

MARTIN *Arts*

**Annual Report to the Membership
2020 – 2021**

Presented 9/28/2021

A year, unlike any other...

To our Members and Friends:

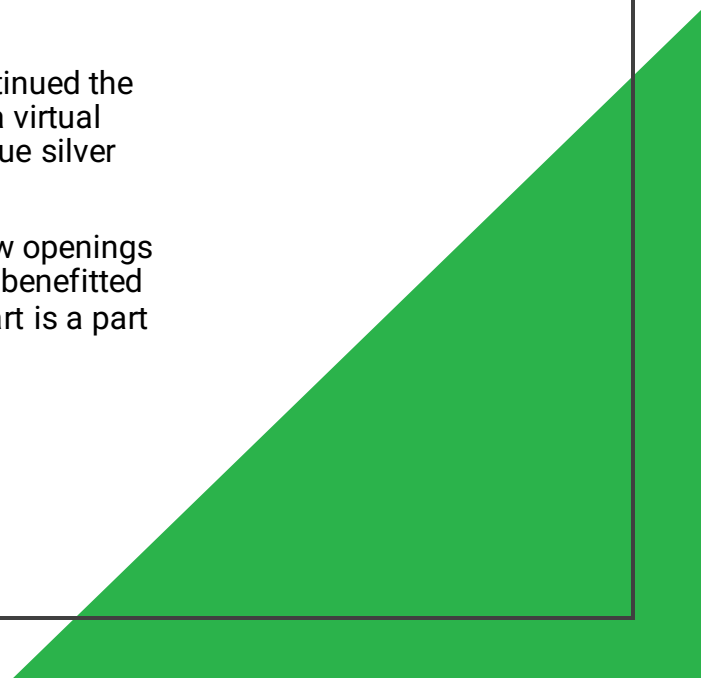
2021 is flying by so fast it seems like it was just 2020... wow!

Who imagined that life in a pandemic would accelerate our work! Throughout this entire year we have continued the #MotivationMonday curated emails to artists and arts organizations while also connecting with other via a virtual meeting bi-weekly. It's been a source of strength and has deepened relationships through the sector – a true silver lining.

The arts in Martin County are strong, which is impressive in today's environment! This fall brings some new openings as we welcome back the Lyric Theatre and ACT Studio Theatre to the performing arts mix. Visual arts has benefitted from cancelled travel plans allowing people to spend money on their homes as an alternative and buying art is a part of that.

Onward and upward to 2022... here's to growing the arts together!

Nancy K. Turrell, Executive Director





The Arts Education Committee supports our educational planning and advocacy work. Members include School Board Member Tony Anderson, Sherly Levine, Denisha Bonds. Anita Caswell, Tami Conrad, Kimberly Everman, Amanda Jones, Faith Paul and Jordan Silvia.

Projects included:

- Marvin S. Cone High School Juried Art Show
- Congressional Art Award
- Cultural Conversations – held virtually and available on our YouTube Channel
 - Shakespeare's Villians: What Makes them So Fun?
 - The Art & Science of Photography
 - Why Public Art?
 - What Makes a Building Historic, rather than just old?

Arts Education

Arts Education Grants

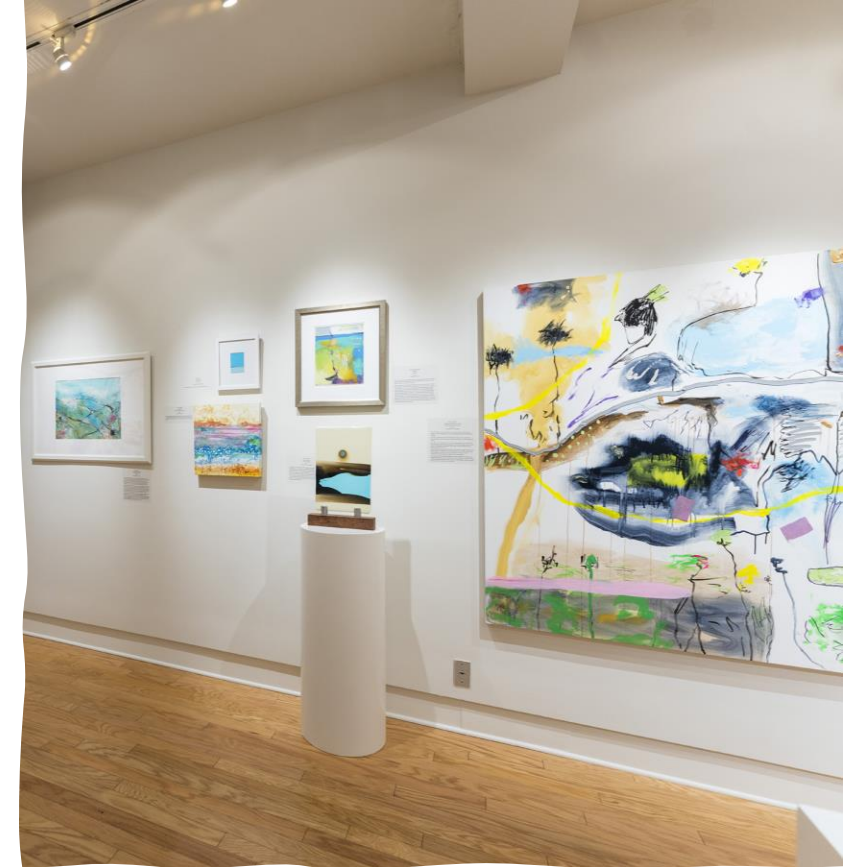
- With the challenges COVID presented to classroom teachers, the Arts Council's Arts in Education Committee re-allocate funds collected from the "State of the Arts" license plate.
- Partnering with the Education Foundation for Martin County, \$5,000 was directed to teacher requests for performing and visual arts programs in the following schools:
- Crystal Lake Elementary
- Felix A William Elementary
- Indiantown Middle School
- Jensen Beach Elementary
- Martin County High School
- Pinewood Elementary
- Port Salerno Elementary
- South Fork High School



Court House Cultural Center Exhibition Highlights

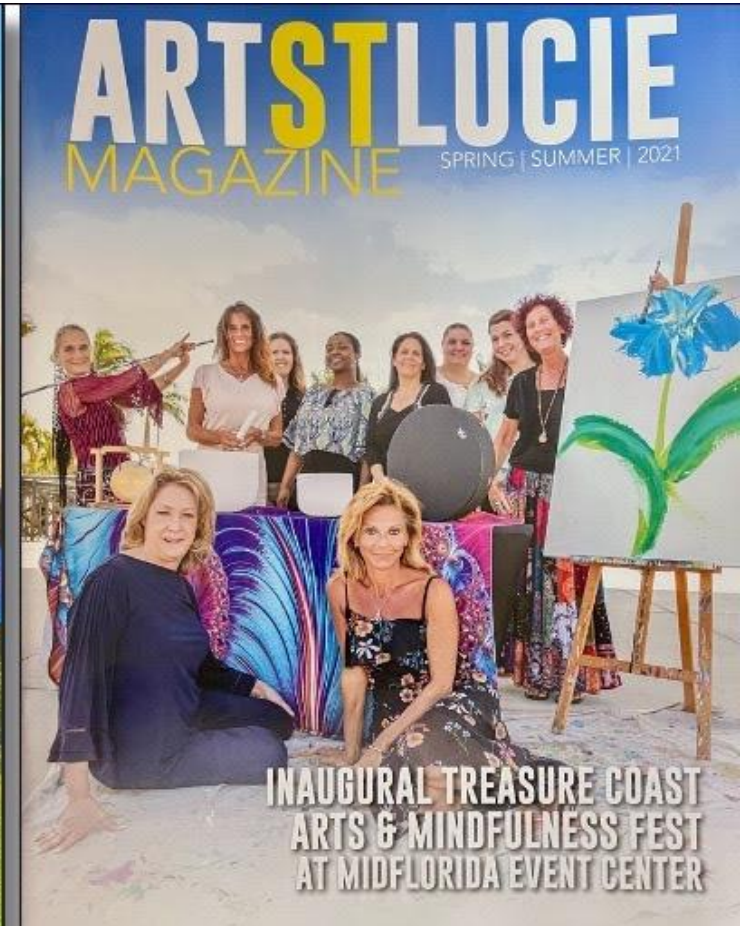
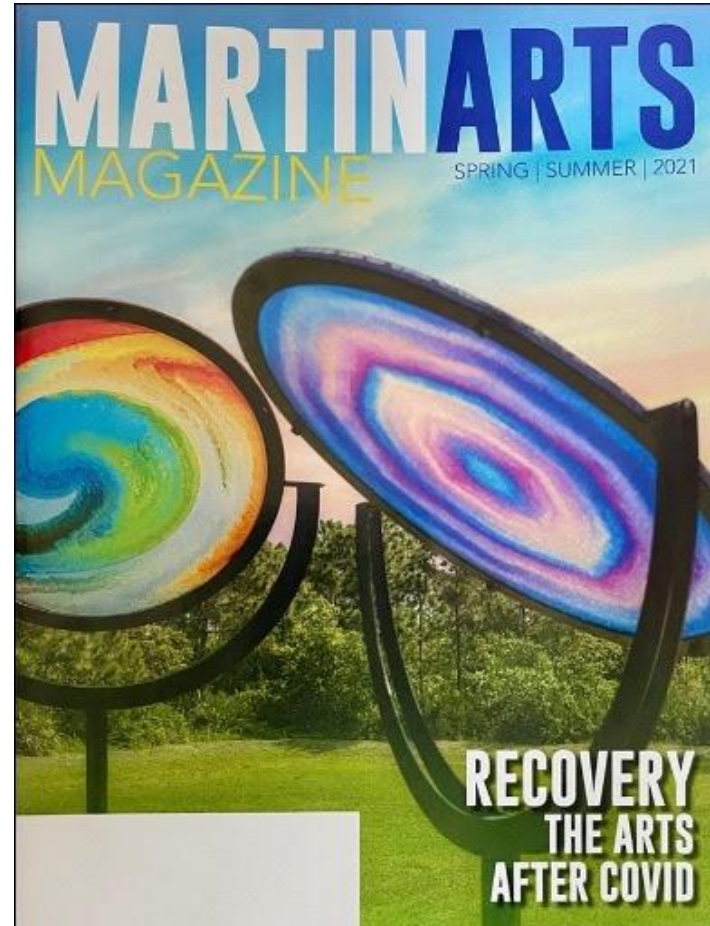
- Art Out of the Closet
- All Florida Juried Art Show
- Clyde Butcher's Everglades
- Marvin S. Cone High School Juried Art Show
- Summer Salon
- Horizons
- Virtual:
 - Every show had a virtual component!
 - And we had a virtually only featuring a SFWM District biologist and photographer, Mark Cook. Look for more virtual only shows in our future.

Thank You to our dedicated committee: Chair Ken Hooper-Capozzi, Donna Bisso, Jennifer Brand, Donna Delfaco, Sharon Hagin, Jane Kiehart, Maria Miele, Tom Prestopnik, Donna Rich, and Roni Rottner.



MartinArts Promotions & Communications

- Inaugural edition of a MartinArts Magazine collaboration with St. Lucie Cultural Alliance to create a combined magazine distributed to 9,000 across the region!
- MartinArts Monthly Email subscribers grew by 35.95%
- MartinArts Monday Email to Artists & Arts Organizations subscribers grew by 41.95%
 - Curated to highlight opportunities, calls to artists, grants and educational resources for our arts sector!





The Arts Make A Vibrant Community

As the local arts agency, we advocate for Public Art in our community and to do so work closely with both the City of Stuart and Martin County.

- For the City of Stuart, we reviewed several projects including the Avonlea's proposal with artist, Dale Rogers, and are anticipating new projects including the Atlantic Point Marina.
- Working with the County we co-presented a reception for Gary Gresko's sculptures in Gazebo Park.
- Magnify was installed by artist Kirk Seese at the Cummings Library.
- Coming soon are a new sculpture for the round about in Rio along with additional bike racks and benches by Mia Lindberg.
- The Eco-Art project, Ripple was unveiled in September 2021 and led by artist, Lucy Keshavarz. Ripple reconnects the Old Palm City neighborhood with the St. Lucie River at three distinct sites along SW 28th and 29th Streets. Ripple is part of only a handful of projects across the county to receive grant funding from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Have You Explored the Award-Winning Martin County Arts & Culture Trail?

- The Martin County Office of Tourism & Marketing developed the Martin County Arts & Culture Trail. Created in partnership with the Arts Council of Martin County, this free, mobile-exclusive trail features more than 40 local points of interest.
- The trail was launched in February with a corresponding scavenger hunt.
- A series of limited-edition glass sea turtles were hidden at each location, created by local glass artist Dot Galfond of License to Kiln.
- The program was a smashing success, and recently won the prestigious Destiny Award in the "Destination and Product Development" category, organized by the U.S. Travel Association.
- Get your pass: <https://discovermartin.com/martin-county-arts-culture-trail/>





Events & Activities

- Sunset Concerts started virtually with Facebook Live and over time we allowed a smaller audience to attend in person.
- Partnered with the Lyric Theatre's Living Room Series to present pianist Lindsay Garritson with several virtual piano concerts:
 - Shall We Dance?
 - Poetry of Chopin
 - Evening Reflections

COVID-19 Support: Received & Given

Seventeen organizations in Martin County reported a financial loss of \$475,000 since the beginning of the pandemic.

Federal (National Endowment for the Arts), state (Florida's Department of Arts & Culture) and local government grants were invaluable to the Arts Council, but also many of our nonprofit organizations. CARES act funding along with the SVO grants were a welcome relief.

To support the Arts Sector:

- The Artist Relief Fund established by the Arts Foundation for Martin County in April 2020, is nearly depleted. In the past year, 20 artists requested funding and a total of \$7,950 in grants was given to 16 individuals.
- Teacher grants with "State of the Arts" License Plate funding



More Investments in Technology

- 2020 allowed us to maximize our use of the new technology that was purchased and in 2021 a grant from Premier Realty through the Community Foundation Martin St Lucie has again expanded our cache of technology tools!
- Watch for the ability to take digital art on the road with a new projector... and more fun tools for getting out and engaging with an audience outside of the gallery with a portable speaker / microphone.



We extend our grateful appreciation to our members

We are grateful for our base of membership who support us year in and year out! Despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic we retained 95% of our members. First-time membership gifts increased by 50% matching the results from 2020.

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Mr. Scott and Mrs. Gaynelle Ayers
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Thank you, Community Partners & Annual Corporate Sponsors



Quest for a Cultural Center...

- A dedicated volunteer task force is making steady progress on our vision for more arts space in Stuart.
- The due diligence on the building located at the historic Stuart High School is complete, thanks to the team of S. York, LLC and Straticon Construction with the assistance of several subcontractors.
- For our next steps, the task force is preparing requests for proposals for architectural design and fund-raising consulting services.



Floridian Flavors

Characters, Culture & Cuisine

A Look Ahead to 2022

- Floridian Flavors: A Juried Exhibit of Textile Artwork by Members of Studio Art Quilt Associates Florida Region
- With our Partner the Arts Foundation for Martin County we support
 - mARTies – November 2, 2021
 - ArtsFest – February 12 & 13, 2022
- AEP6 – assessing the economic impact of the arts!
- A New Look debuts October 1st!

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Gaby Ferraro, Vice Chairman and Secretary

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Ken Hooper-Capozzi

Sheryl Levine

Ex-Officio Members

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Becky Bruner, City of Stuart

Anthony Anderson, Martin County School Board

Nancy Johnson, Economic Council of Martin County



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