



Creativity



Inspiring audiences through art, exploration, and recreation

Conversation



Engaging our communities in open and honest dialogue

Collaboration



Bringing people together to strengthen our community

Happy Spring from all of us at WonderArts!



The promise of spring is right around the corner! The days are getting longer, birds are singing, and sap is starting to run. The past few months have been abuzz with the annual Holiday Market, after school classes, in school preschool classes, adult workshops, community events, and a myriad of collaborative programs for all ages and communities.

We are thrilled to announce that we have launched a new and improved website! Additionally, we are excited to welcome our newest board member, Chip Troiano, to the team. Chip lives in Stannard and represents the Caledonia-2 district as a Vermont Representative.

With the season starting to change we are reminded of the beauty and fragility of our Earth. Starting now we are making a commitment as an organization to being environmentally conscious in all of our programs by limiting our consumption of resources and waste. We are dedicated to helping to develop a culture of environmental sustainability through education and conversation. We feel that this is one small step we as an organization can take to protect our environment and communities.

We hope to see or hear from you soon!

The WonderArts Team

Board: Alain McMurtrie, Chip Troiano, Havilah Stewart Mann, Monique Beaudry, Naomi Ranz-Schleifer, & Riva Reynolds

Staff: Ceilidh Galloway-Kane, Carol Fairbank, Skye Livingston, Jess Romeo & Reeseey Partlow



Reflections from the Winter



Senior Outings Resume This Spring!

Starting in April, WonderArts will be offering monthly senior classes and trips. Classes will cover computer skills and creative techniques. Trips will include tours, talks, and tastings at local businesses and museums. The first senior trip will take place at the end of April. Thanks to the Hardwick Recreation Committee for helping to support this program! Contact: skye@wonderartsvt.org

Let's Talk Climate Change

What can a rural community do about rising oceans and erratic weather patterns? We believe that the issue of climate change is one of the most important issues facing all of us. Since the fall, WonderArts has been screening a series of films to inspire conversation about critical climate issues and spark ideas for community action.

We have presented films at the Craftsbury Outdoor Center, which is a Net Zero building that utilizes a wide variety of renewable energy and energy saving mechanisms. Films have included *Chasing Ice*, *Before the Flood*, *Saving Snow*, and *Saving Our Waters*.

Screening these films provides a place for the community to talk about these issues and how they are impacting our earth, and directly affecting our communities.

To date, the series has raised civic awareness and brought together over 50 community members. With each film screening, we add more voices to the conversation!



Raise Your Voice Celebrates Social Justice

On February 8th, WonderArts was thrilled to share a wonderful evening of song, dance, poetry, and performance in support of the Stand-Up, a student social justice group active year-round at Hazen Union. This annual benefit event was started in 2015 by then-AmeriCorps Member Ethan Hibbard, as a tribute to social justice through performance arts. It was inspiring and moving to see over 115 community members come out to support Stand-Up.

"My heart is still so full from this event. It was so beautiful, and I'm so incredibly grateful."

– Beth Cate, community member

A special thank you to Rachel Wilson, Netdahe Stoddard, Bobbie Rubio, Heartbeat Lifesharing, Samara Fund, and all of the talented students and community members who made this event so incredible. We hope to see you next year!

Cole's Guacamole

A recipe from the Culinary Arts WonderArts Program at Lakeview taught By Nancy VanWinkle

- 3 ripe avocados
- 1 lime, juiced
- 1/2 t. sea salt (adjust to taste)

Mash all ingredients together, using a potato masher or fork, until smooth-ish in texture (leave it a little chunky for best results). Optional: garnish with cilantro!

Serve with tortilla chips, taco, or any latin-inspired dish!



Getting Ready for Warm Weather!

The WonderArts Solution to Transportation!

We have found time and time again that transportation is one of the main obstacles limiting accessibility to community programs. To make our programs more equitable, accessible, and to provide increased cultural experiences for our rural communities, we have come up with a creative but simple solution - purchasing a short bus from Wildcat Busing!

The bus will hit the road in March, enabling WonderArts to transport summer campers to our incredible outdoors, to take seniors and adults on cultural trips, and to connect our communities to opportunities and resources, both local and further afield. This project is supported in part by the Pleasants Fund.



Edible Food Forest at the Greenspace!

WonderArts is excited to be partnering with community members to plan and create a food forest at our 321 Greenspace in Craftsbury Village.

Why a food forest? By understanding how forests grow and sustain themselves without human intervention, we can learn from nature to design and construct the most sustainable food production systems possible – perfected, refined and cared for by Mother Nature herself. We invite you to join us in making the food forest a reality and appreciate help of all kinds, whether you're a volunteer with time to share, or a farm or grower with materials, plants or trees to contribute. This summer we will prepare beds, plant trees and perennials, and build some permanent infrastructure, like an outdoor kitchen and pizza oven. We envision the Greenspace as a vibrant location, where everyone is free to explore, recreate, and enjoy the beauty and magic of nature. We hope to see you there!



SPARK - Ready, Set, Action!

Since the fall, we have been working closely with community members and advisors to develop a creative incubator/business accelerator/maker space right here in Greensboro! Thanks to this dedicated team (the Spark Crew) we are making great strides towards developing the space!

We have begun developing a membership model, purchasing initial equipment including a large format printer, 3D printer, vinyl cutter, computers and design software. The project will make a wide variety of resources available to the community including technical assistance, classes, access to equipment, community directory, member-led projects, high-speed internet, and more. Are you interested in sharing your ideas, resources, and expertise with the group?

Email spark@wonderartsvt.org or call 802-533-9370.

Upcoming School Programs!

We can't wait for our upcoming school programs. This year, we have served over 300 students! High school students at Craftsbury Academy will enjoy enrichment classes in Kickboxing, Outdoor Education and Cooking, in partnership with NEK Kids on the Move. Elementary students from four schools have enjoyed kitchen science classes and are looking forward to programs in dance and nature arts. WonderArts is also expanding to run our first after school class at Woodbury Elementary in April!



We look forward to seeing you soon!

Upcoming Featured Events:



April 12th, Let's Talk: Tashi & the Monk

6:30 pm @ Highland Center for the Arts, Greensboro

April 14th, Poetry Slam with Geof Hewitt

6:30 - 8:30 pm @ Highland Lodge, Greensboro

April 22nd, Greenspace Earth Day Birthday!

1:00 - 3:00 pm @ 321 Community Greenspace, Craftsbury

April 28th, Drawing in Nature with Bill Tulp

1:00 - 4:00 pm @ Craftsbury Town Hall

April 29th, Family Meal & Movie

5:00 - 6:00 pm @ WonderArts Program Space, Greensboro

May 10th, Let's Talk: A Place at the Table

6:30 pm @ the Episcopal Church, Hardwick

May 19th, Coptic Bookbinding with Nancy

1:00 - 4:00 pm @ Craftsbury Town Hall

For More Events, Classes, Workshops,

Updates, and Information visit

www.WonderArtsVT.org

Thank you to our Newsletter Contributors!

Carol Fairbank, Ceilidh Galloway-Kane, Jess Romeo,
Nancy VanWinkle, Naomi Ranz-Schleifer & Skye Livingston

Summer Journeys Camp 2018!

WonderArts is proud to have been providing camps to the community for almost 20 years. Each summer, our camps inspire boundless curiosity, creativity, and enrichment.

This year, our main campus will be at Lakeview Union in Greensboro. Additional locations include Highland Lodge and Highland Center for the Arts. Camp themes explore nature, art, theater, dance, tech & tinker, puppetry, farming, survival skills, culinary arts, secret gardens, and more!

Camps are filling up quickly! To find out more about camps and registration visit: www.WonderArtsVT.org



Thank You to our Business Sponsors!

WonderArts is extremely grateful to the community-minded businesses who help to support our work. Find out more about becoming a sponsor on our website!



Every donation makes a difference.
Your gift directly supports community
enrichment for all ages.

Thank you!

For more information visit WonderArtsVT.org or call 802.533.9370

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