

# CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS NEWSLETTER

CHECK OUT THE LATEST HAPPENINGS AT THE ARC ONTARIO!



## The Dapper Rats Perform Throughout the Community

This fall, the Dapper Rats have been very busy! On September 1, they were invited to play at the Birdhouse Brewery. It was a wonderful success, and the band looks forward to playing there again soon. They also performed for the Canandaigua community on the weekend of October 28 during a Fall into Fall event hosted by the community. They performed, sold some of their t-shirts and enjoyed seeing friends and family in the audience as they rocked the night away. On November 11, the Dapper Rats worked in conjunction with our Creative Expressions artists and horticulturist, Chris Ellison, to perform at the Dove Block art opening. It was a wonderful chance for the band to play for a varied audience. The Dapper Rats also rocked the annual Illuminate Parade in Canandaigua on November 25. They played holiday songs on their float and were excited to win first place for the float that they created. Creative Expressions music participants also went caroling at Quail Summit on November 29 so spread some holiday cheer. The holidays give our participants the opportunity to sing and perform in the community. We can't wait to see what events they will participate in this year! Stay tuned for more information on upcoming shows!

## What's Happening in Music...

The fall and winter have been exciting times for our Creative Expressions music classes. We continue to work on our theme, which focuses on people in our lives who we consider heroes. Music Specialist, Nathan Merrill has put together several performances which will highlight how vital people like teachers, policeman and nurses are in our lives. he has also been working on a video montage of Creative Expressions classes that will be played during our upcoming open house to showcase all of the fun we have been having.

## First Open House at the Eberhardt Center

We are happy to announce that we will be holding an Open House event at our Eberhardt Center in January, 2024. Staff, family members and friends will get a chance to see all that great things that are happening in our building. Stay tuned for more information!

## What's Happening in Art...



The Creative Expressions Art Studio continues to buzz with creative energy and artistic expression. In her role as Art Specialist, Dr. Cici brings knowledge, skill and creative energy to the studio and participants. The artists continue to grow as they blend learned skills and new techniques with their own creative expressions. On September 15, artists from the Creative Expressions Art studio exhibited 21 pieces at Bird House Brewery in Honeoye Falls for two weeks. 25% of the exhibit was sold to the general public, generating income for the artists and programming support for the art studio. In November, we were very proud to have a well-attended and very successful opening at the Dove Block Project in Geneva. The Arc Ontario and Creative Expressions Art Studio enjoy a meaningful community partnership with the Dove Block Project. They generously provide space for us to teach art in the building on Monday mornings to the Hobart William Smith College Program Students as well as Geneva - Sit - a - Spell. We want to thank Kathryn Vaughn and the Dove Block project for all their support. Eight of our artists attended the opening night of the show and proudly represented their work. In all, 20 artists exhibited a total of 49 pieces, of which 32% were sold. Inspired by the Dove Block Project exhibit, co-owner of Billsboro Winery, Kim Aliperti, selected 15 pieces to hang for sale at the winery. Additionally, the theme for our upcoming Open House is Everyday Heroes. In conjunction with a focus group, Dr. Cici and the artists decided to build a 3D village representing where their everyday heroes live, work and play. The artists are working together to build streets, landscapes, buildings and paper doll models of their heroes and clothespin animals for the farm. This project is stimulating a lot of discussion, and we are learning a lot about each other.

## Horticulture Corner with Chris Ellison

Chris works with our individuals to engage them in horticulture. In the fall, they worked at picking tomatoes and sharing with staff and peers. They planted and grew the most beautiful sunflowers. They also dried flowers and made several wreaths that were sold at our art shows., with more than 60% of inventory sold to the public. Participants are always glad to accompany Chris to the greenhouse and participate in anything that he has planned. We are excited that our Horticulture Specialist, Chris Ellison, has completed the Master Gardener Program offered by Cornell Cooperative Extension. Chris has shared so much of what he has learned, and we can't wait to see how he utilizes this new knowledge to lead our group.

