



STAR ARTS NEWS

May 2026

Activities

In addition to our morning workshops we have lots of afternoon and evening activities for you to choose from. Here are a few you can expect in June:

- Cyanotype/Sun-printing
- Persephone's Daughters or Sons of Poseidon or Community Singing
- Evening Chapel
- Meditative Music
- Storytelling
- Poetry Reading
- Social Hour
- Arts Talent Show



From the top clockwise: Music in Brookfield, photo by Peggy White, 2025; Cyanotype, Photo by Parrish Dobson, 2024; Embracing the sun at the Labyrinth, Photo by Lotus Do, 2025; 2025 Arts photo (we would love for you to be in the 2026 photo!), Photo by Pel with Robin Bossert's camera, 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/>

Star Arts 2026
Sunday June 21st to Sunday June 28th

[Register Here!](#)



From the Co-Chairs

Happy Spring, Star Artists!

It's only seven weeks until Dock Day! That's the day we gather on the docks in Portsmouth to board the Thomas Loughton and head off for our escape to peace and quiet and no news... I cannot wait.

It won't be only us Artists on the dock, however. We will be sharing the island with three other conferences, as usual, and we wanted to share news we gathered at a meeting of conference chairs this week.

- Pam McDonald reported that the Natural History conference will feature a three-evening naturalist's examination of the poetry of Celia Thaxter, open to all. They will also be restoring the habitat at the recently rebuilt jetty connecting Star to Cedar Island and will host several other speakers during the week.
- Cassidy Bissell told us that, although You Are You's programming is not open, they are eager to have a joint all-conference social hour once during the week. We all agreed that was a great idea, and agreed that Tuesday would be the date.
- Jackie Heath said the Isles of Shoals Historical Research Association (ISHRA) will focus this year on "Boats of the Isles" and their stories. They are hoping to host a boat tour of all the Isles! Their presentations are also open, space permitting.

A new late-week addition this year will be the Stretch Into Summer long-weekend conference. Anne Ogilvie told us this is a derivation of the yoga conference of past years and will focus on yoga and writing -- an intriguing combination. Their programming is limited by space, but they are hoping to join our social hours beginning on Thursday. Be sure to extend a warm Star Arts welcome!

As the largest conference during our week, we can really help make the Star Island community a welcoming shared space, so please -- do take a leap of faith and sit with "strangers" at meals. I bet Christana, the island's Beloved Community Minister, will have a star chart up in the dining hall. For every new person you meet, you will add a star sticker. Let's fill that baby up!

See you in seven weeks... yes, less than two months now.
Elenita and Toni (2026 Co-Chairs)



Natural History Week is often seen bird watching around the island, Photo by Jane Hillman, 2025.

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.

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 you can email Barbara Reynolds at stararts.registrar@gmail.com)

