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Medina County Arts Council welcomes new trustees, announces grants

MEDINA COUNTY – Following last month’s successful 36th annual Arts Week – modified into a widely-viewed virtual affair this year – the Medina County Arts Council is welcoming five new members to its board of trustees, while also saying goodbye to three.

New members

Marsha Pappalardo is a longtime, active community volunteer, most notably with her commitment to the Rotary Club of Brunswick and Rotary International. She works for Homestead Insurance in Brunswick. Marsha is serving as chair of the Arts Council’s Dining for the Arts Committee.

Tom Lempner is a member of the music faculties at Cleveland State University, Notre Dame College and The College of Wooster. He is a woodwind coach for the Cleveland Institute of Music’s Cleveland Youth Wind Symphonies and is a teaching artist for CIPC ArtsConnect at Gilmour Academy. Tom was instrumental in successfully getting this year’s Virtual Arts Week up and running by featuring local performers and artists on Facebook and the Arts Council’s website.

George Sam has been the graphic designer and webmaster for MCAC since fall of 2018. He is retired from FirstEnergy corporate communications and works part time as program assistant for Main Street Medina. A Medina resident, George holds bachelor’s degrees in marketing and visual arts.

Kathy Stauffer is retired from the Medina County Library, where she worked with the youth and teen area. She is a resident of Lodi.

Jeff Young is Director of Advancement for the College of the Arts at Kent State University. A resident of Wadsworth, Jeff has served as a past president of Wadsworth Community Band and plays clarinet in the band.

Outgoing members

Pat Chaloupek had served on the board since 2015, holding the position of vice president for the last three years. Pat was chair of the Membership Committee and served on the Summer Soiree Committee. We wish the best of luck to Pat as she journeys to Colorado to live near her daughter.

Ann Cole had been a member of the board for nine years, serving as treasurer for a majority of those years. Ann served on the Summer Soiree Committee along with several other committees

during her tenure. Many thanks go out to Ann for her guidance with our financials. We wish her many happy memories in retirement.

Dallis Conrad had served on the board since 2017 and was the catalyst behind MCAC's Bicentennial Art Scavenger Hunt. Dallis and his committee organized a scavenger hunt of various historical art and architecture around Medina to encourage appreciation of the art culture in Medina's history. We thank Dallis for his service and wish him well.

MCAC receives support through grants

The Medina County Arts Council is the recipient of two recent grants – one from the Medina County Community Fund and another from the Ohio Arts Council – to help support its mission of promoting the local arts.

Medina County Community Fund awarded Medina County Arts Council a \$1,000 to support Virtual Arts Week by helping to cover some of the expenses of putting on this annual event. Because of COVID-19, Arts Council Trustees had to make adjustments to assure this 36-year tradition continued. Trustees worked to move the performances online to Facebook and the Arts Council website so they would be accessible to all.

The Medina County Community Fund provides grant money for a wide range of cultural, educational and health programs that benefit the entire county. The income from this fund is distributed annually to nonprofit organizations throughout Medina County amounting to more than \$600,000 since 1994.

Each year, Ohio Arts Council offers grant funding to organizations and artists across the state to support their efforts. Medina County Arts Council received a \$1,000 grant from Ohio Arts Council to to underwrite the expenses of Arts Week 2020 for performers fees, children's arts classes and promotions. Due to the constraints of COVID-19, the Arts Council adjusted its plans for Arts Week making it a virtual arts experiences featuring local performers and artists online during the week. The grant money allowed the arts council to continue this 36 year tradition.

About MCAC

The Medina County Arts Council (MCAC) is a nonprofit organization with the mission to advocate for, support, and promote the arts in Medina County. The MCAC promotes awareness of all forms of artistic expression and arts activities within our communities, provides funding to support artists and arts organizations throughout the county, and partners with other arts advocacy groups statewide and nationally to assure access to the arts for people all ages and backgrounds.

Like and Share us on Facebook.com/MedinaCountyArtsCouncil. Learn more and help support our mission at www.MedinaCountyArtsCouncil.org. Subscribe to the MCAC Arts Views Newsletter at <http://www.medinacountyartscouncil.org/mcac-news> to get monthly news and updates about the Medina County arts community.

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