

OLD ART BUILDING

# ROOFLINE

Community and Culture since 1922  
February 2023



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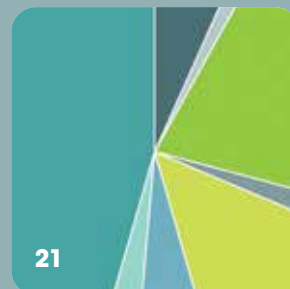
## Staff

Sarah Mills, *Executive Director*  
 Amanda Campo Johnson, *Marketing Director*  
 Sara Hartley, *Program Director*  
 Scott Thurrott, *Facilities Manager*

\*Deceased



6-18



21



22-25

## Roofline

For 100 years the Old Art Building has been a treasured structure and gathering place. Under this distinctive roof we hope to continue the tradition of uplifting hearts and minds through the arts, culture and community.

## 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.  
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## Imprint

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# CONTENTS



30



28



29



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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

- 4 Dan Lisuk

## A YEAR TO REMEMBER

- 6 Centennial Celebrations  
8 Classes  
10 On the Wall  
14 On the Stage  
16 In the Air  
18 ...and More!

## 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

- 20 Our Year in Review  
21 Financial Summary  
22 Annual Fund Donors  
24 Memberships

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

- 26 Farewells and Welcomes  
28 Fond Farewells  
29 Ode to Becky  
30 Awards  
31 Leaving a Legacy



## President's message

Changes! In case you haven't heard, in case you didn't feel the ground shake, Becky Ross retired as our Executive Director December 31.

Becky was hired as our Executive Director in October 2014, managing a period of significant growth in virtually every aspect of our organization. If I were to define three qualities that most contributed to Becky's becoming a significant mover and shaker in our community, they are her creative vision, her positive attitude, and her work ethic.

Becky dug deep into the wonderful bank of local talent, seeking out emerging and established artists found in our region. Musicians, visual artists, poets, writers all came to realize that Becky had turned the Old Art Building into the place to come for exposure to an enthusiastic and appreciative audience and a place to develop some serious chops.

In 2020 Covid hit and we were faced with the task of seriously cutting programming and adopting a minimalist approach to our operations. Our executive committee predicted our first-ever operational budget loss. Becky offered personal sacrifices, and with her staff, creatively looked to our outdoor resources and online communications to actually expand our capacity. At year's end we had realized new possibilities – and met budget.

With fundraising experience and deep ties to the community, Becky led us through a capital campaign that not only allowed us to purchase the Old Art Building from Michigan State University, but also add needed funds to the endowment. These resources help with maintenance of the 100 year-old building and also allow us to grow our staff to keep up with increased use of the facility. We not only exceeded our financial goal, we also increased community awareness, strengthening connections to this treasured facility.

As I reflect on where we have come under Becky's direction I realize that service to the community has been paramount in her work. "Yes, we can do that" has been her response to so many requests from the community followed by





her energy and insight to bring those ideas to fruition at the highest level. Our organization and our community are immeasurably better for her having been at the helm of the Old Art Building. These years will be fondly remembered as “the Becky Years.”

And now (drum roll, please...) I am very pleased to welcome Sarah Mills as the new Executive Director. Moving here from the Chicago area, Sarah and her family have been residents of Leelanau County for nine years. She has been serving as our Program Director since 2020. The Executive Director Search Committee poured over 40 applications that came in from as far away as Colorado and North Carolina. Kathleen Acker and Julie Ridenour, committee co-chairs, said the choice was obvious once Sarah interviewed. Those who have worked with her here have consistently described her as energetic and supportive, thus making their experience at the Old Art Building comfortable and memorable. When talking with her, you will hear wonderfully creative ideas that are well-reasoned, well-researched and positive. The Board was confident of a smooth transition and, indeed, Sarah has already proven herself a valuable problem solver. She tirelessly handled last-minute cancellations and rescheduled two major events at the Old Art Building; one due to Covid, the other to a major snow storm.

So, Becky, we wish you well. Thank you for bringing us to a point in our history that we could only have imagined nine years ago. Sarah, we are so excited to have you leading us now and we look forward to the places you’ll take us in the Old Art Building’s second century.

Dan Lisuk  
Board President

# CENTENNIAL



## Founder's Day Luncheon

In early May we hosted a luncheon for all current and former board members of the Leelanau Community Cultural Center. It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate and appreciate the leadership that has contributed to the success of the OAB.

## Roaring 20's Centennial Celebration

The goal was to 'party like it's 1922,' and the crowd delivered. In mid-December, we transformed the OAB into a Roaring 20s venue. Over 120 people joined us in an incredible array of costumes. The night featured centennial cocktails, food from Island Thyme Catering, and live music from Detroit based Jazz quintet, The Gatsby Gang. It was a night to remember and a memorable ending to our first century.



# CELEBRATIONS

## OAB Turns 100

Under the leadership of Centennial Chair, Judy Frederick, the board, staff, and many volunteers came up with a year of celebrations that honored the past and brought the community together. Huge thanks to the event chairs, volunteers, producers and directors, and everyone who joined us for Centennial events throughout the year.



### Birthday Party

Towards the end of August, members gathered for our 100<sup>th</sup> birthday party. Friends of the OAB shared stories and celebrated this special place. We even had a drone fly over to capture the image of all of attendees – spelling out 100 on the lawn. And, of course, there was cake!



### A Summer Romance: MSU finds Leland

As a part of our Centennial Celebration we honored the link between Michigan State University and the Leland community. This exhibit celebrated the 50 years that MSU's summer art program was held at the Old Art Building. The exhibit featured over 80 works of art (including that of Betsy Ernst, seen above), created by 45 former students and instructors from the program. The opening reception included several speeches and stories shared by former MSU Art students. Thanks to Patti Green and Judy Livingston for co-chairing this MSU retrospective.



# A YEAR TO REMEMBER





# CLASSES

## Creativity Abounds

Throughout the year our space was filled with artists, young and old, seasoned, and those just beginning. We are so grateful for our instructors and students. We extend a special thanks to Grace Keilty who coordinated our kids summer classes.



### Adult Classes

Intro to Plein Air Painting MARTY ELCHERT

Watercolor for Beginners SUSAN LINGG

Adventures in Watercolor CHARLES PASSARELLI

Intro to Oil Painting: White Pine Trees PAUL OLSEN

Intro to Oil Painting: Waves PAUL OLSEN

Intermediate/Advanced Watercolor SUSAN LINGG

### Youth Classes

Creative Process through Coloring RICHARD STOCKER

Japanese Crafts & Culture KAREN KIRT

Kid Camp:

- Centennial Celebration GRACE KEILTY
- Jr. Plein Air GRACE KEILTY
- StoryBook Making Workshop GRACE KEILTY
- Let's Van Gogh with Picasso and Dali GRACE KEILTY

Dance:

- Dance Leelanau Mini Camp I & II HILLARY VOIGHT
- Pre-Ballet I HILLARY VOIGHT
- Pre-Ballet II HILLARY VOIGHT
- Beginning Ballet CAITLIN WATKINS
- Beginning Jazz/Modern CAITLIN WATKINS



# A YEAR TO REMEMBER



## Leland Air

Memorial Day weekend was host to the 11<sup>th</sup> annual Plein Air exhibition and sale. After getting their canvas stamped first thing in the morning, artists spent their day painting and drawing scenes from around Leelanau County 'en plein air.' The finished "fresh off the easel" pieces were returned to the OAB for the exhibit.

Leland Air Awards:  
Best in Show **DEBRA HOWARD**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place **RICK KOEHLER**  
3<sup>rd</sup> place **PAUL OLSEN**  
People's Choice **ALICE NEILD**





# ON THE WALLS

## Impressions by Paul Olsen, December 2022

"Participating in events at the Old Art Building has been one of the grounding anchors in my art career. Art Leelanau, Leland Air, and Artists' Market – to name a few – were vital opportunities to develop my emerging art practice. These dynamic events attract quality and professionalism, while also remaining inclusive and community-oriented. I have found the audiences and participating artists to be consistently engaged, attending openings and celebrating all.

The venue itself at the Old Art Building is inspiring as well:

bright, open, inviting to the community, and steeped in history. It was especially fun getting to utilize this incredible venue as 2022's Emerging Artist; seeing over 80 of my works ranging in size from five feet to five inches wide on all of the walls was such an empowering experience.

Most importantly however is the way the staff is there to do more than just facilitate events. They become your biggest advocates by ensuring the success of each and every event held by this incredible organization."



Leland Air's Best in Show went to Debra Howard for her painting *The Tapestry of Orchards*, painted at the Bardenhagen Farm. This image became the key graphic for Art Leelanau.



**Paul Olsen Solo Exhibition: Winds, Waves & White Pines**  
Paul was invited to be our emerging artist this year and presented *Winds and Waves* and *White Pines* in early August. The exhibit was filled with more than 80 paintings created over the course of one year. It showcased natural subjects and scenes, all captured within the Good Harbor Bay Watershed, an area redeemed from early industrialist pursuits and primarily protected by Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore.



# A YEAR TO REMEMBER



## **Art Leelanau**

This year's 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Art Leelanau drew a record crowd, and record sales. The opening night benefit was attended by 330 people, with close to 1,800 people attending the exhibit over the following week. The event was made possible through many volunteer hours including Jane Kiernan, who brought her whole family. Art Leelanau showcased 104 artists and included 200 works of art. Rick Koehler's painting, *Two Buoys*, was recognized as People's Choice



# ON THE WALLS



## Shades of Us

A school-wide project, entitled *Shades of Us*, presented by students and staff of Leland Public School and the Leelanau Children's Center, filled our walls in April. The project was inspired by the work of Angélica Dass, who created a photography project called *Humanae*. Her photography challenges how we think about skin color and ethnic identity.

## Member Artist Exhibit

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Member Artist Exhibit, *Fall for the OAB*, featured work inspired by Leelanau's autumn setting. The exhibit featured 68 member artists and 120 pieces of work. A delightful Centennial celebratory charcuterie board was created by the Leland Lodge. Claud Mill's painting, *November*, (seen below) received the People's Choice award.







## North Country Opera

The North Country Opera is a beloved musical play by renowned Michigan playwright/songwriter Jay Stielstra. The 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of this folk musical visited eight venues across Michigan this fall. The play is a loving tribute to the people and culture of northern Michigan: fishing for trout in the cold rivers, hunting for birds in the autumn woods, snowmobiling in the winter. And, of course, the camaraderie and wit of local characters found in a favorite tavern.



## TSO – Masterworks in Miniature

The OAB was fortunate to have members of the Traverse Symphony Orchestra join us to perform on several occasions throughout the year. In June members of the TSO presented *Masterworks in Miniature: West Side Story* to a delighted audience. The group returned in the fall to present the experience for the 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade students from Leland Public School.



## Christmas at the OAB: A Variety Show Spectacular

Hosted by Grammy winning Andrew Dost, and produced by Dost and Mike Rizik, this retro-inspired performance included caroling, comedy, and holiday cheer. The talented cast of 15 navigated snowstorms and other December hurdles to present an evening full of charm and brimming with holiday spirit. Safe to say, a new holiday tradition has emerged at the OAB.



## Laughing in Leelanau

The dynamic duo of Scott Craig (producer) and Susan Oliver (director) were brought back to the OAB stage to bring to life Scott's most recent book, *Laughing in Leelanau* or *I Swear it's True*. Scott presented this special production for his friends, neighbors and summer visitors as a fundraiser in honor of the OAB Centennial.



## Dance Leelanau

After a Covid hiatus, we were delighted to bring dance back to the OAB this fall. Four classes, ranging from Pre-Ballet to Beginning Jazz/Modern, were led by instructors Hillary Voight and Caitlin Watkins. (Both Hillary and Caitlin danced at the OAB when they were young and are now back sharing their wealth of knowledge and experience.) The fall classes culminated with *Dance with Joy*, where the young dancers were joined by dancers from Design Dance Studio of Traverse City.



# ON THE STAGE

## Good Vibrations

This year the OAB presented music and theater from old friends and new. Some of the performances were a wonderful one-time experience and others have woven their way into our annual calendar of events. Every show had a full house and our stage came back to life with these productions – singing, dancing, music and lots of fun. *The Accidentals*, *The Sweet Water Warblers* and the *Seth Bernard Trio* all performed their original music. For the first time in years, theater returned to our stage with *Laughing in Leelanau* and *North Country Opera*. *The Gatsby Gang* and *Christmas at the Old Art Building: A Variety Show Spectacular* closed out a wonderful year on our stage.



### Sweet Water Warblers

The Sweet Water Warblers returned to our stage in May. The Michigan songbirds, Rachael Davis, Lindsay Lou, and May Erlewine delighted a sold out crowd with their beautifully melded vocal harmonies.



### LMAC

The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Leelanau Musical Art Celebration, *Jubilations!*, featured work by Gipsy, Beethoven, Dvorak and Bizet. Once again, Dr. Mezraq Ramli brought together an ensemble of musicians from around the country to perform an evening of classical music.



### The Accidentals

The Accidentals (Sav Buist and Katie Larson) performed two sold out shows in March. *Time Out* was an unforgettable songwriters in the round concert. They were joined on stage by Hall of Fame writer Beth Nielsen Chapman, barrier-breaking Kim Richey, and Maia Sharp.

## Thank You Sponsors!

### Performing Group

TSO Brass Quintet  
i.am.james  
The Bourdains  
Big Fun: Jeff Haas & Friends  
Hot 'n Bothered  
Miriam Pico & Ryan Younce  
Seth Bernard  
Myron Elkins  
Charlie Millard Band

### Sponsor

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Venture Properties  
Two Fish  
Schaub Team  
Tug Stuff  
Picnic





# IN THE AIR

## Music in the Air by Barbara Burkhardt, Septemebr 2022

"The summer concerts on the lawn at the Old Art Building were an absolute delight for us. Every Thursday David and I would spend our evening sitting outside and listening to great music. But it was more than the music that made this series special. Each week we grabbed our folding lawn chairs, our little table with a tablecloth, and enough snacks and beverages to be able to share with friends and went "downtown" to sit on the lawn within 20 yards of world-class entertainment.

We enjoyed watching children dancing to the music and passersby just stopping to listen. The audiences came to

appreciate and enjoy the diverse music offered each week. We enjoyed the music ranging from pop to jazz, to bluegrass, and children's music. The crowds were diverse too, with attendees who were locals like us, bringing our weekend guests, in addition to vacationers sharing our slice of heaven. The sound system was great, allowing everyone to hear clearly what was happening on the stage – and even the weather cooperated beautifully with us this summer.

Thank you, Old Art Building and sponsors, for creating a space for family and friends to enjoy our lovely town!"





# A YEAR TO REMEMBER



## Community for Ukraine

In mid-March we found ourselves searching for a way to bring the community together in support of Ukraine. In a very short time frame this event went from idea to reality. We extend our deepest gratitude to the community—the restaurants and beverage donors, artists, musicians, volunteers and more than 600 people who attended the event. We remain incredibly grateful for the outpouring of support from the community. Together we raised over \$30,000. 100% of the money raised went to World Central Kitchen and their work to feed people on the ground in Ukraine. Thank you, Community!



## Ice Breaker

In late February, community members carved their own sculptures in the second annual 'Icebreaker.' Hundreds of visitors came by to check out the ice sculpting event featuring professional sculptor Matt Cooper alongside ten novice teams.

# ...AND MORE!

## Festival of Lights

Lighting up the front yard has become a joyous tradition looked forward to by many. This year we asked local businesses and school groups to decorate a tree and the results were delightful. Throughout the month of December, different gatherings brought the community together amid the lights. The Leelanau Children's Choir Youth Ensemble led an evening of caroling. Of course, the reindeer returned for a visit, flown in by the Leland Chamber of Commerce.

The "Leland Merc" tree was recognized as the People's Choice winner, followed closely by Mrs. Suttman's 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Class at Leland Public School.



## Focus on Fiber

In October, Chicago artist Georgina Valverde presented work from her series entitled *Atavia*, featuring crocheted sculptures that incorporated welded forms and a variety of materials and threads.



## Our Year in Review

What an amazing year it has been at the Old Art Building!

Never in the long history of our organization has our role as a Community Cultural Center been more true than during our Centennial Year. This year we saw an increase in programming and visitors, even greater than our pre-Covid norms. We had over 19,000 people cross our threshold last year, which is a record for us. We hosted more than 100 OAB programs and events, not to mention weddings, birthdays, and memorials.

The breadth of what we offer is constantly expanding to meet our mission of:

- Promoting the arts and cultural enrichment
- Providing a gathering place for the community and
- Preserving the Old Art Building for generations to come.

We exceeded expectations. The Old Art Building staff and volunteers delivered programs and events that increased gross income and far exceeded our own financial goals for the year.

Lastly, the OAB Board owes a debt of gratitude to Becky Ross for her nine years of leadership as the Executive Director of this amazing facility. Under her leadership, we had a steady path guided by her wisdom and incredible dedication. She will be missed and we wish her well in her retirement.

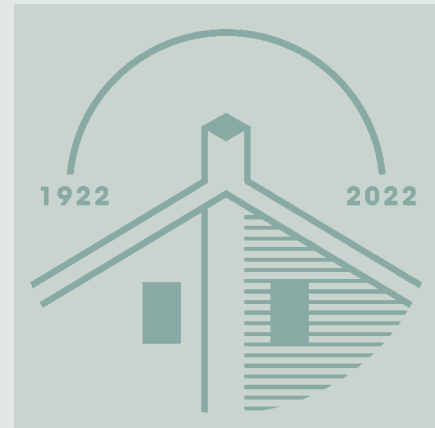
Please remember to keep us in mind with your financial planning, both in the near and long term.

Hope to see you soon,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rick Koehler".

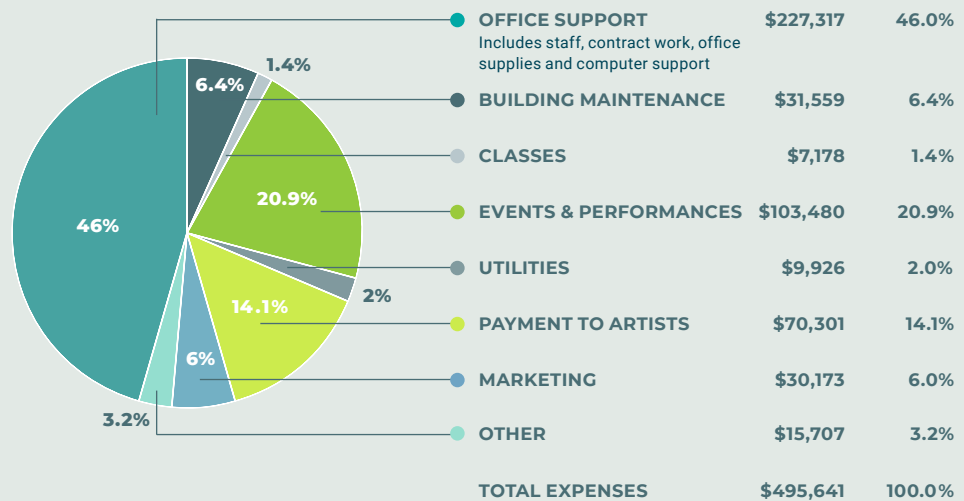
Rick Koehler  
*Treasurer & Finance Committee Chair*  
OAB Board



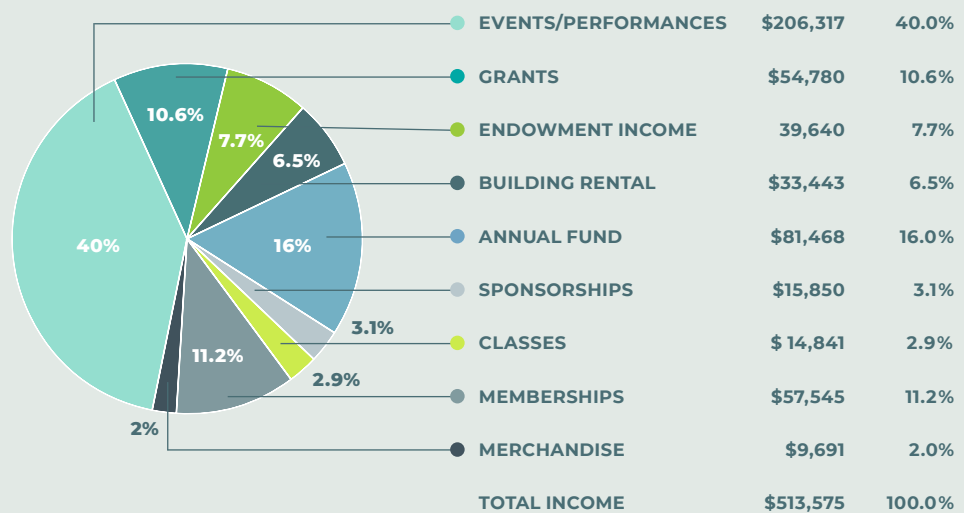


## Financial Summary

### 2022 Operational Expenses



### 2022 Operational Income



# 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 to support our staff along with talented visiting instructors and to fund needed upgrades of facilities. A gift to the Annual Fund enables us to remain a place of generational importance, connection, and growth.



## \$15,000+

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ENDOWMENT

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JOHN & GAIL VIDERGAR  
LISA WATSON  
DAVID WATT JR  
GEORGE & ANGELA WILLS  
NIKKI WORKUM



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LUCY & BUD BOESEL JR.  
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RACHEL ENGELKE  
PATTY ROSSMAN'S BIRTHDAY  
AL & MARY BETH ROLLINGS  
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FIDDLEHEADS  
FORGET-ME-KNOT FLORIST  
GREAT LAKES POTATO CHIPS  
GROCER'S DAUGHTER  
HANNAH'S  
LEELANAU COFFEE ROASTERS  
LELAND MERC  
LITTLE TRAVERSE INN  
MARKET 22  
MARTHA'S LEELANAU TABLE  
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MICHIGAN ARTS AND  
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\*DECEASED

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## Thank You Members

Membership is one of the ways you can support the Old Art Building. Our classes, events and programs all depend on community support. Your membership dollars help us create and produce engaging programs throughout the entire year.

The Old Art building will always remain open to everyone, providing opportunities to enjoy extraordinary experiences. Membership is simply an extra connection that allows us to continue to build a community – of artists, students, instructors, visitors, performers, volunteers, friends.



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MAJOR GENERAL BRIAN &  
LINDA LINDQUIST BISHOP  
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JEANNE MCCLURE  
GEORGE & CINDY MEEKER  
RICH & SUE MILLER  
PENNY MILLIKEN  
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JIM REDMOND  
ALAN DAVIS  
AMBROSIA HEALY &  
DENNIS DENNEHY  
MIKE & MARY FLEISHMAN  
MOLLY FREEMAN  
BREN & CANDACE FRIES  
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CHUCK & MOLLIE HALL  
MICHAEL & LYNN HAYES  
CLARENCE & JEAN HEEREMA  
CHELSEA HILTON  
CAROL & TIM HINCKLEY  
CRAIG & LINDSAY HINE  
JACQUELINE & DON HOLECEK  
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MARLIS MANN\* & TOM SKINNER  
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KRISTINE BALL  
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MARCI BERRY  
LINDY BISHOP  
BYRON BLOCK  
SUE BOWERMAN  
ELLIE CARY  
CECE CHATFIELD  
MALCOLM CHATFIELD  
KRISTIA CONVERSE  
LINDA DAHL  
DODI DEAN  
REBECCA DENEAU  
THERESA DUBIEL  
DENISE DUNN  
CATHERINE DUNN  
JEANETTE DYER  
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LORI FELDPAUSCH  
GAYLE FINGER  
KENDALL FOX  
STEVE FRITZ  
TERRI GILLESPIE  
PEG GODWIN  
BONNIE GONZALES  
LINDA D. GOOD  
MARY GUNTZVILLER  
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NANCY HOFF  
DEBRA HOWARD



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SUSAN JACOBY  
MICHELLE JAHRAUS  
LINDA KELLER  
JUDY KELLY  
KATHERINE KNUTH  
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HILLARY KRUSE  
DOLORES LADD  
ANN LITTLEFIELD  
TAMI MAISEL  
KATHY MALY  
TY MAXON  
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WENDY MCWHORTER  
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KATHLEEN MURPHY  
PAUL OLSEN  
CHARLES PASSARELLI  
LARRY PERKINS  
MARILYN PRICE  
JAN PRICE  
SUE QUINLAN  
MARILYN REBANT  
BARBARA REICH  
JOAN RICHMOND  
AL ROLLINGS  
JASON ROLLINGS  
MARY BETH ROLLINGS  
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BETSY BOESEL SAGGES  
APRIL SCHWAEGERLE  
HELEN SICA  
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SUSAN M SMITH  
MELISSA SMITH  
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LAUREN ACKER  
MERRY BALL  
DR. NANCY BEIGHTS  
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BARBARA BREWER  
CAMMIE BUEHLER  
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NINA CLAYTOR  
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TOM GROGAN  
SUSAN HAYES  
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SALLY NEAL  
ALICE NEILD  
CHRISTINE PALMER  
CHRISTINE PFENNIG  
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MARTHA RYAN  
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NANCY SMITH  
KATHLEEN SNEDEKER  
EVY SUSSMAN  
ANNA TAYLOR  
WINNIE THARP  
DANIEL TOOLE  
JACKIE TYLER  
MARION UNWIN  
PATRICIA VON JENA  
ANN WEBER  
KIT WHALEN  
LIZ ZIMMERMAN



\*DECEASED

**It's a new century for the Old Art Building. We welcome the next era as we bid adieu to those who have served and volunteered so ably. The diverse backgrounds and talents of our new board and staff will help embrace the unfolding opportunities and challenges in the years to come.**



**ABBY CHATFIELD  
STAFF**

After serving as Office Manager for the last two years at the OAB, Abby has decided to stay home with her newborn son, Michael, born early in December.

Aside from her work in the office, you may know that Abby also performed in this year's production of *Laughing in Leelanau*.

We have been fortunate to have Abby continue the Chatfield tradition of meaningful service to the Old Art Building. We wish Abby, her husband Mike, daughter Amy, and new baby Michael all the best. We look forward to seeing them often in coming years at the OAB.



**JUDY FREDERICK  
BOARD**

Joining the board in 2010 Judy has been the embodiment of a dedicated board member. She contributed time to nearly every committee during her board tenure and most recently chaired the Centennial Committee. She readily says yes when given a task and throws a great "mail" party. She asks when something doesn't feel right and attends most every OAB event – there are a lot! She is a valued and loyal donor. Judy recently became the 7<sup>th</sup> Community Cultural Curator, an award recognizing service to the Old Art Building that goes above and beyond.



**SARA HARTLEY  
STAFF**

Michigan native Sara Hartley grew up in Big Rapids and earned a BA in Music from Alma College. She worked as the Music Manager for Washington National Cathedral in Development and as Upper School Assistant at Garrison Forest School outside Baltimore, MD. Eventually Sara returned to Northern Michigan where she worked in the President's office at NMC and more recently in Admission and Financial Aid for Interlochen Arts Academy.

Sara also has a degree in Baking and Patisserie and has worked in professional kitchens in Chicago, Pittsburgh, and Baltimore. She also worked for three years as the Research and Development Baker for Cherry Republic.

Sara remains active in theatre, music, and baking in the area as a performer, director and teacher. She is also an MFA candidate for Creative Writing at Vermont College of Fine Art and will graduate in July 2023.



**MARGARET MCKINLEY  
BOARD**

Margie first moved to Leelanau County with her family in 1972. After the birth of her second and third children in 1973 and 1975 respectively, she became active in the community, helping found the Leland Children's Center and later creating and running Humanities Week at the Leland School. She was also a member of the newly formed Leland Garden Club. During this time she attended several art classes at the Old Art Building.

In 1987 Margie moved to Ann Arbor to pursue a career in fundraising at the University of Michigan. Her last position was with UMS, the performing arts presenting arm of the University, during which time she attended annually over 60 international music and dance performances. Upon retirement Margie returned to Leland as a permanent resident and has pursued her interest in painting. Margie joined the OAB Board in 2023.

**WELCOME!**



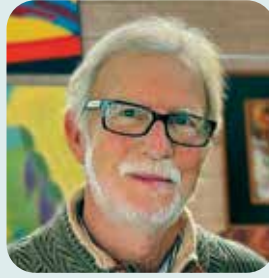


### MARLIS MANN' BOARD

Marlis joined the Board in 2017. She was intent on making her community better, and the OAB was lucky to have her as part of our community. With a quick smile she would enlist your help in something that needed to be done and then provide the energy and resources to make it happen.

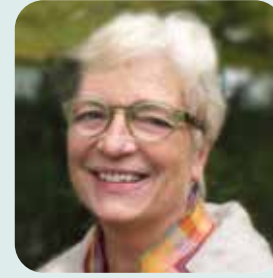
Marlis especially loved music. She showed her enthusiasm by providing holiday carolers on the front lawn and organizing members of the TSO to perform at the Music in the Air series. The collaborative relationship with the TSO is entirely credited to Marlis. We will never forget the sweet treats she would share after returning from one of her many voyages. We are so appreciative of her service.

\*Deceased



### TOM MCCONNELL BOARD

Tom has served on the Board since 2003, sixteen of those years as Vice President. As owner of McConnell & Associates, a marketing company, Tom provided business and creative expertise during all of his years at the OAB. As marketing director he created numerous OAB marketing materials, reaching a broad audience. He was always ready and willing with his toolbox when a project was in need, from shelving backstage to building the "Art Leelanau cube" (the centerpiece for our annual show). The OAB 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade float won several awards and was created under the direction of Tom. Most importantly Tom lent his quiet words of wisdom along the way. Thank you Tom, for your insights and steady guidance.



### BECKY ROSS STAFF

Becky joined the Board in 2013 and became Executive Director upon Judy Livingston's retirement in 2014. Under her leadership, the OAB has seen tremendous growth in terms of community participation. Involvement of musicians, artists and instructors has increased as well. She makes everyone feel welcome and at home.

Becky led the OAB through Covid and somehow made it look easy. In 2020 she guided the board through *Owning Our Future*, a major fundraising campaign to purchase the Old Art Building from Michigan State University and provide and enhance its endowment. She facilitated strategic plans which continue to grow and serve OAB and its community.

Her enduring legacy is to spread joy.



### KIM MCMANAMA BOARD

After over 30 years of visiting, Kim and her family relocated to Leland ten years ago. The geographic beauty of the area and the folks who keep active in the health and wellness of the community are daily energy boosters.

Kim respectfully looks forward to working with everyone to support the OAB's mission statement: to promote the arts and cultural enrichment, to provide a gathering place for the community, and to preserve the Old Art Building for generations.



### SARAH MILLS STAFF

Sarah's family has roots in Leland dating back to 1939. She spent summers here throughout her life and eventually moved to Leland in 2013. Sarah received her BA in History and Political Science from Kenyon College, Ohio and then moved to Chicago where she worked at North Shore Country Day School for 14 years. At North Shore she was the Co-Director of College Counseling, working in Development, Admissions, the Global Education Program as well as coaching Field Hockey and Basketball. Through her work in the Global Education program Sarah led groups of students on trips both nationally and abroad.

In 2019 Sarah was recognized as OAB Volunteer of the Year and shortly thereafter she joined the staff, becoming Program Director in 2021. We look forward to having her as the next OAB Executive Director. Sarah lives in Leland with her family.

# FOND FAREWELLS

## Marlis Mann

We mourn the loss last November of Marlis Fasterding Mann, a director on the Leelanau Community Cultural Center Board since 2017. Marlis was a force. A force for making her community better, a force for making her world better, and a force for making those who were lucky enough to know her better.

Marlis was born in Braunschweig, Germany in 1934. A survivor of the second world war, she studied French at the Sorbonne in Paris and at the University of Lyon. She was a pioneer stewardess for Flugdienst, Condor and Lufthansa. In 1958 she married David Mann and moved to Chicago where they raised two children. When David retired in 1988, the couple moved to Leland, where Marlis became an energetic and creative volunteer. Always thinking of what she could do for others, she volunteered as Youth Exchange Officer of the Leland and Suttons Bay Rotary Club. In 1986 she

became their first female president. She later served on Glen Arbor Arts Association Board, Leelanau Share Care, and on the Board of Traverse City Symphony Orchestra.

In 2009, five years after David passed away, Marlis married Tom Skinner of Suttons Bay. They continued the vital community centered lives both had embraced in their previous marriages. They also enjoyed traveling the world, always seeking new adventures.

Marlis especially loved music and was instrumental in bringing the TSO to the Old Art Building on several occasions. Be it for Music in the Air, or an educational concert for children, she was passionate about the collaboration.

Thank you Marlis for all you have done for the Old Art Building, and for the community. You will be missed, but not forgotten.



## David Grath

David Grath was a member of a small group of pioneering artists who built the framework for Leelanau's robust artisan community of today. News of his passing while in Arizona in March rocked people in the art community and in his hometown of Northport, where he kept a gallery and a studio next to his wife Pamela's bookstore, Dog Ear Books.

Grath's larger than life presence was evident in his love of beautiful things – hats and vintage cars included. His art was much quieter, focusing on special places where land and water interact. He showed his work across the Midwest and internationally. In 2006 he was selected to be the first Ann Hall Visiting Artist at the Old Art Building, a program in which professional artists teach workshops at an affordable price to allow for a wide variety of attendance.

Board President Dan Lisuk described Grath as a "Bohemian, and if you were having a cup of coffee with him you were guaranteed some good stories; he was quite a raconteur."

We will miss David, his stories and his artwork but feel grateful he was part of the life at the Old Art Building.



## Ode to Becky

Working with Becky Ross, both as Old Art Building fellow board member, as well as Executive Director, has been a dream and a privilege. Becky is kind, approachable, and professional – and made everyone who walked in the door feel welcome. Becky has the amazing ability not only to juggle a multitude of small tasks, major projects, personalities, agendas, and calendars (all while moving tables and chairs), but also to thrive while doing it! She made leading our busy organization look easy. Her positivity, experience, and ingenuity enabled her to get the job done gracefully. But it is her passion for the Old Art Building and its mission that allowed her joy to spread into and beyond our community. We are all better for it. As you read this first edition of *Roofline*, you will feel Becky's impact throughout.



Becky's accomplishments are many. During her tenure, we "bought the building" from MSU, established an endowment for the building and grounds, pivoted during a global pandemic to keep our community connected and expanded our programming to reach beyond Leelanau. The list is long. But her qualities were the driving force.

Becky's enthusiasm for arts and culture, her respect for the building and its history, and her commitment to our community was magnetic. She created an atmosphere that was fun... delightful even. We all wanted to be in her orbit and often stopped in to see what was in the works.

But for Becky, it was never about her. Rather, she listened to others. She made sure that all our board members were heard. That our constituents ranging in age from 5 – 95 were heard. That our community members, whether part-time, full time, or in town for the day, were welcomed and heard. Whether artist or enthusiast, performer or audience member, student or teacher, Becky was attentive to the experiences of all.

Becky wasn't afraid to try new things. I admired her ability to say yes and with a smile, almost every time. Boy did we have fun dreaming up HollyPOP! But she didn't do it alone. Whether you were a board member, a volunteer, or an event attendee, when Becky asked, you couldn't

help but say yes. Getting involved always enriched your experience and your connection. As the organization grew, she assembled a team of talented professionals both externally and in-house. The Old Art Building is stronger for it and poised for the next hundred years.

We already miss you, Becky. Thank you for saying YES to serving on the Board, saying YES to serving as Executive Director and saying YES to all our collective wild and crazy ideas. Thank you for being one step ahead. Thank you for anticipating what we needed and sprinkling your support, encouragement, and leadership all over the Old Art Building community. We look forward to seeing you in and about the OAB, enjoying all it has to offer.

With gratitude and awe,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kerry Satterwhite".

Kerry Satterwhite  
OAB Board Member

# THANK YOU



## Judy Frederick Community Cultural Curator

In Judy's 12 years as a board member, she has served on every committee and has been involved in every aspect of the organization from Buildings & Grounds to Fundraising. She served as the Chair of Art Leelanau for several years and certainly knows how to throw a good party! She has hosted countless visiting musicians and actors in her home. Judy is always our first call when we need an event greeter and she takes on the role as few others can.

In 2017, Judy established the Leelanau Musical Arts Celebration, an endowed fund to bring classical music to the Old Art Building. Judy's love of classical music, of community and of the OAB showed brilliantly as she conducted a piece of music at the concert this fall.

Although she was set to go off the Board in 2021, we convinced her to stay one more year as the Chair of the OAB Centennial Year. There was no one more suited to lead us through honoring and celebrating the last 100 years. She was instrumental in coordinating the event leaders and guiding the staff toward creating a well-rounded calendar of Centennial events. One of the first things she did upon assuming the Centennial Chair role was to read all board minutes from the inception of the LCCC Board in 1994. It's safe to say there are not many as well versed in the history of the organization as Judy.

Thank you, Judy, for sharing your time and expertise with us. You will always remain a treasured part of our community.



## Martha Elchert Volunteer of the Year

You all might know Marty for her wonderful watercolor paintings. We know her as a quiet, thoughtful person who is clearly knowledgeable in all things Plein Air but also a willing volunteer and program advisor.

Marty first came to us as an Open Studio painter several years ago, and quickly became a regular. Over the years she has become a friend we turn to for feedback on exhibits and art fairs.

She has been instrumental in enhancing our Plein Air program. Following the passing of Ellie Golden, our "Painting on Location" program needed evaluation. In stepped Marty to help guide the way. The first summer was much in the same vein as previous years, but this year she put her mark on the program. Working alongside our staff, she gave it new life. What is now known as the "OAB Plein Air Painters" runs weekly from early June through the end of September, with a Clothesline Show of the group's summer work in late August. This summer the group visited 18 unique locations including a trip to South Manitou Island. Thank you, Marty, for all you do for the OAB.





## Nancy and Craig Miller Believe in Leaving a Legacy

*"The Miller family has an incredible passion for Leelanau County. Craig's family built a cottage on Good Harbor Bay and 75 years later we are still here.*

*Knowing how much we wanted to be a part of keeping a legacy for all, we started volunteering and getting involved. Our focus at first was the Conservancy and the possibilities for all of us to keep the land, enjoy the surroundings and be a part of the excitement of its growth. Then came Fish-town, and now the Old Art Building. We are in awe of each organization's progress.*

*Having a Legacy gift in our wills is extremely important to both of us. We want to assure that each generation can experience Leelanau County and all it has to offer for generations to come."*

by Nancy Miller

We are very grateful to Nancy and Craig for all they have done and encourage you to think about joining them by making a planned gift.

**If you have included the Old Art Building in your estate planning, please let us know. For more information, please call Sarah Mills, 231-256-2131.**

# LEGACY SOCIETY

### **What is Planned Giving and how does it differ from "regular" gifts?**

Planned giving is about keeping the bigger picture in mind when supporting charitable organizations meaningful to you. It means looking at your entire asset base, not just your current income, to make sure that the form of your gift yields the greatest benefits for both you and the recipient organization. It also means looking at long term needs – your own and the non-profit's – and integrating your giving with your income and estate plans. Planned gifts are set up in the here and now, but they support the work of the non-profit in perpetuity by creating endowment for the future.

### **What are the most popular types of Planned Gifts?**

A very simple form of planned giving is to use appreciated stock rather than cash to fund a current gift to a non-profit. This allows you to avoid capital gains taxes on the stock, often making a larger gift to non-profits while leaving tax-advantaged assets in your pockets.

The most typical planned gift is also the most straight forward: a bequest to the non-profit in your will. A bequest is planned now, but it does not benefit the non-profit until after your lifetime. Because a charitable bequest can be changed by any later will, it does not have any current tax advantages.

# OLD ART BUILDING

Leelanau Community Cultural Center  
111 S Main Street, PO Box 883, Leland, MI 49654



## Did you know the Old Art Building has an online shop?

Our team is proud to offer a special selection of OAB branded items for sale, everything from posters and playing cards to classic apparel. Every purchase directly supports the OAB's programing and building fund. Visit our online shop today!

