

  
**Cultural Centre**  
*A Community that Inspires*  
**Bird Island, MN**

Volume 6 Winter 2023



**EVENTS & ARTISTS 2023**

Feb: Celeste Suter

Mar: Justin Beck

- YOUTH ART CLASSES BEGIN

Apr: Bradley Donner

- EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

May: Bonnie Lipinski Smith

- FARMERS & ARTISAN MKT
- HEALTH & INFORMATION FAIR

Jun: Tammy DeGruchy Grubbs

- ISLAND DAYS CELEBRATION
- TALES FROM THE TALL GRASS PRAIRIE

Jul: Andy Kahmann

Aug: ACTS & MBW

- 4-H PRESENTATION DAY

Sept: Yellowstone Trail Quilters

- YELLOWSTONE TRAIL SOCIALABILITY RUN

Oct: Bill van der Hagen

- TALES FROM THE TALL GRASS PRAIRIE
- HARVEST FESTIVAL

Nov: Doug Peterson

Dec: CHRISTMAS MARKET

**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 encourage us to explore the results of their creative processes.

Our deliberate effort to showcase artists 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.

**HEALTH AND INFORMATION FAIR OPENS THE FARMERS AND ARTISAN MARKET SEASON IN 2023**

In 2022 Bird Island received a \$10,000 Age Friendly Community grant with funding from the Southwest Initiative Foundation. Betty Christensen from the Minnesota River Area Agency on Aging, the Cultural Centre and a team of local citizens have been working to enhance amenities for the elder population. We will be hosting a *Health and Information Fair* on May 24, 2023, from 1-7 p.m., which will coincide with the opening day of the *Farmers & Artisan Market in Bird Island* from 4-7 p.m.

The Health and Information Fair will be inside the Cultural Centre while the Farmers and Artisan Market will be located outside on Dogwood Avenue between Main St. and Sixth Street in front of the Cultural Centre. This is an opportunity to become informed on available services while enjoying the market’s offerings. Please watch for updates on our website [www.birdislandculture.com](http://www.birdislandculture.com), Facebook, and local newspapers or listen to KOLV- 100.1 FM.

## THE CULTURAL CENTRE ENGAGES IN 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, the primary mission is to contribute financially to food shelves in the areas where WCO performs. There is a free will offering midway during the performance, and one hundred percent of the offering goes to the local food shelf where the concert is performed. 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 Kadlecek. Since Pat's death in 2005, Richard Alton has led the singers in our area. Before the Covid pandemic, local members numbered 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 are scheduled for our group of Renville County Singers on Sunday evenings from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. We have three spring concerts scheduled on Sundays at 4:00 p.m.

For more information contact Richard or Sharon Alton at [sbalton@mchsi.com](mailto:sbalton@mchsi.com)

## YOUTHFUL ART, WRITERS' GROUP & CHESS LESSONS

With gratitude to the *Dorothea Paul Legacy Art Fund*, a six-week Perspective Drawing Class will be offered on Saturdays, beginning **March 18th** from 2-4 p.m. for 5<sup>th</sup> grade thru high school students. This class is designed for students who enter art compositions in the Renville County Fair or those who need to earn badges in Girl Scouts or Boy Scouts. To register, please go to [www.birdislandculture.com](http://www.birdislandculture.com). Registration closes February 24, 2023, the class can accommodate a maximum of 10 students. The \$60.00 fee includes materials.

If your 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grade child is interested in experiencing the use of various art mediums on various surfaces this Summer Day Art Camp is available for a maximum of 10 children weekly. This weekly Monday - Thursday Art Day Camp **begins June 12<sup>th</sup>** from 9:00 a.m. to Noon and **ends on July 27<sup>th</sup>**. The weekly fee of \$ 75.00 includes a mid-morning snack, and materials

Join us in the **Writers' Group** every **second Tuesday** each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Cultural Centre  
Interested in forming a **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.

**THANK YOU:** Our Saviors Lutheran Church Mission Endowment Fund & Bird Island Lions Club for the installation of the accessible bathroom faucets!



## 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!**



  
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**Bird Island, MN**

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[www.birdislandculture.com](http://www.birdislandculture.com)

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