



What's Happening at the Ontario County Arts Council? Spring 2025

Mission Statement:

Experience the arts!

Ontario County Arts Council provides diverse opportunities for arts participation, understanding, and appreciation.

Joyce Kowba, OCAC Board President April is “springing” with activities from the Arts Council! Mark your calendars for the Spring exhibit, Light and Shadow which will be opening April 12th from 1-3 p.m. at the Historical Society. Our community arts partnership with FLCC provides us with many opportunities for membership participation and enjoyment. In April we will collaborate with FLCC’s Student Portfolio Show Opening April 17th at ArtSpace 36 from 4:30-6:00 pm. This collaboration provides an opportunity for our members to sponsor, mentor or support art students from FLCC. We hope as many OCAC members as possible can meet and connect with the students. Another collaborative event in the planning stage is FLCC’s Laker Day Fiber event on 4/22. Judi Cermak is heading this event for OCAC. Stay tuned for more information coming on our website. The Historical Society is planning a Children’s Day on 4/26 during Open Art. Ulana Fuller (OCHS Director), Tina Blackwood and I will be there to share creative photography activities with your children or grandchildren. Come join the fun!

Lastly, mark your calendar for a Ribbon cutting ceremony for the Ghost of Roseland Sculpture on Friday, May 16 at 5:00 at Hotel Canandaigua. We have supported this unique project since the beginning and are very excited to see it finished and integrated into our community.



Photo by Peter Blackwood

“Light and Shadow”

April 12th 1:00 - 3:00 pm
Opening Reception for the new OCAC art exhibit at North Gallery, Ontario County Historical Society Museum
55 N. Main St. Canandaigua

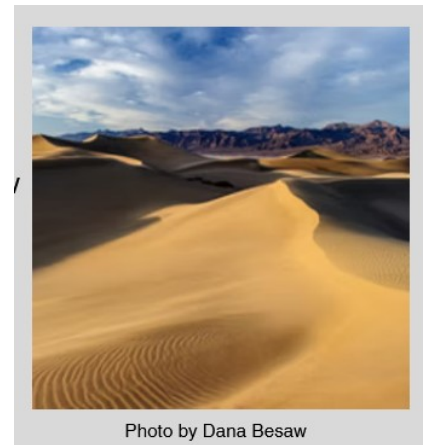


Photo by Dana Besaw



2025 Schedule

Saturdays

April 12, 26*

May 10, 24

June 14

July—August summer break

September 13, 27

October 11, 25

November 8

December 13

***April 26th Children’s Day at the Museum!**

Bring your children/grandchildren to Open Art on April 26th!

There will be creative photography activities for children sponsored by OCAC and OCHS.

Open Art at the museum is free and open to all members AND the public!

Bring any project (except oils) you’d like to work on while enjoying the fellowship of like-minded people in a welcoming setting.



Gallery 32 Update

The Ontario County Arts Council, which has promoted the arts for over 35 years, has entered into a community arts partnership with FLCC at Gallery 32 and plans to provide space for local artists to showcase their work and to sponsor FLCC students' membership in the organization. The council also offers a scholarship to a second-year FLCC student studying visual or performing arts.

Gallery 32 is currently seeking artists to exhibit their work!

This is a great opportunity for local and regional artists to showcase their talent in a dedicated gallery space in downtown Canandaigua. Partnering with FLCC and Canandaigua BID, Gallery 32 has opportunities to host large groups of patrons. From the visitors from Fire and Ice, Sip and Stroll, and tourists, our exhibiting artists are able to reach greater numbers of people and potential buyers of their works.



As a member of OCAC, there are volunteer opportunities to be an ambassador for the partnership between OCAC and FLCC. **If you would like to be a host to visitors at the gallery, please go to the Volunteer Page Gallery 32's website: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054CACAE23ABF8C52-55776385-volunteer#/> and sign up for a time slot that fits your schedule.**

Details for Interested Artists:

Eligibility: Open to emerging and established artists working in various mediums.

Exhibition Space: Located at 32 S. Main St., connected to FLCC's ArtSpace36.

Opportunities: Solo and group exhibitions, networking with local art professionals, and community engagement.

For submission guidelines and application details, visit the gallery directly at ocacgallery32.org or admin@ocacgallery32.org



We are accepting applications through June 1 from local nonprofit and government organizations for projects to enhance the visual and performing arts in the county.

The arts council has established a budget of \$5,000 for 2025. Grants of up to \$1,000 will be announced by Aug. 1. Projects must benefit the Ontario County community.

The arts council has shifted its focus to assisting small-scale projects. Grants will only be available for projects or events with a total budget of up to \$10,000.

To complete the grant application form go to:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeRp2MYLB5cVQoUqp-Ko4r7u5KDzfw5fja1CLwkm3Eot5H58w/viewform>

Ontario County Historical Society

55 N. Main St. Canandaigua

For more information go to: <https://ochs.org/>



Current Exhibit: From Studio Portraits to Snapshots
Ontario County Genealogical Society— April 2nd, 7pm
Tales of Appomattox—April 9th, 6pm
Jane Loomis Guild, The Art of an Artist—April 10th, 12pm
History Unleashed: Lafayette's Tour—April 15th, 12pm

Updates on OCAC Artist Members' Happenings & Opportunities!



Grab your calendars and mark down these events to attend.
Enjoy the talents of our OCAC Artists Members!

Reminder to all OCAC artist—painters, performers, musicians, writers!

If you would like to have your contact information listed on the artist directory page on the OCAC website please send your information: first and last name, medium, website/Instagram, email, commissions taken yes or no, to: ocartsny@gmail.com

Dawn Robinson—FIGURATIVE FUSION 2025 SHOW! Studio 402 in the Anderson Arts Building, 250 N. Goodman St. Rochester— (Door at back corner of small parking lot. Over the Good Luck restaurant).
Opening Reception Friday, April 4th from 6 - 9 Also open Saturday, April 12th from 12 - 4

Judi Cermak - SEA THEME FIBER ART EXHIBIT

Ewing Community Room Art Gallery at the Wood Library

Exhibit Dates March 23 rd thru May 2 nd

Opening Reception Saturday April 5th 1:00 - 3:00pm

12 large crocheted wall sculptures representing the coral reef will be displayed along with needle felting and embroidery artwork by Judi Rogers Cermak. Additional artwork related to the sea theme by other artists will be included.



Have you had dreams of illustrating a children's book?

During the recent Fire and Ice Celebration in Canandaigua, a writer came to Gallery 32 and expressed a desire to find an illustrator for his children's book. If this interests you, please email the author, Matthew Fusco at: mjfuzzy@gmail.com



Calling All Artists!

We are excited to announce that Artist Applications are now being accepted for Sonnenberg's 24th annual Arts At The Gardens.

This show takes place on the grounds of Sonnenberg Historic Mansion and Gardens, a 52-acre estate with flower-filled gardens, majestic trees and a magnificent mansion that is well-established as one of the area's top tourist attractions.

We invite you to apply.

Online application and details via the QR code or go to <https://www.sonnenberg.org/2025artist-application-info/>



250 Gibson Street Canandaigua, NY 14424

The **2025 Clothesline Art Festival** will take place on September 6 and 7 with a Major New Award for Regional Artists. Artists from across the country are invited to apply for participation and be part of this highly-anticipated festival. **Application Period:** January 2025 - early July 2025

For information on the application process go to:

<https://mag.rochester.edu/clothesline/clothesline-artist-applications/>

For questions please contact clothesline@mag.rochester.edu or 585.276.8949.



Meet the Artist!

Kendra Fleischman



Tell something about your family, where you grew up, went to school, etc.

I grew up in the Denver area of Colorado and recently lived in Loveland, Co. before moving to Canandaigua in October 2024. My family were pioneers of the west and my roots go back to the very first settlers of the northern Colorado area.

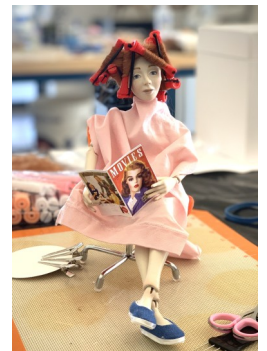
What were your early childhood influences regarding art?

My family was very supportive of my exploration in art. My grandparents introduced me to oil painting when I was 9 and my Dad and I started bronze sculpture classes when I was 15. They always encouraged my talents and even backed me financially when I wanted to start making larger works.

Did you go to college? Any mentors? I graduated from Colorado State University in 1987 with a major in art and art education. My concentration was in sculpture. Gary Voss was my mentor in sculpture and taught me how to carve stone. When I graduated, I didn't immediately start working in a studio. I started teaching art in the public school system and creating my own work when I could. I taught art for over 22 years and continued to work as a professional artist as well.

Which artists have you been most influenced by? There are so many it's hard to name just a few. Constantin Brancusi for his simplified human form, Nam Jun Paik for his innovation in digital media, Martha Graham for her work as a dancer and Vincent Van Gogh for his courage to paint his truth.

What type of art do you create? Has your style changed over time? At the moment I am working in acrylic painting and porcelain doll sculptures. My style is in constant motion. I started as a painter and stone carver, then moved onto bronze including large monumental works. Then I discovered digital art forms and animation which lead to many fun pieces in stop motion, projection mapping and installation. I still enjoy the idea of installation work, but I am exploring the smaller world of creating intimate settings with dolls. I am also painting again after a decades long break from 2d work.



What inspires you to create art? I enjoy creating narratives, telling a visual story. My past works were mainly expressions of emotion through movement and interactions between figures. Currently, I am bringing more personal expression into my work, drawing from my life experience.

What do you want to express through your art? Do you have certain themes that you pursue? The human experience. Or at least the human experience from my perspective. I know that is a very broad answer to the question. I am striving to break the human experience into intimate expressions that are universally relatable.

What is your favorite artist tool? Anything that allows me to tell a story.

How important are titles to your art? I do title my pieces but I try to let the viewer bring their own interpretations to my work. Many of my titles give just enough information to suggest a meaning without giving the whole picture.

What are the hardest and best parts of creating art? I would have to say time and money are the hardest parts. Before I retired from teaching, it was a real struggle to find the time to pursue my art, teaching gave me some extra income to keep creating but left very little time to be in my studio. It is a delicate balance that can be frustrating. I have had periods of success which is wonderful and validating. However, being a success in a certain subject matter or medium can influence you to keep creating in a style that you no longer wish to explore. You can get stuck and before you know it your work holds no meaning for you. Being able to be true to yourself and your desire to express can be very challenging.

Do you listen to music or podcasts when you create? I listen to jazz, electronic, classical and sometimes oldies. It all depends on my mood and the energy needed for a particular piece. I often put on the television as white noise when I need to concentrate. Don't ask me how many times I have watched/listened to any version of Jane Austen novels, it's embarrassing.

Where can people go to see your art? Do you have a website or Facebook page for your work? My website is www.kfleischman.com or you can go to my facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/KFleischmanArt>

Here are a couple of links to my work in animation:

<https://vimeo.com/717606318> most recent animation called "Run" 2022

<https://vimeo.com/397988077> "Ceraunophilia" 2020

Here are links to a couple of my projection mapped pieces

<https://youtu.be/bJf4akJyXWY?si=v9uGoGY5nTR3vzII> Holiday projection mapping of Denver Union Station

<https://youtu.be/IDRHusQ9kRg?si=64x10HvuKk69-yIF> Projection mapped piece for Side Stories in Denver, CO

Do you accept commissions? I love commissions and I have worked with many cities, colleges and private collectors.

Do you have a piece of artwork that you're most proud of?

I am very proud of my public art works, whether it is the large bronze sculptures or my digital projected pieces. Being in public collections means many people get to enjoy them. I am also very proud of a large digital installation I did called "The Little Chapel of Our Holy Motherboard". It was an ambitious work that turned out really well and I was able to install/show the piece in Santa Fe and Denver.



"The Little Chapel of Our Holy Motherboard" at The Understudy in Denver, CO 2018

Professionally, what's your goal? Keep on creating with purpose and hopefully find venues to share my work with viewers.

Do you have a "dream project" that you'd like to create? I would like to have a show that features an installation of 2d and 3d works exploring my journey through loss and change. It is a current body of work. I would also love to create an illustrated book or interactive animated book.



"Dancing on the Stairs"



"Adrift"



"Cyber Telly" - video sculpture that plays different video elements and sounds. You can change the video by pushing different buttons. The idea is that this robot is a storyteller that is collecting images and sounds and sharing these with the little alien children that are sitting on the robot.



"Gingerbread Station"



"Rising"



"Attraction"

JUST a REMINDER!!

**If you would like more opportunities to display your art work,
contact our community libraries!!!**

These libraries would very much appreciate it if you would contact them to exhibit your art in the libraries:

Bloomfield Library Rachael Aycok, 585-657-6264, www.bloomfieldpubliclibrary.org

Victor Farmington Library Greta Selin-Love www.victorfarmingtonlibrary.org or 585-924-2637

Naples Library Kendyl Litwiller napleslibrarydirector@owwl.org or 585-374-2757

Bristol Library Kim Stresing bristollibrarydirector@owwl.org (585) 229-5862

Canandaigua Wood Library Peter Blackwood peter@blackwoodphoto.com

OCAC Rotating Art Exhibits

When visiting local businesses in Canandaigua, Victor, Geneva, and Bloomfield that participate in **OCAC Rotating Artist Exhibits** please let them know how much you enjoy the art!

To see which artists are where, go to: <https://www.ocarts.org/rotating-exhibits>

Check our website www.ocarts.org for information and updates!

If you are on Facebook, please **LIKE** "Ontario County Arts Council"



Shout out to all of our Existing Members!!

Thank you so much for your continuing support of the arts in our community!

Please consider sponsoring a new member for their first year. It's only \$20.00!

Memberships information can be found at <https://www.ocarts.org/membership>

