



*The ACCC serves artists of all mediums at all levels, providing opportunities to create, perform, respond, and connect to art.*

Join us!

## ArtMatters Newsletter | February 2025



### A Message to the Arts Community Kathy Oliphant, Executive Director



Dear Members and Friends,

One of the most exciting aspects of the Arts Consortium of Carver County is the way we bring creative people together. This past month, I've had inspiring conversations with members of our literary network, working to grow our written and spoken word community.

We are actively building a 2025 calendar providing opportunities for learning, sharing, and creative engagement. Read on for information and details about upcoming "Calling All Writers" events. Everyone is welcome!

We're also excited to announce the upcoming launch of our new and improved ACCC website! With a refreshed design and updated content, the new site will better serve our members and the broader arts community. A huge thank you to Jennifer Ionta, a dedicated supporter of the arts, for leading this effort. Stay tuned for the official announcement in the coming weeks!

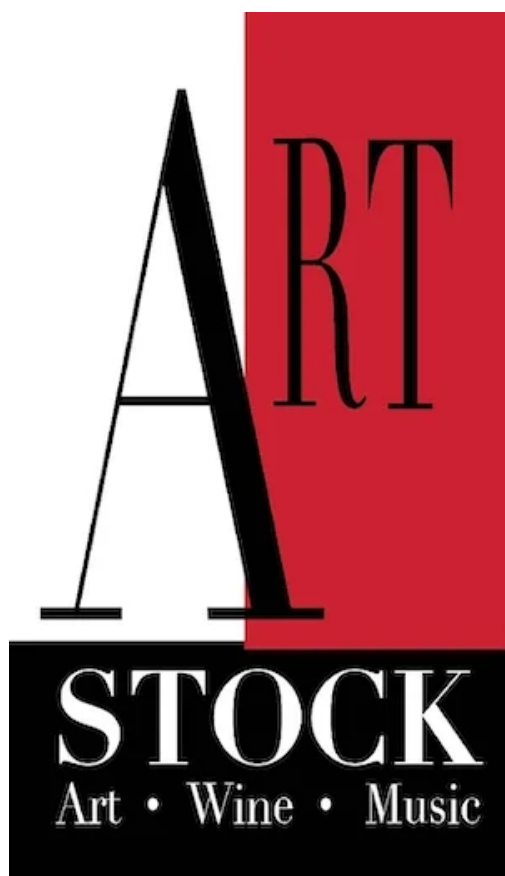
Summer events are on the horizon! Our 14th annual ArtStock - Art, Wine & Music Festival is in the planning stages, with artist applications now open. Also celebrating 14 years, Art Wander, our fall studio tour, will announce its "Call for Artists" later in February. Watch for more details on how to participate in these opportunities to share and experience local art.

Thank you for being an essential part of our creative community. Your support, through membership and participation, makes it possible for the ACCC to bring art, music, and culture to Carver County and beyond.

Together, let's continue to spread the magic of the arts in 2025!

With Gratitude,

Kathy Oliphant



## **Celebrating 14 Years!**

**Saturday, July 12 | 11am to 5pm**

**Sunday, July 13 | 11am to 5pm**

This beloved summer event will once again bring together a dynamic mix of talented artists - both new and returning - showcasing diverse media including photography, sculpture, wearable art, glass, fibers, painting, and more.

Set against the scenic backdrop of the Parley Lake Winery, live music will fill the air throughout the weekend, creating an unforgettable arts and culture experience.

If you are an artist interested in participating, applications are now open!

[Click here to apply for ArtStock 2025](#)

## Tune In!

### Pioneer Radio 90.1 FM

Pioneer Community Radio's **Minnesota Homebrew** showcases original songs by songwriters from Minnesota and neighboring states and provinces. We're excited to share that upcoming episodes will feature music from the **Songwriters and Musicians of Carver County!**

**Thursday, January 30 | 7:00–8:00 PM**

**Thursday, February 6 | 7:00–8:00 PM**

Don't miss this special opportunity to hear and support local talent on the airwaves!



Click Here to Listen  
[radionorthland.org/listen-live/](http://radionorthland.org/listen-live/)

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## Bright Futures - A Celebration of Youth Art



Our gallery is currently hosting the Youth Art Show, a colorful and captivating exhibition running from February 1 through February 28. Featuring artwork from talented young individuals of all ages, the show has created excitement from both artists and visitors eager to showcase their work in a public gallery setting.

Please join us for a special reception on February 20 from 6:30-8:30 PM

Gallery at Chaska Community Center | 1661 Park Ridge Drive | Chaska

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## Writing Conversations & Connections

Saturday, February 22

10:00 AM - Noon

Chanhasen Library | Longfellow Room

Questions? Amy Sasik 612-743-6327



We're excited to introduce **Writing Conversations and Connections**, a new writing community! Want to connect with fellow writers, share resources, and find your voice? Join us for a welcoming gathering where writers of all experience levels can grow together - without judgment. Let's grow our written and spoken word community! **All are Welcome!**

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## Introducing Artist Michelle Schindler

I love drawing, painting and crafting and have been creating my entire life. Initially life sent me in a different direction. Fortunately, as an adult, I was able to earn an Associate Degree in graphic design and put my creative mind to work in the corporate world.



During my years in the corporate world, I was able to create art outside of work in the form of graphite portraits that were commissioned. I find the experience from concept, thru creation, and delivery extremely rewarding and continue to do commissioned portraits today. I also keep my drawing skills sharp as an occasional participant in Urban Sketcher Twin Cities events.

In the past couple years, I rediscovered watercolor, an enjoyable journey. I started with birds #BirdWhisperer Project, and have now expanded to include animals, especially dogs and cats. I find that feathers, fur and the unique personality of each bird or animal can be quite a challenge to capture. And I'm trying my hand at watercolor portraits too!.





Currently I'm working on series of watercolor paintings of birds and animals that make their homes in hollow trees. These paintings are mounted in actual hollow logs that my grandsons enthusiastically save for me and my husband. I'm hoping to have several pieces ready for exhibition and possibly sale this coming Spring.

Some of my portraits and paintings are posted on Bluesky @griffeyblue.bsky.social and Instagram #mitch.6087. My works are also included in some of the ACCC Shows and in exhibitions that travel to various Carver County Libraries.

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**Artist Conversations** is a welcoming space where artists gather to discuss their work, seek advice, and share insights about their creative practice. Join this friendly group to gain feedback, and connect with other artists. This month's meeting will take place on Monday, February 10 from 4:00-6:00 PM at Elizabeth's house.

**For additional details, contact:**

Abigail: (952) 380-7924

Liya: (612) 867-9278

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## Do you have an arts event you'd like to promote?

As a member of the Arts Consortium of Carver County (ACCC), you can share an event through our monthly newsletter. Join us, and we can help you reach over 1,200 art enthusiasts and supporters.

Join Us

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**Arts Consortium of Carver County**

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