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QUARTERLY

Winter 2015

Information and Resources for Northern New York

FREE



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Thank you to the 161 member-donors who supported us through contributions of \$25+ this year.

Thank you to the New York State agencies and private foundations that provided grant funding for SLC Arts in 2015:

New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA)  
NYS Office for People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD)  
Canton Community Fund  
AdirondackGives.org, a service of the Adirondack Foundation

Please note: This list reflects donations made to SLC Arts through November 19, 2015.

It's EASY TO DONATE, and your donation is tax-deductible since we're a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization! Mail your donation to SLC Arts, PO Box 252, Potsdam, NY 13676—or visit our website at [www.slcartscouncil.org](http://www.slcartscouncil.org) and click the "Donate" button at the bottom of any page on our site to make a secure on-line donation using PayPal or any major credit card. Thank you for your support!

thank you! thank you! thank you!



# A·R·T·S QUARTERLY

Information and Resources for Northern New York

A free publication produced and distributed by SLC Arts

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Supported in part by The New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature

Cover: Pendants created by Nancey Brackett (see page 6). (Photography credit: April Sharlow)

SLC Arts  
P.O. Box 252  
Potsdam, NY 13676

[www.slcartscouncil.org](http://www.slcartscouncil.org)

@SLCartscouncil

/stlawrencecountyartscouncil

## Letter from the Director Suzy McBroom

October was a bit of a whirlwind at SLC Arts, as we ran the Remington Arts Festival: Art Show and Sale, opened a special exhibit, and started selling this year's calendars!

Claire Poirier, who sells upcycled wool hats, mittens, and more, did record sales at this year's Remington Arts Festival thanks to the cold weather and customers like you! We're grateful the rain held off so we could enjoy such a beautiful fall day in Canton, NY.

Thanks to your generosity, the *Art for Animals* exhibit, benefitting the Potsdam Humane Society, was a smashing success. As you can see from the article on page 13, we have raised over \$300 to date and there's still a chance to purchase more artwork from that exhibit.

Nearly 100 submitted images were considered for the 2016 Fine Art Up North Calendar, and we selected 13 pieces of local artwork to feature in our twelve-month calendar plus cover. You'll see more information on page 4 about which pieces we selected and how to purchase your copy if you don't already have one. They make great gifts for friends and family!

We hope you had a great time travelling around the county to different sites during this year's Artists' Studio Tour in November. You can see a several photos of artists at work during this year's tour on page 11.

Nancey Brackett participated in this year's Remington Arts Festival and Artists' Studio Tour, as well as in our Art Market on November 28. If you haven't had the pleasure of meeting her in person during one of these events, I invite you to take some time to get to know her and her inlay work better by reading our Featured Artist article on pages 6 & 7.

Over the next few months, combat the winter blues with us at an exhibit opening (page 5) or in our studios (pages 8 & 9). Stay warm & safe!

## SLC Arts' Board of Directors

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Denny Morreale, Vice President  
Lenore VanderZee, Secretary  
Tom Plastino, Treasurer

Theresa Samways  
Romi Sebald  
Trish Varney  
Christine Zavgren

## Get Your Calendars While Supplies Last...!!!

Order your copy (or copies) of the 2016 *Fine Art Up North Calendar* on-line today at [slcartscouncil.org](http://slcartscouncil.org).

The calendar is also available for purchase in person at the following retail locations:

- Maple Run Emporium
- Nature's Storehouse
- Potsdam Chamber of Commerce
- Potsdam Food Co-op
- St. Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce
- The TAUNY Center
- Town of Parishville Town Offices

### 2016 Fine Art Up North Calendar



SLC Arts | PO Box 252 | Potsdam, NY 13676 | 315.265.6860 | [www.slcartsCouncil.org](http://www.slcartsCouncil.org)

### 2016 Fine Art Up North Calendar



### Looking for Art Show Judges

The Massena Artists Association is looking for judges for its spring juried show and fall members show. To qualify as a judge, applicants should have a background in the arts (be a working artist, run a gallery, teach art or otherwise have a strong artistic background). The judging process may take a few hours for which we offer a generous honorarium.

The dates judges are needed are Saturday, May 7, 2016 (two judges are required for the juried show) and Saturday, October 8, 2016 (only one judge for the members show).

Anyone interested in either of these jobs should contact Peggy Mooers, president, Massena Artists Association, at [pmooers@twcny.rr.com](mailto:pmooers@twcny.rr.com) or 315-265-2774. For more information, check out [massenaartists.blogspot.com](http://massenaartists.blogspot.com).

## CINEMA 10

Bringing the best in international and American independent films to the North Country

Mondays at the Roxy Theater, Potsdam

7:15 p.m. (unless otherwise noted)

Season Tickets (10 films) and Single Tickets available

Fall 2015–Spring 2016 Seasons

See *North Country This Week* for the schedule, or visit our website: [www.cinema10.org](http://www.cinema10.org) and Facebook page: [facebook.com/cinematn](http://facebook.com/cinematn)

Cinema 10 is made possible by The New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.



## Deadline Announced for 2017 Fine Art Up North Calendar

It's not too early to start thinking about submissions for the 2017 Fine Arts Up North Calendar. The deadline for submitting images is May 20, 2016. Images must have a resolution of at least 350 ppi (pixels per inch) at the full size of the calendar—8.5" x 11" (landscape)—to be considered.

## Upcoming SLC Arts Exhibitions

at Town Hall Gallery, 18 Elm Street, Potsdam



Judith Utter — *Our Lands, Our Waterways: Art as Conservation, Preservation, Appreciation*

December 2–January 13  
Opening reception: Friday, December 4, 6:00–8:00 pm

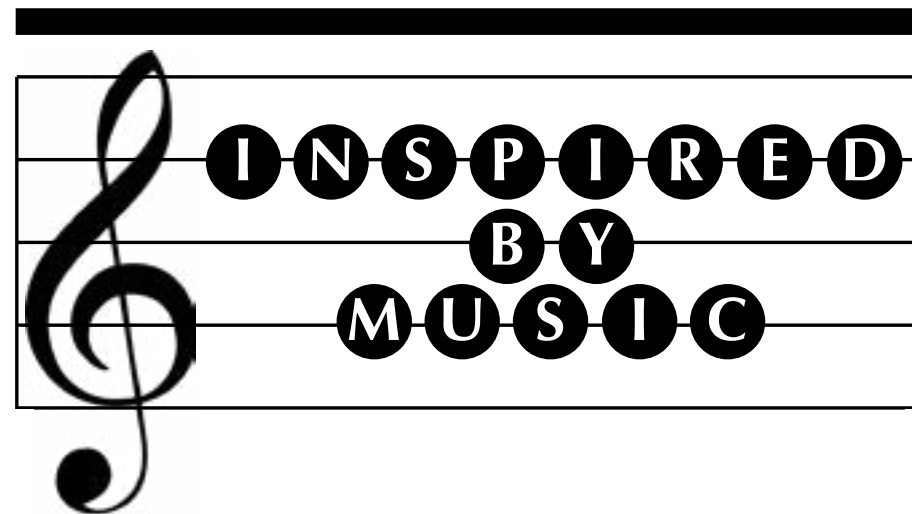
This exhibit will showcase Judith's original renderings of botanicals, fish, and birds, in both watercolor and pen and ink, with a focus on conservation.



Eric Thacher — *Scenes which Appealed to Me*

February 25–March 25  
Opening reception: Friday, February 26, 4:00–6:00 pm

An exhibit of oil paintings and drawings on a variety of subjects and themes. Eric's paintings are inspired by the abstract distribution of shapes and colors in a scene.



Inspired by Music

January 19–February 19  
Opening reception: Friday, January 22, 4:00–6:00 pm

A display of original artwork created by SLC Arts members. Artists were asked to share their musical inspiration when submitting their work.



Scholastic Art Awards of Central New York Regional Art Show

April 1–May 13  
Opening reception: April 1, 5:00–7:00 pm

Showcasing the selected work of local 7–12 students who are participating in the annual Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. For information on submitting art work, visit [www.artandwriting.org/Affiliate/NY003A](http://www.artandwriting.org/Affiliate/NY003A) or email [CNYArtCouncil@twcny.rr.com](mailto:CNYArtCouncil@twcny.rr.com) to reach the local contact for the Scholastic Awards. The deadline for the 2016 Awards is January 2, 2016.

# NANCEY BRACKETT

interviewed by John Berbrich

**John Berbrich:** Nancey, your workshop is amazing. When did you first start to make jewelry?

**Nancy Brackett:** About ten years ago, I was introduced to silversmithing. After learning to design, saw, file, bezel, solder, use a torch, and polish a pendant, I was hooked. I played with silver for a number of years on top of running a full-time horse farm and business. We sold the farm three years ago, and I decided it was time to pursue my creative side. Things took off in the past year after spending a month in New Mexico—most of the time at Ghost Ranch—taking an intensive silversmith and inlay course.

**JB:** Tell me about Ghost Ranch. Sounds spooky.

**NB:** Ghost Ranch is a 21,000-acre education and retreat center in the high desert of northern New Mexico. Total immersion classes are offered throughout the year in silversmithing, writing, photography, sustainability, spirituality, health and wellness, and more. Georgia O’Keeffe spent a great deal of time there painting, and a number of Hollywood movies have been filmed on the property. There is a magical and spiritual quality in the land itself that is hard to describe. The bones of two small species of dinosaur were discovered on the ranch, and there is a museum of paleontology on the property. In fact, numerous dinosaur bones have been found in the southwest, and pieces of bone are used in jewelry.

**JB:** Really? Have you used any dinosaur bones?

**NB:** Yes! I love to incorporate small slabs of dinosaur bone in my inlay work. The pieces have a reddish brown color and work beautifully with a number of other stones. I have an inlay ring I made to keep and wear full time. There is a feeling of connecting with something that existed millions of years ago that is really special. And, there is a story with these pieces—and I love the story behind the art.

**JB:** So you work and shape the silver, then add the inlay—which could be an actual dinosaur bone, as well as any number of stones and gems? What’s your favorite part of the process?

**NB:** There are an endless numbers of stones and patterns to pick from and combine. My favorite part of the inlay process is seeing the final product magically emerge. After soldering the frame and sawing and grinding the mineral slabs, I carefully match and fit each tiny piece into place with epoxy. At this point the work looks downright ugly. The night before I finished my first cuff at the ranch I actually cried—it was a rough-edged mess with epoxy all over. Now I know what to expect and just need to look at that spectacular finished cuff as a reminder. As I work through my grinding wheels, I am always amazed at how the pendant (or cuff

6

or knife-handle) slowly becomes a stunning piece of jewelry or usable art.



**JB:** There’s definitely a spiritual element in all of this, and a real contrast. You start with the physical aspect, the sawing and grinding and all, but as you go on, the magic, as you say, takes place, and a transformation occurs. I think of those stones and bones and metals that have been waiting for literally millions of years—and here you come to give it all artistic shape. It’s really breathtaking when you consider the entire process.

**NB:** Well said! There is most definitely a spiritual element to my work, in more ways than one. When I am in the studio I am fully present, and time disappears. Working with silver, minerals, and especially dinosaur bones makes me feel connected to something so much bigger than myself! I use a lot of jasper, which comes in spectacular scenic patterns and colors. In many early cultures jasper was considered to be a sacred stone and was used for grounding and protection. One could look into the metaphysical aspects of each mineral and choose a piece for a certain quality. Or one can simply appreciate the incredible color and variety of materials found in nature.

**JB:** What’s with these flat spoons here?

**NB:** I have also taken sterling flatware spoons and bezel set stones on them. My daughter chose a piece with a fused glass cab to be set on a small sugar spoon that had been her grandmother’s. The ends of the spoons can be made into earrings. For earrings, I have a disc cutter and



dapper, and I like to texture and shape single, double, and triple domes: unique, sparkly, and simply silver.

**JB:** Earlier you mentioned knife handles. I see quite a few knives on this table. When did you start making handles?

**NB:** I made my first knife handle in January at Ghost Ranch, as a gift for my husband. I posted a picture of it on Facebook and people started asking for one. I am on my fortieth knife this week! Most have been sold, a few were wedding and family gifts, and a few were specifically commissioned. I made a gift for a veterinarian, using dino bone and Dalmatian jasper, and a gift, using frogskin jasper, for a woman who grew up on a lake. It is fun to have a story with the stone. I buy blanks of different types and inlay the handles. I have done Damascus hunting knives and bread knives; the most popular is a six-inch, all-purpose kitchen knife. It’s fun to do something creative that’s useful and unique. The knives are also a draw for men—my jewelry is really geared toward women.

**JB:** These are beautiful knives, nicely-balanced; this one rests solidly in the palm of my hand. So, jewelry, knife handles—what’s next?

**NB:** Thank you! More commission work is coming in, and I enjoy working with people to design something special. Sometimes I even get

new ideas from my customers! I have been concentrating on inlay and want to get back to bezel setting pendants, cuffs, and rings, as well as my simply silver cuffs. I have a studio full of raw materials, so I am going to keep on playing and learning with each new project. My husband is a woodworker, and we are going to try to do a cutting board with an inlay piece to match a knife. We have a piece of maple that came from a tree on property where he grew up, so that’s the next project. I have joked we could call this part of the business “Sticks and Stones and Dinosaur Bones.” Another course at Ghost Ranch is on my list for 2016 as well. As with the stone choices, the possibilities are endless!

*Nancy Brackett grew up in Connecticut and graduated from UConn with a Masters in Animal Science. She moved to New York in 1978 with her husband, Mark, and, for the next thirty plus years, owned and operated R Pharm, a horse boarding/lesson/training facility, and wrote articles for Cooperative Extension. After retiring and selling the farm, her creative side took over, and she dove into silversmithing. Belle Morrow, her grandmother and a gifted silversmith, was perhaps at the root of Nancy’s artistic talents and love of silver. Dogs have always played a significant part in her life, and at present she is busy training Piper, a three-month-old yellow lab. Nancy volunteers with the AARP tax preparation program, studies tai chi, bikes, and enjoys time and travel with her family. Check out My Corner Studio at [mycornerstudiosilver.com](http://mycornerstudiosilver.com) and [mycornerstudio](https://www.facebook.com/mycornerstudio) on Facebook.*

Photography credit: April Sharlow



## SLC ARTS CLASSES

### FEBRUARY CLASSES

#### Wheel Thrown Pottery (A)

**Instructor: Isaac Snell**

**Mon., Tues., Wed. | February 1, 2 & 3 | 3–5 PM**

**\$97 members | \$126 non-members**

**Ages 10–14.** Isaac will guide students through all of the basic skills needed for wheel throwing, including clay preparation, proper wedging techniques, centering clay on the wheel, throwing outer and inner walls of a vessel, trimming, and glazing. Each student will bring home at least six finished pieces. Visit [facebook.com/IsaacJudePottery](https://facebook.com/IsaacJudePottery) for examples of Isaac's work. Students should be beginners or intermediate-level with fewer than 20 hours of experience. *Materials included.*

#### Wheel Thrown Pottery (B)

**Instructor: Isaac Snell**

**Mon., Tues., Wed. | February 1, 2 & 3 | 6–9 PM**

**\$126 members | \$148 non-members**

**Ages 14–Adult.** Isaac will guide students through all of the basic skills needed for wheel throwing, including clay preparation, proper wedging techniques, centering clay on the wheel, throwing outer and inner walls of a vessel, trimming, and glazing. Each student will bring home at least six finished pieces. Visit [facebook.com/IsaacJudePottery](https://facebook.com/IsaacJudePottery) for examples of Isaac's work. Students should be beginners or intermediate-level, with fewer than 20 hours of experience. *Materials included.*



#### Guitar 101

**Instructor: Jon Dufore**

**Saturday | February 6 | Noon–2 PM**

**\$19 members | \$24 non-members**

A beginner's class designed to give students an overview of the guitar. Topics include the parts of a guitar and how to hold it, the strings and how to tune them, how to play basic chords and chord changes, and how to read and play single notes. *Please bring your guitar, a pencil, and a tuner (if you have one). Handouts will be provided.*

#### Intro to Portrait Drawing: Perfecting the Portrait

**Instructor: Liza LaBarge**

**Mondays | February 22 & 29 | 6–8 PM**

**\$38 members | \$48 non-members**

This two-part class focuses on the portrait as subject matter. The first class will concentrate on facial proportions. Students will partner up to draw someone in the class and then switch to become the model. That means students get to draw a portrait from life and have their portraits done in the same day! For the second session, please bring a reference photo to use as reference to draw a portrait. Students will focus on capturing the character of their subjects. Please bring vine charcoal, compressed charcoal, a kneaded eraser, two sheets of large drawing paper (18" x 24" or larger), an eraser pen or eraser pencil, charcoal pencils (soft 6B), and a small gesso brush.

### MARCH CLASSES

#### Guitar Open Forum

**Instructor: Jon Dufore**

**Saturday | March 5 | 3–5 PM**

**\$19 members | \$24 non-members**

Stuck on a certain concept? Looking to understand scales? Having trouble with a certain style? Bring your questions and Jon will answer them. *Please bring your guitar.*

**Pre-pay and register for any  
SLC Arts class:  
[slcartscouncil.org](http://slcartscouncil.org) | 315.265.6860**

*Register early! Class registration is on a first-come, first-served basis, and all of our classes have a "make-it-or-break it" point—if registration is too low two business days before the class runs, we may be forced to cancel it.*

*Not sure if you can attend? Let us know you're a "tentative" registration, and we'll keep you updated.*

#### Ukulele: Take It from the Top!

**Instructor: Kevin Marcinko**

**Saturday | March 12 | 1–3 PM**

**\$19 members | \$24 non-members**

**Ages 10 and up.** This two-hour workshop is for absolute beginners to the ukulele. Instruction will start with how to hold and strum the uke and then move on to some basic chords, mixing in some basic music theory that will make learning songs fun and easy. Everything will be learned by ear, so students don't need to know how to read music. Participants will leave with a good foundation to start learning and practicing songs on their own. *Please bring a ukulele. (Kevin has two available for loan if needed.)*

#### Intro to Portrait Drawing: Capturing Character

**Instructor: Liza LaBarge**

**Mondays | March 14 & 21 | 6–8 PM**

**\$38 members | \$48 non-members**

**Teens & Adults.** Learn how to draw life-like human portraits using charcoal and soft pastels. This class will focus on all the elements and principles of design, such as line, shape, value, texture, color, balance, unity/variety, emphasis, and space, to create intriguing visual compositions. Students will learn how to capture proportions through observational techniques and about the importance of proper lighting. This class will be based on a representative approach to drawing, capturing realism through rendering and detail. *Please bring a photograph to draw; a pad of drawing paper or a sketch pad if you have one; one piece of drawing paper, 11" x 17" or larger (Stonehenge or Lennox are good brands); kneaded eraser; eraser pen with refills; compressed charcoal (a great brand is Char-Kole); and two or more charcoal pencils of differing hardnesses.*



## Special Arts Class Schedule, Spring 2016

#### Potsdam Adults Group

**Tuesdays from 10:30 AM–noon**

**SLC Arts | 41 Elm Street | Potsdam**

January 5, 12, 19, 26

February 2, 9, 16, 23

March 1, 15, 22, 29 (no class March 8)

April 5, 19, 26 (no class April 12)

May 3, 10, 17, 24 (no class May 31)



#### Potsdam Teens Group

**Wednesdays from 3:30 PM–5:00 PM**

**SLC Arts | 41 Elm Street | Potsdam**

January 6, 20

February 3, 17

March 2, 16, 30

April 13, 27

May 11, 18

#### Massena Childrens/Teens Group (Ages 5–18)

**Wednesdays from 4:30–6:00 PM**

**Massena Community Center | 60 Beach St.**

January 13, 27

February 10, 24

March 9 (no class March 23—public school spring break)

April 6, 20

May 4

**Tracy S. Wanamaker, MT-BC,** is a Visiting Instructor at the Crane School of Music, where she coordinates the Music in Special Education Program and Crane Music Education Field Experience. Tracy is a board-certified music therapist with over 20 years of experience working in a wide range of clinical areas, including special education, adults with developmental disabilities, and gerontology settings. She is active as a consultant and clinician for professionals, teachers and parents across the United States and has presented her research at many local, state, and national conferences, including the American Music Therapy Association National Conference and the Mid-Atlantic AMTA Regional Conference.



**Special Arts classes are no longer offered in Gouverneur, but stay tuned for a new series of classes in Ogdensburg!**

*Supported by:*

*NYS Office for People with Developmental Disabilities*

*NYS Council on the Arts—Special Arts Services*

## About the Teachers

**Jon Dufore** was awarded tuition to the Crane School of Music's Crane Youth Music program for percussion when he was in sixth grade. He attended Musician's Institute (MI) in Hollywood, CA, where he was awarded the Most Outstanding Student Award and received his degree in Guitar Performance. Jon has played with numerous bands and is familiar with Classic Rock, Hard Rock, Reggae, R&B, Country, Latin, Hip Hop, and Jazz Ensemble. He currently teaches guitar for St. Lawrence University and is the owner and operator of Musical Way Academy, a company specializing in private music lessons in your own home.

**Liza LaBarge** was born in Potsdam, NY, in 1990. She received a Bachelor of Fine Arts, with a minor in Pre-creative Arts Therapy, from the State University of New York at Potsdam in 2012. Her large-scale, charcoal drawings are constructed through merging of the real with the surreal to create allegorical works that synthesize historical and contemporary influences of femininity in order to depict highly dramatized theatrical scenes. She recently obtained a Master of Fine Arts degree in Visual Studies from the University at Buffalo.

**Kevin Marcinko** is a NYS certified music teacher and Crane School graduate, as well as a ukulele enthusiast. At Crane he majored in Music Education with a concentration in String Orchestra on the Viola. Since graduating, he has directed the Glens Falls Elementary Orchestra program and pursued master's degrees in Music Education and Educational Technology at SUNY Potsdam. He is a founding member of the Potsdam Ukuleles, a local biweekly jam session for local ukulele enthusiasts. With this group, he hopes to foster new musicians, encourage community involvement in the arts, and, for already accomplished musicians, to introduce them to a great new way to make music.

**Isaac Jude Snell** was born and raised in Northern NY. In 2009 he graduated from SUNY Potsdam with a degree in Art Education, and, for three years he was the district art teacher for a small central school in the foothills of the Adirondacks. Isaac left his teaching position in 2012 when he was awarded a grant to start his own business, Isaac Jude Pottery, in the city of Potsdam. His wife is artist and SLC Arts teacher Hilary Emerson Lay. To see Isaac's work, visit Facebook.com/IsaacJudePottery.



## Crowdfunding Campaign for Photography Studio

Artists need high quality, professional looking photographs of their work—not only to effectively market their artwork to their customers but to apply for a range of professional opportunities. Applications for grants, residencies, exhibits, and other professional development opportunities require established portfolios of images. The quality of those images reflects on the artist and helps (or harms) their chances.

Starting in March 2016, SLC Arts will be launching a new crowdfunding campaign on-line at AdirondackGives.org, a service of the Adirondack Foundation, to purchase equipment for artists to photograph their 2-D and 3-D artwork. By creating the conditions for successful photographs at our studios, we will enable artists to better market their work to the public and to apply for professional development opportunities. The equipment and space that might otherwise be prohibitive for artists to set-up at home will be available at SLC Arts for their use.

This campaign helps us to fulfill our mission to:

- provide a climate in which cultural activities may expand and thrive;
- share and encourage the efficient use of limited resources; and
- encourage public and private support of the arts.

Don't want to wait? Visit our website at [www.slcartscouncil.org](http://www.slcartscouncil.org) and click the "Donate" button at the bottom to make a secure on-line donation using PayPal or any major credit card. If you wish your donation to be restricted to this campaign, please include that information in the comments.

## Grasse River Players to Present Original Play

When Chris Rediehs, Commissioner, St. Lawrence County Department of Social Services, approached playwright Elaine Kuracina, a member of the Grasse River Players, about doing a play about the Canton Poorhouse, she didn't realize what a story there was.

Elaine asked Dr. Art Johnson, professor of history, emeritus, at SUNY Potsdam and another member of the Grasse River Players, and Mary H. Egan, a retired grant writer, to join her in writing the play.

Their first stop was the grounds of the Canton Poorhouse where they met Dr. Mindy Pitre, assistant professor of anthropology at

St. Lawrence University (SLU), and her student interns, who were surveying the old cemetery grounds. Located at the end of Route 32, the cemetery sits next to the Grasse River, which is encroaching on the burial sites. The crew from SLU used computers, GPS units, and radar to locate many unmarked graves.

Linda Casserly, historian for the town and village of Canton, is passionate about discovering specifics on these Poorhouse "inmates" (as they were called). She enlisted the help of SLU students and community members, who were willing to search old Canton records, newspaper clippings, and ancestry.com. Linda also arranged

a gathering of women who worked at the Poorhouse when it housed Social Services.

Elaine, Art, and Mary used the assembled information to create lives for the Poorhouse residents. Some traditional music was added, and the play has been named *Spirit Whispers on the Grasse*.

The Grasse River Players will present this original play with music during Canton Winterfest on Friday and Saturday, February 12–13, with a matinee on Sunday. Times and location to be announced. Poster research presentations on the Poorhouse, created by St. Lawrence University students, will also be on display.



Cemetery grounds at the former site of the Canton Poorhouse (photo: Elaine Kuracina)

## Artist Catherine LaPointe Engages the Community

Potsdam artist Catherine LaPointe has used a Public Arts Fellowship, awarded by SLC Arts, to create a series of mixed-media works featuring the architecture of St. Lawrence County, and the surrounding area, to draw attention to the man-made beauty of the North Country through the eyes of the people who live there.

Inspiration for the pieces came from photos submitted by members of the community, as well as those taken by Catherine, and historical photos she found in the St. Lawrence County Historical Association's archives.

Once a large pool of material was collected, Catherine made all of the photos available online and opened them to a public voting period to maximize community engagement. The photos rated highest by the public became the inspiration for the mixed media works that followed.

The project culminated in an exhibition at The TAUNY Center in Canton, NY. "Building Up the North" included the mixed media paintings and the photos that served as inspiration for each piece. The opening reception, which was open to the public, was held on April 24, and the exhibit ran through June.

"While much of my professional work has been in commercial art ventures," says Catherine, "my personal work has often featured interesting architectural elements. This project has been germinating for some time, but it lacked a uniting thread until I decided to focus on the structures of the North Country. Public engagement and a focus on community were an integral part of this project during all stages of its evolution.

"I decided on the direction of this project based on a couple of paintings I had

done previously. They featured local scenes, but all had an architectural element to them, often times showing a fusion of the organic and the man-made. I found the contrast between the two intriguing. I also thought the focus on architecture and man-made beauty was a unique view of the area, which is so often revered for its natural beauty. I wanted to convey to the public that natural beauty is not the only thing the North Country has to offer and to see if there were others out there who had a similar point of view. As it turns out, many did."

Catherine is a native of Massena and graduated from Syracuse University with a BFA in Illustration. She has freelance experience in illustration for books and editorial features, as well as work experience in graphic design

and product design. Some of her previous clients include the Say Yes to Education Foundation, the Syracuse Cultural Workers, the Florence International Theatre Company, Christmas Tree Shops, and Girlebooks Publishing. She is a member of the Society of Children's Books Writers and Illustrators, a Signature Member of the Central New York Watercolor Society, and a member of the St. Lawrence County Arts Council. Catherine was named the Massena Artists' Association 2011 Artist of the Year and has been published in *Altered Couture* magazine, *Process and Progress: Recent University Graduates in Pursuit of the Visual Arts* edited by Nishan Patel, and *Looking at My Neighborhood* by Sarah McCoubrey.

The Public Art Fellowship offered by SLC Arts is a set \$2,500

grant that is available to individual artists to support new, original work that engages the community through the artists' creative process.



*Made possible with funds from the Decentralization Program, a regrant program of the New York State Council on the Arts, with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, and administered by the St. Lawrence County Arts Council.*

*Wanakena Dock, a painting by Catherine LaPointe, is one of the pieces in "Building Up the North."*



## New Program Coordinator for SLC Arts

Jenny Robinson Henry joined the SLC Arts Council this fall in the role of Program Coordinator. A native of Parishville, NY, Jenny grew up in St. Lawrence County and is well versed in the natural beauty and creative diversity of the region. After living in a suburb of Plattsburgh, NY, located on the shores of Lake Champlain, for more than a decade Jenny returned to her home in the fall of 2013, relocated to Canton, NY, to be closer to her family. Jenny lives in Canton with her husband, Chuck, her two children, Catherine (age 11) and Maxwell (age 9), and the family's cairn terrier, Tiffy.

While living in the Plattsburgh area, Jenny spent nine years working at the local Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES), known as Champlain Valley Educational Services (CVES), where she served as both the regional

School Library System Director and Arts in Education Coordinator for Clinton, Essex, Warren, and Washington counties. In this position she worked in close partnership with the local arts communities of the Champlain Valley region and helped to coordinate services and activities between artists and K-12 public schools in the area.

A trained educator, Jenny has a BA from SUNY Potsdam in the fields of English and education, an MSED from SUNY Potsdam in Instructional Technology and Media Management, and a Certificate of Advanced Study in School Library Media Studies. She is currently pursuing an MLS online from SUNY Buffalo in the field of Library Science, with an emphasis on archival studies.

Jenny has always appreciated and relied upon the arts to enhance

her life. From her earliest memories of watching and singing along with her extended family as they played traditional tunes on fiddle and guitar, to using oil paints to create landscapes, pastels to create abstract pieces relying heavily on shape and color, capturing the perfect shot with a camera lens, putting pen to paper to create prose, and performing in theater groups, she has found that art is a consistent and necessary part of her life. She particularly enjoys singing and has performed as a member of the Crane School of Music's Crane Chorus, as well as Crane's Phoenix Club. Most recently she was a member of the Champlain Valley Voices in Plattsburgh, NY.

Jenny is very excited about working in the role of Program Coordinator for SLC Arts. She welcomes the room for creativity in



Jenny Henry

the position, as well as the diversity of day-to-day assignments, and enjoys the positive work environment and great feeling that comes from working for a non-profit that strives to serve the community.

## Art for Animals Generates over \$300 for Potsdam Humane Society

SLC Arts extends its sincere gratitude to community members for their generosity during our "Art for Animals" exhibit this October at the Potsdam Town Hall. Nearly 60 pieces of artwork were donated by community members. Proceeds generated from sales of these pieces enabled us to donate over \$300 to the Potsdam Humane Society.

Pieces of artwork from the "Art for Animals" exhibit which are still available for purchase may be found at [www.slcartscouncil.org](http://www.slcartscouncil.org) (click on "Art for Animals"). SLC Arts will continue to donate 70% of proceeds from the sale of these pieces to the Potsdam Humane Society.

Thanks to the success of this year's exhibit, we are planning to do another "Art for Animals" benefit next year from December 2, 2016-January 13, 2017.



Suzy McBroom (left) (Executive Director, SLC Arts) with Aiken (cat available for adoption through PHS) and Alysia Maynard (Executive Director, Potsdam Humane Society)

# SLC Arts' Board of Directors

**MARK SCOTT (PRESIDENT)** was Clarkson University's 2013 Entrepreneur of the Year and lives in and owns three businesses in Waddington, NY. His Artworks Creperie Café hosts and sells the work of area artisans in downtown Waddington. Mark served as Waddington Town Supervisor from 2012–2013. *Term: 2013–2015*

**DENNY MORREALE (VICE PRESIDENT)** graduated with a B.A. in History and Government from St. Lawrence University and worked in the Alumni Office at SLU as Associate Director of Annual Giving. Denny taught himself to play a number of instruments and has played harmonica for a number of local bands. Serving on the Development Subcommittee of the Board of Directors, he is committed to helping advance SLC Arts and, by extension, to developing a flourishing arts community throughout the North Country. *Term: 2013–2015*

**LENORE VANDERZEE (SECRETARY)** is the Executive Director for University Relations at SUNY Canton, overseeing public relations, government relations, economic development initiatives, and special projects in the President's Office. She also teaches political science courses at the college. In addition to the SLC Arts Council Board, Lenore serves on the board of the Canton Community Fund and has co-coordinated the Remington Arts Festival in Canton for two years. She loves the local arts and music scene and performs locally with her folk/Americana band, Uprooted. *Term: 2013–2015*

**TOM PLASTINO (TREASURER)** has been in the economic development "business" since about 1978. In April 2012 he began working for the St. Lawrence County Industrial Development Agency (IDA) as Deputy CEO and Chief Financial Officer. In his spare time, he serves as the treasurer of the St. Lawrence County Housing Council. He has served as an adjunct instructor at Clarkson University for two years. Tom is an electrician by trade, holds a collection of degrees from the University of Notre Dame, and has taken courses at two other universities. None of his education has any apparent relevance to what he does for a living. *Term: 2012–2014*

**THERESA SAMWAYS** is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker who is dedicated to working with people who have made a commitment to their health and personal growth. She works as a counselor at Clarkson University and runs an individual and family counseling private practice in Potsdam. She also has a background in art and enjoys making art and advocating for local and public artworks. *Term: 2014–2016*

**ROMI SEBALD** of Norwood is the collections manager for The Art Museum at SUNY Potsdam and a SUNY Potsdam fine art alumna. In her spare time, she enjoys primitive folk art forms, such as rag rugs and sawdust dolls. *Term: 2014–2016*

**TRISH VARNEY** has been a resident of Potsdam, NY, for 44 years. Since 1995, she has worked as an art teacher in various full- and part-time K–12 positions in the Potsdam Central School District. She currently teaches K–2 art at Lawrence Avenue Elementary School. She is an artist, mother of four, and wife and assistant to a local funeral director. *Term: 2014–2016*

**CHRISTINE ZAVGREN** was born in California where she took oil painting lessons at an early age. After moving to the Midwest she was engaged in more practical concerns, and, after receiving her Ph.D., she taught at several universities, most recently at Clarkson. She and her husband, Jan Wojcik, have lived in the North Country for almost 30 years. After retirement Christine decided to take up art again more intensely, first as a weaver, then switching from oil painting to watercolor. She took classes at Potsdam State and various places around the country. Christine is happy to take a more active role by serving on the board because SLC Arts increases cultural opportunities for the arts community and the public. *Term: 2016–2018*

**DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE** who would be GREAT on our board? Let us know! E-mail your nominations to [arts@slcartscouncil.org](mailto:arts@slcartscouncil.org)—we'll discuss them at our next Board of Directors meeting.

## SLC ARTS STAFF



**Suzy McBroom,**  
Executive Director



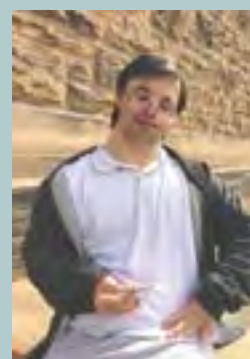
**Jenny Henry,**  
Program Coordinator



**Alicia Murphy,**  
Grants & Community  
Outreach Coordinator



**Pattie Lane,**  
Graphic Designer



**Steven Sauter,**  
Operations Assistant

## SLC ARTS 2015–2016 AT A GLANCE

### DECEMBER

**4** Exhibit opening for Judith Utter's *Our Lands, Our Waterways*, 6–8 pm (see page 5)

2016

*Note: Spring 2016 dates TBA — Annual Membership Celebration, Art Cafe, Gallery Day*

### JANUARY

**22** Exhibit opening for *Inspired by Music*, 4–6 pm (see page 5)

### FEBRUARY

**26** Exhibit opening for Eric Thacher's *Scenes which Appealed to Me*, 4–6 pm (see page 5)

### APRIL

**1** Exhibit opening for the Scholastic Art Awards of Central New York Regional Art Show, 5–7 pm (see page 5)

### MAY

**20** Deadline to apply for inclusion in 2017 Fine Art Up North calendar  
**20** Exhibit opening for work by Suzanne Langelier-Lebeda, 5–7 pm

### JUNE

**11** Young People's Arts Festival (tentative)

### SEPTEMBER

**24** Remington Arts Festival: Art Show & Sale, 10 am–4 pm in Canton Park

### NOVEMBER

**5–6 or** Artists' Studio Tour at many sites around St. Lawrence County (date TBA)  
**12–13** County (date TBA)  
**26** Small Business Saturday

*NOTE: Events are in Potsdam, NY, unless otherwise noted.*

## Tick Tock

7 whole months of  
6 am nights where I can't get you off my mind for  
5 minutes and no one's heard from you in  
4 ever I think you're so ashamed because you had  
3 words you tossed away from me like a tennis racket and  
2 kitties you left behind—not to mention  
1 shattered heart.  
Mine.

— Lauren McAdam

## Membership Form

### Join us in Building Community through the Arts...

- |                                                |                                             |
|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$2500: Artist Circle | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1000: Patron     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$500: Sustainer      | <input type="checkbox"/> \$300: Benefactor  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$150: Sponsor        | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100: Supporter   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50: Friend          | <input type="checkbox"/> \$25: Basic Member |

### Fill in Your Contact Information:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

### Payment Options:

- Mail a check to SLC Arts  
 Bill me via PayPal (email below)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
 Give online: [slcartscouncil.org](http://slcartscouncil.org)



41 Elm St., Rm. 231  
PO Box 252  
Potsdam, NY 13676

[arts@slcartscouncil.org](mailto:arts@slcartscouncil.org)  
[www.slcarts.org](http://www.slcarts.org)



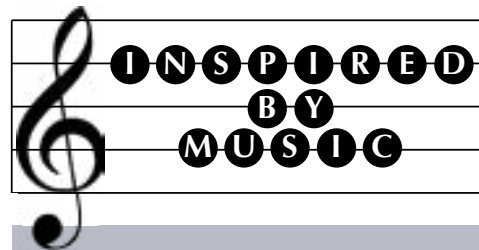
# ARTS QUARTERLY



P.O. Box 252 | Potsdam, NY 13676  
315.265.6860  
[www.slcartscouncil.org](http://www.slcartscouncil.org)

## Information and Resources for Northern New York

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Norwood, NY  
13668  
Permit #4



Judith Utter

*Our Lands, Our Waterways: Art as Conservation,  
Preservation, Appreciation*

Opening reception: Friday, December 4, 6:00–8:00 pm



December 2, 2015–January 13, 2016  
SLC Arts Gallery at Town Hall | 18 Elm St. | Potsdam, NY

## Inspired by Music

January 19–  
February 19, 2016

Opening reception:  
Friday, January 22,  
4:00–6:00 pm



SLC Arts Gallery at Town Hall  
18 Elm St. | Potsdam, NY