

2023 | ISSUE 1

# MANSFIELD ART CENTER



LEIGH BROOKLYN | PIETA



# NEWSLETTER

2023 Issue 1

## PASSAGES | Sue Cavanaugh, Deborah Griffing, Eileen Woods, Barb Vogel

***“The world is a dense, dense place if you took a microscope to it. All space has something in it. The exact spot that we exist in has a history of paths crossing with overlapping experiences that intersect.”*** - Deborah Griffing

As we stood in the upstairs gallery at The Mansfield Art Center having this discussion, we contemplated the moments that had occurred in that spot over the last fifty years. We envisioned the evolution of time, back through nature, down to a single mosquito once buzzing where we stood in the vastness of the universe. In the grand scheme, our time here is short, but the ripples of what we contribute will be felt.

Barb Vogel, Eileen Woods, Deborah Griffing, and Sue Cavanaugh were all grappling with similar thoughts during the isolating days of the global pandemic. It’s impossible to talk about *Passages*, without acknowledging the heavy influence of this time period on the artists. Their thoughts and emotions come through in many artworks, but it also sparked larger conversations beyond covid. *Passages* is about transition.

These four powerful female artists examine the delicate landscape of life’s procession with reflection, creation, humor, pathos, and irony. They delve into the movement through life and death, the dance of experiences that connect us all, and the individual perceptions that set us apart. *Passages* features a collection of work in a variety of mediums; photography with encaustic painting, interdimensional embroidery, collaged and painted panels, transparent portraits, and a large tent with a message that only becomes visible when seated inside.

Our atrium space features an expansive fabric installation; the swan-song of prolific artist Sue Cavanaugh. Created as an elevating singular focus during her final months, *Let’s Dance* is a celebration of life and the friendship that unites the artists. This work hangs from floor to ceiling, inviting visitors to walk through delicately hand stitched panels, with vibrant “dancers” and small mobiles swaying overhead. At almost twenty feet in height, *Let’s Dance* is a compelling invitation from the late Sue Cavanaugh to appreciate the moment.



Front Cover | Leigh Brooklyn *Pieta*

Top | Eileen Woods *I’m About To Take My Last Voyage, A Great Leap Into The Dark*

Left | Sue Cavanaugh *Let’s Dance* (photo Kym Lamb)

# Let's Engage

BRINGING KIDS TO ART | FIELD TRIPS PROVIDE ART EXPERIENCES



Helping our community form true connections to Art is the mission of our organization. It's at the forefront of every class that we teach, and every conversation that we have as a team. During Passages, we welcomed over 200 kids to The MAC for hands-on field trips, and found creative ways to engage them with the exhibition.

Junior High students spent time with "Let's Dance" by artist Sue Cavanaugh, getting up close to the details, and examining the intricate stitches. We talked about the time honored tradition of sewing, and the skill that is passed down through generations as a thread that connects us all. We illustrated this by sharing a demonstration, and inviting 42 students to learn a running stitch in the same style as Sue Cavanaugh on a long piece of transparent fabric. For many students, it was their first time sewing.

The collaborative panel, needles and thread were sent back with the class so that they could continue experimenting with the medium on their own. We hope that they rip holes, and pull the fabric, and create something truly their own.

**How many different ways can you look at the same piece of art?** We explored this with our preschool friends from Discovery School by examining "Let's Dance" from every angle. They even spotted a whale shape and a cowboy hat shape in the installation. In a very heartwarming moment, they were swaying and dancing beneath the artwork before even being told the name of the piece. The message of the work came through loud and clear. Students also went on a scavenger hunt to match photos of the artwork to the actual

artwork in the galleries. We learned the word "encaustic" and viewed how artist Barbara Vogel uses it in her mixed media photography.

Students from Mansfield Junior High were encouraged to find details and mediums, through two different scavenger hunts. The kids took it very seriously, and were determined to be the winning team. At the end of the visit their art teacher provided a thought provoking writing assignment. Students were asked to select an artwork that they connected with, and explain how they could see the passage of life and death incorporated in the work; thinking about shapes, colors, images, and imagining background stories for the artwork. Their insights were beautiful, and the biggest take-away was that the same work could hold many different meanings for the viewer.



Top | **Nick Stull** *Amber In The Park*

Bottom | **Steve Ehret**

# Nick Stull X Steve Ehret

## *A ROOM WITH A VIEW*

Dynamic and refined mural artists Nick Stull & Steve Ehret bring a synergistic show to The Mansfield Art Center. Inspired by the natural world, these large scale panels of fluidly biomorphic images and portraits utilize oil, acrylic, ink, and spray paint in new and exciting ways that showcase the artists' unique styles.

Both Ohio artists are acclaimed for their vibrant and uplifting designs, and have been featured in places like: Otherworld, The Canton Museum of Art, The Blockfort Gallery, The Sarah Gormley Gallery, and gracing buildings and public art spaces throughout the state.

*A Room With A View* examines the layers, creating windows into their work; windows behind the subject matter or the spaces in between the chaos. Emotionally looking for the positives, and finding a bright spot amongst events that we cannot control, they fabricate a vibrant landscape against the mundane.

### EXHIBITION

Opening Reception

Sat, Mar 18 | 5-7pm

On View | Mar 19- Apr 16

Elizabeth T. Black Gallery

BATTLESCARS, THE NEW PROTAGONIST



LEIGH  
BROOKLYN

Brooklyn's portraits & sculptures speak to connected humanity, social justice, and empowerment, through concentrated narratives that are highly relevant in today's world. With a background in scientific illustration, she owns a keen understanding of structure and form that defines her work.

Tackling subjects as they happen, Brooklyn chronicles current events with a focus on representing strong women through capacious oil paintings, drawings, and sculptures. Brooklyn was selected from the CAN Triennial 2022 at The Bonfoey, and has recently had a solo exhibition at The Kaiser Gallery, & contribution to Women.Life.Freedom digital exhibition San Francisco, CA.

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**EXHIBITION**

Leigh Brooklyn

*Battlescars,*  
*The New Protagonist*

Opening Reception

Sat, March 18 | 5-7pm

On View | Mar 19 - Apr 16

Foundation Gallery

# CALL FOR ART

## The 78th Annual May Show

May 7 – Jun 18, 2023

The May Show features innovative work in all mediums, representing a broad range of exciting and diverse talent. Awards and Recognition from our guest juror Adam Brouillette of Blockfort Gallery will be presented on opening day during the Artist's Reception. The May Show is a highlight of the year, giving us a fresh look at current works from across the region, and has become a premiere show for the state. Both artists and visitors consider it a motivating and beloved exhibition.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR ENTRY INFORMATION | [MANSFIELDARTCENTER.ORG](http://MANSFIELDARTCENTER.ORG)

### ABOUT OUR GUEST JUROR

Adam Brouillette, of *Blockfort Gallery*, is a Columbus based artist, arts organizer, and gallery owner. Featured widely in galleries, museums, publications and exhibitions; Brouillette's paintings are immediately identifiable through his use of flat and bold graphic lines and colors that invoke a pop art sensibility. His unique characters form a narrative based in nature and rely heavily on cultural influences to tell their story. Brouillette has developed his style over the last twenty years, now basing his studio practice out of *Blockfort Gallery*, which he co-owns with his wife.

Brouillette is a community organizer, putting together events and physical spaces designed to support artists. This led him to delve deeper into the commercial art and design world, where he founded *littleINDUSTRIES*; a small company that focuses on art consulting, strategy, production and installation. Brouillette is an integral part of the Columbus art scene, and one of the many reshaping art in the community.



**DIGITAL ENTRIES | April 1-10 | [submityourart@mansfieldartcenter.org](mailto:submityourart@mansfieldartcenter.org)**  
**IN PERSON RECEIVING | April 21 & 22 | 11-4pm**

*Please see our Entry Rules for more details*

# Today & Tomorrow

WHERE WE ARE HEADED | STRATEGIC GROWTH



Much has changed in the world over the last three years, and as an organization we strive to continually evolve to meet the needs of the community we serve. Art has always been a respite, a catalyst for new ideas, a voice for social change, and a meeting point. The Mansfield Art Center is proud of the role we have played over the last 78 years, in creating unique art experiences for central Ohioans. Our reach has grown, and with it comes renewed commitment to our mission.

With gratitude, we share that our expansion has been successful. The addition of our Education Wing has heralded a new era in programs that we offer, and brought dynamic talent to our team of Instructors. Exciting exhibitions have drawn visitors from far and near, dramatically increasing our visibility among leading art institutions. Our Board of Directors, staff, and leadership are grounded and fully invested in continuing to move The MAC forward.

## NEXT STEPS |

**Website Relaunch** | Adding new features & functionality, as well as a full visual redesign; our website will serve as the hub for our nonprofit, making everything accessible.

**Events Pavilion** | Final construction phases are underway, adding glass windows and drop down sides for greater use regardless of weather. Summer concerts will return this year!

**Community** | Building an exemplary culture as an organization that impacts our community will be a driving purpose.

**Grounds Project** | This incredible project will take place over the next 5 years. Walking paths, fresh landscaping, new trees, an updated parking lot, and beautiful entry are a few of the anticipated changes.

**Art** | Exhibitions will continue to broaden with a focus on inclusion, representation, emerging mediums, installation work, and the digital landscape; with an audience-centered approach. New and exciting announcements are on the horizon.



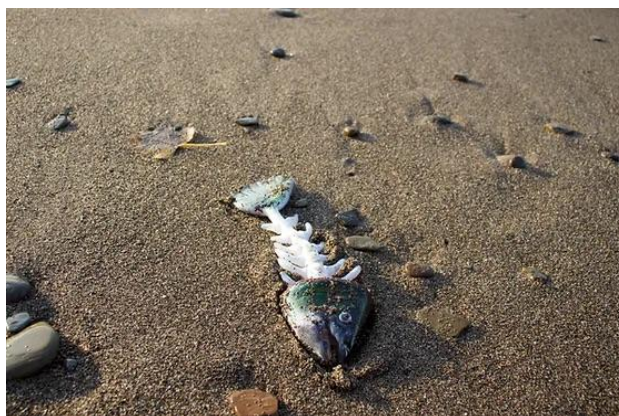
WELCOME TO THE MAC  
GLASSBLOWER

# Mandy Greiner

The MAC is proud to introduce our new Glassblower, Mandy Greiner. Born and raised in Mentor, Ohio, Amanda Greiner earned her BFA in glass from the Cleveland Institute of Art. Greiner's work explores personal challenges through processes such as glass blowing, sculpting and coldworking. She uses these techniques to express her thoughts, reaching out to those going through similar grievances.

Her work has been exhibited in the Glass Art Society's Student Exhibition, Evolution- A Showcase of Emerging International Talent and the 74th and 75th Student Independent Exhibition at The Cleveland Institute of Art's Reinberger Gallery. She is the recipient of the Viktor Schreckengost 29' Excellence in Glass Scholarship, the Mildred Williams Wooddell scholarship for exceptional talent and most recently The John Paul Miller Design Scholarship.

## GLASS BLOWING CLASSES WITH MANDY ARE NOW AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE







# Get Hands On

ART CLASSES IN EVERY MEDIUM

When was the last time that you tried something new? The MAC offers classes in a wide range of mediums where you can dig into your creativity and find things that inspire you.

DID YOU KNOW... WE ARE NOW FEATURED ON OHIO.ORG

Our instructors meet every student where they are at, no matter the skill level and help them grow into their interests. Students have access to more mediums at The MAC than anywhere else in the surrounding area; everything from glassblowing to rug tufting. While the end product might look intimidating, our instructors break each step of the process down into simple actions that leave students amazed at what they can accomplish. Small student/teacher ratios allow for focused one-on-one time with an experienced instructor. Immerse yourself in a group of like minded individuals who are not only there because it's their job, it's what they are passionate about. It's an ideal place to discover what sparks your creativity! Check our website for new classes, and register to get started.



Top | Paint Your Own Pet Workshop  
 Middle | Rug Tufting  
 Right | Art Exploration Summer Camp

## ART EXPLORATION SUMMER CAMP

*Early Registration is Now Open! Ages 6-12*

**Students will explore |** Glassblowing, Painting Digital Art, Mosaics, Ceramics, 3D Printing, Block Printing, Fiber Art, Screen Printing, Jewelry Glass Fusing, Clay Handbuilding, Lantern Making, Sewing, Special Effects Makeup, Enameling, Puppet Making & Storytelling, & Paper Quilling

It's a fabulous week-long art experience with our team of instructors! Visit [mansfieldartcenter.org](http://mansfieldartcenter.org) to register



THANK YOU TO OUR SUMMER CAMP SPONSORS | MECHANICS BANK, SUTTON BANK, PARK NATIONAL BANK THE RICHLAND COUNTY FOUNDATION, & THE PRYOR FOUNDATION



# Together We Can Make an Impact

When you give to The MAC Annual Campaign, you contribute to our ongoing work of bringing Art to everyone in our community. Through your generous support, we can remain free & open to all, provide field trips and art experiences to local schools, teach a variety of classes in every medium, and participate in art outreach to underserved populations right here in Mansfield.

Ensure that The MAC continues to grow and develop as a cultural center for Art that creates a lasting impact by considering a gift in any amount today!

## WAYS TO GIVE

**CALL** | 419.756.1700

**WEB** | [MANSFIELDARTCENTER.ORG](http://MANSFIELDARTCENTER.ORG) | Donation

**MAIL** | MANSFIELD ART CENTER  
700 MARION AVE. MANSFIELD, OH 44904



Image | **John Mellencamp** *Paintings & Assemblages* at The Mansfield Art Center

## THANK YOU

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## STUDENT | \$25 YEAR

- Discounts on Classes
- Subscription to our newsletters & course guides
- Invitations to previews, openings, and events
- North American Reciprocal Museum Benefits

## INDIVIDUAL | \$50 YEAR

- 10% off in the Gallery Shop
- Discounts on Classes
- Subscription to our newsletters & course guides
- Invitations to previews, openings, and events
- North American Reciprocal Museum Benefits

## FAMILY | \$100 YEAR

- Member benefits for everyone in a household
- 10% off in the Gallery Shop
- Discounts on Classes
- Subscription to our newsletters & course guides
- Invitations to previews, openings, and events
- North American Reciprocal Museum Benefits

## FRIEND | \$200 YEAR

- 10% off in the Gallery Shop
- Discounts on Classes
- Subscription to our newsletters & course guides
- Invitations to previews, openings, and events
- North American Reciprocal Museum Benefits

## SUPPORTING | \$500 YEAR

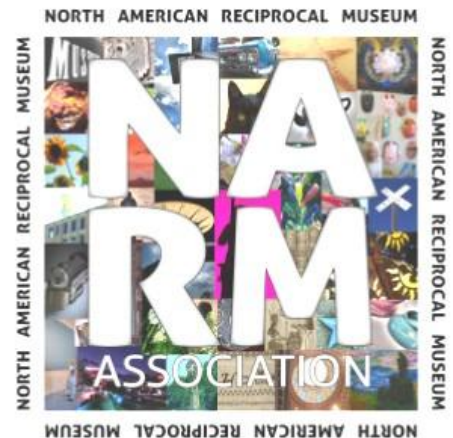
- 10% off in the Gallery Shop
- Discounts on Classes
- Subscription to our newsletters & course guides
- Invitations to previews, openings, and events
- North American Reciprocal Museum Benefits
- 15% off special event rentals

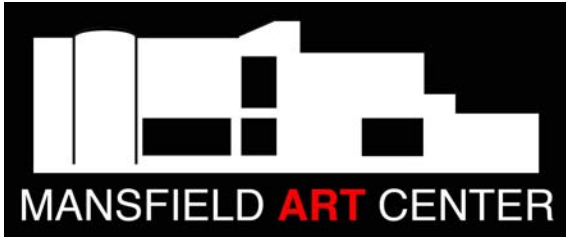
## PATRON | \$1000 YEAR

- 10% off in the Gallery Shop
- Discounts on Classes
- Subscription to our newsletters & course guides
- Invitations to previews, openings, and events
- North American Reciprocal Museum Benefits
- 20% off special event rentals

### NARM BENEFITS |

The MAC is part of the North American Reciprocal Museums (NARM), which includes over 1200 museums throughout the United States. Becoming an Art Center member at any level will automatically give you access to amazing benefits all over the country.





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