



STAR ARTS NEWS

May 2025

Other Activities

We all love our morning workshops, but there are plenty of other activities to keep us busy. Here are a few you can expect on Island this year:

Early morning:

- Polar Bear Dip: Wake yourself up with an early morning swim in Gosport Harbor! Or if you'd rather stay warm you can join the Polarettes who cheer each brave swimmer!
- Qigong: For a gentle mind body spirit practice, you can join this circle on the pier after the polar bear dip. Qigong is done without words, so enjoy the sounds of seagulls and ocean.

Afternoon:

- Make a Portable Altar: Our Minister of the Week (MOW) Rev. Sarah Hurley will have a pop-up activity where you can make an altar inside of an Altoid's container.
- Singing Groups: Star Arts is always full of singing and this year there will be plenty of opportunities for people to share their voices: Persephone's Daughters, Sons of Poseidon and a Pop up Chorus will all be offered in the late afternoon.

Evening

- Dance Party: Early in the week we will have a Dance Party. Everyone is invited to drop-in and dance like no one is watching!
- Storytelling: Sign-up to tell a story or come sit and listen. Stories are told in the Moth style; true first person narratives told without notes. (Sign-up will be on island.)

(These are only some of our activities, there will be more, you can check out what might be offered here: <https://stararts.org/activities/>! Location and times will be on the schedule handed out the first day.)



Top: Polar Bears! Photo by Jeff Spoor, 2014. Qigong on the pier led by Lotus Do Photo by Parrish Dobson, 2023. Sons of Poseidon led by Joe Williams singing. Photo by Parrish Dobson, 2024.

Shoalmates

If you are new to Star Island, and would like to have someone to show you around or answer questions, i.e. a Shoalmate, please contact your registrar, Barbara Reynolds, at stararts.registrar@gmail.com, and you will be matched up with a knowledgeable shoaler.



Star Arts 2025

Sunday June 15th to Sunday June 22nd

Registration is still open! There is still time to bring a special family member or friend to the "Best Star Arts Week, Ever!"

Register [Here!](#)

Evening Chapel

Tradition of The Silent Walk

Evening and morning chapel services are often the high points of the week for me. For the Evening Chapel, we gather on the porch waiting for the lanterns to arrive and the bell to beckon us. Stepping off the porch we leave all the busyness of the day behind and begin the traditional silent walk up the hill to the chapel. Waking in silence prepares us for worship and helps us recognize that this is a time out of the ordinary, a special time, a sacred time. We remain in silence as the service concludes, and we retrace our steps back down the hill returning our lanterns to the waiting Pels. Once on the porch we break the silence as we say our good-nights and head off to bed or meet in the snack bar for a scoop of ice cream and conversation. Life is good on Star.

I especially enjoy the services that we create and present to each other. If you'd like to be part of our Evening Chapel tradition, bell ringers and musicians/singers are still needed. You can reach out to me now or as we wait for Tippy Tommy (Thomas Loughton), or even on island. I'm getting excited. How 'bout you.

(Sally Armstrong sjdaab@hotmail.com)



Walking back from Evening Chapel in silence. Photo by Sally Armstrong

The Star Arts Auction

Experiences are Easy to Pack, a note from Elizabeth Gerber and Liz Levy

The Star Arts Auctions held towards the end of the week, not only helps widen our community by funding scholarships to participants the next year, but it is also always one of the most fun and joyous events of the week. Perusing the table of items at the Silent Auction, often hand-made are brought by the great artists in our community, is wonderful. But for some of us, the best is to bid and offer something that is easy to pack, *Experiences!*

Last year, Elizabeth Gerber and Liz Levy offered a 'curated' tour of our New York City neighborhood, ending with drinks at a Chelsea apartment. We were surprised at how much money we raised and how much fun we had doing it. Sometimes it is actually more fun to receive than to give!

"For a number of years, I bid on auctions, for my ski-clubs' donations to local causes in Vermont," says Elizabeth Gerber. "I ended up with an evening of ballroom dancing. Since I live in a New York apartment and am dependent on public transportation to get to and from Star Island, my rule is not to bid on anything that would have to go in my suitcase. At the live auction last year, I found the perfect item. The winning bid would have the opportunity to join the "Schulz" family. All five of them were present at Star Arts 2024. The minimum bid was a hundred dollars. My hand shot up. The auctioneer said that for an extra donation I could have a part in the Schulz family skit in the talent show. Best money I ever spent. I always wanted to do something in the talent show and this was my chance. So I got to be the youngest Schulz, as we did a scene from *The Sound of Music* and the *Brady bunch*."

So as all of you are getting your packing list on what to bring, think about packing a little extra money to bid on experience and what experiences you can offer for the auction!

SEE YOU ON STAR!!

Elizabeth Gerber and Liz Levy



Arts Auction items Photo by Bev Ward, 2023.



The silly Schulzes, 2021, Photo submitted by Nancy Schulz

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: <https://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.jeanelunn.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 June 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, email Barbara Reynolds at stararts.registrar@gmail.com)

