

Featured
Artist

Lisa Jordan



“Look at My Art and Be Happy”

by Karen Ogdahl

Lisa Jordan, The Crossing’s executive/artistic director, is a busy woman and mother to four children. One might think there wouldn’t be time to add artist to that list, but Lisa makes it work.

“There are lots of things that compete for my attention, but there is a refusal to let the art in my life go away,” she said. “I make the time to do it. It is so necessary to be who I am. Putting myself as a priority is difficult, but I know I am a happier person when I have that time.”

Art has been at the forefront of her life beginning in childhood. “In second grade, I wanted to be a professional baseball player or an artist. The baseball didn’t pan out, but the art has always been with me. We didn’t have a lot when I was growing up, but we always had crayons and pencils.”

Lisa credits her dad with getting her started. “He allowed me to use any of the tools in the barn. If I wanted to cut some wood, he’d say, ‘You know where the saw is.’ I got to use power tools from a young age, and that was instrumental in shaping me as a creative person. Knowing how to use the tools and having permission to try different things was huge for me. That was the biggest gift Dad could give me.”

Lisa has used that gift in both her home and her artistic life. Whether it’s woodworking or tiny felt projects, she feels free to let her creativity flow. As a woodworker and felter, Lisa finds similarities in both. “For me, woodworking and felting are soothing. There is something about the tactile quality of the material.”

●●●● Upcoming Events

May 4 – 26»	'Zines' exhibit, Crossing Arts Gallery
May 11»	Polymer Clay Button-Making Workshop
May 12»	Second Saturday, Carol Euerle featured artist, Felt and Button Flowers Kids Class
May 15»	Candace Simar book launch, Crossing Arts Gallery 4pm
May 29 - June 9»	VanGogh Cherrywood Quilt Challenge Exhibit
May 29»	Opening Reception and Artist Talk with Karla Overland of Cherrywood Fabrics 5-7pm
June 9»	Second Saturday, Greg Rosenberg featured artist, Wet Felting Kids Class
June 15 - July 7»	'Salute to the Arts' Exhibit, Crossing Arts Gallery
June 15»	Opening Reception, 'Salute to the Arts' 5-7pm
June 29»	Paint pARTy with Duane Barnhart 5:30-8:30pm
July 13 - Aug 4»	'Woolgatherer Fiber Art' Lisa Jordan exhibit, Crossing Arts Gallery
July 13»	Opening Reception 'Woolgatherer' 5-7pm
July 14»	Second Saturday - Martin Nelson featured artist, Wire Sculpture Kids Class
July 17 – 26»	Mark Munson Memorial School of Rock Camp
July 26»	MMMSoR final concert, Tornstrom Auditorium 7pm

●●●● Our Wish List

To help reduce program expenses, The Crossing Arts Alliance relies on the help and generosity of our members and friends, and generous you have been! Thank you to each of you who has delivered coffee pods, paper, tables, or tools to us or donated materials that will help us expand our programming. You have made a tremendous impact on the arts in your community. We are still in need of:

For programs and events:

- Plastic table cloths in white or black
- Plastic cutlery
- Paper products - tissue, towels, small plates, hot cups, etc.

who get 6 punches on their cards for attending Second Saturday events.

For office use:

- 3-tray color printer that would allow us to load in regular paper, letterhead, and envelopes and make our office more efficient.
- White cardstock
- Postage stamps
- Keurig cups to keep our volunteers and staff caffeinated.

For our kids programs

- Small bottles of water
- Granola bars, small bags of snacks
- Wool or wool blend felt sheets
- 14 gauge sculpture wire from dickbick.com
- Several packages of Creative Paperclay (air dry non-toxic clay)
- Yardage of cotton muslin for a fabric painting project
- New boxes of drawing pencils, good quality colored pencils or markers, and new sketch pads as prizes for kids

For gallery use:

- 10' step ladder
- Trim nails

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The Crossing Arts Alliance

Editor:

Elsie Husom

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The Crossing Currents is a quarterly newsletter for the members of the Crossing Arts Alliance in the Lakes Area. Issues are published in February, May, August and November.

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“Look at My Art and Be Happy”

Continued from Cover

They both require complete focus. “With a band saw, your attention has to be right there,” she said. “The same is true of felting because I’m using a needle. All those things that nag in my brain have to be set aside. That is naturally difficult for me. I’m one of those people who are moving all the time, so when I sit down, whether it’s with wood or felt, my attention has to be there.”

Her romance with felting began in 2006. Felting uses a needle to tangle wool fibers together to create felt. “I started life as a painter, but then I had my children who might be described as ‘spirited’. Painting and having canvases around was no longer practical. I had seen someone working with felted wool, so I ordered a needle and a little bit of wool. I was immediately hooked!



“The medium allows me to be ‘painterly’, but I can also create sculptural pieces. There’s a lot of flexibility. Even after 12 years, I’m still discovering new ways to use it, and I’m in love with it. It has allowed

me creative time. As long as I put the needles away, it doesn’t matter if the kids get into the wool.”

Lisa’s love of nature, especially the small details of nature that people might overlook, is prevalent in her art. “I live in the woods. I find beauty in the details. For example, I might make a three-dimensional scene and include those little bodies of moss and bugs. I do a series of felted stones, which are little meditations on nature. I’m hoping that the art helps people see the little things like the bark of a tree.”

Unlike some artists, Lisa has a simple goal for those who view her art. “Really,” she said, “I just want people to look at my art and be happy, lighthearted, curious. I finally came to terms with my kind of art. Not difficult. Not political. I’m not trying to change anyone’s perspective, but it makes me really happy that maybe someone is going to pay attention the next time

they see a mushroom in the woods. I want them to see that the world is beautiful.”

In addition to her art is her work with The Crossing Arts Alliance. Her involvement started with volunteering at the the gift shop. She had moved to the Brainerd area, and The Crossing was a place where she found community. She began her position as executive/artistic director four years ago and recently helped the organization move to its new location in downtown Brainerd.

“I am passionate about this job,” she said. “In looking to the future, I would like The Crossing to reach even more people than we do now. We’ve seen a steady increase in numbers, but there are still people in the community who may not see that art is for them. I believe that art is for everyone.”

Lisa has clear evidence of that belief. “I’ve gotten to travel around the state teaching, It’s fun to share art with other people, especially those who are convinced they cannot do anything artistic — then all of a sudden they do! It’s a gratifying transformation.”



You will not want to miss Lisa’s first solo show at The Crossing Arts Alliance. *Wool Gatherer, Fiber Art by Lisa Jordan*, opens July 17 and runs through August 4.





A Message from Your President

By Pat Altrichter TCAA Board Chair

Though it doesn't feel much like spring around here as I write this column; there are always traditional events at The Crossing that remind us that this glorious season is indeed approaching. Felting workshops focused on bunnies, birds and nests, the *Riot of Color Exhibit*, and the fabulous *Young at Art* children's art exhibit, just to name a few, have announced the arrival of spring at TCAA! Another one of these traditions is the awarding of an annual scholarship to an area graduating senior who intends to go on to post-secondary education with a focus in the arts. Students might be considering further study in visual arts, music, literary arts, drama, speech, dance, photography, and technology related arts. Graduating seniors from all area schools are encouraged to apply each spring. Over the past 17 years, TCAA has annually awarded a \$500 scholarship to students from Brainerd, Pine River, Pequot Lakes, and Pillager.

I thought our Crossing membership might be interested in the history of our arts scholarship. Shortly after The Crossing Arts Alliance was founded in 2000, we were the fortunate benefactor of a \$10,000 gift from

the Brainerd Exchange Club. For years, The Exchange Club supported our community with a number of initiatives, including their arts related event/concert - The Revue of Excellence - and the awarding of scholarships. Unfortunately, the organization disbanded, but they decided to forward the balance of their fund to The Crossing, asking that we carry on the tradition of awarding student scholarships. In addition to the original gift, TCAA has frequently received memorial donations specifically designated for student scholarships. We encourage members to continue to support our scholarship fund through donations, memorials and/or sponsorships. What a lovely way to leave a legacy.

In this issue of *The Crossing Currents*, you will find the essay of our 2018 scholarship winner, Madison Trowbridge from Pine River. The essays from Troye Sivan from Pillager High School and Brianna Adkins from Pine River High School were also so outstanding; we've included them in this issue as well. The application asks students to respond to the following question: "What is your favorite art quote and why is it so important to you?" You will find these essays absolutely INSPIRING! Please join us in congratulating these promising future artists.

Thank
you 😊

A huge thank you to our volunteers who have donated your time and talents in the work of TCAA from October through December.

Carolyn Abbott, Pat Altrichter, Lily Atwel, MaryAnn Bennett, Daria Blanton, Shelly Bolt, Dave Boran, Mary Boran, Brainerd Area Art Club, Jill Carlson, Kate Carlson, Patrick Clark, Valerie Dahl, Jennifer Decker, Julie Despot, Karen DeVries, Verla Engelbrecht, Millie Engisch, Sally Erickson, Mary Farmer, Maureen Farnsworth, Nareh Galstyan, Sylvie Gilman, Greg Gray, Sunday Grogan, Keith Grothem, Lisa Haberman, Haddie Hadachek, Joey Halvorson, Polly Heins, Holly Holm, Elsie Husom, Jeff Jordan, Lisa Jordan, Riley Jordan, Spencer Jordan, Cheri Kottke, Jean Kraft, Jim Kraft, Molly Krautkramer, Jack Kraywinkle, Kay Kraywinkle, Lonnie Knutson, Bonnie Kriha, Jan Kurtz, Carol Lang, Alice Larson, Bob Larson, Jeanne Larson, Marlee Larson, Tom Larson, Brian Lemieux, Jackie Lemieux, Gloria Leonard, Jon Luhrs, HollyRose McKnight, Steven McKnight, Ron Morris, Mark Munson, Connie Nelson, Marty Nelson, Jill Neumann, Joseph Neumann, Mitchell Neumann, Curt Nielsen, Sandy Nielsen, Linda Olson-Engel, John Overland, Karla Overland, Brenda Pfeffer, JJ Raboin, John Raboin, Kristin Rajala, Diane Runberg, Jim Runberg, Hanya Sabek, Ellen Smith, Krista Soukup, Larry Stechmann, Jerry Steinke, Athena Rose Swann, Cyndy Thompson, Pam Thomsen, Rebecca Timmins, Mike Vogt, Chase Vreeland, Laurie Wig.

If we have inadvertently omitted your name, please do not hesitate to let us know and we will gladly update our list.



●●●● **A Message From Your Director** *By Lisa Jordan*

"How are you liking it downtown?"

It's been just over 6 months since The Crossing Arts Alliance moved to our new location on Laurel Street, and hardly a day goes by when I'm not asked this question. The person asking often has a look of cheerful expectation on their face. The question doesn't hang long in the air because my response is always an equally cheerful affirmative.

As I've shared before, the decision to move was a difficult one, but now that we're here in our new home, we know it was the right one for us.

Since our move, our membership, which had been at a steady 400 for several years, has grown to 500 (501 exactly, as of this writing), and we expect that it will continue to grow. Daily, we have people who were previously unaware of our existence come in to our space and are excited to have found us. Longtime members that come into the space for the first time have been overwhelmingly positive about the space. Attendance at our children's events has grown to the point of requiring two sessions to accommodate our eager learners. Participation in exhibits is up, as is attendance at opening receptions. In fact, we recently had over 500 people attend the opening of 'Young at Art' - wow!

We have great neighbors in some of the established businesses downtown like Bridge of Harmony, The Gallery, Fancy Pants Chocolate, Picture Perfect Framing and the American Legion, as well as some fellow newcomers like our good friends at the Lakes Area Music Festival, Sage on Laurel, and Señor Patron's (the new Mexican restaurant around the corner). We're excited for the opening of the newest neighbor, the Purple Fern Bath Company in the old Chet's TV building, and we're looking forward to getting to know all the other businesses we haven't yet made a connection with.

Beginning soon there will be road construction on South 6th that will make travel in the downtown area more difficult but it is heartening to see the City of Brainerd, Brainerd Restoration, and Region Five Economic Development, along with other community partners, making efforts to entice traffic to the downtown area during this transition. There seems to be a bubbling up of civic pride in an area that hasn't always had a good rap.

It seems to me there's a lot to like about being downtown. If you haven't taken a trip down here lately, I strongly encourage you to. You too might find there's a lot to like about being downtown.

Lisa Jordan, TCAA Artistic/Executive Director

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Matinee June 16 at 7:00

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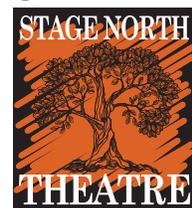
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Upcoming events for Crossing Arts Kids



May 12 - Felt and Button Flowers
- sponsored by **Mid Minnesota Federal Credit Union**

June 9 - Wet Felting

July 14 - Wire Sculpture

Pre-registration is required. Register at our Web site: crossingarts.org or call 218-833-0416. Classes are held from 10:00 - 11:30 am and 12:00 - 1:30 pm in our classroom at Seven One One Laurel Street, downtown Brainerd. A \$3 per child/\$5 per family donation for materials is requested, but no child will be turned away due to need.

We introduced a punch card at the beginning of 2017 and awarded a prize pack of a sketchbook and art supplies to kids who attended 6 classes through the year. We hope to be able to hand out even more this year, so be sure to bring your punch cards to each Second Saturday!

Interested in sponsoring a Crossing Arts Kids class? We have a few spots left. Contact Lisa at lisa@crossingarts.org or 218.833.0416

Crossing
Arts
Kids

TCAA Mission

The Crossing Arts Alliance's mission is to act as a gateway to the arts through access, education, and experiences.

Mission Moment

From Crossing Arts board member Mary Boran: "I brought my 8 year old granddaughter to the 'Riot of Color' exhibit. She stood in front of Jan Lendobeja's painting and exclaimed breathlessly, "I want to go there!"

What a lovely interaction with art for this young art enthusiast. These sorts of stories remind us why we do the work we do. To inspire and enrich our community for those who create and those who appreciate the arts.



●●●● What's New in the Gift Shop

We're feeling the excitement of the seasonal shift in the Gift Shop. Winter scenes are coming down and the colors and signs of Spring are going up. We're seeing more new artists inquiring about being a part of our space and more curious passersby coming in to browse. This summer will be our first year in the new space during the summer tourism season and we are interested to see how that affects our traffic.

Something new for spring, is that we are now offering refillable Gift Cards at Crossing Arts. These are a terrific way to make sure someone gets just the gift they want. Gift Cards can be used on memberships, workshops, and of course in the Gift Shop and can be purchased in any denomination. Ask a volunteer for more information.

We look forward to hosting Carol Euerle, Greg Rosenberg, and Martin Nelson as featured artists in the coming months. Featured Artists' work is on display for a month, and the artists are on hand on Second Saturdays to talk about their work. These are wonderful opportunities to get a peek at their process and personality, and a way to show appreciation and support to the many fine artists in our community.

Stop in and see all the Gift Shop has to offer. We hope to see you soon!

TCAA Gift Shop Committee: Mary Boran, Jeanne Larson, Gloria Leonard, Connie Nelson, Diane Runberg, Ellen Smith

Congratulations to Joey Halvorson, 2018 recipient of the Women Making Waves Award.

The award also includes a \$1000 grant to be given to an organization of the recipient's choice.

A huge thank you to Joey for selecting The Crossing Arts Alliance to receive the grant.



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●●●● TCAA Awards \$500 Scholarship

Madison Trowbridge from Pine River High School is the recipient of TCAA's annual \$500 scholarship. Each year, the scholarship applications are open to graduating seniors from a high school in the Lakes area. The applicant must be planning to pursue further education in the arts including, but not limited to, visual art, music, drama, speech, literary arts, dance/movement, photography, and technology-produced arts.

Some days
there won't be a
song in your heart.

Sing anyway

Applicants respond to the essay question: "What is your favorite art quote and why is it important to you?"

Because of the high quality of the applications, the selection committee had a difficult decision to make this year. We awarded the one scholarship but also named two honorable mentions: Sydney Ellison from Pequot Lakes High School and Brianna Adkins from Pine River High School. Essays from all three are reprinted below.

Madison Trowbridge

Pine River-Backus High School
(Madi plans to major in Music Education and Music Performance at Concordia College with a future goal of teaching music at the elementary level)

Over the years, there have been countless talented artists that have left pieces of advice and words of wisdom from their experience. Personally, my favorite art quote is one given by motivational speaker Emory Austin: "Some days there won't be a song in your heart. Sing anyway." This quote applies to music and life in general in so many ways, and one of the things I love about it is that it's not just encouragement for singers and artists but for anybody.



The first thing that comes to mind when looking at this quote is the more direct meaning that's expressed; that is, to sing even when you are down or weary. Singing requires energy and emotion, and although I agree that music can be an escape, something that rejuvenates you and completes you, realistically, some days there are complications and life has you so depressed that you can't even turn to music for solace. That's why this quote is so important to singers and artists; if we are heartbroken and don't have anything left in us

to sing, that's when we need to the most; that's how we know to express ourselves, even if it seems we have no feelings to express.

Interpreting this quote in a non-music way, it's the same concept: when depression sets in or you're tired and not ready to go on, keep pushing and you can get through any situation. I really like that this quote came from someone who isn't a famous musician. I think it helps non-musicians connect with artists, and it shows how important music is that even people who don't sing can understand and experience music coming from the heart.

The last piece that's significant to me is why you should sing when you don't have it in you. One of the reasons, as I mentioned earlier, is to heal you and allow you to express yourself. The other reason to sing is to give of yourself even when you feel like you have nothing left to give. To me, a major part of arts is about giving to others, whether it be giving encouraging words through the song's lyrics or producing laughter by giving a funny scene in a play. As a singer and a Christian, I try to give glory and joy to God when I perform and in that case, it's ever more important to me to give Him all I have.

Overall this quote is my favorite because of its truth and relevance. It's important to me because it's about all that's meaningful to me: persistence, generosity and music from the heart. I like the perspective it gives and how realistic it is. There's no guilt for when your passion sometimes seems to not be enough; there's just inspiration and encouragement.

Honorable Mentions



Sydney Ellison

Pequot Lakes High School
(Sydney plans to pursue photojournalism at Ithaca College)

"Art is risk" – Troye Sivan

When I first heard this quote at age 14, I thought it was the perfect way to justify standing on a chair at a restaurant to get the perfect photo of my food, and, while it may have been, it is so much more to me now than a justification after getting yelled at by a

waitress at P. F. Chang's.

This past summer, I had my first real, formal art exhibition, and I had spent an entire month doing almost nothing other than perfecting the series I was going to show. It was a self portrait series of abstracted body parts meant to be a conceptual representation for my experience with chronic pain. Frankly, it was a bit weird, provocative and not like anything I had ever made let alone publicly displayed. Though I had numerous occasions of uncertainty, I knew this was the piece I wanted to put out, and by the time we got to exhibition day, I was more proud than nervous – until my mom saw it. She was very blatantly unimpressed and did not try to hide it, and I was heartbroken. But, at the end of the day, I remembered she was not who I made this piece for, and, if it was simple enough for everyone to understand on first glance, it would not be worth my making.

I want my photos to mean something, to assist in furthering someone's understanding, or at least change the way they view something. In my experience, good art, art that I remember, is more than pretty. It is complex, unique and occasionally uncomfortable. That is why this is one of my favorite quotes pertaining to art as well as something I like to remind myself of on a daily basis.

Brianna Adkins

Pine River High School
(Brianna's plans are to pursue a music education degree focusing on piano and vocal performance and education at North Dakota State University)

When focused on the arts, one can find many quotes which inspire you to create your own masterpieces. When I am singing, I think of a quote by Salvador Dali, "Have no fear of perfection; you'll never reach it." This quote inspires me because it simply reminds me that no one is perfect. How can you strive to perfect when the word itself is a relative term? In music, there has never been a completely perfect performance because there is always an aspect of a performance which can be improved. The idea of perfect is set to a certain standard based on what has already been done. In the case of music, to say that you need to reach a perfect performance is to say that you need to perform like a certain person who had already set the standard. Music is an expression which is interpreted by each individual in many different ways which is why the idea of "perfect" is out of reach.

The quote inspires me because it reminds me that I need to get the idea of "perfect" out of my head and strive for my best. Music is my own joy which I get to express and interpret according to how it impacts me. The quote reflects on the idea that we do not need to have "fear of perfection." When any type of art has a standard, it is intimidating because one can feel that if they do not reach "perfect" they will have failed. The idea of doing your best inspires me to remember I can always improve and as long as I give each performance one hundred percent, I have done a good job.

This quote not only applies to music but also every aspect of life. All I need to focus on is my own very best. This encourages me to give everything I have and set reasonable goals to achieve – and then set more. Nothing in life will ever be perfect because there is always something that can be improved.



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●●●● Transformed Space *by Lisa Jordan*

One of the unique features of our space, one that visitors frequently comment on, is the beautiful original tin ceiling. The Phelps brothers, who own our building, saw that original tin hidden under a drop ceiling and took on the task of revealing it before we moved in. They had painted it an aged gold, which was a fitting color for the historic feel of the space. We hoped to have a more neutral color that would make lighting our artwork a little easier, so with their permission, we took on the task of painting the entire space.

Painting a ceiling as tall as ours is not a task for amateurs. When we began our search for a ceiling painter, we found a resource right in our membership. Long-time volunteer Lonnie Knutson's

son, Michael Thune offers painting services and agreed to paint our tall and delicate ceiling for us as an in-kind donation. He sent his friendly and efficient crew member Jesse Binstock, and in almost no time at all we had a gorgeous grey ceiling. Volunteers and staff painted the walls and just like that, our space was transformed.

We are so grateful for Michael's donation and are humbled by the many ways our volunteers and community support us.

Find Michael's company EcoBlast Green at ecoblastgreen.com and please tell him Thanks for supporting Crossing Arts.

Before



After



Jesse Binstock from EcoBlast



Pat Altrichter and Jill Neumann, painting volunteers

Workshops

Join us for some creative learning at one of our fantastic workshops!

In March we made needle-felted nests with Lisa Jordan. In April we learned macrame' (it's back!) from Marty Gegner and refined our writing process with the Farm Girls - Candace Simar and Angela Foster.

Keep an eye on the weekly Xpress - our email newsletter just for members - to see what else is coming up.

Don't miss:

May 11 Polymer Clay button-making workshop

May 19 Fabric Dyeing with Carolyn Abbott

June 2 Needle Felting with Kit Lane

June 29 - Painting with Duane Barnhart



In Memory of

We extend our sincere condolences to the families and friends of the following:

*Evelyn Matthies, Mark Munson,
Steven Scott Engel and Christopher Despot*

Donations have been made in memory of Mark Munson from Skip & Lynda Alfson, Bruse Paine, Allen & Alisa Yaggie Family Fund, Patrice Dutton, Kay & David Currier, Darlene Dauk, Steven & Linda Engelbrecht, and Jane Matthies-Holtan

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●●●● Young at Art! by Kate Carlson

The annual Young at Art show opened April 6th with a reception in our gallery. Approximately 500 kids, parents, grandparents and siblings enjoyed the opening. This exhibit is open to Brainerd Lakes area teachers who are invited to submit their student's artwork.

The first excitement comes the day before opening when the Advocacy Committee unpacks and hangs the student work, amidst oohs and aahs over the colorful and creative pieces. The excitement is doubled at the reception when our young artists proudly point out their beautiful artwork to parents and others. Ingrid Anderson photographs each visiting artist, and the fun, artsy snacks add to the entertaining afternoon.

From this exhibit 10 pieces of Artwork are chosen to be professionally matted and framed by Beth Workman from Picture Perfect. The Artwork will be displayed in the YMCA lobby for the year then returned to the students.



Artwork from the following students was selected for exhibit at the YMCA:

- Raina Hochhalter... Kindergarten
- Eva Limogianna... Grade 1
- Nevaeh Sellman... Grade 3
- Eva Lee Bleganek... Grade 4
- Ainslie Hudalla... Grade 5
- Bennet Bernander... Grade 6
- Riley Pelowski... Grade 9
- Kirsten Neistadt... Grade 10
- Tabitha Cramer... Grade 10
- Jerusalem Barker-Peterson... Grade 11



Also this year we chose 3 winners in the 3-D category:

- Ella Yaunuck... Copper Dog Sculpture
- Olivia Killoran... "On the Ocean Floor" ceramics
- Catherine McGuire... "Nature's Beauty" Ceramics

A "Director's Choice" award was given to Elizabeth Archer from BHS

Also, a **"Sponsor's Choice"** was given by John Raboin to Selvin Martin from Lake Region Christian School

We congratulate all these artists!



Photo 1: Director's Choice Award winner, Elizabeth Archer

Photo 2: John Raboin Sponsor's Choice Award winner: Selvin Martin

Photo 3: Young at Art volunteer crew

Photo 4 and 5: Ingrid Anderson enjoys chatting with the young artists as she captures their pride in what they have made.



●●●● Showcasing Our Art and Artists

The Crossing Arts Gallery features a new gallery exhibit every month of the year, except November and December when the entire space transforms into the Kringle Market for the winter holidays and features art and fine craft perfect for gift-giving.

Exhibits showcase a variety of mediums and artists and keep our small but mighty gallery committee hopping. The group works with Lisa, our Director, to develop the Gallery schedule, to jury in work, and hang shows. It's a fair amount of work to do each month, but a fun challenge nonetheless.

In January we exhibited 'See the Sounds' in which artists created work based on a piece of lyrical music which was digitally linked so that viewers could experience the "sound" while "seeing" the artwork. In February, we enjoyed a solo show by Cyrus Swann who opened his exhibit with an artist talk that inspired all who attended. In March we were after color and we got it with 'A Riot of Color'. April we shared the popular 'Young at Art' exhibit (featured in this issue).

Rounding up the rest of this year we have a 2-week exhibit of the Van Gogh Cherrywood Quilt Challenge pieces (one of only 2 locations to have the full exhibit), our signature event 'Salute to the Arts,' Lisa Jordan's solo show 'Woolgatherer,' David Boran's photography of the Lakes Area Music Festival, Art to Wear 2 which encourages participants to create wearable pieces of art, and a Veterans Art exhibit showcasing work from those that have served in the Armed Forces.

If you haven't attended an exhibit opening, we encourage you to. It's truly an uplifting occasion to see people from all walks of life in conversation over a shared interest in art.

The Gallery Committee: HollyRose McKnight, Martin Nelson, Carolyn Abbott, Chase Vreeland, Sunday Grogan Trott



Arts in the Park is widely known and respected as one of central Minnesota's finest art exhibitions. Whether it is a favorite artist, entertainer or even your favorite snack offered by one of our food vendors, Arts in the Park has something for everyone.

WHEN & WHERE:
Sunday, July 1, 2018 | 10 am - 4 pm
Sunday, June 30, 2019 | 10 am - 4 pm
Gregory Park, 424 N 5th Street, Brainerd MN

For information on how to get juried into Arts in the Park, please contact holly@brainerdcommunityaction.org.

We encourage the public to attend this creative event with no admission fee.



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Do You Suffer from Author Impostor Syndrome? by Carissa Andrews

Impostor syndrome can be debilitating, regardless of what area of your life it arises in. For authors, it can take a long time to overcome—and even numerous books under the belt. This is particularly true in our new era of self-publishing.

Many authors, and even advocates, feel as though you aren't truly an author unless you're being published and represented by the big-name publishers. This mentality is the remnants of times gone by when self-publishing had the stigma against it. People assumed you weren't good enough to pass the gates of true literary professionals, so your books must not be good. This mindset nowadays is not only a complete disservice to the literary community, it bypasses the fact many authors are highly capable entrepreneurs looking to take ownership of their creations in ways they couldn't before.

Just as with any impostor syndrome, author impostor syndrome is a terrifying feeling we'll be found out as frauds if we call ourselves an author. According to Valerie Young, foremost expert on impostor syndrome and author of *The Secret Thoughts of Successful Women*, impostors can be broken into five archetypes:

- **THE PERFECTIONIST**
These impostors want all I's dotted and T's crossed before they can move forward on anything, so often they don't move at all.
- **SUPERMAN/SUPERWOMAN**
These impostors are less into perfection and more into control. They want to handle every aspect because they don't think anyone else can handle things the way they can.
- **THE NATURAL GENIUS**
These impostors are naturally good at most things. They were the straight A students and the quick learners. They get into trouble when things don't come naturally or easily to them.
- **THE RUGGED INDIVIDUALIST**
Much like Superman/Superwoman, these impostors don't want to ever ask for assistance from anyone. For them, it's less about losing control and more about revealing their lack of knowledge by asking for help.
- **THE EXPERT**
These impostors are knowledge hounds. They feel they have to have 100% of the information before moving forward.

As it turns out, most people with impostor syndrome are not only highly capable—but very often *over qualified* to handle their respective jobs. The problem is really more a basis in limiting beliefs, based on the impostor archetype(s) they identify with. Limiting beliefs are the thoughts and beliefs we hold onto that automatically limit us in some way. Reasons why we accept limiting beliefs and stop questioning them include past experiences, education, faulty logic, excuses and fear.

Overcoming author impostor syndrome is both incredibly simple and tremendously difficult. You can't change something if you don't realize there's even a problem. So first, it means being present enough to notice your limiting beliefs and then doing something to act on them.





THESE ARE THE STEPS TO TAKE IF YOU WANT TO OVERCOME AND PREVAIL:

- 1 Isolate the limiting belief
- 2 Seek its source
- 3 Form empowering beliefs to replace them
- 4 Start 'as if'
- 5 Create evidence of success
- 6 Set yourself up to write (create a sacred writing space, etc.)

While impostor syndrome, in all its various forms, is an uncomfortable place to be—it can be overcome. We live in an exciting time for creatives of all kinds, and authors are no exception. Doors that didn't exist ten years ago are open if we're willing to just walk through them. If you have a book inside of you waiting to make its way to the world, it's time to look past your limiting beliefs and start writing. Your book and the world need you.



Carissa Andrews is the self-published author of the Pendomus Chronicles trilogy, as well as Author Impostor: Getting Over Impostor Syndrome So You Can Reclaim Your Author Power and Start Writing. She's also an award-winning graphic designer, and freelance writer who strongly believes creatives need to embrace their calling. To learn more about her and the books she writes, visit her website at www.carissaandrews.com



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Become a member of the Crossing Arts Alliance

Every dollar counts!

Your membership support touches the lives of 6000 residents, visitors and artists annually through free or low cost public art programs, workshops, exhibitions and a gift shop featuring the work of 70 artists. Your membership allows the Crossing Arts Alliance to promote art and artists in the lakes area with over \$35,000.00 in arts programming and professional arts opportunities. By becoming a member, you are growing the cultural economy of Cass, Crow Wing, Morrison, Todd and Wadena Counties, which generates collectively over 10.5 million dollars of economic impact.

Everyone benefits from the arts!

Engaging exhibitions, community events and inspiring educational opportunities at TCAA bring community together, add vibrancy to the downtown area and provide a creative outlet for people of all ages. Art and culture directly impact the health of our community. Art helps to create jobs, reduce crime, increase tourism, support economic growth and revitalizes neighborhoods.

Your membership makes a difference!

Our members are valued **pART**ners who help bring art opportunities to people of all ages, keep participation costs down and defray operating costs. With your membership investment, TCAA can reach out in more ways to have a bigger impact on the health of our community and the revitalization of the downtown Brainerd area. Visit crossingarts.org or stop in and see us to find out which level of membership is right for you.

We welcome these new members who joined The Crossing Arts Alliance from December, 2017, through March, 2018

Elizabeth Archer, Baxter
Carrissa Andrews, Crosslake
Carol Austin, Merrifield
Barry & Linda Babcock,
Laporte
Sonya Chamberlain, Brainerd
Clayton A. Castle, Baxter
Lynda Converse, Pillager
Anna Dabill, Baxter
Linda Forde, Brainerd
Maren Frieman, Baxter
Barb Gosen, Brainerd
Jackie Horan, Pine River

Gigi Houske, Baxter
Paul & Sally Jacobsen,
Brainerd
Richard Jensen, Brainerd
Thomas Jungels, Jenkins
David & Christine Kennedy,
Pequot Lakes
Dana Kletscher, Nisswa
Donna Larson, Pillager
Elaine Leach, Lake Shore
Lana LeDoux, Brainerd
Jackie McCall, Baxter
Susan Mezzenga, Brainerd

Danielle Miller, Eden Prairie
Brenda Myers, Pequot Lakes
Lindsey Personius, Pillager
Nathanael Porisch, Brainerd
Meegan Schaeffer, Brainerd
LuAnn Smith, Baxter
Mike & Robin Soderlund,
Brainerd
Quinn Swanson, Pine River
Byrdie Thompson, Tulsa, OK
Tom & Sue Weber, Deerwood
Kevin Yeager, Theatre & Actors
Guild, Brainerd

●●●● Key Financial Supporters

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 Jeanni Foss, Nisswa
 Jim & Diane Whiting, Santa Fe, NM

Pillars:

Anderson Family Legacy
 Foundation Agency, Crosslake

Benefactors:

Ruth Anne Weaver, Golden CO

Crusaders:

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 Pam Thomsen, Brainerd
 Janet Kurtz, Fort Ripley
 Brian & Jacki Lemieux,
 Lemieux Wealth Strategies, Baxter
 Curt & Sandy Nielsen, Brainerd
 Steve & Donna Stricker,
 Pequot Lakes

Advocate:

Pat & Wayne Altrichter, Fort Ripley
 Julie & David Anderholm, Nisswa
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 Haddie Hadachek, Brainerd
 Al & Elsie Husom, Pillager
 Julie Ingleman Designs, Lake Shore
 Tom & Marlee Larson, Brainerd,
 Mid Minnesota Federal Credit
 Union, Baxter
 Regina Nelson, Baxter
 John Raboin, Baxter
 Diane & Jim Runberg, Brainerd
 Cyndy & Bruce Thompson, Brainerd
 Traveling Art Pub, Brainerd
 Carol Winegar, Baxter

Enthusiasts:

Carolyn Abbott, Brainerd
 Louis & Barbra Anderson, Brainerd
 Lily Atwel, Brainerd
 Heidi Auel, Brainerd
 Carol Beaton, Naples FL

Kathy Blake, Fort Ripley
 Sandra Bloom, Nisswa
 Adrienne Cahoon, Brainerd
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 Jean & Jim Kraft, Breezy Point
 Jack & Kay Kraywinkle, Brainerd
 Judy Kuusisto, Merrifield
 Carol & Tom Lang, Brainerd
 Jeanne & Bob Larson, Brainerd
 Kathleen Maloney, Brainerd
 Robert & Karen Ogdahl, Baxter
 Jimmy & Pam Olson-Lorenz, Nisswa
 Karla & John Overland, Baxter
 Nancie Paulson, Brainerd
 FocalPOINT Photography Club
 Brenda & Don Pfeffer, Motley
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 Rhoda Rees, Pequot Lakes
 Merry Lynn & Jim Roelofs, Baxter
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— Thomas Merton,
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●●●● Stephanie White,
New Staff Assistant

Hello Members! My name is Stephanie White and I have been hired as the new Staff Assistant for TCAA! I absolutely love my job and am thrilled to be able to help provide my services to expand the arts in our community.

My job duties include providing administrative and clerical support to our Director, Lisa, and the board of directors, to ensure that the daily workings of our organization function like a well-oiled machine. That means you'll find me busy updating spreadsheets, processing class enrollments, greeting artists and visitors, providing technical assistance and more. Outside of the TCAA I teach dance at the Spirit Movement Dance Studio. Specifically, I am certified Instructor of ATS® American Tribal Style belly dance, and Ballroom, Latin and Swing dance styles. I am considered an instructor in training for Michelle & Oscar Gonzalez. You may recognize me from my

performing arts life. I am the Director of Vespertine Tribal and I am an actor, choreographer, stage manager, and tech in Brainerd and Pequot Lakes Community Theaters. Starting in July I will be the Chair of the Greater Lakes Area Performing Arts, GLAPA, and currently hold the Chair-Elect position.

I've enjoyed meeting many of you who have already stopped in and look forward to getting to know the many more supporters of this great organization.

Stephanie poses with one of the budding artists from 2nd Saturday.



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●●●● **Calls for Art:**

We have juried exhibits at various times throughout the year and welcome your participation. Check our web site at crossingarts.org for calls for art and share your work with our community

●●●● **Thank you,
Gambling Sites**

We appreciate our charitable gambling sites:

- College Square Gas Station
- Pine Square Gas Station

These business have designated The Crossing Arts Alliance as their non-profit. Please support them.

Member meetings are held before our monthly board meetings, generally the third Thursday of the month at 5:30pm at TCAA for the limited purpose of reviewing and voting on Gaming motions. Members are welcome to attend. Gambling reports are available by request in the TCAA Office.



Cherrywood Hand Dyed Fabrics of Brainerd/Baxter is proud to present:



A keepsake book created by Crossing Art members Karla and John Overland will be available for \$28



We challenged fiber artists from all over the world to take inspiration from Van Gogh's work and create their own masterpiece using our hand dyed fabric. All artists started with the same fabric and same simple rules, yet the results show incredible variety and creativity. The overwhelming response to this contest resulted in TWO amazing exhibits. This is a rare opportunity to see the ENTIRE collection of challenge quilts! You will be absolutely in awe of these small works of fiber art - over 200 on display! The international tour includes Canada, Australia and France and over 15 venues in USA.

**May 29 through
June 9, 2018**

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The Crossing Arts Alliance is a gateway to the arts through access, education, and experiences. We inspire and enrich our community for those who create and those who appreciate the arts.

Our activities are funded, in part, by the voters of Minnesota through grants from the Five Wings Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.



Growers & Makers Marketplace | Food Hub | Licensed Kitchens

GROWERS & MAKERS MARKETPLACE

2018
Jan 27 Feb 24 Mar 24
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10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
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ALL EVENTS

- | | |
|---|--|
| January 16
Greenhouse 101 | June 19
A Party With A Purpose |
| January 27
Growers & Makers Market | July 17
A Party With A Purpose |
| February 20
Build-Your-Business Workshop Series | August 21
A Cultural Cooking Class |
| February 24
Growers & Makers Market | September 18
A Party With A Purpose |
| March 20
Build-Your-Business Workshop Series | October 16
Build-Your-Business Workshop |
| March 24
Growers & Makers Market | October 27
Growers & Makers Market |
| April 19
A Party With A Purpose | November 17
Growers & Makers Market |
| April 24
Cooking Skills for CSA Members | December TBD
Holiday Cooking-Making Class |
| May 15
"Minced" – A new cooking competition and culinary challenge! | December 8
Growers & Makers Holiday Market |

See website or Facebook for full event details

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