

BRIDGES ARTS COUNCIL

Volume 2- January 2021



BRIDGES ARTS COUNCIL SEEKS VIRTUAL ART OPPORTUNITIES

If you know of an artist or performer that is interested in doing a virtual performance, class, or other art/cultural event in a safe, digital format the Bridges Arts Council wants to hear from you.

Please contact us at info@bridgesarts.org.

Upcoming Events

Virtual Concert Series

Saturday Feb. 13th- Greg Hager

Saturday Feb. 20th- Joe DeMasi

Saturday March 6th- Jon Oakland

All @ 2 PM

Find Valley City Public Library's Facebook page for livestream at the time of the concert

or

Find the recording on the Library's Youtube Channel after the concert!

BRIDGES ARTS COUNCIL (CARES MONEY)

The Bridges Arts Council was selected by the North Dakota Council On the Arts to receive additional CARES Act Funds to help counteract the economic impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic. These funds were given out to arts and cultural organizations throughout the State of North Dakota as a result of federal funds that had been allocated to the state as part of the CARES Act.

In order for organizations to be eligible for these additional funds, they must be in good standing with the NDCA and in any applicable state and federal grant requirements. As a community access grantee from the NDCA, the Bridges Arts Council is thankful for the constant support from the North Dakota Council on the Arts for organizations throughout the state. Without their support, the work that we do would not be possible.

For the Love of Local

The Valley City Chamber of Commerce and its local business members will kick off the "For the Love of Local" initiative to help bring business to our local community. The event will kick off on February 6th, 2021 using the existing chamber bucks program. Chamber Bucks can be purchased at the Valley City Rosebud Visitor Center. For every Buck that is purchased your patrons will be given a 25% bonus to be spent at local chamber businesses.

Essentially, if a patron is purchasing \$100.00 worth of Chamber Bucks, they will receive \$125.00 total in Chamber Bucks. These are able to be used at any business within the community from February 6th – April 30, 2021. They are used just as if it was a check. This program was possible due to a strong attitude of needing to support local businesses as they weather the COVID-19 Pandemic. CARES Act funding provided the city support for the initiative.



(Photo of Classroom Winners from Poetry Out Loud VCHS- Pictured from left to right

Olivia Slyter, Alexa Kjelland, Lillian Kiefert)

Contact Us

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digital design lab; a digital photography studio, and a woodshop. An art gallery will provide a highly visible secure space to showcase student and visiting art exhibitions. The music facilities will include a 350 seat performance hall, a 100 seat recital hall/choral room, a band room, a piano/computer lab, a recording and production studio, large and small practice rooms, and faculty offices and studios.



Bridges Arts Council Board Members, Jerrold Heide (Music Department Faculty/Chair) and Gratia Brown (Art Department Faculty) will both be working in the space. This new facility will also provide a home for the Community School of the Arts that the Bridges Arts Council took over administration for.

MEET OUR BOARD – BOARD PRESIDENT JOE DEMASI

Joseph DeMasi has been President of the Bridges Arts Council for several years. He works as a professional musician playing guitar and singing and is very involved in promoting the Arts in Valley City and Barnes County. Originally from the New York City area, he spent his life on the road playing in a number of musical groups. He currently plays solo or with his twin brother John doing folk music concerts throughout the country. He has released a number of CD's as well. He was instrumental in helping to renovate the Amphitheater in Pioneer Park and looks forward to expanding the work of the Bridges Arts Council to further enhance the quality of life in our community.

POETRY OUT LOUD

Now more than ever, our students need opportunities for synthesizing and expressing feelings and emotions. To provide a more inclusive program and ensure ALL students in North Dakota have access to rich social/emotional and English/Language Arts learning, our [2020-21 ND POL Program](#) will be going virtual.

Due to COVID restrictions, this year's POL State Final Competition will be held through a video submission and remote judging process. Valley City High School's Poetry Out Loud Chapter is headed up by Kristi Shanenko (English and Language Arts Instructor at VCHS). Last year's Poetry Out Loud School Champion Katy Meester was a state place. Winning this year's competition was Lillian Kiefert.

School Champions must register for the State Finals and submit video of three poem recitations by February 5, 2021. Judges will remotely review and score poems from rounds one and two on February 22 - 24. Scores will be averaged and the top five competitors from rounds one and two will be announced and move forward to a third round of competition. The third round of competition will again be scored remotely by judges and take place on February 26th. A pre-recorded video presentation of the top five finalists' recitations and announcement of the 2021 ND State POL Champion will be aired on March 10th, 2021.

Congratulations Lilly!

VCSU CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Over the summer, Valley City State University broke ground on a new \$32 million Center for Fine Arts. This building funded by the 66th North Dakota Legislative Assembly with the approval of Gov. Doug Burgum, will bring both the VCSU Art and Music Programs together in a state-of-the-art facility that is better equipped to serve the needs of the students in more specific disciplines. Art facilities in the new building will include a ceramics lab; printmaking, painting, and drawing studios; a

