



# STAR ARTS NEWS

September 2025

## Star Arts 2025!

*A few photos from Star Arts in June*



Top from left:  
Polar Bears jumping off the dock, by Peg White; Evening  
Chapel, by Dustin Luca; Qi Gong on the Pier, by Paul Flagg;  
Middle from left  
Plein Air Painter, by Bob Shattuck; Hat made by Cornelia  
Do, by Lotus Do; Kite Flying, by Jane Hillman;  
Bottom:  
2025 Star Arts group photo, by Island Pel (with Robin  
Bossert's camera)

# Letter from the Chair

2026 Star Arts Chair Elenita Muñiz's Note

On the first day of school, my grandson Finn said wistfully, "Bita, I'm kind of sad that summer is over." At six, he feels this, while at 79, I seem to remember endless days of playing with friends and swimming and sand. Perhaps my memory is faulty or wishful. I know that now the summer flies past.

For us on the Star Arts Steering Committee, the end of summer means turning to look forward, to the next edition of Star Arts! It may seem like only yesterday we were boarding the Thomas Laighton to head home. Now, however, we gear up to assemble a Star Arts plan that will outstrip even the 2025 gathering -- which was, I think, pretty magical.

Our first Zoom meeting will include catching up on our summer adventures and a financial review of Star Arts 2025, then it will quickly turn to brainstorming an array of workshop leaders who will offer all Star Artists an adventurous, creative, imaginative week! Last year, I was focused on the finances of Star Arts, so when the Program Subcommittee began to announce the workshop leaders, I was honestly blown away. This year, as co-chair with Toni Menk, I know I'll be more aware of the enormous level of energy and detail that goes into finding and recruiting these half-dozen key folks.

Wonderful as our Program Sub-committee is, however, we still need your help in this work. Who do you know who is creative, with an unusual focus or skill? Who is an inspiring leader, patient and generous with both novices and experienced artists? Where else can we look for different points of view, novel approaches, challenging ideas?

We need your recommendations! It may be hard for working artists to give up a week to design and lead a workshop, rewarded only by room-and-board on a beautiful island. I understand that. So maybe we need to recruit them to attend Star Arts and be inspired to want to offer their talents in the future.

But if you know someone you'd love to see on Star Island, someone fun and gifted and inventive, please pass along your recommendations. Please email them to Peggy White at [daymountaindawn@verizon.net](mailto:daymountaindawn@verizon.net). Peggy and Parrish Dobson, Liz Levy, and Alison Hyder make up our Program sub-committee. We welcome your ideas and requests!

So, as Finn sets off for first grade, we set off on this journey to Star Arts '26! Here's hoping it's a great year for all of us.

Peace, love, and beauty be - Elenita Muñiz



Flowers outside of Newton, photo by Barbara Reynolds, 2025.

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## 2026 Steering Committee Members

Elenita Muñiz  
Toni Menk  
Barbara Reynolds  
Elizabeth Gerber  
Anne Nowselski

Chair  
Co-Chair  
Registrar  
Treasurer  
Web Master/Newsletter

Committee Members:  
Parrish Dobson  
Alison Hyder  
Liz Levy

Paul Ohlson  
Jo Paoletti  
Peggy White

# Passings

## *A note from Alison Hyder*

My mother's memorial service will be on September 7th. Inge Hyder took us to LOAS 2 in 1971 and 1972, and then to IA or IRAS for several years. She came to Arts to be with me and her sister, Skippy Gurau, for a couple of years but got such bad asthma, she never felt she could come to Star again, which was a big loss for her (and everyone, frankly). The service will be simulcast at 5pm through the church website, [uucolumbia.net](http://uucolumbia.net)



Front lawn of Star Island with Thomas Lughton leaving. (Photo by Paul Ohlson, 2024)

## Star Island Open House

Missing Star Island? You could head out to the Isles of Shoals to celebrate the end of the summer with a day trip. Boats are heading out on Sunday, September 14, for their Open House. This will be a day to relax, explore, and have fun.

Check it out [here!](#)

## Annual Fund

Don't forget to donate to the Star Island Annual Fund! Star Island is a nonprofit organization. The money guests spend on the island accounts for less than 70% of the annual budget. Star relies on charitable support to make up the remainder. Also, make sure to note Star Arts as your conference.

To donate visit: <https://starisland.org/donate>

## Other News

Over the summer, Alison Hyder was in a very well-regarded ensemble performance of the play "Roe," by Lisa Loomer which follows the Roe v. Wade story through the lives of the lawyer, Sarah Weddington, and "Jane Roe" herself. Alison played several characters, including Mary McCorvey, the plaintiff's rather nasty mother.



## Deadline for Next Newsletter!

The Deadline for the next Newsletter will be October 1<sup>st</sup>!  
If you would like to include pictures, art, poetry and/or news please submit items to:  
[stararts.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:stararts.newsletter@gmail.com)

(Questions about Star Arts you can email Barbara Reynolds at [stararts.registrar@gmail.com](mailto:stararts.registrar@gmail.com))

