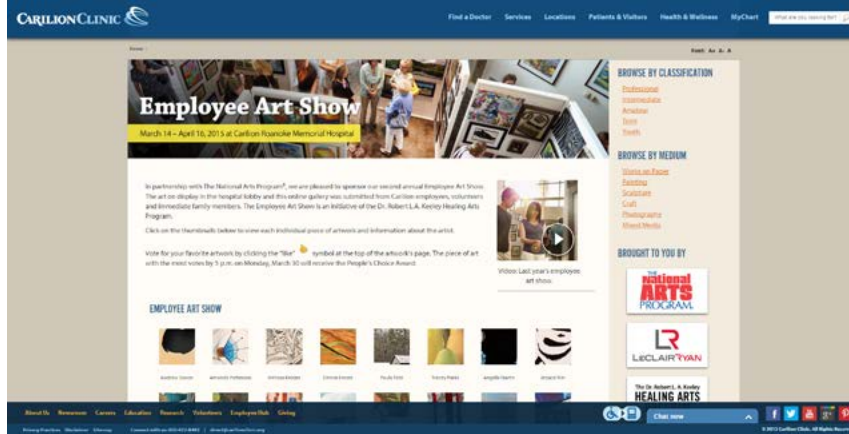


CARILION CLINIC GETS EVERYONE INVOLVED

Only in their second year with the program, NAP Coordinator Marie Webb and the Healing Arts Committee at Carilion Clinic have done another tremendous job of finding new ways to incorporate everyone in the hospital's artistic community.

This year, Marie, along with the committee decided to take the voting for their "People's Choice" award completely online. In order to accomplish this, each of the art pieces submitted were individually photographed and then uploaded to a page on Carilion's website devoted entirely to the show. Visitors to the site can view the artwork by classification, medium or just browse the gallery by artist name. Once they decide on the piece they want to vote for, they just click the "like" button at the top of that piece's page. The artwork with the most "likes" at the end of the voting period will be awarded the "People's Choice" at the reception on March 31st.



The addition of this element alone would have been enough for most people, but Marie and the committee really wanted to find a way to bring the show to those patients that are unable to visit the show in person. Using the hospital's own in-house GetWell Network, which is used by patients to access television programming, internet and videos while in their rooms, they provide a link that takes patients directly to the art show page. Here they can view the art and even participate in the "People's Choice" voting. Marie commented that they not only plan to keep the online version of the show up even after the live show ends, but they plan to continue to add future years as well.

As we at the NAP truly believe in being as inclusive as possible, we love the idea of involving people who might not normally have the opportunity to visit the show in person the chance to feel like they are part of the art community at the hospital during their stay. We applaud Marie and the Healing Arts Committee for their efforts to find new ways to integrate the arts into the healing process.

Delaware Does it Again

The State of Delaware and the Delaware Division of the Arts held their 4th Annual National Arts Program® Exhibition this year from February 23rd through March 14th. An incredible two hundred and thirty-five employees and their immediate family members submitted works that were all professionally displayed in the Delaware State University Gallery.

Erica Lokai was once again the Coordinator for the show which was a great success. Her efforts in handling all aspects of this program have helped keep the wonderful momentum going and participation remains extremely high.

The awards reception was held on March 14th and drew approximately 125 guests to the gallery. Having a closing day ceremony allowed them to announce their online People's Choice Winner, Teen Artist Rebecca Malmstrom, during the festivities.

Erica commented that she is always, "overwhelmed with the amount of compliments she receives each year. So many individuals are thankful for the opportunity to simply display their artwork." One such artist was Elizabeth Lucas, who has entered the show for four years running and was ecstatic to take home a prize in the Amateur Category this year.

Artists at Adventist Midwest Health are Motivated to Create

Susan Kett is the coordinator for the NAP show at Adventist Midwest Health in Illinois. This was their third annual show and once again Sue did a terrific job bringing the hospital community together for this uplifting event. The November 6th reception was standing room only and included a buffet, live music and

wonderful speeches from hospital's leadership.

Three years ago Sue was committed to bringing this show to the Adventist Midwest Health System employees and has since been dedicated to making it a great success. In her follow up this year Sue stated, "I honestly cannot tell you how important this program and your sponsorship has become to our region of hospitals. I met yesterday with a physician who couldn't say enough about how thankful he is to have the NAP exhibit as an annual event. He knows each year that he needs to create a new piece of art to exhibit and it keeps him motivated to include painting in his life."

This year's exhibition, which included works from over one hundred artists, was hung in Adventist LaGrange Memorial Hospital from November 6th through January 6th, 2015. Sue rotates the show to a different hospital each year, allowing employees from each of the locations the opportunity to enjoy having the exhibit on display in their own space. Sue feels that "in these challenging times in Health Care, it is such a joy to bring the program to our hospitals to encourage employees and volunteers to create art knowing that it is intrinsically healing and beneficial in countless ways."



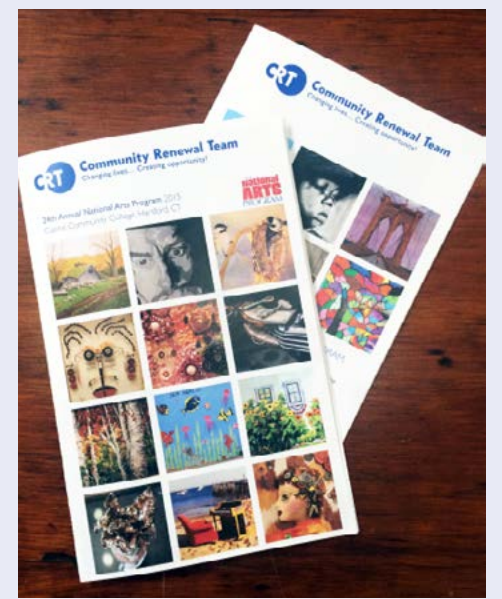
"Storyteller"; Steven Wrzesinski; Youth 12 & Under, Third Place; Sculpture; Relative, Patient Navigation

TWENTY FOUR YEARS & STILL GOING STRONG IN HARTFORD

A message from Lena Rodriguez, the President/CEO of the Community Renewal Team (CRT), who runs the National Arts Program® in Hartford, CT was printed inside the program for the show. Rodriguez states that, "It has truly been a labor of love for CRT to participate in the National Arts Program®. As a human service agency, our work helps people move from poverty to independence. We strive to give individuals and families the tools and skills they need to become self-sufficient and meet challenges in their lives. We believe that art can help us reach this mission. We are more convinced than ever that our 24th National Arts Program® exhibit can be a means of reaching children, rewarding creativity and allowing people the confidence and pride of seeing themselves as artists."

This statement set a powerful tone for the event and was among the first things attendees saw upon opening the program. These words not only provide hope, but encouragement to those from all backgrounds and situations to participate in the arts.

The NAP could not say it any better and are truly grateful to have a partner who strongly believes in the positive role art plays in people's



Coordinator Nancy Shapiro produced these beautifully designed programs which only add to the high level of professionalism of the exhibition.

lives. Over the years, our purpose has never changed, nor has our mission. We salute thousands of artists everyday for having the courage to share their artwork, including this year's 169 artists who were able to see themselves as the artists that they really are in our Hartford exhibition.

"BEST OF THE BEST" for 2014

The National Arts Program® was thrilled to hold our first ever online art exhibit and contest from February 17th through March 31st. The show featured forty-five of the 2014 Best of Show winners from our participating venues across the country.

We asked you to choose the winners by "liking" your favorites. There were 956 votes cast in total and when voting ended, the piece with the most "likes" was named our first ever "Best of the Best"!

and the winner is ...



"Dinner - Ventral Time" by Nicole Massad

First Runner-Up



"The Ballpark" by Greg Wilusz

Second Runner-Up



"Planet Fruit Loops" by Adam Pittman



Thanks for voting!

AND THE BEST OF SHOW WINNERS ARE...

Youth 12 & Under

Ventura County, CA (youth) - Eden Thasiah

Teen 13-18

Charlotte-Mecklenburg, NC - Samantha Robinson

Adult Intermediate

Rutgers New Jersey Medical School, NJ - Camilla Ostrzychi

Ventura County, CA (adult)- Miguel Macias

Adult Professional

Hartford, CT - Alfred Bradley

Portland, ME - Emily Diaz-Norton

Santa Rosa, CA - Hal Wright

State of Delaware, DE - Stephanie Berry



Pictured: "Rainy Day at the Wetlands" by Hal Wright (L) and "Obelisks" by Alfred Bradley (R)

IN THE NEWS THIS QUARTER

See Street Art Around the World via Google

Street art, by its nature, is temporary. Always at risk of being painted over, knocked down or destroyed, street art is a product of its time and place, forever fleeting and ephemeral. That is until now. The mission of The Google Art Project's Street Art Collection is to preserve and democratize this art form through digitization and new technologies.

Interactive art rehab motivates patients

Rehabilitation therapy can make all the difference for someone recovering from a serious injury. But it can be repetitive and boring. Now there's a new way to motivate patients and their moves become works of art.

Man Pranks Art Experts by Putting IKEA Painting in High-Class Museum

Life Hunters host Boris Lange went undercover as an art aficionado, showing off the IKEA painting in the Museum for Modern Art in Arnhem, Netherlands. There, he told Dutch art experts that the artwork was created by the famous Swedish artist "Ike Andrews," an apparently not-too-obvious play on IKEA.

To read full articles visit our website.

THE National ARTS PROGRAM®

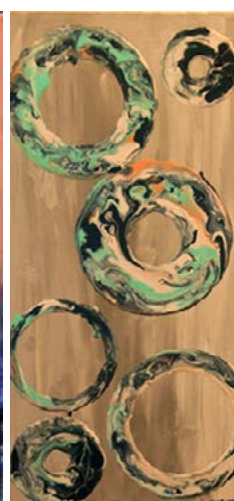
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April 2015

The National Arts Program® was established in 1982 to identify, showcase, and reward the visual artistic talent in America. Today we sponsor 82 venues across the country with steady growth.



ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

(From left to right clockwise)

Lisa Friedly*, "The Scavengers of the Plains", Amateur, Photography

Zhanel Priester, "Self Portrait", Teen 13-18, Painting

Jessica Avent, "Blue and Grey", Intermediate, Painting

Jaylon Brown, "Ship at Sea", Youth 12 & Under, Painting

Suzanne Oliver*, "Melissa's Flowers", Intermediate, Painting

*Indicates NAP Online Artist

