

March 2025 Garrard County Arts Council Newsletter

Construction will begin soon on the building repairs. While we wait, we are meeting every Monday at 12 noon to discuss ideas for the reopening of Wherritt House Gifts. It is not necessary to attend each and every meeting, come when you can. **Everyone is invited.** If you are interested in being a part of this exciting new relaunch and want more information call the art center @ 859 304 3057 or 859 948 6988.

YOUR SUPPORT IS NEEDED /Why is art important?

Five Reasons to Create Art

Art is.....

A Natural Human Behavior

Like language and laughter, art is a 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.

Communication

Art, like language, is a medium to express ideas and to share information. Art offers 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 expression.

Healing

Creating or experiencing art can relax and soothe us or it may enliven and stimulate us. Art engages both the body and mind. Art provides a release, place for reflection and a way to engage our whole self's. We need art to keep us healthy.

Your Story

Art documents events and experiences. Art reflects cultural values, beliefs and identity and helps 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.

A Shared Experience

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 in an experience.

Looking for your tribe?

If you are an artist, writer, painter, sculptor, crafter, musician, blacksmith, photographer, voice teacher, or any other type of artists, we know where you belong! Garrard County Arts Council welcomes all artists! There is no review, no judging your skill. We simply want to help you succeed. *DON'T LIVE IN GARRARD COUNTY?* No problem. We welcome everyone. Yearly Dues are just \$45. What does Garrard Arts give you? Encouragement, classes, pop-up sales, comradeship, contests, and a family of artists of all sorts waiting to welcome you to our Tribe!

EVEN IF YOU ARE NOT AN ARTISTS

Garrard Arts has so much to offer. If you have ever wanted to be a bigger part of your community, make new friends and fill your spare time with purpose, then volunteering at Garrard Arts could be your answer. We are seeking individuals to fill many diverse jobs at Garrard Arts. Your life skills are valuable, no matter what your superpowers are, we have a place for you.

DON'T HAVE ANY SPARE TIME?

That's ok too. You can still help support the Arts in our community by purchasing a yearly membership. Just \$45/ year supports programs in our community like our After School Art Club, Summer Art Camp, Senior Outreach Art program, adult and youth painting classes and so many more.

There are perks for you as a member as well. Your membership entitles you to early notification of events, use of our facility for meetings and gatherings, reduced or free classes and so much more.

Now that you know how to be a part of the ARTS we hope you will take action. Join us in our mission to enrich lives through the ARTS.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT GARRARD ARTS

AFTER SCHOOL ART CLUB at LES

Geri Trinler, Jacobe Reasoner, Nikki Harper, and Bobbie Gayle Lewis continue to work with the kids at Lancaster Elementary each Monday during the school year. We have two student volunteers from Garrard Middle School helping with After School Art Club. Each of these volunteers generously give of their time to teach and mentor students at LES allowing them to experience many forms of art.

This past week our group got creative using recycled paper rolls and scrapes of fabric and felt they created wee Leprechauns to celebrate St Paddy's Day. Our next planned project is to make 'Dragon Eggs' using Paper Mache'. Each week we plan a project to encourage creativity while exploring different genres in the art world.

Club days we play games that expand the children's confidence and give them a voice amongst their peers. One of their favorite games to play is 'Why were you so late'. In this game one child tries explaining why they are late by guessing what the group is acting out. This usually results in a lot of laughter and everyone is eager to have their turn to guess.

We are making plans 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. You don't have to be an artist or teacher to help.

Garrard Arts will be closed during Spring Break; April 7th -11th. We take this time to refresh as many of our families are away on vacations during this time.

Classes

- **Beginners Embroidery** meets every Wednesdays at 11 am. This class is taught by Trina Davidson and is free to all members. Small fee of \$5 required for non-members. Does not require pre-registration. **(THIS CLASS IS ON HOLD UNTIL MAY)**
- Patti Trail continues to offer her **Art Soiree Class** (an acrylic painting class with a twist) every 3rd Thursday of the month. **Must pre-register by contacting Patti @ 859 509 3555**
- **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:** March 27st @ 1pm. This is a four-week class plus a one-hour personal session. Fee is just \$25. If you have a laptop or tablet you should bring it to class. **Class has started but you can still join this coming week. We have 2 openings left so hurry and register.** For Registration call the Art Center @859 304 3057.
- **Beginners Watercolor Class:** Join Debra Spencer for private one-on one class experience. To register for classes, call the Art Center @ 859 304 3057.
- **Crafters Corner:** Join us on April 17th at 10 am. We will be making a spring door hanger. Fee is \$20 and includes all supplies. **Must pre-register so that we are sure to have enough supplies for everyone.** For registration, please call the Art Center @ 859 304 3057.
- **Derby Hats:** Join us on April 16th @ 5pm. Bring your own hat to decorate or make a fascinator from scratch. Class is free you pay only for the supplies you use. **Please pre-register for class**
- **Derby Hats:** this class will be repeated on Saturday April 26th @ 11am. **Please pre-register for class**

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.

Thank You!

I wish to thank those that have given so generously of their time in the last month. Their efforts are truly appreciated.

- Crystal Moberly for cleaning the Art Center and for continues trash detail.
- Geri Trinler, Beth Ray, Kevin Honekin, Jacobe Reasoner, and Nikki Harper for helping with the Afterschool Art Club.
- Pamela Harrison for clearing leaves and debris from our front porch and back step area.
- Crystal Moberly for our spring decorations in the windows of our classroom.
- Stacy May for hanging the exhibit in the library.
- Pamela Harrison for hanging artwork in the Nicholas Martin Gallery Hall.
- Marshall Norton for repairs this month.
- And to all our officers that work behind the scenes to help keep our Art Center running.

Volunteers Needed / Urgent needs

- **BASEMENT cleaning, and reorganization.**
- **ATTIC reorganization.**
- **Gift shop help. Training will begin soon. Sign up today.**
- **Our Art Center needs additional helpers. 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

Current Exhibit

We have on loan from the University of Kentucky a photographic exhibit. These photos will be on exhibit in the Arts Center and at the Garrard County Library starting on February 17th and running through the end of March. If you have not been by to see this exhibit, there is still time. It is truly inspired.

As part of the University of Kentucky Markey Cancer Center's [Appalachian Career Training In Oncology \(ACTION\) Program](#), students (mostly high school students) in the program who are all from Appalachian Kentucky take photographs of objects that remind them of cancer. Dr. Vanderford worked with the UK HealthCare Arts in Healthcare Program to develop an in-person exhibit of some of the photographs.

Through the project, students connected what they learned about cancer in ACTION with their lived experiences, including what they experience in their homes and communities. The exhibit serves as a community engagement activity where viewers learn about the high cancer rates in Appalachian Kentucky, along with the causes and consequences of those high rates.

I think that the project is very impactful, especially when you consider that the majority of the photos were taken by high school sophomores and juniors. The students did an amazing job capturing issues related to the high rates of cancer in their own homes and communities

The exhibit has shown at the Pam Miller Downtown Arts Center in Lexington, Kentucky; the Lexington Downtown Public Library; the Kentucky Folk Art Center in Morehead, Kentucky; the Robinson Center (UK Cooperative Extension facility) in Jackson, Kentucky; and at the Appalachian Center at Berea College.

Upcoming Exhibit

Our next exhibit will be our photography contest, 'A Picture Worth a Thousand Words'. This year's theme is "HOMETOWN" Each photograph tells a story. Show us your favorite 'stories' of your hometown. Exhibit opens on April 10th and runs through the end of the month.

Call to Artist /Open Exhibit

Tell us a story with your camera. Work will be juried to ascertain that it is family friendly. Open to all photographers of any age.

- 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.

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 April 4, 2025.

A cash prize will be awarded to first place and best in show.

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

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

