

*Enriching lives and building  
community through the Arts!*



## 2019 Annual Report

# Arts!

## Message from the Chair!

2019 was another exciting year for *The Center for the Arts*.

With the help and energy of our dedicated volunteers, and the support of our members, donors, and sponsors, we brought a full year of art, music, theater, dance, and literature to our region, and initiated two new programs: the Youth Arts Education Program supplementing the existing arts curriculum in our schools and offering grants to teachers for arts enrichment projects; and the creation of the Arts and Business Alliance, bringing together representatives from all aspects of our region in an effort to create a desirable Arts Destination in the Lake Sunapee Region for the benefit of our creative organizations, individuals, and our communities.

As in years past, our free and low-cost cultural programming continued to make the arts accessible to all, reaching over 3000 participants, attendees, and students, 1800 online subscribers, and over 20,000 visits to our website last year.

All of this supporting the creative individuals and organizations in our communities and adding to the quality of life for our residents and visitors.

We are so fortunate to live in such a culturally rich region where art and nature meet. Working together we are enriching lives and building community through the Arts.

We are delighted that you have been part of this movement!

Thank you!

*Jean Cronin Connolly*  
Chair

## Who are we?

The Center for the Arts is a non-profit organization supporting the creative organizations and individuals in our midst and bringing the arts to our community for the benefit of our residents and visitors. We believe the arts enhance the quality of life of our residents and build a stronger sense of community.

We strive to provide opportunities to recognize the valuable resources in our region, to support those artists and arts organizations who enrich our community, and to showcase them at events throughout the year.

We partner with existing cultural organizations, artists, writers, performers, schools, and businesses to provide new arts and education programs and act as a centralized source of information for regional cultural events.

We offer free and low-cost programs and events for adults, children, and seniors. We also offer opportunities and scholarships to deserving students in our region, to further their arts education, and grants to teachers for arts enrichment projects.





## Free First Fridays in 2019!

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In 2019 the CFA hosted twelve free programs on the **First Friday** of each month featuring the New London Barn Playhouse, the Literary Arts Guild, the Visual Arts Guild, Northern Stage Theater, the Colby-Sawyer Dance Ensemble, the Lowe Profiles, the Vesiland Brass Trio, our talented Scholarship recipients, and many local artists, musicians, poets and writers to create exciting and unique free arts events open to the public.

Our **Micro Galleries**, all in New London: The New London Inn, Bar Harbor Bank and Trust, Blue Loon Bakery, Whipple Hall, and Tatewell Gallery, showcased local and regional artists throughout the year with rotating exhibits, and as part of the First Friday program, the public was invited to the Opening Receptions, often accompanied by local adult and students musicians.

The 2020 First Friday schedule will continue this tradition of bringing the best of local arts FREE to our community.

## Free First Fridays in 2020...

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**January 3rd 7:00 First Fridays! Stars of Tomorrow!** Dance, Music, Theater, and Art: Performances by our 2019 Scholarship Recipients at Warner Town Hall.

**February 7th 5:30-7:30 First Fridays! Gallery Opening Receptions!** New Exhibits all in New London, The New London Inn, Bar Harbor Bank & Trust, Blue Loon Bakery, Whipple Hall, and Tatewell Gallery.

**March 6th 7:00 First Fridays! North Country Chordsmen Concert** Ballads, Up Beat Tunes, Specialty Songs, and Comedy! At Whipple Hall.

**April 3rd 5:30 First Fridays! Poetry Night!** "Snapshots in Time" with NH Poet Laureate Alexandria Peary at Newbury Town Hall Community Room.

**May 1st 5:30-7:30 First Fridays! Gallery Opening Receptions!** New Exhibits all in New London. The New London Inn, Bar Harbor Bank & Trust, Blue Loon Bakery, Whipple Hall, and Tatewell Gallery.

**June 5th First Fridays! New London Barn Playhouse Open Rehearsal** Join the Barnies and the Artistic Director for a behind the scenes look at their upcoming show. Q&A and Reception to follow @ the Barn Playhouse.



**July 3rd 6:15 First Fridays! Music on the Green!** Concert at the New London Bandstand Plus...the 2020 CFA Scholarship Announcements!

**August 7th 5:00 First Fridays! "New London Barn Playhouse Junior Interns perform"** Whipple Hall.

**September 4th 5:30-7:30 First Fridays! Gallery Opening Receptions!** New Exhibits all in New London, The New London Inn, Bar Harbor Bank & Trust, Blue Loon Bakery, Whipple Hall, and Tatewell Gallery.

**October 2nd 6:30 First Fridays! Northern Stage Presents!** Northern Stage Theater presents a preview of their 2020-2021 Season at Whipple Hall.

**November 6th 5:30-7:30 First Fridays! Gallery Opening Receptions!** New Exhibits all in New London, The New London Inn, Bar Harbor Bank & Trust, Blue Loon Bakery, Whipple Hall, and Tatewell Gallery.

**December 4th 6:30 First Fridays! Holiday Concert!** At Whipple Hall Holiday Music for all ages featuring The Lowe Profiles, the Vesiland Brass Trio ...and a community sing along! At Whipple Hall.

## Board of Directors:

**Jean Cronin Connolly**  
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New London*

## Other 2019 Projects included:

The CFA Members Show held at the New London Inn and Bar Harbor Bank and Trust, the **Eighth Annual Arts on the Green**, exhibiting the works of over 22 juried artists, and the **Second Annual Show, Naturally New England** featuring the works of over 50 artists, held in Sunapee Harbor.

Plans for 2020 shows are underway with **Arts on the Green** on July 18th, and **Naturally New England** July 18th-26th.



The **Performing Arts Series** featured Gwendolyn Quezaire-Presutti as Harriet Tubman, Nancy Tripp and Trio "Crooners, Cabaret, and Chocolate", and the Blue Grass music of the *Bradford Bog People*. And in Fall, the SKIT production of the *Odd Couple*, raising funds for CFA programs. 2020 will feature an historical theater production on January 19th by Michael T. Brown II in "Over the President's Shoulder", return performance by Nancy Tripp on February 8th, "St Patrick comes to New London" on March 14th, and in the Fall "An Evening of Opera" with renowned Tenor Peter Furlong.

Our third **Open Studios** was well attended with over 14 artists exhibiting their work and opening their studios to the public over Columbus Day Weekend, adding an additional reason to visit our beautiful region.

In addition, the CFA sent out a free bi-monthly **e-Calendar** of cultural events, keeping over 1800 subscribers informed, and maintained their website [www.CenterForTheArtsNH.org](http://www.CenterForTheArtsNH.org) visited over 30,000 times in 2019.

And the CFA **Scholarship Program** provided support to twelve local students to pursue their education in the arts, at various cultural institutions, and two Teacher Grants were awarded for "The Shakespeare Project" and "The Poetry Club."





## FUNdraising 2019!

**Dancing with the Lake Sunapee Stars** last year featured four local “celebrities” dancing with the “pros” and performances by local dance companies, which drew over 200 people for an evening of fun and support. The show and silent auction raised much needed funds to support our 2019 programs and scholarships.

**SAVE THE DATE: May 9th**

**LAKE SUNAPEE’S GOT TALENT!**

The Best Performers in our region competing for the People’s Choice Award.

**NEW IN 2020!**



The new **Fall GALA for Arts Education** featured the A Cappella performances of the Clef Hangers and the Sunapee Singers as well as a 10x10 Art Sale with over 40 artists donating their work, all to raise money for Youth Arts Education Programs. **Save the Date for next year’s Gala on October 24th** at Colby-Sawyer College.

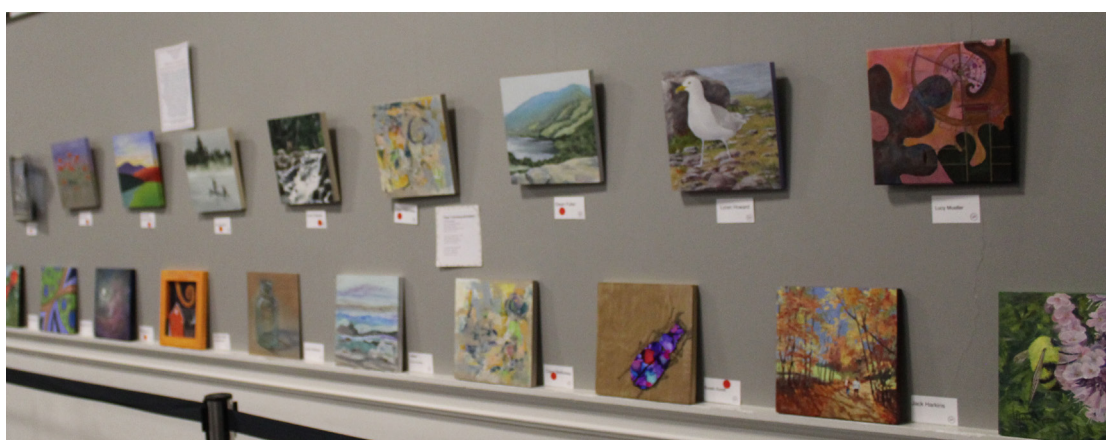
The Center for the Arts depends upon the generosity of its members, donors, sponsors, and the money raised through fundraising efforts such as these, to continue providing free and low-cost cultural programs throughout the year.

## Thank You!

Thank you to those who have supported our programs this past year. We welcome input from the community, new volunteers, and business partners, and hope to expand our programs by collaborating with others in the coming year.

For more information about volunteering, becoming a member, or becoming a business partner, please contact us at

PO Box 872 New London, NH 03257,  
at [info@CenterForTheArtsNH.org](mailto:info@CenterForTheArtsNH.org), or  
visit our website at [www.centerfortheartsnh.org](http://www.centerfortheartsnh.org).



## 2019 Sponsors and Members

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The Center for the Arts warmly thanks the individuals and businesses below for their contributions last year. These contributions enable Center for the Arts to offer varied and exciting programming, for people of all ages and incomes, throughout the Lake Sunapee region.

No contribution is too small, and every one is important. This list is intended to include all contributions made and support given from January 1 through December 31, 2019. If we have missed your gift or your membership, we apologize and request that you bring this oversight to our attention so that it may be corrected in the next update of the contributors' list.

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Angela Tarleton, Brian Callaghan, Amber Gest Palumbo, Brian Kellogg, Rob Kier, Renee Patten, Gary Stanhope, Laura Kieffer, Emily Swindell, Kristi Upton, Lyndsay Lund, Meagan Reed, Kevin Tarleton, Brannon Cook, Michelle Gosnell, Glen Moyer, Cody Scherer, Shawn Upton, John Swindell, The Kearsarge Conservatory of the Performing Arts Dancers, Bedford Dance Center Ensemble Dancers, Speaking in Taps Dancers

## 2019 DWTLSS Sponsors

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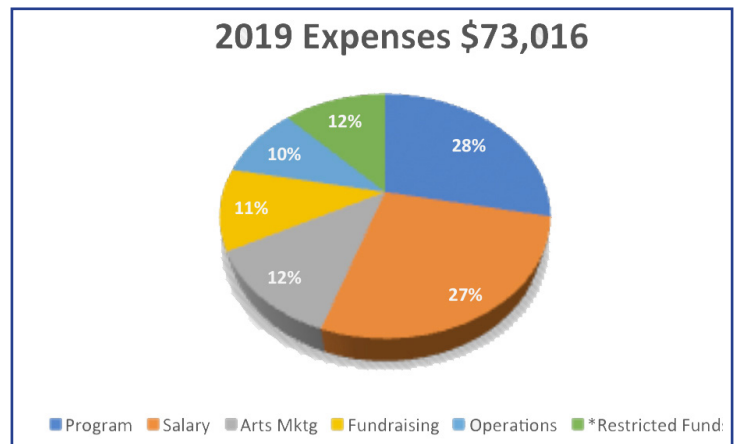
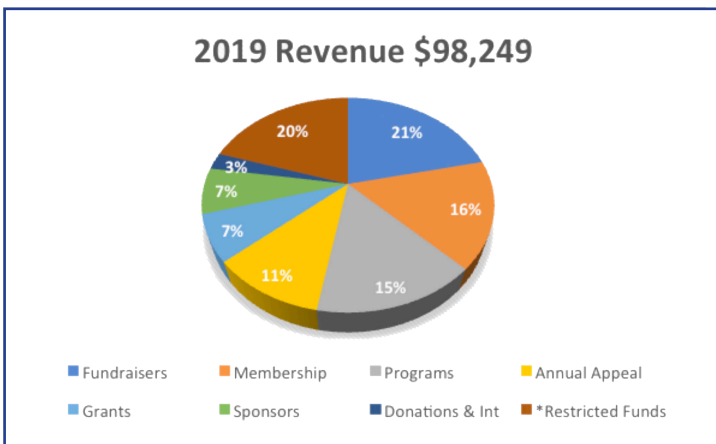
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\*Restricted Funds include the CFA Scholarship Fund and the Barnard Literary Fund

The Center for the Arts is fortunate to end 2019 in the black once again. Generous support from grants and personal gifts enables the CFA to invest to build capacity toward future growth and sustainability.