



Volume 5 Autumn 2022



**EVENTS & SUCCESSES
2022**

January: Michele Steffen
 February: Tea Party Fundraiser
 March: Heather MacKenzie
 April: J. Arthur Anderson
 May: Mary Schroeffer
 Farmers & Artisan Market
 June: Doug Pederson
 July: Renville County Hist.Soc.
 August: McKenna Lilja
 September: Dena Bickhardt
 October 8: Kahler & Happel
 Youth Art Registration
 30: HARVEST FESTIVAL
 November 26: Sm. Bus. Market
 December 2: BIRD ISLAND'S
 "OLD FASHIONED CHRISTMAS"
 Christmas Market
 December 9: Christmas Tea
 Benefit (Tinnes- Baker House)

THE ART PROCESS

Georgia O'Keefe stated, "The notion that you can make an artist overnight, that there is nothing but genius, and a dash of temperament in artistic success is a fallacy. Great artists don't just happen any more than writers, singers or other creators. They have to be trained, and in the hard school of experience.

Lesson #1: Observe the world around you – closely, hungrily

Lesson #2: Organization is key to productivity

Lesson #3: Don't sweat mistakes – learn from them.

Lesson #4: Pay no attention to trends – be yourself." *From artsy.net*

All past and current artists at the Cultural Centre in Bird Island engage us to be involved for a brief moment in the artist's creative process. Appreciating the precision of Kahler and Happel, the airy, complex design of fiber artist, Heather McKenzie, the capturing of emotion by Michele Steffen, the truth of our human condition by photojournalist, J. Arthur Anderson, or the sculptures of blind artist, Dena Bickhardt, we are invited to explore the results of their creative processes.

Our deliberate effort to showcase artists and their acquired skills with an array of mediums is an honor. The gallery experience in this region is driven by a hope for you to be inspired; where your own creativity may be applied to daily living and the creation of something practical or esthetic.

FARMERS AND ARTISAN MARKET 2022

May 25, 2022 from 4-7 PM was the opening Day of the Renville County Farmers & Artisan Market in Bird Island, located on Dogwood Avenue between Main St. and Sixth Street in front of the Cultural Centre. The musicians, Jordan Harazin, Jeff James, Billy & Bud and Brooke & Jonny were sponsored by the following local businesses: **S.J. Jacobs & Sons, Kibble Equipment, Becks Hybrids, Citizens Alliance Bank, Bird Island EDA, Saunders, Mertens, & Schmitz, George Paur Agency, Laura Posl of Henslin Real Estate, Island Financial Planning, Bird Island Lions, and Bird Island Civic & Commerce.**

Please remember to shop local and support our small businesses and cottage industries.



THE CULTURAL CENTRE IN BIRD ISLAND ENGAGES A VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES

The Cultural Centre in Bird Island is the site of the following activities: Art Classes, Bridge Club, Domino's Club, Restorative Justice Group, Woodbury Chorus and Orchestra practice site and Bird Island Lion's Club Meetings. **THE BRIDGE CLUB IS LOOKING FOR MORE PLAYERS ON WEDNESDAYS 1 to 4 PM. Call Sylvia 320-522-1525 or Rosemary 229-220-4232 for more information.** If you have a group or club activity, consider utilizing this venue for your gatherings. Lifetime members have free use; non – members contribute a freewill offering. Currently, Wednesdays and Thursdays are booked. Please call 320-365-1011 or cell 229-220 4232 to schedule your club meeting time. For private events the hourly rate is \$35.00 per hour or \$150.00 for an all-day event. Amenities include the use of the kitchen and set up of your space by Cultural Centre staff.



WOODBURY CHORUS AND ORCHESTRA

“Are you a singer? Do you need an outlet for your gift? The Renville County Singers of the Woodbury Chorus and Orchestra are looking for additional members. The Woodbury Chorus and Orchestra (WCO) is an art organization that is unique, in that the director and members are volunteers and they pay their own expenses.

Beginning in the Twin Cities area during the 1980's, their primary mission was and continues to be to contribute financially to food shelves in the areas where they perform by giving concerts free of charge. With a free will offering midway during the performance, one hundred percent of the offering goes to the local food shelf where the concert was performed. In addition, WCO members enjoy sharing great music with their audiences.

In the 1990's a group from Renville County joined WCO as an adjunct chorus under the direction of Patricia Kadleck to sing with them when the chorus and orchestra came to our area to perform concerts. Since Pat's death in 2005, Richard Alton has led the singers in our area, which before the Covid pandemic numbered somewhere around 30 to 35 members. The singers are encouraged to participate in all concerts and many of them do travel to the various performance sites but it is not required.

Rehearsals this fall are scheduled for our group of Renville County Singers on Sunday evenings from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. . We have four concerts scheduled on Sundays at 4:00 p.m., with one on **November 6, at Hawk Creek Lutheran Church in rural Sacred Heart, near Granite Falls.** Come hear the concert at Hawk Creek and see if you might like to join our group, or stop in at a rehearsal in the Cultural Centre and give us a try!” *Sharon Alton*

For more information contact Richard or Sharon Alton at sbalton@mchsi.com

YOUTHFUL ART, WRITERS' GROUP & CHESS LESSONS

If your 4th – 7th grade child is interested in experiencing the use of various art mediums on various surfaces i.e., canvas, watercolor paper, glass Christmas bulbs and paper mâché this class is available for a maximum of 10 children. **Beginning Tuesday, December 6th from 3:30 to 5:30 PM ending December 20th this experience will act as a foundation for January and February classes.** The **\$60.00** fee includes materials and an after-school snack.

Join us in the **Writers' Group** every **second Tuesday** each month at 7:00 PM.

Interested in our Monday, after-school, **Chess Club**? Contact Bud at 510-326-9175.

GRANTS AWARDED TO THE CULTURAL CENTRE IN BIRD ISLAND 2022

- SMAC Operating Support Grant
- MN Historical Society Grant for the Tinnes-Baker House Predevelopment



Become a Member, Renew your Membership and/or Donate



The Cultural Centre in Bird Island, a non-profit 501(c)(3), focuses on the arts, wellness, and social connectivity - enriching the lives of people throughout southwestern Minnesota.

Our monthly gallery exhibitions of professional artists including authors, showcase the application of human creative skill, imagination and self-discipline.

We thrive on community engagement whether it is a group event like the Farmers and Artisans Market, gallery exhibitions, art classes, social or support groups. We collaborate with others in meeting the needs of our communities while showcasing and preserving the attributes of small-town living!

After pausing in-person programming due to Covid, we are renewing our commitment to interactive programming in the arts, wellness and social connectiveness.

Annual Individual Membership: \$ 35.00

Annual Family Membership: \$ 50.00

Lifetime Membership: \$ 250.00

Donations and Memorials

Your tax-deductible contribution will allow us to meet our programming goals and support community well-being across generations. Join us in reminding others “SMALL TOWNS ARE BETTER!” (This quote is from a young entrepreneur during the Island Days celebration in June.)

Thank you for your support!

“2022 Gallery Exhibition Samples”




Cultural Centre
A Community that Inspires
Bird Island, MN

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