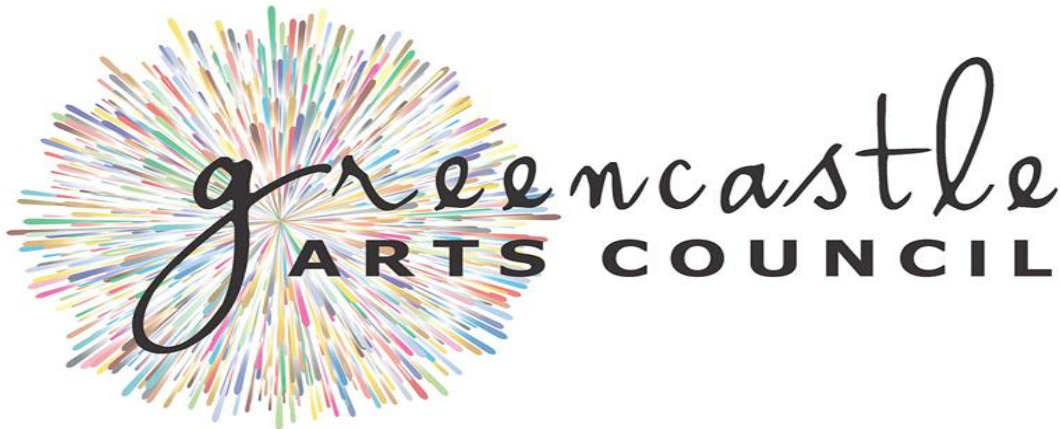


Greencastle Art Council

NEWSLETTER

Summer 2020



Promoting the Arts throughout Putnam County

The purpose of the Greencastle Arts Council is to celebrate and promote the arts and artists throughout Putnam County. We are currently supported by volunteerism and fundraising.

If you would like to become involved, please visit our website
www.greencastleartscouncil.org/

Current Board of Directors:

Lisa Cooper
Rachel Curtis - Treasurer
Ron Dye
Lavinia Hale - Vice President
Suzanne Hassler
Lane Ralph
TL Ridgway-Woodall
Lynne Tweedie -President

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What's happening in 2020?

- An exhibition highlighting the best of local artists will be on display at the Putnam County Museum throughout the months of July and August. Please check their website for more details about visiting the museum.
<https://www.putnamcountymuseum.org/>
- The Greencastle Arts Council board of director members have nearly completed strategic planning and re-education processes, where we are learning to be serve our community.
- The annual GAC Members' meeting has been adaptive due to Covid-19. Members will be contacted via email.
- Community events, activities, and other in-person engagements have been cancelled or postponed due to the on-going restrictions. We have great opportunities just around the corner. We thank you for your patience during these times.

Please visit our home page, or view our calendar for current information on events, activities, and opportunities.

<http://www.greencastleartscouncil.org/>
<http://www.greencastleartscouncil.org/calendar/>

Grants Received in 2020

By Lynne Tweedie

The Greencastle Arts Council was awarded a \$750 grant from the Putnam County Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) in April. The CVB awards such grants to nonprofits that attract or retain visitors to Putnam County and demonstrate potential for continuing to do so in the future. We are grateful to CVB Executive Director, Eric Freeman and the CVB Board for this funding that will support our county-wide exhibition of visual art, 'Locality,' to be held at the Putnam County Museum later this year.

In April, we received a check for \$2500 from the Putnam County Community Foundation. Our appreciation goes out to Dean Gambill, Director of Community Development, who was very helpful to Suzanne Hassler and me throughout the application process.

This funding has enabled the Arts Council to conduct a series of strategic planning sessions attended by eight GAC Board members and community members Alexandria Chamberlain, Kit Newkirk, Veronica Pejril and Vicki Timm. In February of this year we hired Sara A. Peterson, JD, a facilitator from Bloomington, who specializes in effective strategy and governance for community groups. Sara has extensive experience working with arts organizations as well.

We are fortunate to be part of such a supportive community.

COVID-19 Art Kits for Kids Distributed Countywide

By Suzanne Hassler

As the Covid-19 pandemic persisted, it became apparent that house-bound kids around Putnam County were running out of creative things to do. Wanting to lend a helping hand to potentially overwhelmed parents, the Greencastle Arts Council, Putnam County Mural Project, and the United Way of Putnam County, came together to create art kits for kids to contribute to Greencastle's opening First Friday celebration in May.

With the statewide shelter-in-place order requiring the First Friday event be held online rather than on the Courthouse Square, distribution of the kits was made through local "Blessing Boxes" located at Conspire, Eitel's, the Fillmore and Greencastle Christian, Cloverdale and Gobin United Methodist, and Greencastle Presbyterian churches.

The kits also were offered to young artists through the GAC and the Putnam County Mutual Aid: Covid-19 Response pages on Facebook, where kids were then invited to take a picture of their finished work and upload it to social media using the hashtag [#ColorTogetherPutnamCounty](#).

One of the pleasures of this project was the spontaneous community collaboration. To create the kits, PCMP contributed black and white line drawings of the beautiful artwork used on their new murals at U.S. 231 and Veterans Memorial Highway; GAC donors provided the art materials and distribution for the project;

and with print shops closed, the local United Way stepped up to save the day by providing printing and paper needed to reproduce the coloring pages.

The kits disappeared so quickly after each distribution, that the GAC board voted to repeat the project this summer.

We are especially thankful to Chris Flegal of the Putnam County Mural Project and Putnam County United Way for working with GAC to make this fun, free project not only possible, but successful.



Image Credit: Suzanne Hassler

Online Challenge

By TL Ridgway

The GAC supports professional artists in numerous ways as the opportunity or need presents itself. Most people that know our volunteer-based organization understand how hard we work to encourage our local talents. We would like to inspire all artists to create art, in any form with any material, and purely for pleasure and well-being.

Under the recent stay-at-home recommendations and social distancing requirements, we decided to offer at-home projects that could be achievable for the majority of households because they were designed based on the assumed availability of basic materials, seasonal challenges, and to accommodate all levels of making. We see this as an opportunity for children and adults to be creative, with a small group or independently.

We would like to thank everyone that participated in these online challenges. We encourage you to complete these projects if you have not, or to even do them again. (The results can be different every time and it can be made into a fun game by adding a list of challenges, such as requiring a specific color or shape.)



Images Courtesy of Donna Harcourt



Images Courtesy of Lavinia Hale

LOCALITY: A Visual Arts Exhibition

By TL Ridgway

The Greencastle Arts Council in collaboration with the Putnam County Museum would like to encourage and support the arts in our local community by highlighting local 2-D and 3-D artists. *LOCALITY: A Visual Arts Exhibition* had an open call for adult artists that live, work, attend school, or were born in Putnam County, including surrounding areas that support our west central Indiana community.

Amateur and professional artists will be competing for multiple awards totaling a minimal of \$600, and for an Award-Winners' interview that will appear on GAC and/or PCM communication platforms. This exhibition will be on display at the Putnam County Museum throughout the months of July and August. Works created by GAC Board of Directors' members and our professional jury, will also be on display. Please visit our websites and social media platforms regularly for updates and announcements.

Without further delay, we would like to proudly announce our finalists for *LOCALITY: A Visual Arts Exhibition*.

The 24 participating artists are as follows (in alphabetical order):

Hannah Buchanan, Holly Buchanan, *Lisa Cooper, *Rachel Curtis, Bill Curtis, Stephen Edwards, Stu Fabe, K Ferrand-Ott, Paul Fiscus, Maria Gomez, Esther Hale, *Lavinia Hale, Donna Harcourt, *Suzanne Hassler,

Yasushi Ishikawa, M. Rees, *T.L. Ridgway, Jerome Rud, *Lynne Tweedie, Brenda Whicker, Jim Whicker, Katie Wood, Logan Wood, Stacey Lynne Wurster.

Through two rounds, 2-D and 3-D works of art were selected through a blind voting process, that did not include the artist's name. A panel was appointed and several community leaders and volunteers happily participated, including members of the Greencastle Arts Council Board of Directors and the Putnam County Museum.

The Arts Panel contributors are as follows:

Alexandra Chamberlain, Lisa Cooper, Rachel Curtis, Ron Dye, Lavinia Hale, Suzanne Hassler, Mickey Meehan, Lisa Mock, Matt Rees, Toni Ridgway-Woodall, Lynne Tweedie.

Thank you to all the artists, volunteers, and organizations that help make this opportunity possible.

* GAC Board of Directors member (not eligible to compete for award money)

Meet our Jury

Our Jury consist of art-based professionals with a wide range of experience and expertise. They will be evaluating the artworks presented and determining the top two award winners through a majority voting process. Artists will receive professional feedback at the end of the exhibition.

Let's meet our experts.

Martine Bachelart

Martine Bachelart is an Indy-based, Belgium born artist and regularly takes classes from her peers to learn more about art processes. She



focused her studies on Industrial Marketing and Emotional Intelligence, and earned a Master's of Architecture in Belgium. In 1996, her husband, Eric, stopped his career as a race car driver and established [Conquest Racing](#). They permanently moved to Indianapolis with their two children, Elliott and Emilie. Once in Indiana, she joined F.C. Tucker to work on real estate rehabilitation and renovation projects.

Design, Painting and Sculpture continue to be her favorite tools of expression and she enjoys living in a rural district. She has been commissioned to create paintings and sculptures for private and corporate collections. Her current work advocates to bring awareness to Mental Health issues, more specifically the struggles of addiction and the process of grief that accompanies many families. Her most recent exhibit at the Kauba Gallery, *Riverwalk*, encouraged a celebration of life and highlighted her devotion to this cause. She is passionate about encouraging people to follow a path of recovery and she supports [THE LANTERN, LEAN IN RECOVERY](#), and [RECOVERY 2.0](#) recovery programs. You may view her work at: [DO317](#) [NUEVO](#) [Arts Council of Indianapolis](#) or [Fun City Finder](#). <https://www.martinebachelart.com/>

August Kochanowski

August Kochanowski is a fourth-generation blacksmith who lives and works in the heart of Central Wisconsin. He received his MFA in sculpture from Herron School of Art and Design in Indianapolis, and his BFA from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

Kochanowski was the 2017 Fellowship at Ox-Bow School of Art and was selected to be their Artist's Residency in Saugatuck, Michigan,

where he exhibited a series of sculptures that emphasized the things we leave behind. In 2020 as a Visiting Artist, Kochanowski gave a lecture about his work at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, and shared traditional forging techniques with students and other attendees.



Kochanowski's work looks at systems of power and questions them. He does this by examining the monument and analyzing the function it has served throughout history. His juxtaposes contemporary modes with a traditional figurative style. Creating original portraiture out of fine wrought iron techniques, Kochanowski uses these historically privileged art forms to take control of these systems, while emphasizing their impermanence. His subjects appear to be a warning to society not to repeat our mistakes from the past. "Using the ruin as a metaphor, my work talks about pressing social issues from climate change to economic disparity caused by the rapid urbanization of humankind."

Ryan Matthews

Ryan Matthews is a proud graduate of Purdue University where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in both Art Education and Fine Arts. He enjoys sharing his passion for the arts with young artists. Matthews has been a Visual Arts teacher at Ralph Waldo Emerson Elementary in Indianapolis for the last 6 years. He began his teaching career in Eagle County, Colorado where he taught for 5 years before joining the Indianapolis Public School family.



Matthews is also a *School Arts Coordinator (SAC)* for the *Any Given Child* program, which is sponsored by the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington D.C. As a representative of this program, he works to increase art-based opportunities within our public-school systems. He often collaborates with the Indianapolis Arts Council, The Arts for Learning Organization, and The Indianapolis Ballet to help bring more arts integration into our schools by enhancing the cultural education of all students.

When not sharing his passion for art with his scholars, Matthews enjoys being with his wife Amber and their 3 wonderful children. They enjoy being outside together as a family, and staying active. Matthews is also an avid runner. He has competed in several ultra-races including finishes in 50-mile, 100 K, and 100-mile races.

Matt Panfil

Matt Panfil is a film & visual arts professor at Herron School of Art & Design, a multimedia visual artist, filmmaker, and writer working and living in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Matt received his Master's in Fine Arts from Herron School of Art & Design in 2018. From 2012 until 2014, Matt worked as lead videographer for RAW Artists in

Indianapolis; as a freelancer, he has produced promotional videos for The Ford Motor Company, PUNO Sports, SAE International, and Roche Diagnostics. In 2015, Matt received first place in Downtown Indy's "We Welcome All" video challenge.

Matt has showcased visual artwork at The Landmarks Gallery, The DO317 Lounge, The Attic, The Broad Ripple Art Center, and The 5547 Gallery in Irvington. Matt was awarded NUVO Magazine's "Best Local Visual 3D Artist" award in 2016.

Since February of 2017, Matt has served as co-founder, head art curator, and installation artist for HEALER DIY, a new collaborative, alternative art/music space in Fountain Square. (www.healerdij.com)



We Depend on You

We depend on each and every one of you to ensure the vitality of the arts in our area. We depend on volunteers with an array of experiences and knowledge to help. Anyone can volunteer their time. We also depend on monetary donations and grants to provide the community with cultural opportunities and activities. We have volunteers that spend their time writing proposals for projects, as well as pursuing grants opportunities from local and national funding sources. Please consider donating any amount to ensure we can continue to provide free resources to the whole community.

If you have questions or concerns about donations or volunteering, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Please send donations to PO Box 631, Greencastle, IN, 46135, or visit our webpage for more information at www.greencastleartscouncil.org/donations

Your Opinion Matters

Do you have knowledge or a skill that you would like to share with the Art Community? What would you like to gain from the arts? What are your thoughts?

Get to know others, just like you. Please visit our Facebook page and start a positive conversation.

www.facebook.com/GreenCastleArtsCouncil/

Greencastle Arts Council

The Greencastle Arts Council is a non-profit organization that is operated by local volunteers. We rely on the generosity of our loyal patrons for support. All proceeds go toward supporting local opportunities and covers GAC operational expenses, generally paid via PayPal, or check. Please consider donating so that we may continue to encourage creativity throughout the Putnam County area.

Contact the Greencastle Arts Council:

By mail at:

GAC
PO Box 631
Greencastle, IN, 46135

Email us at: treasurer@GreencastleArtsCouncil.org

Visit our website: www.greencastleartscouncil.org/donations

Meet other GAC supporters on our social media:

www.facebook.com/GreenCastleArtsCouncil/