Dear Friends,

We all know that arts play a vital role in developing flourishing communities. A growing body of research describes the “arts ripple effect” that leads to a more vibrant and thriving economy, a more connected population, and academic benefits for our young people.

Throughout 2014 the Salem Art Association (SAA) continued to explore innovative ways to make the greatest impact in the community. One example is SAA’s partnership with the Oregon Youth Authority to bring arts education to incarcerated youth at the Hillcrest Youth Correctional Facility. During Project Space 2014, Dayna Collins’ Tibetan Prayer Flag project rapidly evolved into a community art project, gained momentum and public engagement, and resulted in $2,255 raised in flag sale proceeds, which she dedicated to SAA’s Hillcrest Arts Learning Program. She then led an artist residency for incarcerated youth at Hillcrest in the tradition of artful meditation flags to incorporate the art of healing through writing and artistic expression. Another example in 2014 was the start of the collaborative Art for Healing pilot project between SAA and the Salem Hospital Cancer Institute to provide a safe place for cancer patients and their families to engage in transformative experiences in the arts.

Each year Salem Art Association continues to grow and adapt in response to the community it serves. Thank you for being part of this wonderful effort!

Sincerely,

Sandra Burnett
SAA Executive Director

“Some may be unaware of the range and breadth of the work the Salem Art Association does to integrate art into the lives of young people. The various programs of the Community Arts Education (CAE) program positively impact schoolchildren in and around Salem. After-school classes, Artists in the Schools and the High School Art Mentorship Program all serve to make meaningful contributions not only to the lives of the participating students, but also to the teachers and artists involved. I have learned a great deal from teaching and participating in all the CAE programming. SAA is making a difference in the lives of children that will last a lifetime and I am proud to be a part of it.”

- Barry Shapiro, SAA Board of Directors
BUSH BARN ART CENTER

In 2014, the Salem Art Association Galleries Program presented 18 art exhibitions in the A.N. Bush, Camas and Focus Galleries at the Bush Barn Art Center. Additionally, work by approximately 75 regional artists was showcased in the Gift Gallery through two, six-month exhibition seasons. Many of these artists also participated in SAA’s Rental-Sales program. Highlights of the 2014 exhibition schedule included:

**Curios & Curiosities: Interpreting the Natural & Cultural Worlds**
An exhibition of artifacts and contemporary art, illuminating the traditions inherent in cabinets of curiosity, igniting conversations about science, history and the study of other cultures.

**Young Artists’ Showcase**
In its fourth year, this beloved community event included not only artwork from students in the Salem-Keizer School District, but also children in private, parochial, home school and rural school settings in Marion, Polk and Yamhill Counties. Generously sponsored by Maps Credit Union with support from the Larry and Jeanette Epping Family Fund.

**Radius 25: Walkabout**
A biennial juried exhibition open to artists living or working within 25 miles of Salem. Themed “Walkabout,” the exhibition was a celebration of art in our mid-Willamette Valley and a testament to the creative talent inherent in our region.

**The Watercolor Society of Oregon**
The Bush Barn Art Center was honored to exhibit 80 outstanding works by current Watercolor Society of Oregon members.

**In the Footsteps of David Douglas**
This exhibition highlighted the life and accomplishments of Scottish botanist and explorer David Douglas and his contemporary legacy of plant collecting, documentation and illustration in the Pacific Northwest. A central focus of the exhibit was a selection of natural science illustrations by contemporary artists working in a variety of mediums.

In 2014, the Galleries Program also organized an exhibition of theater set designs and models by Tony Zandol, a photography exhibition by world travelled Portland photographer Russell Young, and an exhibition by Artist in Residence print maker, Jon Colburn.

**Fine Art Friday panel discussion at the Bush Barn Art Center, September 2014**

BUSH HOUSE MUSEUM

The Bush House Museum preserves and interprets the Bush House (1878) and Bush’s Pasture Park to illuminate Oregon history and culture associated with Salem’s Bush Family. The Museum welcomed over 3,000 visitors through its programming in 2014. The Salem Art Association, City of Salem, Friends of Bush Gardens, Bush House Museum & Garden Committee, and Museum staff, volunteers, supporters and sponsors, collaborated to enhance our community.

**Preservation | Restoration Projects**
Historically appropriate wool carpet was installed in the Entry Hall by Thomas Kay Flooring & Interiors with funding from the Ralph Hull Foundation and Salem Transient Occupancy Tax. The Kitchen and Pantries were researched and reinterpreted by Mattie Howe, an intern from Moore College of Art & Design. The Museum received a $10,000 grant from the Kinsman Foundation to assist the City of Salem with the installation of storm windows by Stayton Wood Windows & Doors.

**Interpretation | Education**
The Bush House Museum and the history of the Bush Family were featured in an 8 minute video on the C-SPAN Network. The Museum served a widening range of visitors, including Oregon State Hospital residents, men participating in Marion County Reentry Initiative programs, Willamette Academy students and Oregon Trail Card families. A partnership with the Friends of Bush Gardens, the Bush Barn Art Center and Community Arts Education provided high-quality educational programming to students, especially those attending Title 1 elementary schools.

**Community Collaborations | Community Activities**
Bush Family Farm Day was a family friendly event which featured Artists in Action, David Douglas Society, GeerCrest Farm, Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom, OSU Extension Service - Marion County and the Straub Environmental Center. The Bush House Museum Lecture Series, David Douglas in the Willamette Valley, 1825-1830, with Jack Nisbet, was cosponsored by the David Douglas Society and the Straub Environmental Center. Ross Sutherland, the Bush House Museum Director, chaired the Salem Heritage All-Star Forum and became an advisory member of the Deependwood Museum & Gardens Collections Committee.

**Students on a fieldtrip to the Bush House Museum enjoy a demonstration from FOBG Project Coordinator Gretchen Carnaby.**
The Salem Art Fair & Festival (SAF&F) is SAA’s largest annual fundraiser, showcasing artists from all across the nation during the three-day festival, attracting approximately 35,000 visitors per year. The 2014 SAF&F also featured 30 musical acts on two stages and it helped support over 36 local non-profit organizations. In 2014 SAF&F generated 30.5% of SAA’s annual income and netted $206,800 to help support the year-round programs of the Salem Art Association.

The annual Clay Ball art auction and dinner is SAA’s second largest fundraising event and is one of the most anticipated events of the year. Thanks to the generosity of sponsors, artists, local businesses and art patrons, the Clay Ball has grown in popularity and, in 2014, netted $49,100 and attracted almost 500 attendees.

We are pleased to report SAA achieved net revenues of $18,108 for 2014. Positive net revenues over the last four years have enabled SAA to contribute to a reserve fund with the goal of maintaining 3 to 6 months of operating costs. In addition to maintaining positive net income SAA is actively engaged in raising funds for the Access Art capital campaign. These achievements are only made possible by the generous and thoughtful support of our members, donors, grantors, partners and dedicated staff.

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<tr>
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<th>Income</th>
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*SAF&F, BBAC, & FOBG revenue presented net of direct costs

The Salem Art Association has an endowment of approximately $1 million and receives a 5% distribution annually. The endowment is held under the stewardship of the Salem Art Association Endowment Foundation (SAAEF) who are working on strategies to increase the Endowment through legacy and major gifts.

“I support the SAA because I believe that the Arts represent the heart and soul of a community. I want to make sure that future generations can continue to enjoy the Arts and build upon SAA’s glorious past. I proudly serve on the Board of the SAAEF whose purpose is to do just that.”

- Paula Kanarek, SAAEF Board of Directors

2014 SAAEF Board of Directors: Michele Patterson (President), Davida Wilson (Treasurer), Carol Green (Secretary), Matt Benjamin, Gary W. Hardey, Paula Kanarek, Jon Lauer and Erich Paetsch.
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