



STAR ARTS NEWS

October 2023

Letter from the Co-Chairs

Hello Star Arts Friends!

Hooray! It's fall, which means we get to reconnect with gratitude for the amazing 2023 Star Arts retreat, and we also get to start talking about 2024!

First things first. This year's retreat was absolutely wonderful. Under the incredible leadership of Barbara O'Brien and Gail Carrigan, the Steering Committee and all our generous volunteers who worked together to create a delightful, smooth-sailing, spectacular retreat. We received so many compliments from retreaters about the world-class workshop leaders, super fun evening activities, powerful connections made, and the warmth and good cheer felt on island throughout the week. Our polar bears swam with ISHRA bears, our chapel services delighted YACs and Natural History conferees, and Star Island magic was tangible. We also loved welcoming so many wonderful new Shoalers! Thank you so much to everyone for all your hard work and bright shining hearts.

And now we get to start talking about next year's retreat, which is a mere 8 and a half months away! Co-chairs for the 2024 retreat are Gail Carrigan and Sofia Piel; we are excited to be working together with the Steering Committee on next year's most exciting week. The ideas are starting to flow and we're getting ready to have our first online meeting in November. We thank you for your thoughtful responses to the annual retreat survey, and we welcome any thoughts and ideas from you throughout the year; all your input helps us facilitate the best possible retreat. Please send us an email any time!

Enjoy this beautiful fall season, and keep that Star light in your eye!

With love and Star Island spirit,
Gail Carrigan & Sofia Piel,
Star Arts Retreat Co-Chairs, 2024

contactus@stararts.org



Evening sun on the boardwalk 2023. Photo by Parrish Dobson

The 2024 Star Arts Retreat is
scheduled for
Sunday June 16th to June 23rd 2024



Star Arts Vermonter Update

*Slammed by mud, water, and ewww other stuff,
back from the brink in Montpelier!*

As some stores slowly reopen in our sweet downtown boasting new flooring, walls, electrical and heating systems, some of our churches and our neighbors' homes are still not ready to be used/lived in. Our precious Kellogg-Hubbard Library is still on a generator and the City Hall has farmed out the staff far and wide.

The devastation from the flood we experienced in mid July was far reaching, impacting all of us that didn't get flooded as well as those who did. What has come out of this has been a city wide movement to figure out how to go forward knowing we will flood again and how to best rebuild, adjust, move, and accommodate for the future.

The greatest gift so many volunteers donated was their time. People came from neighboring communities, as well as places much farther to lend a hand, a strong back, and a willingness to care for us and our town. Friends and strangers working side by side in messy and difficult situations. We were blessed by their love and kindness.

Some stores, like Bear Pond Books and Capitol Stationers are back. Some have a way to go like the hardware store. And the art store. (Pictured below clockwise from left.)

Foliage season is coming when we love to welcome leaf peepers to our town.... hopefully they can look past our rebuilding construction to see the beauty of nature and our home town.

Update and photos submitted by Anne Ferguson



Doug Richards Art Show

Long time Arts Retreater Doug Richards from Bow, NH, and his daughter Laura Aldridge of Virginia will have an exhibit entitled *Some of This and Some of That: Recent Works* in Bow, NH this October.

Where: Baker Free Library, 509 South Street, Bow NH

Dates: October 1–October 30, 2023

Hours: Monday – Thursday 10am–8pm Friday 10am–6pm, Saturday 10am –4pm
(Meet and greet hours on Saturdays from 11am–2pm.)

Contact Doug at 603-225-9062 or dgrichards44@comcast.net



One of Doug's work that will be on display. Photo submitted by Doug Richards

Jacquie Lotz

Passing of a wonderful art workshop leader

Jacquie Lotz died on September 26th, 2023 in St. Albans, Vt at age 88. Jacquie was a gifted watercolorist who loved leading the art workshop at Arts in 2011.

She and her husband Bill moved there a few years ago to be closer to his children. Anyone wishing to send a card to Jacquie's husband Bill can do so at this address:

32 Huntley Ave, St. Albans, Vt 05478

Ellen Schmidt's Book of Poems



Ellen with her book of poems. Photo submitted by Ellen Schmidt

Ellen Schmidt, who led the Arts Writing Workshops in 2008 and 2013 has a collection of poems that came out in May, called *Armed to the Teeth*. The cover is a photo that was taken by the Art Barn.

To find out more about the book, go to: <https://antrimhousebooks.com/schmidt.html>

Don't Forget! You can share your news!

Star Arts Folks are invited to send brief news of their galleries and openings.

Example:

Joe Smith's Watercolor Art will be featured at the Unnamed Gallery, from September 2 to October 31. Visit the following website for more information: www.joe_smith.com

Send news to stararts.registrar@gmail.com by the newsletter deadline, which will be the 1st of every month!

Deadline for Next Newsletter!

The Deadline for the next Newsletter will be November 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)

