

April 2025 Garrard Arts Council Newsletter

Thanks to everyone who participated in the planning meetings to discuss ideas regarding the reopening of Wherritt House Gifts. We have made a lot of progress and are well on our way to developing a solid plan for the gift shop. We invite anyone interested in being a part of the exciting relaunch to join us as we move forward. Give us a call at the Art Center @ 859 304 3057 or 859 948 6988 to find out how you can be a part of this exciting venture.

From the Directors Office

Why does Garrard County need an art center? I believe that art is an important part of our lives.

Art is a natural human behavior and just like language and laughter, is fundamental human behavior. Children create art instinctively beginning at an early age. Simply, art is a part of who we are. We need art because it makes us better human beings.

Art, like language, is a medium used to express ideas and to share information, offering us a way to express what we think and feel that we might not be able to articulate in other ways. We need art to have a full range of expressions.

Creating or experiencing **ART** can relax and sooth us or it may enliven and stimulate us. It engages both the body and mind providing a release, a place for reflection and a way to engage one's whole self. We need art to keep us healthy.

Art documents events and experiences, reflecting cultural values, beliefs and identity helping us to preserve the many different communities that make up our world. We need art to understand and to share our own and shared history.

Art forms such as dance, theatre, and choir require a group of artists and an audience. Even the solitary painter or poet relies on the craft of the paint-maker and the book binder to help create art. Art offers us a reason to come together and share an experience.

For those reasons we need to keep our local art center; Garrard Arts alive and thriving and you can help simply by purchasing a yearly membership. Want to know more about how to support the arts in your community? Contact the Garrard Arts Center to see how.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT GARRARD ARTS

AFTER SCHOOL ART CLUB at LES

We are over halfway through our year with the students of Lancaster Elementary After School Art Club. We painted, crafted, acted, played games, and had tons of fun with those amazing kids. As we wrap up this year at LES, Jacobe Reasoner will be teaching the kids to expand and improve their drawing skills. Of course, we will continue to craft each week working in different mediums, learning, expressing ourselves through creativity while having fun. In the last weeks of After School Art Camp Nikki Harper will be working the kids talking about stage acting. The children will help write a mini skit and then perform in a group.

We have had a great group of volunteers to make this program happen this year. I want to thank Geri Trinler, Jacobe Reasoner, and Nikki Harper, who have dedicated their time to this program, touched the lives of children, and made their world a better place through ART.

Our plans are to expand this program to include Camp Dick Elementary, Paint Lick Elementary and Garrard Middle School next school year. To make this happen we will need adult volunteers to help in those schools and you don't have to be an artist or teacher to help. We can teach you all you need to know to be a volunteer for AFTER SCHOOL ART CLUB.

Fundraiser

Our plans to hold a Derby party did not come to fruition. However, we do have some lovely "HORSE" paintings donated by Stacy May, BG Lewis, and Sandra Cathy that are currently on display at the Garrard County Public Library. These dynamic pieces of art are up for auction, all proceed go to support Garrard Arts, a nonprofit community organization. You can bid online on our Facebook page. Auction is open now and will close on May 15th at 5pm. Please bid generously and you can own one of these lovely paintings to commemorate the 151st Kentucky Derby.

Building News

If you have driven down Main Street, you have probably already seen our **news**; the building has a new look! Over a year ago we had a mishap when a work trailer hit the front of our building. It has been a long wait but finally the new siding is up, and repair work is beginning on the inside. We hope to have all the work completed by early summer.

Regina Rice brought and planted perennials in our back flower bed. We are so grateful that she shared with us.

On Monday a group of volunteers, Connie Huddleston Jacobe Reasoner, Rene Keaton, BG Lewis, and 'Panda' Demetrius Goins cleared the gift shop out removing cabinets on the wall and all displays so that work can begin to repair damage sustained last March.

In the next couple of weeks, we need help to paint out the cabinets and other furniture pieces while we wait for the repairs to be completed in the gift shop.

Classes

- **Beginners Embroidery** meets every Wednesdays at 11 am. This class is taught by Trina Davidson and is free to all members. A small fee of \$5 required for non-members. Does not require pre-registration. **(THIS CLASS IS ON HOLD UNTIL June)**
- **ARTIST ATTIC PAINTERS** meets Tuesdays at 11:00 am each week. Cost of class is only \$10 for members (\$20 IF YOU ARE NOT A MEMBER) Supplies are included. Does not require pre-registration.
- **Open Studio Day:** Bring your own project and work independently in our classroom on any Thursdays. Hours are from 12noon till 2p.m.
- **Private Lessons Available:** Ever wanted to try your hand at painting? Beginners acrylic painting classes with Bobbie Gayle; call for additional details @859 948 6988
- **Beginners Genealogy Class:** If you missed this class and are interested in attending one, please contact the Art Center to sign up for net time. Date and Time to be determined. For registration call the Art Center @859 304 3057.
- **Beginners Watercolor Class:** new class signups are available now. Call 859 304 3057
- **Crafters Corner:** Join us on May 15th at 11 am. Bring a clay pot, any size you want and create a 'POT HEAD' for your porch or patio. Fee is \$20 and includes all supplies except the terra cotta pot. **Must pre-register so that we are sure to have enough supplies for everyone.** For registration, please call the Art Center @ 859 304 3057.
- **Voice & Piano Lessons:** Call the art center @ 859 304 3057 for to schedule your class.
- **Summer Art Camp:** June 9th -11th. Ages 4 -8 @ 10 am -11:30 Ages 9 and up @ 11:30 – 3pm @ the Garrard Education Center 324 West Maple Avenue.
 - **Free** to members. Nonmembers \$10/child per day.
 - **Are you available to help with Summer Art Camp this year.** Contact BG Lewis @ 859 304 3057

We ask you to PRE-REGISTER FOR ALL CLASSES so we can be sure to have all supplies ready.... THANK YOU

For more information or to register for any of our classes call (859) 304 3057.

Follow us on Facebook or visit us @ garrardarts.org to see what's new and coming next.

Stats

For the month of **April** our volunteers gave 371 hours working at the Garrard Arts Center. We had a total of 121 art interactions this month; 85 of those were with adults, 36 were with the youth in our community. Even with all the repairs going on, our dedicated volunteers pressed on with holding classes and enriching lives in our community.

Celebrations

In the past we have honored our volunteers as part of our Gala Event. This year we celebrated with a luncheon at the Glitz in None Such Kentucky. There was lively conversation, marvelous food, and a charming atmosphere. Awards for hours of service were presented to Connie Huddleston, Pam Harrison, Sandra Cathy, Vanessa Reasoner, Dianne Sawyer, Crystal Moberly, Karen Anderson, Melissa Taylor, Brenna Lovell, Marshal Norton, Stacy May, Marilyn Boyd, Jacobe Reasoner,

Nikki Harper, Diane Blochburger, Trina Davidson, Beth Ray, and Charly Moberly. Each volunteer is valuable to Garrard Arts, and we appreciate all the work they do to keep Garrard Arts running. This was also a special day of recognition for Geri Trinler one of the founding members of the Garrard County Arts Council. Even though she is still going to be an active member she is retiring after many years of service on the board. In her tenure she has served as communication chair, graphic designer, and president pro TEM. Awards were presented by BG Lewis, Art Center Director, who received a surprise gift of a bouquet of flowers as a thank you for her service at Garrard Arts Center.

Thank You!

I wish to thank those that have given so generously of their time in the last month. Their efforts are truly appreciated. Everyone is important. We couldn't do what we do without you.

- Crystal Moberly for cleaning the Art Center and for continued trash detail.
- Geri Trinler, Beth Ray, Jacobe Reasoner, and Nikki Harper for helping with LES Afterschool Art Club.
- Regina Rice for the lovely additions to our flower bed at the rear entrance.
- Stacy May for hanging the exhibit in the library.
- Marshall Norton for cleaning flower beds this month and donating mulch and topsoil for the rear entrance flower bed.
- Connie Huddleston for staking our Peonies inside flower beds.
- Connie Huddleston, Jacobe Reasoner, Panda Goins, BG Lewis, Rene Keaton for clearing out the gift shop of all displays and cabinets. We could not have completed the project without the muscle power of Panda and Jacobe.
- And to all our officers that work behind the scenes to help keep our Art Center running.

Volunteers Needed / Urgent needs

- **Painters needed.**
- **Gift shop help. Training available. Sign up today 859 948 6988.**
- **We can use you no matter what your skill is, there is a place for you at the art center. Please join us. CALL 859 948 6988 to sign up.**

EXHIBITS & CONTESTS

Photo Contest/ HOMETOWN

Winners of this year's photo contest

Adults

1st place Cynthia Resor

2nd Susanne Swanson

3rd Dianne Sawyer

High School/ Youth

1st Wyatt Lewis

People's Choice Award

The winner of the People's Choice Award for our photo contest went to : Cynthia Jennings

Current Exhibit

HORSES

CURRENTLY AT THE LIBRARY ARE HORSE PAINTINGS FOR AUCTION PAINTED BY ARTIST STACY MAY, BG LEWIS, AND SAUNDRA CATHEY. TO BID ON ONE OF THESE FINE PAINTINGS GO TO

GARRARD ARTS FACEBOOK PAGE AND PLACE YOUR BID IN THE COMMENTS UNDER EACH PICTURE. ALSO AVAILABLE ARE NUMBERED PRINTS OF THE HISTOICAL PAINT LICK PAINTING BY JAMES CROWE. \$20 EACH

Upcoming Exhibit

Throughout the summer we will be using color as a theme for our exhibits at the library. May is Green, June is Yellow, July is Red/ White/ Blue and August is purple. If you have artwork that you would like to display, contact BG Lewis @ 859 304 3057.

Call to Artist /Contest

Red, White and Bluesy/ Contest 2025

What does that mean? Think about summer, brass band festivals, ice cream and lemonade. Fireflies, waving flags and spectacular fireworks. Let your imagination and creativity flow.

All work will be juried to ascertain that it is family friendly. Open to all ages, all mediums.

- Work must have finished edges or be in a frame. Each entry must be ready to hang. (*No sawtooth hangers please.*) Entries can be no larger than 16x24.
- Each artist may enter up to 3 pieces per entry fee.
- 3d entries may not exceed 12 x12x12 inches.

Entry Fees

- Under 9 years.....free
- 10-18 yearsfree to members.... \$5/ nonmembers
- Adults\$15 members \$25 nonmembers

Entries must be received by 5pm on June 20, 2025.

Prizes to be awarded to first place in each category and People's Choice.

Entries accepted at Garrard Arts, 206 Lexington Street, Lancaster Kentucky.

For an application or additional information call (859) 304 3057

Fall into Art / Contest 2025

Time to start on your entries for our Fall Art Contest. The theme this year is 'Changing Seasons'. What does that mean to you? Could it be the changes in seasons as we progress through the year what is your favorite season. Perhaps it is a season in your life. Let your imagination and creativity flow.

All work will be juried to ascertain that it is family friendly. Open to all of all ages, all mediums.

- Work must have finished edges or be in a frame. Each entry must be ready to hang. (*No sawtooth hangers please.*) Entries can be no larger than 16x24.
- Each artist may enter up to 3 pieces per entry fee.
- 3d entries may not exceed 12 x12x12 inches.

Entry Fees

- Under 9 years.....free
- 10-18 yearsfree to members.... \$5/ nonmembers
- Adults\$15 members \$25 nonmembers

Entries must be received by 5pm on September 12, 2025.

Prizes will be awarded to first place in each category and People's Choice.
Entries are accepted at Garrard Arts, 206 Lexington Street, Lancaster Kentucky.
For an application or additional information call (859) 304 3057