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2021 Portland Museum of Art Digital Youth Art Month Exhibit and Celebration

COVER ART: Zoë lobst, "sew a button" 12th grade Bangor High School (Bangor, ME) Teacher: Susan Bryand
LEFT: Ryder Porell, "Still Life" (Oil Pastel) 1st Grade Berwick Academy (South Berwick, ME) Teacher: Naomi Ellsworth
RIGHT: Rose White, "Sunflowers" (Pencil, Crayon, Art Stix on black paper) 4th Grade Kermit Nickerson Elementary School (Swanville, ME) Teacher: Nancy Brown

A Word from MAEA Youth Art Month Chair and Statewide Coordinator, Elise Pelletier

2021 has held many firsts, including Youth Art Month (at Portland Museum of Art) going virtual. This year's Youth Art Month included 80+ K-12 students showcasing an incredible array of drawing, painting, ceramics, sculpture, photography, and even animation. With this virtual showcase, the show is able to be seen by a wider audience. Although we missed the excitement of families and artists gathering together to celebrate the show hosted by Meghan Quigley Graham, Learning and Teaching Specialist, at the Portland Museum of Art, three virtual receptions were held on March 13th. Artists, art educators, family, and friends joined together via Zoom and enjoyed seeing each student's work up close. The MAEA also presented awards to the 2021 Art Educator of the year, Jodi Thomas (Thornton Academy) and the 2021 Art Advocate of the Year, Waterville Creates!. Serena Sanborn, Education and Outreach Coordinator for Waterville Creates, gave everyone a glimpse at the amazing artistic opportunities Waterville Creates! has provided during the pandemic, connecting more youth to programming than ever before. Despite a difficult year we are so happy that Youth Art Month continued to celebrate all of the young artists in Maine. The virtual show will continue to be available online indefinitely.

Maine teachers created videos for students to watch lessons on television last spring. These videos were created when we learned how many learners did not have access to the internet and were being left out of learning opportunities. The lessons are archived at https://www.mainepublic.org/internal/2020-04-21/welcome-to-the-learning-space. Argy Nestor, Sweetland Middle School Director, created one on Andy Goldsworthy, and is passing this information to all Maine art educators! Art teachers can use the videos in or out of the classroom. For more information or if you have any questions, please contact anestor@sweettreearts.org.

me arts ed Blog Post by Argy Nestor, April 6, 2021

MAEA Spring Conference, Perceptions 2021

A HUGE SUCCESS

Congratulations to the **Maine Art Education Association** for a successful virtual conference held this past Saturday. Iva Damon was the chair who waited an entire year to complete her task. Last year the conference was canceled thanks to the pandemic. Every aspect of the conference entitled Perceptions 2021 went really well. If you're working on the planning of a virtual conference or workshop I suggest you reach out to Iva who is an art teacher at Leavitt Area High School. Conference planner Extraordinaire!

The conference opened with a keynote provided by Natasha Mayers and Rob Shetterly. She often explores themes of peace and social justice. Recently the film on Natasha's life as an artist was released called *Natasha Mayers: an Un-Still Life*. Natasha founded ARRT! (the Artists' Rapid Response Team) in 2012, an artists' collective that meets monthly, creating over 400 banners, props and yard signs for most of the progressive organizations in Maine. She co-founded and is editor-in-chief of *The Maine Arts Journal: Union of Maine Visual Artists Quarterly*. Learn more about how Natasha has contributed to so many meaningful projects and made a difference in Maine practicing her art in a collaborative way. You can read about her contributions since 1976 at **THIS LINK**. Conference participants had a chance to view the film before the conference.

"...an engaging and lively portrait of an engaged and lively artist who uses her talents in the service of truth and justice, rather than fortune"

Edgar Allen Beem



Natasha Mayers

Artist Rob Shetterly founded Americans Who Tell the Truth (AWTT) and has painted over 250 portraits of 'truth tellers'. The Samantha Smith Project is part of the AWTT work where middle and high school students use art to build a bridge between the classroom and the world to create curious, courageous, and engaged citizens. SSC projects teach students that, no matter what age, they can be part of solving the challenges and problems they see around them.

One of the portraits that Rob has created is of Natasha so it was a delight to have them both share their stories and inspire art educators to make a difference in their classrooms.

Participants had a chance to attend three workshops throughout the day and meet with colleagues informally. The workshops were:

- Evaluating Creativity with music educator, Joe Cough
- Update your Advocacy: New Ways of Promoting and Expanding Your Impact Beyond the Art Room with Brunswick Middle School teacher, Cory Bucknam
- Neurographic Art with Maranacook Community School art teacher, Hope Lord
- Teaching and Learning with Natasha Mayers: An Un-Still Life with Argy Nestor, Sweetland Middle School
- AP Art and Design Network Discussion with high school art teachers, Lori Spruce and Holly Houston
- Hand-Build a Tour Up & Stamped Mug with Biddeford Middle School art teacher, Samara Yandell

The day ended with a gathering and door prizes presented. It was very clear that teachers missed seeing colleagues from other parts of the state and making art together. Comments around the challenges of the year and that the value of the art classroom became more clear to educators. Participants said what a great conference it was. More people attended the spring conference than has been the case in the last several years. The comment that placed clarity on our important roles as art educators this year was stated by Rangeley Lakes Regional School Art Teacher, Sonja Johnson: "The Art classroom is a place of awakening this year".

You are invited to our monthly MAEA Board Meetings

The MEA offices in Augusta have currently suspended the use of their facilities due to COVID restrictions.

Please join us online via Zoom at 5:00PM for our 2020-2021 Meeting Schedule:

June 10th, 2021

2022 MAEA Recognitions Awards Program

For more information on our Recognitions Award Programs and to offer assistance, please contact Holly Houston at Holly Houston .



2022 MAEA Supervision Art Educator of the Year Award Serena Sanborn, Waterville Creates!



2022 MAEA Outstanding Service to the Profession Award
Susan Bryand, Bangor High School



2022 MAEA Secondary Art Educator of the Year

Lori Spruce, Brewer High School



2022 MAEA Middle Level Art Educator of the Year

Hope Lord,

Maranacook Community Middle School



2022 MAEA Art Educator of the Year

Raegan Russell, Berwick Academy

The Maine Art Education Association Member Recognitions program recognized excellence in Maine art education on Saturday, May 01st, 2021, with a virtual celebration. Across the State, the recipients celebrated at this event have been an inspiration to numerous students and adults. Their voices have been eloquently presented at a variety of events this spring; and, have been heard by K-12 students, their families, artists, other educators and school administrators, as well as our private and public museum patrons.



Thank you for not only representing the visual arts in Maine, but the Maine Art Education Association as well, with such inspirational messages and educational strategies. You each have reached so many of us through your individual valuable talents and commitment to our industry.

The Maine Art Education Association looks forward to your continued ambassadorship as we continue into the 2021-2022 academic year. Thank you for the extensive work you each do; and, congratulations to each of you. Maine students and art educators excel due to your educational leadership and influence.

SAVE THE DATES

MAEA 2021 Summer Retreat at Pilgrim Lodge, Cobbosseecontee Lake: August 02nd-05th, 2021

Allie Rimkunas, Summer Retreat Coordinator, will advise us of the details of this wonderful opportunity to wind down and simply create our personal artworks on the shores of Cobbosseecontee! Details to follow in an email Newsflash!

MAEA re-stArt 2021 Fall Satellite Conference:

September 17th and 18th, 2021

As our MAEA Fall Haystack Conference will return in 2022,

Anthony Lufkin and Brooke Holland, Haystack Conference Coordinators, will advise us of the 2021 program and the multiple satellite locations throughout Maine that will be available for studio opportunities! There may be virtual opportunities as well.

Details to follow in an email Newsflash.

Please assist the Fall Conference Committee team as they finalize the conference offerings by completing the following survey by Monday, May10th, 2021!

re-stArt SURVEY

2021 MAEA Engaging Learning Resources

Join the MAEA Photography Teachers Interest Group
with Jodi Thomas, Thornton Academy, MAEA 2021 Maine Art Educator of the Year
Email questions to: jodi.thomas@thorntonacademy.org

Join MAEA to become a participating Member

Join the MAEA Art Teachers Create Online Interest Group with Erin Landry Fowler, Scarborough School Department

Email questions to: elandry-fowler@scarboroughschools.org Join MAEA to become a participating Member

MUSEUM OFFERINGS for Art Educators

Current Involvement Opportunity For Students and Teachers

Remote Outreach

Maine Museum Offerings for Art Educators

What is Missing? Maya Lin

Colby College Museum of Art

with Abby Newkirk,
Linde Family Foundation
Senior Coordinator
School and Teacher Programs

aenewkir@colby.edu

Join Maya Lin at What is Missing?

Live Interactive
30-45 Minute Presentations
Brought to Your Classroom
via Video Conferencing

Distance Learning Program

(K-4) Every Picture Tells a Story
(4-8) Maine Experience
(9-12) Repurpose, Interrogate, Reimagine
(K-12) Temporary Exhibition Programs

Colby College Museum of Art

with Abby Newkirk,
Linde Family Foundation
Senior Coordinator
School and Teacher Programs
aenewkir@colby.edu



PMA CLASSROOM

Portland Museum of Art

DOWNLOADABLE CURRICULUM-BASED LESSON PLANS

REMOTE LEARNING INITIATIVE

Meghan Quigley Graham

Learning and Teaching Specialist

mquigley@portlandmuseum.org

MAINE ART EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OFFERINGS for Art Educators

1st evening of every month

Saturday, May 01st, 2021 Tuesday, June 01st, 2021

6:00PM - 8:00PM

MAEA Monthly Open Forum 2021 MAEA

Engaging Learning Resources

MAEA Virtual

PhotographyTeachers Interest Group

REMOTE CURRICULUM STRATEGY DISCUSSION

PROJECT-BASED LEARNING EXPLORATION

QandA

Resource Share with Jodi Thomas, 2020 Maine Art Educator of the Year Email questions to:

jodi.thomas@thorntonacademy.org

Last Saturday of every month With holiday fluctuations

Saturday, May 29th, 2021 Saturday, June 26th, 2021 Saturday, July 31st, 2021

9:00AM - NOON

MAEA Monthly Open Studio 2021 MAEA

Engaging Learning Resources

MAEA Virtual

Art Teachers Create Interest Group

REMOTE ART CREATION & DISCUSSION
STUDIO LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

YOUR OWN ARTISTIC EXPLORATION

Artwork and Technique Share
with Erin Landry Fowler.
Email questions & intent to attend to:

elandry-fowler@scarboroughschools.org

MIXED MEDIA is the award winning newsletter of the MAEA.

It is sent to anyone interested in the MAEA, and shared on our website aeforme.org. Please contact us for reprinting considerations.

Submissions for consideration can be submitted to Lynda Leonas (current Editor/Designer). The opinions expressed in MIXED MEDIA are those and only those of the authors and do not necessarily represent MAEA policies. A policy change has reduced the amount of annual published issues to 4 exciting quarterly publications: September, November, January, and May.

REMINDER!

Please assist the Fall Conference Committee team as they finalize the conference offerings by completing the following survey by Monday, May10th, 2021!

re-stArt SURVEY

SUMMER TEACHING OPPORTUNITY

Happy April, let mud season begin! As the weather warms up and the earth transitions to green again, we are in the midst of planning our summer programming. ArtCamp 2021 at the Center for Maine Contemporary Art will be in person hosted in our courtyard. We are excited to be able to offer this opportunity for youth to connect to each other and contemporary art, especially since they have been learning online throughout the year.

We are looking to hire for these camps. We strive to provide compensation that values the time and energy that goes hand-in-hand with teaching camp. The Center for Maine Contemporary Art is located in the heart of downtown Rockland, ME. An hour and half drive from Portland and Down East. Our ArtCamps, offered every year, are half days 9:00 – 12:00pm Monday – Thursday serving youth ranging 8-13 years old. Due to Covid our camp participation will be a maximum of 10 campers.

If you, or someone you know of would be interested, please have them contact Mia Bogyo, Look Inside

Education Coordinator at mbogyo@cmcanow.org for more information.

https://cmcanow.org/look-inside/

The MAEA Needs YOU!

Jodi Thomas would like to pass each the following positions on to other MAEA members that have been thinking about getting involved:

MAEA Photography Educators Interest Group Chairperson

Lynda Leonas would like to pass each the following positions on to other MAEA members that have been thinking about getting involved:

Public Relations Chairperson

Editor of Mixed Media - The MAEA's National Award Winning Association Newsletter 2022 MAEA Winter Member Exhibition at the Saco Museum Coordinator 2023 MAEA Winter Member Exhibition at MuseumLA Coordinator

Matthew Johnson would like to pass the following position on to other MAEA members that have been thinking about getting involved:

MAEA Treasurer

For more information please contact Lynda Leonas or Matthew Johnson

We hope you will join us in leading educational adventures that our Maine art teachers will enjoy! Thank you,

Lynda Leonas, MAEA President, President.MaineArtEd@gmail.com

Matthew Johnson, MAEA Treasurer, Treasurer.MaineArtEd@gmail.com

MAEA Board of Directors



EXECUTIVE BOARD

PRESIDENT - Lynda Leonas

president.mainearted@gmail.com

SECRETARY - Heidi O'Donnell

heidiaemaine@gmail.com

TREASURER - Matt Johnson (acting)

treasurer.mainearted@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP - Hope Lord

hope lord@maranacook.com

PAST PRESIDENT - Suzanne Goulet sgoulet@aos92.org

MAEA Regional Groups



REGIONAL LEADERS

Art in the Heart - Sue Shapiro susan.shapiro@schools.hermon.net

Downeast - Lisa Marin

mavey2-2000@yahoo.com

gusta30membahs - Shalimar Poulin arted4all@gmail.com

hARTrocks - Charlie Johnson aht.tchr@gmail.com

Northern pARTners - Beth Ann Cummings bcummings@msad45.net

2021 Virtual Maine College of Art MAEA Art Educator Exhibit

A special thank you to Rachel Somerville, Interim Program Chair of Art Education at MECA, and Samara Yandell, 3D Art Teacher at Biddeford Middle School, for coordinating a phenomenal Maine art educator exhibit!

ONLINE EXHIBIT: APRIL 15-MAY 09, 2021

The MAEA / MECA virtual art show is now LIVE! Please click on the link to view https://www.meca.edu/academics/graduate/mat/maea-2021-gallery/

#maeaspeakyourvoice



Maine College of Art is pleased to host the 2021 Virtual Spring Art Exhibition

Speak Your Voice: the Maine Art Education Association (MAEA)

The Maine Art Education Association is a statewide professional organization whose members are committed to excellence in visual arts education. Maine College of Art's Master in the Arts of Teaching Program (MAT) is hosting this year's virtual exhibit in partnership with the MAEA. The exhibit reflects the importance of art as a means to unite, provide hope, and create positive change. Now more than ever, it is vital that art teachers model for their students the value of creativity as a form of self-expression and social change. Making art during the pandemic is also a tool for social-emotional well-being as we grapple with the stress of adapting to a very different world.

The exhibit features original works of art by 39 artists who teach or have taught at schools throughout Maine. It was organized by MAT Interim Program Chair and Assistant Professor of Art Education Dr. Rachel Somerville, with assistance from MAEA President Lynda Leonas and Samara Yandell MAT '18, the 3D Art teacher for the Biddeford School Department. Past exhibits have taken place on the first floor of MECA's Porteous Building; this year the pandemic has necessitated a virtual version, easily accessible for viewing at meca.edu/maea. Selected works are available for sale by the artists, with a percentage of the proceeds going to benefit MECA.

Dr. Somerville says, "We felt that it was important to maintain the MAEA spring exhibit tradition and encourage art educators to create art during this challenging time. We also saw this virtual exhibit as an opportunity to broaden our reach and engage with art teachers around the state who normally might not be able to attend our annual in-person art show. We are very pleased with the number of submissions and the beautiful work presented. The exhibit represents the passion, skill, and creativity that art educators carry. We are also excited that this is the highest number of pieces ever submitted to this event by a MAT cohort. We are so grateful for this ongoing collaboration and for all of our front-line teachers who continue to 'Speak Their Voice.'"

The MAEA fosters high quality teaching in visual arts, provides professional opportunities for art teachers, serves as a forum for the exchange of ideas, and supports collaboration among educators and other arts agencies. MECA's 10-month MAT Program prepares artists to become effective art educators; field experiences begin on the very first day.

View the **Exhibit**. Learn more about the **Maine Art Education Association**.

Learn more about MECA's **Master in the Arts of Teaching Program**.

Three MeCA MAT Teacher Candidates on Speak Your Voice

How does your work represent the exhibit's theme 'Speak Your Voice'?

Why do you feel it is important for teachers to make and exhibit work?

Sophie Olmstead



My voice is an extension of me just as my art is part of who I am. The artwork I make is a snippet of my personal experiences oftentimes rooted in a specific moment. This butter dish is a record of my current visual interests: I've been noticing how textures interact and how pieces and people connect. My voice in this exhibit is just one of many and I think seeing all the artwork together to metaphorically let voices speak allows for much-needed points of connection.

Making artwork as an art teacher is SO important

because it reminds me of what it is like to be a student. The creative process is a vulnerable experience and teachers may forget what it feels like to make artwork because they are so focused on being a good teacher and planning super cool lessons. Reminding myself of the complexity and beauty of the creative process reignites an understanding of what it feels like to be a student. Making artwork and exhibiting artwork can also lead to inspiration! Unexpected connections can lead to collaboration between teachers. I'm always looking for different creative avenues I can explore to create dynamic lessons that may speak to students in a new way. Plus it is fun!

Sean Dillon



My piece is a portrait of my alter ego: A ghoulish figure in a mask who broadcasts online teaching art and self-affirmation. This character, Grandpa Bats, aka the ghost of congress street, is my off-hours teacher-self. I use this voice to reach young people who feel unordinary or outside social cliques. I believe that while there are some people I can't reach as "Mr. Dillon", I can perhaps reach them as "Grandpa Bats".

I feel it is essential for art teachers to create and exhibit work. It serves as a model for our students and enriches our own lives with creativity and expression. My work as a storyteller continues outside of school, and is amplified through my character Grandpa Bats.



Lauren Andreson

In my work in the exhibit, I am speaking my voice by expressing my emotions through tears. I am one happy cry away from springtime as I will be a Master's graduate very soon. I feel accomplished, I feel happy, I feel successful. On the other end, I am one sad cry away from springtime. Existing and going to school in the midst of a pandemic has not been easy, to say the least. There are so many tears I've cried, and that are still built up in me. Only one cry away. I hope.

It's important for teachers to make and exhibit artwork because it's part of a never-ending cycle of learning. If I was a teacher, stop creating, then there's a chance I will stop learning. The goal in my art practice is to learn, grow, and succeed. I don't feel I could teach my students to live by these goals if I am not achieving them myself.

MAEA Art Teachers Create Online!

MAEA Art Teachers Create is back! Join us on Zoom once a month for MAEA Art Teachers Create in its new virtual format! All MAEA Members and Retirees are welcome. MAEA Create Online will be a Covid-friendly opportunity for art teachers to carve out time for their own artistic practice, share their artwork or techniques, and talk shop with their fellow art teachers. MAEA Create Online will meet on the last Saturday of the Month (dates may fluctuate due to major holidays and school calendars) from



9:00 am-noon. Interested? Join the MAEA Art Teachers Create communication list by emailing the Chairperson, Erin Landry Fowler, elandry-fowler@scarboroughschools.org. Please RSVP prior to the MAEA Create Online meeting that you plan to attend.

Even though meetings will take place on Zoom rather than in each other's classrooms, we would still love to have volunteers "host" MAEA Create Online! A host could give a short technique demonstration, present their artwork to the group, lead a discussion, etc. As always, the majority of meeting time will be dedicated to individualized art-making, whether that be drawing, painting, collage, pottery, etc. Come hang out and make some art!

MAEA Interest Group for Art Teachers Create 2020-2021 Schedule

May 29th, 2021 June 26th, 2021 July 31st, 2021 August 28th, 2021





Maine Art Education Association





COVID-19 VISUAL ARTS CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT AND SAFETY SUGGESTIONS

VISUAL ARTS EDUCATOR SUPPORT LINKS FOR INTEREST GROUPS AND MUSEUM EDUCATION PROGRAMS

As you complete the 2020-2021 academic year and begin planning for 2021-2022,

please be certain to check for any recent updates that will include access to links

for our excellent Maine art museum educational opportunities and materials!

IMPLEMENT CREATIVE SOLUTIONS FOR YOUR ART EDUCATION DELIVERY!

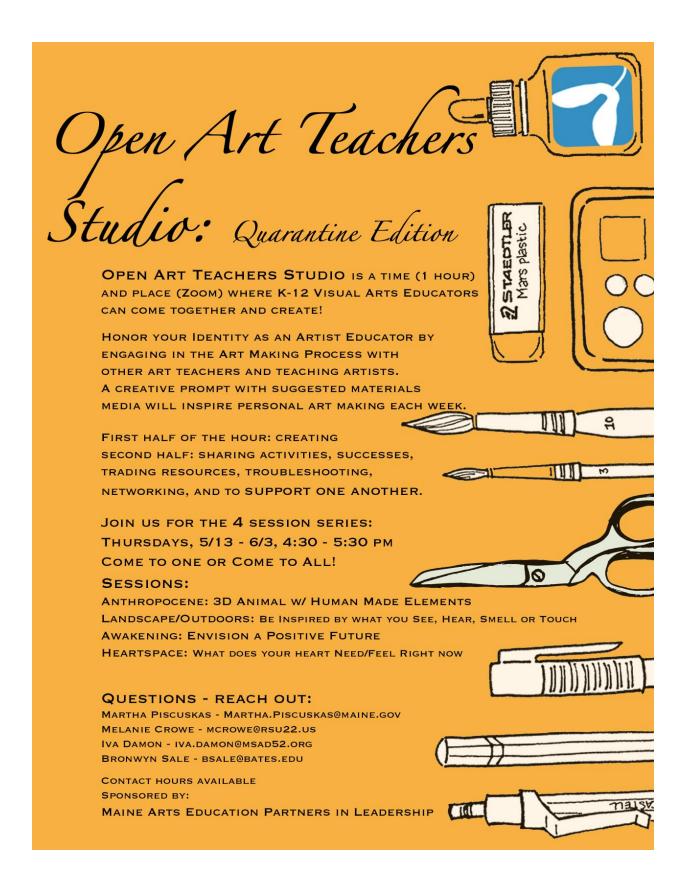
Should you have concerns as you are reopening and working in your art studios, please contact <u>lmccann-olson@msad51.org</u>.

MAEA COVID-19 Visual Arts Classroom Management and Safety Suggestions

The Virtual Open Art Teachers Studio is back, starting May 13! For and by Maine teachers. Open to anyone involved or interested in arts education – visual, literary and performing arts educators, teaching artists, administrators, community folks. This is a time to set aside and activate your own creativity. In this long year, we have learned that self-care is critical for those supporting others, such as arts educators. Please give yourself one hour a week to dive into your own imagination with us! Four sessions, free. To register click here. Article about past sessions can be read in the winter edition of the Maine Arts Journal here.

> For more information: martha.piscuskas@maine.gov Martha Piscuskas, Director of Arts Education, Maine Arts Commission 193 State Street, SHS 25 Augusta, ME 04333-0025 (207) 287-2750 martha.piscuskas@maine.gov

> > https://mainearts.maine.gov/



Maine Art Education Association Goals

- To encourage best practices in standards-based and learner-centered visual arts classrooms in all Maine schools
- To foster high quality teaching in visual arts and provide professional opportunities in curriculum, instruction and assessment, as well as in current issues and artistic practice
- To provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and support collaboration among educators and other arts agencies to ensure quality programs for all learners

MEMBERSHIP AND OUR MAEA MISSION

The Maine Art Education Association is a statewide professional organization whose members are committed to excellence in visual arts education.

It is our purpose to promote the highest quality instruction in visual arts programs that provide depth and breadth of experience to meet the varied needs of students. <u>Join Us Today!</u> You can sign up online at <u>aeforme.org/membership</u> or complete this membership form and include a check for membership dues made out to:

MAEA and mail to MAEA, c/o Hope Lord, P.O. Box 10463, Portland, ME 04104

+

Address:	
(Grades taught (circle) K 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 Higher Ed
	#years
[] Activ	e Membership \$30.00 [] Student \$5.00 [] Retired \$15.00 [] Retired LIFETIME \$120.00
	[] Pay It Forward donation to new teacher scholarship to Haystack
	Fall Conference Membership is renewed with each school year.
Now or renewal is	required at time of Fall Conference Registration, Membership expires August 31st

Waterville Creates! Awarded the Maine Art Education Association 2021 Excellence in Arts Advocacy Award

for displaying consistent collaborative efforts to share and celebrate the creative process through outreach, studios, exhibits, and arts celebrations.

Waterville creates! Has given Maine learners an incredible gift with a supportive mission this past year.

Waterville Creates! (WC!) received the 2021 Excellence in Arts Advocacy Award from the Maine Art Education Association at the state-wide Youth Art Month recognition ceremony which took place virtually on Saturday, March 13, 2021, hosted by the Portland Museum of Art.

"This is a testament to your exemplary contributions to support visual arts education. We applaud your leadership, commitment and service to the support of arts education," says Suzanne Goulet, Past President of the Maine Art Education Association of Portland, Maine, of WC!.

Waterville Creates! develops and delivers a wide array of arts education and outreach programs that serve Waterville area residents and their families. WC! works with a host of organizational partners to maximize its reach and ensure access for a broad array of community members. "Waterville Creates! envisions a community where everyone has access to—and takes part in—high quality and lifelong learning experiences in the arts. This recognition from the Maine Art Education Association is a tremendous acknowledgment of our programmatic efforts," says Shannon Haines, President + CEO of Waterville Creates.

Led by Education + Outreach Coordinator, Serena Sanborn, WC! reimagined existing programs and developed new initiatives to keep the community connected and engaged in the arts through the pandemic.

About Waterville Creates

Waterville Creates! connects artists, organizations, and the public with arts and cultural events and programs happening in our community. Supporting and promoting arts education, exhibitions, theatre, film, music, and dance that is accessible to all, Waterville Creates! is leading the effort to make Waterville an exciting cultural destination and a thriving, vibrant community. For more information about Waterville Creates!, visit www.watervillecreates.org