

UNIQUE



The Arts & Literary Magazine

2004

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ARISE Child and Family Service, Inc.

Editor's Note

UNIQUE

UNIQUE Magazine
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Thomas Moxley
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Submission Guidelines

UNIQUE is published annually in the fall by ARISE Child and Family Service, Inc. to display the expressive and artistic quality of creative work by people with disabilities. We recognize that art comes in many forms, shapes, and interpretations and welcome submissions of written and visual works.

To be considered for publication in UNIQUE, please submit written work in hard copy or original artwork (photographs of large artwork are accepted). Mail works to be considered and their titles, a short biographical statement, and your address and phone number to the above address by May 31, 2005. Limit submissions to five works per artist.

Alternative Formats

Portions of UNIQUE can be made available in a variety of formats—including Braille, large print, or audiotape—upon request. To receive UNIQUE in an alternative format, please contact ARISE's Information and Referral Specialist at (315) 472-3171.

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**"Art is not what you see, but what you make others see."
– Edgar Degas**

UNIQUE truly is a unique endeavor in Central New York—it is the only magazine of its kind in the area featuring creative work by people with disabilities. By displaying the artistic visions of individuals living with physical, psychological, cognitive, or sensory disabilities, UNIQUE increases awareness of the capabilities of people with disabilities and inspires understanding and ethical treatment for all.

We are delighted to present this issue, the fourth annual publication of UNIQUE. In celebration of all artists and in recognition that art is produced in many forms, the magazine presents a broad array of artwork. We showcase poems, paintings, drawings, photographs, a quilt, and computer-based art. More than 35 artists—whose ages range from teenagers to those enjoying their 70s—contributed to the magazine through individual and collaborative artistic efforts. For the first time, two sets of parent-child artists are featured in UNIQUE.

These diverse works initiate a conversation around literature and art that inspires, educates, and enlightens. Thank you for reading UNIQUE and joining the conversation.

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Jeannett Francis lives in Syracuse, New York. She wrote this poem when she was in eighth grade at Shea Middle School.

Jeannett Francis

It reminds me of You!

I hold a Flower in my hand,
that reminds me of you!

When I look at it
it looks like you

When it smiles
you do the same!

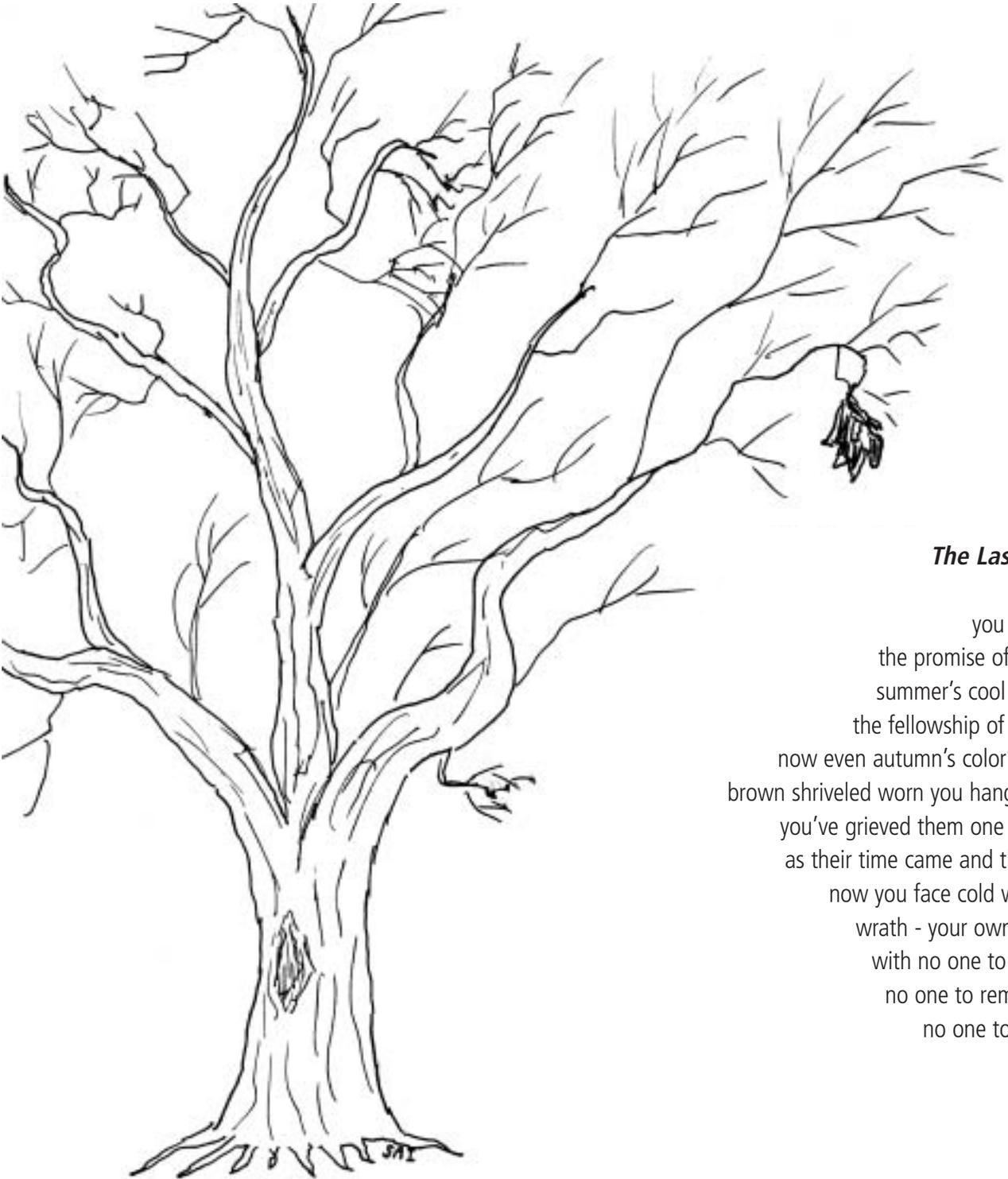
When I hold this Flower in
my hand, it reminds me to say...

I Love You

Just the same.

Steve Ingerson lives in Oswego, New York and is a pastor at Hannibal and Bowen's Corners United Methodist Churches. He has post-polio syndrome. His interests include music, writing, photography, and history.

Steve Ingerson



The Last Leaf

you shared
the promise of spring
summer's cool breeze
the fellowship of friends
now even autumn's color's gone
brown shriveled worn you hang alone
you've grieved them one by one
as their time came and they fell
now you face cold winter's
wrath - your own death
with no one to mourn
no one to remember
no one to forget

Thomas Moxley lives in Oswego, New York. He said, "This poem was inspired by nature's ability to remind us to be humble."

Thomas Moxley

Whispers

The media are for themselves;
As stories build to butter their bread
Who's at war and why.
The bags are checked at every gate
and still our children die.
The wall goes down in Bay bridge too
She takes her toll again
But never fear the rain man's here.
Judge Wapner's on at five.
The press is free to tell white lies
As good times grow with teary eyes.

Dick McCarthy is 70 years old and a life-long artist and craftsperson. He has lived his entire adult life with an inherited shaking disorder known as "familiar tremor." He had a 15-year addiction to alcohol, which ended in the late 1960s when he joined Alcoholics Anonymous. For the past 12 years, Mr. McCarthy has been winning ribbons at the New York State Fair. His works have been shown on local television stations, and in 2001 he had a two-month show at the Hazard Branch Library. This piece was constructed with more than 500 popsicle sticks.

Dick McCarthy *American Flag*



Vivian Golding has lived for over 30 years in a rural setting in Oswego, New York. She was an artist in her youth and began creating art again last spring, adapting easily from oil painting to computer-based art. Her faith, husband, family, and friends have supported her through the challenges of her recent multiple sclerosis diagnosis. She said, "Art expresses emotion, teaches patience, and is a healing therapy."

Vivian Golding *White Flowers*

Ms. Golding chose the colors in this work because they are soothing and reminiscent of a Van Gogh painting. *White Flowers* was created in "a quiet moment." Art, for her, is a healing therapy, and she hopes to inspire others—including her grandsons—through her artwork.



Vivian Golding *Italy Village* *Countryside*

This painting was created and exhibited at the Brooklyn Museum of Art, where Ms. Golding was a member of the student art league. The inspiration for the piece was hearing about Italy from her Italian immigrant grandparents, who helped her to visualize and paint an Italian countryside.



Luann Knight-Constanza lives in Oswego, New York and is an artist who works in the mediums of oils and acrylics. Her artwork depicts abstractions, realism, and fantasy. Her other interests are history, writing, and genealogy. She is dedicated to her children, friends, and family.

Luann Knight-Constanza
The Old Soul



Tim Baker, David Brophy, Diane D’Onofrio, Stephen Falcone, Patrick Hammond, Cindy Kantak, Kim Larkin, Mark Miles, Michael Novara, John Prothero, Joey Rossman, and Ingrid Stonecipher created this collaborative work. The 12 artists, who participate in Enable’s Community Networks Day Habilitation Program, each created an individual canvas for this painting. The 12 canvases are arranged on a frame with velcro, allowing for 1,728 possible combinations. The artists were supported by Community Networks staff: Dean Cullen, Jim Fanto, Jim Moffett, and Chuck Wilbur. The painting won the People’s Choice Award at the 2004 Syracuse Vineyard Art Show.

**Tim Baker, David Brophy, Diane D’Onofrio, Stephen Falcone,
Patrick Hammond, Cindy Kantak, Kim Larkin, Mark Miles,
Michael Novara, John Prothero, Joey Rossman, and
Ingrid Stonecipher**
Moving Colors



John G. Poupore is 38 years old and lives in Liverpool, New York. He was diagnosed with Young Onset Parkinson's at age 31. He is ABD in Economics from Syracuse University and has been published in the *Review of Economics and Statistics*. Mr. Poupore volunteers at Winds of Agape and enjoys the outdoors, especially the Adirondacks.

John G. Poupore
Stark Reality



John G. Poupore
A Bird In The Hand

He says of this work, "This little fellow decided to join me for lunch one day during one of my winter hikes in the Adirondacks. I managed to remove my camera from its case, open the lens, and hold the bird at arm's length while snapping this picture...all without him flying away. After taking the picture, I raised the sandwich (bird still attached) to my mouth and took a bite of the sandwich to the right of the bird. He still didn't fly away until I removed the sandwich from my mouth."



Thomas Moxley

Winter At Its Coldest

Thomas Moxley lives in Oswego, New York and is inspired by the beauty of nature. This photograph was taken in February 2000, the first time Mr. Moxley went camping in Newcomb, New York.



Josephine C. Gugliotto

The Old Tree

Josephine C. Gugliotto lives in Central Square, NY. She has "an artistic view" and is a graduate of Bryant & Stratton with a degree in interior design. She says of this work, "My mother and father built a house in Central Square, and in 1960 they moved in. In the fall I used to love to sit in the picture window and look across the street, and there was this big tree I always said I was going to draw. It was on a big hill far across the road. So one day I just sat in the picture window and drew the tree the best I could."



**Dennis Green,
John Rankin,
Erin Sedlack,
and Jeffery Zell**
Mystic Deep

**Dennis Green, John Rankin,
Erin Sedlack, and Jeffery Zell**
created this piece together. They
enjoy a wide variety of recreation-
al interests, such as Nascar racing,
music, and helping with arts and
crafts projects.



Shawn Plunkett
Fishing on Fish Creek

Shawn Plunkett enjoys drawing
with colored pencils. His ideas for
artwork are generated from the
countryside, where he resides with
his parents. He enjoys drawing for
relaxation and says that "it turns
a disadvantage into an advantage."
In addition to drawing, Mr.
Plunkett enjoys reading books
about shipwrecks and historical
subjects. He works part-time
doing housekeeping.



The Home Decor Group

Victorian Garden

The Home Decor Group of Schoonmaker Day Habilitation at United Cerebral Palsy in Boonville, New York created this quilt. The four artists chose fabric that was donated from a local furniture store and, with staff assistance, pieced the quilt together. Everyone took part in sewing the quilt using adaptive sewing machines.



Matt Henne

Mad Clown

Matt Henne lives in Syracuse, New York. The main subjects of his drawings are comic and horror.



Dennis M. Pullen, Jr., lives in Oswego, New York. He is an art major enrolled in Johnson University. He enjoys painting and visiting with his friends. Mr. Pullen is employed through AmeriCorps as a part-time self-advocate/secretary. He received an Exceptional Personal Growth Award in September 2004 at the New York State Governor's Mansion in Albany in recognition of his achievements.

Dennis M. Pullen, Jr.

The Hurt

Come save me, set me free
From this world that doesn't need me
They think I'm blind, but I can see it all.
Even in the ones that think they stand above them all.

How much anger, how much pain,
How much suffering can one sustain?
All I know is I've taken all the blame.

The light of day stolen from one so young,
The dark of night is where my fight has begun.
Tired and weak from fighting a war that can't be won
Life for me is no longer fun.

I've been tricked and cheated
But can never be defeated
They can beat me, poke me, and throw me around
But, I'm still standing, even though I'm sitting down.

Sarah Ingerson is 17 years old and a senior at Oswego High School. She became interested in poetry in her ninth grade English class and, since then, has had many poems published. She also has won leadership awards from the United Way of Greater Oswego County and Oswego County Legislature.

Sarah Ingerson

Untitled

Why can't everything be like it used to be
It was so simple back then
The biggest decision you had to make was what color crayon you were
going to use next
You never had to worry about clothes
Everyone was friends
Grades didn't rule your life
Suddenly everything changed
Your best friends are now your enemies
Once you get used to change, something else changes
Before you know it you are being thrown out of the only life you've
ever known
You must pick where you want to spend the next four years of your life
A place you're supposed to call home

Mary Coogan lives in Baldwinsville, New York. This poem was written about eight months before the diagnosis of her bipolar disorder, which she has lived with for over two decades. The submission also reflects her 10-year experience of being legally blind. Ms. Coogan says, "I am now convinced that my disabilities are calling me to a life purpose for which I am as yet unaware. With grace and dignity I put one foot in front of the other, the road looks pretty good from here."

Mary Coogan

My Well

I feel as though I'm in a well, it's so very dark and deep. If I lift my eyes up
I see a faint pinpoint of light. I know the light is where I want to be but I
don't know how to get there and I feel so very tired. My well is smooth and
slippery with nothing I fear to hold on to. How did I get here? I certainly
didn't will it to be so, or did I? Will someone hear my cries for help,
someone who can help me? It is so cold and lonely here, I ache for warmth
and touch. Is this my point of no return, shall I resolve this as my plight? I
feel like prayer has forsaken me. You see, I pray for strength, always
strength. What kind of strength do I pray for now? A miracle it seems. I
hope my life is but once on earth, please dear spirit, learn and let's move on.
The light is getting dimmer at the far end of my well. Will it come again or
never more for me?

Kim Grindle

Kim Grindle lives in Oswego, New York. She has a birth defect of abnormal curvature of the neck. She is the mother of Derek Grindle (below). Ms. Grindle wrote this piece as “a view of how some of the general public view the Autistic person.”

Shades of Perspective

People fear them because of being misinformed
They are disjointed, misarranged, misjudged,
Misunderstood, intuitive, emotionally sensitive
Wonderful abilities, savant-like qualities, trying
To be liked, spiritually superior, literant, seeing
Below the surface.

Little canaries in the caverns of Mankind,
Barometers of the ills of society, Past heroes
Were thought to be like these: Jefferson, Einstein
And DaVinci.

Try to see the good in everyone they're a little naïve
And can sometimes require more time—this is time
Well spent. No one nationality is spared along with
Economic wealth.

Derek Grindle

First Attempt

Derek Grindle lives in Oswego, New York. He is 14 years old and has Autism. His mother is Kim Grindle (above). This is Mr. Grindle's first attempt at creating art; he produced the piece at a free art class at the Salmon River Fine Arts Center in Pulaski, New York.



N. Elisa Mattice lives in Phoenix, New York. She loves animals, art, writing, and music. She said, "Through faith and forgiveness, I have survived severe, chronic fear and anxiety; physical illness; and depression."

N. Elisa Mattice

Faith

Standing still and silent
listening to distant thunder
musing hard decisions
fear destroys hope
(your) peace turns to restlessness
wondering when and why
not knowing
not understanding
going on
in faith

Acknowledgements

ARISE is grateful to the sponsors of the 2004 UNIQUE magazine. Your generosity ensures that a variety of perspectives are represented in Central New York's artistic and literary community. We also thank individual donors in 2004 for their generosity towards this project.

UNIQUE Sponsors

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How To Support UNIQUE

Your contribution to UNIQUE is very important—with it, you are helping to increase awareness in Central New York of the capabilities and talents of people living with disabilities. As a non-profit agency, we depend on the generosity of our supporters to continue the publication of UNIQUE. Please give what you can to UNIQUE today!

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With your donation, print the name you wish to appear on the "Acknowledgements" page of UNIQUE magazine.

Thank you for your generosity.

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Flower Explosion: An Adventure in Microscanning

is by John G. Poupore.

Mr. Poupore says of this work:

“The main flower is a Johnny Jump-Up scanned in at over 65,000 dpi. The main background is a Small White Flower I found growing near my home. The green leafy part in the lower right-hand corner is the edge of a Strawberry Leaf at extreme magnification. The pistils and stamen in the center of the Johnny Jump-Up are from a Purple and White Flower native to Chase-Pitkin. Silhouetted behind them is a partially transparent Ruby. Above and to the right of that, even more transparent, is an Emerald. In the lower left corner you’ll find a real Gold nugget scanned in at high magnification, copied

several times. Behind the gold is a combination of Iron Pyrite (Fools’ Gold) and the “veins” of a dried Helicopter from a tree. The hazy area above the Gold/Fools’ Gold is a blend of the small white flower (background) and the Leaf of a Red Maple scanned at extreme magnification. Assorted other flowers were used in this image.”

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