



STAR ARTS NEWS

December 2022

From The Co-Chairs

Greetings Star Arts Community,

The plans are in motion and we are gearing up for a great Star Arts week in 2023! We are well along in choosing workshop instructors and recruiting dedicated shoalers to share their time and talent to make Star Arts week the amazing week it is.

Did you know that the week is an event that is all put together and staffed by volunteers? The steering committee, registrars, chairs and other leadership are all freely committing their time and hard work to making Star Arts a successful retreat.

With that in mind, we'd like to dedicate this year-end letter to a BIG THANKS to all those who are volunteering in 2023, as well as the volunteers that came before us. The bell ringers, the talent show and friendship hour coordinators, the porch activities, the musicians, the morning stretch and QiGong leaders. Too many to name. We love you and appreciate you!

We hope you have happy holidays and are looking forward to a new year with lots of star shine and blessings.

Barbara O'Brien and Gail Carrigan



Star Island Sundial a reminder of summer during these cold months of winter. (Photo by Bev Ward.)

Want to help Star Arts in 2023?
See Page 3 for volunteer opportunities!



Save the Date!

Star Arts Retreat 2023 will be
Sunday June 18th to Sunday June 25th!

Registration will open on January 15th!

Featured Workshop Leader: Robin Fawcett

Theater Workshop: Briny Chamber Theater

About the Workshop:

A salty sailor is one toughened by experience. An avid actor is one who uses every bit of it. Bring your own insight and brine to this exploratory to be used for breathing life into the words of a dramatic seaside masterpiece. Under Milk Wood – a play for voices by Dylan Thomas will serve the special purpose of allowing members to bring forth more of who they are by giving voice to those who they are not: all the people of the lulled and dumbfound town, Llareggub. Using scripts and a simple chamber theatre set up, Star Arts actors will ply new skills in creative self-expression and ensemble collaboration as they rehearse and stage the imaginary world of a Welsh village for an audience many islands away.



Robin Fawcett came to Star Arts in 2009 as our theater workshop leader. Photo submitted by Richard Waring.

About Robin:

Robin Fawcett has had the fortune of working for 35 years as a director, fight director, choreographer, creator of new works, and teacher fueling the urge for artful expression in others. Recent directing pursuits include Every Brilliant Thing for Middlebury Acting Company and Fun Home for Vermont Stage Company. Among her prized collaborations are the original works of Bigger Than All of Us, commissioned by Vermont's Flynn Theatre, and Wild Hair, produced in three NYC theaters, eight living rooms, and one hair salon. Robin's directing credits range from classical to musical. She says, "Teaching has allowed me to offer a diverse menu of acting workshops to people of all ages in large halls, small rooms, and farm fields. With great pleasure, I also teach theatre arts full time at Champlain Valley Union High School in Vermont."

Remembering Elizabeth (Betsy) Carruthers



We are sorry to announce that Betsy Carruthers passed away on November 20th, 2022. Long time Shoaler and wife of John Pendleton last came to Arts in 2021.

At left is a picture of John and Betsy getting off the Thomas Loughton after Star Arts in 2021. Photo submitted by Laura Donovan, Betsy's daughter.

To view her obituary please visit:

<https://www.lucaseatonfuneralhome.com/obituary/ElizabethBetsyV-Carruthers>

Annual Fund 2022

There is still time and there is still a need for donations to the 2022 Annual Fund. Support your Spirit Home!
Go to <https://starisland.org/donate>

Volunteers Needed!

Star Arts Retreat runs on “Volunteer Power”. The Steering Committee is asking people to share their talents and strengths with our Retreat June 2023.

Please look over the available volunteer slots and contact Barbara O'Brien at bobrien978@gmail.com or (978) 375-3680 to claim your spot or to get more information. The Steering Committee promises that you will be supported as you step up into your chosen role. You will have fun and your efforts will be appreciated!

On Going/ multiple days

Annual Fund

One person to work with Star Island Corporation's (SIC) Development Officer. Enthusiastically encourage 100% participation from Star Arts to give to the Annual Fund. Distribute and collect envelopes. Give recognition gift to donors, provided by the Island.

Friends of Bill W. Host

A volunteer who is interested in hosting hour-long meetings, Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons.

Scavenger Hunt

One person or a group to design and run a Scavenger Hunt, early in the week, encouraging teams to participate. This could be a great “ice breaker”, mixing New and Old Shoalers.



Our Workshop Leaders are often new to Star Island and it's great for them to have helpers to get them oriented. Pictured are Tim Van Ness, Alana Phinney and Charles Coe from 2022. Photo by Julian Hill.

Workshop Leaders' Liaisons

New this year. Each Workshop Leader will have a “Liaison” who will be attending their workshop and be available to answer questions, communicate concerns to Steering Committee Members, the Island Coordinator and/or Island Staff. Arrange for a Workshop Leader “thank you” gift. Collect money from the Workshop attendees, purchase and present gift. The goal of the Liaisons will be to make the Workshop Leaders' lives easier and their time on the island more enjoyable. Sunday – Saturday.

Afternoon

Afternoon Activities Coordinator

Organizer to recruit and follow up with all Afternoon Activity Leaders. Make sure activities take place as planned. Responsible for recruiting volunteers for the following events:

Appledore Trip

One person to represent Star Arts on the Appledore Trip. Help New Shoalers feel welcome. Meet people at the dock for boarding and departing. Checking names to make sure everyone is on board.

Art Show

Two or three people to help set up Saturday afternoon's Art Show. The Visual Art Workshop Leader may want to assist.

Men's Gathering

One person to lead the annual men's gathering on one scheduled afternoon.

Music on the Porch

One person to recruit musicians from Star Arts and other conferences to have a casual afternoon jam session on the Porch. Some rocking chair and music stand set up may be required.

Photography Show

One person to help set up Saturday afternoon's Photography Show. The Photography Workshop Leader will most likely want to set up a laptop with photos from the week's Workshop.

Solstice Celebration

A Leader or collaboration of people to plan and run a Summer Solstice Celebration on Wednesday, June 21.

Evening

Evening Activities Coordinator

Organizer to recruit and follow-up with all Evening Activity Leaders. Make sure activities take place as planned. Responsible for recruiting volunteers for the following events:

Dance Night

One or two people to plan the “drop in” Dance Party. Arrange live or DJ music. The Music or Dance Workshop Leaders may wish to contribute to the evening’s offering. Recruit people to dance like no one is looking.

Game Night

One or two people to plan Game Night and host the event. We may want to join forces with the other conference.

Poetry Reading Leader

A Leader to recruit Poets to sign up at the Writing Desk. The Leader will determine who goes when, what equipment and room set up is needed and will “host” the reading. Other conferences will be invited to attend.

Storytelling

A leader to recruit Storytellers to sign up at the Writing Desk. The Leader will determine who goes when, what equipment and room set up is needed and will “host” the reading. They will also keep the Storyteller to their time limit. Other conferences will be invited to attend.

Talent Show Coordinator

A Leader to recruit many volunteers to run the Talent Show on Saturday Night. The “talent” will sign up at the Writing Desk. The Leader will determine who goes when, what equipment is needed and will “Emcee” the show. Other conferences will be invited to attend.

Last Night Party

One or two people to coordinate with the Social Hour Leaders and Conference Services to shift all leftover food and drink to the Last Night Party location. Arrange for music or karaoke.



Evening Activities usually start after dinner, some may be after chapel!
Photo composite by Anne Nowselski.

Music and Marshmallows

One or two people to coordinate with Conference Services for the s'mores and roaring fire. Recruit Arts' musicians to play. Encourage Shoalers to come, sing and get a sugar high!

Deadline for Next Newsletter!

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

If you would like to include pictures, art, poetry and/or news please submit items to:
stararts.registrar@gmail.com (Mary Ann Young and Anne Nowselski)

(Questions about Star Arts you can email us or call us at 781.520.3786)

Our website has a new look!
Check it out at startarts.org

