

A Creative Focus on the Abilities Through the Arts

# 2018 Annual Report



## **Mission Vision**

To provide fully accessible opportunities in the arts To enrich people's lives By focusing on the strengths and abilities Of the individual, By encouraging the creative voice With self directed activities, Thus inspiring self worth, pride, Confidence and acceptance.



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## Philosophy and Approach

*Our philosophy is to provide open exploration of any medium chosen by the student with individualized guidance.* 

By looking closely at each student's abilities and skill level, individual instruction is provided. Whatever challenges they may bring with them a creative solution will be sought to nurture their inner creative needs and provide every opportunity for success. Students are challenged and encouraged to grow at their own pace.

### **Benefits**

Enhances self-image and self-esteem. Change identity from "disabled person" to "creative artist". Encourages decision-making and independence. Establishes or preserves sense of identity. Counteracts social isolation. Improves communication skills. Improves motor coordination and manual dexterity. Provides alternative for unacceptable behavior.

## A Message from the Founder



## Happy Anniversary to Studio 84!

Ten years ago, Studio 84 came to life. Opening its doors to the community it grew to be a unique local treasure that the community has embraced and for that I am thankful. In June of 2018 we kicked off our ten-year anniversary with our annual Gala Night with a packed house of artists and supporters. As we come to a half way point in our ten-year celebration, I see a major transition coming our way.

In fact, the transition has been happening for most of this tenth year:

- Our group of students have grown to the point of needing to hire more staff. At the time of this writing we have over 30 students enrolled, with them averaging 35 hrs per week of art making.
- We have a great high school transition program developing with local school districts.
- Our Art as a Career program has three very strong artists selling their work, with websites and lots of opportunities to sell their work other than just our store. All complete with business cards and websites.
- Sales of all art has increased 28% since 2017!
- Our board of directors has doubled in size and is working hard to develop fundraisers to support this growth.

There is no doubt that this tenth year has been a year of tremendous growth and we welcome even more growth as we TRANSITION into our next ten years.

The biggest transition is developing the Studio to be sustainable for the future. As some of you may know, I am looking at my future of retirement and as the founder, this is the single most important thing on my to do list...not retirement...but the Studio's sustainability. We currently have funding from one donor whose company matches that donation....this number is equal 30% of our current budget. This donor is also looking at a near future of retirement and when this happens much of this funding is retired also.

My task as the founder and director is to develop a board that will assist with this task of increasing our funding sources that will replace that funding throughout the next several years. It is crucial to the sustainability and future of the Studio.

This transition will require a team effort. I hope that our supporters will continue to be involved with that team.

Creatively yours,

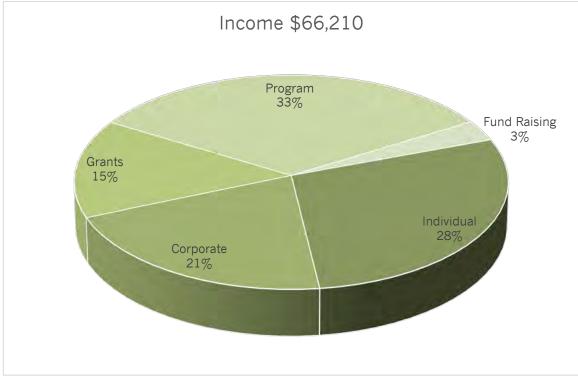
Deborah Blackwell

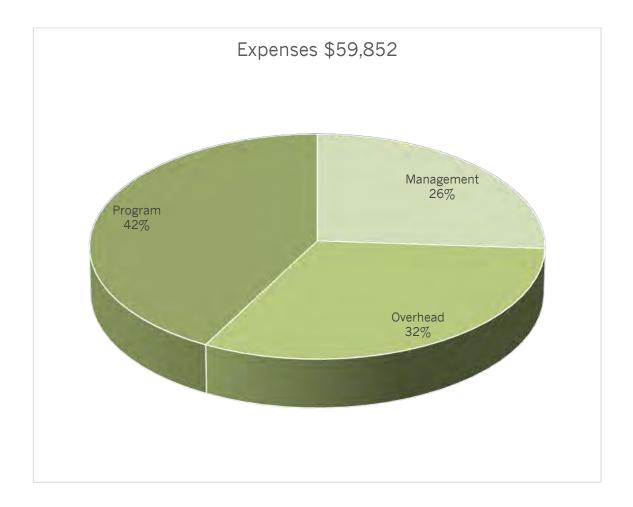




# **Financials for 2018**

A brief view of our budget.







## **Fun in 2018**



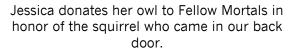
Stuart's art is donated to a school fund raiser.



On occasion the cuteness factor is off the charts!



Waiting our turn to be on the radio!







10 layers of CAKE!!



Yep that's a cake being video taped in our bathroom!



Sometimes we build rockets and send them flying through the streets of Whitewater.



Putting on our tough artist faces.



Field trip the art museum.



The Ten Most Expensive Paintings of all times!

## 2018 Friends of Studio 84



#### Founders Circle \$5,000-\$10,000

Frank Ludicky United Technology Corporation Virginia Coburn

#### Director's Club \$2,501-\$5,000

#### Visionaries Society \$1,000-\$2,500

Coburn Company Geneva National Foundation United Way of Jefferson & North Walworth County Walworth County Arts Alliance Whitewater Community Foundation

#### Artistic Mentors \$100-\$250

Amy Grau Ben Kelly Carol Dinsmore Christina Blackwell David & Catherine Flemming Debbie Dodge Diane Plewe Blodgett Jerry & Shirley Grant Jessica's Family Restaurant Joan Narad John & Nancy Dynkowski Ketterhaggen Motors Kristen Mathesuis Kristine Zaballos Lisa Marie Wooldridge Mary Ann Gerlach Patricia Malone Rebecca Fincutter Terry Houdek

#### Cornerstone Friends \$500-\$1,000

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church John Wickenberg Judith Nowicki Keefe Keefe Kiwanis Breakfast Club LSP Paula Senkowski

#### Program Partners \$250-\$500

Anonymous Bev & Tom Ganser Dale Morgan Geneva Lake Women's Association Thelma Robbins

#### Studio Friends \$10-\$100

Andrea Musher Anji & Robert Kokan Anne & Thayer Coburn Anne Hartwick Becky Adney Brenda Slosek Brian Beck Cydnie Palbicke-Pena Deborah Dewey King Ellen Patterson Nordsieck Gayle Blyth Greg Porcaro Harrison, Williams & McDonell, LLP Jennifer Smith Jersey Mike's Jo Ellen Burkholder Julie Svanoe Katy Wimer Lance Owens Lisa & Richard Jacobs Lynn Shoemaker Nicole Erdman **Renee** Schuppener Stacy Whetlow Susan Messer



Artists in Action





## Our goals for the future



Goals are important, they keep us moving forward and focused.

As we transition into our next ten years the goal, at our core is to continue to develop artistic talent in individuals with disabilities.

In order to do that my goal as the founder and director is to set in place a strong board of directors that will help reach this goal. Fundraising will be their main focus and setting an example for future boards to carry on a tradition of being a strong supporting board.

Part of goal setting is laying the ground work with baby steps written out and thoroughly understanding what each of these steps needs to do for the good of the larger picture.

I will be working closely with the board and digging into what each individual's gifts and talents are, just like I do with our artists.

It is my firm belief in life that you find what your gift is and use it to the good of the world.

I expect the same from our new board as it grows and develops.

I expect the same from our artists as they find their creativity.

