



WORKING TOGETHER TO PROMOTE THE ARTS

Message from the President

I am pleased to report that members of the Monroe Arts Alliance board are working hard preparing future programs and activities.

Plans are underway for concerts, programs, exhibits, youth scholarships, instruction in different arts activities for all ages and more. You can read about some of these in this newsletter.

We can do even more with your help. Please consider giving your time or leadership in any of our activities. If you have an interest or desire, contact any of us.

2007 Board Members

Genevieve Gillen, Pres., 772-3305
Ben James, Vice-Pres.
Judith Bair, Sec., 772-3172
Evelyn Hansbarger, Treas., 772-5212
Holly Browne-Mester, Bettye Earley
Helen Graves, Robin Wright

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Ambassadors of Chamber Music

Six music students of Adam DeGraff have been participating in a special 10 week program: Miriam Doorandish, Ben Lovett, Kaily Schenker, Peter and Hannah Soukup, and Brynna Strand. These "Ambassadors of Chamber Music" have been putting in countless hours of practice and training to recruit and direct their *own* student chamber groups. The result will be more students becoming string players and spreading their joy and appreciation for playing and performing. Watch local papers for in-depth articles about "Ambassadors of Chamber Music" and consider giving financial support to this exemplary musical arts program.

MAA Plans for Fall and Winter

MAA classes, activities, and programs are open to the public.

Art Workshops

Watercolor Painting with Jeanne Brennehan - September 18 & 19 at Genevieve Gillen's Gallery. For more info. contact Genevieve.

Oil Painting with Patt Legg - October 26, 27 & 29 at Genevieve Gillen's Gallery

Writing Workshop

Intensive Writing with Belinda Anderson - September 22 at Genevieve Gillen's Gallery

Harvest Festival

Face Painting for children - September 29

Annual Community Holiday Program

Date and place to be determined

For further details, contact Genevieve Gillen

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Special Announcement!

The Studio

Former MAA Board Member, Joan Menard, has opened "The Studio" on Main St., Union (below "Yesterday's Thrift Shop") and is offering classes there.

The first offerings are:

Monoprinting: Sept. 14 & 15 - 10am to 1 pm

Tile Painting: Sept. 4, 11 & 18 - 10am to 1pm

Children's Intro. to Clay:

Sept. 8 & 22, Oct. 6 & 20

9 -10 am, ages 10 -12

10 -11 am, ages 6 -10

For more information or to request different classes, call Joan Menard at 646-0296

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MAA Youth Art Show 2008

It's not too early to start thinking about the Monroe Arts Alliance Youth Art Show in March 2008.

Money, certificates, and ribbons are awarded in numerous age and media categories.

The 2007 winners were Eric Burns, Sarah Camacho, Tucker Frye, Elijah Garlitz, Holly Jackson, Taylor Landrie, Montana Morgan, Jacob Mullens, Taylor Ratliff, Carter Shiflet, Amanda Simmons, and Trevor Smith.

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A Special Monroe Calendar

Have you heard the buzz about the 2008 Monroe County Calendar? Here's the good news: Judith Bair, an artist and also the Monroe Arts Alliance Board Secretary, has made available twelve of her local landscapes for a calendar that will be sold to benefit both the Monroe Arts Alliance and the Monroe County Library. This beautiful full-color calendar will feature local dates of importance, including school holidays and seasonal events. Local businesses and organizations have generously sponsored the printing and production, so that all proceeds from sales will go directly to the Library and the Alliance to enhance acquisitions, scholarships and programming.

The calendars will be on sale for \$10 after October 30th, at the library and locations throughout the county. Perfect for holiday giving, you can reserve your calendars by contacting Genevieve Gillen at 772-3305, or Doris McCurdy at 772-3305.

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* **Have fun and check out this "You Tube" video "Women in Art" site on the Internet:**

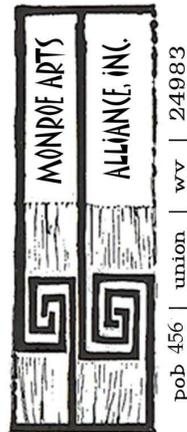
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nUDIoN-_Hxs (type the link exactly as it appears into your browser, then click "GO")

Meet Board Member Bettye Ragland-Earley

Bettye Ragland-Earley, president of New Language Art (NLA) and Satellite Gallery (found both online and at Yesterday's Thrift Shop, Union), is a recognized art consultant and artist representative specializing in contemporary artists. She founded the company in 1994 with her husband, Donald, a renowned artist and art professor. The company provides a professional, personalized approach – whether for exhibiting a single painting or developing an entire collection, that promotes an enhanced specific image.

Her background includes over 18 years in sales/marketing management and seven years as Executive Director of Appraisal Management with The Aronson Art Group International, Nashville, TN. Bettye was actively involved in the Nashville arts community -- serving three years as President of the Nashville African-American Arts Association and as a grant panelist for the Metro Nashville Arts Commission from 1999 to 2006. She also served on the board of directors for The Madison Art Center, Tennessee Artists Guild and has been a member of the National Museum of Women in the Arts since 1998.

Since moving to Greenville, Bettye serves on the boards of the Monroe Arts Alliance and the Hans Creek CEOS. She is a member of the Greenville Ruritan Club and the Centerville Presbyterian Church. "When Donald and I were searching for a home in the country we happened upon Greenville. We've found that Monroe County's friendly community spirit and relaxed atmosphere, makes our scenic artist's paradise a wonderful place to call home. We love it here! It's a much better place to live with friendlier people. We enjoy looking up at night and seeing the stars, rather than the haze we left in Nashville."



Notes from the Treasurer

The Monroe Arts Alliance received its corporation status from the State of West Virginia on July 6, 2001.

The application for tax exempt status was begun and we received an advance ruling granting the 501 C-3 status backdated to the incorporation date. The five year advance ruling ended in 2005 and we were required to submit financial reports for the ruling period.

Permanent ruling was received on March 28, 2006. For several years before this, the Monroe Arts Alliance was in existence on an informal basis, offering programs to the community and working with the Monroe Art Gallery.

Once we received our charitable organization status, we began soliciting funds for scholarships in the arts. From January 1, 2003 through July 31, 2007, the MAA has received scholarship donations for the disciplines in the amounts listed below:

Violin --	\$27,890.00
Dance --	\$1,175.00
Art --	\$300.00
Ambassadors of Chamber Music Program --	\$4,400.00

**Quite an accomplishment!
TAKE A BOW MONROE COUNTY!**

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MAA Membership Reception

The MAA will be hosting a special Membership Reception at Salt Sulphur Springs on Sunday, October 7 from 2 – 4:30 PM.

The reception is to honor our current members and entice others to join. Bring friends, enjoy home made desserts, wine & punch and have fun celebrating the Monroe Arts Alliance, Inc., its success in the community – and most importantly, YOU, our members!