

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK...



Joanne Kant
EAC President

2020 has been a very stressful year, and we are all looking forward to 2021 with hope. The Arts, like humankind, thrives on companionship and togetherness. Our sense of community drives us, enlivens us, sustains us. And yet to stay safe, we have had to keep away from each other.

With the closing of the Library in the early days of the pandemic, we were forced to change many of our events. Even though our *Youth Art Show* was already hung, we had to cancel the reception, as well as our *Art in the Country* Juried Show and Reception. Our popular performing arts events, *Reader's Theater* and *Taste of Opera* also had to be cancelled. Although we have been able to proceed with our annual *Juried Photo Contest* virtually and we look forward to a virtual *Winter Celebration of the Arts* Annual Member Show, we will not be having our receptions. These are our most popular events, where artists can get together to celebrate art and life. It is unfortunate that your art will not be hanging in the Library for the near future, but we must abide by the state mandates and we want most of all to keep you safe.

Even so, we have still been working behind the scenes to foster the arts in Easton. We presented the yearly *Awards of Recognition* to young artists this past spring at the Joel Barlow and Helen Keller schools, and we have enjoyed working with the *Easton 175 Committee* on the logo selection and the *Oral History Project*.

Therefore, we still have expenses with the work we are doing. So please renew your membership for the coming year. This pandemic WILL END someday and we will all return to enjoying art and celebrating our artists in person.

Please keep in touch by visiting our website www.eastonartscouncil.org where you can purchase our *2021 Easton Calendars* and see what events are coming up.

We look forward to getting back together with you safely in 2021!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joanne Kant". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

For further information on EAC events,
links to our artists' websites, and
to friend us on Facebook, check our website
www.eastonartscouncil.org



UPCOMING EVENTS 2021

Jan.18 to Feb.28 **Winter Celebration of the Arts VIRTUAL**
Digital entries will be accepted Dec. 6, 2020 through January 11, 2021.

Entry form is on the EAC website.

Feb.6 noon **Youth Art Digital Workshop**
Call Kathy at 203-261-7351.

March **Young Artists Online Exhibit**
Online receiving deadline Sat. 2/27, 11pm.
A digital video will be presented during the month of March, National Youth Art Month.

Apr.4 **Readers Theater VIRTUAL**
will return (if the state mandate allows) with an all new, online, above-average performance.
Keep posted on the EAC website.

May **Art in the Country**
will return (if the state mandate allows)
Keep posted on the EAC website.

Oct.3 3pm **Taste of Opera**
will return (if the state mandate allows) with an all new, post-pandemic performance of the Hot to Trot Trio.
Keep posted on the EAC website.

TBA **Photography Contest**
will return (if State Mandate allows)
Keep posted to the EAC website.

Unfortunately, we are unable to host our winter/spring film series due to the pandemic.

The Easton Arts Council is complying with the rules to keep us all safe during this pandemic. Although we cannot predict when our upcoming events will resume, rest assured that we are working diligently behind the scenes, and when able, we will present our wide range of programs reflecting our continued commitment to *Promoting the Arts in Easton.*

EAC MEMBERS IN THE NEWS...

Robert Brennan

2brennan@optonline.net

Bob's January 2020 exhibit at the Easton Library, *Along the Coast*, depicted the rich seascape of the New England coastline: the sand dunes of Cape Cod, fishing fleets at Provincetown, lobstering off Bar Harbor, and the picturesque Thimble Islands in Stoney Creek.

Those who have viewed his other exhibits have enjoyed the variety of styles and media by this talented artist. He maintains his home and studio here in Easton.

Dolly Curtis

dollycurtis72@gmail.com

Dolly curated several exciting art exhibitions at the Library in 2020: Suzanne Sheridan's *Photographs of Goddess Women*...Harry Green's paintings...Easton's Robert Brennan paintings *Along the Coast*...Larry Morse and Ellen Tresselt in *Diverse Perspectives* - large paintings and collages...and Harvey Paris *wood and leather does Reboot*.

Cristina Sarno

cristinasarno@gmail.com

Tina exhibited her artwork in the 5th annual holiday exhibit at the Carriage Barn Arts Center (*New Canaan Society for the Arts*) for the 2020 holiday season.



by Tina Sarno

Dolly Curtis and **Sheila Weaver** have been creating oral histories archivally, honoring the 175 anniversary of Easton and its long-term residents.

The following residents have been interviewed: *Bill Kupinse*, attorney and former multi-term First Selectman of Easton; *Dick Greiser*, owner of the well-known antique store/deli for decades in Easton; *Mary Ann Freeman*, 50-year resident, Director of the Discovery Museum, hospital administrator, and currently on the Easton Senior Advisory Commission; *Andy Kachele*, native of Easton and Chairman of the Board of Finance for many years; and *Ed Nagy*, director of Easton Public Works for 41 years.

Other interviews are planned. All interviews will be available at: eastonlibrary.org, eastonartscouncil.org, and easton175.com

2020 STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

The Diane Esther Aaron Memorial Scholarship Awards at Helen Keller Middle School, went to:

Carsen Schick in performing arts and
Duncan Martin in visual arts.

The Nancy White Memorial Scholarship Awards at Joel Barlow High School went to:

Trevor Wilkes in performing arts and
Elisabeth Chan in visual arts.

Congratulations to our talented students!



Easton is celebrating its 175th Anniversary, and the EAC is excited to help celebrate. In July 2020, we judged submissions for the logo contest, and chose Brooke Alexander Caprio's design for Overall, along with Hayden Goldstein in Kids Category, and Makeda Ra El Ali Bey in Young Adults. Around 1987, Citizens for Easton began a yearly contest of photos depicting the Beauty of Easton, and the winning photograph went on permanent display in the Town Hall. The Easton Arts Council took over this tradition with their Annual Juried Photography Contest. Thanks to our enthusiastic members, they have all been labeled and rehung; We also created a photo montage of all the photos which can be viewed on our website.

2021 marks twenty-five years of the Easton Arts Council.

Due to the pandemic, we will be postponing our celebration, but look forward to finding appropriate ways to celebrate this milestone as circumstances change.

WINTER CELEBRATION OF THE ARTS

The *2020 Winter Celebration Member Art Show* was a wonderfully attended show with sixty participating artists displaying their pastels, pencils, photography, pen & inks, watercolors, collages, and oils.

We are excited to announce that our *2021 Winter Celebration Member Art Show* will be completely online, which we believe will provide an excellent venue to display the creative talents of all our artists. The entry form is on our EAC website. Digital entries will be accepted from December 6, 2020 through January 11, 2021.

The Exhibit will be open online from January 18th until February 28th on the EAC website:

eastonartscouncil.org

For more information, call Kris Lynch at 203-261-0175.

READERS THEATER

Readers Theater 2021 will not be a live, in-person performance. Artistic Director, Kit Briner says that several creative virtual possibilities are under consideration.

It all began in 1997 as a way to bring live theater to Easton without the demands of full-scale productions. There is no set format. Sometimes the production will be a themed (or not themed) collection of one-act plays, often including poetry, music, and dance.

The annual program has evolved over the years, and has developed a loyal and enthusiastic following.

We look forward to another above-average performance this coming April!

Keep posted to the EAC website.

YOUTH ART DIGITAL WORKSHOP

Join the online young artists digital art class at noon on February 6. Details to follow.

All participants will receive free a 2021 EAC membership, thanks to the Easton Lions Club.

Contact Kathy Davidson at 203-261-7351.

Keep posted to the EAC website!

YOUNG ARTISTS ONLINE EXHIBITION

Calling all school-age artists!

March is *National Youth Art Month*.

We invite our students to participate in this online art exhibit and display their talents! All artists will receive a free 2021 membership to the Easton Arts Council.

Entry forms are online.

Call Kathy Davidson at 203-261-7351.

JURIED PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

In our 2019 Show, juror Bruce Dunbar awarded the following prizes:

1st: *Grandmother's House* - Sara Adriani

2nd: *Feeding Babies* - Jeff Becker

Special Recognition:

A New Life - Hamza Seyal

Aspetuck Reservoir Sunrise - Gavin Rakitt

Fall - Dara Ghavami.

Our 2020 Show was a new venture for us and a virtual success with juror David Dunlop awarding the following:

1st: *Swans on Aspetuck Reservoir* - Kaitlin Anne Kyle

2nd: *Condensate Cricket* - Jeff Becker

Special Recognition:

Evening Fireflies - Jacquelyn Eitling

Iced Blue - Jeff Becker

The Winter's Tails - Geri Gould.

All photographs are on display on the following websites:

eastonartscouncil.org - eastonlibrary.org - easton175.com



Grandmother's House
by Sara Adriani

TASTE OF OPERA

Taste of Opera will return with an all-new, post-pandemic performance of the *Hot to Trot Trio* on Sun., October 3, 2021, 3pm.

Call for more info: 203-261-6827 or hottotrottrio@gmail.com.

Keep posted to the EAC website, and join us for another musical program!



Hot to Trot Trio:
Joanne, Tom, & Olga

ART IN THE COUNTRY

Sadly, we had to forego the 2020 Show because of the pandemic, but our Juried Fine Art Show will return in 2021.

Keep posted to the EAC website!



JOIN THE EAC TODAY!

Your membership supports:

Winter Celebration of the Arts

Winter/Spring Film Series

Art in the Country

Readers Theater

Taste of Opera

Art Digital Workshop

Young Artists Exhibition

Juried Photography Contest

Awards of Recognition to

Helen Keller & Joel Barlow Students

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Areas of Interest: _____

Your Easton Arts Council membership/contribution:

___\$10 Youth ___\$20 Individual ___\$30 Family

Please mail to: EAC, PO Box 142, Easton, CT 06612