Directors Report

Dear Allied Arts Supporters,

In reviewing our 2014 Annual Report, I am struck by Allied Arts’ solid track record of highly sustainable collaborative programs that are serving our local arts, organizations and patrons. Allied Arts is proud of the programs we are involved with and the amazing volunteers and collaborative partnerships that make them possible. Some examples include RARE (Recycled Arts Resource Expo) a partnership between over a dozen different artist, organizations, and businesses to celebrate the art of sustainability; the Whatcom Arts and Culture Guide which features over three dozen arts-related businesses; and the Bellwether Arts Market, a partnership with the Port of Bellingham to highlight our vibrant arts community and the wide assortment of opportunities available on our scenic waterfront. On behalf of the staff and board, we thank all of you who have supported our efforts through membership, monetary, in-kind donations, community collaborations, as well as the countless volunteer hours. We look forward to presenting another year of quality community arts programs.

Sincerely,

Executive Director

Current 2015 Staff and Board

Staff
- Kelly Hart, Executive Director
- Katy Tolles, Artists Services Coordinator
- Judy Taylor, Bookkeeping

Board of Directors
- Alicia Dauber, President
- Kristin Hanna Slone, Vice President
- Sheri Clark, Secretary
- John Sands, Treasurer
- Barbara Vz Howard, and Honor Kirk (At-Large Member)

SPREADING THE WORD

"WHATCOM COUNTY HAS GREAT ARTS BUT NO ONE KNOWS ABOUT IT."

This is something we frequently hear. The primary ways in which we are striving to promote our rich arts community is through marketing efforts which include the Arts and Culture Guide: our sought after annual publication highlighting some of the region’s top visual and performing arts venues and artists; hundreds of Facebook and Twitter posts; Weekly E-blasts and monthly Bit-o-Art E-newsletters; Art Talk and Event Calendar on KMRE-Spark Radio housed at the Spark Museum; and an always evolving Allied Arts of Whatcom County website www.alliedarts.org. Many thanks to Nancy Chambers for her incredible graphics and the Bellingham Tourism Commission for their grant assistance with these programs.
Thank you to our members for contributing to the arts in our community. We provide opportunities for 400+ members with 80% of them being artists — from the seasoned professional artist to the novice, from local businesses to art enthusiasts. Allied Arts provides members with numerous opportunities: members only events, festivals, advocacy alerts, up to the minute e-news, discounts at partnering businesses, and special invitations to community arts happenings.

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Daylight Properties
Liz and Walt Ingram
Karen Sloan

ART PATRON
David Johnson
Jo Morgan
Claudia Sarro
Dorothy & Casey Warthen

FRIEND OF THE ARTS
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Bellingham Theatre Guild
Janet Lightner
Anne Marie
Nadie Corsic
Alfonso Dutra
Shay葛aus & Glenn Denke
Christina Zufline
Anne George
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Gallery Exhibit Services

Allied Arts not only presents monthly exhibits at our gallery on Cornwall Avenue, we curate exhibits at the Downtown Bellingham Visitor’s Center, Hotel Bellwether and Giuseppe’s Al Porto. Allied Arts Exhibit Services showed work from over 225 local artists over the past year. Gallery exhibits included seven group shows in our Juried Artist Series, Annual Member’s Show, Recycled Art Show, Education Project’s Teaching Artists Showcases during Children’s Art Walk, SPIE: Light and Technology, and the Cascade Clay Artists. Our gallery has become a gathering place for organizations and individuals to host classes, workshops and presentations in addition to hosting Northwest Washington’s finest artists.

Festivals

Allied Arts of Whatcom County hosts festivals to provide a setting in which artists can exhibit, discuss, and sell their work. Furthermore, we hope to increase the accessibility of the arts in our community by providing a wide range of visual and performing arts in one location. 2014’s diverse line-up of festivals did just that.

RARE (Recycled Arts Resource Expo)  
April 4th & 5th, 2014
RARE’s objectives are to explore and educate our community about the role art plays within the sustainability movement. We showcased the arts in recycling, reuse, renewable energy and sustainable resources.

Bellwether Arts Market  
August 15th –17th, 2014
This summertime festival brought over 2,400 visitors to the Bellingham Waterfront. There was something for everyone from fantastic arts and crafts to fun youth activities and lots of toe-tapping music packed into three days.

35th Annual Holiday Festival of the Arts  
November 14th – December 24th, 2014
Our annual Holiday Festival celebrated its 35th year with nearly 100 art, craft, beauty product and gourmet food booths. The event connects local artists and craftspeople to people from throughout the region. Local musicians helped to bring in the holiday season.

Education Project

The Art Education Project focused on expanding opportunities for quality arts education to Whatcom County students through standards based learning. Last year our program conducted workshops led by local artists in dance, theatre and the visual arts in public school classrooms. The project continues to support our community by helping develop equal access to arts education programs. Additionally, throughout the month of May, we host the Children’s Art Walk which provides children with a chance to display their works of art throughout Downtown Bellingham.

Income

Expenses

Total 2014 Budget $415,250
Save the Date for these Upcoming 2015 Events

Recycled Arts Resource Expo (RARE) Friday & Saturday, April 3 & 4
Children’s Art Walk May 1 – 31
Door Art Throwdown Friday, August 7
Bellwether Arts Market Friday – Sunday, August 14 – 16
Alley Arts Mural Project Friday, October 2
Holiday Festival of the Arts November 13 – December 24, 2015
Juried Artist Series New exhibit every month

Create, Educate, and Celebrate!

Allied Arts of Whatcom County is a non-profit community arts organization dedicated to serving the arts in our region. Our goal is to empower local artists through festivals and events, enriching our local schools through educational outreach programs, and working as a liaison to arts enthusiasts of all ages within our uniquely creative community. Allied Arts is able to do this through the generous support of our members, grantors, and private and corporate donors. We also rely heavily on volunteers and interns from Western Washington University and Whatcom Community College. If you are interested in supporting the arts in your community, please consider a donation or membership to Allied Arts of Whatcom County.

Visit our website for more details www.alliedarts.org