



Arts In Action

www.sturgisareaartscouncil.org

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November/December 2016

Sturgis Community Unites in Song

Singers from Sturgis and Whitewood continue a 38-year old Christmas tradition when they join in song on Sunday, December 11th at 2:00 p.m. at the Sturgis Community Center Theater. The Annual Community Christmas Concert, a favorite holiday tradition, has been performed consistently since 1979, when it first was held at Grace Lutheran Church.

Area church choirs are now beginning their rehearsals for this special event as they prepare for their individual performances. All of the choirs will then blend into one huge choir for the concert's

finale piece, which will be directed by Brenda Schaffer, choir director at First Presbyterian Church. Brenda is arranging a handbell accompaniment to this year's selection, "Introit on O Come, All Ye Faithful" by Brad Nix. All will recognize this beloved carol and Nix has arranged a triumphant opening fanfare to introduce the piece.



All church choirs are welcome to participate in the concert. New choirs are always invited to join and need only to contact Marlene Kotab, concert coordinator, by phone at 347-1375 or by email at kotabgmc@rushmore.com. Any singer who does not belong to a church choir is still invited to sing with the mass group on the final number. The one mass choir rehearsal is Wednesday, December 7th at 7:00 p.m. at the theater.

Don't miss this enjoyable musical holiday tradition!



Attention Snowbirds (and anyone planning a move)

If you plan on being gone this winter
OR you're moving from one place to another and you're on
our mailing list, PLEASE let us know!!

The post office charges us \$\$ if we mail something to you and you're not home (or no longer at the address we have for you). Even if you've filled out a change of address form, they charge us to return the item to us!

It may only be 49 cents here and there, but it does add up after a while,
so if you can help us avoid it, we'd be most grateful.

Contact Linda at 720-6361 or send an e-mail to saacpublicity@hotmail.com to let us know of any and all changes, please ~ we would most appreciate it!! :)

Artists of the Month



Our November Artist is Bonnie Ismay. Bonnie grew up on a ranch in the high mountains of western Colorado. This gave her a strong appreciation of animals, especially wildlife. She developed a love of art while watching her father, Ernest Chapman, himself an accomplished artist.

After graduating from Colorado State University in 1971, Bonnie put aside her drawing pencils for nearly 24 years. She moved to western South Dakota and worked beside her husband, John Ismay, DVM, in his veterinary practice and their ranch along the Belle Fourche River.

In the fall of 1995 Bonnie took a trip to the Big Horn Mountains of Wyoming and was so inspired that she resumed the drawing she had loved so much.

Her children, Travis and Jo Dee, and her grandchildren, are great inspiration. Much of her subject matter for her works comes from clients at the veterinary hospital as well as everyday ranch life.

Bonnie looks forward to continuing her realistic and detailed pencil drawings of “real” animals and people for many years to come.

Steve Barba is our December Artist of the Month - He's not your average artist and he's not producing your average art! Buckle up as we take a ride on the story of Steve Barba. There's far more to this guy than meets the eye! A member of the Artists of the Black Hills, Barba was based his entire professional career at Ellsworth Air Force Base.

Growing up, he was fascinated by World War Two Nose Art, but by the time Barba joined the Air Force, Nose Art had been banned. Although he figured he was born 40 years too late for that trend, turns out, he was right on time. A few years later the ban was lifted. and, an artist at heart finally got a shot. He says he was pretty nervous doing the first one, but he never looked back and is honored to carry on the tradition. He did 19 when he was in the military and 31 more after he was out, filling the regulation size 3 by 3 foot squares, one dream at a time. Barba says, “I just pinch myself every time I do it. I've painted 50 Nose Arts and I think I'm the only guy in the nation that's painted that many on active duty aircraft.”



But, nose art isn't his only talent. He says “I love to cartoon, I love to exaggerate, love to push colors. I love to push tones. I can just fatten things up or make it my own.” It takes Barba about 20 hours per drawing, and as he flips pages, he launches one image after another. Beyond his Nose Art and Cartoons, he unleashes the unbridled doors of his “Assemblage Art”, which often requires a second look. One sculpture started as a model train kit, but after he “added his flair to it” it became anything but a standard model. The train sculpture is covered with cows, settlers, you name it: you could look for a week and not see everything. Many of his sculptures are the same quirky and fun and something you'd stand and study for a very long time.



History at High Noon

On Friday, November 18th, the History at High Noon program presenter will be Guy Edwards. The program will be in the program room in the Sturgis Public Library at 12:00 noon. His topic will be "Homesteading." He will be sharing stories and memories about his father homesteading in the Marcus area of Meade County.

We invite you to come and enjoy this program and also share your stories about homesteading. It promises to be a valuable and interesting time.

History at High Noon will not meet in December, but we will start up again in January. The committee is working on having an interesting line up of programs in 2017 and appreciates your good suggestions about programs. 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, Bonnie Lange, Rosalee Johnson 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. We meet at noon in the program room in the Sturgis Public Library from January through May and in October and November. The coffee pot is always on, thanks to the library. You are welcome to bring your lunch with you and it enjoy it while you listen if this falls during your lunch hour.

Sturgis Area Arts Council's Upcoming Events

Thursday, November 3

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

Thursday, November 10

Sturgis Area Arts Council Meeting
Library/City Hall Meeting Room

Friday, November 18

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

Thursday, December 1

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

Thursday, December 8

Sturgis Area Arts Council Meeting
At Dedi's Home - Time TBA

Wednesday, December 7

Community Christmas Concert dress rehearsal
Sturgis Community Center Theater, 7:00pm

Sunday, December 11

Sturgis Community Christmas Concert
Sturgis Community Center Theater, 2:00pm



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Armchair Travelers Book Club

Armchair Travelers is an open book club that usually reads and reports on books based on a specific theme. All who are interested in visiting about the books they read are welcome. The Travelers meet in the Lushbough Room of the Sturgis Public Library on the first Thursday of each month at noon.

At our November 3rd discussion we will be talking about books on King Arthur and Camelot. The librarians have selected some books from their supply appropriate for the theme and have them on display near the check-out desk for those of you who do not have a specific title in mind or need an idea.

Our December 1st meeting will revolve around Christmas stories. To make it more interesting, please choose a story written by an author who generally writes in a specific genre, for example, John Grisham or Craig Johnson. Check out the display at the library after the first week in November for inspiration on this theme.

Even though January 5, 2017 is just around the corner, the theme for that meeting has not yet been determined. The library staff will display books in the theme shortly after the December 3 meeting. Check it out and join us - one and all are welcome to come join us.

Arts Events in our Schools

Friday, Nov 18 & Saturday, Nov. 19

Sturgis Brown High School Drama
presents the comedy
"The Election"

Sturgis Community Center Theater
7:00pm both evenings

Tuesday, Nov 22

Northern Hills Honor Band Concert
Spearfish High School Auditorium, 6:30pm

Tuesday, Dec 6

Sturgis Brown High School Band Concert Sturgis
Community Center Theater, 7:00pm

Monday, Dec 12

Sturgis Williams Middle School Choir Concert
Sturgis Community Center Theater, 7:00pm

Monday, Dec 19

Sturgis Brown High School Choir Concert
Sturgis Community Center Theater, 7:00pm

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Holiday Arts Events in the Hills

South Dakota Governor's 7th Biennial Art Exhibition

Through December 19th at the Dahl Arts Center, 713 7th St., Rapid City

This juried exhibition is the premier showcase for artists currently living and working in South Dakota, celebrating the tremendous quality and their unique diversity of artistic creativity. The traveling biennial exhibition and its catalog serve as historical records, documenting the work of the state's most important and innovative contemporary artists.

Paint Party

November 17th and December 15th, from 6:30-9:30 at the Dahl Arts Center, 713 7th St, Rapid City

Pick up a paintbrush and do something different with your night! Create a masterpiece with drinks, music and friends, as a local artist guides you and your crew step-by-step. It's okay if the last thing you painted was your walls, because fun is our only requirement! We provide the supplies; you bring your sense of humor and a few good friends. Take your artwork home, hang it on the wall, and relive the great time you had! \$35 per session - call to register 394-4101

Tonic Sol-fa: A Capella Holiday Show

December 6th at the Rapid City Performing Arts Center, located at 601 Columbus St.

Tonic Sol-fa has established itself as one of the most successful independent acts in America. This outstanding blend has resulted in multiple Contemporary A cappella Recording Awards, National Association of Collegiate Activities Entertainer of the Year nominations, considerable national press, and has landed their music on the best-selling seasonal DVD at Wal-Mart, The 12 Dogs of Christmas. Tonic Sol-fa, will be gracing the stage of the Performing Arts Center Historic Theater with A capella versions of your favorite holiday songs.

Admission is \$40 VIP, \$30 for Adults and \$20 for children age 12 and under. Phone 394-1786 for tickets.

Lorie Line: A Merry Little Christmas

December 7th at the Rapid City Performing Arts Center, located at 601 Columbus St.

This year's show will be one of the most intimate concerts in Lorie's 27-year touring history. Simple but elegant, Lorie will be playing all of the favorite traditional carols that make her show unique. She will be bringing along her cast of characters, including Santa, and a special featured vocalist. Don't forget to be there with bells on!

Tickets are \$49 each (\$44 for groups of 10 or more) All seats are reserved. Contact: 394-1786



Christmas at the Cathedral

December 18th at 7:30pm at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 520 Cathedral Drive, Rapid City
The Dakota Choral Union presents their annual Holiday Concert. Admission is free, but donations to the food pantry will be gathered that evening.

Gordy Pratt presents One Guy Christmas

Dec. 14th and 15th at the Journey Museum in Rapid City
Dec. 17th and 18th at the High Plains Heritage Center in Spearfish

Enough holiday humor to get you through the season with world-class pickin and a finale that has everybody on the floor, including him!

2017 Membership Year

Wow! It is hard to believe that we are nearing the end of 2016, isn't it? But, this opens the door to yet another opportunity to support YOUR Sturgis Area Arts Council with your annual membership for 2017. We just finished a successful run of the Dakota Players production of "The Superhero Show" that involved 37 kids in our community and we are looking forward to our annual Community Christmas Concert.

Members (that would be the list of all of this year's over there to the right) are the glue that holds all of our events together. With our membership support, the Sturgis Area Arts Council will be here providing art shows, art in the schools, art on stage, art written by talented authors, art displayed in the park, art surrounding the history of our communitybasically, providing all forms of art for the Sturgis Area! The Sturgis Area Arts Council can do all of this because of member support. If you haven't already renewed or joined the Sturgis Area Arts Council this year, now is THE time. Just fill out the membership form that's on the back page of this newsletter and send it in. Remember, your membership also entitles you to attend and vote at any of our meetings, which are held the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:00pm in the Library/ City Hall downstairs meeting room.

We have tremendous talent of all kinds and compassion in this community! Won't you please help us to keep that heART pumping?

Much Thanks,
Dedi LaRue, SAAC President



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Find us in all of these other places as well

The Sturgis Area Arts Council can be found online at 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

Send e-mail to: saacpublicity@hotmail.com

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