

The Art Garden



photo by Sienna Wildfield



"Every child is an artist.

The problem is how to remain an artist once we grow up." -Pablo Picasso



We create a nurturing, non-judgmental, and inspirational environment where people of all ages and experience engage in the creative process, and explore and exchange ideas through individual and collaborative art-making.



"I come to The Art Garden to find parts of myself which have no other place to grow."

John Hoffman, Board Member, Charlemont, MA



The Art Garden, a 501c3, serves the rural hilltowns of western Massachusetts, creating a bridge between community art practices and contemporary art thinking. We provide low-cost, sliding scale, and free cultural programming for our community.



"The Art Garden is a Treasure Box. Open it and you will find corners and cubbies filled with bits of this and pieces of that. Whether you are 6 or 66, its magic will ignite your imagination and set your talents afire. We love the place."

Nancy Argeris & Michael Naldrett, Hawley, MA



AFTER SCHOOL, SCHOOL VACATION, & SUMMER PROGRAMS for children & young adults

***"We've seen our daughter
grow as an artist
and gain a sense
that she can have a
broader audience
for her work.***

***She feels like she's a part
of a community of artists
and sees Jane as a mentor."***

Anne and Drew C., Shelburne, MA



photo by John Hicks



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OPEN STUDIO for all ages



COMMUNITY EXHIBITIONS for all ages and experience

Free and unjuried exhibitions, exploring relevant community themes and global issues, hang in our studio space, inspiring dialogue and creative responses from art-makers and visitors.

Receptions provide opportunities for music, poetry, stories, and experimental performance in an intergenerational environment.



***"The Art Garden enables adult artists with a social conscience
to mirror areas in our society that remain unjust. In the midst of
what at first appears as a welcoming "play area", one can often find
a piece of artwork that raises serious questions about
the current social fabric of our country."***

Peter J. Purdy, Hawley, MA & NYC, Past President of the US Committee for the UN Population Fund



ENGAGED PUBLIC ART

***"Every human being is an artist, a freedom being,
called to participate in transforming and reshaping the conditions,
thinking and structures that shape and inform our lives."***

-Joseph Beuys



The River Within Us: Stories Inspired by the Waters Around Us - Stories collected from local residents, transferred onto 83 bottles filled with river water, marked the anniversary of Tropical Storm Irene, giving voice to our community's grief and resilience, 2012.

SUPPORT FOR EMERGING & ESTABLISHED ARTISTS



***"All the arts we practice are apprenticeship.
The big art is our life."***

-M. C. Richards



Wegscheider, Artist Director.

Jane Beatrice



Graphic Messenger.

Thanks to Phyllis Labanowski,



photo by Emily Whitney



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