



## **What's Happening at the Ontario County Arts Council and in the Community! Summer 2020**

**Mission Statement:** "Ontario County Arts Council will promote and strengthen the creative capacity of our community by providing diverse opportunities for arts participation, understanding, and appreciation."

### **Judi Cermak, OCAC Board President**

For many of us during this pandemic doing art has been a welcome distraction. We've had extra time to spend on it...

I make what I make because it is fun to do, I enjoy the process and it is pleasurable. Being very selfish, the art I create is for me. I have to do it. I develop new ideas, I plan, I experiment. I just feel better, less stress, and never bored! Maybe my art will be exhibited or not. The important thing is that I have used this time to keep my mind active and to create something. Time enjoyed is not timed wasted.

## *Ontario County Arts Council Summer Events*

### *The Colors of Our World Art Exhibit*

can now be viewed in person (!) [at the Ontario County Historical Society Museum](#)  
55 N. Main St., Canandaigua

#### Special OCAC sponsored OPEN HOUSE on Saturday July 11 from 11am-3pm

OCAC will have a **free raffle of Judi Cermak's fiber art felted wool piece** from the "Colors of Our World" exhibit during the week of July 11<sup>th</sup> through July 17<sup>th</sup>. Stop in to see the exhibit during the Open House or whenever the museum is open - and get a free raffle ticket!



### **Children of the World**

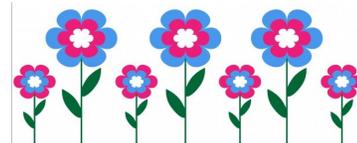
22 x 18 framed  
embroidered and needle felted  
by Judi Cermak

During this stage of the museum's Covid-19 plan, the museum's open hours are restricted to Tuesday thru Friday from 10am to 12pm and 1 pm to 4:30 pm.  
Face masks are required for entry into the building.

While you're visiting the Historical Society Museum check out the new [Ontario County Immigrants](#) and [Cow to Consumer](#) exhibits, and please consider signing up for the

#### [2020 Canandaigua Garden Tour!!](#)

July 18 @ 11:00 am - 3:00 pm \$20  
Tickets and information at [www.ochs.org](http://www.ochs.org)  
or call 585 394-4975



As you know, due to Covid-19 the **OCAC Gallery at the Fort Hill Performing Arts Center** in Canandaigua has not been open to the public. However, upcoming juried exhibits are being planned by the OCAC Exhibit Committee. The theme for the next exhibit there is: “Seeing in a New Light” to be exhibited in the fall.

Members can find information regarding submission details at:

<https://www.ocarts.org/announcements-for-members>

---

The dates for a **fall art exhibit at OCHS Museum** have not been set yet, but the juried, themed exhibit will be “**Hidden Treasures**”. All other, previously announced exhibits have been postponed until 2021. Details and deadlines for “Hidden Treasures” will be announced soon, via an email to all artist members.

Who says that a hidden treasure has to be a chest full of gold?!!  
Get ready to be wowed by the hidden treasures that you’ll see in our fall exhibit!



---

### **We need volunteers for new OCAC committees being formed!!**

1. Kay Howard will chair a group to organize and support artists who would like to provide art classes through OCAC.
2. Aimee Ward will chair a group to organize and support events through OCAC - both fund raising events and just for fun!

Please email your interest in either committee to: [ocartsny@gmail.com](mailto:ocartsny@gmail.com)

---



Thank you to 53 of our artist members who answered our recent survey on artist involvement in cultural organizations, donations and volunteerism. The responses and statistics have been tabulated, and a synopsis is being written.

---

Sadly, Mike Sargent and his wife, Linn, passed away at Elm Manor Nursing Home on the same day this past spring. Mike and Linn were long time supporters of OCAC. In tribute to Mike Sargent, a talented photographer (especially known for his songbird photos), we will be presenting a special award in his name, to be given to a photographer during our first annual Photography Plein Air event. (Originally planned for this fall but due to COVID-19 has been postponed.)



# Meet the Artist!

## *This issue features Kit Corti!*

Kit has been a valued member of OCAC. She grew up in North Tonowanda, NY and then went to RIT, majoring in graphic arts and teaching. She graduated with an MFA. At first she focused on silk screening, but you will see that as she moved around she always had an art studio and continued to explore and create in different mediums.



“Penumbra”  
silk screen

After Rochester, Kit moved to Maine where she taught high school art classes. When living in Arizona, Kit focused on watercolors and teaching. She has lived in Naples, NY since 1989, giving private art lessons, teaching GED classes through Ontario County, and continuing to express her love of color through drawing with colored pencils and painting.



Neop. Rec. illustration

Some of the places that Kit’s art has been displayed is in OCAC exhibits, in Rochester at ROCO, Artisans, and the Unitarian Church. Her art has also been shown at the Mill House Gallery in Honeoye Falls, and the Naples Grape Festival. She created a room at the Grape Festival of people and colorful shapes made out of foam core! If you read the Naples Neopolitan Record then you probably have seen her illustrations across the top of the inside covers since 2016!

Kit recalls that her Mom loved to do paint-by-number painting and she couldn’t understand why Kit wouldn’t join her! Kit is a ‘paint outside the box’ kind of artist, finding inspiration and creativity in everyday life! For example, because of her husband’s illness they have been having lunches delivered from the Ontario County Office of the Aging. The lunches are delivered in aluminum trays which, after a while began to pile up. Kit looked at the trays and was inspired to repurpose them into all kinds of fun creations!

Do you see an aluminum tray?  
Kit sees a baby! A face! A dancer!



Kit in her studio.



Kit still offers private classes in drawing and painting. You can contact her at: 585-402-1202, and check out some of her art at [www.kitcorti.com](http://www.kitcorti.com). Be ready to let your imagination soar, because Kit says, “If you’re looking for realism this is not the class for you!”

**Kim Ferguson** I attended Matthew Christopher's first photo workshop since the corona virus at the abandoned Catskill Game Farm.

I am seriously considering whether or not to attend The Silos workshop in Buffalo July 31st-August 2<sup>nd</sup>. Lots of out of state and out of towners there...

---

### Howard Van Buren

Offering on line classes - next one coming up on July 11!

I'm scheduled to teach at Pat Rini gallery this summer.

Private on line lessons currently, with on line sketching program offered again in July

Howard's contact info: email [Howard@VanBuren-art.com](mailto:Howard@VanBuren-art.com) website [www.vanburen-art.com](http://www.vanburen-art.com)

---

**Leslie Shakespeare-Brogan** I am teaching on line classes. I am also offering an outdoor "Honoring Mother Nature" art afternoon in Penfield.

I am now sharing my studio with **Joanne Wright**, watercolorist, and she will also be offering classes.

The weekend of July 17<sup>th</sup> & 18 we have an OPEN HOUSE at Hope In Art Studio to welcome Joanne. We are also offering a "Downtown Rocks" event for anyone to come and paint a rock that Friday. On Saturday I will be demonstrating decorative painting techniques on an Adirondack Chair. All outside under out tent!

Leslie's contact info: Website [www.openartstudio.com](http://www.openartstudio.com) ph # 585-727-4574

Facebook page: Lesley Shakespeare-Brogan, Artist/teacher

Joanne's contact info: ph # 585 451-0394 Facebook page: Joanne Wright arts

---

**Pat Overmoyer** If everything goes as planned, I will be participating in the Arts at the Gardens show at Sonnenberg. Same for Clothesline. So far, so good! Fingers crossed!!

---

**Neil Allen** I have had another piece selected for the Pastel Society of America's on-line show series. Works are selected from each of the PSA's three categories of membership - Master Pastelists, Signature Members, and Associate Members. I was selected for inclusion in the Associate Members' division for both the Mothers' Day and Fathers' Day shows, and the works were posted on the Pastel Society of America Facebook page. The piece on the yellow background is 'My Mother's Tools' (for Mothers' Day, obviously!) and 'My Father's Tools' for Fathers' Day. I was pretty excited and honored to be included on a page that gets international circulation.



---

**Peter Blackwood** I will be featured in Life in the Finger Lakes magazine which will come out some time in August.

Peter's contact info: website: [blackwoodphoto.com](http://blackwoodphoto.com)

---

**Tina Yannotti** I told the Geneva Library about the grants that OCAC offers and they called me to let me know that they did receive the grant. They were very excited and invited me to be their first artist to show!

---

**Mike Nyrges** My photographic work is on exhibit at the The Art Gallery at Cobblestone Arts Center through July 19th along with work by Jeanette Hernandez and area sculptor, Benji Carr. My exhibit consists of 30 photographic prints, both black and white and color, and reflect a variety of subjects and styles. The work includes photos of the tropical hardwood hammocks of Florida to impressionistic views of New York City to expressionist abstracts and photo narratives.

The exhibit can be viewed virtually at: <https://www.cobblestoneartscenter.com/mike-nyrges-gallery>

## What are some of our Artist Members up to?!

**Maddie Corsaro** I have some updates about what's happening at The Cheshire Union Gift Shop (where I work, and where many OCAC members sell their work)!

For the month of July, **Victoria Connor's** fiber art is on display in our gallery space. We are working on scheduling a class as well. Look for the class details on Facebook: @TheCheshireUnion.

We are also open for hosting small, in-person classes, no more than 9 students. This is a great opportunity for artists who would like to get back to in-person teaching but need a professional, clean and open space. We charge \$5/student as rent for the space. So if someone has a class of 3 students, that's \$15; if they have a full class of 9 students, that's \$45. The length of the class does not matter, we simply charge per class. (So say, someone wants to do 3 classes with 9 students.. that's \$135). This makes it pretty easy for the teachers to incorporate this cost into their price of the class without worrying if they get "enough students". If any OCAC artists are interested they can call the shop (585) 394-5530 to reserve a date on our calendar! We have filled up 2 classes so far since opening back up.

### Kathy Ann Morris

#### How My Art Has Helped Me Now

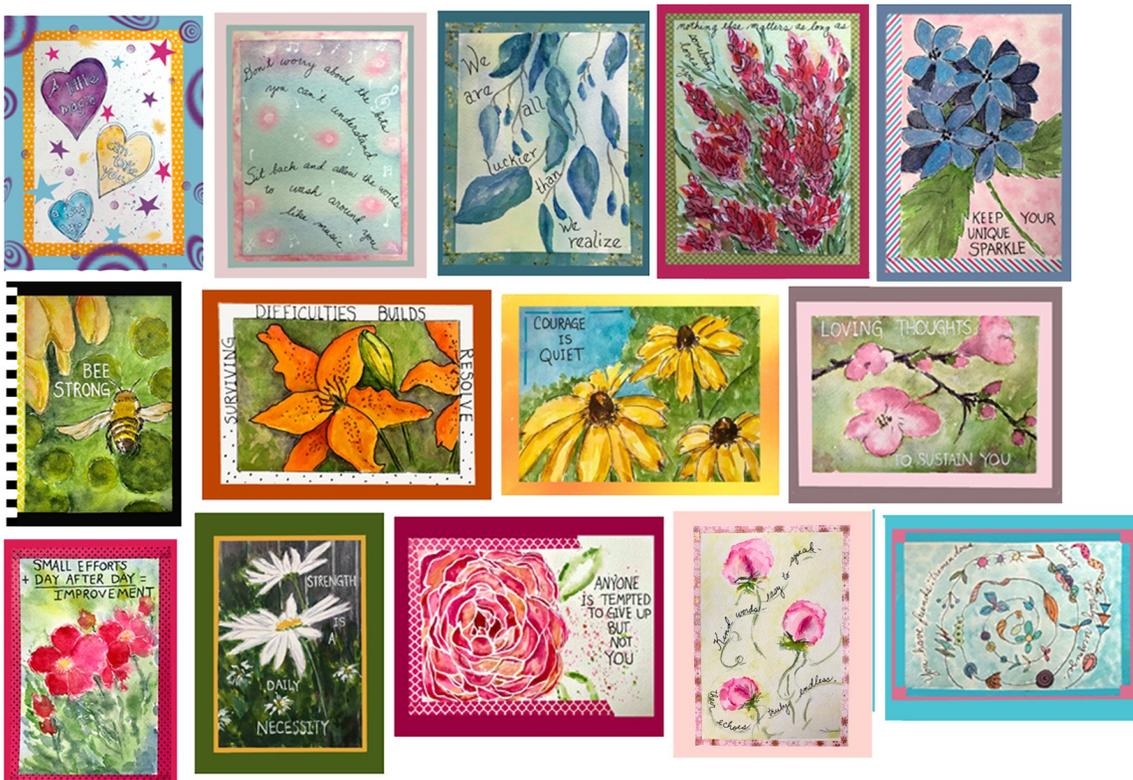
In mid-March, the assisted living facility, where my mom was living at the time, was locked down. We talked on the phone, we did FaceTime, and we tried to keep our positive outlook. But, I found I was in an art slump. Couldn't get motivated, couldn't stop watching the news.

At the end of April, my mom suffered a stroke, which left her cognitively impaired and struggling with significant aphasia. We have been devastated as so many families have come to know trauma and pain so personally.

I decided I had to be in touch with her, daily, to give her hope and encouragement. The only way I could think to accomplish this was creating watercolor postcards with a positive outlook and sending my love and news on the reverse side.

Not only has this helped her and me, but it also seems to have struck a chord with the health care workers at MM Ewing and many of my friends and relatives on FaceBook during these difficult times. I am so grateful to have this method to communicate with Mom and so many others in this way. Spreading Positivity.

You can contact Kathy on her Facebook page.



## Art in the Libraries

As libraries return to “business as usual”, updates of art exhibits will be shared for:  
Victor/Farmington Library, Wood Library, Bloomfield Library, Bristol Library, Naples Library

**OCAC Rotating Art Exhibits** have all been changed as of July 1<sup>st</sup> at all 10 business locations that display our artwork. See our OCAC website for details where the artwork can be viewed at:

<https://www.ocarts.org/rotating-exhibits>

When visiting local businesses in Canandaigua, Victor, Geneva, and Bloomfield that participate in

### **Rotating Artist Exhibits**

please let them know how much you enjoy the art!

Check our website [www.ocarts.org](http://www.ocarts.org) for information and updates!

Be sure to check out the latest addition to our website—OCAC Artists at Work, Our Creative Work Spaces

**If you are on Facebook, please LIKE "Ontario County Arts Council"**

***Thank You for Supporting the Arts!***

