

OLD ART BUILDING

CENTENNIAL

Celebrating 100 years of Community & Culture

Spring 2022

1922

2022



CONTEST!



Name this magazine

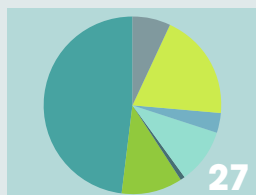
This is the first issue of our new magazine format. In honor of our 100th year this issue is titled Centennial, but we need your help to name the magazine! The OAB community is the heart of this organization so we want to include you in this opportunity. The name we choose will be on the cover of this publication for years to come! If we choose your name we will send some of our new OAB merchandise your way.

Do you have an idea to share?

Please email: becky@oldartbuilding.com

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President's Message

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Last January 6 we celebrated the purchase of the Old Art Building from Michigan State University, who had owned it for the last 83 years. It was a joyous celebration by a community that had supported this humble structure for so long, and then, in a generous united effort, provided the funds to acquire it as a permanent part of Leelanau life.

The mission of the Leelanau Community Cultural Center is to Promote, Provide and Preserve: promote the arts and cultural enrichment; provide a gathering place for the community; and preserve the Old Art Building for generations to come. We confirmed what we already believed on January 6 of last year, there is a larger unspoken mission that is served by the Old Art Building – it unifies a broad and richly varied community. This relatively simple framework and clap-board structure does not recognize the barriers that may divide us in many other areas of our lives. People of all ages, economic status, levels of talent, ethnic or geographic backgrounds, or personal identities or beliefs will find something of interest here- something that will allow them to grow, be entertained, or participate in and maybe find new friends. Be renewed and find joy in shared experience. Or even find a small riverside area of repose here in downtown Leland on a busy summer day filled with visitors.

In these times we desperately need to recognize that the community we build is intentional, and that is obvious to us at the Old Art Building. What you have shown us, and what we hope you can see through our work, is that we can all rise above the boisterous malaise we sometimes feel mired in, and in which it is so easy to lose ourselves. I believe that in life what we look for is what we will find. So it is with a strong sense of gratitude that we bring arts experiences, provide a place to meet, and work to preserve this iconic structure in this beautiful land we call Leelanau County. In doing so, and with your continued support, may we all find something that unites us.

Thank you,

Dan Lisuk
Board President

WITH US!

CELEBRATE 100 YEARS



Happy New Year. Happy Centennial!

It is my great pleasure to present you with our first magazine. As we begin our second century, we are focusing this issue on celebrating our first century.

We pay tribute to Allie Mae Best, and her Women's Club, who over 100 years ago had the vision to build a community center along the Carp River for traveling theatrical groups, musicians, amateur entertainers and distinguished lecturers. After years of planning and fundraising the Old Art Building was built in 1922. For 17 years it flourished until the Great Depression and looming fears about WWII disrupted plans. Its fate was reset when in 1939 Allie Mae donated the building to Michigan State University (MSU) to offer accredited summer art classes. We've share some memories and photos from that era, which lasted 50 years until that program was canceled, and the building stood vacant. You'll read how local residents led by Amy Chatfield and Sally Biggs came together to protect this historical site from development. What followed was years of dedicated board leadership, staff and volunteer hours to promote the arts, provide a gathering place for the community and preserve the Old Art Building for generations to come. And finally, how in 2020 the community came together to buy the building back from MSU. It's a wonderful story and I hope you enjoy it.

I'd like to give special thanks to Mary Stewart, former Board member, for bringing Allie Mae into focus and writing her story, and our Origin Story. It was a labor of love! Pat Green, also a former Board member, wrote about the MSU years, and Abby Chatfield, current staff member, brings us into our second century. Thank you all for your contributions.

Special thanks as well go to Judy Frederick who agreed almost a year ago to chair the Centennial Planning Committee. For several months, behind the curtain, we've been planning ways to celebrate our history and this monumental year with you, our community. This history is just the beginning of what I hope will be a fun filled and memorable year for us all.

Happy New Century,

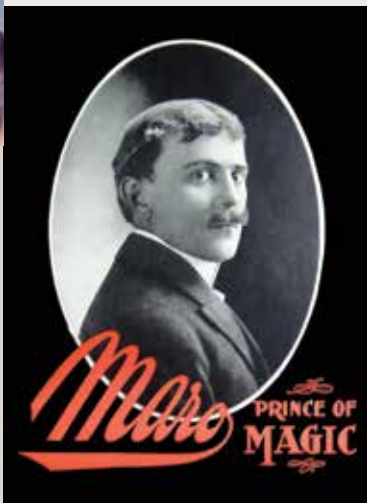
Becky Ross
OAB Executive Director

1922 – 1939 OUR ORIGIN STORY

BY MARY STEWART

In 2022 we mark the centennial of the creation of the Old Art Building in Leland. In honor of its founder, Allie Mae Best, we are pleased to tell our origin story. Let us begin by traveling in our imaginations to the year 1869 to consider how it all began.

Our Founder, Alice Mae Kaiser, was born in the river town of St. Charles, Illinois to Augustus C. Kaiser a civil war veteran and later a successful businessman, and Lucy Whipple, a highly revered Civil War nurse. Growing up in a comfortable, mid-western household, but in an era then lacking publicly funded schools, Allie Mae very likely started primary school in private homes or perhaps in rooms on upper floors of businesses. Instruction probably would have consisted of classes in reading, writing, penmanship, geography and mathematics. By 1885, when Allie was 16, the first two combination primary and secondary public schools opened in St. Charles and she most



The steamship Missouri docked in Leland



Allie Mae Kaiser first met Walter T. Best at Irwin Hall, St. Charles, Illinois, who was performing there as Maro, Prince of Magic.

likely would have attended one of these high schools. Allie Mae was a self-described voracious reader and, along with her love of literature, also studied music and art. In 1901 the Mahatma Newsletter reported that Allie Mae was college educated. While there are no definitive records to confirm this statement, Wheaton College or Northwestern College were close enough for Allie Mae to have attended, likely by horse drawn carriage. But however she might have come by her interest in and love for the arts, this young woman's interests led down a path that changed her life in a significant way, and many years later, impacted our lives as well.

One evening Maro performed at the Irwin Hall in St. Charles, Illinois. It was there that Walter T. Best met Alice Mae Kaiser and in 1899 they married. Thereafter she traveled with him, even briefly assisting him in his magic performances. St. Charles residents were so taken with Maro's fame that they adopted him as a native son.

Opportunities Up North

On top of his many other interests, Maro was an avid angler. By 1900, reports trickling back from lumbermen in northern Michigan had begun to reach Chicago. They told of abundant fishing and hunting opportunities up

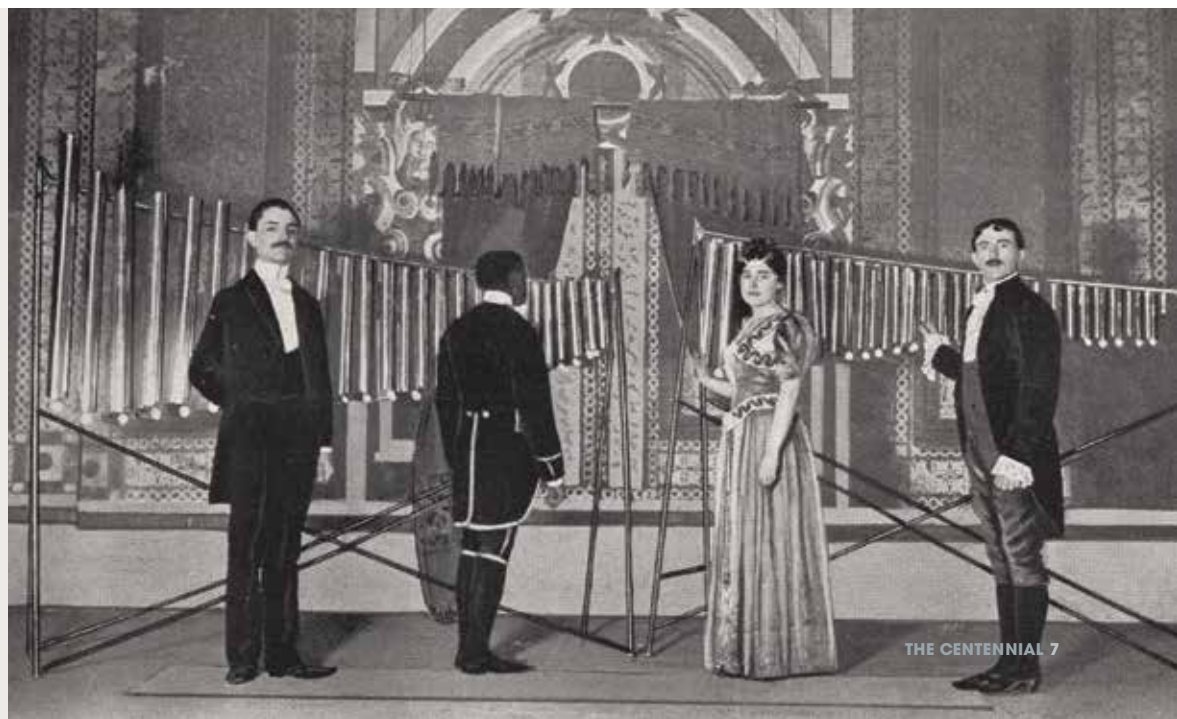
But however she might have come by her interest in and love for the arts, this young woman's interests led down a path that changed her life in a significant way, and many years later, impacted our lives as well.

A Magical Connection

At the end of the nineteenth century, the Chicago-based Slayton Lyceum Bureau was a booking agency that sent educators and performers to residents of rural communities. Lecturing in art, history, and science, the Lyceum found eager learners in nearly eight thousand towns. In its heyday, very popular performers and lecturers could make nearly continuously uninterrupted tours throughout the Midwest. In 1892 The Lyceum signed a contract with Walter T. Best who was its first magician. Best eventually became known nationally as "Maro, Prince of Magic," and found fame as one of the most talented magicians of his time. This multi-talented performer formed his own troupe, wrote and played music, and designed new magic illusions. As a national celebrity he dominated the field and commanded an astounding income for the time, for example earning over \$3,000 in one month in 1906.

north in Michigan. More and more tourists arrived, hotels were built to accommodate the influx, and the character of towns like Leland slowly began to shift. By the late 1800's Leland's vigorous lumbering era was coming to a close and the town became more reliant on agriculture and tourism. Early in 1900, Walter and Allie Mae Best were among the venturesome new tourists coming to recreate and to view the sights. They likely traveled from Chicago by steamship, a mode of travel growing in popularity on the Great Lakes at that time. The steamship Missouri docked in Manistee and later in Leland. A railway from Manistee to Traverse City was extended via Fouch Landing and included a hotel on south Lake Leelanau. It is highly probable that the couple used that approach upon their first visit to Leland as they explored the area.

Allie Mae Best occasionally traveled with her husband to assist in his magic performances. Pictured here: Walter T. Best is at right. The figures in the middle are speculated to be Alanzo Moore and Allie Mae Best. The identity of the gentleman at left is not known.



Allie Mae and her husband, the now-famous Maro, returned the following year in 1901, and hired a small steamboat, the Tiger, moored on north Lake Leelanau, to further explore the lake for a home site. A beautiful location was secured and they built a home that Allie named Maro Nook. The ensuing years at Maro Nook allowed Allie and Walter to design and furnish this unique dwelling to accommodate their shared interests in music, painting, sketching, boating, fishing, riding, and gardening. They entertained frequently and together were known for their generosity and hospitality.

Maro Nook became the site of concerts and performances, and it was likely that hosting cultural events like these helped Allie to engage with many like-minded people in the community. (More about this shortly!) Once their home was established, Allie chose to remain in Leland while Walter continued to perform as Maro, locally engaging audiences in Traverse City, Suttons Bay, Northport, Maple City and in Leland.

This was the couple's lifestyle for several years, customarily wintering in Florida. Then in 1908, when Allie Mae returned to Maro Nook, Maro proceeded up the East Coast performing as planned. Tragically, he contracted typhoid fever while on tour and after several weeks of illness, died at age 39 in Philadelphia, PA on February 26th with Allie Mae at his side. Walter T. Best was buried in the family plot in St. Charles.

A Memorial in the Making

It was long his wish that Allie continue their shared dream to develop and improve Leland. Over the next two years, after settling the estate and disposing of Maro's many artifacts and gear from his years as a performer, Allie Mae undertook her new life in Leland. Her mother, Lucy Whipple, twice widowed, came to live with her as did her husband's former magic apprentice, Alanzo Moore. This was the composition of the Best household in 1910.

Maro Nook became the site of concerts and performances, and it was likely that hosting cultural events like these helped Allie to engage with many like-minded people in the community.

Maro also resumed traveling throughout the country, however, he continued to summer in Leland, and while in residence made extensive purchases of land over a short period. He accumulated in excess of twenty properties along Brady's Point, East Leland, and Shorewood, north of town. Best/Maro's role as both a businessman and an artist turned out to be formative for the Leland community.

On the occasion of Walter's death, one of the condolence calls Allie Maro (as she preferred to be called) had received in 1908 was from Mrs. J. C. Morgan of Traverse City. As head of the Federation of the Women's Clubs, Mrs. Morgan encouraged Allie to form the Walter T. Best Women's Club in Leland in honor of her late husband.



Maro Nook housed many cultural activities, allowing Allie to connect with like-minded people.



Beginning in 1909, through the Walter T. Best Womens Club, Allie Mae ardently pursued her goal of raising funds to build a community center in Leland. A club erected in her husband's memory would honor all of the things they loved to do together.

Allie Mae felt this idea would perfectly fulfill a memorial for Walter. Much later, in a 1922 fundraising letter, Allie outlined the history of the Walter T. Best Women's Club to a donor saying "the Club was organized in 1908, in 1911 it was 'federated' with the state, and in 1913 it was incorporated, and organized to encourage better citizenship."

In 1911 Allie Mae Best married Dr. Ora A. Chappelle, a dentist who lived and worked in Elgin, Illinois. Apparently, this marriage wasn't as happy as her first; the couple lived apart for ten years until Allie Mae divorced Chappelle in 1921.

A Visionary Land Purchase

Beginning in 1909, through the Walter T. Best Women's Club, Allie Mae ardently pursued her goal of raising funds to build a community center in Leland. A club erected in her husband's memory would honor all of the things they loved to do together. We know funds started to be raised at least since 1910, because in 1911, the Leelanau Enterprise announced that under the management of Mrs. Maro, a four day "Entertainment" organized by the Walter T. Best Women's Club was to take place under a tent in the village of Leland. Proceeds would go to the Club treasury and entertainments would equal "in every particular" those given last year." This included soloists, orchestra, dance, enactments, a violin duet, illusionists, and many other kinds of performance.

Throughout the ensuing years club members hosted meetings in their respective homes offering lunch and entertainments and reported on fundraising plans. The Leelanau Enterprise frequently announced meetings, in particular one with "twenty ladies present."

Allie Mae made a very visionary and historic land purchase in 1915 which secured the property where the present day Old Art Building now stands. Four lots were sold to Allie by Hulda Warner (Mrs. Henry Warner) and deeded to the Walter T. Best Women's Club. The purchase price was \$3,000.

Although we don't know why, Allie eventually sold Maro Nook in 1921 to Harry P. Harrison the director of the Chicago-based Lyceum Bureau. She would have known him well as the person who first contracted Maro and scheduled his tours. Upon completion of the sale, she moved to a cottage on Lake Leelanau called The Birches. Three years later she opened the Blue Lantern Tea Room in a cottage next door, operated by Alanzo Moore, Maro's old friend and assistant. It advertised serving luncheons and dinners "for people of good taste" and opened in 1924 a short distance north of Leland. Allie Mae was an entrepreneurial force: she bought and sold real estate, opened and ran the Blue Lantern, managed the Redpath Chautauqua programs, and even garnered one vote as Judge of Probate for Leland, in addition to spearheading the construction of what is now the Old Art Building.



Above: The Walter T. Best Women's Club logo



The Blue Lantern Tea Room, 1924, with Maro's former magic apprentice Alanzo Moore



John George Buehrer was the master carpenter in the construction of the Old Art Building, then known as The Leland Community Club.

Finally, in 1921, the Walter T. Best Women's Club members raised the last \$2,000 and construction of the building began in the spring of 1922. Master carpenter John Buehrer headed the crew. The result was a charming, roughhewn, wood-frame building graciously set well back from the main street with wooden floors, a fieldstone fireplace, and a curved stage. The completed venue, known as The Leland Community Club (for both women and men) hosted social and cultural events during the 1920's and 1930's. For example, the 1922 Leland Follies was a huge success, raising significant funds for the building. These fifteen minute skits boasted elaborate costumes and scenery all organized and performed by community members. Other events included historical re-enactments or "pageants," in which "Miss Leelanau" arrived attended by the personifications of Civic Pride, Thrift, Fertility, Courage, Peace, Wealth, and Tolerance, among others. All manner of events continued to take place at the new community center: dances, funerals, banquets, readings, operettas, a sewing committee, bazaars, birthday parties, and more.

End of an Era

Success and prosperity did not last long, however, as the looming Great Depression and World War II interrupted the dream. Despite the unforeseen ravages of the Great Depression (1929 – 1939), this wonderful building has stood the test of time. At the close of the 1930's the demands to organize and operate the building exceeded the resources that Leland alone could provide. It was necessary to find a solution that would prevent the

At the close of the 1930's the demands to organize and operate the building exceeded the resources that Leland alone could provide. It was necessary to find a solution that would prevent the closure of the valued gathering space.



Allie Mae at home

closure of the valued gathering space. Entrusting its future and custodianship to the Art School of an established institution such as Michigan State College of Agriculture and Applied Science (MAC) promoted the best outcome for continued operation.

The arrival upon the scene of Professor Erling Brauner of Michigan State College, who represented its art department, was an auspicious development for the building's future. He contacted Allie Mae and the women's club members with an offer: he was in search of a good location for a summer artists' colony for the Michigan State Art department. The idea to donate the building to the MSU art school was favored by both parties and gifted November 20, 1939 at a meeting of the State Board of Agriculture. Michigan State College would run summer art programs for the next 50 years.

But she did return to Leland on at least one occasion! It was wonderful to discover that in 1947 Allie Mae came to Leland to attend the 6th Annual MSU Summer School exhibition. Her name was among the 284 registered visitors. She signed: Mrs. A Maro, Leland.

Allie Mae Best died in Florida three years later in 1950 at age 81. She is buried in St. Charles' North Cemetery next to her beloved husband, Walter T. Best. The grave site also includes both of her parents and Maro's mother.

A Debt Owed

The values Allie Mae Best promoted have formed the foundation for what is now the Old Art Building. The values she espoused are comprised of: the importance of gathering in community, working together towards a common goal, the sparking of joy through creativity, and gaining enrichment through cultural expression.

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With the satisfying culmination of the transfer of the cherished art building to Michigan State, Allie Mae's public service to the Leland community soon neared an end. At this point Allie Mae, 70 years old, relocated to Glenwood, Florida and warmer climes to live out the remainder of her life.

Allie Mae Best Maro deserves grateful recognition and appreciation for her devotion and leadership in the creation of the place we know today as the Old Art Building. Her work was inspired by her belief in the importance of a culturally energized and engaged community. The building she envisioned became a source of education, enrichment, entertainment and culture, and remains so to this day.



John Buehrer arrived in Leland in 1905 where he left many landmarks. His legacy includes the Old Art Building shown above.

1939-1989 THE MSU YEARS

BY PAT GREEN

Snug in a river bend lined with flower, Leland's Old Art Building stands within shouting distance of Main Street but far enough back that the first time visitor passing by may not notice it.

With its white frame face, dark green shutters, and classic small-pane windows, it could be an early 1900s school or meeting hall in any number of small rural villages throughout the country. But to the thousands of residents and long-time visitors who come back year after year, the Old Art Building *is* Leland – in much the way that Fishtown is Leland. It's a welcome home sign and a touchstone. Its wood floors, walls, and fieldstone fireplace

To the thousands of residents and long-time visitors who come back year after year, the Old Art Building *is* Leland – in much the way that Fishtown *is* Leland. It's a welcome home sign and a touchstone.

Fishtown was always a popular place for MSU art students to paint or draw.



MSU art students were inspired by the beauty of Leelanau County.

and the curved wooden stage echo sounds of dramatic readings, dancers' steps, clattering of keys of an upright piano, and the long-ago voices of summer.

Although Allie Best's long-term dream for the women's club was not fully realized, in 1939, Michigan State College art professor Erling Brauner had been charged by university officials with finding a good location for a summer art school – an artists' colony, as he and others envisioned it. As the story goes, he was traveling north on the Lake Michigan shoreline and happened into a store in Frankfort, where he saw a large photograph of Leland.

A Five-decade Relationship

So began the 50-year relationship that continues to bring nostalgic alumni back to the Leland campus one way or another. Several of the 370 alumni names in school archives are people who now make northern Michigan home, as either full or part-time residents. Others were sufficiently smitten by the area that they simply came up to summer school and stayed.

Paul Welch, founder of the Northwestern Michigan College art program, was one of them. After his last undergraduate year at MSU in 1957, he enrolled in the

As the story goes, he was traveling north on the Lake Michigan shoreline and happened into a store in Frankfort, where he saw a large photograph of Leland. He headed straight up the Leelanau Peninsula for the small fishing village he had just seen and found the Old Art Building, vacant and unused.

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Professor Brauner managed to make contact with the women's club, and the group, happy to find such an appropriate tenant, voted to donate the building to the College. "People sometimes ask why we couldn't stay in East Lansing to do abstract painting, but after all, one doesn't abstract out of thin air," Professor Brauner would say later. "Even non-representational painters derive stimulation from the light, color, and atmosphere in Leland."

Leland summer program under Professor Brauner. "It was wonderful... so spontaneous," he readily recalls. "Leland was a joy." Those memories were locked in by the smell of oil paint that suffused their summer studio.

True also for Craig Brigham, an NMC instructor who attended summer classes in the late 60s. "The pungent smell of oil paint, turpentine, and wood smoke greeted us each morning as we straggled in for class," he said. "Spattered oil paint was still on the floor from the year before and, for the usually chilly summer mornings in June, there was the beautiful old stone fireplace to warm





our fingers.” In fact, the spattered oil paint stayed on the floor until the Old Art Building Board of Directors decided to refinish it years ago.

For idealistic young college graduates, the summer program meant freedom from rigid classroom routine as well as artistic freedom. They were on their own half the day, then came back to the art building for short critique sessions. “These were days of romance and poetry come to life,” Brigham said. And evenings of beer and burgers at The Bluebird.

Tuition in the start-up years was \$16.50 for the six-week session, whether or not it was taken for credit. Undergraduates and graduate students could receive up to eight hours of credit if they worked mornings and afternoons. Classes ranged from as few as 10 members to 20 or more. Leland residents welcomed them, putting them up in spare bedrooms for as little as \$2.50 a week if they shared the room with another student. They became part of the community, often enjoying the rounds of summer parties as a diversion from their Bluebird burgers.

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MSU Summer Art School students in Fishtown



Sally McKenzie, of Petoskey, was a student in the summer session of 1948, taught by the late Ralf Henricksen. She lived in a big old Main Street house, owned as she recalls, by an old sea captain. McKenzie went on to teach art in the Detroit area for several years before moving to the Petoskey area where she still continues painting.

A Bittersweet Ending

More and more people were discovering Leland and the Leelanau Peninsula, and both students and faculty were having a difficult time finding affordable housing as vacation rentals commanded higher and higher rent. Students in those years came primarily from families who owned summer homes.

In 1989 the Michigan Historical Commission added the Old Art Building to the State Register of Historic Places, in recognition of the MSU-Leland partnership.

David Grath, one of the area's most widely known and successful artists, first visited Leland because a friend was enrolled in the summer program. He has been painting the burnished sunsets and unique northern Michigan landscapes since then. "I camped on the beach, woke up, and found myself in this lovely village," he says. Retelling those experiences still brings a wide smile to his face. He enrolled in the summer program in 1964 and '65.

In August of 1989, the art department staged a 50-year retrospective exhibition featuring the work of 43 former summer students and faculty members. That year the Michigan Historical Commission added the Old Art Building to the State Register of Historic Places, in recognition of the MSU-Leland partnership.

By that time, however, the program had faded into non-existence due to dwindling enrollment. The Old Art Building would sit vacant again until 1992.

Retired MSU art professor Clifton McChesney shared teaching duties with two other instructors, Peter Glendinning and James Lawton, during the 1980s. McChesney and his artist wife Jane lived in the Leland home of a fellow MSU department member. In a 1980 story for the MSU newspaper, McChesney praised the program as an ideal experience for budding artists, but he also foresaw a trend that eventually would bring it to an end.



The MSU Summer Art School sign still hangs today above the OAB entrance doors.



MSU Art Professor Clifton McChesney and artist wife Jane

Last MSU exhibit at OAB before the program shut down, 1989



1989 – 2022 MICHIGAN'S OLDEST ART CENTER

BY OAB STAFF

In 1989, the Old Art Building (OAB) was added to the State Register of Historic Places, just as the Michigan State University (MSU) summer program came to a halt. MSU stopped using the property, and the building remained dormant for the next few years. What would become of the OAB became a topic of conversation at social gatherings.

A Rebirth

At the time, there was speculation that MSU might sell the property. The Leland Township Board considered buying the property and tearing down the building to build a new fire station. There were also inquiries from developers looking to buy the property to build riverfront condos. Ed and Bobbie Collins, who founded the Leelanau Conservancy in 1988, in response to the threat of over-development in Leelanau County, initiated community action to save the Old Art Building. In early 1992, the Collins and Amy Chatfield drove to Lansing to speak with state representatives and MSU trustees about the idea to preserve the OAB for community use.



Amy Chatfield



Bob and Sally Biggs

Derby Day party



Artists' Market

By September 1992, a group of community supporters led by Ed & Bobbie Collins, Amy Chatfield, and Sally Biggs convinced the Leland Township Board to enter a 20-year lease with Michigan State University with the idea they would start a community center inspired by the early years of the Old Art Building and in keeping with Allie Mae's vision. At a price of one dollar for the initial 20 years and just one dollar to cover each additional 10 years, the stalwart volunteers secured the fate of the building and grounds. The Leland Township Board agreed to manage the lease with MSU with the stipulation that the community would put a board in place to oversee operations and financial responsibility of the Old Art Building.

The first Board was formed in 1992 and included eight members who developed and began to implement their initial objectives: to continue in perpetuity the facility and grounds as a community center dedicated to a multiple-use approach and participation by a broad base of individuals and institutions; to establish means necessary to maintain and operate facilities and programs through private donations, user fees, and endowments; and to ensure the inherent historical and scenic character of the building and grounds.

The first operation costs to consider were taxes and utilities in addition to all building and grounds maintenance. MSU required that its tenants pay for and arrange all maintenance but was receptive to the overall vision for the building. The university would later agree to two building expansions funded by the community.

A Nonprofit Recognized

In 1994, the Leelanau Community Cultural Center (LCCC) was established as a nonprofit. Andy McFarlane was the first paid employee of the LCCC and oversaw summer programming. At that time, the only in-house program was a Coffeehouse on the first and third Thursdays of the month. The group gathered around the fireplace in the main room while sharing music and poetry. Volunteers were plentiful. Ellen Pisor started the gardens we still enjoy today. Bob Biggs was on poison ivy duty for several years. Sally Biggs and her Master Gardener class cleaned up the riverside, while Nancy Telgard helped her clean out the OAB attic by throwing piles of unsalvageable items out of a second story window onto the lawn below.

Early fundraising efforts included dinners at The Lodge and Bluebird. The first large benefit took place the summer of 1993 and remains the strongest annual fundraiser supporting the OAB to date. What was once called the Leelanau Peninsula Wine & Art Auction later became Art Leelanau.

In 1995, a benefit bash called "Raising the Roof" secured enough money for a new roof, exterior painting, floor renovation, and insulation. All of this work, the fundraising and the manual labor, was accomplished by passionate volunteers. Bob Biggs led a group who removed every fourth board from the building's interior walls to add insulation and then return them exactly as they were so as not to disturb the colorful marks that generations of MSU art students had left behind.



Art Leelanau



© Shannon Scott Photography



Art Leelanau volunteers

Art Leelanau



Art Leelanau

THE CENTENNIAL '17

© Shannon Scott Photography



Becky Ross on left, Judy Livingston at right, 2014

Open Year Round

In 1996, Judy Livingston was hired as the LCCC's first year-round Director and served for 18 years (1996 – 2014). Judy fondly recalls starting with five hours per week during wintertime, when she worked with a space heater to keep warm in the OAB office located on the back corner of the stage. During the summer months programing increased to include exercise classes, art workshops and exhibits. In 1998, LCCC launched its first campaign with a goal to fund an addition to the building. Biggs Construction stepped up to help with the work. Bathrooms were added to the breezeway area, and an office was built to get the staff off the stage and into a more functional space.

In 2006, the Ann Hall Artist in Residence program (now known as the Ann Hall Visiting Artist Program) was established with a gift from the Hall family. The Halls wanted to honor their late family member, Ann Hall, a talented artist, and long-time summer resident of Leland. As part of their residency, the Ann Hall Artists in Residence were asked to teach classes, give lectures, and present their work in an exhibit. David Grath, a local painter, who first came to the area the late 40's to visit the MSU

By the end of 2022, the OAB will have hosted 16 visiting artists with a variety of artistic experience including painting, music, writing and printmaking, illustration, and sculpting.

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In 2009, due to increasing program demands, the OAB needed a second employee to assist Judy. Linda Sprout joined the organization; she helped create the first database and increased marketing efforts. In response



Renovating the Old Art Building in 1996



Judy Livingston,
OAB Executive Director,
1996 – 2014

Inspirational comments, from MSU years, are still visible on the Old Art Building wall.



Reunion of Ann Hall Visiting Artists, 2017



In two decades of national and international touring, the Old Art Building remains one of my 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.

Seth Bernard, Musician, Title Track Founder and Executive Director

to increasing facility usage, LCCC initiated their second capital campaign in 2011. Again, with support from the community, funds were raised to expand storage, office, meeting, and kitchen space. Interactive digital audio-visual equipment was also installed for the first time. Biggs Construction oversaw the renovation process once again.

Increased Community Involvement

In 2014, current LCCC Executive Director, Becky Ross, was hired upon Judy's retirement. At the time Becky was serving on the LCCC Board and her significant experience in fundraising and development made her a natural fit. The board and staff continued to focus on increasing activities to reach more facets of the community by building up programs, activities, and classes. It was during this time that the Membership Program was created, with the goal of engaging new people in Old Art Building programs. What began as a small number of our most ardent supporters has turned into a robust program of more than 280 members.

Love for the OAB grew and continued to bring joy to the community. By 2018, the board observed a shift taking place. Outreach efforts over the years had paid off. Artists and musicians were now contacting the OAB with performance requests without any initiation from OAB staff. A testimonial by singer-songwriter, and 2019 Visiting Artist, Seth Bernard, sums up why: "In two decades of national and international touring, the Old Art Building remains

one of my 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."

During this time there was a noted increase in programming, everything from Derby Day, HollyPOP, and Winter Picnic to Leland Musical Arts Celebration and Art of the Garden Exhibit. More and more often the OAB was seen as an ideal location for community events, ranging from school dances to graduation parties, and weddings to birthday parties. What was once a space primarily used during the summer was now providing year-round programming and benefits to the community.

In 2019, as the board looked for ways to manage costs while simultaneously being aware of the organizations environmental impact, a subcommittee began to explore the possibilities of solar power. Significant time and attention were dedicated to the idea given the buildings designation as a historic landmark. Later that year a grant was awarded by All Points North Foundation that would fully fund installation of 60 solar panels on the roof of the Old Art Building. Throughout the installation process there were numerous opportunities for community involvement, including connecting with students at Leland Public School as part of their science curriculum. This project culminated in a Summer Solstice celebration with an outdoor concert on the front lawn.



Construction of the annex



Farewell party for Judy Livingston

“

Today, true to the vision it was founded upon, LCCC offers a vibrant canvas of 680 programs, classes and workshops focused on education, arts, and culture. Inside the Old Art Building, the landmark venue is a gathering place for the community, sometimes serving as a concert hall, art gallery, and/or exercise facility. Visitors can engage in various activities including folding origami, calligraphy writing, ballet and ballroom dance, making monotypes by hand, learning about the art of botanical watercolor, and special exercise classes for seniors.

Mark Dudzinski,
former Chief Marketing Officer
for GE Energy Business
Solar Today, Fall 2019 Issue

”



Celebration of the MSU agreement to sell the Old Art Building back to Leelanau Community Cultural Center, February 14, 2020



Visiting Artist Seth Bernard plays at the 2019 Summer Solstice celebration

Fourth of July parade float



Leland Public School eighth grade students learn about solar energy.



Community Ownership

After years of exploring the possibility of purchasing the building from MSU, the door opened in 2019 and LCCC Board members began the negotiation process with the University. The fear of losing the OAB altogether drove the Board to this decision. A purchase agreement was finally signed in February 2020, with the stipulation that the sale would be finalized by the end of the year, thus initiating

website, the staff got to work developing the OAB virtual experience. In the summer of 2020, the OAB presented three annual exhibits, virtually, for the first time. The annual Leland Air ('plein air') event expanded to include more artists, allowing them to paint where they were located. The Art Leelanau Benefit included a Picnic-to-go and virtual wine tasting before the on-line gallery opened. While nothing could replace being in the Old Art Building,

With the help of over 450 donors, ownership returned to the community on December 31, 2020, when the LCCC Finance Committee signed the purchase agreement.

the *Owning Our Future* campaign. With the help of over 450 donors, ownership returned to the community on December 31, 2020, when the LCCC Finance Committee signed the purchase agreement. During the campaign, money was also raised for the existing Endowment Fund to help maintain the 100-year-old building and support its programs.

When COVID hit in early 2020 the OAB was deep in campaign planning and preparations for another busy summer. With yearly event attendance in the thousands and engaging programming taking place year-round, the staff didn't waste time determining how they could continue to serve the community with the doors physically closed. Thanks to recent marketing efforts and a newly launched

the virtual exhibits delivered a much-needed connection during a difficult time. In the fall OAB presented members with a virtual concert featuring singer/songwriter Joshua Davis. This was followed in the winter by the new Festival of Lights, bringing JOY to countless visitors. In the summer of 2021 the OAB staff launched Music in the Air, a free summer concert series on the lawn, having the goal of bringing community together in a celebration of the arts.

In 2022, the Old Art Building celebrates its Centennial birthday. The OAB is honoring the different chapters of its history with special events throughout the year, and a new strategic plan is in place to propel it into the next chapter of its history. It is with great appreciation for the countless volunteers and visitors that we enter the next century of this historic building.



Sally Biggs, Becky Ross, Amy Chatfield



OAB Executive Director Becky Ross and OAB President Dan Lisuk





As we kick off our 100th year at the Old Art Building, we not only look back in appreciation of our rich history but look forward to our bright future. The Old Art Building is a beloved cultural institution which allows our community to gather, learn, grow, exchange, and celebrate. While implementing our strategic direction, we strive to honor our traditions and inspire possibilities for the future. We are grateful to our community for stepping up and giving us input, feedback, and support along the way.

Honoring Tradition. Inspiring Possibilities. Realizing Potential.

Our Process

In planning for the next three to five years, we reviewed our mission and our stated values as an organization, affirming the guiding principles that direct our vision. We asked for input from our community through a survey, a day-long strategic planning session and countless one on one conversations. We assembled a strategic planning committee to synthesize the input and gather feedback from the board over the course of three months. As a result, we crafted eight strategic goals which reflect the priorities that emerged and identified action steps that will allow our committees to set timelines and measure outcomes.

Our Values

The Members of the Board of Directors of the Old Art Building embrace the following set of values as they direct the activities of the organization today and into the foreseeable future.

- We value our commitment to supporting the local arts community.
- We value the Old Art Building's organizational traditions and its collective cultural history, serving generations of area residents and providing a continuity of community involvement.
- We value creating opportunities for community members to engage with one another and where everyone is invited to participate, equally.
- We value the fact that the Old Art Building's vibrant programming is making a positive difference in our community.
- We value opportunities to collaborate with community organizations.

Our Mission

We will commit that new initiatives will reflect our mission.

- Promote the arts and cultural enrichment.
- Provide a gathering place for the community.
- Preserve the Old Art Building for generations.

Our Way Forward

The following eight goals provide the Board and its committees strategic direction for the next three to five years.



GOAL 1

Remain dedicated to honoring our traditions while inspiring possibilities as a cultural center and gathering place for our community of young and old, artist and audience, volunteer and donor, near and far.

GOAL 2

Refine and communicate the Old Art Building brand to reinforce our presence in the community.

- Create logo/tag line, and identify how they will be used in all marketing and PR: website, social media, signage, advertising, etc.
- Design and create wayfinding signage and historic plaques for front of building and property
- Expand merchandise
- Develop a program to inform new residents about the OAB
- Develop communication pathways to other organizations within our greater area

GOAL 3

Plan inspiring year-round programming to engage our multi-generational community. Include events, performances, exhibits, classes, illustrated lectures, and panel discussions.

- Develop programming focusing on historical and current native populations
- Consider new ideas for adult and youth exhibits
- Collaborate with local organizations on programming

GOAL 4

Cultivate and expand community support through membership, annual giving, endowment, sponsorships, grants, planned-giving, and volunteers.

- Refine Membership Program and add 100 new members in honor of the Centennial
- Increase the LCCC Endowment to \$2M to provide 4% or \$80,000 to annual budget
- Identify and cultivate new business sponsorship opportunities, expand geographic reach
- Investigate grant opportunities and identify a grant-writer
- Develop and implement a coordinated volunteer program

GOAL 5

Elevate performance and exhibit capabilities and the overall experience at the Old Art Building.

- Design and create welcoming entrances and plan for seasonal beautification
- Upgrade lighting, fans, and sound to support current programs and attract new programs
- Upgrade restrooms with form, function, and safety in mind

GOAL 6

Explore the potential of the grounds, riverfront, and gardens.

- Explore the idea of a community-wide art program or installation

GOAL 7

Develop a competitive staff (hiring and) compensation philosophy and policy to recruit, retain and reward exceptional employees.

- Assess staffing needs and implement changes to elevate the operation
- Demonstrate the financial ability to support above staff

GOAL 8

Perpetuate a board culture that is strategically oriented, financially prudent and mission focused.

- Examine nomination and succession of board members, officer positions, and committee responsibilities
- Form robust committees comprised of board members and engaged community volunteers, seek expertise where appropriate
- Establish a clear path for board members to stay involved once no longer actively serving on the board, through committee work, special projects, etc.

Strategic Planning Committee

Kathleen Acker
Rick Koehler
Dan Lisuk
Nannie Maxwell
Becky Ross
Kerry Satterwhite, Chair

2021

18 ADULT CLASSES



16 KID'S CLASSES



17 OAB EVENTS



OAB

12 CONCERTS



258 PARTICIPATING ARTISTS



8 EXHIBITS



Our Year in Review

While relatively new to the Board of the Old Art Building, I have been a fan of the OAB for many years now. In 2013 I began to paint *'en plein air'*, and participated in the Leland Air event as soon as my work was worthy of being entered. Eventually I submitted artwork in the Art Leelanau event, and from there I have been sucked into the wonderful life at the OAB.

As the Chairman of the Finance Committee, I am amazed at the financial success of the many ongoing activities of the OAB. Lectures, plays, music, classes for all ages and of course the art shows; the list just goes on and on. Together with your renewed memberships and annual donations, we are able to offer this wide range of offerings to the community and our summer guests as well.

The heartfelt contributions to acquire the building, not only enabled us to accomplish that goal, but also to increase an endowment that helps fund both programming and staffing, as we continue to build more offerings with more full-time staffing. We cannot express our gratitude for your generosity and only hope that as we strive to exceed your expectations that you will continue to remember us in your annual gifting.

Upon selling my architectural practice after 39 years at the helm, Sandy and I now divide our time to between Leland and Cincinnati. Concurrent with my professional life, I always felt privileged to be able to assist organizations who relied upon volunteers to guide their efforts. However, I have to say that the Board members of the OAB are the friendliest and kindest and most committed Board members I have ever been associated with. It is truly an honor to be able to serve alongside of them.

Please remember to keep us forefront in your financial planning and we will in turn do what we can on our end to surpass your expectations of us.

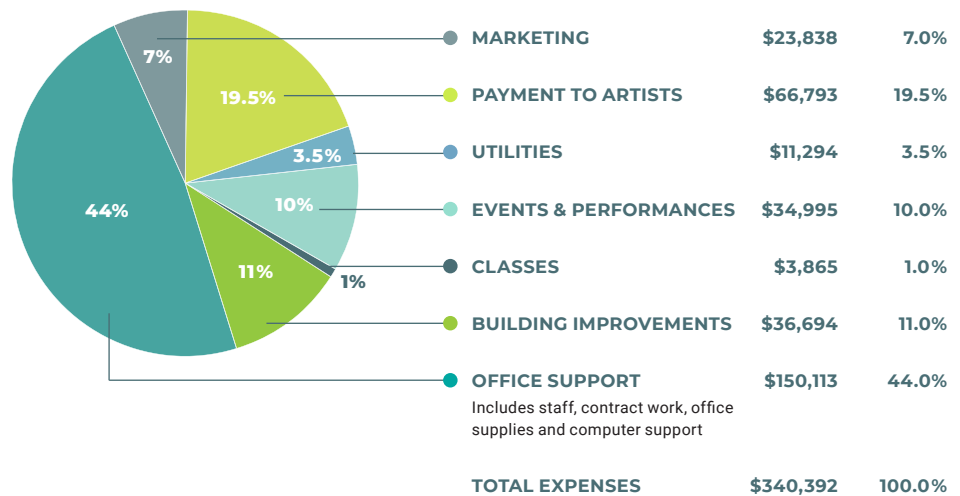
With great respect,

Rick Koehler
Finance Committee Chair



2021 Financial Review

2021 Operational Expenses



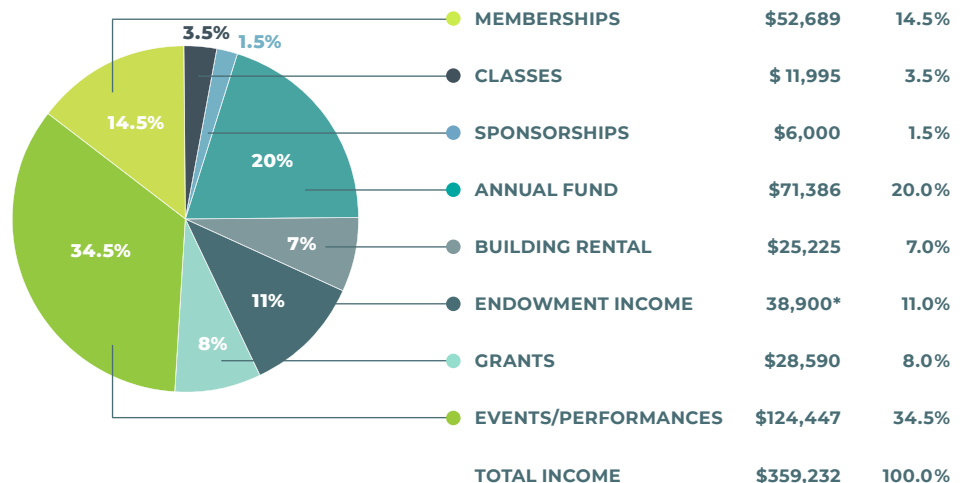
2021 Operational Income

ENDOWMENT:

12.31.2012: \$200,000

12.31.2020: \$972,500

*4% of \$972,500 annual withdrawal to support programs and staffing: \$38,900





\$10,000+

WILFRED & JOAN LARSON FUND

\$5,000 – \$9,999

JOHN ELDER

BRUCE & KIM OLSON

BETSY WHITNEY

\$1,000 – \$4,999

ANONYMOUS

KATHLEEN & LAWRENCE ACKER

NANCY & BERKLEY DUCK

WILLIAM ENCHERMAN &

MARTHA LEUGERS-ENCHERMAN

CURTIS HALL & SUSAN HOUSEMAN

RICK & SANDY KOEHLER

ROBERT H. KURNICK JR.

MARGIE MCKINLEY

SUSAN OLIVER & JEFF MACMILLAN

WALTER & LESLIE SCHMID

JUSTIN & SALLIE STANLEY

FRANKLIN & HOLLIS STARKS

KATHY & CRIS TELGARD

RANDY & JOANIE WOODS



\$500 – \$999

ANONYMOUS

ANONYMOUS

CAROL & LEE BOWEN

ALEXANDER & SALLY BRACKEN

ALICIA CALDECOTT

MR. & MRS. DAVID CAMIENER

GEORGE FISHER

WILLIAM L. FORTUNE JR.

JUDY FREDERICK

WARD & MARY BEVANS GILLET

BONNIE HAGERMAN

CHARLES & SANDY HALL

DELORES LEPPINK

GEORGE & CINDY MEEKER

TED & LISA NEILD

RICH & PATTY ROSSMAN

ROBERT & TRUDY UNDERHILL

CHERRYLL WALZEL

ANN & WARREN WATKINS



\$250 – \$499

JENNIE BERKSON & DAVID EDELSTEIN

ED & BOBBIE COLLINS

KATIE COCHRAN DUNCAN & BILL DUNCAN

GRETCHEN DUNFEE

MARTHA & JOHN ELCHERT

MARIAN JAMIESON

BARBARA KRAUSE*

JEANNE KUNZ

JOANN & HARRY LARKIN

MARLIS MANN & TOM SKINNER

JOHN & LISA MCCLURE

SARAH & ANDY MILLS

MIKE MOTT & KIM MCMANAMA

JANIS & JERRY PFISTER

ED & CATHY SCHOCKER



\$100 – \$249

SHIRLEE AFFHALTER & JIM SIMONS

ROBERT & JANET ALFLEN

DANIELLE & STEVE ARENS

STEVEN ASHLEY & REBECCA EATON

LOIS BAHLE & LARRY MAWBY

GEORGE & MOLLY BARBEE

JILL BERKELEY

CHAR BICKEL

SALLY & BOB BIGGS

JON & JUDY BIRGE

GILBERT A. BOGLEY

WILL & MARGEE BRACKEN

BILL BRUNELLE

KEITH W. & JOANNE G. BURNHAM

AVERY BURNS

DONNA BURR

MICHAEL & NORMA CAMPO

ROBERT CARR & LYDIA ARNOLD

MARILYN CERNY

ALBERT & DEE CHAFFEE

KELLY CLARK

T JEFF DAVIS & KEN SMITH

HOWARD DAVIS

JOSEPH & BARBARA DAY

BILL & JEANNE DENNLER

CHARLIE DESANDO & ELLEN GILLIGAN

STEPHANIE DUCKMANN

PHIL DUTTON

LEONTINA ELDER

JOHN & GINA ERB

ELIZABETH & JOHN FITZPATRICK

PAT & PETER GAST

LARRY & BARBARA GRAVES

JOAN & ED HANPETER

KARL HAUSLER & JUDITH M. CASE

EARLENE & DOUG HILL

TOM & DIANE HOBAN



KARIN JACOBSON & BOB SEEMAN

ABIGAIL & BELA JANKO

ALAN & ANNE HARTWICK

JANE M. KEEN

CHARLES KNAPP

RICHARD KOOYMAN & MELANIE PARKE

DANIEL L. & LAURIE LEPPINK LISUK

CATRYNA LOOS

MARY BETH LOWE

ELIZABETH MCCLINCHIE

MARGUERITE K. MEEKER

RICH & SUE MILLER

PATRICIA & MICHAEL MORRIS

FRANK & ANGELA PETTY

CHRISTINA PFEUFER

NICK & JULIE PRENETA

JULIE RIDENOUR

GEORGIA & JIM RIVERS

STACEY & RICHARD ROBERTS

AL & MARY BETH ROLLINGS

BECKY & BILL ROSS

KAREN SCHUILING

BEN & LOUISE SCOTT

KATHLEEN & WESLEY SHIMANEK

CATHY SITERLET

MARY & ROBERT SMART

POWELL & NELL REVEL SMITH

TOM & BETH SMITH

BRADFORD SPROUSE

GRETCHEN SPROUT*

BARBARA STEVENSON

MARY STEWART & GREG REESE

RICHARD & KATHY STOCKER

EVY & ROSS SUSSMAN

BILL & JANET TAYLOR

MARION UNWIN

KAREN VISKOCHIL

ELISE WEISBACH

SALLY WILLE

MRS. PAULINE WOMAC



\$99 and under

BARBARA ABBOTT & LARRY HAUSER
GREGORY & KATHRYN ADAMS
TOM & KATHY ANGUS
JULIE AVERY & STEPHEN STIER
MERRY BALL
LENA BALL
MERRI LYNN BOUCKAERT &
PAUL PESCHEL
BARB BROWN
RONALD J. & LINDA BUSSEY
KAREN CHASE & DAVID BELLIZI
JEANNE CREIGHTON & JIM REDMOND
RITA DICK
NANCY DOUGHTY
BARRY & BARBARA DOVE
LINDA DUNN
LUCY DYER & GLENN ERICKSON
ERIKA & DENNIS FERGUSON
NICK & ELAINE FLEEZANIS
CHIP & SUSAN FREEMAN
CAROL GEIGER
DENNIS GERATHY
CLARENCE & JEAN HEEREMA
HOLLY HESLOP
KATHLEEN & JOHN IMBODEN
LINDA KELLER
JUSTIN ACKER &
LINDSEY MCMAHAN-ACKER
ANDREA NANINI
CHRISTINE PALMER
YVONNE & CHARLES PASSARELLI
BILL PEACE
ELLEN W. PISOR
SHERRY POLZELLA
CAROL GRIPENTROG
BOB & KATIE ROBERTS
WHITNEY ROBERTS
JULIE SANCO
ERIK & ANGELA SAXON
BOB & ARDEN SCHLUETER
APRIL SCHWAEGERLE
JANE & THOM SEHNERT
PATTY SHEA
JEAN VILTER SHORT
KATHLEEN & JACK SNEDEKER
PATRICIA SOUTAS-LITTLE
CAROLYN TELGARD & MICHAEL LEAVECK
SUSAN HOWARD & SCOTT THURROTT
BILL & PAM VREDEVOOGD
LIZ WALL
DAVID WATT JR.
JAMES WENSTRUP
KIT WHALEN
TAYA WORKUM-BYERS



In Honor of

CHARLES BOESEL
BUD & LUCY BOESEL
MARK CARLSON'S BIRTHDAY
HOLLY HESLOP
JUDY FREDERICK
CATRYNA LOOS
NANCY MILLER
KAREN SCHUILING
DR. MEZRAQ RAMLI
CHERRYLL WALZEL



In Memory of

ERLING BRAUNER
TAYA WORKUM-BYERS
ELLIE GOLDEN
AVERY BURNS
BONNIE HAGERMAN
AL & MARY BETH ROLLINGS
BARBARA STEVENSON
JIM WENSTRUP
LOREN MANN
RITA DICK
KATHLEEN & WESLEY SHIMANEK
JILL MCFARLANE
LOIS BAHLE & LARRY MAWBY
CAROL & LEE BOWEN
DANIEL L. & LAURIE LEPPINK LISUK
JOHN & GINA ERB
BOB & KATIE ROBERTS
AL & MARY BETH ROLLINGS
GRETCHEN SPROUT
JOHN & GINA ERB
ELIZABETH & JOHN FITZPATRICK
CAROL GEIGER
CAROL GRIPENTROG
KATHLEEN & JOHN IMBODEN
DANIEL L. & LAURIE LEPPINK LISUK
BILL PEACE
ELLEN W. PISOR
SHERRY POLZELLA
AL & MARY BETH ROLLINGS
BECKY ROSS
JULIE SANCO
APRIL SCHWAEGERLE
PATTY SHEA
KATHLEEN & JACK SNEDEKER
ROBERT & TRUDY UNDERHILL
KIT WHALEN
TUESDAY KNITTERS
KATIE ADAMS
KATHERINE ANGUS
LENA BALL
MERRY BALL
JOANNE BURNHAM
JEANNE CREIGHTON
BARBARA DOVE
LINDA DUNN
KATHIE SNEDEKER
CHERRYLL WALZEL

Centennial Celebration Fund

JUDY FREDERICK
BETSY WHITNEY



Gifts to Endowment

CHARLES & SANDY HALL
PETER HALL
AL & MARY BETH ROLLINGS
JOHN SHOAFF
HOLLY WREN SPAULDING

Sponsors

BEL LAGO VINEYARDS & WINERY
BIGGS CONSTRUCTION
BLUESTONE WINERY
FRENCH VALLEY VINEYARD
LEELANAU COFFEE ROASTERS
LELAND MERCANTILE
TAMPICO IMPORTS
TANDEM CIDERS
SPINNIKEN LAWN & IRRIGATION



Matching Gifts

BOEING
ROTARY CHARITIES

Gifts-in-kind

ANN POOR CARY
EDDEE COLLINS
AMANDA CAMPO JOHNSON
KAREN KIRT
JIM REDMOND
SHANNON SCOTT
RICHARD STOCKER
ANNA TAYLOR
SCOTT THURROTT

Grants

EDMUND F. & VIRGINIA B. BALL
FOUNDATION
LITTLE GARDEN CLUB
MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF
ARTS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS



Spotlight Circle \$2,500

CRIS & KATHY TELGARD

Benefactor \$1,000

JIM & PATTY CROOM
JIM MUSSER & CAMILLE LEUGERS
DANIEL & LAURIE LEPPINK LISUK
CRAIG & NANCY MILLER

Sustainer \$500

KATHLEEN & LAWRENCE ACKER
IAN & NANCY ASHKEN
DICK & BARBARA BOWZER
BARBARA & DAVID BURKHARDT
KAREN CHASE & DAVID BELLIZI
HAYWARD & KATHY DRAPER
JUDY FREDERICK
JAMES & KATHY GANLEY
AMANDA & TODD JOHNSON
JOANN & HARRY LARKIN
STEVE & DEB MARTINEAU
NANNIE & JOHN MAXWELL
SARA MCVAY & MARK NESBITT
LAURA PAINE
BOB & KATIE ROBERTS
ROSS & KERRY SATTERWHITE
PHIL & KATHY SCHERER
JOHN & MARY SCOTT
PHIL & DENISE SWY
ANN & WARREN WATKINS
LEE & JENNY WORKUM

Patron \$250

JENNIE BERKSON & DAVID EDELSTEIN
CAROL & LEE BOWEN
KEITH W. & JOANNE G. BURNHAM
MICHAEL & NORMA CAMPO
GRETCHEN DUNFEE
WILLIAM ENCHERMAN &
MARTHA LEUGERS-ENCHERMAN
ANN & STEVE FISHER
JAMES & ELIZABETH FISHER
MICHAEL & DAWN FISHER
COURTNEY & MATTHEW FONT
PATRICIA GREEN
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MARYANN & TOM KNOWLES
MARC & COLLEEN KOLE
DAVID KOLONAY & MELISSA O'CONNOR
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DR. RICHARD & CAROL MONTPETIT
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KATHLEEN & JACK SNEDEKER
RICHARD & KATHY STOCKER
MARY STEWART & GREG REESE
JIM & KIT WYSOR



Friend \$100

TOM ASHLEY & TRISH CRAPO
JULIE AVERY & STEPHEN STIER
GEORGE & MOLLY BARBEE
PATTY & GLENN BARNES
MARGARET BELL
TOM & GWEN BISCHOFF
CHARLES BOESEL
JOHN & DORIS BRENISER
NORA & CHARLES BUMB
DONNA BURR
FIELD & SANDRA CARDEN
JUDITH CASE & KARL HAUSLER
KATHLEEN CAVANAUGH
STEVE & CAROL CHAMBERS
DONALD & MARY LOU COE
EDDEE COLLINS
TERRI & GARY COYLE
ALAN DAVIS
BARBARA & BARRY DOVE
LYNN & BRUCE DUNN
JUDITH M. EGELER
JOHN & GINA ERB
HUGH & BETTY FARBER
SUSAN FEHRENBACH
CATHY FISHER
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ROCKY FORD
LISI GEORGE
FRANCIS M. GITS
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JANE & BOB GROVER
JANE HALE
SHERRIE & LOGAN HARDIE
SUSAN HAUN
JOHN HERBST, SR.
DOUG & EARLENE HILL
AMANDA HOLMES & DANIEL STEWART
CECILY E HORTON
KARIN JACOBSON & BOB SEEMAN
JAMES & JANE JOHNSON
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RUTH KITCHEN
TOM & JOAN KNIGHTON
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ELIZABETH MCCLINCHIE
JEANNE MCCLURE
ALLAN & MARY MCKISSON
GEORGE & CINDY MEEKER
SARAH & ANDY MILLS
SUSAN OLIVER & JEFF MACMILLAN



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WILLIAM D. PEACE JR
PATTY PELIZZARI
KATHRYN PENFOLD & RICHARD HURD
CHRISTINE & THOMAS PFENNIG
ALEXIA POST & FRED HESLOP
BRENDA REYNARD
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JIM & GEORGIA RIVERS
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MARY ROBERTSON
BECKY & BILL ROSS
RICH & PATTY ROSSMAN
MARTHA RYAN
TIM & LUCY SCHAUB
BOB & ARDEN SCHLUETER
ED & CATHY SCHOCKER
PATTY SHEA
TOM & EUNICE SHOAFF
BETH SMITH
GRETCHEN SPROUT
SHIELA STAFFORD
JUDY TALBOTT & RON PACZKOWSKI
BRIAN & JOAN URSU
HOWARD & JULIE VENEKLASEN
STUART & SUZANNE WHITE
BETSY WHITNEY
RANDY & JOAN WOODS



Family \$65

MAUDE BABINGTON & HEIDI WECKWERT
ROBERT & JEANINE BALL
DEBBIE BROWN
JIM & BARBARA CARTER
BARBARA BEEKER
CHARLES & JANIS BOND
BARBARA BREWER & STAN BACHMEYER
BOB & MARY BROWN
STACEY & DAN BRUGEMAN
JEFFREY & DEBORAH BURT
RONALD J. & LINDA BUSSEY
LINDSAY CASSADY
ABBY CHATFIELD & MIKE RIZIK
WILLIAM & ANNE CHATFIELD
MALCOLM & CHRISSY CHATFIELD
NEIL & AMY COLEMAN
JEANNE & BILL DENNLER
CHARLIE DESANDO & ELLEN GILLIGAN
ROBERT & KAY DOYLE
LUCY DYER & GLENN ERICKSON
WALT & MARJORIE FARRELL
KATHERINE FISHER
ELIZABETH & JOHN FITZPATRICK
MIKE & MARY FLEISHMAN
GARY & VICTORIA GALLUP





MARIAN JAMIESON
DAVID & SHARON GEISLER
BRYAN & MELISSA HAGEDON
CHUCK & MOLLIE HALL
MIKE & JEAN HARTIGAN
AMBROSIA HEALY & DENNIS DENNEHY
CAROL HINCKLEY
CRAIG & LINDSAY GARDNER HINE
SUZANNE HUDNUT
DAVID & NANCY HUNTER
KATHLEEN & DANIEL JAMIESON
NANCY & TIM KEILTY
MICHAEL & MARGUERITE KENNEY
CAROL LATTOUF
MARTIN LEUGERS & TRICIA WRIGHT
DANA LINDQUIST
SUE & GENE MAPES
PAUL & SUSAN MCEWEN
BARBARA MCKAY & SCOTT GOWELL
MURRAY & PAT MCKEAN
PEGGY & GENO MILLER
BERKLEY GOSSETT & JENNIFER LUCAS
DREA NANINI
SUSAN NEHRA
TRACEY NICHOLSON
TIM & KATHLEEN PARVIN
SARAH & MATT PESCHEL
ELLEN W. PISOR
ANN PODESZWA
ROBERTA POOR
BRIAN & SUSAN PRICE
KATY RADY
JENNIFER SCHNEIDER
BEN & LOUISE SCOTT
DAVID & ANNE SHANE
JOHN SHOAFF & JULIE DONNELL
COLLEEN & JUSTIN SHULL
NANCY & RONALD SMITH
PATRICIA SOUTAS-LITTLE
DAVE & KIM SPEICHER
LAURA SWIRE
CARRIE SZOBODY
HAMILTON THOMPSON
JACKIE & NEIL THOMSON
DANIEL TOOLE
HILLARY & MATT VOIGHT
BRAD & FABIANNE WARRICK
STEVE & NANCY WEGIENEK
KELLI & DAVE WRESSSELL



Artist \$55

KATIE ADAMS
JANE BATTEIGER
ERIC BLAKELY
SUE BOWERMAN
JAN CARTER
CECE CHATFIELD
BRENDA CLARK
CHUCK CRAWFORD
ALEX CURCHIN
KATHRYN DANIELSON
ROYCE DEANS
REBECCA DENEAU
SUE DENNIS
LINDA DEWEY
ANNE DOHER
KAY DOYLE
JEANETTE DYER
MARTHA ELCHERT
LEONTINA ELDER
CANDACE FRIES
CINDY FULLER
CAROL GEIGER
TERRI GILLESPIE
DENICE GOLDSCHMIDT
CAROL GRIPENTROG
HEATHER HARRINGTON
CHRISTINA HAYLETT
DEBRA HOWARD
KRISTIN HUSSEY
MICHELLE JAHRAUS
LINDA KELLER
JUDY KELLY
KELLY KOCHANNY
DEBBIE LAMSON
DIANE LEUGERS
ANN LITTLEFIELD
TAMI MAISEL
TY MAXON
SHERRY MCNAMARA
KELSEY MCQUOWN
WENDY MCWHORTER
KATHLEEN MURPHY
CHRISTINE NETTLETON
KEITH NIELSON
BETSY O'NEILL
JOHN O'NEILL
PAUL OLSEN
CHRISTINA HAYLETT
MARILYN PRICE
JENNIFER REID
JOAN RICHMOND
MARY BETH ROLLINGS
JASON ROLLINGS
AL ROLLINGS
DAWN RUSSELL
KATHY SCHERER
APRIL SCHWAEGERLE
CATHY SITERLET
MELISSA SMITH
MARK SMITH
DIANE SPEAS
KARIN SPRINGER
LINDA SPROUT



BARBARA STEVENSON
LYNN UHLMANN
LIZ WALL
KIT WHALEN
MICHELLE WHITE
SALLY WILLE
KATHLEEN WILLS
JANET WITT
KEVIN WYNKOOP
MICHELLE ZASTAWNY



Individual \$45

MATT ANHUT
MERRY BALL
DR. NANCY BEIGHTS
ALEXANDRA BOHLMMEYER
DANIEL BOYNTON
CAMMIE BUEHLER
JUDY DARST
JENNIFER C. DOYLE
NANCY DOUGHTY
AYARS EHRET
ELIZABETH BISHOP ELLIOTT
JACK EPSTEIN
RICHARD FORCE
ANNIE FRAZER
GLORIA GARRETT
VICTORIA GITS
SUZANNE KNEZEK
JEANNE KUNZ
JANA LINDBERG
LINDA LINDQUIST BISHOP
JUDY LIVINGSTON
LILLIAN MAHANEY
MARGI MASTERS
SUSAN MCMANNAMA
ALICE NEILD
CHRISTINE PALMER
JULIE RIDENOUR
TINA ROTHBART
ANGELA SAXON
DEBBIE SIMPSON
ALLAN SMITH
ELIZABETH SUTTON
ANNA TAYLOR
WINNIE THARP
JACKIE TYLER
MARION UNWIN
PATRICIA VONJENA



OAB SPONSORED EVENTS



Ice Breaker

Team ice carving event

Royce Deans & Friends (virtual & in-person)

Group exhibit in collaboration with Visiting Artist

Cocktails & Conversation

Artists talk – Creating Art during the Pandemic

Discussion between Angela Saxon and Royce Deans

Concert of Color

Art exhibit by Richard Stocker

Masks in the Time of the COVID Pandemic

Collaboration with Michigan Legacy Arts Park –
Leelanau County middle & high school art exhibit

Leland Air (Virtual)

Annual 'Plein Air' exhibit

Coffee & Coloring

Weekly coloring workshops led by Richard Stocker

Leland Open Studio Artists Exhibition

Show of the weekly painters' work

Painting on Location

8-week guided summer meet up for 'plein air' painters

Art of the Garden

Art exhibit in collaboration with the Little Garden Club

CLASSES & GROUPS



ADULT CLASSES

Monotypes To Go

Angela Saxon

Watercolors For Beginners

Susan Lingg

Adventure In Watercolor

Charles Passarelli

Wake Up Your Brain with Your Pencil

Royce Deans

Abstract Acrylic Painting

Deb Lamson

Intermediate/Advanced Watercolors

Susan Lingg

Abstracting What We See: Painting with Royce

Royce Deans

Adventures in Acrylic and Colored Tissue

Charles Passarelli

Exploring the Color Wheel

Royce Deans

BUILDING & GROUNDS RENTALS, PRIVATE EVENTS



Book club meetings

Weddings

Birthday parties

Graduation parties

Yoga classes

LEF Fundraiser

Retrospective art show

By artist Ken Krantz

Autumn Qigong and Meditation (3 part series)

Leland Public School
graduation ceremonies
5th grade class

Music in the Air

Free outdoor summer concert series

- NMC Jazz Band
- New Third Coast
- Evie
- Spectrum Brass Quintet
- Jeff Haas & Friends
- Glenn Wolff Trio
- Peter & the Wolf

Artists' Market

Annual outdoor market

Art Leelanau

Annual art benefit and exhibit

Leeland Musical Arts Celebration

Annual classical music performance

Flora & Field Art Show

Colleen & Justin Shull art exhibit

Process & Evolution: Royce Deans

Ann Hall Visiting Artist reception and exhibit

Artist Lecture: Process & Evolution

Visiting artist lecture by Royce Deans

Moheb Soliman: Homes

Poetry reading & dialogue with author,
F.L.O.W., Crosshatch Center for Art & Ecology,
Treaty Fish Company and Title Track

Familiars: A Poet & Painter in Conversation

Discussion between Holly Wren Spaulding, (Poet)
and Richard Kooyman, (Artist), both former Ann Hall
Visiting Artists

Painting On Location Clothesline Show

Outdoor art exhibit by the Painting on Location Group

Masterpieces

Leland Musical Arts Celebration fall concert

Flora & Field Artist Exhibit

Recent works by Colleen & Justin Shull

Focus on Fiber

Annual fiber-related exhibit

John Prine Tribute

Mark Lavengood, Seth Bernard and Rachael Davis

'Snow Show' Member Art Exhibit

Member artists' show

Festival of Lights

Christmas trees and lights

Sashays

Caroling on the Old Art Building's front lawn

Reindeer, Ornaments & Holiday Greens

Outdoor holiday celebration

Solstice Concert

Leland Musical Arts Celebration presents
Dr. Mezraq Ramli and friends

CHILDREN'S CLASSES

Printmaking

Colleen Shull

Wild Beasts

Brianne Farley

Our Town Collage

Brianne Farley

Japanese Arts & Crafts

Karen Kirt

Native American Beading

Michelle Schulte

Native American Foods

Michelle Schulte

Fairytastic Fairy

Garden Camp

Heather Harrington

Inspired By Nature:

Collage and More

Royce Deans

Beginning Piano

Mary Roberts

WEEKLY CLASSES

Lunar Vinyasa Yoga

Kerry Satterwhite

Gentle Yoga

Kerry Satterwhite

Strength &

Exercise Program

Jeanette Egeler

Tai Chi

Jane Hale

WEEKLY GROUPS

Leland Open Studio Artists

Open Acoustic Jam

Jim Redmond

Leland Library Event

Conversation with Abra Berens
and Alex Beggs

Leland Country Club events

Cocktail party, euchre nights,
new members' dinner, golfers'
dinner

**Nancy Miller**

Nancy joined the Board in 2016, but her involvement really began with her participation in our 2014 strategic planning session in which she was “impressed by the compassion” for the building by the participants in the meeting and the community as a whole. Nancy shared her expertise on the Advancement and Endowment Committees and worked on the review and updating of our organization’s by-laws. Then she stepped up to work tirelessly on a much-needed Emergency Response Plan. She has always been the stalwart of positivity and the first to applaud our accomplishments.

**Jamie Morse**

Jamie Morse joined the Board in 2019. He exhibited all the true spirit of the Old Art Building in applying his talents and energy to celebrate and improve the uniqueness of this building. We saw this in his inventiveness with HollyPop, the award-winning Fourth of July float and the “OAB Band.” He was always there with a good idea and a helping hand. We will miss him, but know how to reach him!

**Mary Stewart**

Mary joined the board in 2013. At various times Mary chaired the Advancement Committee, Fundraising Committee, and gave her creative input to the Endowment, Marketing, Events, and Women in the Arts Committees. Seasonally she would spend hours in the office with Becky, unraveling the often complex process of writing grants. Her careful editing and word smithing has certainly resulted in the LCCC acquiring thousands of dollars. Most recently took a deep dive into Allie Mae Best’s history, and wrote the Origin Story for the Old Art Building.

BOARD FARE

**Kathleen Acker**

Kathleen joined us first as a member of the Strategic Planning Committee and is now on the Program Committee as co-chair of this year’s Art Leelanau. Kathleen has a long history of volunteering at the OAB, assisting with art shows and the Centennial Committee. Her other local interests include Leland School Bridge Mentor, volunteering at the Leelanau Children’s Center as well as the Benzie Leelanau County Health Department.

**Kay Doyle**

Kay served as president of the Little Garden Club and chair of their garden tours. She is a member of P.E.O. and president of the Leelanau Women Artists. For years she has been a member of the of the OAB Open Studio painter group and participated in a myriad of exhibits and events at the OAB. She is delighted to contribute her efforts towards the continued well being of this community.

**Rick Koehler**

In 2013 Rick tried his hand at oil painting and is now represented by galleries in Michigan and Ohio. He retired from the field of architecture in 2020, and now spends more time at their family cottage on Lake Leelanau. “I believe that there is a time in all of our lives where we need to ‘give back’ and being on the Board of the Old Art Building will allow me to use my business skills to insure that this wonderful organization will flourish for years to come.” Rick has taken on role of Treasurer and chair of the Finance Committee.

WELCOME!



Trudy Underhill

Trudy joined the board January of 2003 and has shared her talents on the Endowment and Fundraising Committee and the Program Research and Planning Committee. She helped plan our 'plein air' event, Leland Air. She has been a long-time artist with the Open Studio painting group, helping to organize and hang their annual shows. We look forward to her continued extraordinary flower arrangements and her colorful art on our walls.



Painting by Trudy Underhill, 2020

Community Cultural Curator Award Recipient Trudy Underhill

We are pleased to announce that Trudy Underhill was named the Community Cultural Curator. This award was created to honor those who have contributed significantly to our organization, and thus to the heritage of our community. The award is not given annually, rather only when the board of directors unanimously agrees to honor such a significant person. She joins Bob Biggs, Scott Craig, Ellie Golden, Judy Livingston, Sada Omoto and Martha Ryan.

Trudy joined the board in 2003. She quickly made an impact with her contributions to both the Fundraising and Program Committees. She helped organize and hang several different exhibits over the years, including Leland Air and Open Studio annual shows. Her flower arrangements add a colorful dimension to every show! She has been a loyal Open Studio painter, demonstrating an ability to find and explore new visual sensibilities in her work continually and fearlessly.

Trudy has been much appreciated for her thoughtful participation at board meetings. She always listened with a critical ear, fine tuning proposals which kept them in the realm of practicality. We are a more solid and relevant organization because of her 18 years on the board.



Nannie Maxwell

Nannie sits on the Strategic Planning Committee and is chair of the Marketing Committee, sharing her expertise in that field.

Nannie's passion for the OAB began with 'HollyPOP' where she quickly became a lead volunteer. With her move to Leland from Ann Arbor she wanted to find an organization where she could give back and the OAB turned out to be a wonderful fit. Her enthusiasm is contagious.



Dana Falconberry, 2022 Ann Hall Visiting Artist

Artist and musician Dana Falconberry lives in Michigan and Texas. She grew up dancing classical ballet and modern dance in Dearborn, Michigan before attending Hendrix College in Arkansas. In college she studied songwriting, which prompted her move to Austin in 2005. There Dana worked as a lead stitcher and designer at a custom chain stitch embroidery company.

Presently Dana focuses on linoleum block prints, watercolor paintings and large chain stitched pieces. Her work is inspired by nature but often includes supernatural elements. She plays with concepts of time and the effects of human-kind on natural landscapes. Dana is particularly interested in representing the mystical and powerful nature of the Ghost Pipe. Please check the OAB website for the full palette of Dana's interests and engagements.



Artist's statement

No matter the form my art takes, I am wholly captivated by the natural world. Landscapes and the flora and fauna existing within them are my endless subjects. I enjoy letting my imagination run in this context, sometimes exploring the supernatural elements just beyond our grasp. These days I have been working in the mediums of linocut printmaking, watercolor/gouache, and chainstitching. I use mostly black and white to showcase fine details and color to express an ethereal quality. My goal as an artist is to take the human into worlds they may not otherwise encounter and show them what they may not see themselves in these worlds. I hope to strengthen the connection between humans and nature and, in so doing, inspire conservation.



Thank You Jim Redmond

How did you hear about the OAB, and when?

When my wife and I were considering where to retire from our home in Colorado, our search criteria included sea level and water. It also helped greatly that I had cousins living here in Leland, and my aunt, Amy Chatfield. Amy let us stay with her when we visited the area. I first heard about the OAB from her in 2005.

What inspired you to become a volunteer?

All my life, I have volunteered for various community projects and my career as an Engineer was completely in the public sector, where I worked to improve Littleton, Colorado. I considered this work another way to give back. In 1999, I started hosting jam sessions because of my love of music and to improve other people's understanding on popular music, and when I got here it was natural to volunteer to do the same at the OAB.

How long have you been volunteering at the OAB?

Since 2017.

What is your favorite part about volunteering at the OAB?

To be of service obviously fills a need in me, and volunteering at the OAB brings me into contact with a diverse group of intelligent, friendly and fun people. After all, who wouldn't want to work with Becky Ross?

How would you encourage others to get involved?

The offerings at the OAB are diverse and I believe anyone can find something they can do to help. I suggest people should make a commitment to carving time out of their schedules and lending a hand.

FOND FAREWELLS



ELLIE GOLDEN

Ellie's relationship with the OAB began in 1949, when she attended the MSU summer art program until 1963. She later taught classes and held exhibits. In the early 2000's, she started a group called "Painting on Location," giving 'plein air' artists an outlet for meaningful expression during the summer. Ellie was awarded the Community Cultural Curator 2019 by the Board of Directors for her contributions to the OAB and the cultural heritage of our community. We will miss her passionate dedication and steadfast friendship.



GENE RANTZ

Gene was OAB's 2015 Visiting Artist and a well-renowned painter known for his paintings of Leelanau County. At the age of 50, Gene retired from a career in commercial arts and followed his dream north to Northport to become a fine arts painter. He also played an instrumental role in the founding of Northport Arts Association's permanent home. Gene will be remembered for his leadership in the local arts community and his dedication to supporting fellow artists.



JILL MCFARLANE

Jill has been a part of the OAB's history since the early 90's, volunteering alongside a small group of community members to breathe life back into the building. She was a Board member from 2003-14, serving as secretary for many years. We will always fondly recall her bright, beautiful spirit and sharp mind full of ideas that she contributed to our growth.



GRETCHEN SPROUT

Gretchen was a volunteer for many events at the OAB over the years. She was a member of the Open Studio painters' group from its inception and showed her work in many exhibits here. Gretchen was an avid fan of art, and her dedication was visible through her presence at so many events, classes and other important moments at the OAB. We will miss her friendship and support.

Visit our Website

To celebrate our centennial year we've created some new events and list them here along with our popular annual events. We hope that you will join us. Of course these dates could change so it's always best to check our website for the most up-to-date information of events as well as adult and children's classes.

FEBRUARY

- 26** 2nd Annual Ice Breaker

MARCH

- 6** The Accidentals

APRIL

- 8-24** The Shades of Us:
LPS Student Exhibit

MAY

- 4** Sweet Water Warblers
7 Derby Day
12-20 MSU Centennial Exhibit:
A Summer Romance
28-30 10th Annual Leland Air Exhibit

JUNE

- 10-12** Open Studio Exhibit
26 Masterworks in Miniature presents
West Side Story (with the Traverse
Symphony Orchestra)
22 Laughing in Leelanau

JULY

- 9** 24th Annual Artists' Market
22-31 30th Annual Art Leelanau
Benefit and Exhibit

AUGUST

- 12-18** Emerging Artist Exhibit: Paul Olsen
20 OAB Member Picnic –
100th Birthday Party

SEPTEMBER

- 14** 7th Annual Leland Musical
Arts Celebration
24-25 Cocktails & Comedy

OCTOBER

- 1-5** Ann Hall Visiting Artist
Event and Exhibit: Dana Falconberry
8-9 Focus on Fiber: Georgina Valverde
21-28 Annual Member Artist Exhibit

NOVEMBER

- 25** Festival of Lights

DECEMBER

- 4** Leland Musical Arts Celebration:
The Nutcracker
10 Roaring 20's Celebration –
Party Like it's 1922
23 Christmas at the Old Art Building:
A Variety Show Spectacular

Note:

Music in the Air – Thursday's on the
front lawn at 7 pm in July and August

Of Note

We deeply appreciate the invaluable assistance during our historical research to the following:

- Leelanau Historical Society Museum, Leland, Michigan
- County Register-Deeds, Leelanau
- Newberry Library, Chicago, Illinois
- St. Charles History Museum, St. Charles, Illinois
- Joanne and Kieth Burnham
- Buehrer Kucharski

Leelanau Community Cultural Center

LCCC is a nonprofit 501(c)(3)
LCCC EIN: 38-3052356
All gifts are tax deductible.

Note

Please inform us of any errors or omissions.
We apologize for any misprints.

Imprint

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The Gift of Membership

As soon as we notified our dearest friends that we had purchased property in Leland with the intention of making it our year round home, they gifted us a family membership to the Old Art Building. As a result, we felt immediate attachment to the Old Art Building and consequently the greater community. What a perfect way to establish a connection. Similarly, we will gift OAB memberships as the opportunities arise. We know first hand the support the OAB offers to the residents of Leelanau County. We couldn't be happier that our grandchildren will grow up in Leland enjoying the programming and enrichment opportunities available through the Old Art Building.

Kathleen Acker



Thank You for Your Support!

The generous spirit of past and present donors is evident throughout our 100 year history. We are grateful to all who continue to make the OAB a philanthropic priority. Every gift makes a difference.

Annual Fund

Participation in the Annual Fund is vital as these unrestricted dollars help meet every day needs and directly impact the people and programs of the Old Art Building. The Annual Fund enables us to meet a year-round calendar of classes and events, support our staff along with talented visiting instructors, and fund needed upgrades of facilities. A gift to the Annual fund enables us to remain a place of generational importance, connection and growth.

Major Gifts and Planned Giving

Major Gifts

Gifts to our endowment are valuable because they are invested for the long-term, creating a permanent source of funding for ongoing priorities. Only a portion of the income earned annually is used to support these priorities. The balance of the earnings are channeled back into the fund, so the endowment continues to grow over time.

Legacy Society

Created in our 95th year, this planned giving opportunity recognizes those who embrace our mission and want to ensure it continues for future generations. Planned Gifts include bequests, trust arrangements, gifts of property, life-income gifts and life insurance. If you have included the Old Art Building in your estate plans please let us know so we can recognize you as a member of our Legacy Society. We sincerely thank the members of the Legacy Society for investing in the future of the Old Art Building.

If you'd like to discuss any of these giving opportunities, please contact Becky Ross, *OAB Executive Director*, becky@oldartbuilding.com or call 231-256-2131.

Membership

Join us as a member! Benefits of membership include discounted class registration, early access to special events and exhibits, an annual membership party, and more. Learn more about our member levels and benefits on our website.

In honor of 100 years we would love 100 new members in 2022.

Already a member? Gift a membership to a friend!

Our membership year runs January 1 – December 31.

All contributions are tax-deductible.

Kathleen Acker with grandson Fin



OLD ART BUILDING

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Leland, Michigan 49654

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