



ArtSoup An Exceptional Community Event

Saturday, June 20, 2009 was hot and sunny in Elk River, a perfect day for ArtSoup. This was the sixth biannual festival organized by the Alliance, and was enjoyed by nearly 2,000 people of all ages. Over forty five artists were featured in thirty five art sales booths and the Schroeder tent, and seven performance groups entertained the audiences from the Great River Energy stage in front of the Mississippi River. The evening performance highlighted J. D. and Fred Steele and the audience responded to their program by dancing into dusk.



The day's activities included a juried art show, a large tent where community organizations displayed information about the programs and services they provide to the community, food vendors including a "soup competition" won by McCoys pub, face painting, stilt walkers, a metal worker displaying his craft, a sidewalk chalk rendering of a paddle boat on the Mississippi, and much more.



The festival was again sponsored free to the public thanks in large part to the many Arts Alliance volunteers and high school students, Elk River City departments, and local businesses and service organizations. A special thanks are in order to the Minnesota State Arts Board, the major sponsor of this event, and to Great River Energy, the First Bank of Elk River, and the Central Minnesota Arts Board for their continuing support of our programs throughout the year.

Fall Exhibit

Oil-painting & Photography by Kirsten Anderson Clouse

Kirsten's paintings and photography will be exhibited in the Gallery from September 3 through October. Her work capitalizes on the many moods and seasonal splendor of Lake Superior and the Apostle Islands. Her art has been featured in many shows and she won the grand prize in the 2006 photo contest for the "Lake Superior Magazine". You don't want to miss this exhibit!

Also on display, will be a beautiful wooden kayak made by her son, Taag Ebert. A reception to meet the artist and Taag will be held in the Gallery on September 12 from 2 to 6 PM.



oil painting

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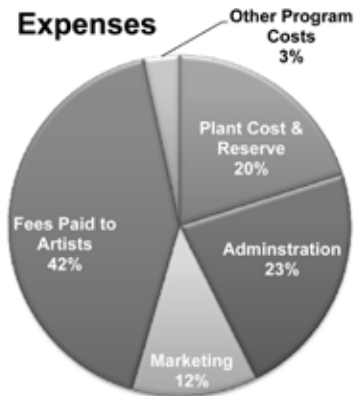
The 2008-2009 Year in Review

Income



\$118,000

Expenses



\$118,000

Main Street Gallery Upcoming Events

Annual Holiday Show

Entry forms available online at www.elkriverart.org or at the Main Street Gallery. Entry forms are due Oct. 1. The opening reception for the Holiday Show is slated for Saturday, November 21 from 2-5 PM.

Elk River Landmarks Art Show Scheduled

A special, non-juried member show will be held at the gallery in January/February of 2010. The theme will be: ELK RIVER LANDMARKS Choose your favorite place/subject in Elk River, and use your favorite medium to depict it. Start planning NOW for this special non-juried event, and watch for more information in the near future!

The downturn in the economy did not materially affect the Alliance's operation, during the fiscal year ending June 30. The Alliance ended the year with income equal to expenditures, retired a small debt accrued in past years, and was able to maintain its sponsorship of the Strings for Youth program in the local schools.

The Alliance's six other programs, along with generous support from the community, were able to contribute, on average, 3.7 % of income to support Administrative, Plant, and Marketing needs. Also, the Alliance was able to set aside a small reserve to update its computer capabilities and in anticipation of adding additional classroom space at some future date (please refer to the article on current Board study groups on pages five and six).

We are tremendously grateful for the individuals in our community who continue to support our programs through memberships and the Horizon Fund, despite the worsening economy. The local business community, the Minnesota and Central Minnesota Arts boards were also critical in our ability to maintain the level programs and services offered. A very small paid staff was augmented by scores of volunteers who help maintain the Gallery and Gift Shop, took care of our secretarial and accounting needs, and organized and ran many of the Alliance's programs. Special kudos are in order for **Dave Raymond** who directed the whole operation at no cost to the organization. Thank you volunteers; we couldn't operate without you!

Board Reflections

"Recognizing that the arts are essential to the quality of life and health of our community, we promote an environment which offers quality arts education, arts experiences, artist support, and appropriate facilities for instruction." ERAA mission statement

We are pleased that this past year, more than any in the Alliance's 20 year history, the four goals contained in the mission statement have been achieved. Moving into our Main Street facility, has allowed the organization to add three new programs to its plate of offerings: the gift shop, gallery and classroom instruction, and these new programs have allowed the Alliance to take a more complete and holistic approach to its mission. Besides the classes highlighted on pages 3 and 4, the Alliance supports arts education by sponsoring the "Stings for Youth" program

in the District schools, scheduling actors from the Performance Series into schools to work with students, and sponsoring gallery shows for budding elementary and high school students. In support of local artists, over 40% of Alliance revenue is returned to artists in the form of Gallery and Gift Shop commissions, awards at the juried show, "Arts in Harmony", remissions to performers in the "Performance Series" and at ArtSoup and salaries to the instructors in our classroom. Beyond this direct income, the Alliance provides a venue during the ArtSoup festival for over 40 local artists to sell their Art work. In a larger sense, all of the Alliance's programs promote art experiences either for the professional artist, student artist or for the enjoyment of the community. We hope that this, our twenty-first year will continue the trend of looking for new ways of meeting the artistic needs of our community. We encourage you to support our mission with suggestions as to how we can improve our programs and services.



Standing: Jean Loy-Swanson, Denny Chuba, Nancy Gongoll, Mark Haglund, Jim Rudolph. Seated Sara Hartman, Wendy Simenson. Absent: Dave Raymond, John Stander, Sharon Tracy

Board Study Group Reports

The Board of Directors in July created three study groups to look at specific needs that the Alliance has as the organization moves into 2010 and beyond. In order of immediacy, these needs deal with (1) the Alliance's computer capabilities, (2) Board membership, and (3) facility expansion. Following is a brief summary of the charge given to each committee. Any suggestions from our constituency is most welcome and should be directed to the chair of the committee at the Arts Alliance address.

Computer Review Committee

During a board retreat in June, all the program committee chairs recommended that ERAA look for ways to update its computer capabilities. With the present system, it has been hard to pull up appropriate lists needed for the various Alliance programs, and within the lists of members, artists, vendors and sponsors, it is not possible to create separate sub-lists.

The Computer Review Committee will evaluate the hardware and software now being used and make recommendations to the Board this fall. At this time it looks like the solution may be as simple as reprogramming the present system.

The committee will also evaluate whether it is possible for ERAA to do some of the Alliance's printing in house, thereby reducing publication costs.

Committee Chair: John Stander

Board Membership Committee

Twelve members will serve on the Board of Directors this year for a term of three years. One-third of the directors are elected each year. This is an increase over prior years necessitated by the increased number of programs that the organization now offers and a concurrent need to increase administrative, marketing and fundraising initiatives.

A perceived need to increase space (see article below), may also require the organization to add members who have skills which will augment the expertise of the present Board. Additional space may entail, construction, fund raising and legal expertise, to mention just a few possible needs.

The Board Membership Committee will evaluate future membership needs, canvass the community, and recommend to the Board new members as the vacancies occur.

Committee Chair: Jim Rudolph

STUDY GROUPS continued on back page

Memberships & Community Donations

The Arts Alliance relies upon membership and community donations to support its programming. We keep tuition and fees reasonable so we are accessible to more people, but they do not cover our costs. Membership fees and donations are an important source of our support. The following individuals and businesses have contributed to the Arts Alliance over the past two months. For their support we are truly grateful. Thank you! ERAA is a 501(c)3 organization. Contributions are tax deductible.

\$500 - \$1,000

Bank of Elk River
Sara and Tom Hartman

\$200 - \$499

David and Marty Raymond
Tonya and John Darkenwald

\$100 - \$199

Sandra Erikson
Nancy L. Gongoll
George and Mary Raymond

Friends \$50 - \$99

Jeffrey Beahan

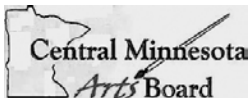
Household membership \$35 - \$49

Robert J. Stenlake

Individual Membership \$25 - \$34

David V. Beauvais
Deanna Burke
Paula and Patrick Donnelly
Dave Hunt
Lynn Moore
Suzanne Oliver
Donna Winberg

Our Sponsors



Memberships can be renewed online at any time! Check out www.elkriver.org for the latest Arts Alliance information and event updates!

Kelly Farm Fundraiser

The Arts Alliance is sponsoring several of its members that are organizing a fundraising event for the Friends of the Kelley Farm. Seven local artists are painting on the farm ending September 26 with a fundraising event. The fundraising event will include a sale of the art produced of the Kelley Farm. Forty percent of all sales will go to The Friends of the Kelley Farm. The name of the artists are Mary Jo Burk, Roxanne Current, Nancy Gongal, Shirley Hove, Joan Ruprecht, Sue Wipf, and Mark Hagland.

Three Rivers Choral

The Three Rivers Choral, Northwest Metro Community Choir, will start rehearsals on September 22 at Word of Peace Church in Rogers, MN for their December concert. Anyone interested in joining the Choral may call the director, Mary Kline, at 763-428-7594 for more information.

In Memoriam

Isobel Stander

The arts community was saddened by the death of **Isobel Stander** on July 25 at her home in Otsego. She was a friend and strong supporter of the Arts Alliance and all the area artists. She had served on the Board of Directors and was the first chair of the Gallery and Gift Shop Committee. Her ceramics, etchings and photographs are presently on display at the Gallery, the Minnetonka Center for the Arts where she taught ceramics, and in area art stores. She will be missed.



George Raymond

As we go to press, we have unfortunately learned of the loss of another friend and life long strong supporter of the arts. **George Raymond** passed away on August 14 at the age of 88. He was a founder of the Elk River Arts Council, a predecessor of the Alliance, and past president of the Community Theater.

Bringing the Arts Home

Elk River Area Arts Alliance
P.O. Box 737 • Elk River, MN 55330

Located at: 716 Main Street • Elk River
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www.elkriverart.org

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Valuable Volunteers

The Alliance could not provide the programs and services it does without a very large number of volunteers who help maintain the Gallery and



Edith Clark & Chris Miller

Gift Shop, organize and oversee its other programs, run the office and maintain the books. In gratitude we, will begin to highlight their work here and in subsequent editions. Already mentioned in this edition is Dave Raymond, chair of the Board of Directors, who also volunteered his time as Director for our very successful past year. The two volunteers pictured above, along with Dave, have been responsible for running the office. Edith Clark has been a fixture at ERAAA for a number of years. She maintains our data base and the Alliance's correspondence, and steps in whenever another tasks needs attention. She is Elk River's number one volunteer, also helping out at St. Andrews Church, the Elk River Library, the Theatre in the Round, Meals

on Wheels, the Food Shelf and RSVP. Wow! Since joining us, Chris Miller has reorganized our financial records, providing the Board with important monitoring information for the very first time. She handles all bookkeeping duties and financial information in a way that has allowed the Board to realistically make future plans. When asked why volunteer here, one replied "it's a treat to walk in the door. That says a lot about our volunteers and the organization.

Board Committee Reports, continued from page 5

Facility Review Committee

The move last year into the Main Street location has allowed the Alliance to significantly increase programming, and increased its visibility in the community. It has also increased community expectations, particularly for new classes in both the fine and performing arts.

As the calendar insert in this edition of "the Eddy" demonstrates, art classes have been expanded, but the single classroom in the new facility is not sufficient to offer many more classes; nor is it equipped to offer some fine arts classes such as painting, ceramics and weaving. There is also a need for larger spaces to teach and present the performing arts.

The Facility Review Committee will assess the programmatic needs, review options available to increase space, both in the near and long term, and make recommendations to the Board this fall.

Committee Chair: Dave Raymond



Classes & Events

GALLERY EXHIBIT: "FOCUS ON LAKE SUPERIOR/SOUTH SHORE" SEPTEMBER 3 - OCTOBER 31
Gallery & Gift Shop Hours: Noon - 6 PM ; Thursdays thru Saturdays
Artist: Kirsten Anderson Clouse
RECEPTION FOR THE KIRSTEN ANDERSON CLOUSE EXHIBIT: 2 - 6 PM, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

926 CREATE GLOWING GLAZES IN WATERCOLOR: 6 - 9 PM, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 experience preferred
Gain an understanding of watercolor properties, how to keep them clean; transparent vs non-transparent, staining vs nonfat-
tening, triad painting. \$25 (\$23 member) Instructor: Cherene Bebeau

PHOTO SHOOT FOR ARCHIVING OR PUBLICITY: Bring your art work in for color corrected glossy or matte prints and or CD,
with proper lighting and background.

Cost will vary on the order; by appointment so call ERAAA or Instructor Mary Olson @ 763-444-5488

938 Session I; 2 - 8 PM, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

939 Session II; 1 - 6 PM, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

GOVERNMENT CENTER ART EXHIBIT "Arts Alliance Member Show" SEPTEMBER 21 - NOVEMBER 5
13880 Highway 10 (west of downtown Elk River) Hours: 8 AM to 4:30 PM : Monday thru Friday

912 QUILTING A GREAT BIG "CARRY EVERYTHING" BAG: 9 AM - 2 PM, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23
Create a practical bag designed by a seasoned quilter who travels a lot; ideal for carrying whatever you need, wherever you
go.

\$35 (\$32 m) + \$8 for pattern

Instructor: Ann Zemke

913 COLLAGE AND ASSEMBLAGE - AWAKENING YOUR CREATIVE SPIRIT: 6 - 9 PM, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Create an artful expression using a variety of materials and essential design, mood, color principals. Materials provided but
bring photos, ephemera, etc.

\$25 (\$23 m)

Instructor: Cherene Bebeau

930 UNDERSTANDING YOUR CAMERA: 7 - 9:30 PM, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER. 29

Bring your camera and manual. Learn how a camera works and the difference between SLR, and compact, film and digital
cameras. Negotiate menus and options of your camera.

\$22 (\$20 m)

Instructor: Dee Kotaska

907 JUST FOR KIDS; A NEW ART EXPERIENCE EACH WEEK: 4 - 5:30 PM. THURSDAYS, OCTOBER 1, 8, 15, 22

Week I: Paint with watercolors. Week II: draw people and things. Week III: collage and paints. Week IV Make a small hand-
book or journal

\$50 (\$45 m) + \$4 materials fee

Instructor: Cherene Bebeau

914 SAORI WEAVING, A FREESTYLE JAPANESE TECHNIQUE: Session I; 10 AM - NOON, Saturday, OCTOBER 3

Saori means weave happily, explore, learn as a group and consider the differences between machines and people. (looms,
materials provided).

\$32 (\$30 m) + \$5 materials fee

Instructor: Chiaski O'Brien

915 Session II; 1 - 3 PM, Saturday. OCTOBER 3

927AUTUMN LEAVES IN WATERCOLOR: 6:30 - 9 PM: MON. AND WED. OCTOBER 5, 7

Adults and teens

Wet into wet technique; add layers of glazes in burning colors; use subtractive lifting for negative shapes and washing for har-
monious colors.

\$42 (\$38 m)+ \$5 materials fee

Instructor: Cherene Bebeau

904 MUSIK GARTEN: 10 - 11 AM, TUESDAYS, OCT. 6, 13, 20, 27, NOV. 3, 10. 17, 25 Toddlers with adult

Designed to bring the joy of music and movement to caregivers and toddlers.

Held at Congregational Church at 1118 4th St.

\$70 (\$63 member) + materials

Instructor: Kathy Kapsner

ART CLAY SILVER JEWELRY - BOX BEADS: 10 AM - 4 PM, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10

Make a lentil bead necklace, embellish with a dragonfly or other object using a push mold, add a dangle if you wish, and add
matching earrings.

\$50 (\$45 members) + \$35 Materials

Instructor: Kate Qualley Peterson

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON CLASSES AND EVENTS AND TO REGISTER FOR CLASSES, CALL ERAAA AT (763)
441-4725 OR GO TO www.elkriverart.org. ALL CLASSES AND EVENTS ARE AT THE GALLERY, 716 MAIN ST., UNLESS
OTHERWISE INDICATED

931 DEVELOP THE PHOTOGRAPHER'S EYE: 7 - 9 PM, TUESDAY, OCT. 6
Bring your camera and manual. Learn composition and techniques that invite viewers in, how to use natural light and flash, and the differences in films and processing. \$18 (\$16 member) Instructor: Dee Kotaska

921 DRAWING: SESSION II; 7 - 9 PM, MONDAYS, OCTOBER 12, 19, 26, NOVEMBER 2, 9, 16 Adults & teens
Beginners will use graphite, charcoal, conte crayon and erasers to create images 18" x 24". Those with drawing experience will be introduced to other drawing media. \$117 (\$195 members) Instructor: Jean Loy Swanson

932 DIGITAL, SLR & MANUAL EXPOSURE SETTINGS: 7 - 9:30 PM, TUESDAY, OCT. 13 Bring your camera and manual-
Learn how to override automatic settings and control shutter speed and aperture to create wanted effects. Film ISO and other factors affecting the image will also be discussed. \$22 (\$20 members) Instructor: Dee Kotaska

924 SUMI-E, AN ASIAN APPROACH TO BRUSH PAINTING: Session II; 10 AM - 1 PM, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17
Learn brushwork, emphasizing working quickly without reworking. You will complete at least one scroll. Brushes, ink, rice paper and Tyvek will be provided. \$34 (\$31 members) + \$5 materials Instructor: Chris Wilson

933 CREATING ARTISTIC PHOTOGRAPHIC IMAGES: 7 - 9 PM, TUESDAY, OCT. 20 Bring your camera and manual
Learn techniques that create artistic rather than documentary images; "in-camera" rather than those done with Photoshop, such as zooming, multiple images, panning & night shots. \$18 (\$16 members) Instructor: Dee Kotaska

934 CREATING PHOTOGRAPHIC IMAGES IN THE FIELD: 8 AM - 4 PM, OCT. 24
Bring a bag lunch, your camera and manual. Visit various photographic sites around Elk River. Along the way, with individual time with Dee, learn how the light of the day and other factors are affecting the photograph. \$64 (\$57 members) Instructor: Dee Kotaska

PERFORMANCE SERIES: "TODD GREEN IN CONCERT"
Over 30 instruments, 4 digital samplers; a world of possibilities
7:30 PM, MONDAY, OCTOBER 26
Zabee Theater, Elk River High School

908 HALLOWEEN MASK MAKING: 4 - 6 PM, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27 - Kids
Create a mask you can wear or just admire as a work of art. Use egg cartons for an animal nose or fly's eyes with amazing results. Scary or pretty- you're the designer. \$14 (\$12 members) Instructor: Cherene Bebeau

928 WATERCOLOR WITH MIXED MEDIA: 6:30 - 9 PM, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 29
Nail a great composition. Start with an abstract design, add layers of washes and collages, and finally add floral elements to complete the work. \$42 (\$38 members) + \$5 materials Instructor: Cherene Bebeau

GALLERY EXHIBIT: "ANNUAL HOLIDAY SHOW OF ARTS AND GIFTS" NOVEMBER 5 - DECEMBER 24
Gallery & Gift Shop Hours: 11 AM -- 5 PM, Wednesdays thru Saturdays

916 SMALL SCULPTURE WORKSHOP: 1 - 3 PM, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7 Adults & teens
Create a 3-dimensional figure, bas relief, or your own hardware in wax. Various finishing methods will be explored including bronze casting at a foundry. \$18 (\$16 members) + \$5 materials Instructor: Chris Wilson

909 HANDMADE PAPER FOR KIDS, GO GREEN: 4 - 6 PM, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12 Kids
Using recycled paper, we'll use the mold, deckle and lots of water to make traditional and plant paper. Shape, emboss & add flowers or colored fibers to make beautiful paper. \$17 (\$15 members) + \$7 materials Instructor: Cherene Bebeau

918 HANDMADE JAPANESE PAPER: (a companion with Book Arts below) 1 - 4 PM, SATURDAY, NOV. 14
Adults & teens - Build your own mold & deckle and use them to make traditional and plant paper. shape, emboss, speckle, emboss or embed; then add flowers and your own watermark. \$25 (\$22 members) + \$7 materials Instructor: Cherene Bebeau

919 BOOK ARTS: (a companion class with Papermaking above) 9 AM - 2 PM, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21
Adults & teens - Create accordion-bound books, then assemble a hard tag album full of pockets, treasures, luscious fibers, etc. Personalize it with photos or memorabilia. \$42 (\$38 members) + \$3 materials fee Instructor: Cherene Bebeau

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