

seARTS society for the encouragement of the arts on Cape Ann

Looking Forward to 2015 A Look Back at 2014



seARTS Annual Meeting: seARTS kicked off 2014 with a dynamic group of P-K presentations at its Annual meeting. Inspired by a Japanese chit-chat movement, the five-minute visual presentations helped tell the enlightening stories of four local

creative talents and special guest Helena Fruscio of the State Office of Creative Economies. seARTS held the 2013 and 2014 annual meetings at Gloucester Engineering and thanks them for their support.

Arts & Cultural Exchange Member Nights:

seARTS hosted five of these nights at various locations throughout 2014. These gatherings offered the chance for new people to meet seARTS members and enjoy stimulating conversation, tasty buffets and beverages. We met at a variety of locations, such as the Rocky Neck Gallery, the Cultural Center at Rocky Neck, Trident Gallery, and Flatrocks Gallery, so our guests were also able to enjoy superb artwork. September's gathering at the Essex Shipbuilding Museum was particularly special, because it spotlighted Cape Ann's cultural districts and seARTS' Partner With an Artist program, and gave guests a chance to meet the 2014 PWA grant recipients.



Partner With an Artist (PWA), seARTS' signature community arts program, provided \$1,500 grants in 2014 to three artists as part of an effort focused on Cape Ann's four cultural districts: Essex River, Harbortown, Rocky Neck and Rockport. Two of



these projects were presented in October 2014. Gloucester artist Jane Keddy presented her silkscreen print of the Rocky Neck Cultural Center during a reception held in that building. Later that same month, sculptor Jay Havighurst presented an outdoor performance of his "Sounds of the Shipyard" audio soundscape at the Essex Shipbuilding Museum. In November, artist Tricia O'Neil painted an outdoor mural in honor of poet Vincent Ferrini on the side of Palazola's Sporting Goods building. A reception was held at the Fred Bodin Historic Photo Gallery, Main Street, Gloucester. PWA is made possible by financial support from the Bruce J. Anderson and Selma and Andrew Bayness Funds of The Boston Foundation.



The 2014 Bass Rocks Art Loan Program

There was a "full house" at the opening at the Bass Rocks Golf Club, as seARTS recognized artists as well as one of their most important, but not so obvious advocate groups, art

gallery owners. Over 100 artists, patrons, and curious art observers were treated to a panel moderated by Leonie Bradbury, Director and Curator, Montserrat College of Art Galleries, Beverly and a panel composed of Belinda Recio, Owner and Gallery Director, True North Gallery, South Hamilton; Alison Rowell, Gallery Director, Central Street Gallery, Manchester-by-the-Sea; Matthew Swift, Owner and Gallery Director, Trident Gallery, Gloucester; and Roger Armstrong, Co-Owner of State of the Art Galleries, Gloucester. Questions were posed to the panel about why they opened galleries, how they choose artists, how they develop relationships with patrons, and how they help people evaluate and collect art. seARTS also announced the Jury award winners – First Place to Judith Monteferrante for "Dahlia" Second Place to Rob Dieboll for "Storm Surfers," and Third Place to Deb Schradieck for "Gannett." Honorable Mentions to "Blue Lobster Boat" by Marilyn Swift, "Burham's Boat Yard" by Kathryn Tuck, "Row Boat at Rowe Point" by John Thomas Grant, "Summer Findings" by Lynda Goldberg, and "Rockets of Desire" by Patricia Yarborough Reed.

seARTS held its 8th annual **Wearable Art & Home Décor Show & Sale** at the Sawyer Free Library, working with new Library Director Deborah Kelsey. The 2014 show was widely publicized with a special insert into the *Gloucester Daily Times* that reached 10,000 households.



We welcomed new artists from New York and New Hampshire, alongside many returning ones, for a total of 16 artists selling everything from pottery to terrariums, knitwear, fashion, jewelry, all-natural decorative items, and jewelry. Congratulations to the artists who sold \$7,850 worth of artwork and raised \$700 for the library with donated raffle items. Thanks to the Rockport High School Chamber Music Group for sharing their talents.



seARTS Uncorked: The Art of Food and Wine Pairing, our 2014 benefit, was held at the Bass Rocks Golf Club on October 18, 2014. We were pleased and delighted to welcome Kathleen P. Erickson, co-owner of the

Savour Wine Shop, who gave a talk and expert guidance on food and wine pairings.

The evening featured a docent tour of the Bass Rocks Art Collection, hearty hors d'oeuvres, social networking and dancing with music provided by The MERJ. There was also a surprise impromptu dance performance by the Boston-based contemporary dance company, BoSoma.



There was a raffle of artist-donated items, and a silent auction of wine and food-related decorations and accessories created by local artists, including a striking collection of hand-painted wine glasses. We greatly appreciate the generosity of all the sponsors and donors who helped make this great evening possible.



The Cape Ann Ceramics Festival, conceived by Susan Hershey, Jenny Rangan and Seyrel Williams, returned for a second highly successful show in August, 2014. The show's curators, in partnership with the Pucker Gallery, Boston, Lacoste Gallery, Concord, MA and the Cultural Center at Rocky Neck were delighted to host a multi-week, non-profit ceramic arts festival, showcasing inspiring works from the Cape Ann

community and around the globe. Acclaimed Cape Ann, regional and guest artists were joined by Pucker Gallery Boston world renowned potter Hideaki Miyamura and Lacoste Gallery Concord and renowned Anni Kasten.

"Contemplation: Fine Ceramics from Cape Ann & Beyond" featured 25 artists, and "Art of the Possible: All Clay Inclusive" featured 17 artists. Both shows were held at the Rocky Neck Cultural Center. There were also five sold-out workshops attracting clay artists from New England and New York, a Pottery Trail, and an Outdoor Sculpture Show at Flatrocks and Side Street Gallery. The Festival took in a total of \$42,000.

Cultural Partners' Year in Review

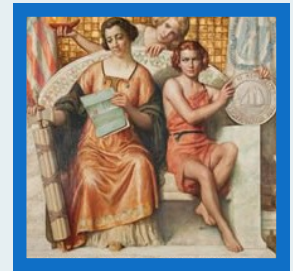
seARTS is privileged and proud to have over twenty cultural organizations as members and partners, as collaboration is a core part of our mission. Here are 2014 highlights from a sampling of these members.



Rocky Neck Art Colony had an exciting and fruitful year of increased membership and volunteerism, new program development, expanded community attendance at arts and cultural events, and continued progress in our financial sustainability. We paid off the

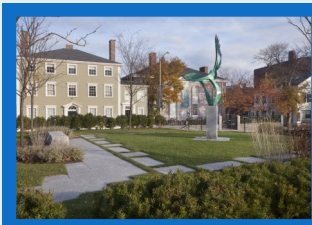
Cultural Center's mortgage, finished our ADA access project, and completed a two-year MCC grant for the "Teaching Artist Partnership," placing four artists in the O'Maley Innovation Middle School for teaching workshops, and organized the first

Gloucester Committee for the Arts has had an active year. We completed our funding efforts for the final phase of the City Hall WPA era mural restoration and will be issuing an RFP this spring.



As directed by city ordinance, we selected a panel and made recommendations to the Mayor and City Council for a new Poet Laureate. In October, the Committee spearheaded a partnership with the Cape Ann Museum and the Cape Ann Cinema to host a three-day weekend of events to honor Gloucester's Own Monuments Man, Walker Hancock. The weekend consisted of related events at all three venues and was highlighted by a lecture by Robert Edsel, the author of the book *The Monuments Men*, on which the recent movie was based. Currently the committee is addressing several public art installations and the formation of a public art policy.

This past year was a momentous one for the **Cape Ann Museum**. Following a 10-month renovation, the Museum was delighted to reopen on August 19 with a celebratory week



that welcomed over 2,000 visitors. The newly redesigned galleries not only improve how objects are displayed and safeguarded, but also serve to enliven and integrate the many stories that Cape Ann has to tell. Two exhibitions,

consisting primarily of works from the collection, went on display in August – one featuring the sculpture of Walker Hancock and his contemporaries and the other a selection of sketches by modernist icon Stuart Davis. In October the Museum mounted an exhibition of 71 portrait photographs by Jim Hooper – the subjects all being men and women involved in Gloucester's working waterfront. The three exhibitions each included a number of related educational programs and generated an enthusiastic response from visitors.



The Annisquam Village Players (AVP) have been regaling Cape Ann audiences with musical theater since 1917. Under the direction of Terry Sands and Mary Curtis, the group produces an annual summer musical, providing the

community with a brief midsummer night's dream. In past years, the AVP has earned rave reviews for such Broadway favorites as *The Sound of Music*, *Annie*, *The Wizard of Oz*, and most recently, *Peter Pan*. In the summer of 2015, the AVP will transform the Annisquam Village Hall into the magical land of Camelot. The group is always seeking new thespians. Visit our website (annisquamvillageplayers.com) for more information.



In addition to our ongoing schedule of educational programs and shows, this year we added four very special exhibitions:

- The Alden Bryan Retrospective in collaboration with the Bryan Gallery in Jeffersonville VT
- The Wayne Morrell Retrospective
- Out of Bounds – an exhibition in collaboration with the School of the Museum of Fine Arts/Boston
- Paul Strisik, NA: The Artist & His Collection

In September, we received a grant from the Rockport Community Preservation Commission that will enable us to provide handicap accessibility to our Hibbard & Maddocks Galleries. Work on this project has begun, with a spring 2015 completion expected.



There was a lot to celebrate at the recent **Harbortown Cultural District's Annual Partners** meeting at the Hive. Here are a few highlights for 2014:

The Harbortown Cultural District (HDC) received tremendous press

coverage in the New York Times article by Glen Collins in August 2014, which featured the WPA murals at City Hall, the HarborWalk, and the new cultural district app.

Advertisements and new logo: The HCD developed a new logo and advertised in the Playbill Opera House in Boston and Art New England this summer.

Cultural App: The HCD participated in a new Cape Ann Cultural District app which launched in May.

New Partners: HCD also welcomed twelve new Partners to the organization. The new officers include: Tom Daniel, Chair; Deborah Kelsey, Vice Chair; Rich Weissmann, Treasurer; and Rebecca Borden, Secretary.

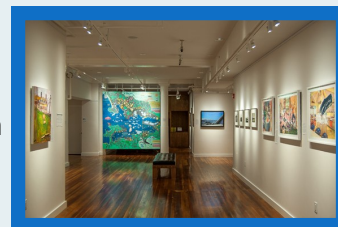


North Shore Arts Association had a very successful 2014 season, having offered numerous exhibitions (18) and special events (26). "Artists and the Cape Ann Experience

Exhibition" featured over 150 historic works from private collections all over the country.

Three other main exhibitions were shown: "Wooden Boats and Iron Men" by Paul Ciaramitaro honored Gloucester's struggling fishing industry. "The Gift" by Betty Lou Schlemm generously helped three major Cape Ann charities. "Tribute" honored the significant volunteer efforts of eight NSAA artist members: Trudy Allen, David Curtis, Michael Graves, Christine Pitman, Dolly Reid, Bob Stephenson, Peter Tysver and Andrea van Gestel.

Trident Gallery began 2014 with "Winter Meditations," an ambitious exhibition involving a significant loan from the Museum of American Bird Art at Mass Audubon, and eight gallery events, including the first Trident Live Art Series performances.



Seven successful one-artist exhibitions followed, punctuated in July by "Harbortown 2014," a group exhibition celebrating the area's legacy of excellence in the visual arts and reflecting on Gloucester's evolving identity and the Commonwealth's recent designation of the Harbortown Cultural District.

Other milestones in 2014 included a first (and positive) review in the *The Boston Globe* and invited participation in the Boston International Fine Art Show.

The Gloucester Senior Center

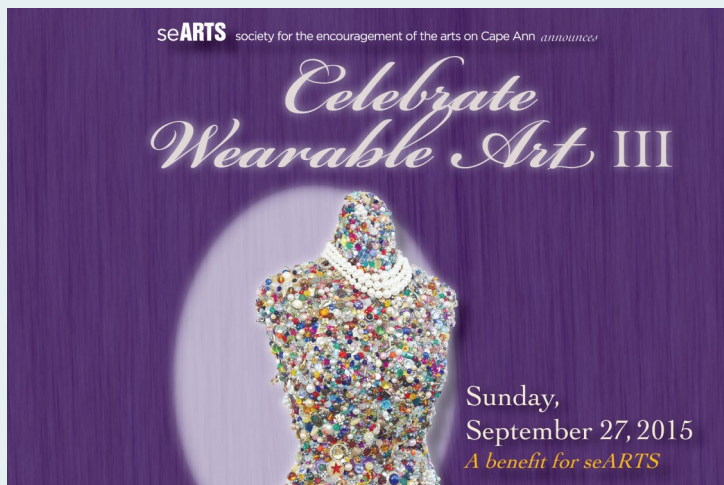
had a wonderful year, with drawing and watercolor classes inspiring all sorts of exciting individual expression. The neighborhood quilt project saw the completion of two new quilts: Annisquam and Rocky Neck. We are now working on The Downtown Quilt. In the coming year we will focus on the East Gloucester and Waterfront quilts.



Beauport, the Sleeper-McCann House enjoyed a wonderful 2014 season, welcoming 6,225 local, regional, and international visitors. We hosted 34 group tours and 21 programs, including the popular

Nooks and Crannies tours and fascinating Curator's Tour of the Ceramics Collection. Featured in *The Boston Globe's* Diversity Boston supplement, and Traditional Home magazine's list of The 25 Best Historic Homes in America, Beauport continues to reach a broad audience interested in the decorative arts, history, and interior design.

Save the Date!

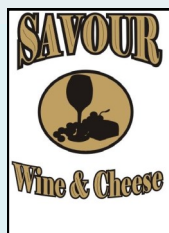


Celebrate Wearable Art III: Mark your calendars for Cape Ann's sensational event of the year! Join creatives of all types as they showcase wearable art and fashion on the runway at Gloucester's Cruiseport on September 27th at the kickoff of Boston Fashion Week. Be prepared for art-to-wear in all genres and unique materials alongside fashion from Boston's up and coming designers, brought to us by Christina K. Pierce boutique fashion agency.

We have new partners, including WSM Talent, a professional modeling agency, and returning will be Deborah Coull Salon and a new stylist team led by Martha Sutyak. In 2013 and 2011, the show was sold out, and we have added more seating – but tables and premier seating are limited. Tickets are available now at <http://cwa3.eventbrite.com>.

Thank you to seARTS Sponsors and Donors

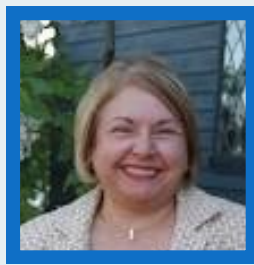
seARTS is grateful to the many individuals, businesses, and fellow non-profits that have made its efforts successful. Here are a few ongoing supporters we would like to recognize. We're also a proud member of the Cape Ann Chamber of Commerce and the North of Boston Convention and Visitors Bureau. Please view our 2015 Annual meeting presentation for a full listing.



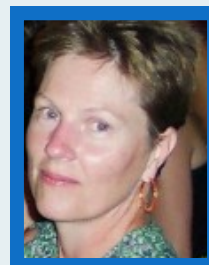
ART NEW ENGLAND

Meet Our New Board Members

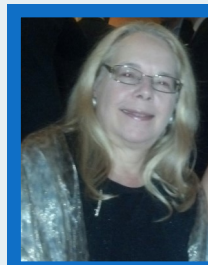
Visit <http://searts.org/wp/board-of-directors/> for profiles.



Anita Blackaby
Vice President



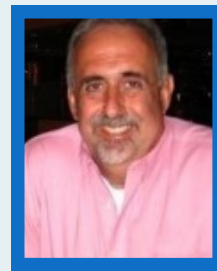
Beth Palmer
Treasurer
Board Member



Carolyn J. Fuchs
Board Member



Chuck Hayback
Board Member



Tony Sapienza
Board Member



**Special Thanks to
Photographer Clark Linehan**
For donating his professional services at so many seARTS special events

Visit Clark's website:
www.linehan-photography.com

Left: Clark's photograph of Artist Katherine Coakley at the 2014 Art@Bass Rocks Opening Reception.

Financial Statement

seARTS, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, is in stable financial position. The organization has no short-term or long-term debt. There is adequate cash to cover the rest of the fiscal year's expenses, which is a standard against which 501(c)(3) organizations are generally measured. We anticipate that this year's annual fundraiser will raise enough funds to cover our next fiscal year's expenses.

**Society for the
Encouragement of the Arts**
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