



STAR ARTS NEWS

April 2025

Note from the Chair

Our 2025 Chair, Beth Lilly, writes about our upcoming June Workshops!

Dear Star Arts Friends,

On a recent, rainy Saturday afternoon, I decided to visit the web sites of the folks leading our workshops during Star Arts (page 3 for websites or visit stararts.org). Our Program Sub-Committee: Parrish Dobson, Liz Levy, and Peggy White have arranged for some truly amazing Workshop Leaders to share their expertise with us during our Arts week!

These Leaders are of different ages and in different stages in their careers. Early or late, their accomplishments are astounding. Even though each of us will have to choose one workshop for the week, we can still spend meals and rocking chair time with every Leader. If you check out their websites, you, too, can be prepared to engage these remarkable people with informed curiosity and lively conversation.

Please remember that each Leader has agreed to come to Star and to share their knowledge and talents in exchange for only room and board. This is significantly less than their usual remuneration. Yes, the Program Sub-Committee members are quite the sales people! They know that these Leaders will receive the immeasurable gifts of fresh salt air, beautiful vistas, lantern lit paths, bell buoy music, constant gull conversation, home-made baked goods with every meal, and our sincere, deep gratitude to them for sharing their gifts.

May it be so!
Beth, 2025 Chair



Top: Conversations on the stairs, photo by Sally Armstrong, 2023. Bottom: Workshop Leaders from 2022 collaborating on the porch, photo by Julian Hill, 2022.

Savings for 2025

Discounts

The Island has many different discounts this year for those that are new, returning or haven't been to the Island in awhile. (Discounts must be applied for 2 weeks before you attend.)

Check them out here: <https://starisland.org/discounts/>

Financial Aid

Scholarships are intended to make it possible for anyone wanting to attend the Star Arts to be able to do so. Awards cover part of a recipient's room and board, but not the Star Island registration fee, the Arts programming fee, or any other expenses, including parking at the dock. Please note there is less available Financial Aid this year.

Financial Aid Form is due by April 15th: <https://starisland.org/programs/registration/#financial-grants>

Star Arts 2025
Sunday June 15th to Sunday June 22nd
There are only a few spots left! Register [Here!](#)



2025 Annual Fund

*A Note from the Star Arts Annual Fund Representative,
Elenita Muñiz, about the 2025 Season*

Here's the thing about annual funds: non-profit corporations depend heavily on donors from outside their primary users to support their work. The fees charged to users don't usually cover all the expenses of running the non-profit group. Schools, theater companies, museums, scientific research groups, environmentalists – all these and many others depend on the generosity of huge funders to support their programs. And those big funders always want to see what the folks who are closest to the program are doing themselves to support the organization. *Every name matters.*

Yes, we all pay room and board and boat fees and parking fees, but those just don't cover all the expenses. So, like many non-profits, Star Island Corporation (SIC) has an Annual Fund drive in which they ask supporters to make a donation. It's great if friends of SIC support the work of the corporation. But it's even better if the folks who really use the island – like all of us in Star Arts – also support the Annual Fund, because that shows the big funders that we are already doing all we can to help keep our sweet island healthy and functioning.



Donations to the Annual Fund help maintain buildings on the island like the Chapel. Photo by Anne Nowelski.



Top: Summer House which got a recent update thanks to funds from the Annual Fund. Bottom: Rocking Chairs on the porch that are maintained each year. Both photos by Karen Schultz, 2024

We love this place as much as any other conference – maybe more. So this year, the goal is to have 100% of Star Arts attendees make a gift to the SIC Annual Fund. I'm going to be asking everyone to please contribute. Your donation doesn't have to be big – we don't have a dollar goal, we have a participation goal. I do \$25 twice a year – that's what I can afford, but it feels important to let the SIC know how precious Star Island and Star Arts are to me. In turn, SIC takes those statistics to its prospective donors as a demonstration of what those nearest to the Island (those of us who come to the programs here) are doing to support the work.

It may feel a little circular – and I guess it is! But if we want our rooms painted and the Chapel maintained and the Pels brought on board and the rocking chairs maintained, we need to step up and support this work as best we can. So how about it? Can we make this year the year Star Arts gets 100% participation in the Annual Fund? I think we can. I hope we can. And I'll be asking! (If you want to shortstop my pleas, you can make a gift to the Annual Fund of SIC right now!

Here's the address: www.starisland.org/donate/ Be sure you note that you're from Star Arts!

Thank you for supporting Star Island!
Elenita Muñiz, '25 Star Arts Annual Fund Rep

Help Promote Star Arts!

You can help Star Arts grow in 2025. Use the promotional flyer included on the 4th page to invite family and friends to join in the fun of Arts week. Share it with your church or arts organization too. Just print it and add your own name and contact info if you want to field any questions people may have. Scanning the QR code will take you directly to the Star Arts website where detailed program information is listed.



Our Workshops 2025



Movement

Let Your Yoga Dance with Megha Nancy Buttenheim and Andrea Cashman
Supplies: Comfortable clothing that allows for freedom of movement.

Megha Nancy Buttenheim's Website: letyouryogadance.com

Andrea Cashman's Website: andreacashmanyoga.com



Photography

How You Look at It with Edie Bresler

Supplies: Participants should bring any cameras or iPhones they use to take video or photos.

Edie Bresler's Website: www.ediebresler.com



Theater

Greek Chorus with Shadow Puppets with Theodora Skipitares and Andrea Balis

Supplies: Comfortable clothes. Materials for shadow puppets will be provided.

Theodora Skipitares's Website: theodoraskipitares.net



Visual Arts I

Plein Air Landscape with Jeneane Lunn

Supplies: Jeneane has created lists of suggested supplies listed on our website. Please contact Jeneane (jeneane.lunn@gmail.com) if you have any questions!

If you plan to take this workshop you must bring your own supplies as there are no Art Stores on the Island.

Jeneane Lunn's Website: www.jeneanelunn.com



Visual Arts II

A Moment in Time and Space: Exploring Star Island Through Textile Arts with Elizabeth Ives

Supplies: The Textile Workshop has a limit of 12 people (to sign up on island) and there will be a \$35.00 materials fee for each participant to be paid to the instructor (cash).

Elizabeth Ives's Website: elizives.wixsite.com/liz-ives-textiles



Writing

Contemplative Memoir Writing for Everyone with Louise Harrison Lepera

Supplies: Bring a notebook and pens or pencils.

More about Louise: cmsw.mit.edu/profile/louise-harrison-lepera/

(There is no morning Music Workshop, but there will be opportunities for music some afternoons.)

A list of the workshops with links to descriptions can be found here:

<https://stararts.org/workshops/>

Deadline for Next Newsletter!

The Deadline for the next Newsletter will be May 1st!

If you would like to include pictures, art, poetry and/or news please submit items to:

stararts.newsletter@gmail.com

(Questions about Star Arts, you can email Barbara Reynolds at stararts.registrar@gmail.com)





Sharing the joy of creating



June 15-22, 2025

Star Arts is a week-long creative gathering on beautiful Star Island, NH.

Open to adults 18 and over, it offers a broad spectrum of inspiring artistic opportunities to appeal to everyone, regardless of level of experience. Morning workshops offer a choice of:

- **Visual Arts**
- **Photography**
- **Dance**
- **Writing**
- **Theater**

Afternoon and evening activities include a poetry reading, a storytelling event, music making, art show, talent show, and other spontaneous adventures to nourish creativity and spiritual reflection — all in a breathtakingly beautiful and supportive environment. **Star Arts** is a safe and affirming community nurturing interpersonal connection.

“The week is always perfect — perfect people, perfect activities, perfect island.”

To learn more, visit stararts.org

Questions? Contact: _____

