



# Arts In Action

[www.sturgisareaartscouncil.org](http://www.sturgisareaartscouncil.org)

Volume 37, No. 5

September/October 2016

## *Hey Kids - want to be a Super Hero??*

Join us as we once again partner with Dakota Players to present our next children's theater production! Auditions for "The Super Hero Show" will be Monday, September 26th, at 3:30pm in the Sturgis Elementary School Gym. Come prepared to sing and dance and simply be your wonderful, outgoing and happy self - no advance preparation is needed. Auditions are open to all students in the Meade School District as well as any home-schooled students in the district. We need students of all ages, from kindergarten on up. Older students are needed to help with the technical end of the show - lights, sound and directing.



Rehearsals will be after school every day that week (Monday and Tuesday at the school - the rest of the week at the Community Center Theater) from 3:30 until 8:00pm and performances will be Friday Sept. 30 and Saturday, October 1 at 7:00 each evening. Attendance is mandatory, so please make sure you don't have any conflicts in your schedule that week if you want to audition.

A bit about the show..... Polly Partridge and the Eyewitness News Crew bring you live coverage of all the action on Superhero Day, a special day of celebration in the town of Sunnyville. Sunnyville is home to the beloved group of heroes known by all as The Superhero Alliance! Everyone in town is thrilled to celebrate Superhero Day - all that is except for Dr. Catastrophe and his gang of henchman, the Chemical Scavengers. Catastrophe is determined to ruin Superhero Day by turning everyone in Sunnyville into super-villains! Meanwhile, Polly's nephew Paul discovers that he, too, has super powers. But will Paul use his powers for good or for evil? Join Paul and the rest of the gang as they learn that being true to yourself is the ultimate key to happiness.

Performances are Friday, September 30th and Saturday, October 1st at 7:00 each evening in the Sturgis Community Center Theater. Admission is \$6 for adults and \$3 for students. Come support our young actors!



Founded in 1999 as the Children's Theater Company of South Dakota, Dakota Players strives to address two voids in the arts in South Dakota - to provide access to quality theater experiences and professional theater artists for children, and to provide professional work opportunities in South Dakota for theater artists.

They educate students in theater starting in kindergarten and continuing through high school. All scripts are original musical productions written and designed by Midwestern artists. Dakota Players' programs are designed to inform and educate people about the value of the arts, individuality, community and the environment. The experience will give students the opportunity to learn better concentration, coordination and communication skills, as well as greater self-confidence and poise.

It is their goal to teach and delight children, taking them to that wonderful place where magic, imagination, and reality come together.



### Armchair Travelers Book Club

The Armchair Travelers Book Club will meet on Thursday, September 1st, at 12:00 noon in the

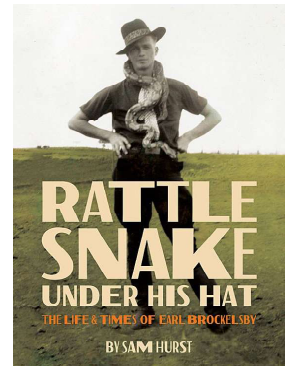
Lushbough Room of the Sturgis Public Library. We will discuss the Newbery Medal winners we read in August. According to the Newbery website, "The medal is awarded annually to the author of the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children published during the previous year." The librarians will display some that might tempt you if you need ideas.

The group has decided to read about visual artists for their October discussion. That meeting will take place on October 6th at noon - again in the Lushbough Room of the Sturgis Public Library. There is an extensive list of possible titles, many of which the library staff will display early in September.

Discussions are open to all who wish to take part. You are welcome to the discussion of any topic that intrigues you. This event is co-sponsored by the Sturgis Area Arts Council and the Sturgis Public Library.

### Book Signing

Just in time for some early Christmas shopping, Sam Hurst, author of "Rattlesnake Under His Hat" will be available on Thursday, October 6th, from 5:00-7:00pm in the Sturgis Public Library's Program Room to sell and sign copies of this recently published biography of Earl Brockelsby.



A native of the Badlands and Black Hills, Brockelsby grew up during the depression. He found his niche as a youngster by "awing the tourists at a local roadside attraction by hiding a live rattlesnake under his hat." Read his story to find out how this innovative entrepreneur came to create Reptile Gardens, a longtime tourist destination in the Black Hills.

Sam Hurst, an award winning journalist and documentarian, has spent his retirement years in the Black Hills raising buffalo and producing documentaries for television. SAAC and the Sturgis Public Library invite you to meet this fascinating man of many interests and, at the same time, pick up a unique gift for that one that is most difficult to buy for on your gift list. Light refreshments will be served.

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## History at High Noon

After a summer vacation, History at High Noon will start again on Friday, October 21st, in the Program Room of the Sturgis Public Library. Our

program presenter will be Dorothy Short. She will be sharing memories and history of the Escott family. Area families' histories are so important to share - please come and enjoy this one with Dorothy.

Guy Edwards is our program speaker in November. More about that in the November-December newsletter. It will be good to see all of you again after the summer break. We meet at 12:00 noon on the third Friday of the month in the library. There is always a cup of coffee available and if this is during your lunch break, we invite you to bring a sack lunch and enjoy it during the program.

The committee appreciates your good suggestions about programs and we are now seeking and scheduling new programs for 2017. We are always interested in a family history, a good story, histories of our small communities in the country, and also places, events and organizations. The committee members are Diana Hayes, Rosalee Johnson, Bonnie Lange and Dode Lee. Give us a call, or, better yet, come to the library, join your friends and neighbors and enjoy the programs of History at High Noon.

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## Sturgis Area Arts Council's Upcoming Events

### Thursday, September 1

Armchair Travelers Book Club  
Sturgis Public Library, 12:00 Noon

### Thursday, September 8

Sturgis Area Arts Council Meeting  
Library/City Hall Meeting Room, 7:00pm

### Thursday, September 15

One Book SD Discussion of "Some Luck"  
Sturgis Public Library, 7:00pm

### Monday, September 26

Auditions for Dakota Players production of  
"The Superhero Show"  
Sturgis Elementary School Gym, 3:30pm

### Friday, September 30 & Saturday, October 1

"The Superhero Show"  
Sturgis Community Center Theater, 7:00pm

### Sunday, October 2

Clarinet Madness Concert  
1st Presbyterian Church, 2:00pm

### Thursday, October 6

Armchair Travelers Book Club  
Sturgis Public Library, 12:00 Noon

### Thursday, October 6

Book Signing with author Sam Hurst  
"Rattlesnake Under His Hat"  
Sturgis Public Library, 5:00-7:00pm

### Thursday, October 13

Sturgis Area Arts Council Meeting  
Library/City Hall Meeting Room, 7:00pm

### Friday, October 14

Pop-Up Art Show Receptions

### Friday, October 21

History at High Noon  
Sturgis Public Library, 12:00 Noon

### Friday, October 28

Halloween Story Telling  
Sturgis Center for the Arts, 7:00pm



## “Dignity” Celebration



Local artist Dale Lamphere’s sculpture, “Dignity”, will be the center of a celebration this fall and you’re invited! The Celebration will be held Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, at 11:30am at the Chamberlain Rest Area (located on 1-90 between exits 263 and 265).

The soaring stainless steel sculpture (which towers nearly 50 feet in the air and stretches 32 feet across) is a generous gift of public art to all the people of South Dakota from Norm and Eunabel McKie and their extended family. Governor Dugaard will accept this gift on behalf of the people and State of South Dakota at the celebration and all are invited to join. Please share this invitation with your family and friends.

“Dignity,” Lamphere says, represents the courage, perseverance and wisdom of the Lakota and Dakota culture in South Dakota. His hope is that the sculpture might serve as a symbol of respect and promise for the future. The client’s intent in commissioning this sculpture is to honor all the people of South Dakota (particularly the Native culture) and to inspire the younger generation.

For months, Lamphere and his team have worked with an engineering firm and Native American advisers to be certain the work is structurally sound and culturally appropriate. They began production of the full-scale sculpture, starting with the support structure and the star quilt, last summer. A central stainless steel pipe armature bears the weight of the quilt, which has 128 separate diamonds that make up the pattern. They move freely on a bearing spindle system. To reduce wind resistance, the wind moves through the diamonds as well as the perforations of her dress, which is patterned after a two-hide Native dress from the 1850s.

Brook Loobey of Sturgis is the painter of the triangles in the star quilt. Half of the stainless steel diamonds are dark blue and half are light blue. Lamphere went to a paint supply store in search of the perfect colors, then brought the paint mixture to Loobey, who provided the artist with samples. “We would take them out in the sun and hold them up together and look at them,” he said. “Finally he arrived at those two colors, saying, ‘This is it.’” Loobey estimates there are 6 to 10 different pigments in each of the colors. At different times of the day, the colors take on new dimensions, Loobey said. “In the shadows or at night, that dark blue looks really dark blue. And when the sun hits it, it will lighten up,” he said.

“I want something that people have not seen before, and that has durability into the future,” Lamphere says. “If this was just another large-scale classic figurative work, I don’t think it would have that level of interest or fascination.” Standing at a crossroads, “Dignity” echoes the interaction of earth, sky and people. It brings to light the beauty and promise of the indigenous peoples and culture that still thrives on this land. The intent is to have the sculpture stand as an enduring symbol of our shared belief that all here are sacred, and in a sacred place.”

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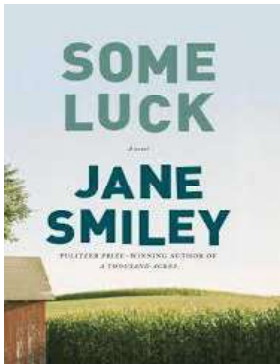


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## One Book SD 2016



The South Dakota Humanities Council has chosen "Some Luck", by Jane Smiley as the One Book SD for 2016. This novel, the first of a

planned trilogy, consists of 33 chapters covering the years 1920 through 1953 while relating the story of Walter Langdon and his wife Rosanna as they farm the land and raise their five children. Smiley is the 1992 Pulitzer Prize for fiction winner for her novel "A Thousand Acres".

Sturgis Area Arts Council is offering an opportunity to discuss this novel on Thursday, September 15th, under the guidance of Ken Steinken, a SDHC scholar. The program will begin at 7:00pm in the Program Room of the Sturgis Public Library. The event is made possible through a grant from the South Dakota Humanities Council, an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Questions? Please contact Dorothy Pulscher: 605 720-5467 or e-mail her at [dapulscher@gmail.com](mailto:dapulscher@gmail.com)

## "Clarinet Madness" in Concert

The Arts Council is thrilled to present the group "Clarinet Madness" on Sunday, October 2nd, at 2:00pm at the First Presbyterian Church of Sturgis. The church is located at 1319 Junction Avenue. There is no charge for the concert, but donations will be happily accepted to defray expenses.

"Clarinet Madness" is a professional clarinet choir made up of musicians from the Rapid City area. It was started 9 years ago by Nancy Williams and Dave Martinson. The group performs two recitals per year in Rapid City and also plays for a variety of other venues.

In 2014 "Madness" was chosen to perform at the prestigious International Clarinet Fest on the campus of Louisiana State University. There were only 13 clarinet choirs chosen out of approximately 200 international groups submitting recordings.

The choir is excited to play in Sturgis! Some of the selections included in the upcoming recital include "Rikudim, Four Israeli Folksongs" by Jan Van der Roost, "Clarinetophony" which was written for "Clarinet Madness" by Joseph Scardetta, and "Bohemian Rhapsody" by Freddy Mercury and arranged for clarinet ensemble by K. Todd Kerstetter.



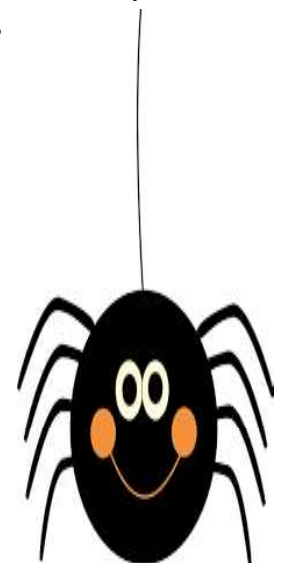
## Halloween Storytelling

You are invited to join the Black Hills Storytellers at 7:00pm on Friday, October 28th, for a hauntingly spooky evening of ghosts, gore, and ghoulish comedy!

The stories will be presented at the Sturgis Center for the Arts, which is located at 1238 Main St., Suite #2. Their entrance door is at the back of the building right off the alley.

The program is intended for adults and teens only. Please leave little ones safe at home away from the creepy stuff!

Admission is a donation to the Center.



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## *Artist of the Month*



Our September Artist is Erica Merchant. She received her MFA in Sculpture at the University of South Dakota, and has BA degrees in Anthropology and Humanities from the University of Wyoming. Erica and her daughter McKenzie live in Spearfish. Her work has been in regional, national, and international shows. Erica's work uses tension and compression to create preservations of geological references.

Here is what she has to say about her work: Looking at the geological history of our landscapes, what is preserved from a chapter in that land's history is accidental. The fossils we see today were incubated in the perfect pocket of preservation, not by choice but by accident. Much like our memories, we do not choose what sticks in our mind at the moment of experiencing it, we do not design our memories. Their preservation is not by choice, but also by accident.

Motivated by the geologic sense of time and inspired by generations of transformations, I prepare my work with sensitivity to the combination of materials. The essence of the materials, the origin, and their utilitarian purpose are combined to create a stratified narrative.

The Rammed Earth pieces have meaningful objects from my homelife deconstructed into sediments and layered to tell you the memories of our oikos. Among the strata you will find my daughter's favorite dress from when she was 4 (and insisted on wearing it each day), toys we outgrew, remnants of breakfast together, videos we had to watch 900 times, shoes she outgrew, crayons we shared, and vestiges of places we visited together.

The Burnt Chroma series explores the purity of wood's purpose. The Orient believes wood is the 5th element, and the Lakota refer to all plant life as the Silent Standing Nation. The majority of the Burnt Chroma pieces are made from 'true lumber' - lumber that is milled and kiln dried. This lumber is from the Newell horse stable and sheep yard, milled and kiln dried right there on the prairie. The process of drilling lumber combined with carving is celebrating the intentional relationship humans have with our terra materials. I burn them because the beauty of a charred fire log is comforting, relaxing and reflective of our primal draw to the fire's edge. I add paint on top to create the chroma: the color.

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## *Dakota MasterWorks Art Show*

The South Dakota Health Care Association announced that entry forms are available for the 20<sup>th</sup> annual SDHCA Dakota MasterWorks Art Show. The SDHCA Dakota MasterWorks Art Show is open to all South Dakota citizens age 60 and older.

Entries will be accepted at the South Dakota Health Care Association Office located at 804 N Western Avenue, Sioux Falls, October 10-14 from 9:00am - 3:00pm. Entry Forms are available at [www.sdhca.org](http://www.sdhca.org) by following the SDHCA Dakota MasterWorks link - or you may call 1-800-952-3052. The Exhibit Show will be held November 3rd and 4th at the Good Samaritan Society in Sioux Falls. Admission to the Exhibit Show is free

Dakota MasterWorks was created to showcase the talent and creativity of South Dakotans 60 and older. "The second half of life is full of creative growth and fulfillment, and Dakota MasterWorks demonstrates that reality", says MasterWorks Coordinator LuAnn Severson. The competition is open to every citizen of South Dakota age 60 and older. The winning entries will be exhibited at various sites throughout South Dakota following the Sioux Falls Show.

Categories include watercolor painting, oil painting, acrylic painting, drawing/pastels, photography, sculpture and wood carving. A first (\$75), second (\$50), and third (\$25) place award will be given in each of the categories. In addition, professional judges will select a Best of Show (\$100). A People's Choice (\$100) will also be awarded.



## Calling All Artists - Sturgis Pop-Up Art Show

Art is Popping-Up in Sturgis!!! A call to artists of all ages for the Sturgis Pop-Up Art Show. The show is sponsored by the Sturgis Public Library, Sturgis Center for the Arts, Sturgis Area Arts Council, and First Interstate Bank. The venues will include the Sturgis Public Library, Sturgis Center for the Arts and First Interstate Bank during the month of October. Receptions at each location will be held on Friday, October 14. Entry forms will be available at these locations and also online. You may also send the Arts Council an e-mail ([saacpublicity@hotmail.com](mailto:saacpublicity@hotmail.com)) and I'll send you the form that you can print out at home.

Prizes will be awarded for the following: Best of Show - Adult and High School, Best of Show - Middle and Grade Schools, Adult - First Place, High School - First Place, Middle School - First Place, Upper Grade School - First Place, Lower Grade School - First Place, Sculpture First Place - Adult, Sculpture First Place - High School

**Art:** Painting (oil, acrylic, watercolor) mixed media, drawing (chalk, pencil, charcoal, crayon, marker), fiber, sculpture. Maximum size is 26"x 30" for art - 36" x 36" for fiber. The categories are listed below - please note that there is an entry fee for items.

Adult (age 19 and up) \$15 (2 entries allowed for \$15); max entries - 2, Sturgis Public Library  
 High School Age (grades 9-12) \$5 per entry, max entries - 2, Sturgis Public Library  
 Middle School Age (grades 6-8) \$5 per entry, max entry - 1, Sturgis Center for the Arts  
 Upper Grade School Age (grades 3-5) \$5 per entry, max entry - 1, Sturgis Center for the Arts  
 Lower Grade School Age (grades K-2) \$5 per entry, max entry - 1, Sturgis Center for the Arts

**Sculpture:** Must fit on a table or pedestal or be easily moved.

Only open to Adults and High School Age Students \$15 per entry, max entry - 1, First Interstate Bank

Entry Forms and registration fees are due Monday, September 19th at the Sturgis Public Library. You can drop off the form or mail them to: Sturgis Public Library - 1040 Harley-Davidson Way Ste. 101, Sturgis, SD 57785

Artwork is due Monday, September 26th - Wednesday, September 28th at the Category location during regular business hours. Artwork must be picked up on October 28th or October 29th during regular business hours. Sculptures must be picked up from the bank on Friday, October 21st.

\* Please note - Venues will try to protect items displayed but are not responsible for loss or damage to items. \*\*Photography will not be accepted for this show; if there is strong interest, a photography show will be organized at a later date.

For more information, please call Julie or Toni at the Sturgis Public Library, 347-2624, or Justine at Sturgis Center for the Arts, 347-0242

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The Sturgis Area Arts Council can be found online at [www.sturgisareaartscouncil.org](http://www.sturgisareaartscouncil.org) (please note - it's "org", not "com"). We post this newsletter on our site, just in case you lose this one and need to take another look!

You can also "like" us on Facebook at [facebook.com/pages/Sturgis-Area-Arts-Council](http://facebook.com/pages/Sturgis-Area-Arts-Council)

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