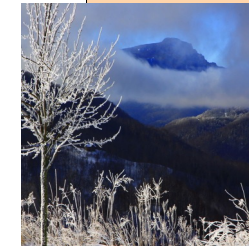


Gallery News!

The **Mazie Jones Gallery** will feature the photography of Lynne Townsend. Lynne has been an avid photographer for 25 years. She has cultivated a lifelong passion for celebrating and depicting people and nature. Over the years, Lynne has won awards and her work has been



featured in publications such as, "Country Magazine", "Photographers Forum Magazine", "NC Wildlife

"Magazine", the cover of the "Marco Island Guide Book", and even the cover of our own *Ray's Weather Calendar in 2007*. She also won 1st Place in 2010 for a Cat Calendar photo for Workmans Publishing.

Lynne says that, "I feel life is about passionately doing what you love. My desire is that the beauty, awe, and inspiration that I feel and see in all of nature is captured with the click of the shutter, and that each picture projects that energy and in some way resonates with the viewer."

Her desire is that each picture will take the viewer on their own personal journey to places remembered and adventures yet experienced.

The **Open Door Gallery** is pleased to have the works of a group called "Studio Crew". This group meets to paint in John Bond's studio at The Art Mart Academy. Some have painted with John for a year or so, and most have had his guidance for several years. They come from a variety of art backgrounds, experiences and subject interests, but the one thing they have in common is their love of painting. The Studio Crew currently has their art in several local establishments. You may have noticed their work at Pepper's Bar, Christopher's Wine Shop or the Watauga Medical Center. Most of their work is in acrylic or oil. The artists featured this month will be Julia Allen, Melanie Hawthorne, Marie Hosfield, Sharon Moore, Lisa Pepper, and Stephanie Welden. You will enjoy seeing the diversity of work from these artists and reading their personal stories as you view their art.



The WCAC is grateful for the ongoing support of Cheap Joe's Art Stuff for our Monthly Gallery Exhibitions!

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The March exhibits will be on display from March 1st through March 25th..
Please join us on Friday, March 4th from 6:30—8:00 pm for the gallery reception.

From the Executive Director's Desk:

This year is a very special year for the Watauga County Arts Council....for this year we are celebrating our 30th birthday! So many wonderful things have happened in that thirty years and we're planning on celebrating them all year long! Watch our newsletter for more information on a variety of events including....



Cherry Johnson

May 14th—The Artfull Palette will be at Rosen Concert Hall and will be an exceptional evening showcasing the amazing array of arts which are present in our own community.

An August event featuring an entertaining presentation by Joe Miller (of Cheap Joe's Art Stuff) on the forgeries of the works of Vermeer. This will be preceded by a series of workshops for artists on the topic of forgeries and may even give you an opportunity to own a real-live forgery of your very own!!

A fall event which features and showcases some of the many children who grew up in Watauga County and who have since become professionals in the arts. We have been compiling this list and even we have been a bit awed by how many talented artists, performers, and writers were raised in our community! If you know of someone who should be on this list, please contact us to make sure we have included them.

We hope you'll be a part of helping us celebrate our birthday this year!

Artists

AURA is a Performing Arts Show Extravaganza featuring music, dance, poetry, and puppetry. **7:00 pm March 18, 2011**

United

This year 's show will be featuring...

Ancient Moon Bellydancers

Elkland Art Center Puppetry

MarStartari-Stegall (poet and painter)

Rhythm Foundation (African drumming, percussion, song, and dance)

Justina Brinkley and Kelly Taylor performing "Siblings"

Julian Smart (violinist) and Yukako Narita (Japanese Koto player)

Valbourg Theatre



Reaching Out For

Academics

Proceeds benefit Two Rivers Community School performing arts programming (such as artist residencies)

...and a Fine Art Silent Auction in the lobby

MARCH EVENTS

- ◆ **Friday, March 4th— Art Crawl & Gallery Reception at the Jones House from 6:30-8:00 pm**
- ◆ **Every Thursday —Junior Appalachian Music Lessons 4:30-7:30 pm**
- ◆ **Every Thursday - Free Acoustic Jams from 7:30—11:00 pm**

BE SURE TO WATCH OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.WATAUGA-ARTS.ORG AND OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR UPDATES!



Photo by Lynne Townsend Photography

A Traditional Note from our Folklorist:

Greetings friends~

Spring is now just around the corner, and we are anticipating an eventful season. I would like to offer a big THANK YOU to the Appalachian Heritage Council and everyone who came out to the 3rd annual ASU Fiddler's Convention in February. The proceeds raised throughout the weekend will be support our Watauga Junior Appalachian Musicians program, an amount of more than \$900! Next time you see a Heritage Council member or attend one of their events, please help me in thanking them for the generous support.

Speaking of our Junior Appalachian Musicians program, we continue to meet with our students every Thursday. We will be continuing lessons through April, and the program will culminate with a public recital.

If the JAM kids are an inspiration to you, keep your eye out for more information about our Summer Music Lessons, which are open to adults and kids. We will be offering a host of classes and have rental instruments available. Last year we also had a flatfoot dance class, and we hope to offer it again this summer. Lessons will start sometime in mid-May.

We also continue to plan for the 2011 Summer Concerts on the Lawn, and we anticipate having a schedule available sometime in April. If you, or someone you know, would like to get involved as a sponsor or volunteer, please let me know.



Mark Freed

Finally, later this month, we will be working with the Appalachian Heritage Council to help put on another Black Banjo Gathering event. This year's event will take place on the evening of March 29, in the Blue Ridge Ballroom of Plemmons Student Union at ASU, starting at 8:00 p.m. The festivities will continue in the Student Union during the day on March 30, and the event will culminate with a Wednesday evening concert at Legends on March 30. The Legends concert will be the only ticketed event. Presenters and performers will include a host of regional and national banjo players and blues artists, including the newest member of the Carolina Chocolate Drops, "Blind Boy" Paxton, "Pops" Ferguson, local double-knock stylist Rick Ward, and much more. Feel free to call me for more details. See you soon!

Focusing on Arts in Education:



Christy Chenausky

By the time you read this, the grants will be turned in! Hooray! I still have a lot of details to take care of as I plan for and submit grant requests for next year's programs for school children, but things are coming along very nicely. I have been planning away (and that will continue for the next several weeks) but now that the temps are creeping up and the sun is staying longer throughout the day we will start our spring programming for the schools.

Our Touring Arts Program will make a comeback on March 24 with the Appalachian Dance Ensemble's Contemporary Dance Showcase for middle grade students. I always enjoy seeing this program in action. Over 1200 students and teachers enjoying a live performance together! It is really a great experience. I look forward to that with a lot of expectation.

It just says, "spring" to me!

I hope this promise for warmer weather and longer days has you "thinking spring" also! Please be in touch.

Christy Chenausky
Community Arts Education
Coordinator



Thanks to our generous supporters & members for their recent gifts!

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