

NICKEL PLATEARTS

Unplug & Create

Arts GUIDE

WINTER ISSUE JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2016



NEW IN 2016!

*Art Classes
for Kids*

PLUS EXHIBITS, EVENTS & A PROGRESS REPORT!

NICKELPLATEARTS.ORG

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NickelPlateArts.org is brand-spankin' NEW!

Come visit us online and check out the new digital look and feel of Nickel Plate Arts. With a focus on user friendliness and usefulness, we are excited to share it with you, our treasured audience.

CHECK US OUT!
NEW WEBSITE!



Reward Them!

2016 Membership Program

Show your community-minded staff, friends or neighbors you appreciate them with a **Nickel Plate Arts membership**.

Our **memberships include THREE levels** so you can find the best fit:

- Individuals.....\$50-\$250**
- Artists.....FREE-\$200**
- Nonprofits.....\$250-\$600**

Explore our member levels! Visit **NickelPlateArts.org** to find out more and register.

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A WORD FROM Aili

NICKEL PLATE ARTS DIRECTOR



Drawing our own Roadmap

In the three years that I have been the Director of Nickel Plate Arts, I have definitely learned one lesson over and over again: Being the director of a startup nonprofit arts center is not easy.

Don't get me wrong — I love it. It is endlessly challenging, fulfilling and important work, and I get to see the impact of what we do virtually every day.

But there are just so many opportunities, possibilities, uncertainties, setbacks and roadblocks. It's all too easy for me to get caught up in these infinite details and to suddenly feel as though I've lost my way.

This issue of the Arts Guide is meant to serve as a look ahead to where we're going in the New Year, with a little bit of a review of where we've been, a bit like stopping to review a map mid road trip. The only problem is, we don't really have a map.

We have a lot of educated guesses, informed by very knowledgeable advisors, and lots of academic training on the rules of the road. But this road does not show up on Google Maps. Garmin cannot determine our location. MapQuest doesn't — well, does anyone even use MapQuest anymore?

I often feel like Link, questing his way through a dungeon, trying to save princess Zelda (for those of you who are not children of the '80s, search Wikipedia for the Legend of Zelda). The map only fills itself in as I move forward and find the right resources.

Of course, even as I move forward, it can be very difficult to make sense of where we've been and how it fits into the bigger picture. We just don't have a lot of context yet — was the drop in participation in one program due to the weather, timing, pricing, insufficient advertising, a lack of interest, competition from other events ... or all of the above? Or none of the above? Was our great success in gaining members between August and October the result of our e-newsletters, word of mouth, recruiting by local artists or simply the result of our ever-building momentum?

Do people in our community really believe in what we do? Can the arts really be the key to transforming our communities into more vibrant, stronger places to live, work and play? I guess we'll just have to keep moving forward to find out.

We certainly have lots of theories about what will come next in our journey:

- We need to gather together lots of supporters who can help us diversify our resources.
- We need to test out and perfect classes for children and teens.
- We need to increase our efficiency in order to make the most of our resources, including focusing on our 4 Signature Events, streamlining our advertising, and finding more effective ways to engage and court donors.
- We need to check our tire pressure every 5,000 miles.

That last one might have come from AAA Motor Club, instead of our strategic plan.

Even with this carefully calculated guidance, there are only a handful of things I know for sure about the journey ahead of us at Nickel Plate Arts:

- ✓ It's going to take a lot more hard work.
- ✓ We are going to make mistakes.
- ✓ It's going to be a lot of fun.

These three things sound to me like the perfect elements for a great arts adventure, and we're offering you a front seat on the ride! Jump on board with us — it's sure to be a thrilling journey!

Thanks for your support!

Aili McGill

Aili McGill
Director
AMcGill@nickelplatearts.org

Arts Partners

Logan Street Sanctuary Getting up close and personal with the arts

John Gilmore is the Kevin Costner — think “Field of Dreams” — of Noblesville’s arts community, but instead of building a venue that lures ghosts of the past, Gilmore’s Logan Street Sanctuary draws performers, artists and audiences that are very much alive.

Tucked in between historic homes, the pale yellow building at 1274 Logan St. was originally built as an Army barracks in 1900 and was a Pentecostal Church for many years. Gilmore kept the pews to use for seating, and the simple rectangular space that once housed soldiers or worshipers, depending on the decade, still has a no-nonsense style.

The style fits what Logan Street Sanctuary is doing: offering a stage where singer-songwriters and artists of

all stripes can share their art more intimately with a smaller audience.

“The nature of a concert hall like this is that I pick up bands that are between gigs and local folks who are trying to get established,” Gilmore says. “The thing we’ve marveled at is the caliber of performers we get here. I have never settled for mediocre. And they come from all over the world; I had three acts from Great Britain.”

With a short beard, ball cap and his signature T-shirt from the renowned but unfussy Station Inn in Nashville, Gilmore has become a welcome neighbor on the quiet brick street. It hasn’t taken long. He opened his doors in August 2013 after extensive

“The thing we’ve marveled at is the caliber of performers we get here. I have never settled for mediocre.” - JOHN GILMORE

renovations, and he continues to make improvements, recently adding an awning and offering an outdoor gallery space of sorts for artists such as Joanie Drizin. Inside, you’ll find more fine art for sale by local artists.

Since opening, Gilmore has become a key player in the downtown community, joining the Noblesville Preservation Alliance board and becoming an official Nickel Plate Arts partner.

Gilmore, who moved to Noblesville from Bloomington when he was in the seventh grade, wasn’t always in the music business, but he has always had music in his life. When he was no older than 12, he picked up his first guitar and started playing.

“I majored in truancy and spent more time on my guitar than I did studying,” he says. He preferred fingerpicking songs by Chet Atkins and Merle Travis, a fondness that has evolved but not changed completely. A singer-songwriter himself, Gilmore names Kris Kristofferson, John Prine, Steve Earle, Merle Haggard and Guy Clark among his favorites.

After high school, Gilmore got a job with the U.S. Postal Service, delivering mail for 25 years. Around 1990, he started playing in bluegrass bands in the Indianapolis area and continued writing his own songs, which he says isn’t too tough.

“You have to have a decent vocabulary and be able to string words together, paint pictures if you can without being too cliché,” he says.

These days, when he isn’t scheduling musicians and other artists for Logan Street Sanctuary, he and singing partner Kelli Yates and bass player Gary Wasson — under the band name Noble Roots — are playing stripped-down Americana songs on stages around Central Indiana.



John Gilmore performing with Kelli Yates

Gilmore calls the Sanctuary an extension of that singing and songwriting hobby. Hallelujah to that.

Visit loganstreetsanctuary.org for more information.

Nickel Plate Arts Partnership ELEVATES Local Efforts

We love to sing the praises and celebrate the accomplishments of any groups that promote local arts and artists. Our official partner groups, including Logan Street Sanctuary, White River Sound Chorus and the HCAA featured on pages 4 and 5, are each doing a wonderful job of building community around the arts in our region.

If you would like your business or organization included in our next issue of the Arts Guide, please contact Aili at amcgill@nickelplatearts.org.



White River Sound Chorus performers

‘Our Favorite Things’ in a Cappella

Using the most natural instrument available — just their own voices — White River Sound Chorus presents its annual show Jan. 23. “Our Favorite Things” will feature the chorus and member quartets performing a cappella favorites from

all eras and genre of music. Great raffle prizes, too! Join this Nickel Plate Arts partner at Northview Middle School, 8401 Westfield Blvd., Indianapolis.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. for a 7 p.m. curtain. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for kids under 10. For more info and tickets, call 317-284-1136. Visit whiteriversoundchorus.org.

Hatching 2016 Plans at HCAA

Don’t go knocking on the door of the Birdie Gallery in January and February. It’s closed. But that doesn’t mean the Hamilton County Artists’ Association’s juried members aren’t hard at work. In fact, they are spending

these cold winter months preparing for a year of outstanding gallery shows, art events and classes.

The HCAA’s five-year strategic plan — a roadmap through 2020 — will lead the organization to expand and sustain its mission to provide artistic development, fellowship and art appreciation to its members and the Hamilton County community. The HCAA reports that 2015 was a resounding success with new gallery shows, numerous new community exhibits and dynamic art classes with local and nationally known artists.

Stay tuned for announcements regarding HCAA’s 2016 opportunities to view, buy and learn about the visual arts! Visit hcaa-in.org.

Arts Partners

Arts Innovation Will Thrive at Old Grain Elevator Site

We're getting new neighbors. Hamilton County Area Neighborhood Development plans to redevelop the partially demolished grain elevator site in downtown Noblesville, just northeast of Nickel Plate Arts, to build the Elevator and Lofts — an arts-focused business incubator and affordable housing project.

The Granary is a great example of place-making, and turns what was once a community icon back into a real community asset. The Executive Director of Hamilton County Tourism, Brenda Myers, agrees.

"As tourism and community development specialists, we always go by the goal of 'great places to live are great places to visit and invest.' This project is a perfect example of that mission," she says.

Local architects and Nickel Plate Arts board members Darren Peterson and John Dierdorf created the plans, which show the preservation of the footprint of the wooden grain elevator. The plans keep in place the primary workroom on the south end, eight grain bins on the north end, and the historic limestone and brick foundation.

"The foundation alone shows the craftsmanship and incredible investment made in 1904," says Nate Lichti, Executive Director of Hamilton County Area Neighborhood Development (HAND). "It held up 350,000 bushels of wheat so we're confident it can handle anything we propose."



Between the bins and the workroom, HAND proposes new commercial construction that will house "the Elevator," a business incubator space for entrepreneurs working on hardware (i.e. industrial arts, textiles and sculpture). The Elevator will provide work space, show rooms and second story office/community room that will be set up with flexible workspace, similar to Launch Fishers.

The Lofts will include 54 apartments in a three-story building along Walnut and Ninth streets. Another 4,000 square feet of main floor commercial space along Eighth Street extends the downtown one block into the Southwest Quad. Nickel Plate Arts is also working with HAND and advocating for including live-work space for artists, as well as gallery space in this new structure.

HAND and its supporters are most excited about gaining more rooftops for Millennials and artists who bring so much vitality to the neighborhood. This, in addition to the future destination offered by the historic grain elevator, will be a site to behold.

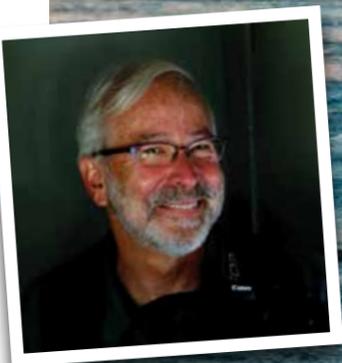
Visit handincorporated.org for more information.

"We always go by the goal of 'great places to live are great places to visit and invest.' This project is a perfect example of that mission."

- BRENDA MYERS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF HAMILTON COUNTY TOURISM



Featured Artists



ARTIST Q-&-A: Photographer Michael Jack Is Back!

Lose yourself in the rich colors and details of artist Michael Jack's photographs Feb 1-29, when we will fill the walls of the Stephenson House with his works. The public is invited to an opening reception on Saturday, Feb. 20, 5-8 p.m. Get to know the Nickel Plate Arts Showcase Artist in our Q-&-A.

As you reflect on 2015, can you pinpoint a favorite photography experience, subject or photo?

In February, a small group of us who travel together for photography went to Maine. It was during the time of extreme cold and substantial snow. Despite the sub-zero weather, we were prepared for it, and to my surprise, the cold and snow were quite manageable. As one Mainer said, "We have seen snow before." My favorite image from that trip was taken on the shore of Acadia National Park at 7 a.m. when it was minus 7 degrees.

In 2016, are you looking forward to any big trips or adventures this year that will offer opportunities to shoot new things?

I am returning to some favorite places like Glacier Park because each time seems new, but Savannah is a new destination next year. The rest of the year is unplanned but the Palouse and maybe another Western location are possibilities.

Who is your biggest influence when it comes to your art?

Sad to say, this varies depending on when you ask. I do like the work of Rod Planck, Michael Freeman and Eliot Porter.

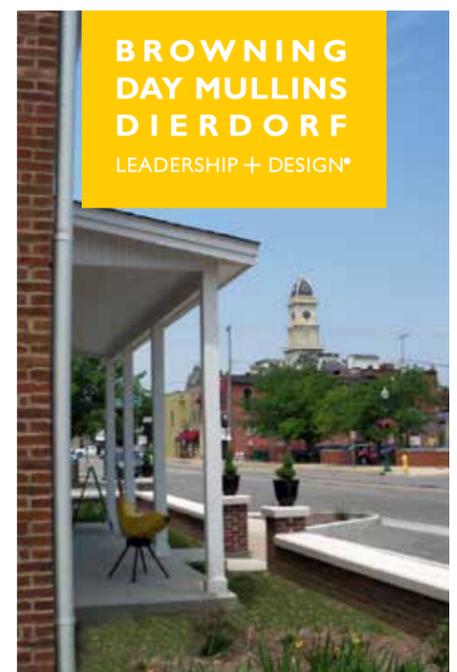
What is your favorite book of photography?

The most useful book on composition is Ian Plant's *Visual Flow*. It is a terrific tutorial on what goes into a successful image.

If you could photograph any place or thing in the world, what would it be?

Italy. I love Italy because of the fascinating ancient architecture and the countrysides like Tuscany and the Amalfi Coast. The fact that the people and food are great does not hurt.

BROWNING DAY MULLINS DIERDORF
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Featured Artists



Large-Scale Art & Ideas

Welcoming Doug Arnholter to the Nickel Plate Arts region

When artist Doug Arnholter was looking for a new studio space, he searched high and low in Indiana, including Carmel, Madison and areas of Indianapolis such as Broad Ripple. On Nov. 21, he celebrated his grand opening in hipstoric downtown Noblesville.

Tucked among a mix of retail and professional services businesses downtown, Arnholter looks forward to learning from the creative side that he says every human being has.

“For me, all people and thus all community are artists. Lawyers craft and create with words, teachers craft communication and the process of thought, even the dog catcher has to be creative

“We all create in our way; it’s the beauty and wonder of humanity,”

- DOUG ARNHOLTER

projects across the country for corporate campuses and large residences. Additionally I will be creating copper and hand-blown glass sculptural lighting. These will be sold through several gallery relationships I have in Indy, New York, Miami and LA,” Arnholter says.

He says it was the “open arms and assistance” of Aili McGill, Director of Nickel Plate Arts; Alaina Shonkwiler, Economic Development Specialist for the City of Noblesville; Chris Owens, Executive Director of Noblesville

figuring out how to outsmart a wily pooch. We all create in our way; it’s the beauty and wonder of humanity,” he says.

Arnholter is currently working on several fresco commissions from a large show he had last month at the Indiana Design Center in Carmel. He will continue to create commissions and corporate and personal art training, therapy and team building from his new space.

“My big ‘new’ plan is to produce 50 large-scale canvases — 10-foot-by-10-foot — for large

Main Street, and Thane Bushong, who owns the building, that tipped the scales in Noblesville’s favor.

“Noblesville already is beginning to feel like home,” Arnholter says.

Arnholter’s new studio is located at 939 B Conner St. Visit him online at dougarnholter.com

ART IN CITY HALL

FEATURING FISHERS

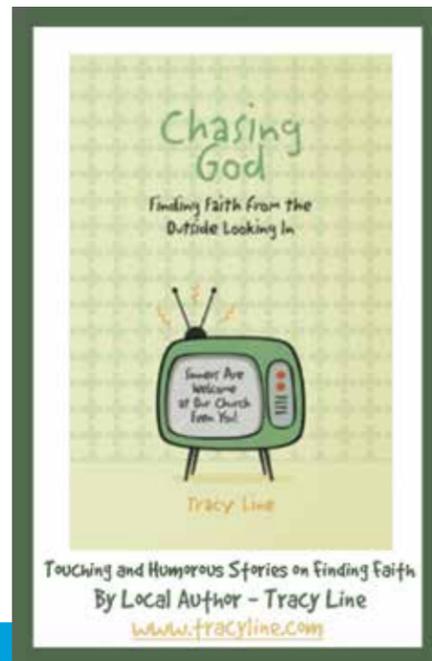
JAN. 11-FEB. 26, 2016

Free art exhibit

Presented by Fishers Arts Council

Monday-Friday
8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

One Municipal Drive, Fishers
Visit facebook.com/fishersart for details



VALENTINE'S DAY *for All*

Date Night FEBRUARY 12 & 13, 6-9 PM

Make this the most creative stop on your Valentine’s Day evening! Enjoy artist-led art projects for couples, live performances, and wander through our “Hoosier Heart-Land” exhibit. We will also have adult beverages and decadent nibbles. A creative way to celebrate Valentine’s Day with your significant other, for girl’s night out, or even a mother-daughter night on the town! \$10/pair for each activity; buy 4 activities get 1 free. Check nickelplatearts.org for details or to sign up.

Family Valentine's Day FEBRUARY 14, 1-5 PM

There’s no sweeter way to celebrate Valentine’s Day than with your family! Bring the kiddos to Nickel Plate Arts for children’s activities, crafts (\$5 each) and sweet treats. Admission is free throughout the day.



NICKELPLATEARTS.ORG FOR DETAILS!

2014-2015 Art by the NUMBERS

A Year at Nickel Plate Arts

While we typically turn to charcoals, clay or some other creative medium to tell a story, we're using numbers to show you what happened at Nickel Plate Arts **from Nov. 1, 2014, to Oct. 31, 2015**. No calculators required.



EVENTS

80 on-campus events

Approximately **5,073** guests visited our campus

Estimated **8%** increase in attendance over **2014**

7 were major events that took place over

42 days	2014 Day of the Dead	1 day
	2014 Holiday events	4 days
	Valentine's Day Date Night	2 days
	Welcome to Fairyville	3 days
	NArts Festival	30 days
	Anniversary Party	1 day
	Comic Book in a Day	1 day

9 were artist-centered events, such as showcase receptions.



46 were educational events

- 40 drawing classes
- 5 project parties
- 1 bead and tea class



14 were free, community-centered events

- 12 First Friday open houses
- 1 garage sale
- 1 annual meeting



32 off-campus events

Estimated **350%** increase in attendance over **2014**

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| 8 Art in Fishers City Hall receptions | 1 Taste of Noblesville |
| 4 Thursday Night Markets | 1 Art Camp at Conner Prairie |
| 4 appearances on WISH-TV's Indy Style | 1 Paint-a-Plow |
| 2 Artist Training classes | 1 Fishers Arts Crawl |
| 2 painting events at Conner Prairie | 1 Noblesville Street Dance |
| 2 concerts at Klipsch | 1 Art Fair on the Square |
| 1 Arcadia May Fest | 1 White River Festival |
| | 1 Beards & Brews |
| | 1 Legacy Fund Dinner |

EXHIBITS

20 on-campus exhibits

14: JUDGE STONE HOUSE GALLERY

6: STEPHENSON HOUSE

Estimated **25%** increase in exhibits over **2014**

Including approximately **1,231** pieces of art ...made by **125** different professional artists and approximately **100** elementary students!

8 off-campus exhibits all at ART IN CITY HALL in Fishers



Art in City Hall
Artist Gina Baird

ECONOMIC IMPACT



We commissioned **\$3,540** worth of artwork from artists
 We paid **\$10,144.52** to artists to teach, demonstrate or perform at events
 We sold approximately **\$9,000** worth of art for local artists (compared to \$7,000 in 2014)
 We sold **916** items, including **92** books!
 We gave **\$13,980** to other organizations for arts programming

FUNDRAISING

We project that **\$7,500** will be donated to Nickel Plate Arts in 2015. We have had **10** major donors as of Nov. 1, and lots of donations to our tip jar at events!

As of Nov. 1, 2015, we project that Nickel Plate Arts will receive **\$21,475** in corporate sponsorships this year. In 2015, we had **17** sponsors.

1 Title sponsor, **2** Community sponsors, **2** Program sponsors, **5** in-kind sponsors and **7** introductory sponsors

As of Nov. 1, 2015, we have **59** members and have raised **\$7,200** from our membership program.



Membership T-shirt Design

IN 2016, WE HOPE TO:

Increase our overall operating budget by **10%**

DOUBLE our number of members

Increase our number of **DONORS** by at least **50%**

Increase our total **DONATIONS** to **\$12,000**

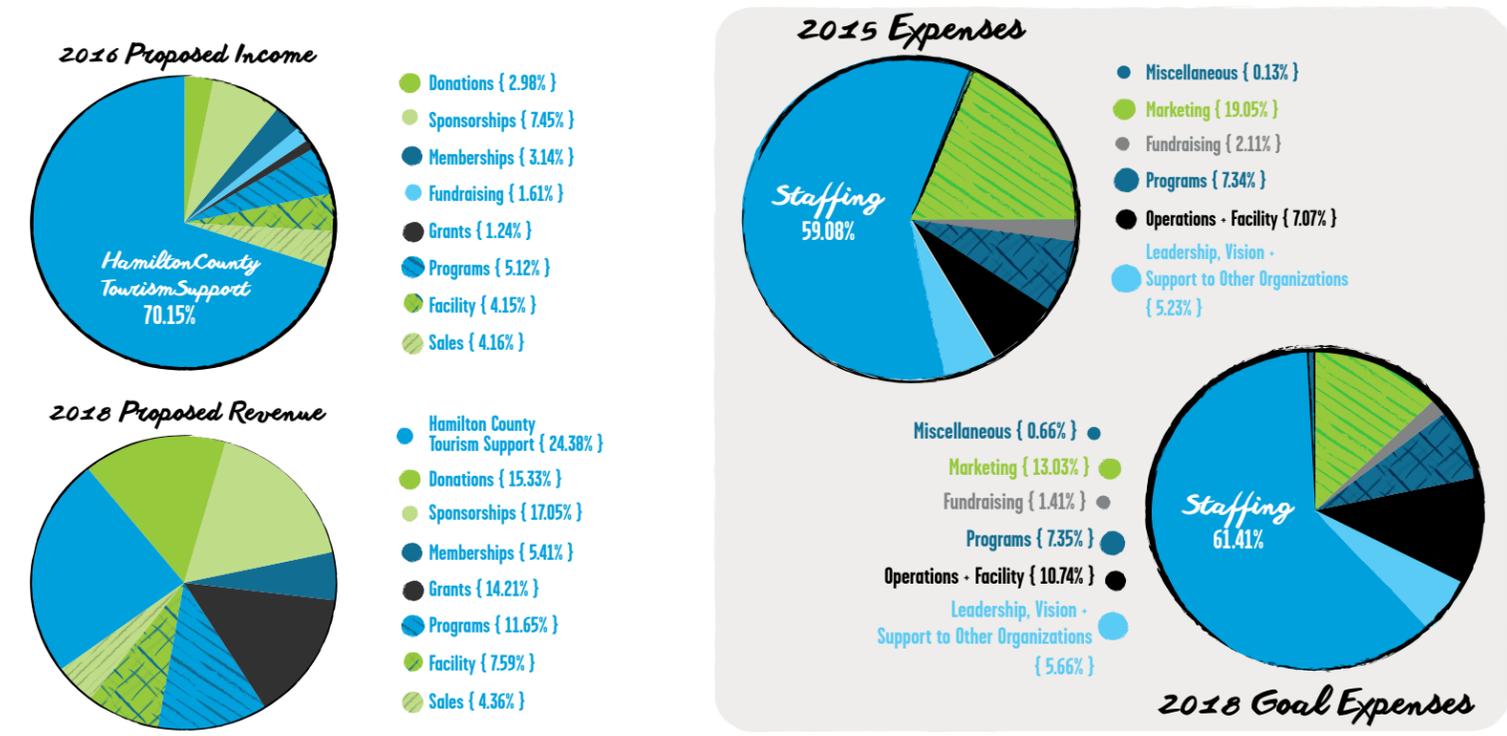
2014-2015

Art by the NUMBERS

Continued from page 11

Budget comparisons :

Our overarching goal is to become operationally independent of Hamilton County Tourism by 2018. That means that we have to grow our other revenue sources in order to cover many of the expenses and services that HCT currently takes care of for us. Ideally, HCT's support will account for only 25% of our income in 2018.



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Fortitude by Gina Baird

2016 Exhibits Celebrate our Heritage

We are planning something very special for our 2016 exhibits. This marks 200 years of statehood for Indiana, and each of our exhibits will celebrate this major milestone by exploring Indiana's rich history, promising present and glittering future. Some of our exhibits will connect themes we have explored in the past to the bicentennial, while others will be entirely new. We will kick the year off with exhibits that explore the emotional relationship between art and the place we call home, first with The Healing Power of Art and then with Hoosier Heart-Land. If you would like to see the full list of this year's exhibit themes, visit the "Artists" section of our website: nickelplatearts.org/artists.



The Healing Power of Art
See the exhibit and add your symbol of fortitude, January 2-30, 2016

To kick off our 2016 Indiana Bicentennial-themed exhibits, we are exploring the healing powers of art through the eyes of Indiana artists. Two hundred years of history have included many ups and downs for the Hoosier state, during which art has served as a salve or solution. Relying on art's healing power can better equip us for our future in Indiana and provide an opportunity for self-reflection and therapy. From Jan. 2 to 30, we will celebrate art's powerfully therapeutic qualities during The Healing Power of Art, an exhibition of art, in all mediums, that has an emotional significance to the artist and/or represents a healing journey.

As part of the show, local art therapist Gina Baird will provide

an interactive art assemblage that explores the concept of using art for collective empathy through spontaneous expressions collected over the days of the exhibit. Baird was instrumental in bringing Art as Therapy to Nickel Plate Arts last March and has firsthand knowledge of "the healing power of art."

VISUAL JOURNALING 101

Cathy Malchiodi is a leading international expert, syndicated writer, and educator in the fields of art therapy, expressive arts and arts in healthcare.

"Visual journaling (aka art journaling) has a long history in the field of art therapy, particularly as an approach to assist recovery from

trauma or loss and as a form of stress reduction," she wrote on a Psychology Today blog titled Top Ten Art Therapy Visual Journaling Prompts.

Following are three of Malchiodi's 10 prompts:

No. 5 Dream Journal. If you have time first thing in the morning after you wake up, try keeping a journal of visual images recalled from your dreams. Try writing down some key words or phrases first, followed by drawing of the main elements of your dream.

No. 6 Photocollage Journal. If you are not keen on drawing, try collecting your favorite images, words or quotes from magazines or books, and/or print memorabilia and make a regular practice of creating an image journal. It can be any theme (travel, soothing images, etc.) or purchase a Smashbook® (available at craft and book stores) and a gluestick and start gluing.

No. 8 Intention Journal. If you have a particular intention in mind (for example, a gratitude practice or a goal to become healthier in the next year), try keeping a visual/writing journal dedicated to a particular intention or vision.

ART THERAPY CHALLENGE:

The community is encouraged to participate in Baird's assemblage project during a reception on Friday, Jan. 8, 6-9 p.m. During this special event, we invite you to bring small items (charms, beads, material/fabric, copies of photos, obituaries, poems, etc.) that are symbolic to you and that you associate with fortitude: the act of courage and bravery. The collaborative assemblage will then become part of the exhibit and can be viewed and interacted with through Jan. 30.



Hoosier Heart-Land Our Love Runs Deep February 5-27, 2016

Our February exhibit, Feb. 5-27, puts a sense-of-place spin on our annual Love, Lust and Poetry exhibition. In honor of Indiana's bicentennial, this year's "Valentine's" exhibit features works that depict what artists love about the Hoosier state.

The Hoosier Heart-Land exhibit is meant to serve as a visual love letter to our state, commemorating the people, places and things that make Indiana what it is today. Our goal is to create an exhibit that can lift up your spirits on even the coldest, dreariest of February days and encourage you to marvel at what a complex, vibrant place Indiana has become over the past 200 years.

Hoosier Heart-Land opens Feb. 5 with a First Friday reception in the Judge Stone House. Want to know what inspires Hoosier artists? We asked some of Nickel Plate Arts' Studio Artists about their Hoosier faves:

Rodney Reveal:

I love the fall in Indiana; it's one of the most beautiful times of the year. Even when I went to college in California, I would think of home in the fall and miss it. For my artwork, I love the Indiana landscape and old farm buildings, even though there's getting to be fewer of them. My favorite part of the state is the southern, hilly portion and the creeks and streams that cut through the landscape.

Lesley Haflich:

I love Indiana because I grew up here in Indianapolis. I love to paint some of the iconic buildings, like my old school and places I liked to go swimming. My new home is in Noblesville, and I enjoy painting the historic buildings here. I like to use bright colors to make people happy, along with loose, impressionistic brush strokes to add life to my paintings. Currently, I'm exploring sites in Carmel because I'm exhibiting my work at CCA Gallery on Main Street regularly. I would love to do a portrait of Rodney Reveal because he's got so much life and character.

Karen Miles:

To me, the autumn season in Indiana is especially beautiful to paint plein air. The winding country roads, marked with old barns, scarlet trees, pumpkin patches and farm animals, are too beautiful to resist. It is so easy to pull off to the side of these roads and set up an easel — without being run down! The roads near Nashville and Brookville have particularly given me lovely painting moments, but you can find nice little peaceful pockets in Hamilton County, too.

John Reynolds:

I was born in Indiana in 1944, and I have loved being here all my life so far. Indiana has it all with lots of variety. I do not feel the need to go outside Indiana to paint. There are plenty of farm animals and beautiful scenery right here. I love it! Indiana is truly a great place to live, raise children and create art.



NEW! Adventures in Art



2016 Art Classes to Boost Children's Well-Being, Now and in the Future

Is your child interested in the arts? Kavita Singh, our own Program Coordinator at Nickel Plate Arts, shares how her childhood dream of becoming an artist came true.

"When I grow up, I want to be..."

How many kids complete that statement with dream careers like ballerina, actress, race car driver or artist? When I was little, I stated with complete confidence that I would forge a career in the arts, which made my parents very nervous.

At first, they weren't sure what to do with a child so passionately interested in the arts. To keep my doodles off their walls, they enrolled me in art & craft classes at school and local organizations. I learned things like how to make prints out of leaves, use tin foil to emboss and create stamps, and the ins and out of using a manual film camera, which led me to study photography in college. These experiences strengthened my love for the arts and helped me build confidence to embrace my individuality as a child — all while acquiring new skills in the arts.

Being exposed to the arts since I was young and having the opportunity to participate in classes, programs and camps helped me foster my creativity in productive ways. In my photography classes, I learned how science and math play a huge role in darkroom photography, improving my skills in those subjects in school. As an adult, I contribute my creative problem-solving skills and innovative thinking to my early relationship with the visual arts. My arts experiences also exposed me to diverse cultures, which helped me be open-minded toward others at an early age. As an added bonus, I did end up making a career in the arts! Still need a reason why you might want to expose your kids to the arts?

Here are my top 7 reasons why arts experiences are essential to a child's wellbeing and how it helps them grow as individuals:

- 1  The arts help you build creative problem-solving skills that can be applied to many other subjects or tasks.
- 2  There is often more than one right answer. Looking at something from multiple perspectives helps your child consider alternate solutions to problems.
- 3  The arts help kids observe, describe, analyze and interpret, thus building their critical and creative thinking skills.
- 4  Working with others to create or build something can help kids with their communication skills and teach them to be open-minded. Collaboration can help bridge differences. 
- 5  The arts help cultivate social skills, build community and increase a child's sense of belonging or attachment to that community.
- 6  Art can act as an alternate method of communication, in a language that is universal and knows no boundaries, allowing kids the opportunity to express their feelings with or without words.
- 7  Creating artwork instills pride. After pouring his or her heart and soul into a project and spending hours creating or building something, a child experiences an enormous sense of accomplishment. More opportunities mean more experiences, which can only nurture and help grow self-esteem and confidence.



Now that I have you convinced — and we're making top 7 lists — here are my top 7 ways to get your child involved in the arts at Nickel Plate Arts in January and February 2016:

1. NEW FOR 2016! Enroll them in our first session of weekly kids' classes, Jan. 5-Feb. 9. You said you wanted more kids' classes, and we heard you! In 2016, Nickel Plate Arts will launch classes and camps that will offer children the opportunity to learn about and develop skills in art history, aesthetics, art-making and art criticism. Enroll your young artiste now!

Lettering for Little Rebels
Days/Dates: Jan 5.-Feb. 9, 4-6 p.m. Meets weekly on Tuesdays (6-week session = 6 classes)
Location: Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana, Noblesville (specific room to be determined)
Price: \$95/student (age 8 and up)
Class Description: Budding graphic designers, crafters, architects, comic illustrators and artists will love blazing their own type trail through the art of hand lettering and calligraphy. Calligraphy, known for its decorative flourishes, adds style to cards, prints, tags and more. Popular hand lettering techniques allow you to bring letters to life for all sorts of projects. Students will apply these new skills to create their own font or calligraphic alphabet to use in a final project. They will also keep a sketchbook during the 6-week session to brainstorm ideas, practice and revisit to see how they've grown.

2. Bring them to Nickel Plate Arts. Come check out our latest exhibit, and encourage questions and dialogue related to the artwork they're viewing.

3. Become a member! You'll get special discounts on kids' programs, signature events and more. Plus, as an active, supporting arts community member, you'll be setting a great example for your children. Way to go, Mom and Dad!

4. Participate in a Signature Event. On February 14, 1-5 p.m., we will have a Family Valentine's Day program with plenty of hands-on arts opportunities.

5. Enroll your older kids in our Monday Night Drawing Class Jan. 4 - March 7, 2016 (ages 15+).

6. Keep tabs on our website for upcoming classes and camps by signing up for our newsletter. Visit the Contact page on our website. Younger kids can enroll in art classes with local businesses such as My Art: myartindy.com.

7. Volunteer, be a teacher, share your kids' ideas for building community around the arts, etc. Email Kavita: ksingh@nickelplatearts.org

Stay tuned to our website for more kids' opportunities this spring and summer!

Classes on Campus

Drawing Classes for Adults



Register Now for Easygoing Sessions with Popular Instructor Duo

Nickel Plate Arts Studio Artists Bruce Neckar and John Reynolds invite you to hone your drawing skills and develop new ones this winter, with two classes for adult students (age 15+):

Monday Night Drawing Class

Session 1: Jan. 4-March 7, Mondays, 7-9 p.m.

The 10-week Monday Night Drawing Class is available to adult artists at all skill levels,

basic to advanced. Reynolds and Neckar will prepare an overview of subject matter for participants to draw, including basic forms, wildlife, portraiture, and clothed and undraped figure drawing. The seasoned instructors offer guidance, helpful tips and friendly feedback in a

laidback atmosphere. This is a great class for beginners and a relaxed opportunity for more experienced artists! Nickel Plate Arts will provide basic materials, but participants may also bring their own supplies. Students must be 15 and older. Cost of the 10-week class is \$100. Visit nickelplatearts.org to sign up. This ongoing class will be offered during subsequent sessions in 2016.

Life Drawing Class

2016 Session: First Sunday of each month, January-December 2016, 7-9 p.m.

The human form is one of the most difficult subjects an artist tackles. Sharpen your skills during Neckar and Reynold's Life Drawing Class, a monthly Sunday night figure drawing class. The class will offer adult students the chance to draw or paint an undraped figure. Cost for the 2016 session is \$120 (\$10/month). Visit nickelplatearts.org to register.

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Arts Organization & BUSINESS LISTING

We are working to build our list of art-based resources and need your help. If you know of a great art-based or related business/organization that is not listed, please share it with us by contacting us at **317-452-3690** or **krowe@nickelplatearts.org**.

FISHERS

Fishers City Hall

1 Municipal Dr.
317-595-3111
fishers.in.us

Conner Prairie

13400 Allisonville Road
317-776-6000
connerprairie.org

Fishers Arts Council

FishersArtsCouncil.com

Fishers Library

5 Municipal Dr.
317-595-0300
hepl.lib.in.us

Fishers Parks and Recreation

317-595-3150
fishers.in.us

Fishers Renaissance Faire

fishersrenfaire.com/index.php/contact

Gallery 116

8597 E. 116th St.
317-577-9730
gallery116.com

Gigi's Cupcakes

8981 E. 116th St.
317-577-2253
gigiscupcakesusa.com

Handel's Homemade Ice Cream & Yogurt

8760 E. 116th St.
317-585-8065
handelsicecream.com

Ji-Eun Lee Music Academy

10029 E 126th St.
317-576-5562
fishersmusic.com

Meyer Najem

11787 Lantern Road, Suite 100
317-577-0007

Propeller Marketing

7050 E. 116th St. Suite 200
317-770-8183

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Alexander's On The Square

864 Logan St.
317-773-9177
alexandersicecream.com

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Barley Island Brewing Co.

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317-770-5280
barleyisland.com

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Law offices

City of Noblesville

City Hall
16 S. 10th St.
317-773-4614
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Copper Still

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317-214-7376
copperstillb.com

A Corner Cottage

895 Conner St.
317-770-7577
acornercottageonline.com

Deliberate Media

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317-997-8174
deliberatemediallc.com
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Hamilton County Historical Society

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317-770-0775
noblesville-indiana.funcityfinder.com

Hamilton Town Center

13901 Town Center Blvd
317-770-5996

Indiana Transportation Museum

Forest Park
701 Cicero Road
317-773-6000
itm.org

Mr. G's Liquors

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317-773-3471

Noblesville Chamber of Commerce

601 Conner St.
317-773-0086

Noblesville Library

1 Library Plaza
317-773-1384
hepl.lib.in.us

Noblesville Lions Club

Email: noblesvillelions@gmail.com

Noblesville Main Street

839 Conner St.
317-776-0205
noblesvillemainstreet.org

Noblesville Parks & Recreation

317-776-6350
317-770-5750
cityofnoblesville.org

Peterson Architecture

802 Mulberry St. G
317-770-9714

Polk Street Review

polkstreetreview.com

Primrose School

15707 North Point Blvd.
317-773-4900
primroseschools.com/schools/noblesville

Rosie's Place

68 N. Ninth St.
317-770-3322
rosiesplace.net

St. Michael's Episcopal Church

444 South Harbour Dr.
317-773-6157
stmichaelsepiscopalchurch.org

Strawtown Koteewi Park

12308 E. Strawtown Ave.
Noblesville, IN
317-774-2574
hamiltoncounty.in.gov

Wafford Theater

1720 S. 10th Street
Theater: 317-214-0950
waffordtheater.com

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www.10westjackson.com

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alexandersicecream.com

Cicero Coffee Company

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317-984-2739
facebook.com/cicerocoffeeco

Cicero Market

99 S. Peru St.
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317-984-3111
facebook.com/ciceromarket

Cicero Parks

150 E. Jackson Street
Cicero, IN
317-984-3475
ciceroin.org/parks

DeLullo's Trattoria

177 W. Main St.
Atlanta, IN
765-292-2000
delullositalian.com

Erika's Place

40 W. Jackson St.
Cicero, IN
317-984-9303
facebook.com/pages/Erikas-Place

Hedgehog Music Showcase

101 W. Main St.
Arcadia, IN
317-984-3560
hedgehogmusicshowcase.com

Lazy Frogg Restaurant and Bar

409 W. Jackson St.
Cicero, IN
317-843-9100
lazyfrogg.com

Lisa's Pie Shop

5995 S. US 31
Atlanta, IN
317-758-6944
lisaspies.com

Maple Lane Inn & Pavilion

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hortonsoftipton.blogspot.com

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311 E. Jefferson St.
765-675-8787

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122 S. Main St.
765-675-3792

Tipton Chamber of Commerce

114 S. Main St.
765-675-7533
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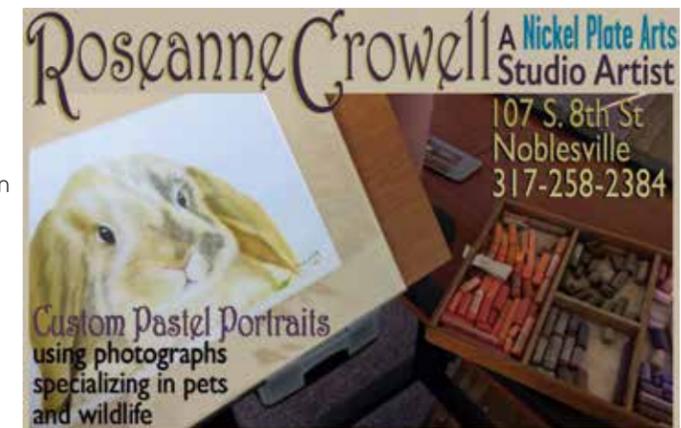
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JAN. 8 & FEB. 5: *First Fridays*

First Friday

at NICKEL PLATE ARTS

First Fridays at Nickel Plate Arts On Jan. 8 and Feb. 5, nourish your appetite for local culture

If you haven't joined the fun at Nickel Plate Arts on a First Friday, you're missing out! These once-a-month events are like the superfoods of local culture — packed with essential arts nutrients and stuff to make you happy inside and out.

"The First Friday openings challenge artists to have something new to show to the public," says artist and frequent First Friday attendee Carol Griffith. "Who would want to miss a good time like the First Friday openings? They always have good food, beer and wine available too."

Inside the Judge Stone House Gallery on every First Friday, we'll be fêting artists in our latest exhibit. On Jan. 8, we will have an opening reception for the Healing Power of Art, and on Feb. 5, it will be artists with works in

Hoosier Heart-Land. As opening night for these exhibits, you'll get the first look and opportunity to buy original works. Hop over to the Stephenson House next door for an in-depth look at the month's Showcase Artist's works.

Expect to see and hear local musicians and/or actors performing on campus on these special nights, and then try your hand at the arts by participating in an activity inspired by the month's featured exhibit. Local artists are often on hand, too, so come out to mingle with the creative side of our community.

Beer and wine, among other refreshments, offer you a chance to unwind on a Friday night. Registration is not required. Just come on out and enjoy!

Visit our Calendar at nickelplatearts.org to see details and add the event to your digital calendar.

JANUARY Cont.

\$95 for 6-week session, includes all supplies (ages 8+)

Master calligraphy and learn modern hand lettering techniques used by graphic designers, illustrators, and artists. In this class, students will learn about the history of calligraphy and practice both traditional and modern calligraphy and hand lettering techniques.

More info and sign-up: nickelplatearts.org

January First Friday

Jan. 8, 6-9 p.m.

Nickel Plate Arts campus

FREE!

Kickoff a new year with our latest exhibit, the Healing Power of Art, which celebrates art's powerful therapeutic qualities. View art, in all mediums, that has an emotional significance to the artist and/or represents a healing journey. Local art therapist Gina Baird will provide an interactive art assemblage that explores the concept of using art for collective empathy through spontaneous expressions collected over the days of the exhibit. Baird was instrumental in bringing Art as Therapy to Nickel Plate Arts last March and has firsthand knowledge of "the healing power of art."

More info: nickelplatearts.org

Our Favorite Things

Jan. 23, doors open 6:30 p.m. for a 7 p.m. curtain

Northview Middle School, 8401 Westfield Blvd., Indianapolis

Tickets: \$15 for adults and \$10 for kids under 10

White River Sound Chorus presents its annual a cappella show.

For more info and tickets, call 317-284-1136; whiteriversoundchorus.org

FEBRUARY

February First Friday

Feb. 5, 6-9 p.m.

Nickel Plate Arts campus

FREE!

See what our artists love about Indiana and what inspires them in our February exhibit, Hoosier Heart-Land. Mingle with local artists, enjoy food and drink, entertainment, and a hands-on activity.

More info: nickelplatearts.org

Life Drawing: February class

Feb. 7, 7-9 p.m., Meets the first Sunday of every month

Nickel Plate Arts campus

\$120 for 2016 session (\$10/month) (ages 15+)

Sharpen your skills during Neckar and Reynold's Life Drawing Class, a monthly Sunday night figure drawing class that offers adult students the chance to draw or paint an undraped figure.

More info and sign-up: nickelplatearts.org

Valentine's Day for All

Date Night: Feb. 12 and 13, 6-9 p.m.

(ticket prices vary)

Family Valentine's Day: Feb. 14, 1-5 p.m.

Nickel Plate Arts campus

FREE admission; \$5/craft

Whether it's date night, family time, or girl's night out, put an artsy spin on your Valentine's Day this year by participating in hands-on activities and unique projects you get to take home!

More info and to purchase tickets: nickelplatearts.org

MARCH

Hamilton County Artists' Association

Events and dates/ time vary. The Birdie

Gallery is open

March-December on Thursdays, Fridays and

Saturdays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. 195 S. Fifth St.,

Noblesville, IN (317) 776-2278 and

hcaa-in.org

March First Friday

March 4, 6-9 p.m.

Nickel Plate Arts

campus

FREE!

Little artists from Noblesville elementary schools will have their selected artwork on display at Nickel Plate Arts for the month of March. Check out the future of art in Indiana in our Young Artists exhibit!

More info: nickelplatearts.org

Life Drawing: March class

March 6, 7-9 p.m., Meets the first Sunday of every month

Nickel Plate Arts campus

\$120 for 2016 session (\$10/month) (ages 15+)

Sharpen your skills during Neckar and Reynold's Life Drawing Class, a monthly Sunday night figure drawing class that offers adult students the chance to draw or paint an undraped figure.

More info and sign-up: nickelplatearts.org

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Events Guide JANUARY-MARCH 2016

JANUARY

Logan Street Sanctuary

Times/dates vary

1274 Logan St., Noblesville

The Sanctuary features live music in an intimate atmosphere, with an emphasis on singer-songwriters.

(317) 565-7279, loganstreetsanctuary@gmail.com and loganstreetsanctuary.org.

Life Drawing: January class

Jan. 3, 7-9 p.m., Meets on the first Sunday of every month

Nickel Plate Arts campus

\$120 for 2016 session (\$10/month) (ages 15+)

The human form is one of the most difficult subjects an artist tackles. Sharpen your skills during Neckar and Reynold's Life Drawing Class, a monthly Sunday night figure drawing class that offers adult students the chance to draw or paint an undraped figure.

More info and sign-up: nickelplatearts.org

Monday Night Drawing Class: Session 1

Jan. 4-March 7, 7-9 p.m., Meets weekly on Mondays (10-week session/10 classes)

Nickel Plate Arts campus

\$100 for 10-week session, includes all supplies (ages 15+)

The 10-week Monday Night Drawing Class is available to adult artists at all skill levels, basic to advanced. Studio Artists, John Reynolds and Bruce Neckar will prepare an overview of subject matter for participants to draw, including basic forms, wildlife, portraiture, and clothed and undraped figure drawing.

More info and sign-up: nickelplatearts.org

Kid's Classes: Session 1 -

Calligraphy and Hand Lettering

Jan. 5-Feb. 9, 4-6 p.m., Meets weekly on Tuesdays (6-week session/6 classes)

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