































inside: the heart of the arts featured artist series

Fall 2023





advocacy and

education.

Transforming

and

strengthening













ON THE COVER: Works from the Foothills Painters Art Wall Exhibit: Ekphrastic Poetry. Works by the artists were paired with poetry from area poets.

Quarterly, the United Arts
Council hosts art from local
artists for three months in our
gallery/office space and an
opening reception/meet and
greet with the artists.
Interested in a show?
Contact Artist Series Coordinator,
Kat Evans, media@artscatawba.org
for more information.

Find the fun and fill your calendar with the many great cultural events you will find in

Dates to Remember

August 29, 2023

Grants Workshop

October 12, 2023

Art Wall Reception Cold Wax & Collage with Amy McHugh and Carol Turner

October 12, 2023

Maker's Mixer

December 4, 2023

Jingle Bell BASH

January 4, 2024

Grants Workshop

March 14, 2024

Artists Professional Development Workshop

these pages and on our website events calendar!

artscatawba.org/events



Executive Director's Note

Dear Arts Community,

Get ready for an exciting year as our cultural community launches new seasons of exciting programs and artistic endeavors! Take a look at the websites of our Funded Affiliate and Associate Member organizations listed in this Art Beat to see what all they have to offer.

At the United Arts Council of Catawba County, we are wrapping up the Economic Impact Study and eagerly awaiting the results and analysis. Thank you to all who contributed to this major undertaking. Please note that our research efforts will not be slowing down, as we now embark on the creation of a county wide cultural plan and an internal strategic plan. Community engagement is key in this type of work so we ask, again, for your cooperation on this project.

Be sure to mark your calendars for the annual Jingle Bell BASH on Monday, December 4th!

Finally, we thank you again for your gifts to the 2023 United Arts Fund. If you have not yet donated this year, please consider making your contribution soon.

With Much Gratitude,

Ingrid Keller | Executive Director

Alex Frick | Board President

Board of Directors 2023-24

Alex Frick--President
Alan Jackson--Past President
Patricia Thompson--President Elect
Katherine Rogers--Vice President
Kitty Barnes--Secretary
Michael Roper--Treasurer
Christine Almeida
Scott Anderson
Tracey A. Bolick
Erik Cortez
Bonita Ferretti
Justin Fox

Amy Hayes
Amanda Hetzel
Landon Lane, III
Victoria Martin
Adele James McCarty
Jerry McCombs
Alfred McCorkle
Patricia Middleton
Elizabeth Thao
Kimberly Wallace
Mike Watson
Allen Wood

Local Government Support

Thank you for the grant dollars that you entrust to us which are used to bring quality cultural events to all parts of our County.

Catawba County City of Conover City of Hickory

Rebecca Hart

City of Maiden City of Newton

Funded Affiliates

Celebrating the arts and the joy they bring to life every day.

We proudly support these organizations that receive UAF dollars and make a valuable contribution to our economy and quality of life in Catawba County and the surrounding area. Through their efforts, children and adults are exposed to outstanding experiences in science, art, history, theatre and music. Their upcoming events and exhibitions are sure to entertain, educate and inspire. Visit these organizations to experience the joy of their high quality programming and performances.



Totally Awesome 80s Saturday, April 20, 2024

Ariel Pocock & Chad Eby Jazz Duo Thursday, Jan. 18, 2024

KAIA Quartet Thursday, March 21, 2024

Hank, Pattie, and The Current with WPS Maestro's Quartet Thursday, May 2, 2024

DISCOVERY FAMILY CONCERTS
P.E. Monroe Auditorium, Hickory
In Partnership with Catawba Science Center

Magical Spooktacular | Sun., Oct. 29, 2023 We are the Champions! | Sun., April 28, 2024



Tickets available at wpsymphony.org or call (828) 324-8603

Follow us at @wpsymphony

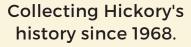








Hickory Landmarks Society



Membership Drive September 15 -October 14

Bus Tour to Lake Lure and Hendersonville October 11

> Annual Poinsettia Sale November 25 -December 15

Follow us on



PRESERVING THE PAST FOR THE **FUTURE**











828.322.8169 www.CatawbaScience.org

> On the SALT Block 243 3rd Ave NE Hickory, NC 28601

PLANETARIUM



AQUARIUM



INTERACTIVE EXHIBITS













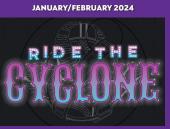
AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2023





nastasia

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2023



FEBRUARY/MARCH 2024





MAY 2024

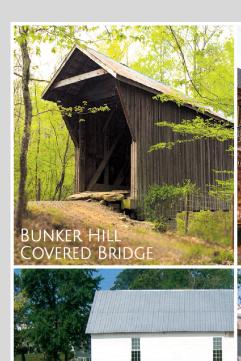
JUNE 2024



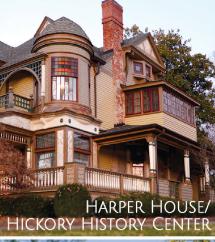




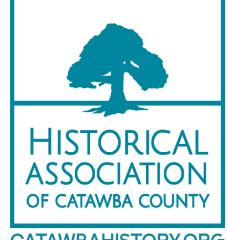
SEASON PASSES NOW ON SALE ● CALL 828 • 328 • 2283 OR VISIT HICKORYTHEATRE.ORG



MURRAY'S MILL







CATAWBAHISTORY.ORG 828 | 465 | O383





WHERE HISTORY COMES HOME



In anticipation of our upcoming 80th Anniversary on February 4, 2024, Hickory Museum of Art is planning a permanent collection take-over of the museum's galleries that pays homage to our roots and celebrates where we are going.



FOUNDATIONS

december 8, 2023 - june 9, 2024

Associate Members

Visit our Associate Member's websites to learn about amazing programs and cultural events! If you are a non-profit with a mission statement rooted in Arts, Science or History, we invite you to become a member. Contact Executive Director, Ingrid Keller at executivedirector@artscatawba.org.



quiltersguild.com 828-381-8342

♥| HART SQUARE

"We preserve the log structures, trades, and culture housed at Hart Square Village."

> hartsquare.com 828-528-5029



"Small town theatre, big city entertainment" NewtonPAC.com

828-464-8100



facebook.com/groups /215744988443706/ 828-322-8675



Building futures through music by teaching, performance and community outreach." hickorymusicfactory.com 828-308-5659



newtondepot.com 980-858-4266

HICKORY

PLAYGROUND

"HPG funds area school arts programs through donations

and the annual 48-hour Play

Festival."

Hickoryplayground.org 336-749-8703



co-operative gallery & exhibition space." fullcirclearts.org 828-322-7545



ncfmc-music.org/ senior-clubs 917-647-7611



"New Horizons Music provides entry points to music-making for adults, including those with no musical experience." catawbavalleynew horizons.ort



hickoryart.org/ guild-hma 828-327-8576



"Preserve, Protect, Promote cvheritagealliance.org 828-464-0405



"Rockhounding, Earth Science, Lapidary & Fellowship" cvgmc.com 828-612-4469

MINERAL CLUB, No



wpsymphony.org/ youthorchestras 828-324-8603



PROVIDING A HOME FOR SCIENCE, #ARTS & LITERATURE TOGETHER. Saltblockfoundation.org 828-324-4906 ext. 303



facebook.com/cvcchorus 828-381-9017



"Purposeful gifts created by hand" uniqueworldgifts.org 828-328-5595



"A women's chorus specializing in performing four-part, a cappella music in the barbershop style." carolinastylechorus.org 828-768-7755



HICKORY BALLET & PERFORMING ARTS

"To inspire and empower our community through Classical ballet and the performing arts." hickoryballetpa.com 828-294-8438

the heart of the arts featured artist: Hunter Speagle



By Kat Evans

You know that you have walked into the studio of a great artist when you are left walking out of it INSPIRED. That's how I felt after a recent visit to Atac Gallery in the OLLE Arts District here in Hickory. I reached out to artist and gallery owner, Hunter Speagle, after finding out that ATAC (Artists Taking a Chance) had plans to start a new artist market that would run respectively every Saturday. When I arrived at the gallery, I was happy to find out that a kids summer art camp, run by his lovely partner in life and art, Ashley Bee and their adorable little girl, Opal, was about to get started. What better place to have a kids art camp than at a gallery where the surrounding imagery made you feel as if you had access to a portal that led to a magical world!

Hunter, a Hickory native, is a full-time artist with a creative background that runs a mile long, maybe more. Having studied at the Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD) in Georgia, and receiving a Masters from the School of Visuals (SVA) in New York, he's not only creative, he's business-minded. When I asked him to tell me more about the artist market, he began by sharing his vision for the future of ATAC. He desires to see the gallery representing an array of artists whose work he plans to exhibit not just in our immediate area, but beyond. Utilizing his

experiences, knowledge, and Art-world connections, Hunter sees the potential to create an even stronger art community in our town with ATAC being a hub for creative growth.

The goal for what he is calling 'The Artist Flea Market' is to offer creatives of all types and disciplines an opportunity to set up inside the gallery to sell their work, with the possibility of becoming one of the permanent, exhibiting artists represented by ATAC. The setup fee to participate is currently \$30 per event. The time frame for the market is from 10AM to 6PM. A food truck will be onsite during each event to ensure that visitors and participants are not only visually stimulated, but that their taste buds are as well. If you are interested in participating in the 'Artist Flea Market' be sure to contact Hunter at: HunterATAC@gmail.com. In addition to the market, ATAC Gallery is currently offering Kids Summer Art Camps, private art lessons for both adults and children, and will soon be offering group life drawing courses. To find out more about events and art instruction at the gallery, be sure to follow their Facebook and Instagram pages.

Hunter Speagle is an Innovative Artist Grant recipient who is working on a project focused on North Carolina folk art and its influence on American culture, where it came from and where it is now. He is represented by JPS Gallery with locations in Hong Kong, Tokyo, Paris and Barcelona. https://paulhunterspeagle.com

Artist Directory

Catawba County is home to a large artist community with talents in a wide range of genres. We hope you will use this guide to become aquainted with this dynamic group of individuals.

Adrian Rice

adrianrice.com press53.com/adrian-rice Literary Art/Music/Poetry

Alison Willard

alisonwillard.art Visual Art

Allen Finely Advertising, Inc.

finleyadvertising.com
Visual Art/Performing Art/Music/Photography/
Videography

Altered Earth Ceramics Casey Rodefeld

AlteredEarthCeramics.com Pottery

Amy Blankenship

Facebook: Amy Blankenship Literary Art

Amy McHugh

Facebook: Amy McHugh Visual Art

Andrew Richtmyer

AndrewRDoesArt.com Visual Art

Art by Dan Smith

ArtbyDanSmith.com Visual/Literary Art

Art by Maria Register

mariaregisterart.myportfolio.com Visual Art

Art by Vukela

Joyce Vukela-Mayer

ArtByVukela.com Visual Art

Art in the Shop Richard Sinclair

Facebook: Art in the Shop

Sculpture

ArtbyLesli Lesli Garvett

ArtbyLesli.com Visual Art

Artistry by Ann Webster

Facebook: Artistry by Ann Webster Visual Art

Ashley Gaylord Pottery

etsy.com/shop/HickoryTreePottery Pottery

Belle le Verre Stained Glass

Marietta Burke belleleverre.com

Craft

Big Red Cube Studios

Jeff Kiefer

bigredcube.com Visual Art/Sculpture

Bill Morgan

morgan@morganlaw.org Theater

Bob Sinclair Music

Facebook: Bob Sinclair and The Big Deals Music/Theater

BPope Productions

Brandon Pope

bpopeproductions.com Photography/Videography

Bud Caywood

budcaywood.com Literary Art/Visual Art

Carol Turner

Facebook: Carol Turner-Painter Visual Art

Carrie Graves

Facebook: Carrie Reed Graves

Visual Art

Cheyenne Elliott Fine Art and Design

cheyenneelliott.bigcartel.com Visual Art

Chris Witherspoon

Facebook: Chris Witherspoon

Visual Art

Christopher Parsons

Facebook: Christopher Parsons

Visual Art

Clay James

clayjames.myportfolio.com

Visual Art/Theater

Clefnotes Music Studio

Kim J. Gant

https://clefnotesmusicstudio.weebly.com/

Music

Cotton and Wood Designs

Maria Campagna

cottonandwooddesigns.com

Visual Art

Dawn Dreibus

dawndreibus.com

Visual Art

Dead Exposure Studio

Jay Imura

Facebook: Deadexposure.studio

Photography/Mixed Media

Denise Lehman

Facebook: Denise Posegay Lehman

Visual Art/Pottery

Derfla

Kent Paulette

https://www.kentpaulette.com/about/

Visual Art

Designs by Anne

Anne Fredley

tradealleyart.com/anne-fredley

Jewelry Design

Divine Creations Adele McCarty

dcmurals.com Visual Art

Dobbins Pottery Studio Amanda Dobbins

Facebook: Amanda Dobbins Pottery/Sculpture/Craft

Dwayne Hash/12:23 dream factory

Instagram: Dwaynehash3148 Visual Art, Sculpture, Craft

ECHO Arts

Elizabeth Oczkowski

Facebook: ECHO Arts

Visual Art

Ellen Ball Studios

ellenballstudios.com

Craft

Ellington Pottery

Kim Ellington

ellingtonpottery.com

Visual Art/Pottery/Sculpture

Fanjoy Labrenz Studio Sally Fanjoy and James Labrenz

fanjoylabrenz.com

Visual Art/Photography/Videography

Francis Simeni

francissimeni.com

Visual Art

G. David Burnell

Facebook: The Triangle Group

Visual Art

Gee!Threads

Genie Greenlaw

geethreads@charter.net

Visual Art

Gena Art

Gena Hawkins

genaart.net

Visual Art

GhostWoman Studios

Karen Parker

ghostwomanstudios.com

Visual Art

Groovy Girl Art & Studio

Debra Zimmerman

Facebook: GroovyGirlArtStudio

Pottery/Mosaic Artist

Heidi Schoener

schoenerdesign@gmail.com

Visual Art/Craft

Hickory Arts

Jeff Hartman

hickoryarts.com

Music

Hickory Community Theater

John Rambo

hickorytheatre.org

Theater

Hog Hill Pottery

John Post

Facebook: HogHill

Pottery

JAG Studio

Audrey Sherrill

etsy.com/shop/jagartist

Visual Art/Photography

JK Moyles Pottery & Gallery

Jane Moyles

Pottery

Janey Miller

Facebook: Jane Miller Artist

Visual Art

JCline Paintings

Jennifer Cline

Facebook: JCline Paintings

Visual Art

Jenne Fine Arts

Sara Jenne Echerd

Seza246@aol.com

Visual Art

JHarris Art

Janice Harris

jharrisart.net

Visual Art

Joan E Gardner

joanegardnerartist.com

Visual Art

John Coffey

johnnyjava@earthlink.net

Music/Theater

Judy Rider Fine Art

fineartamerica.com/profiles/judy-rider

Visual Art

Julie Stephan

famouslyjulie.net

Visual Art, Pottery, Photography

Karin Koval

karinkoval.art

Visual Art

Kathryn Regel

kathrynregel.com

Visual Art

Kathy Buist

Kathybuist.com

Visual Art

KDH Designs

Kim Houston

kdhdesigns726.myportfolio.com/

Visual Art

Kendra Williford

willifordkc.wixsite.com/kendrawilliford

Animation

KHP Studio Art Katie Pekman

khpstudioart.com Visual Art

Kimberly Bost

kimberlybost.com Visual Art

Lance Turner

lanceturnerpainting.com Visual Art

Linzi/Zi

Lindsey Manning

Facebook: Lindsey Manning Multimedia

Lisa Ray

Facebook: Lisa Ray Pottery/Craft/Cherokee

Liz Yang Art

lizyangart.com Painting

Lonzart

Lon McSherely

LonzArt.com Visual Art

Martha Burgin

burginart@gmail.com Visual Art

Melissa Gibson Frame Gallery

fanjoylabrenz.com
Photography/Fine Art Framing

Meredith Janssen

tradealleyart.com/meredith-janssen Visual Art

Michael Reno Harrell

michaelreno.com/ Literary Art

Michaele Leatherman

micshug@gmail.com Visual Art/Pottery/Craft/Photography

Minetta Lane Studio Lindsay Barrick

lindsaybarrick.com
Literary Art/Visual Art/Photography

Mud Mamas Studio Dana Andreasson

mudmamasstudio.com Potterv

Nina Hardison

nobullart.com/index.php?L1=gallery&gallery_id=C9K26QQXRL Visual Art

Nomadic Artist Melissa Crosson

mcrossonfineart.com Painting

Oatka Glass Studio Amanda Taylor

oatkaglass.com Fused Glass

Pat Flachbart

Rakupatti@earthlink.net
Visual Art/Pottery/Handmade paper

PC Effects

Pamela Chambers

Facebook: PC Effects

Visual Art

Phil Hawn

philhawn.net Visual Art/Sculpture

Rick Cline

rickcline.com Music

Ryota Matsumoto

ryotamatsumotostudio.com Visual Art

Scott Owens

Facebook: Scott Owens

Literary Art

Serendipity Studio Teena Stewart

serendipity-studio.org Visual Art

Soprano

Alexandria McNeely

AlexandriaMcNeely.com Music

Stephen Brooks

Facebook: Stephen Brooks Visual Art

Susan Grant

susan-grant-artist.com Visual Art

Teresa Bentley

Tereza.Bentley@gmail.com Visual Art

Terra Artemis

Kat Evans terra-artemis.com Visual Art/Photography

The Creator's Little Apprentice Mark S Kastner

Facebook: The Creator's Little Apprentice Woodwork

Theresa J McDanel

Facebook: Art by Teresa McDanel Painting

Would you like to be added to our online artist directory?
Please note: This is for individual artists, studios, collectives, creative businesses etc...

SCAN TO COMPLETE REGISTRATION

Thornburg Bead Studio Nikki Thornburg-Lanigan

thornburgbeadstudio.com
Visual Art/Sculpture/Craft/Glass/Precious Metal

Tigersmoon Design Virginia Hurley tigersmoon.com Pottery

Tonja Smith

Facebook: Tonja Carswell Smith Literary Art/Visual Art

Trinilicious Natalie Ramos

Facebook: Natalie Ramos Music/Literary Art/Photography

Victoria Morales

victoriamorales.nc@gmail.com Visual Art

Voodoo Creative Graphic Design Co.

Christopher Jennings Visual Art, Graphic Design, Fine Art

Wink Gaines Photographer

winkgainesphoto.com Photography

XIEVEN & Sleepy Studios Tevin Carr

sl33pystudios.com Music



RANDOM ACTS OF ARTSINESS by ingrid keller

It was about eight years ago when I first coined the term "Random Acts of Artsiness." It was a nice day so I decided to walk from what is now the Newton Performing Arts Center to the Old Post Office Playhouse. I was about to turn the corner when I happened to notice a tree had been chopped down and a bear head was carved into the remainder of the trunk. It struck me instantly. I thought to myself, "What creative person thought to do this for absolutely no reason at all? It really is quite random...a random... act of artsiness!"

That moment sparked thoughts about other wonderful creative encounters I've had over the years and what other Random Acts of Artsiness could still be done. I contemplated the unassuming street art I'd stumbled across on the streets of London as a graduate student. I remembered videos online of flash mob dances like the one in the

Belgium train station that trended on YouTube. I thought about how ravers make bracelets to give away to the people they meet. I questioned whether or not I would have stopped to listen to Joshua Bell in the subway station. I imagined building immersive experiences and gathering my talented friends to create more Random Acts of Artsiness simply for art's sake.

So many thoughts came from this one small moment, and the catalyst was art.

The arts really are a universal language. They are our purest forms of human expression. Sure, some of the incidents I mentioned may have been, perhaps, for media attention and the chance of going viral but I feel certain that for most, the true purpose is simply to share artistic expression with anyone who cares to notice.

I finally discovered only a few months ago that the bear carving that inspired my thoughts behind Random Acts of Artsiness was created by the City of Newton's Tree Trimming Crew Leader, Brad Tompkins. He has been making carvings around Newton for the past 16 years. Have you seen one? These sorts of happenings, these expressions of creativity, these random acts of artsiness are all around us, if we just care to notice.

I'll be sharing more Random Acts of Artsiness with each Art Beat pub lication. You can also listen to learn more by tuning in to the "Arts Round-Up" with Hal Row and me, airing every fourth Thursday at 8:30 a.m. on WHKY Radio.



Catawba County Library Friends of Catawba County Library Friends of Patrick Beaver & Ridgeview Libraries Friends of Sherrills Ford Library **Hickory Downtown Development Association** Patrick Beaver Library Ridgeview Library **Hickory Recreation Department** Keep Catawba County Beautiful North Carolina Cooperative Extension Town of Catawba Historical Association

Education

Catawba County Schools Catawba Valley Community College Hickory Day School Hickory Public Schools **Hickory Schools Orchestra Boosters** Kids in Koncert Lenoir-Rhyne Playmakers Lenoir-Rhyne University Visiting Partners **Writers Series** Lenoir-Rhyne University Youth Chorus Montessori Children's House

Newton-Conover City Schools

Suzuki School of the Arts

Service

Bas Bleu Club Catawba Valley Garden Council Hickory Junior Woman's Club Hickory Woman's Club Service League of Hickory Women's Resource Center

Community

A Community Partner of the United Arts Council must be an education, government or service organization that supports arts, science and history in Catawba County. To learn more contact Executive Director, Ingrid Keller at executivedirector@artscatawba.org.



243 3rd Avenue, NE Box 5 Hickory, NC 28601



The United Arts Council of Catawba County will be creating a county-wide cultural plan and organizational strategic plan this year. Community engagement is a key element of this work. If we ask you to attend a focus group or answer a survey, please take the time to help us as we conduct this important research of our community's cultural resources.

Thank you in advance for your consideration!