



jrac NEWS

JordanRiverArtsCouncil

WINTER 2022 | Volume 33, Issue 2 | www.jordanriverarts.com

from the CO-PRESIDENTS

What an eventful and wonderful year we have had! We are continuing to move forward with our dream of being handicap accessible while preserving our historic building. We have been in touch with Kenarri Consulting of Grand Rapids and are bringing our feasibility study up to date, and still preparing for a capital campaign. We also are excited to announce the lighting in the gallery will be updated during January and February 2023. Austin Grace of Crites, Tidey & Associates designed the space, and Atlas Electrical is making this come to fruition. The Taylor Foundation is supporting a portion of this upgrade.

We hope you find time to shop the **Holiday Gift Market** at JRAC. It is open every day (except Thanksgiving) from **1-4pm, through Saturday, December 17th**. Handcrafted items are treasures. There are several unique, quality gifts, just right for your shopping list. Remember to mark your calendars for **Shop Local Saturday, November 26, extended hours 1-8pm**.

We are thankful for the support shown to us. We are working hard to promote, encourage, and nurture artistic endeavors. We have been able to provide 8 opportunities to exhibit, conduct 5 workshops requested by members and interested patrons, sponsor Jordan Art Walk sculptors, provide plein air experiences, sketching excursions, writing sessions, and thoughtful Socrates meetings this year. Coming **November 26, 5-8pm there is an ornament decorating activity for children**. We are grateful for our generous community partners, members, volunteers, and docents.

Respectfully,
Dawn Swaim and Babs Young



Manhole Cover Printing Workshop



Cynthia Tschudy sketching in the dahlia garden



Member Show Opening 2022



Did you Know...?

JRAC is a member of NWMi & Cultural Network. This means we meet and network with several artists, art councils, galleries, and forums.

Our Holiday Gift Market is open 7 days a week and lasts 5 weeks. Grand opening was on November 13th, and we are open through December 17th. We are closed Thanksgiving Day, but have extended hours on Shop Small Business Saturday, November 26th.



Jim Witte designed the new banner in the side window of our building and oversaw the installation.

Billie Jo Solgot's family purchased a sculpture from the Jordan Art Walk. "Out of Nowhere" by Jim Wolnosky is now installed at Grandvue in honor of their grandparents.

Ann Gildner is returning to the EJHS welding class as their "artist-in-residence". The class will be creating a sculpture to honor veterans as a permanent gift to the community. EJ is donating the American flag that hung on the former foundry to be included in the GAR Park sculpture. (see Jordan Art Walk article)

JRAC was awarded a grant from Charlevoix County Community Foundation for \$9000 to support the Jordan River Art Walk artist-in-residence star sculpture that will be installed in GAR Park.

JRAC Gift Shop now has gift cards available. Any dollar amount can be loaded on them. They could be wonderful gifts for Membership, gift shop, workshops, or purchasing art.



The JRAC Gift Shop supports local and Michigan artists by offering wonderful handmade and reasonably priced items.

Our Little Free Library (LFL) will stay open this winter. Recently repaired, and made weather tight, the library will stay stocked for you to use. LFL is a global non-profit organization. Its mission is to build a community, inspire readers, and expand book access throughout the world. You can find Little Free Libraries by using the map on their website. We are honored to be part of LFL and promote reading and the arts in JRAC's front courtyard. Our beautiful historic building originally was a Carnegie Library.

Mingle & Jingle is Saturday, November 26th along with Shop Small. We have extended hours from 1-8pm that day to support shop local and will provide an art activity for children in our basement from 5-8pm. We are providing wooden ornaments to decorate. Extended hours will allow parents to shop JRAC's Holiday Gift Market while children create.

The board is updating the lighting in the gallery and workshop area. The Taylor Foundation is supporting a portion of this endeavor.

The JRAC Gift Shop has 3 "bird" felting kits. We love birds! In 2020 we started with a blue bird how-to kit during the pandemic to provide a "home" workshop. It was so popular Dawn created a penguin, then added a robin. All proceeds go toward general fund. We appreciate your support and will continue to add to the series. We'd love your input on future ideas. Kits have everything you need!



JRAC Gift Shop has 2 new books to offer. Suzanne Rogers has *Up North Bear* in her multi-book series, and Patti Clark has illustrated *Little Drop*.

We have a part-time employee; Judy Wagner Worgess has been a delightful addition to our daily operations.

We have chocolate to enjoy while you sign our guest book! Keeping daily track of our visitors helps us with providing documentation for grants. So even if you come visit every day, please sign our book. Thanks!

The JRAC website has photos from 2020-2022 shows. Take a trip back through previous shows to appreciate the artwork all over again! Go to jordanriverarts.com and click on "About Us".

You can post artists' opportunities onto the JRAC website. If you have information about an artist opportunity that you would like to see posted, please send it to jordanriverarts@gmail.com.

JRAC welcomes suggestions for future shows. Talk to one of the JRAC volunteers or send an email to jordanriverarts@gmail.com.



welcome new board member **SUZANNE SKUBICK**

Suzanne was interested in art in high school and was able to share her passion for the arts teaching her daughter's class art every Friday for five years.

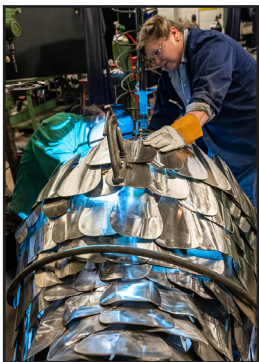
Suzanne also taught theater arts to 4th & 5th graders at Horizon Elementary School for eleven years. Students put on plays and talent shows under her direction and learned set design.

Suzanne worked in the cable industry as Community Affairs & Program Director. Then she worked with Michigan Department of Education and later spent 25 years with Michigan Department of Transportation. In her later years, Suzanne has endeavored to support artists as much as possible. Her home is filled with artwork from many cultures.

welcome new board member **GERA WITTE**

Gera Witte is a fiber and mixed media artist living in the Elk Rapids area. She has participated in many JRAC exhibits and programs since relocating to the area in 2010.

Born and raised in Cheboygan, MI, Gera finds inspiration in the woods, water and rural landscapes of Northern Michigan. Gera also lived in Port Huron for a few years, then Grand Rapids, where she raised two sons with her husband Jim. The couple also owned a design and marketing communications agency where they collaborated on client projects for over 30 years.



Ann Gildner working on "Jordan" the Swan at EJHS

community partnership **JORDAN ART WALK**

The summer of 2023 will see 7 more sculptures added to the Jordan Art Walk. One of them will be created by the welding students of East Jordan High School with the help and inspiration of artist Ann Gildner and welding instructor Dave Muladore. Last year's addition of the seven foot swan has been so successful, the committee has opted to go for another artist-in-residence program. This year's sculpture will be an eight foot star honoring veterans. It will eventually be located in GAR Park across Main St. from the art

center as a gift to the city. JRAC is pleased to once again work with our community partners in bringing this valuable experience for our students to fruition. Our thanks go out to the 72 donors who contributed to the GoFundMe campaign and to the Charlevoix County Community Foundation for helping to fund this project.



Ann Gildner, Ginny Hawkins, EJHS student and Dave Muladore

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CO-PRESIDENTS

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VP IN CHARGE OF MEMBERSHIP

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Nancy Carey

SECRETARY

Ginny Hawkins

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Shanna Robinson

WORKSHOP DIRECTOR

Gera Witte

MEMBER AT LARGE

Suzanne Skubick

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GALLERY HOURS

Open Daily
1-4 pm



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East Jordan, Michigan 49727

Non Profit Org.
US Postage
PAID
East Jordan, MI
49727
Permit #9

Just a reminder...
**HAVE YOU RENEWED
YOUR MEMBERSHIP?**

mark your **CALENDARS**

Collaboration Take 2

March 26 – April 29

In March of 2020 we hosted a group show of work made by artists collaborating on the same artwork. Each person made a contribution, then passed the work to the next person, or one artist inspired the work of another. It was a joy to be inspired by the artwork of friends and to experience the pleasure and productivity that happened when we worked together.

Because this show opened just as the pandemic shut everything down, it was not seen. In March of 2022 we will revisit this theme.

Scholarship Show

May 7 – 20

A JRAC tradition, this show highlights the terrific artwork of local high school students and awards scholarship money to those who plan further study at the college level.

From the Archives: Member Artist Retrospectives

May 23 – June 24

Highlighting the back-catalog of member artists, these pop-up shows will focus on exhibiting (and selling) work that represents the life-long accrual of art for each of the featured artists.

Farms/Farmers/Farmers

July 2 – 29

In celebration of the rich and delicious abundance produced by our area farms, farmers and farmhens. We are fortunate to live in a region so full of goodness!

Annual Members Show

August 6 – September 23

Each summer all of our members are encouraged to exhibit new work. This show has been happening each year, and it keeps getting better. Come see this collection of the amazing variety we have among our membership!

Indigenous Art and Culture

October 1 – November 4

Holiday Gift Market

November 12 – December 16

Our Holiday Gift Market is another yearly tradition. Come shop the



excellent selection of member-made gifts for your holiday giving.