

Gallery News!

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Jimmie Owen
Barbi Quatrano
Jonnie West

Watauga Arts Council Staff

Cherry Johnson,
Executive Director
cherry@watauga-arts.org
Mark Freed, Folklorist and
Traditional Arts Coordinator
mark@watauga-arts.org
Christy Chenausky, Community
Arts Education Coordinator
christy@watauga-arts.org
Teena Cone, Office Manager
and Visual Arts Coordinator
teena@watauga-arts.org

The **Mazie Jones Gallery** will continue to feature the artwork of **Teresa Cerda** for the November Art Crawl. Teresa was born in Santiago de Chile. She is a multi-talented artist and we are pleased to have her exhibiting here in the Jones House.

The **Open Door Gallery** will continue with the exhibit of handmade books by **Sharon Sharp**. Her exhibit is called "Curious Books" and they are wonderful pieces of art!

We will also have some **live music** for this Friday's Art Crawl featuring hammered dulcimer, a lap dulcimer, a guitarist and more. So, come and enjoy the art, food, and music.

Farewell note from Teena Cone:

It is with mixed feelings that I write my last article for the Arts Council Newsletter this month. I have really enjoyed my time here working for the Jones House and the Watauga County Arts Council and getting to know all of you members, artists, musicians, board members and others who work in this great community. When I first came here I really had no idea what went on in this lovely old house in downtown Boone. The first time I came here was for my job interview and I was very curious to see the inside of this big white house situated in the heart of Boone. My husband and I have collected antiques over the years and are very interested in old homes, furniture, dishes, and art. So I was not disappointed when I entered the Jones House and immediately knew that I would love spending time here. Well, I was hired in September of 2009 and was thrilled to begin spending my afternoons here working and telling visitors about the Jones House and the Watauga County Arts Council.

As my time went on I met many interesting people including visitors to Boone as well as some of our local residents like Officer Foley who

keeps the peace downtown and Arthur Grimes who enjoys doing some old style dancing. It has been my pleasure getting to know the artists, board members, the students, the musicians, town workers, and the many visitors to the Jones House! Also, our student workers help keep things organized and have assisted me in so many ways!

When I came here, I didn't really know the difference between old-time traditional music and country music, but I received quite an education from our staff Folklorist, Mark Freed. He does a great job of keeping the traditions of old-time music, dancing, storytelling, and all-around education about our great heritage of the beautiful Appalachian Mountains and those who lived here before us and how they entertained themselves and raised their families. The music lessons for the children keep the tradition alive and they get an education in the process. The Concerts on the Lawn that have been going on for 19 years here couldn't be presented seamlessly every Friday all summer without Mark's hard work and dedication to the project.

Christy Chenausky, our Community Arts Education Coordinator, works tirelessly to keep the arts in education alive and well in our area. Many school children who might not have the opportunity to go to Broadway plays, musicals, or even art museums get to enjoy great artistic programs every year because of her efforts. Despite some financial cutbacks and loss of some funding, she has managed to be resourceful and creative in finding ways to continue these programs for this school year.

Then there's Cherry Johnson, our director who has managed both the Jones House and the Arts Council for almost 20 years. She told me one day that this place is like a second home to her having spent the majority of her adult life here. She's the glue that holds everything together here! She keeps the community informed about the arts with her radio and TV spots and works with many local artists to help them obtain funding by encouraging them to apply for our local Regional Artists Project Grants and others. Cherry is also very knowledgeable about non-profits in general and how to apply for various grants and funding that keep the Arts Council going year after year.

This has been one of the most interesting places I have ever lived and worked and the people I've met have been as eclectic as they have been kind. I won't be moving away, but I will be spending the winter down south closer to my family. So, although I won't be here on a daily basis anymore, you may see me from time to time helping out with the events that happen here because I know now what goes on in this great old house and I believe it's "the jewel of Boone" as I heard one board member say.

I have loved working with my fellow staff members and wanted to take this opportunity to thank them for being so easy to work with and helpful as I learned what was needed to keep everything running smoothly here. I will miss seeing them daily, but if you see them around town, give them a much deserved pat on the back for all they are doing! See you soon, Teena



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

The October exhibits will be on display through November 4th.

Please join us on Friday, November 4th from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. for the gallery reception.

THE JONES HOUSE COMMUNITY CENTER WILL BE CLOSED FROM NOVEMBER 7th-24th FOR HOLIDAY DECORATING. We will re-open on Friday, November 25th at noon.



Cherry Johnson

From the Executive Director's Desk:

On November 1st we will be once again honoring some of the most talented artists in our community! Every year since 1998 we have partnered with the arts councils in Ashe, Alleghany, and Wilkes counties in a program called the **Regional Artist Project Grants of Northwestern North Carolina**. The four participating arts councils pool our grant funds and these funds are then matched by the North Carolina Arts Council. With these combined funds we are able to award grants to some of the most outstanding artists in our region each year. These are not "need-based" grants but instead honor excellence and help artists to better their abilities as practicing artists. In the past we have funded everything from workshops to equipment to marketing expenses. The goal is to help the artists move from their current level of professional development to the next.

This Tuesday, November 1st we're hosting the regional reception here at the Jones House Community Center at 6:30 pm. If you'd like to join us, you'll have an opportunity to meet nine very special artists and learn about their artwork and the projects they're planning for the coming year.

Congratulations to the following artists:

Richard Prisco, who makes some amazing furniture! He will be receiving a grant to purchase materials for a new body of work. **Dan Abernathy**, who is purchasing a camera to assist him in the creation of his amazing carved birds. **Susan McLaurin**, who is receiving funding to assist with travel expenses to Cuba in order to secure more images to use in her fascinating papermaking and collage works. **Rosa Powers**, creator of unique handmade books. She is purchasing studio tools and materials with the funds from her grant award. **Jon Moretz** will be using his grant funds to help him build his blacksmithing studio. **Tyler Deal**, creator of richly textured mixed media works, will be using her new camera to better photograph her work for submission for professional exhibitions and competitions. **Lynn Duryea**, a creator of clay sculpture works, is using her grant funds to help support a residency in Arizona this winter. **Teresa Cerda**, whose contemporary paintings are currently on display at the Jones House, is using her grant funds for materials for a new series of work. **Pat Morrison**, a creator of ceramic sculpture, functional pieces, and jewelry, is purchasing a small kiln with her grant funds.

Please join us and help salute these artists for their accomplishments of the past and their aspirations for the future.

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And this month, be sure you have your membership card with you and make a point of stopping by **Green Mother Goods** where you will receive **15% off your entire purchase**.....just for being a member of the Watauga County Arts Council! If you've not visited **Green Mother Goods**, you'll find an assortment of local artwork for sale there. They also emphasize fair trade practices and they tell us that they just got in their holiday decorations so you're sure to find some unique additions to your own collection. We're very grateful for the support of our area businesses who offer special discounts to Arts Council supporters. Please take advantage of these special discounts and make sure you tell them you appreciate their joining you in supporting the arts in our

community!

**November Events**

- ◆ Friday, November 4th - Art Crawl & Gallery Reception at the Jones House from 6:30-8:00 pm
- ◆ During the Art Crawl we will have some live dulcimer music and more!
- ◆ November 7th—24th—CLOSED for decorating for the holidays
- ◆ FRIDAY, November 25th—Jones House re-opens at noon decorated for Christmas with free cookies and hot cider
- ◆ Thursday afternoons—Junior Appalachian Music Lessons at 4:30, 5:30 and 6:30 pm
- ◆ Every Thursday - Free Acoustic Jams from 7:30—11:00 pm (come to play or just to listen!)



[www.watauga-arts.org](http://www.watauga-arts.org)

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

THANK YOU to Boone United Methodist Church, Ronnie Wise, BUMC Men's Chorus, High Country High School Chorale, Treble Attraction, Triad Harmony Express, The Mountainaires, and especially to **Roland Moy**. Not only was "Celebrate Singing" a fun event, but it also raised much-needed funds for music scholarships!

**Partners**  
**Stephen Phillips**

**Groups**  
**Blowing Rock**  
**Historical Society**

**Individuals and Families**

**Emory Maiden**  
**Sharon Sharp**  
**Dennis & Carole Usdan**  
**Craig Franz**

## A Traditional Note from our Folklorist:



Mark Freed

Greetings friends,

The sun shining as I write this, a nice break after our first couple chilly, blustery days. I'm looking out the window and listening to performances for this year's

**Concerts on the Lawn** series. We are in the midst of preparing a CD to help celebrate our **upcoming 20<sup>th</sup> season** of concerts in summer 2012. I will be keeping you posted on the CD project and other exciting updates about our 2012 Concerts. If anyone would like to get involved with the Concerts, please let me know.

Thursday evenings have been a-buzz here at the Jones House. From 4:30-7:30, we have more than 70 students filter through the house for lessons in fiddle, banjo, guitar, and mandolin. Some of our advanced students even stick around for the public jam session that starts

at 7:30 every Thursday. If you would like to hear some of our advanced students play, please join the **Watauga Junior Appalachian Musicians** for a **contra**

**and square dance** at the Valle Crucis Apple Barn at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 10. Our JAM



students and families will be there dancing, and our advanced JAM students will be providing the music for the dance.



We are also excited to host another **Tellabration** celebration on November 19 at the Original Mast General Store in Valle Crucis. There will be storytellers spinning yarns between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. around the old wood stove. We would love to see you there. Bring a story to share if you have one, and help us celebrate this international storytelling celebration in our community - a place certainly well-known for top-notch storytellers!

See you in November!

Mark

## Focusing on Arts in Education:

Happy November!

We are entering that time of year where we are reminded to be thankful for all that we have. Indeed, I am very thankful for the Watauga Arts Council and the programs that we are fortunate enough to administer and participate in.

So far this fall we have been able to offer live performances to the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders in Watauga County Schools and we have hosted



residencies involving

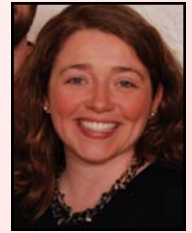
two artists in three schools! This month our dear friends at Lees-McRae College are bringing a selection of scenes from their production of Shakespeare's "Much Ado About Nothing" to Watauga High School! Through the gift of local artists, I have passed on much needed supplies to a few of our Elementary Visual Arts Teachers.

All of these opportunities have been brought about through the generosity of our friends and neighbors and the partnership we have with Appalachian State University's Office of Arts and Cultural Programs and Watauga County School System. I am so thankful.

Thank you for being a partner with the Watauga Arts Council. Your membership is so valuable to us.

If you are interested in supporting our arts in education programs, please be in touch with me.

Christy Chenausky  
Community Arts Education  
Coordinator



Christy Chenausky

Return Service Requested

Boone, NC 28607  
Permit #85  
Standard Mail  
U.S. Postage Paid  
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Office & Galleries located in  
the Jones House  
Community Center  
at 604 West King Street in  
Downtown Boone, Ph. 264-1789

Boone, NC 28607  
PO Box 366, DTS



## Do you have one of these in your wallet yet?

Watch this area of our newsletter each month to  
learn which local business is helping to “Make the  
ARTS a Presence in Our Community.”



Present your **membership card** during the month  
of November at Green Mother Goods and receive a special  
discount just for WCAC members!



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