

Annually, Hardy friends reaffirm their recognition of the vital role the Hardy plays in the Door County community and its rich visual arts landscape with financial gifts. While these gifts can be directed towards specific programs meaningful to each donor, gifts are also given to the organization to use where funds are most needed. Whatever the purpose, financial gifts to the Hardy Gallery are deeply appreciated and are used to continue our mission of enriching the vibrancy of our community by supporting and fostering Door County's visual arts and artists. We applaud & thank these generous donors who have made contributions in the 2009-2010 (Nov. 1, 2009 - Oct. 31, 2010) fiscal year.

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Although we do our best to ensure this list is accurate, mistakes do happen. If we have inadvertently omitted your name, please contact us at (920) 854-2210 so that we can immediately correct our records. Thank you!

Cover photo of the Hardy Gallery courtesy of Jim Zellmer © (zmetro.com).

Additional cover photos (at bottom) from left to right: 2010 Art Camp student at work on her mask; the new Community Mosaic Project book; Algoma sculptor Bren Sibisky at work in a public sculpture demonstration held at the gallery in September; the 2010 Door County Arts Map; Hardy volunteer docents learn how to use the new Arts Map at the June docent training held at the gallery.



www.thehardy.org

Art is the reason.

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2009-10 ANNUAL REPORT

The Community Mosaic Project: Complete Artworks, 2008-2009

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Support for the Hardy Gallery has been provided in part by a grant from the Wisconsin Arts Board with funds from the State of Wisconsin and the National Endowment for the Arts. Additional funds in support of the Marketing and Community Relations Director position have been provided in part by a grant from the Wisconsin Arts Board, made possible by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts with funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

I am eager to share with you many of the Hardy Gallery's exciting achievements that were realized during 2010, our 48th season! The Hardy Gallery continues to be solely dedicated to fostering and supporting our vibrant visual art community here in the cultural mecca that is Door County.



I take great pride – as should you – with the information contained in the pages of this year's report. The successes outlined stand as affirmation of your commitment to our mission and are a reality due in no small part to your dedication along with a creative, dynamic and hardworking board of directors, staff and the generosity of our volunteers, docents, committee members, business partners and, at the core of our operations, our local artists.

With the launch of a new Door County Arts Map in May of 2010, a publication dedicated to the promotion of our visual art community, we are bringing a fresh addition to the Door County cultural landscape – celebrating the abundance of art galleries, studios, organizations and businesses enriching our lives. Recognizing the void that was left after the original arts map ceased publication in 2007, this project is, without question, seamlessly aligned with our mission and provides new opportunity for growth.

Another milestone this year was the unveiling of our first-ever self-published book, The Community Mosaic Project: Complete Artworks 2008-2009. The book chronicles the history of our unique and compelling community outreach project that has caught the attention of artists, art educators and arts administrators both locally and nationally. This list includes California, Illinois, Iowa, North Carolina and many here at home in Wisconsin. I have personally communicated with many of the inspired individuals and heard their unique stories, trials and tribulations of bringing the project to their communities. "The book is incredible," one patron noted. Indeed it is, as are the artwork and writings contained in it. We thank all of the project participants – your creativity has brought the project and subsequent book to life! We are eagerly anticipating the launch of the fourth year of our "Community Mosaic Project," which is set to kick-off in April of 2011.

While each year presents new financial opportunities and challenges, careful monitoring and prudent management by our board of directors has and continues to play a vital role in the Hardy Gallery's successes. Let us not forget the position of the organization at this time in 2008 and the resulting positive growth we've seen over the two-year span. The economic crisis, coupled with significant organizational change, were difficult challenges. This led to a careful examination of our operations, revealing the importance and need for effective strategic planning. In January of 2011, the board of directors will again convene to conduct a careful internal audit and ensure our organization's viability into the future with the development of a new plan for the coming 3 years. 2012 will be an important year for us – we will commemorate 50 years of operations in our iconic, graffiti-covered warehouse on Ephraim's Anderson Dock! It is a very exciting time to be at the helm of this great organization and I enthusiastically look forward to working with the board to begin writing the next chapter of the Hardy's history. I know that a vibrant future awaits us.

In closing, I extend my deepest gratitude to all who are connected and involved with the Hardy Gallery. To all our donors, you continue to help deepen all our lives through art, making possible the exhibits, community outreach programs and events we present. Thank you. Your continued investment in the Hardy is greatly appreciated.

Elizabeth Meissner-Gigstead
Executive Director

FISCAL YEAR ENDING OCTOBER 31, 2010

REVENUES

Unrestricted Contributions	\$ 44,452
Grants and Sponsorships	37,502
Earned Income	46,235
Investments	8,309
TOTAL REVENUES	136,498

EXPENSES

Personnel	\$ 70,106
Programming	31,917
Administrative	19,217
Development	7,124
TOTAL EXPENSES	128,364

NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR \$ 8,134

ASSETS

Current Assets	\$ 40,229
Other Assets	97,304
TOTAL ASSETS	137,532

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Current Liabilities	\$ 2,301
Net Assets	135,231
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	137,532

THE YEAR AT A GLANCE



On behalf of the Board of Directors, I'm delighted to share with you, our supporters, an overview of the Hardy's 48th Season!

By all measures it was a banner year for the organization. The expanded and re-energized board worked diligently with our dedicated staff and volunteers to formulate and realize a season packed full of compelling exhibits, events and fundraisers.

- Our docent program is thriving! This spring we launched a new Volunteer Resource Committee to oversee all volunteer operations with a specific emphasis on our docent program. Efforts were concentrated on streamlining our existing docent operations with the creation of a new 25-page docent training and resource manual, assistance with scheduling, and the planning and implementation of training sessions. We welcomed 7 new docents (a 21.2% increase over 2009) this year alone and have seen steady attendance and participation at trainings and service at the gallery. This year, our docents collectively welcomed a record 13,390 visitors (a 5.4% increase in attendance over 2009).

- Fiscal responsibility continues to be at the forefront of our minds during these very difficult and challenging economic times. We've continued in our efforts to diversify our income sources and have sought out granting agencies to support our programming. Last year we received \$13,252 from 6 different granting agencies to support initiatives such as ETC, 2010 Arts Map, Art Camp, etc.

- Progress continues with regard to building a strong, diverse and effective Board of Directors. We now have nine active members, an increase of 22.2% over year end 2009.
- On September 3, the Hardy debuted *Dimension in Door County: Form Transcending Function*. This exhibit highlighted the work of 18 Door and Kewaunee county sculptors and craftsmen, focusing on different technical aspects of the creation of the work and the artists' creative processes. This exhibit was a welcome selection of original work exploring form and was the first solely three-dimensional exhibition in recent Hardy Gallery history.

- In an all-school assembly held on February 24, 2010 at the Door Community Auditorium, Gibraltar High School students presented artwork created in the ETC (Exposure to Creativity) 09-10 program to the Door County Chapter of Habitat for Humanity as part of FOG's "Service Learning" theme for the year. Executive Director Rick Nelson stated, "We were very satisfied with the artwork that our partners received through our collaboration. Many people had positive things to say both about the quality of the artwork and the broader concept of artists supporting the low income people that we serve."

- With the most fortunate addition of Melissa Ripp to our staff, a heralded new Door County Arts Map was launched and proved an invaluable aid in promoting Door County's visual arts and artists. This was launched in October 2009 and fits seamlessly into the express mission of the Hardy Gallery — to promote and foster Door County's visual arts and artists. The

map includes representation of eighty galleries and studios from both Door & Kewaunee Counties, seven community sponsors, one silent sponsor, one underwriting sponsor (Wisconsin Public Radio) and was funded in-part by a grant from the Peninsula Arts Association and the Wisconsin Arts Board with funds from the State of Wisconsin and the National Endowment for the Arts. 40,000 maps were printed and literally flew off shelves. The Hardy has been complemented by gallery owners, artists, and art appreciators alike for this easy-to-use, functional and inviting map.



- In April 2010, we signed off on our first-ever self published book, The Community Mosaic Project: Complete Artworks, 2008-2009. The book, which includes a forward by Mosaic Project participant and celebrated Door County artist Charles L. Peterson, details the history and process of the Community



Mosaic Project, one of the Hardy's most recognizable outreach projects. 1,500 books were delivered to the gallery in August 2010, just in time for a book-signing celebration. As a fundraiser for the Hardy in 2010, 1,500 books were ordered, and sales have been steady since their arrival. A short article was written by Sara Baker in AmericanStyle Magazine (a national magazine highlighting the best in the United States art and craft scene). This bit of national press is a huge boost to our small non-profit organization!

- This summer, the Hardy and the Peninsula Pulse newspaper collaborated on an arts feature called "An Artist, An Influence." The feature lets Door County artists speak to who has influenced their work as an artist and a photo or two usually accompanies the article. 20 artists participated in the "An Artist, An Influence" feature over the course of the 2010 summer season, which means added exposure for their art and their respective galleries.

- The Hardy was the recipient of a Google Grant through Google.com, the online search engine. To this date, Google has given grants out to only 4,000 non-profit organizations in the United States for free advertising through Google.com. The amount awarded to an organization varies (because the grant monies are based on pay-per-click online advertising), but usually work out to about \$3,600/year.

In closing, I especially want to praise our unparalleled Executive Director, Elizabeth Meissner-Gigstead, for her creative energy, professional talent and unflappable good humor. We are fortunate indeed to have the perfect combination of staff, board members, volunteers and donors (yes, you, readers!) all committed to continuing the Hardy's mission to enrich the vibrancy of the Door County community by supporting and promoting our local visual art community.

Thank you for your continued support!

Peggy Lott
Past Interim President

COMMUNITY MOSAIC PROJECT



The 3rd annual Community Mosaic Project was unveiled on July 23 to an eager audience! 325 6-inch by 6-inch canvases were created by artists and community members of all ages and abilities. The canvases were then constructed into a colorful mosaic (pictured, above),

which hung concurrently with the 2010 Collection Invitational exhibit. Each year, throughout the duration of the exhibit, the general public has the opportunity to purchase the artworks by picking a number at random for \$25 each. The number corresponding to the numbered artworks are packaged and mailed directly to patrons. Thank you everyone who supported this outreach project and fundraiser - it generated more than \$7,500! Many thanks to the Artists Guild, LLC in Sturgeon Bay for sponsoring the project this year. Be sure to watch your e-mail inboxes and local papers - the project will make a return in 2011 with information to be disseminated early this coming spring.

ART CAMP

The Hardy's annual Art Camp program took place from July 13 - 29, 2010 with 13 participants ranging in age from 6 to 14 years (the broadest spectrum to date).

This year's projects were designed to balance process with thought and creativity. A component of movement was added to spark imagination, spontaneity and self-confidence and wherever possible program staff attempted to correlate subject matter with the academic focus of the Summer Migrant Program, therefore enhancing both curriculums.

Projects included dimensional masks made of mat board, painted and embellished to depict an animal of the student's choosing. To introduce the concept of color mixing, students made color wheels on paper plates (the animal environment was painted on the second plate, and the two were joined and filled with sound-making matter (beans, rice, bottle caps). Wherever possible, simple and inexpensive materials as well as found and recycled items were used.

Students also created simple monotypes made with styrofoam plates. By layering primary paint colors, secondary colors were created to illustrate color mixing principles. The students were prompted to use as image sources symbols that related to places they live part of the year along with ones from Door County. Soft cut stamps were made to introduce positive and negative shapes. The students also visited the Hardy Gallery where they practiced gallery etiquette as well as choosing several of their favorite pieces of artwork from which to do their own renditions. They also wrote about why they liked the particular piece of art and described the work using terms and concepts they'd learned in class.



Beth Servais, our summer intern from UW-Green Bay, works with students participating in the 2010 Art Camp Program.

Outdoor play activities

were a welcome departure from indoor work projects under the direction of Kalen Keir, who spent his summer in Door County after his second session of exploration with the Margolis Method Center, an intensive ongoing workshop for physical theatre in New York.

Kalen facilitated this part of the camp through a variety of theatrical 'games,' derived both from his exploration of theatre for social justice and from ideas that emerged within the class time. To give some examples, one of these games utilized the animal masks the students had made in the earlier project to physically and aurally embody each of the individual creatures, whereas another task asked them to share "ouch stories," recreating the memory of a past injury in pairs and performing it for the group. In this way, the children were challenged to use both their imagination and their sensory memory to create different kinds of stories, and to share the experience in a safe common space.

Art Camp is an annual two-week, arts-focused program component of Gibraltar's Migrant Education Program (held in Fish Creek) that aims to provide migratory students with opportunities to engage in the arts and encouragement to explore their personal creativity, thereby furthering intellectual development, personal growth and an expanded understanding of the world in which they live.

ETC (EXPOSURE TO CREATIVITY)

For many Door County high school students, the rich and textured art community that exists on the peninsula is a bit unknown. Recognizing this, the Exposure to Creativity (ETC) program was created in 2007 as a means to provide youth, ages 14-18 years, with access to the ample, diverse and creative resources that abound in our art community and is provided at a time – during the school day and year – when the students are in school and not working full or part-time jobs.

The ETC program consists of two components – two half-day, hands-on creative workshops that every Gibraltar High School student participates in (as well as any interested home-schooled students); and, for those who accept the opportunity, a mentor program in the months following the workshops. These mentorships provide encouragement, support, and in-depth training by artists and creative professionals in an arts field of each student's choice.

The hands-on ETC workshops replaced Gibraltar High School's regular curriculum on two separate days – October 27 and Nov. 17, 2009. In total, 34 workshops were provided to all GHS students on campus, at artists' facilities, and at the Peninsula School of Art campus. The mentor program, which utilized local artists and creative professionals, were held from February through May 2010. 11 students worked with four artist mentors for a total of 85 combined hours of mentoring in small group sessions dedicated to one particular field of study. The program is co-sponsored by the Hardy Gallery and the Friends of Gibraltar (FOG) with additional financial and in-kind support from Gibraltar High School.



Elizabeth Meissner-Gigstead & Rick Nelson, Habitat for Humanity Executive Director pictured with Habitat partner and artwork recipient Jennifer Kivell. Not pictured: Kelsie Marsh, Jennifer and Kelsey received artwork created by GHS students as part of the Exposure to Creativity (ETC) program in conjunction with FOG's "Service Learning" theme.