

# LEELANAU COMMUNITY CULTURAL CENTER OLD ART BUILDING

Newsletter - December 2019



Grand Prize Winner ~ Leland 4th of July Parade



# A Dynamic Mission, A Dynamic Community

Dan Lisuk  
Board President

There can be an inclination to think of Leelanau County as a warm quilt- as many of our seasonal citizens and day visitors often note- everything feels nice. Comfortable in a way that can be unchallenging, restful.

Lately we've been spending some amount of time looking through the archives of the Leelanau Community Cultural Center. What wonderful stories we've found as we've gone through our records- they tell of a community restoring a building abandoned in 1989 and turning it into a facility that exceeds what Allie Mae Best ever could have dreamed when she built it in 1922. We see a dynamic community involvement that tells us the Old Art Building is anything but restful. When the organization was formed in 1992, its assigned mission was: promote cultural enrichment programs, provide a gathering place for the community and preserve the Old Art building. Promote, provide, preserve- three active verbs.

The LCCC has a rich history of seeking out what is fresh, always looking to do things in new ways, driving and shaping today's culture into a dynamic future.

To preserve the Old Art Building, volunteers donated labor, supplies and funds. We insulated walls, refinished floors, installed a new roof. Two substantial additions were funded by the community to accommodate staffing, storage and enhance usability. Air conditioning for the summer months, a superb audio visual system. This year, through the generosity of All Points North Foundation, solar panels were installed on our roof to provide for all our electrical needs- and as a continued reflection of the values of our community.

Inside these ninety-seven-year-old walls, we have provided the community with opportunities for physical, cultural, and intellectual growth. It has become the place to "get together."

So our foray into our past has confirmed that, through the combined efforts of the community, a board of directors and a strong, hard working staff, this place is, and always has been answering the challenges of you, the community, who treasure it so much. The Leelanau Community Cultural Center is your dynamic artwork. Or, to expand on a phrase by poet Laurie Edmond's - this is the home of the active verb.

Thanks to your extreme generosity we've come this far. Please help us to continue to be an active verb, to stay on this dynamic path, deeply committed to preserving the Old Art Building, providing a meeting place for us all and serving this community's cultural needs.



## Cover Story



John Scott, with the painting he created as he sat on the back of the float during the parade.

### Team work makes the Dream Work!

Thanks to every one of our board members for helping to create, build, haul and store this year's  
**Award Winning Float for the 4th of July parade**



### The Team

Back Row: Mary Stewart, John Scott,  
Tom McConnell  
Front Row: Dan Lisuk, Trudy Underhill,  
Susan Oliver, Jamie Morse.  
Not pictured: Judy Frederick

## Kind Words from Seth Bernard

Thank you, **Seth Bernard**, 2019 Ann Hall Visiting Artist at the OAB, for sharing your time and talents with us in June. The Solstice concert on the lawn was a perfect way to celebrate our newly installed solar panels and your intergenerational songwriting classes were wonderful and inspiring.

And thank you for sharing this beautiful testimonial...

*The Old Art Building is a pillar of the community, serving not only Leland, but the whole region, and folks from all over the world who travel and vacation here. In two decades of national and international touring, the Old Art Building remains one of my very favorite venues to perform in. And on top of being a world-class listening room, it's a hub of creativity and community where folks from all walks and generations come together to create and experience art, music, and lasting connections.*

*I was honored to be chosen for the Ann Hall Visiting Artist residency this year. It afforded me a very rare opportunity to relax, unwind, and create new work in a beautiful, inspiring setting. It is meaningful to feel acknowledged and supported by an organization that I respect and appreciate so much. During this time, I offered two Intergenerational songwriting classes, which were very well received. Children, elders, and people in between came together to engage in the creative process and to explore their relationship with water. Both groups finished the session by singing and recording their collaboratively-composed original song. The sessions ended in applause with smiles all around. During my time in Leland the Old Art Building also hosted painting classes, an open community jam session, and a renewable energy fair! I'm honored to be involved with an organization that so actively supports our community. Northern Michigan is a more vibrant place because of the great work of the Old Art Building.*



**Thanks for Your Support** Becky Ross ~ Executive Director  
Linda Sprout ~ Assistant Director

We celebrated birthdays, weddings, anniversaries and graduations. On the big screen we watched the women's world cup final match, viewed Woodstock on its 50th anniversary and saw the complete Harry Potter series, back to back to back – two full days.

On the front lawn we enjoyed the summer solstice as we celebrated the installation of our solar panels with music from Seth Bernard; on Labor Day weekend we danced with K Jones and the Benzie Boys. Appearing inside on stage were: Earthworks Collective, May Erlewine, (twice!), Mark Lavengood, Fred Ball and friends, Knee Deep, Harry Goldson, Mezraq Ramli and Joshua Davis.

Between summer art shows, markets, Fiber Festival, small group shows and our winter HollyPOP market, over 250 artists showed and sold their works here.

This year we paid almost \$80,000 to artists and musicians, which is approximately one third of our annual budget. Promoting and supporting these artists and musicians is a big piece of what we do.

We also provided space for 350 Pure Michigan volunteers; the Senior Services/Sharecare variety show; several Leland Public School dances and meetings, Leelanau Children's Center fall family fun day, and fund raisers for Leelanau Christian Neighbors, Genuine Leelanau and Leland Education Foundation.

Weekly our doors are open for step aerobics, senior exercise, yoga, tai chi, a total body workout, ballet, partner dancing and acoustical music jam sessions.

And we brought home the grand prize with our float in this year's 4th of July parade!

THE DOOR is covered with memories. Your support, through memberships and donations, makes them all possible.

**Please consider a year end gift** to help keep the Old Art Building a community treasure.

# Thank you!





# MEMBERSHIP APPRECIATION EVENT



Each year we take an evening to thank our Donors, Members and Volunteers for everything they do for the Leelanau Community Cultural Center. It is a chance for the Board and Staff to personally thank those who contribute time and money to make the Old Art Building “Sing”.

*Photography Courtesy of Shannon Scott Photography*





# FRED PETROSKEY EXHIBIT



This year we also honored an old friend, a gifted artist and long time resident, Fred Petroskey. A big Thank you to those of you who allowed us to hang your treasured paintings for this event. It was interesting to see so many “then & now” people and paintings. Thank you to Michelle White for bringing this idea to fruition. Although Mr. Petroskey passed away in November 2018, his spirit was alive in the stories and portraits that were shared.

“Fred Petroskey’s work reflects not just the physical attributes of each of his subjects, but the heart and mystery that exists uniquely in every person. When he began applying his talent to people in and about Leelanau County, the soul of the county itself emerged and took root upon his canvasses. Fred’s work is a gift to us all.”

**Deborah Wyatt Fellows**, *Editor in Chief, Traverse Magazine*





# Solar Power Update



“Here’s a contact for an interesting organization. Sounds like something you might want to check out.” This single comment from Julie Keck of Maple City to board president Dan Lisuk lead to the rooftop array of solar panels that now supplies all the electrical needs at the Old Art Building.

The Leelanau Community Cultural Center had been on a four-year search for a way to acquire solar power. Our goals were twofold: reduce our electric costs and reflect our community values of protecting the environment. Alas, it was beyond our financial means. But we held onto the dream.

Then came Julie’s comment to Lisuk, who brought the idea to the LCCC Board in Spring of 2018. The contact Julie Keck had mentioned, All Points North Foundation,

provides funding for solar power to non-profits who meet their stringent standards. We contacted All Points North Foundation and began the rigorous application process. Several steps along the way, All Points North Foundation board members visited Leland and the Old Art Building for a site inspection. Their reaction was positive and they encouraged us to continue with the application.

We consulted with Ian Olmstead, President and owner of Peninsula Solar, who came out and offered information on the size of the solar array needed, return on investment and a time-line for installation. All Points North Foundation received this data and we were awarded a grant to cover the entire cost of the system.

In May we invited Leland teacher Jenifer Zywicki to bring her seventh and eighth grade science classes to the Old Art Building as our 20 kW system was being installed. Ian Olmstead explained the science, theory and application of solar power. The students got to see the solar panels up close and several actually helped with the installation.

This June the system went on line which called for a great lawn party to celebrate. Musician Seth Bernard, our 2019 Ann Hall Visiting Artist, gave a concert and began with what else “Here Comes the Sun.” Ron Nelson, All Points North Foundation board member, talked about the significance of this project and All Points North Foundation’s support for solar power as the direction of the future.

How has it been working? In the four months since we installation, we have not only covered our electrical costs, but have returned over \$500 to the electrical grid.

We have a free brochure available explaining our solar power system. If any teachers would like to bring their classes to talk with us about it, or if you would like us to coordinate with your science or environmental curriculum please contact LCCC Executive Director Becky Ross.

For more information about All Points North Foundation, visit [allpointsnorthfoundation.org](http://allpointsnorthfoundation.org).

For information about Peninsula Solar, visit [peninsula-solar.com](http://peninsula-solar.com)



NEWSFLASH: The Fall issue of Solar Today magazine ([soltoday.org](http://soltoday.org)) has a feature story about the Old Art Building. Check it out!

# Visitors at the OAB During 2019

Number of individual classes offered - 453

... attended by 5522 people

LCCC sponsored events, concerts, art shows, markets – 42

... attended by 9100 people

Community sponsored events – 46

... attended by 5040 people

**Total Number of Visitors:**  
**19,662**

## With Funding Support From

Special Thanks to the following for support of our programs throughout the year. We couldn't do it without you!



Edmund F &  
Virginia B  
Ball Foundation

And local support from

Biggs Construction  
Two Fish Gallery  
The Bluebird  
BluStone Vineyards  
Boathouse Vineyards  
Dam Candy Store

GJ's Rentals  
Good Harbor Vineyards  
Island Thyme Catering &  
Event Planning  
Leelanau Books  
Leland Chamber of Commerce  
Leland Mercantile

Shannon Scott Photography  
Spinniken Irrigation  
Tampico  
Trish's Dishes  
Verterra Winery  
Venture Properties  
Wool & Honey

## Weekly Classes

### MONDAY

8:20 - 9:20 **Step Aerobics** W/Kathy Miller  
9:30 - 10:30 **Strength Exercise** W/Jeanette Egler  
6:00 - 6:45 **A Total Body Workout** W/Sue Birch Carl

### TUESDAY

9:00 - 2:00 **Open Studio** - Leelanau Artist Group

### WEDNESDAY

9:30 - 10:30 **Gentle Yoga** W/Kerry Satterwhite

3:00 - 4:30 **Tai Chi** W/Jane Hale

7:00 - 9:00 **Open Acoustic Band** W/Jim Redmond

### THURSDAY

8:20 - 9:20 **Step Aerobics** W/Kathy Miller

9:30 - 10:30 **Strength Exercise** W/Jeanette Egler

Due to seasonal schedule changes, weather conditions, and periodic class cancellations, please call the office to confirm class days and times. 231-256-2131



# Classes



Japanese Arts & Crafts with Karen Kirt



Painting Peonies with Laura Feldpausch



Lil' Sprouts Eco Crafts with Shannon Scott



Painting Florals with Rebecca Deneau



Ballet with Hillary Voight



Watercolor with Susan Lingg





Lil' Sprouts and instructor Shannon Scott



Mono-type Workshop with Angela Saxon



Just Happy to be Creating!



Landscape Painting with Royce Deans



Kids Creator Camp with Michelle White



Intergenerational Songwriting with Seth Bernard



# 2020 Visiting Artist Royce Deans

Congratulations to our 2020 Visiting Artist **Royce Deans**.

Born of parents who understood the important role that art plays in society and how crucial exposure and participation in it is to the development of a young person.

I was raised in the western suburbs of Chicago with access to museums and concert halls of every variety. Graduating from the American Academy of Art in Chicago gave me the foundations to build a life in the arts.

Moving to Traverse City some thirty years ago set my art on a wonderful trajectory. I count each artistic endeavor I have embarked on as a rich experience that has shaped the artist I am today.

Living in such an incredibly beautiful place the landscape has, of course, become an overwhelming source of inspiration. My background and interest in figurative work, mixed with what I have gained from painting my local surroundings on location, help me to realize I am finding new answers daily.

My love for teaching and for art has allowed me to travel far and wide. I feel so fortunate that my artwork has made it possible to work in many of the countries of Western Europe and Israel presenting classes, workshops, and retreats.

More recently, I am fascinated by how I am less interested in any particular subject in my work. It's less about the representation of a subject and much more about the experience surrounding a specific subject.

**Life, with all of its ups and downs, is very good.**



## Welcome Board Member Jamie Morse

**Jamie Morse** lives and works in Northport as a furniture maker, painter and designer. Most of his education was spent in art schools, including Art Center College of Design in Pasadena and Columbia College in Chicago — though he ultimately earned a philosophy degree from Hope College. After a 15 year career in graphic design and photography, he and his wife decided to design and build a house in Northport. Now, raising two children here in the county, he juggles the joy of being a father with the pleasure of contributing time to the community. He'll never pass up a chance to swim and enjoys few things more than working with his hands. He has already been very instrumental in getting our float ready for the 4th of July parade and is busy working on this year's HollyPOP experience! We are thrilled to have him on board.



## Chair Project ~ August 14 - 16, 2020



**Save the Date** (and your chairs!):  
**August 14 - 16**



# Congratulations ~ 2019 Volunteers of the Year!

**Amanda Campo Johnson**, designer extraordinaire – who designed among other things our PEACE OAB Sticker that you all get upon becoming members – thank you for bringing us big ideas from Basel and beyond! You can tweak every little thing to look just right, and make an agenda for a simple meeting look like a work of art.

You “get” us, and we love having you as part of this community of artists and art lovers. Thank you for all you do for us!

**Sarah Ross Mills** – “I’ve got an idea for you”... and “how bout we try this!” are phrases we hear from Sarah on a regular basis. Her inspiration and instigation go hand in hand to bring new programs and people to us. Most recently she offered to take over our social media – our presence in that world is better and brighter. Our “likes” and “friends” have grown exponentially. Suffice it to say, we love and appreciate your efforts to the max!

Together – your enthusiasm and love of all things OAB makes our life in the back office sometimes more complicated – but always more interesting and fun! The hours of behind the scenes work on HollyPOP over the last 3 years alone qualify you for outstanding kudos, but your volunteerism goes well beyond that one event and for that we are so very grateful.



**Thank you both for everything you bring to us  
and do for the OAB and for this community!**

## Community Cultural Curator Award\*



This year we honored **Ellie Golden**. She has almost become a fixture in our programming, known not only for her personal longevity, but also the longevity and quality of her art production

Born in Indianapolis in 1923, one year after the Old Art Building was built, Eleanor Carey Appel discovered her creative interests in 4th grade, expressing herself in art, music and shop classes in one of those “progressive” schools that Ellie would tell you was “one of those skip and go naked schools”. She attended Vassar college, married and had three children, later adding five more to the mix.

Ellie studied printmaking, attending Penland Crafts School of the Arts in North Carolina. At age 60 she went to Japan and learned the wax resist method of dying cloth.

She has been coming to Leland since her early childhood, getting her own cottage in 1956, she became active in the County art scene working in pastels, book illustration, book binding and quilt making.

14 years ago, Ellie began a summer plein air painting program through the Old Art Building called Painting on Location. The group meets twice a week

throughout the summer at various locations around the county and is still going strong with Ellie at the helm at the age of 96.

Four years ago, we hosted a retrospective of her work and it was wonderfully received. The breadth of her talent and the depth of her explorations in art continue to show that Ellie is the Energizer Bunny of the art world.

**Because of her support and involvement in our programming and her huge influence on the local art scene, we are happy to acknowledge Ellie Golden as a Community Cultural Curator.**

\*This award was instituted by the Leelanau Community Cultural Center to honor those who have contributed significantly to our organization, and thus to the cultural heritage of our community. It is not given annually- it is given only when the board of directors unanimously agrees it is time to honor such a significant person.



# Events

There always seems to be something going on at the Old Art Building. Featured here are just a few of the events that took place at the Leelanau Community Cultural Center.

Such a wide variety---  
There is something for everybody!



The Solstice Celebration - Paula Alflen



Illustrated lecture - A Sailor's Story with Luke Yeates & Jessi Zevalkink

HollyPOP!



Fiber Festival - Carol Bawden



Derby Day - Hillary Voight & Greta Campo







Old Friends Concert with Fred Ball



Free Concert on the lawn with K. Jones & the Benzie Playboys



Fall Family Fun Day with Patrick Niemisto & Norm Wheeler



Bike Decorating for the 4th of July Parade



Leland Air -Barbara Reich



Art Leelanau



# Thank you

We gratefully acknowledge all our members, donors and sponsors whose contributions to the LCCC were received since the publication of our newsletter in November 2018. Thanks to all of you for your participation and continued support in the LCCC programs and events!

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# Leelanau Community Cultural Center

111 S. Main St., P.O. Box 883  
Leland, MI 49654  
231.256.2131  
info@oldartbuilding.com  
www.oldartbuilding.com

Non-profit Org.  
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Jamie Morse  
Susan Oliver  
Alexia Post  
John Scott  
Trudy Underhill  
Hillary Voight

## Founding Members

Sally Biggs  
Amy Chatfield

## Community Cultural Curators

Bob Biggs  
Scott Craig  
Ellie Golden  
Judy Livingston  
Sada Omoto  
Martha Ryan

## Staff

Becky Ross - Executive Director  
Linda Sprout - Assistant Director  
Earlene Hill - Administrative Assistant  
Dick Krahn - A/V Specialist

## December Events

December 6 ~ Joshua Davis

December 14 ~ SOLD OUT! May Erlewine & The Motivations

December 15 ~ Dance with Joy Dance Leelanau Recital

December 21 ~ Solstice Concert with Dr. Mezraq Ramli

## The Mission Of The Leelanau Community Cultural Center

Is to **promote** cultural enrichment programs and events, to **provide** a gathering place for the community, and to **preserve** the Old Art Building as a significant part of Leelanau history.