



Building awareness of the arts by making the accessible to all

# For Art's Sake!

May 2010

News of Arts on Grand and the Spencer Area Arts Council

## Exhibit Schedule

**Spencer Area Schools 2010 Exhibit**  
Through May 20

**SHS Homecoming 2010—Artwork by graduates of Spencer High School**  
May 25–July 3

**Maria Lux—Oil paintings and chalk pastel**  
July 6–August 14

**“Paint on Our Shoes”—Watercolors by Glenda Drennen, Karen Young, & Liz Fluehr**  
August 17–September 25

## Upcoming Classes

### Summer Clay Studio

**Dates:** Thursday evenings in June

**Time:** 6:00 to 8:30 p.m.

**Cost:** Free—for AOG members only!  
Clay purchase \$12.50

Wheel, slab roller, hand built pieces. Some clay experience necessary. Children under 12 must be accompanied by adult.

### Wacky Wednesdays

**Dates:** June 9, 16, 23

**Time:** 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

**Ages:** 7 to 12

**Cost:** \$12 Members / \$15 Nonmembers

Work with summer intern for a fun afternoon. Create art to take away! A different theme each week!

*Minimum 5, Maximum 10 students.*

### Artists in the Garden Class

**Date:** Saturday, June 5

**Time:** 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon

**Ages:** 8 to 12

**Cost:** \$10 Members / \$13 Nonmembers

Create a take-home bird bath.

*Minimum 4, maximum 10 students.*

### Little Artists in the Garden

**Date:** Saturday, June 19

**Time:** 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

**Ages:** 4 to 7

**Cost:** \$10 Members / \$13 Nonmembers

Create a garden monster.

### Artists in the Garden Class

**Date:** Saturday, July 10

**Time:** 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon

**Ages:** 8 to 12

**Cost:** \$10 Members / \$13 Nonmembers

Decorate a gourd birdhouse.

*Minimum 4, maximum 10 students.*

### Little Artists in the Garden

**Date:** Saturday, July 17

**Time:** 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

**Ages:** 4 to 7

**Cost:** \$10 Members / \$13 Nonmembers

Create a plastic bottle bird feeder.

## Artist of the Month: Beth Cathcart

Beth Cathcart enjoys the whole artist/buyer process—the act of discovering and selecting, making a piece of art a part of one’s life. Many of her fine art pieces are designed to be both functional and decorative as she strives to combine utility and beauty in the objects of everyday life.

Cathcart received a double art major in education from Wayne State College, with ongoing studies in graphic arts, photography, and public relations. After working freelance and for many years at Union Pacific Railroad as a communications artist, Beth returned to her family farm near Linn Grove. “This is what I wanted to do at age 20,” says Cathcart. “It makes sense to begin the second half of my life fulfilling a personal dream.”

In addition to her work in the clay studio Cathcart raises natural-feed beef from the Morris family Hereford line dating back 137 years. She was also one of the artists who helped get the annual Artisans Road Trip started in 2004.

Clay and glaze compounds are common materials. When combined, they possess the extraordinary possibility of becoming amazing works. The malleable nature of clay lends itself to endless variations and results. Cathcart doesn’t try to duplicate or repeat but create.

“I’m amazed at the adaptability of these pieces. Maybe it’s the multiple colors or the reflective surfaces or the inherent nature of glaze. Pieces seem to fit right into most settings. They reflect the colors and light of the environment and come alive.”

Beth Cathcart is one of several clay artists whose work is available in Arts on Grand’s Gallery Shop.



“Often I start out to make one thing and it turns into another. I remain vigilant to inspiration. If an idea comes to mind, I accept it and take action. In this way the pieces remain fresh to the eye, possessing energy and spontaneity.”  
—Beth Cathcart



## Brockshus to Perform at AOG

Isaac Brockshus will present an evening of piano music at Arts on Grand Thursday, May 20, beginning at 7:00 p.m. The program will be announced at the concert, but the audience can expect a wide variety of composers, styles, and time periods, including original compositions by the performer. Free-will donations will go toward Brockshus’s upcoming studies in Berlin with Professor Sam Adler of the Julliard School.

Brockshus, a 2007 SHS graduate, will be a senior this fall at the University of Northern Iowa, where he is majoring in composition. He has performed several times at Arts on Grand, as well as at last year’s Backyard Bach & Blues at Del’s Garden Center.

Please notify us promptly if your address changes. Stop in, write, or call 712.262.4307.

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May 2010

## Arts on Grand

Home of the

### Spencer Area Arts Council

408 North Grand Avenue

Spencer, IA 51301

www.artsongrand.org



## SHS Homecoming 2010

May 25–July 3, 2010

### Reception:

Saturday, June 12

1:00–3:00 p.m.

Over thirty artists have been invited to participate in this exhibit, which showcases graduates of Spencer High School and demonstrates the wide range of artistic abilities and endeavors that come from this one town in the Midwest.

*Sponsored by  
Custom Design Coatings Inc.*



### Gallery Hours:

Tuesday: 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.  
Wednesday: 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.  
Thursday: 10:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m.  
Friday: 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.  
Saturday: 10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.  
Sunday and Monday: closed

Phone: 712.262.4307

Fax: 712.264.0430

## Contact Arts on Grand

Arts on Grand General Information:  
info@artsongrand.org

### Arts on Grand Staff

**Martin Arthur**, Executive Director,  
director@artsongrand.org

**Joanne Schar**, Programming & Marketing  
Director, programming@artsongrand.org

**Sandy Langner**, Office Administrator,  
accounting@artsongrand.org

### Board of Directors 2009–2010

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## 2010 Telethon Celebrates the Arts

The theme of the 2010 Arts on Grand Telethon was “Celebrate the Arts.” The afternoon’s telecast Sunday, April 25, on The Spencer Channel showcased the wide variety of arts that have been presented by the Spencer Area Arts Council, not just at Arts on Grand but also elsewhere in the community. In addition to the visual arts, music, writing, and video were prominently featured in clips culled from footage shot at SAAC events over the past year.

This year’s telethon featured live music by Brandon Dale and his students and by the Sliders and Sincerely Yours. Artist Lynn Hunter Swan wove a wall hanging in the studio as SAAC board members Jill Barr and Barbara Workman hosted the telethon, which combined live interviews and music interspersed with video clips. This year, local celebrities helped man the phone bank.

The telethon raised over \$13,000, which will provide operational support of Arts on Grand. At the end of the afternoon, the winning bid for Anita “Katie” Baedke-Plucker’s original watercolor of Thunder Bridge was announced. Donna Dyhrkopp Clarke of Chevy Chase, Maryland, submitted the high bid by e-mail.

Special thanks go to Spencer Municipal Utilities. Without them, this very important fundraiser would not be possible! We would also like to thank all the artists, musicians, and volunteers who gave their talent and time, and all of the people who pledged their support during the telethon.

## April Music in the Gallery

On April 8, singer/songwriter Amber Norgaard a native of the area who now resides in Tucson, performed at Arts on Grand with Andrew Begay, a Navajo flutist based in Chicago. Since 2008, the two have shared stages from Arizona to Colorado, connecting their cultures and stories through music. The show at Arts on Grand was the duo’s debut performance in Northwest Iowa.

On April 23, singer/songwriter Justin Roth performed in the gallery. This was Roth’s fourth Spencer concert, and his second performance at Arts on Grand. He first appeared in a house concert in May 2006, and the next evening played some of his original compositions at a Songwriters’ Circle at Arts on Grand. Originally from Minnesota, Roth now splits his time between Minnesota and Colorado.

