YAA Board Meeting Minutes – December 18, 2024

Submitted by Nancy Garrick, Secretary

1. **In attendance:** Taryn Myers, Anne Bancroft, Maryse Newton, Melinda Campbell, Laurie Chapman, Nancy Garrick Guests: Mary Harding (Membership) YAA member Martha Hesse, Caren Klein **Absent:** Joey Donnelly

2. **Approve November Minutes:** Motion made, seconded and passed.

3. **Treasurer's report**: Our balance remains healthy. Anne handed out the FYE 9/30/25 budget document and the Board reviewed it. 1) Clarification on the Letitia Moore Scholarship: we use $2500 quarterly which reflects income from earnings on the trust 2) Our fiscal year begins October 1.

4. **Program Updates:**

Upcoming:

- The building will close December 31 and reopen February 13 for the Family reception for the Love of Student Art Exhibit
- Two Color Workshops will take place while the building is officially 'closed', January 25 and February 8
- "For the Love of Student Art" Exhibit Feb 13-Feb 23. Opening reception for families: Feb 13, Opening Reception for the community: Feb 14. Grades K-12.

Events for 2025:

- **York Art in Bloom**: August 8th. A collaboration with the Piscataqua Garden Club. Susan Haynes is the PGC liaison. There will be a silent auction, auctioning off floral arrangements. "Maine Mystique" is our exhibit theme during Art in Bloom. THE PGC will preview and choose what 6 paintings (we have 6 pedestals) in the exhibit they would like to interpret during intake for the Maine Mystique exhibit. The Garden Club will create floral arrangements inspired by artwork in the Exhibit. Clipboarded bids near each floral arrangement for the silent auction of the floral. All proceeds will benefit YAA programs and go home that evening with the winning bidders. *Thoughts to market and cross promote this event for a successful collaborative evening of fun fundraising?* Melinda Campbell is the liaison for this event.
- **May Art Wall** Caryn Klein proposed an exhibit that would feature 20 11"x14" portraits of Women Nobel Prize Winners Date: 5/1/25. **Next step**: Curatorial Committee will meet to consider May, June, July slot.

2027 YAA 60th Anniversary gala – agenda item tabled for the moment

Review Maker's Market.

- This year Maker's Market ran for 3wks instead of 2. There was increased YAA members participation plus two guest artists. Nine artists didn't sell anything, eleven sold some

stuff. Total sales: 47 items: $1196. It was brought to the board's attention that the Maker's Market ended too soon the week after Thanksgiving, (many people were popping in during Nancy and Melinda's grant meeting hoping to buy last minute gifts) many customers were looking for us to be open the week before Christmas until at least the 21st. Going forward 2025 MM suggested running until 12/21.

- It was hard to find volunteers to gallery sit during Maker's Market so the gallery was closed a number of days when we could have been open.
- We had hoped to see highest foot traffic and sales during the period of time that MM was open.
- VERY light attendance at the MM opening

<u>Updated 2025 Calendar</u>
Brainstorming ideas: Artist talks on Sundays, Poetry Reading March 30 and May 11, Open Studio (1st and 3rd) Tuesdays of the month. Theater – drama readings, Edgar Allen Poe.
Next steps:

- Hoping to have schedule decided upon by early January.
- Mary will talk to someone about offering an "Open Studio" that we can put on the calendar as a recurring event. Would be day time, twice a month, likely 2nd and 3rd Tuesdays 9-noon. Would like to consider an evening session as well but we will need a member artist to be present. Idea: Include a yard sign out front on the days that we're open for Open Studio to that people who are driving or walking by will be enticed to come in and browse.

5. **Grant updates:** A $10,000 unrestricted grant is available from the Maine Community Foundation. Melinda has been working on the grant. Grant deadline: February 14. Notification: May 15 **Next Step:** Nancy and Melinda will meet Dec 21 to review the grant.

6. **Workshop updates** Monthly workshops are booked for 2025 with the exceptions of May, June, September and October

7. **January Continued Cleanup Next Step:** Anne will set up a time to meet at the Gallery

8. **New Business** 1) Our website is in need of review. **Next Step**: Set up a separate meeting to discuss. 2) The Gift Shop is in need of review **Next Step:** Set up a separate meeting to discuss.

9. **Meeting adjourned. Next meeting: JANUARY 29 6-7:30PM**

<u>Carried over ideas from November's Board Meeting</u>

- It was suggested that joining the York Rotary and/or the Masons might increase our supporting memberships.

- Newspaper Promotions (Laurie). It is advised that we find another person to volunteer in this capacity. Anne Lamoriello had been helping us, but has needed to step back for personal reasons.
- Board Members gallery opening signup sheet (curatorial suggestion)