



AUGUST 2020 NEWSLETTER

# chesterton art center

CELEBRATING OUR 59TH YEAR

115 S. 4th St. • Chesterton, IN 46304 • 219 – 926 – 4711  
www.chestertonart.com • gallery@chestertonart.com



chesterton art center



## HOURS OF OPERATION

Weekdays: 11 AM – 4 PM // Saturdays: 10 AM – 2 PM // Sundays: Closed unless there is an event scheduled

### Our August Exhibit:

## Captured Moods: A Robert Hoffman Retrospective - Robert J. Hoffman 1930 - 2017



The Chesterton Art Center will be presenting an exhibit of the late Robert Hoffman's work titled, "Captured Moods: A Robert Hoffman Retrospective" starting with an opening reception on Sunday, August 2 from 2-4. Robert's wife, Wilma, and daughter, Barb Knuckles, are curating the exhibit. "The exhibit will include examples of his work from various locations, weighted toward the Indiana Dunes first and Brown County second, since those were the places he painted most. We are picking the best examples that include some different techniques - pastel, oil and a few acrylic."

Robert grew up in Gary, Indiana where he attended Tolleston High School and distinguished himself with his drawings and cartoons. He married Wilma Hough in 1952 and celebrated 65 years of marriage before he passed away. While working as a brick layer at Inland Steel, he took classes at the Chicago Academy of Fine art while supporting himself and his family. He studied under Hal Rogoff, Kay Pool, Frederick Rigley, Ken Gore, Franklin Jones, Jim Pollard and Don Stone. In 1972, he started teaching classes and outdoor workshops. His analytical teaching style helped him break down his art knowledge and skills into sequential components. He was a much beloved instructor in NW Indiana.

In 1981, Robert jumped at the opportunity for an early retirement and became a full-time artist. He worked in mostly oils and pastels, showing his work at local art fairs and regional shows. He preferred to work "en plein air" (outdoors) whenever possible and could be found toting his French easel and gear outside in any season. In his studio in Merrillville, he painted still lifes, florals, and portraits, often working from his extensive collection of slides. He enjoyed group painting excursions to Monhegan Island, Maine; Sedona, Arizona; Taos, New Mexico, and Cedar Key, Florida.

In his own words, Robert says, "I believe that an artist, whatever his discipline, is a communicator of ideas and emotions. My goal as an artist is to communicate unity and beauty that I see in nature. I like to capture the feeling of light and atmosphere just as the French Impressionists did, but I also like to maintain the feeling of substance or three dimensional bulk as did the American impressionist. As with impressionism, my work is designed to come alive when viewed from a distance rather than close."

In his long career, he participated in 15 solo exhibits, and was included in multiple Hoosier Salon Annual exhibits where he received a Prize of Distinction and a Merit Award. He was featured in multiple galleries including the Brown County Art Guild Legacy Collection and the Chesterton Art Center. His work is found in many public and private collections. And he has taught art classes all over the country.

Robert suffered from dementia in the last decade of his life, making it challenging to continue painting. He passed away in 2017, just a few weeks before his 87th birthday. The "Captured Moods: A Robert Hoffman Retrospective" will open on Sunday, August 2 from 2-4 and will hang at the Chesterton Art Center through Saturday, August 29. This is a free event, open to the public. Regular hours are weekdays 11-4, and Saturdays 10-2. To provide a safe environment for the community, all guests are required to wear a mask and practice social distancing at the Art Center.

The Chesterton Art Center is dedicated to enriching the cultural landscape of Northwest Indiana. We believe that art is for everyone!



Association of Artists and Craftsmen of Porter County - A Not-For-Profit Arts Organization



# Children's Art Education

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Marie Englehart



**We will be announcing the details about our children's Art Education program soon! Classes with Miss Jen will resume in September.**

*Watch our website and social media sites for more information.*



***Some of our on-site adult classes are resuming!***

**\*Masks are required and Social Distancing will be accommodated.**

**Beginning Stained Glass is coming back with Judy Gregurich and Mark Montgomery on Tuesdays, starting on August 18. Class times are 7 pm until 9 pm.**

During this 8-week class, students will learn the art of copper foil stained glass, originally invented by Louis Tiffany. Students will create a window (of their own design, if they like) up to 16" x 20" in size. Tools are provided and supplies are included. Minimum 6 students required to hold the class. The cost for class is \$250, with members receiving a \$20 discount.

**Intermediate/Advanced Level Stained Glass Studio Class Tuesdays, starting on August 18. Class times are 7 pm until 9 pm.**

Judy and Mark will also be offering an 8-week Stained Glass Intermediate Studio class. This class is designed for students who have taken a previous stained glass class at the Art Center. Intermediate Stained Glass Studio provides students the opportunity to enhance their skills in glasswork. Each session a new challenge is presented with different techniques including sandblasting, mosaics, slumping and fusing, overlay and three-dimensional building. Students will also learn how to lead a window and create decorative techniques in solder. Students create their own designs and supply their own materials.

The upcoming session will concentrate on learning a unique way to build a mosaic. Intermediate students must have previously taken the Beginning Stained Glass class at the Chesterton Art Center. Supply lists are included at the time of registration. Cost of the class is \$105 with members receiving a \$20 discount. Minimum of 6 students required to hold the class.



Photo by Larry Brechner

***In the Galleries in September:***

The mixed media works of Michelle Kusmiz Hunt-Newham. Visit her work at Studio at Maison de Michelle on Facebook.



## SPONSORS

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KATHY THOMASON

# Artist Opportunities



*Peggy Carter*



*Steve Bensing*



*Steve Bensing*

The **Duneland Photography Club** will be holding its next couple of meetings outdoors. The Tuesday, August 4th meeting will be at Coffee Creek in Chesterton near the fountain. The meeting will start at 6:00pm as a photoshoot to explore the natural surroundings at Coffee Creek Nature Conservancy. On Tuesday, September 1st the club plans to meet at Ogden Gardens at 6:00pm in Valparaiso. For more information, email [DunelandPhotoClub@gmail.com](mailto:DunelandPhotoClub@gmail.com). The club also can be found on Facebook.

Members **Peggy Carter** and **Steve Bensing** both had photos selected in the 2020 Great Waters Photography Contest to be included in the 2020-2021 Wisconsin's Great Waters Calendar for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Peggy's photo selected is titled "Ready for Adventure". Steve had 3 photos selected, including "Blue Ice Cave", which will be the feature photo for January 2021. Contact the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources about how to obtain a calendar.

The Indiana State Department of Agriculture has announced that **Steve Bensing** has been selected as a winner in the Agritourism category in the Indiana Agriculture Photo Contest! Out of the hundreds of images submitted this year, his photo, "Above the Fair" rose above the rest. He will be honored at the Celebration of Agriculture Ceremony at the Indiana Statehouse on August 20, 2020 at 3:30 p.m. in the South Atrium.

The **City of Portage** will be holding their **20th Annual Senior Art Fair to artists age 55 and older**. The fair will be held at the Portage Public Library during the month of September. Up to two pieces of art per person may be dropped off at the library located at 2665 Irving St, Portage, IN during the month of August. There is no fee to exhibit your work. Due to COVID-19 there will not be an artist's reception this year. For more information, call the library at 219-763-1508. This annual event is sponsored by the Mayor's Advisory Committee on Senior Services and Mayor Sue Lynch.



## The 62nd Annual Chesterton Art Fair

Sadly, we have had to cancel this year's Chesterton Art Fair due to COVID-19. Save the date for next year - August 7 & 8, 2021.

The Chesterton Art Fair is our largest fund raiser. Monies raised from the fair help us operate for the coming year. Being able to offer monthly exhibitions (featuring both emerging and established artists) and art classes for preschoolers through adults is a large part of our mission. We need your help to overcome the loss of revenue from the cancellation of both the Art Fair and the Art After Dark Gala until next year.

### How You Can Help

If you aren't a member, please become one! You don't have to be an artist to be a member. Your support as someone who enjoys art and fostering the love of art in others is a huge reason to become a member. If you are already a member, THANK YOU!. Please consider renewing your membership when it expires. We also accept charitable donations. The Chesterton Art Center is a 501c3 not for profit organization. You can donate by sending a check, calling in, or using the "Donate" button on our website, [www.chestertonart.com](http://www.chestertonart.com). We know you have many choices when it comes to making charitable contributions. We would be honored if you chose us!