

ART *is* Alive!

The Newsletter of *Alpine Artisans*

Spring 2020 Newsletter

NOTICE OF CANCELLATIONS

As you probably have been expecting, 2 Valleys Stage and Alpine Artisans have had to cancel several upcoming events due to concerns surrounding the Corona Virus pandemic.

Stringfever, which was scheduled to perform for 2 Valleys Stage on April 28 will not be performing due to a number of restricting factors. We will strive to carry on with plans for the 2020-2021 Season and intend to bring you the highest quality experiences as always.

The March 28 **Open Book Club** with Lavender Lori has also been canceled, and we hope to re-book that author at a later time. We had already moved the Loon and Fish Festival to July 31- August 2, and we remain optimistic that things will have improved by then.

We ask for your understanding and continued support during this trying time and look forward to a healthy and successful 2020-2021. We will weather this and come out the other side together. Yours in support and with all well wishes.

The Alpine Artisans Board of Directors and Staff.

Alpine Artisans, Inc.
P.O. Box 841
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Sara Wilcox Wins AAI Art Benefactor Award

Each year, Alpine Artisans selects an individual or a business that has contributed outstanding merit to the local community. This year's Arts Benefactor award was given to Sara Wilcox, founder of AAI's Open Book Club and co-founder of the In the Footsteps of Norman Maclean Festival. Sara is familiar to our community as a welcoming face at the Grizzly Claw Trading Co., where she is both a barista and the Grizzly Claw's book buyer.

Sara's expertise in the literary world dates back to when she worked at the University of Montana Bookstore. There, she worked to create author readings, a passion she brought to Seeley Lake when she moved here permanently in 2003. Sara paid attention when John Maclean attracted a crowd at the Grizzly Claw for one of his book readings and in July, 2007, she put together the first in the author series that became the "Open Book Club". Then in 2013, she and retired librarian Michael Cropper raised the idea of honoring the literary heritage of home-town hero Norman Maclean with a literary festival.

That first In the Footsteps of Norman Maclean Festival took place in July 2015, and both Sara and Michael are key to the current planning of the 2021 Norman Maclean Festival. The Open Book Club has now hosted over 100 prominent authors at the Grizzly Claw and occasionally in the Swan Valley and enjoys an ardent following.

Congratulations Sara!

For information on the upcoming
Open Book Club events in April-May, 2020

UPCOMING EVENTS

*We'll keep you notified about whether upcoming
OBCs might be canceled due to the pandemic.*

AAI has three new Board Members

Bette Orr, Laura Cannon and Annie Daniel Clark (Annie Allen) were elected to the AAI Board at the January annual meeting. We want you to meet each of these new board members, and will profile them separately in our newsletter:

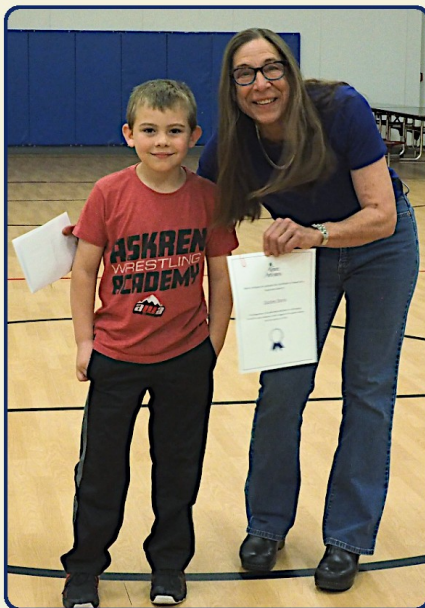


“Connections to humans, to the earth, to the world around us provide the fuel and passion to create meaningful artwork and to explore the world of human emotion.”

Annie Allen
(Now Annie Daniel Clark)

Annie Clark is a visual artist born and raised in Laredo, Montana. She currently resides in Lincoln, Montana living in the mountains and absorbing the beauty that surrounds her. Annie is a teacher, a story teller, a promoter of the human spirit who devotes much of my time to students, the creation of art, and promoting art and artists in a small town atmosphere.

Annie's work explores with different mediums (such as handmade dyes and acrylics) and techniques allowing a rich tapestry of color and spirit to prevail in her work. Water plays a vital role in her compositions. Annie states: “Water reveals a softness, an energetic quality to the surface I'm painting upon. Art allows me to be in tune to the energy that surrounds me. This energy is “being in the flow”. My life is not complete without this energy; this release of creating that exists within. It has been a journey, a journey of love and self-discovery. Art has and always will be at the center of this journey.”



Student Arts Scholarships Available Applications due April 18!

Life may now seem turned upside down by the corona virus and recent school closures and event cancellations, but Alpine Artisans would like to encourage parents and high school seniors to think positive. Does your K-12 student want to attend a summer camp in music, drama or any part of the arts? Are you a graduating senior who is interested in majoring or minoring in any aspect of the arts? AAI is interested in helping you! Since 1995, AAI has awarded over 23 senior scholarships for a total of over \$14,500 and 66 Youth Grants for a total of \$11,885. We are eager to be a part of your child's summer camp or a graduating senior's future!

Alpine Artisans Scholarship Committee is eager to receive your application, due April 18. For more information and the application forms visit: <http://www.alpineartisans.org/scholarships/>

There is also an additional opportunity for a high school student (grades 9-12) to attend a non-digital photography workshop offered by the Photographer's Formulary, Condon, MT.

Visit the [AAI website](#) for more details or check the [Formulary website](#).

Questions? Contact Martha Swanson 406-793-5706 or Pete Feigley, 406-224-2098.



In the Footsteps of Norman Maclean Festival Sets June 2021 Dates

Mark your calendars – the next Maclean Festival is set for June 26 – 27, 2021 in Missoula, MT. The theme of the Festival is **Sacred Ground/Public Lands: Western Writers Bear Witness**. Confirmed Keynote speakers are author and New York Times Western beat writer Timothy Egan (*The Big Burn*, *The Worst Hard Times*), author Terry Tempest Williams (*Erosion*, *Finding Beauty in a Broken World*), Debra Magpie Earling (*Perma Red*) and the highly-regarded grizzly bear chronicler Doug Peacock (*The Grizzly Years*, *Walking It Off*). Our website is www.macleannotsteps.com.



Opportunities for Artists:

AAI's Loon and Fish Festival is making several exciting changes. This year's Festival will move from Memorial Day weekend to July 31-August 2 in the middle of the summer when more visitors and locals can enjoy the festival. We've changed locations as well – from the Seeley Lake Community Hall to the West Wing of the Seeley Lake Community Foundation. That elegant room will showcase our members art more effectively, and will also stage numerous artists demonstrations. We're continuing with the Food Bank Soup Bowl Lunch Fundraiser, and all other aspects of this unique festival!

The yearly **Tour of the Arts** is always the second weekend in October (October 10-11, 2020) and we are encouraging artists who want to be a 'guest artists' or want to feature their own studio to contact AAI's Program Manager Jenny Rohrer asap at 754-0034 or jenny@alpineartisans.org.

AAI Members Kris Gullikson and Belinda Rich are once again bringing an accomplished painter to the Rich Ranch for **Painting for a Dream**, a 2-day oil painting workshop the weekend of June 6 & 7. Lori McNee is from Sun Valley Idaho and specializes in landscape still life and plein air oil paintings. She'll be featured in a solo show at the Dana Gallery in Missoula in June. Registration is still open at www.alpineartisans.org and we'll keep you updated on any cancellations or rescheduling.

With Honor



Alpine Artisans lost two prominent members last fall.

Carol Brodie, (at left) former Treasurer, Co-President long time board member, Loon & Fish Chair and AAI merchandise wrangler passed away at home on November 3, 2020.

The link to her full obituary is:
[Carol Brodie](#)

Merrily Dunham, (at right) former President, outstanding water color and multi-media artist, long-time Board member and Tour of the Arts participant passed away in Missoula on October 30.

The link to her full obituary is:
[Merrily Dunham](#)



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