellaneous. It was in these 6 categories where judge Thomas Schroeder carefully awarded 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prize along with the Best of Show and various honorable mentions. In addition, Library Purchase Awards were selected by new Executive Director of the Piqua Public Library, Stephanie Rostron, and Board President, Kathy Alexander. A total of \$4000 was awarded to the winners of the 2022 exhibition. The exhibit was open to the public from Friday, September 9 and until Friday, September 30.



BEST OF SHOW
To the Nines, Spencer Cunningham

BEST OF SHOW
To the Nines
Spencer Cunningham

DRAWING

1ST PLACE

Maiden Voyage
Tom Kinarney

2ND PLACE

Sunset Over Conwy Harbour
J. Lynne Dodson

3RD PLACE

Front Porch Rocker
Carole Schafer

HONORABLE MENTION

Take A Bow
Joanne Von Sossan

HONORABLE MENTION

Partners in Crime
Molly Christian

HONORABLE MENTION

I Am Hoping to See My Daughter
Jim Moore

WATER MEDIA

1ST PLACE

Tucker the Hippo
Connie Gifford

2ND PLACE

February
Kathy Moeller

3RD PLACE

Chinatown, San Francisco
Donna Pierce-Clark

HONORABLE MENTION

Grazing in Lancaster
Rhonda Sloan

HONORABLE MENTION

Three Friends
Libby Rudolf

HONORABLE MENTION

Spirited Reflections
Jeanette Ferguson

OIL & ACRYLIC

1ST PLACE

Penance
Maureen O'Keefe

2ND PLACE

Pouty Girl
Molly Christian

3RD PLACE

Looking Across Water Street
Steve Wohler

HONORABLE MENTION

Decatur Evening Herald
Randy Bennett

HONORABLE MENTION

Got Soap?
Audrey Moody

HONORABLE MENTION

Morning Meditation
Juliann Lyons

KATHY ODA MEMORIAL AWARD

London Fog
Christine Herman

BEST PIQUA ARTIST AWARD

Docked for the Day
Mary Frances Rodriguez

PHOTOGRAPHY

1ST PLACE

Calling Forth
Spencer Cunningham

2ND PLACE

Renaissance Merchant
Richard Wood

3RD PLACE

My View
Jeff Doseck

HONORABLE MENTION

Bodie Ghost Town
Terry Glass

HONORABLE MENTION

Misty Morn
Cathy Huber

HONORABLE MENTION

Just Sprinkle Me Here
Jeff Doseck

3-DIMENSIONAL

1ST PLACE

The Make Love Not War Club
John Kinnee

2ND PLACE

Autumn Maze
Lucille Gross

3RD PLACE

Goddess Effigy
Mary Jo Knoch

HONORABLE MENTION

Monk
Bill Danzig

HONORABLE MENTION

Colony
John Kinnee

HONORABLE MENTION

Exotic Fowl
David Rau

MISCELLANEOUS

1ST PLACE

Contemplations 1
Debbie Cosenza

2ND PLACE

Secrets Best Kept
Randy Bennett

3RD PLACE

Discovering Diamonds
Carol Korros

HONORABLE MENTION

Prehistoric Playmates
Jan Lendino

HONORABLE MENTION

Wistful Misty
Tom Kinarney

HONORABLE MENTION

Tryptic
Julianne Thompson

LIBRARY PURCHASE AWARD

Decatur Evening Herald
Randy Bennett

The Library
Kelly Cook

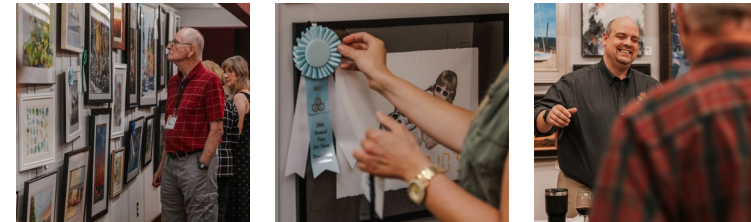
Fire Vase
Dennis Walker

Awards Reception

It was certainly a celebration at the Awards Reception for the 30th Annual Piqua Fine Art Exhibition. The event brought a full house with a record attendance as the winners were announced on Thursday, September 8, 2022. Held at Apple Tree Gallery in Piqua, the reception featured hors d'oeuvres provided by Stillwater Catering and live music by Bobbie Strobhar & John Root. Participating artists, community members, friends, Piqua Arts Council members, sponsors and donors all gathered in celebration of the arts on that calm, autumn evening.

After all of the artwork was viewed by patrons, Executive Director, Jordan Knepper, announced each award. As the night came to a close, Knepper was proud to award the 2022 Best of Show to photographer, Spencer Cunningham from Bowling Green, Ohio, for his photograph, "To the Nines". Juror, Thomas Schroeder, stated, "I love this piece. I could fill a page with the compositional games this image is playing with...It's memory, symbolism, story and energy in a private dance."

A special thank you goes out to our celebrity sponsor, Kettering Health, and our event sponsors, Alley and Bradl, LLC; Jackson Tube Service; Koverman Staley Dickerson Insurance; Buckeye Insurance Group; and Ameriprise Financial – Mullenbrock and Associates. This event would not be possible without their support, as well as the help from our volunteers, the staff at Apple Tree Gallery, our artists – of course, and every participating community member.



WATER MEDIA 1ST PLACE
Tucker the Hippo, Connie Gifford



3D 1ST PLACE
The Make Love Not War Club, John Kinnee



DRAWING 1ST PLACE
Maiden Voyage, Tom Kinarney



MISCELLANEOUS 1ST PLACE
Contemplations 1, Debbie Cosenza



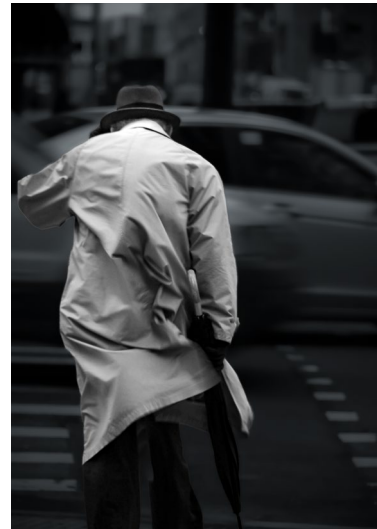
WATER MEDIA 3RD PLACE
Chinatown, San Francisco, Donna Pierce-Clark



PHOTOGRAPHY 1ST PLACE
Calling Forth, Spencer Cunningham



OIL & ACRYLIC 1ST PLACE
Penance, Maureen O'Keefe



KATHY ODA MEMORIAL AWARD
London Fog, Christine Herman



LIBRARY PURCHASE AWARD
The Library, Kelly Cook



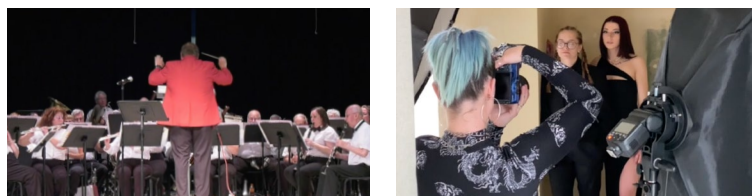
Home Grown Arts

What started as a video series in 2021, Home Grown Arts was created to highlight the artists around Piqua and its surrounding areas. There's a big misconception that creatives can't thrive in rural communities. Many believe the arts are more successful in larger cities, which leads to many artists leaving their small hometowns in search of opportunities elsewhere. But this isn't how we see it.

At the Piqua Arts Council, we see creatives every day making a living in and around Piqua. We want to celebrate these artists and show how the arts have impacted their lives and shaped them into the individuals they are through various short documentaries – our Home Grown Arts series.

Last year, PAC partnered with AJ Ganger of Indian Nation Station in the creation of these short interviews. The videos featured artists such as Jared & Justin Younce of ReFlektion, Dan Rosenbaum, Bobbie DeBrito, Jimmy Felts and more, which premiered twice a month on our YouTube and Facebook pages.

We have once again teamed up with Indian Nation Station in the making of new highlight videos that will premiere in 2023. These interviews will feature Erik Ganger & Lily Stewart of Ganger Images, Maureen O'Keefe, Brett Poling, AJ Ganger and more to be a part of the 2023 series.

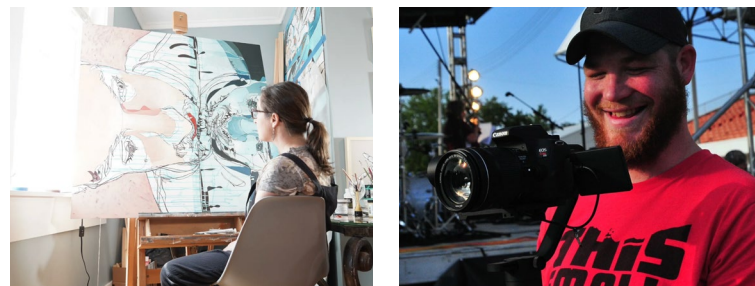


Covington native, Erik Ganger, and his partner from Piqua, Ohio, Lily Stewart, are a modern style photography duo. Together through Ganger Images, they have pursued various photographic opportunities from traditional weddings or senior photos, product + lifestyle photos for Winans Chocolates + Coffees, event photos at Piqua Community Foundation's Pitch Piqua, and more.

Professional artist, Maureen O'Keefe, was born in Sidney, Ohio. She loves spending time in her studio at the Piqua Arts & Innovation Center located in the heart of downtown Piqua. Maureen has held various exhibitions and her work has been included in group exhibitions and private collections. She is the recipient of the 2019 Individual Excellence Award from the Ohio Arts Council and has received numerous drawing and painting awards.

Brett Poling is the Director and Conductor of the Piqua Civic Band. Poling has been an educator for more than 27 years, having taught music, choir and drama at St. Luke School before becoming the technology coordinator and assistant principal. Prior to teaching in Beavercreek, he served as the band director for Lima Central Catholic High School + their 3 elementary schools.

AJ Ganger is the Director of the Indian Nation Station, the Public Access TV station for Piqua, Ohio. AJ works closely with the students of Piqua High School during their Media classes in teaching them how to use a camera, working with Final Cut Pro, running TriCasters, making graphics, running replay, and teaching them how to communicate with local businesses in coordinating coverage for various opportunities.



..... Art Spark Awards

There's no doubt that PAC's passion lies in supporting local artists. Whether it's by offering affordable workshops led by significant artists from around the nation, hosting the largest non-juried art show in the Miami Valley, or hosting a documentary series that highlights these local artists, we're committed to creating opportunities for creatives in and around Piqua.

In 2023, Piqua Arts Council is creating an award program that benefits individuals looking to further their artistic pursuits. The small awards will range from \$250 - \$500 for those in need of a little help to take professional development, finish a project in their field, or further their skills and abilities.

PAC's Art Ascent Awards will be available to individuals living in the 45356 area. An application will be available on the Piqua Arts Council's website and reviewed on a rolling basis with a 30-day review window. Additional criteria and applications will be available on the PAC website soon.



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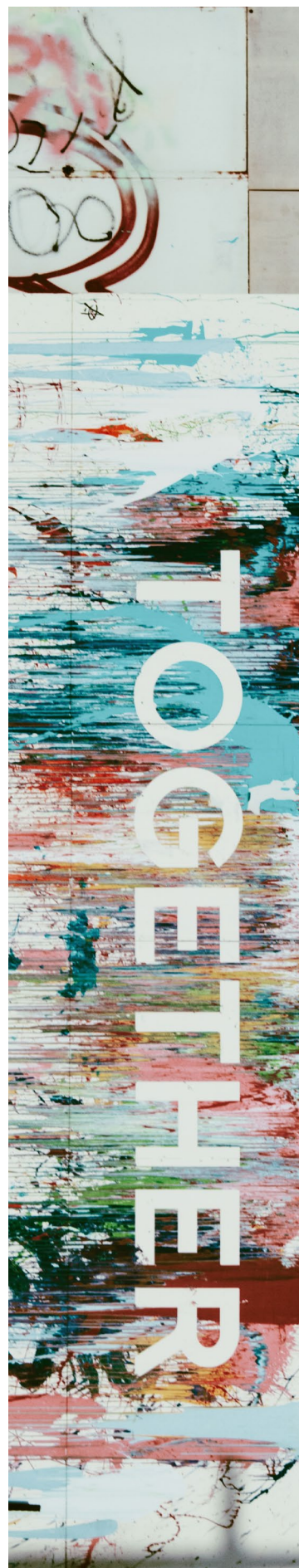
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PAC Grants

Piqua Arts Council was honored to receive several grants in 2022. With the implementation of two new programs during the year — the Bourbon Affair and Art 4 Everyone — PAC needed to raise more funds than usual. On behalf of Art 4 Everyone, PAC received a significant grant from Ohio Arts Council. OAC also awarded our organization with grants supporting the National Poetry Out Loud competition hosted in February, as well as our signature artist workshops that are held throughout the year at Apple Tree Gallery. Piqua Arts Council is grateful for each organization that has supported their mission, vision and values.



PAC was also the recipient of various grants from Culture Works (Dayton, OH) and the Piqua Community Foundation. Thanks to the generosity of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), Culture Works awarded Dayton arts organizations with funds to aid COVID recovery in 2022. Piqua Arts Council was just one of the many arts organizations and individual artists that received this grant. "The Dayton Region's artists and arts and cultural organizations strengthen our well-being, nourish our diversity and identity, and support our communities," said Karen Maner, Culture Works Director of Grantmaking. "Culture Works is pleased to award these Dayton Region Arts Renewal Grants, funded through the NEA, to support the creative work that brings enriching cultural experiences into our lives." In addition to this COVID relief grant, Piqua Arts Council was also privileged to receive a generous grant from the Kathryn L Johnston Family Fund of the Piqua Community Foundation.

Ohio Arts Council is a state agency that funds and supports quality arts experiences to strengthen Ohio communities culturally, educationally and economically. The Council was created in 1965 to foster and encourage the development of the arts and assist the preservation of Ohio's cultural heritage, and has been providing leadership and voice for the arts to transform people and communities since then.

Culture Works is the funding, advocacy, and service organization that passionately inspires, supports, and sustains arts and culture in the Dayton Region. The organization believes that creating and maintaining a vibrant and attractive community filled with quality arts brings measurable and immeasurable value to its citizens. Culture Works is proud to be the largest provider of general operating support for many nonprofit arts organizations operating in the Dayton Region.

The Piqua Community Foundation began with brainstorming by a focus group, and The Foundation was "born" on November 12, 1993. Their mission is to provide opportunities for any donor to be generous, and they welcome the chance to help all donors meet their charitable giving goals.



