



STAR ARTS NEWS

June 2026



Thanks to the many volunteers
who make Star Arts happen
every year!



Polar Bears led by Robin Bossert, Photo by Peggy White, 2024; Sons of Poseidon led by Joe Williams, photo by Parrish Dobson, 2024; Persephone's Daughters led by Lynne Wilkinson, photo by Parrish Dobson, 2025; Qi Gong on the pier led by Lotus Do, photo by Paul Flagg, 2025

2026 Workshops

- *Movement*: African-Rooted Dance: Movement, Rhythm, and Cultural Connection with Noel Staples-Freeman
- *Music*: Veins of Rock: Singing Classic Rock in Harmony on Star Island with Danielle Grace
- *Photography*: Photographic Storytelling with Amy Lovera
- *Theater*: Pat Your Head & Rub Your Tummy: Theater Improv for All with Richard Kuhlman
- *Visual Arts*: Layered Painting Exploration with Judy Klima
- *Writing*: Deepening the Writing Life with Barbara O'Neil

Read about these workshops here: <https://stararts.org/workshops/>

Minister of the Week

Rev. Kate Wilkinson

Read more about Kate here: <https://stararts.org/minister-of-the-week/>

Discounts: New and Old Shoalers

10/10 Bring A Friend Discount

The 10-10 discount: If you bring a new person, you both get 10% off your bill. Bring 3 and they each get 10% off, you get 30%!

Read the information about this carefully!
<https://starisland.org/discounts/>

- Discounts must be submitted 2 Weeks *PRIOR* to Arts
- The application for this discount is filled out by the person who is *NEW* to attending a Star Island conference.

Star Arts 2026
Sunday June 21st to Sunday June 28th
There's still some space! Register [Here!](#)



Auction Preview!

The Star Arts Silent and Live Auctions needs donated items! Items that are original, handmade and meaningful to Star Arts are popular in both Auctions. Proceeds from these go to support the Star Arts Scholarship Fund which helps bring Shoalers to Star who might not be able to come otherwise.

Jim and Lori Weddell also have sent a few items for the auction. Included are books, cards, CDs and a few coveted coins from the coin hunt.

If you have questions about the auction you can contact Toni Menk (tmmenk@aol.com).



Both the Wooden Stellated octahedron carved by Joe Quigley and Wool Needle Felted Star with Summer House by Anne Nowselski will be in the Auction!

Luggage

If you are registered for 2026 and didn't get a "What to Bring" letter, email Barbara Reynolds at stararts.registrar@gmail.com. Don't forget to bring layers. Weather can be anything and everything.

Remember your luggage is sent on a separate boat which the Pels (Island Staff) have to hand carry from the boat to the pier.

Ellen Hirning Schmidt's New Book

2013 and 2008 Workshop Leader Ellen Schmidt has a new book of poetry

Ellen writes: Announcing the publication of my new book! *Oh, Say Did You Know / This Much I Know* is a poem collection in two parts.

It is imperative that we speak truths to felonious powers. Poets join journalists in jails, or worse, and in many parts of the world. It is said that if you worry about losing free speech, you already have lost it. I hope my poems sing out some courage for readers.

Oh, Say Did You Know, the Pushcart-nominated title poem, shines light on a moment in American history that echoes today with deafening amplification.

This Much I Know excavates places personal, political, and planetary. Peer inside unseen spaces. Slip inside hidden realms of nature underneath your feet or camouflaged in foliage.

You can read more about Ellen and her book [here](#).



Cover of book by Ellen Schmidt.

Deadline for Next Newsletter!

The Newsletter is on hiatus for July and August. The Deadline for the next Newsletter will be September 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)

