



*“Promoting innovation, creativity, community partnerships and the enduring legacy of the arts.”*

December 1, 2011

## GREENE COUNTY COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

### YEAR END REPORT AND APPEAL

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Fawn Potash, Gallery Director  
Colette Lemmon, Grant Coordinator  
Patricia Britton, Bookkeeper

#### *Dear Friends of the Arts:*

The year 2011 has been exciting and challenging. The **“Bing, Bang, Boing” Festival** introduced us to the art of alternative musicians who create sound from an astounding array of found objects. The exhibit and concerts associated with this show featured both local musician/artists and the work of Ken Butler, the acknowledged grand master of the genre. This year was also the beginning of an innovative project on Catskill Main Street. **Masters on Main Street**, produced in conjunction with the Catskill Art Initiative, is a year round storefront exhibition series that brings fresh work from top art schools across the country to Catskill’s vacant store windows.

The year 2011 has also, unfortunately, been another year of economic trauma as the financial storm begun in 2008 continues to batter businesses and non profit organizations. Our state arts funding, usually received in the fall, is later than ever before and will not be available to us until early 2012. That’s why we’re sending you this letter, asking you to help us create a year-end fund to put us on an even keel for 2012. A year end contribution benefits the arts, the Greene County community *and* your tax return. Your tax-deductible contribution to the Greene County Council on the Arts will be put to good use supporting the arts in our community.

If you have visited the **GCCA Catskill Gallery** or seen a copy of *Arts Alive*, our bimonthly publication, you know the work we do providing opportunities and information for artists and the general public. Each year, we coordinate and mount six group shows in our 1<sup>st</sup> floor gallery and six solo shows in our 2<sup>nd</sup> floor gallery, where the work of artists and crafters can also be seen at **The Artful Hand**, our gift boutique. To complement our gallery exhibits, we offer special lectures, workshops and book signings throughout the year.

You may not be as aware that we also administer funds granted from the NY State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) for arts organizations and individual artists. This year, NYSCA requested that we administer **Community Arts Grants** in Schoharie County in partnership with the Schoharie Council on the Arts along with our regular program management in Greene and Columbia counties. We also administer the **County Initiative Program (CIP)**, a fund provided each year by the Greene County Legislature specifically intended for Greene County cultural organizations; and we serve as matchmaker between schools and artists, helping to bring the arts into the classroom through our **Arts in Education** partnership grants funded by the state.

Our regrant programs for 2011 benefitted:

- Sixteen Greene County and 16 Columbia County community organizations which received a total of \$43,976 through our Community Arts Grants fund for cultural programming and activities; plus two individual artists, one in Greene and one in Columbia County, who each received \$2,000 to support new, original work.
- Ten Greene County cultural organizations which received a total of \$18,500 in CIP grants for project support.
- Five schools, two in Greene County and three in Columbia County which received a total of \$12,450 through Arts in Education grants for five in-school partnerships with artists.

Community programs for 2011 included our beloved **Sprouts** summer arts program for children ages 3 - 7. This year's program involved 200 Greene County children, 15 artist teachers and a whole host of student helpers.

In addition, this year we helped to coordinate the **Catskill Studio Tour**, a two-day event that brought more than 200 new visitors to Catskill, and brought the works of artists involved in the Windham Arts Alliance Art Fest tour to our 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Gallery. Early next year, we will present an exciting video festival featuring film and video artists from MFA programs around the country at the Community Theater in Catskill.

We are able to maintain such a diverse array of programs and reach so many current and future artists through the generous support of you, our committed members and donors. We couldn't do it without you. Won't you consider an extra gift at year's end? Please help us keep Greene County's vibrant artistic community flourishing. And don't hesitate to visit us at 398 Main St. in Catskill or on the web at our newly redesigned site: [www.greenearts.org](http://www.greenearts.org).

Just click on the link for a donation form.

Thank you so much and have a wonderful holiday season!

*David*

David Slutzky  
President

*Kay*

Kay Stamer  
Executive Director