

The Owatonna Arts Center's

V I S I O N S

May - June, 2006

The mission of the Owatonna Arts Center is to provide the people of the Owatonna area with opportunities to expand their awareness, participation, experimentation and appreciation of the creative process and of the visual and performing arts.

President's Message

The trees are budding, the flowers are starting to peek up, the grass is greening up and the muscles are sore from raking! Spring has arrived in full force! I hope everyone has had a chance to get outside and enjoy some of this glorious weather we have seen lately.

A few items of note this newsletter. We have been talking for some time about our Strategic Planning that we have been working on. I know we have talked about our plan as a Board, and now we need to implement some of those ideas into actual projects. To do this we need some help. We have formed some sub-committees that will benefit your Arts Center for years to come. We are looking to expand the number of Board Members by possibly up to 5 or 6 additional spots. We have formed a membership committee that I know will need help, as well as looking into several other options. Please contact Silvan or any Board member if you are interested in joining our Board. We have many exciting things going on and this would be a great opportunity to make a difference.

Second, I am pleased to announce that we have started a tuition assistance fund. We will utilize this fund to subsidize the costs of taking classes at the Arts Center for students that may not otherwise be able to afford them. This fund has been generously started with an initial donation in memory of Sebastian Pirkl by his family. We thank the Pirkl family for their willingness to create opportunities for members of our community. Please keep this fund in mind

when considering donating funds to the Arts Center.

Finally, as usual, Silvan has put together some wonderful exhibits and artists for your viewing pleasure. Please take advantage of the great weather and stop out to see us at the Arts Center.

Steve Grubish, President

The 54th Annual Steele County Exhibition

May 7 - 27, 2006

Fifty-four years ago when the artists started the Steele County Art Exhibition they may not have realized the rich history that was in the making and how important it is for both artist and audiences to come together. The artists work in the quiet of their studio with traditional materials, discovering new possibilities in both media and themselves, but the story is always reinterpreted with each new viewing. With spring the galleries will, like nature, sprout new young promising artists and regeneration of old familiar artists. To enjoy spring to its fullest stop in at the galleries to enjoy the Annual Steele County Art Exhibition. It is as much a part of the spring as the first robin or that first wild flower. Like spring if you miss it you will have to wait another year for another chapter.

"Knock Knock, Who's There" Photography Exhibition Sara Aeikens & Rachelle Flieman

May 7 - 27, 2006

Each of these two artists looks at the world through the lens of the camera, each with their own personal look at the world that is presented to them. The Edgy Photos by Sara Aeikens and Rachelle Flieman captures the visual humor presented in the world around us. Many of these still lives are not staged but simply there to enjoy or just wonder! They both delight in sharing the photo experience with others so be sure to attend the opening reception on Sunday, May 7th at 2 PM.

Spring Luncheon Japanese Tea Ceremony

May 11, 2006, 11:30 p.m.

The Friends of the Arts Center invite you to experience the tradition of the Tea Ceremony and have an Oriental Salad Lunch as served by the Owatonna County Club on tables that will be decorated in a simple and elegant Oriental fashion. Megumi Takada Steffan will demonstrate the art of the tea ceremony; she will also have on display several kimonos. Megumi's interest in art started at an early age as she sat on her grandfather's knee and watched him paint on silk fabric. Her grandfather was a famous designer and hand painted high quality silk fabric for kimonos. Megumi's art has been published in the Shikisi Painting Magazine in Japan, as well as in three magazines in the United States. Her decorating and painting instructional book, "When East Meets West" is distributed world wide. Tickets can be purchased at Kottke's or the Arts Center for \$20.00. Tickets must be purchased by May 5, 2006.



2006 OAC Arts
Scholarship
presented to
Katlin
Boutelle by
Silvan
Durben,
Director and
Steve
Grubish,
President

OHS Student Piano Concert

May 13th, 2006, 4:00 p.m.

Spring is graduation, a mark of accomplishment, and the beginning of a new chapter. Four very dedicated and talented OHS seniors want to share with us their love of music in a concert on Saturday, May 13, before they begin their new chapter. Joseph Rose, Sara Bentley, Tess Dornfield, and Paula Olson each will do solo pieces on the piano. The concert will include works by Mendelssohn, Liszt, Schumann, Bach and Debussy. These very bright young people have each studied piano for more than ten years as well as maintained very busy school careers filled with such activities as Mock Trial, Knowledge Bowl, Peer Helpers, Big Brothers, Big Sisters, orchestra, theatre, track, golf, etc. Their youthful energy will make this concert a symphonic treat.

Minnesota Saved

July 16 - 30, 2006

Minnesota Saved, a quarter of Century of a historic preservation in Minnesota, is an exhibition that honors communities that have had a vision and rolled up their sleeves to not only save historic structures, but energize them with a new life and new purpose. The West Hills Complex is one of the twenty-five sites that are being featured in this exhibition. The Preservation Alliance of Minnesota each year makes us aware of endangered properties that have historic importance and are in need of good stewardship.

Secret Garden Tour

July 16, 2006, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Owatonna is blessed with beautiful tree lined streets with lovely well groomed front lawns and behind some of those wholesome facades is a passionate gardener. That obsession may have begun with a simple potted geranium that has expanded into the entire backyard. The Secret Garden opens that garden gate for you to discover those wonderful outdoor rooms that our friends and neighbors have created. You will want to keep Sunday July 16th, 2006 open for an afternoon to enjoy the gardens of Owatonna.

If you are one of those passionate gardeners that would like to be considered for the Secret Garden Tour please contact the Arts Center at 451-0533.

Festival of the Arts Featured Artist, Scott Duffus

July 29 - 30, 2006

Scott Duffus is the featured artist for the 2006 Festival of the Arts. You may know him as an interim Lutheran minister, not as a creative explorer. Scott's interests are varied; he researches the subject, the media and then sets out to create. Most artists will understand the process they are trying to master, like printmaking, but Scott will also build his own press to print with. His inquisitive mind finds unique solutions to engineering needs and esthetic visual solutions. His prints and sculptures will be on display at the Wells Fargo Bank throughout the weekend.

Festival of the Arts, Saturday, July 29th, 2006, 9-5 PM, Sunday, July 30, 11-4 PM. The last weekend in July, Central Park will have the feeling of a European market place.

Festival of the Arts Workshops

Friday, July 28, 2006

The Festival of the Arts invites you to try your hand at one of three artistic media. There will be three free workshops to select from on Friday morning, July 28th. There is a limited space therefore you must preregister by July 19th, there will be a modest fee for materials. Jim and Judy Miller will be demonstrating throwing and various applied decorative clay techniques to thrown forms. Srilatha Narayana Rao will be demonstrating watercolor techniques as they relate to flowers, Deb Mather will demonstrate basket weaving and you will make a small basket. The three artists that will be giving the workshops will be in the park throughout the weekend, displaying and selling their work. At one o'clock, each of the artists will share in a round table discussion about marketing your art.

Tim Jones Paintings

June 4 - July 30, 2006

Tim Jones will be showing recent works in oil in the gallery during June and July. Jones is a professor at Riverland Community College, and has taught classes at the Owatonna Facility. He holds a MFA Major with concentration in drawing and painting, including mixed media and installation. He also has a minor in 20th Century Western Art

from the University of Minnesota. Tim's work is born out of images that are common to us all. Through a process of experimentation, new images begin to evolve - which one hopes will prick the viewer's consciousness and energize the imagination. His art work may delve into the contemporary culture's impact on social relations. The images invite multiple readings and suggest social contradiction. Tim's handling of paint in his simple landscapes suggest the actions of nature itself in processing like sedimentation, erosion, abrasion and gravity.

OAC Arts Scholarship, 2006

The Arts Center is honored to award the 2006 Arts Scholarship to Katlin Boutelle. She will be attending Bemidji State University perusing an education in visual arts. All the 2006 applicants impressed the scholarship committee with their creativity, talents and academic abilities, making the decision very difficult. The committee and the Arts Center encourages all of the applicants as they pursue their passion and dreams in the arts.

Wanted

The Arts Center is looking for yarn and stained glass to be used in the studios for classes. If you have these items and would like to see them used, bring them to the Arts Center. We are also in need of flower frogs. Thank you!

Thank You!

Partnering with other organizations is very beneficial in a number of ways. The Making of Betty Crocker talk was a positive example of partnering where all the organizations had a shared interest and each brought something to the table to make it successful. The Arts Center would like to thank the other sponsoring groups for a donation of funds after expenses.

Behind the Scenes

The Arts Center has been blessed with Dan Moeckly, an intern that has helped us with so many tasks, including the annual Christmas Show. He has been very busy researching the provenance of the collection and the Owatonna Arts Center Foundation has purchased, Past-Perfect, a program which is the museum standard for cataloging collections. Dan is now beginning the arduous task of photographing and entering the permanent collection into this new database.

Owatonna Arts Center

435 Garden View Lane
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OAC Board of Directors

Sally Alexander	451-1496	Shelia Meixner	446-1007
Sue Tuma	451-4068	Steve Grubish	451-1500
Bill Foreman	451-7378	Scott Roberts	451-7869
Dave Effertz	446-0258	Jennifer Dunn-	
Sally Nelsen	451-5244	Foster	451-5838

These are the people who have been elected to the Board of Directors to represent members. Regular board meetings take place on the second Thursday of every month at 6:30 PM. Please contact them with your questions, comments and concerns.

OAC Staff

Silvan Durben, *Director/Curator*
Sharon Stark, *Administrative Assistant*
Michael R. Grenier, *Education Coordinator*

OAC Phone: (507) 451-0533

OAC Email: info@owatonnaartscenter.org

OAC Website: www.owatonnaartscenter.org

Memberships, donations and memorials to OAC are welcome any time, and help to enhance the current financial stability of the Owatonna Arts Center.

OAC Gallery Hours:

1 to 5 PM • Tuesday thru Sunday • Closed on Mondays

OAC Calendar of Events

May 7 - 27

54th Annual Steele County Art Exhibition

May 7 - 27

“Knock, Knock, Who’s There” Photo Exhibition

Sara Aeikens & Rachlle Fliehman

May 11, 11:30 AM

Spring Luncheon, Japanese Tea Ceremony

May 13, 4:00 PM

Four OHS Students in Concert, Piano

June 4 - July 30

Recent Works of Tim Jones Exhibition

July 16, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Secret Garden Tour

July 16 - 30

Minnesota Saved

July 28, 9:00 AM

Festival of the Arts Workshops

July 29 - 30

Festival of the Arts