



## Happy New Year

The New Year has made its entrance and we hope that all of our members and friends have had a wonderful holiday season. We are looking forward to a productive year once again and invite you to join us in our planning and our upcoming activities and exhibition possibilities.

## Christmas in the Village

In December, Coventry's annual Christmas in the Village celebration was a successful, well-attended event. The Guilds' sponsored student art exhibit took place at the Booth and Dimock library. Tim Timberman took in the children's artwork and was responsible for hanging this show. We are always very inspired by the artwork that the children offer. The guild sponsored two Artist Open Studio members - CAG member Jane Penfield and artist Judith Meyers at Mill Brook Place during the celebration by offering half of the rental fee for their time at the venue.



Barbara and Tim Timberman decorated a tree with a bird theme to be included in the Lion's Club Christmas Tree Raffle held at the community center at Patriots Park. Always creative and willing to step in to help, we certainly appreciate their efforts. Following the event, a thank you note was sent to the guild from Barbara Barry of the Lion's club.



## Artists Open Studio

Several guild members participated in this year's Artists Open Studio event. These include Aline Hoffman, Lorraine Funk, Jane Penfield Scott Rhoades and Barbara Timberman.

## Membership Dues

Now is the time to renew your membership. Our dues cover your membership from January to the following January. You may send a check for \$20.00 to Coventry Arts Guild, P.O. Box 234, Coventry, CT 06238. If your contact information has changed, please note that on a separate sheet of paper. We are especially interested in growing our membership among area writers and offering a variety of literary programs for that portion of our membership.

## Board News

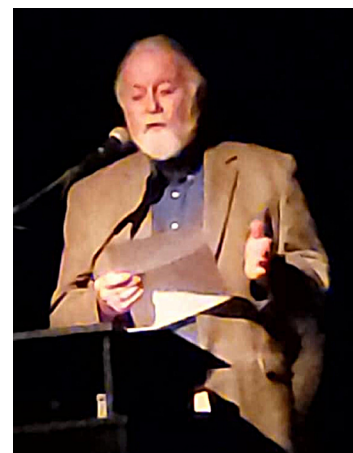
At the first business meeting of 2023, Justin Trzaskos stepped down from the office of Vice-President but will continue as a member of the board. The board went on to accept Linda Blakesley to fill the role as the next Vice-President. Linda was instrumental in staging the new Poets' Corner at the Arts on Main event last year and looks forward to helping our expanding offerings to poets and writers in the region.

## Thrive Conference

In December, Richard White and Tim Timberman attended the all-day Thrive Cultural Coalition Conference hosted at the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center. The Cultural Coalition is headquartered in Norwich is the state DRSO (Designated Regional Service Organization) providing programs, services and events for the art and cultural businesses in the northeast and southeast regions of CT. At this time, there are 600 registered partners in the coalition from sole proprietors, individual artists and small volunteer-run organizations, to large museums, tourist attractions and arts centers.

## Arts Hero Awards

Guild President Richard White was honored at a celebration and presentation at Infinity Hall in Hartford on January 18th as one of nine 2022 Connecticut Arts Heroes. This award by the CT office for the Arts recognizes Connecticut residents who are doing inspiring things in, for, or through the arts in Connecticut. The event was attended by several guild members and town leaders. We congratulate Richard on his prestigious award and look forward to helping to bring the arts to the Coventry area in the coming year.



The following was the nomination to the Arts Hero Awards by Arts Guild member David Hayes, of the David Hayes Foundation.

### ***Richard White, Coventry***

*Richard is an artist, photographer and teacher. He serves as President of the Coventry Arts Guild and has donated years of his time advocating for the arts and expanding public access to the visual arts in Northeastern Connecticut. Richard curates a large outdoor public art exhibit in downtown Coventry, spearheads the annual Coventry Arts on Main event and has mentored young people in the visual arts and design for decades. Richard invests considerable energy into animating the arts in Coventry for the betterment of residents and visitors.*

### **Key Bank Exhibits**

Monthly exhibits at Key Bank have afforded our members an opportunity to display their work. Joanne Sibicky exhibited her photography in December and Jane Penfield's pastels graced the fireplace hearth and mantle for the month of January. Lorraine Funk will be the artist of the month in February. If you are interested in showing your work at this local venue, please contact Barbara Timberman at [Barbara.timberman@gmail.com](mailto:Barbara.timberman@gmail.com).

### **Grant Funding 2020 - 2024**

Last year we received a Connecticut Humanities Grant for \$5,300. Our application has been approved for another round in 2023 to continue to advance our artistic opportunities in the coming year. A grant from the town last year has provided us with operating and programming funds, which will be in effect for the next two years.

### **Workshops**

A two-day bookbinding workshop led by Barbara Timberman and Kathy Lepak will be scheduled for March of this year at Mill Brook Place. The dates are Sunday, March 12th, with a second date of Saturday, March 25th to complete the workshop. The workshops will run from one to four in the afternoon. We will be constructing covers using paint and gelli plates for Long-stitch books consisting of 60 pages with multiple sections. We will also explore the art of Japanese Stab-bound books. All materials will be provided to attendees. The fee for this two-day workshop is \$50.00 for members and \$60.00 for non-members. To register for this workshop, please send an email to [Barbara.timberman@gmail.com](mailto:Barbara.timberman@gmail.com).



Long Stitch Books



Japanese Stab Bound Books



## Governor's Inauguration Ball

Guild members Ruth O'Neil and Jim Hammitt were gifted tickets to the Governor's Ball in January. They attended the event with Ruth's daughter, Erin. Ruth suggested that a custom hand-crafted and hand-lettered card and envelope from the Arts Guild would be a lovely gift. Guild member Kathy Lepak was asked to create a card to be presented during the evening.



## Your Good News

If you have any news that you would like to share with the guild, please feel free to email Kathy Lepak at [kathylepak@charter.net](mailto:kathylepak@charter.net) for inclusion in an upcoming newsletter.

