



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **LOCAL ARTISTS KEEPING CREATIVITY ALIVE IN FAYETTE**

**Uniontown, PA** – With the holidays fast approaching, members of the Uniontown Art Club are gearing up for their busiest season of the year.

Founded by the late Edna Evans in 1927, the Uniontown Art Club has remained one of Fayette County's premier resources for local artists for more than 90 years.

"Our mission is to promote and generate the appreciation of art in our community," club President Stephanie McClain said. "We help local artists connect and establish themselves in the art world."

McClain, an acclaimed potter, joined the club six years ago, hoping to meet other Fayette County artists and launch her business, Stephanie's Pottery Shop.

"(The club was) instrumental in helping me get my start in the art world," she said. "Some artists join for our social events or to participate in art shows like our show at the Summit Inn Hotel. Others join to be considered to sell in our gallery.

"Joining is a great way to get your foot in the door to community events and art activities."

The club's members spend each November and December focused on their many unique events, and this year is no different. They're kicking off this holiday season by launching their solo artist exhibition series.

The inaugural event takes begins at 6 p.m. Nov. 8 and features an open reception with abstract photographer Aldiss Ray of Uniontown. Guests will enjoy light refreshments and live music while enjoying Ray's collection, titled "Through the Looking Glass: An Abstract View of Nature."

The exhibition will remain on display through 5:30 p.m. Nov. 9, at the Uniontown Art Club's Gallery 86, located at 86 West Main St. in Uniontown. The event is free and open to the public, and all art will be available for purchase.

The club will continue its event lineup with its fourth annual Old Fashioned Christmas and window decorating contest on Small Business Saturday, Nov. 8. The event will feature a "Selfies with Santa" station and art exhibition at Gallery 86.

As 2019 winds down, the club's art class offerings will remain in high gear. The complete schedule includes watercolor workshops, paint and sips, sippies for kids, as well as pottery, ceramics, jewelry, beading, and painting classes.

McClain said her favorite part of being involved is the opportunity to work with artists from every background and establish community connections through collaborative events and projects promoting the arts.

“I’ve made some amazing friends within the club. They feel like a second family,” she said. “Our diversity is what makes us unique. We have a wide variety of artists - everything from jewelry to pottery; painters to photographers; glass fishers and more.”

But club membership is not restricted to artists, McClain added.

“Anyone is welcome to become a member. You don’t have to make art. Simply appreciating art is enough,” she said. “The UAC is an outlet for local artists to get their start, as well as work within the community to beautify our area and establish an appreciation for art and art making.”

The Uniontown Art Club meets at 6:30 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month at Gallery 86. Membership applications are available on the club’s website or in person at the gallery.

A full list of upcoming events and additional information is available on the club’s Facebook page or at [www.uniontownartclub.org](http://www.uniontownartclub.org).

To learn more about Fayette County, visit [www.FayetteCountyPA.org](http://www.FayetteCountyPA.org).

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