

UNIQUE

The Arts & Literary Magazine

2006



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UNIQUE Sponsors

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ARISE Child and Family Service, Inc.



UNIQUE

UNIQUE Magazine

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Submission Guidelines

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

Please follow these guidelines when submitting creative work to UNIQUE:

- Artists submitting creative work must be at least eight years old and live in Central New York.
 - All submissions must be accompanied by a completed UNIQUE Submission Packet. To obtain this packet, call (315) 472-3171 or visit the ARISE web site at www.ariseinc.org.
 - Submissions are limited to two works per artist.
 - Original artwork must be submitted.
 - A hard copy of written work must be submitted.
 - The UNIQUE 2007 submission deadline will be announced in early 2007. For more information, call (315) 472-3171 or visit the ARISE web site at www.ariseinc.org.
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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, ARISE depends on the generosity of our supporters to continue the publication of UNIQUE. Please give what you can to UNIQUE today!

To make a contribution, simply mail your check made payable to "ARISE" to the above address. Thank you for your generosity!

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.

Editor's Note

2006 has been a year of exciting growth for UNIQUE. To increase the diversity of artists who contribute to the magazine, the Editorial Board began the year by expanding our outreach efforts. These efforts paid off—we were thrilled to receive 128 submissions of creative works from more than 70 artists throughout Central New York.

The current issue is the largest to date, featuring 41 works by 56 artists. The artists' ages span seven decades, from those entering their teens to those in their mid-70s. They hail from locations throughout the region, including Cazenovia, Cortland, Oswego, Rome, Syracuse, and Utica. Most of the artists (80%) are being published in UNIQUE for the first time.

The creative works featured in 2006 UNIQUE include poetry, photography, drawing, collage, painting, mixed-media works, and computer-based art. Through these diverse media, distinct and dynamic artistic styles emerge. Many artists reflect on the Central New York landscape as seasons unfold: the tranquility of falling snow in January, the promise of budding flowers in May, the excitement of fireworks in July. Others look inward to explore the subject of identity through masks, portraits, and poems.

2006 also has been a year of transition for UNIQUE. For the past four years, I have had the pleasure of helping to guide the magazine's development. This will be my last year in the role of Managing Editor, as I move to North Carolina to pursue new opportunities. I want to take this occasion to thank the many individuals and community agencies that contributed to UNIQUE's remarkable growth over the years. In particular, I want to recognize our dedicated Editorial Board members. A special thanks to Dave Listowski, who photographed many of the artworks in this issue, and Patricia Smith, who skillfully coordinated the production of the magazine. I know that UNIQUE will flourish in future years under our Editorial Board's direction.

What continues to make UNIQUE so compelling, year after year, is the contributing artists' honest, thoughtful, and passionate interpretations of life. Every one of us has a unique perspective, a take on the world that is unlike any other. Sharing that perspective helps us to better understand others and, in turn, ourselves.

UNIQUE gives a voice to those of us in the community—people who have physical, psychological, cognitive, or sensory disabilities—who may not otherwise have a forum to share artistic visions. As we celebrate UNIQUE's first six issues and the more than 160 contributing artists, we also commit ourselves to continue working to broaden the artistic community so it embraces people of all abilities.



Ali Stieglitz
UNIQUE Managing Editor

UNIQUE

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COVER:

Charles F. Serway, *Winter Chill*

Six members of a **Cazenovia College Poetry Class** collaborated to write this poem. The class, which was led by Dee Shepard as part of the college's Summer Enrichment Program, focused on sense imagery. The teacher used mints, bubbles, feathers, and a rain stick to simulate reactions, feelings, and responses. To create *Summer in Caz*, the six poets concentrated on images related to summer.

**Cazenovia College
Poetry Class**
Summer in Caz

The spicy charcoal smell of a barbecue
shivery lemonade, icy cold
FIREWORKS BOOM!
Peonies as big as dinner plates
the sound of the insects at night

Vivian Golding lives in Oswego, NY. She says that "even though I had to make several life changes and retire, due to multiple sclerosis, I now have more time for my family and to rediscover my art talents." Vivian said that *Abstract Yellow Flowers* is a reflection of springtime and rebirth after harsh winters, when hyacinths, bulbs, and other flowers bloom. She created this piece on the computer and hopes that her art continues to inspire others.

Vivian Golding
Abstract Yellow Flowers



Alan Chubbuck is 21 years old and lives with his family in Canastota, NY. He attends Day Habilitation at Heritage Farm, Inc. and participates in Supportive Employment. Alan enjoys drawing, playing video games, and taking care of his lizard, Spike. He says, "I have an artistic side that I like to express through drawing and painting. Creating art makes me happy and helps me relax. One of my favorite things to draw is race cars."

Alan Chubbuck
Visions of Lilies



Carolanne Carter Dukell lives in North Syracuse, NY and describes herself as an "art appreciator." *Sails & Fins* portrays boats "on the ocean with a fog rolling in." Carolanne considers the style of this work to be Impressionist.

Carolanne Carter Dukell
Sails & Fins



Luann Knight-Constanza is a freelance published artist and poet. Her goals for the next year are to finish illustrating two children's stories she wrote for her children when they were young and to have the stories be picked up by a publisher. Luann said, "*Sunrise, Sunset* was taken from Lake Ontario and is one of my earlier oil paintings."

Luann Knight-Constanza
Sunrise, Sunset



Mark Kearney is 52 years old and has experienced a head injury. He is a member of the David Clark Learning Center, a program of Transitional Living Services. Mark said, "I have been doing a lot of watercolor over the past year and have designed a new art studio in my home." For *After the Storm*, Mark "tried to capture the site of a mountain range after a rainstorm."

Mark Kearney
After the Storm



Jim Ervin, 37, has lived in Syracuse since 1989. His interests include writing, music, and sports. Jim said, "*The Perfect Human* was written during an extremely low point in my life. However, I believe it shows how everyone faces challenges and that the imperfections in our daily lives make us all human."

Jim Ervin
The Perfect Human

Empty picture frames hang from the wall
A reminder of the present and a reflection of the past
They gather dust and wait for signs of life
As I blindly reach out for something to grasp

I rummage through my closet full of bones
Finding restless skeletons guarding painful memories
I will keep my thoughts of you under lock and key
Because the heart makes up lies for what the mind really sees

I am tripping over my own contradictions
My façade of lies is wearing thin
Spinning yarns into blankets of alibis
Wishing for a chance to begin again

I cut myself to see if I will bleed
Trying to find life beneath this skin
Perhaps this is all just worthless introspection
Perhaps I just have the misfortune of being human

Matthew Brady lives in Utica, NY. He created *Rain Forest Native* as a drawing in pencil.

Matthew Brady
Rain Forest Native



Timothy Wobus, 22, lives in a group home. He is non-verbal and Autistic, and attends a Day Habilitation program. Timothy became interested in painting in middle school, and in high school several art teachers took a real interest in him and encouraged him. His artwork has been displayed at Fayetteville-Manlius High School, and he was the major contributor to a month-long art display at May Memorial Church in 2005.

Timothy Wobus
The Mask Within



Michael Glinecki loves creating art, woodworking, refinishing furniture, working with beads, and playing the harmonica. He is a member of the David Clark Learning Center, a program of Transitional Living Services. Michael said, "I have an interest in Native American culture. This piece is called *Crooked Nose* and is used in religious ceremonies." Michael sculpted the work with air-dry clay.

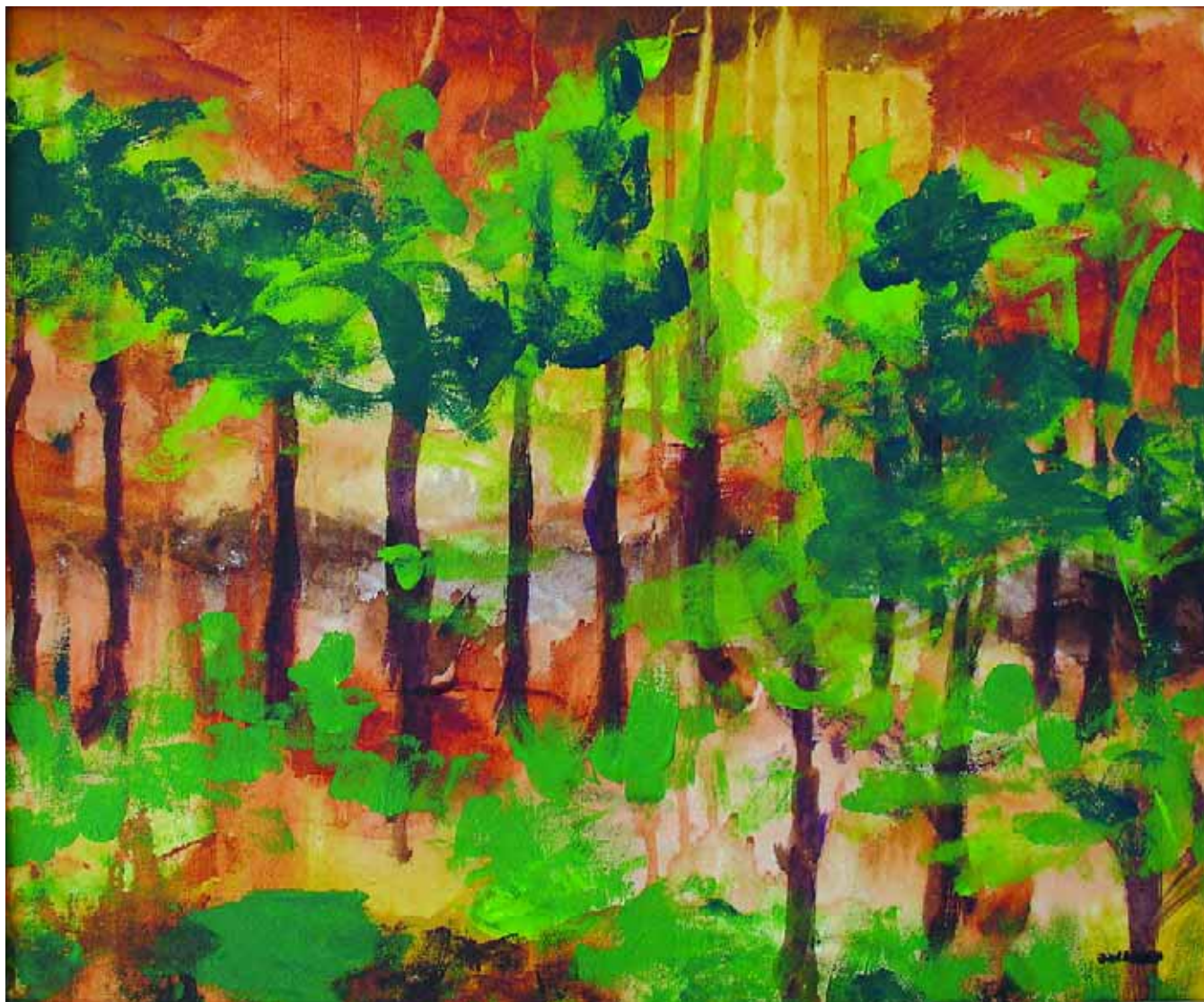
Michael Glinecki
Crooked Nose



Timothy Wobus, 22, loves the piano, doing puzzles, and horseback riding. He explores "his artistic world" with color and unique composition. He works in a variety of media, including silk and dye scarves, tissue paper collage, oil pastels, and tempera and acrylic paint. Timothy's technique is of broad and bold strokes, and he rarely leaves any white or un-worked space. His renderings depict a great deal of emotion; he is enthusiastic and adventuresome with his works.

Timothy Wobus

Highland Forest



Steven Ingerson lives in Oswego, NY and is a United Methodist minister. His interests include history, photography, painting, music, and writing. Steven has Post-Polio Syndrome and Fibromyalgia. He says of *Illumination*, "This is a 35mm photograph that is a semi-abstract picture. The subject is a driveway lamp with morning glories and a blue sky background. It reminds me of a source of light projecting illumination."

Steven Ingerson
Illumination



Susan Heffron is 47 years old. She designs her own cross stitch and loves to arrange silk flowers, quilt, cook, and bake. Susan says, "My disability has greatly impacted my artwork—as I have grown emotionally, my artwork has greatly improved. I enjoy being creative, and art is very therapeutic for me." Of *Pondering Child*, Susan said, "I feel children are capable of being very intelligent and love their creativity and spontaneity."

Susan Heffron
Pondering Child



Donna Faye Wilson has a master's degree in American Literature but is a completely self-taught poet and artist. Donna said, "I continue to create so as to inspire, console victims and survivors of abuse, eating disorders, Scoliosis, and pre-mature arthritis." It is hard for Donna to stay seated in most chairs, so "both the artwork and writings are mainly done on the floor surrounded by pens, pencils, paints, and cats." She explains that *hi(story)* was created "in remembrance of Wesley (1956-78)... my very first and apparently my one, only, very last Love."

Donna Faye Wilson

hi(story)

we met upon a tiny star
i was so lonesome, both marooned,
each wondering who, what we are

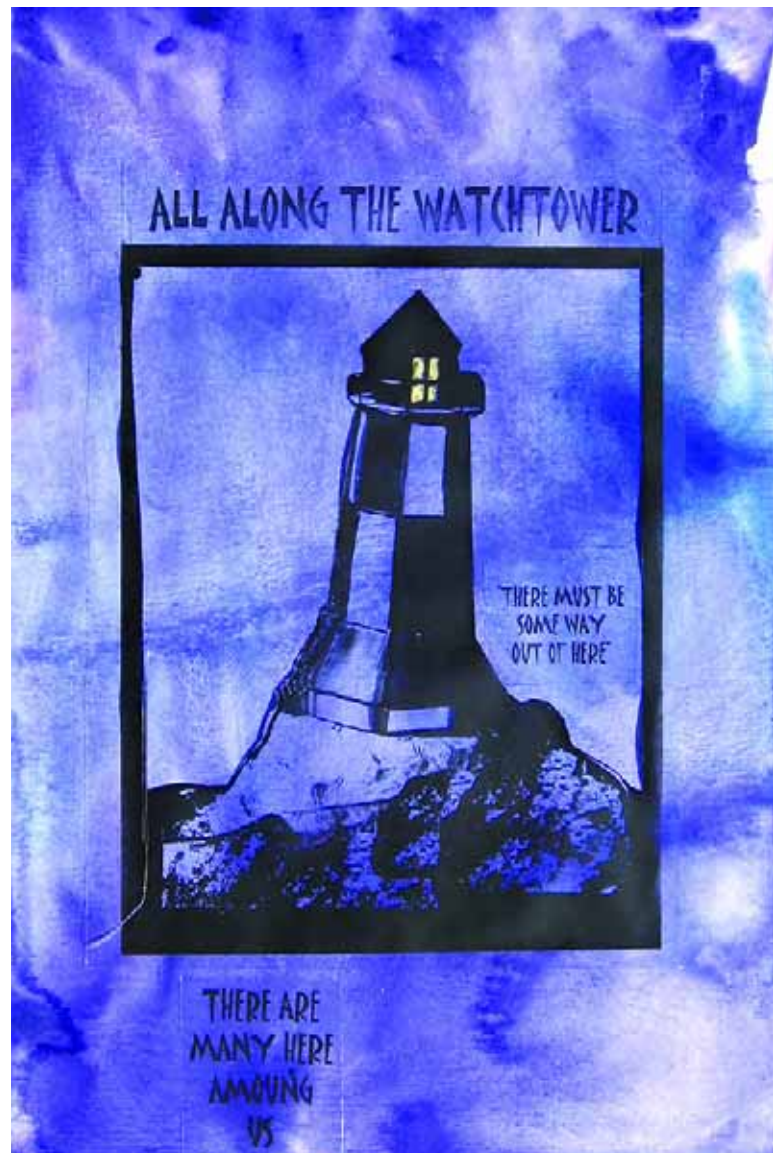
you felt crowded, i gave you room
thinking now that i went too far
hung off the edge, courted the moon
left in a rocket bound for Mars

returned too late, lost you too soon
crumbs remain in the wishing jar

Larry Hall is 44 years old. He is a member of the David Clark Learning Center, a program of Transitional Living Services. Larry said, "My accident happened in 1981. I used to have a problem drinking...I've been clean since June 1985." Of *All Along the Watchtower*, Larry says, "I like to joke about being a sailor...and the reason I like the watchtower is because Jimi Hendrix sang a song titled 'All Along the Watchtower.' I put these two ideas together and came out with this piece."

Larry Hall

All Along the Watchtower



Lottie Adams, age 70, lives in Syracuse, NY. She was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease 10 years ago. Lottie began painting in fall 2004 as a hobby; she says, "Mixing colors on canvas gives me pleasure. The finished product tells me I can function moment to moment. The imagination is very important for well-being in my life, and I believe for all."

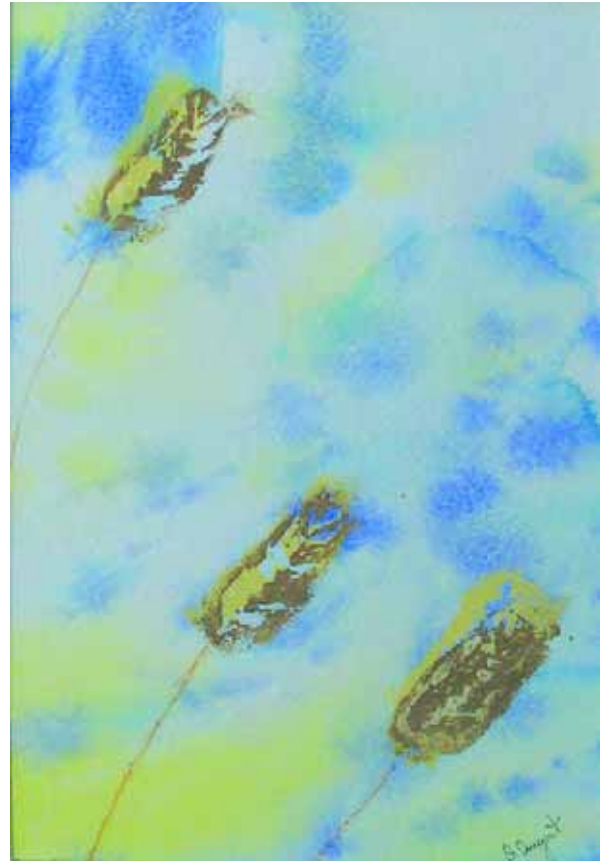
Lottie Adams

My Sky



Donna J. August was a successful, independent woman living in the community when she experienced a heart attack. Since that time, she has participated in a rehabilitation program and is recovering. Donna said, "I have been able to return to my artwork, which is giving me great pleasure." She also is a member of the David Clark Learning Center, a program of Transitional Living Services. Donna explains that *Breezy Flow of Wheat* captures "the idea of movement."

Donna J. August
Breezy Flow of Wheat



William Griffin, 28, lives with his family in Fulton, NY. He devotes much of his time to volunteer work and his church and also enjoys gardening and cooking on the grill. William loves to create air brush paintings in the summer and oil paintings in the winter. He plans to donate *Playful Polar Bear* to the CNY Children's Hospital; William spent time there when he was young and says he knows how much cheerful paintings mean to the children.

William Griffin
Playful Polar Bear



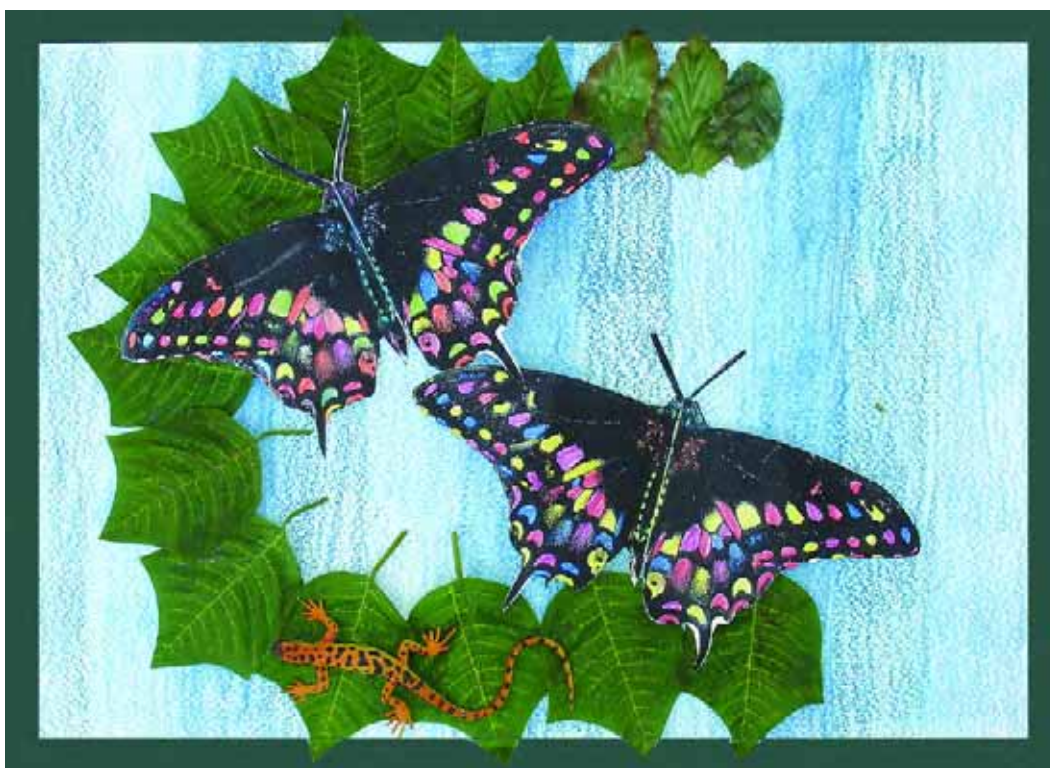
William D. Whinery has lived in Cortland, NY for six years following a traumatic brain injury from a hit-and-run truck accident in New York City, where he resided for over 30 years. He is retired from a distinguished career in banking; he also was an adjunct professor of finance, served in the Air Force, and ran a municipal airport. William took up art later in life as a means of self-expression and relaxation and is interested in subjects in nature of national prominence or unique to America. William said, "The attraction of this piece was the detailed outstretched wings as the bird is beginning to take flight."

William D. Whinery
A Native of the Marsh



Erika Vitthuhn says she "loves to do art, and I'm very good with colors." Erika has a visual impairment; one recent highlight in her life is that she received a guide dog, Jake. Erika is a member of the David Clark Learning Center, a program of Transitional Living Services. She described *Butterflies in the Mist*, "I love lizards and butterflies, particularly the colors and patterns."

Erika Vitthuhn
Butterflies in the Mist



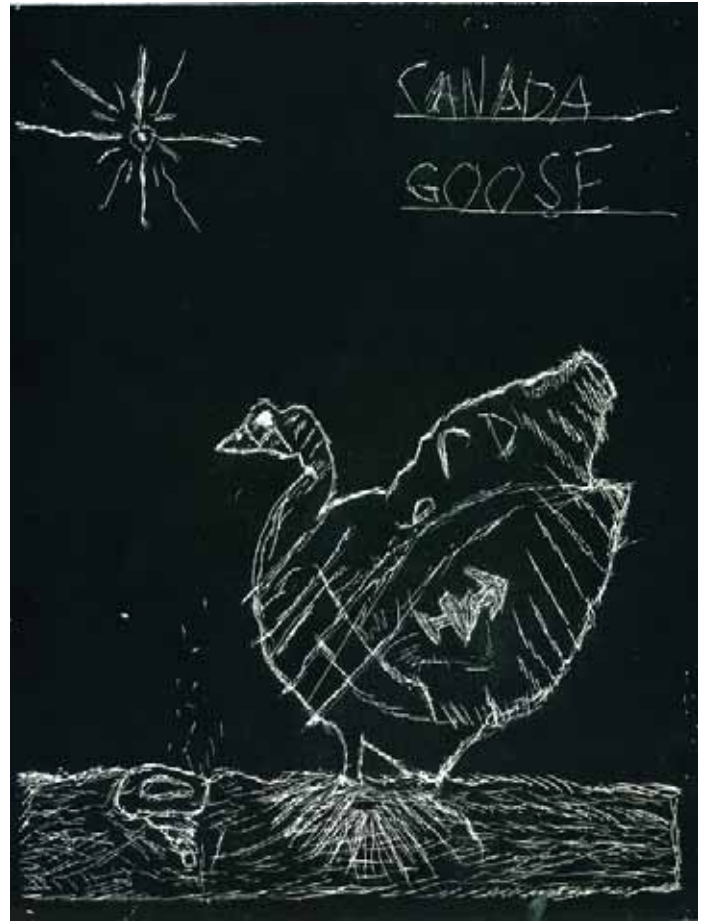
Andrew Skinner, 18, lives in Central Square, NY. He is interested in science-fiction, fantasy, superheroes, comedy, horror, comic books, cartoons, and creative writing. Andrew was recently diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome. He says that *The Cat Burglar* features "an original character for a story I've been working on...I pictured a boy and a cat combining together into a cat-shaped ghost. The piece was done in a comic book style."

Andrew Skinner
The Cat Burglar



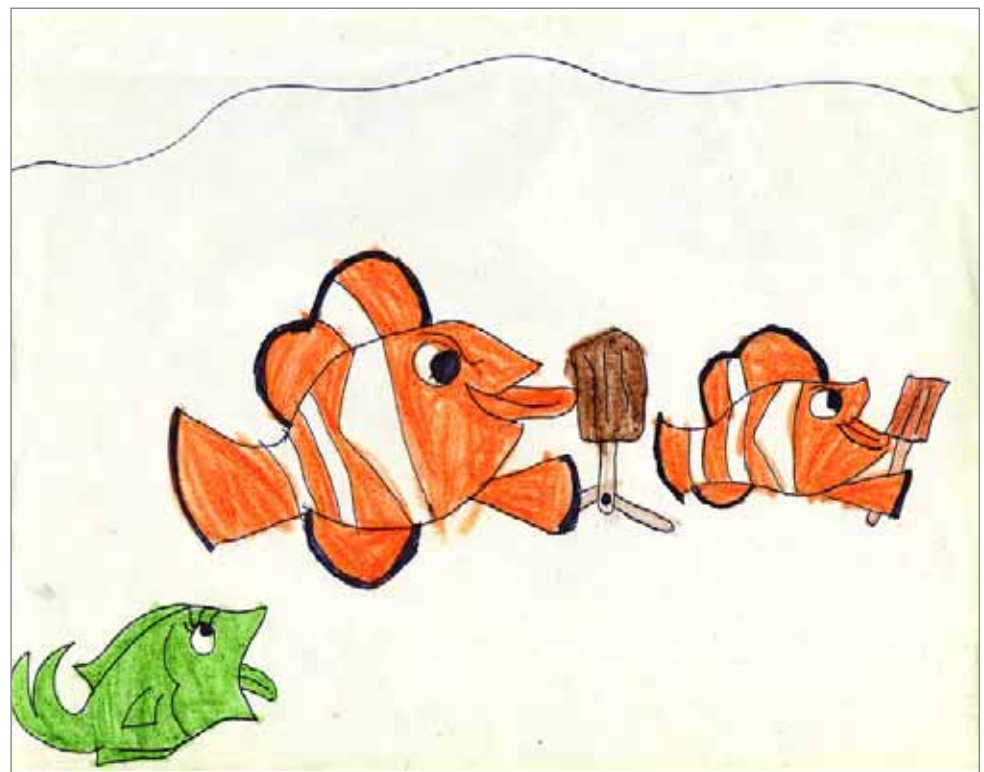
Shawn Mack has many talents, including massage therapy, drawing, painting, and creating t-shirts. He enjoys giving gifts and "loves people in general." Shawn had a severe car accident in 1996 and was in a coma for a year. He is a member of the David Clark Learning Center, a program of Transitional Living Services. Of *Canadian Goose*, Shawn said, "I love to draw using scratchboard."

Shawn Mack
Canadian Goose



Paleigh Iannarilli is eight years old and lives in Rome, NY. She loves to draw and spend time with her Service Coordinator. Paleigh likes birds "because they fly."

Paleigh Iannarilli
Nimo Eating Fudgicles



Philip Dawson is 62 years old and is "still willing to learn." He said that *Standing Room Only* reveals "how I feel about Unique Perspectives (a program of Transitional Living Services). I come here every day."

Philip Dawson
Standing Room Only

As I walked, walk Harrison St.
I took a sneak peek at Unique
The window had something for my eye
Do you feel alone, just like me and my
Inside, you need not have to cry
The floors are crushed crimson and rye
To thine own self be true
We are the other side of you
We are here to book your flight
On a journey that is full and bright
On the wings of our silver UFO's
There is a snowflake on your nose
Maybe, if you care to stay
We can make your whole day.

Michael DeNardo is 15 years old. He likes to play different types of games and enjoys a challenge. *The View* is an acrylic painting on a canvasette with eight-inch sides. To create the work, Michael used a dry brush, glazing, and brush techniques.

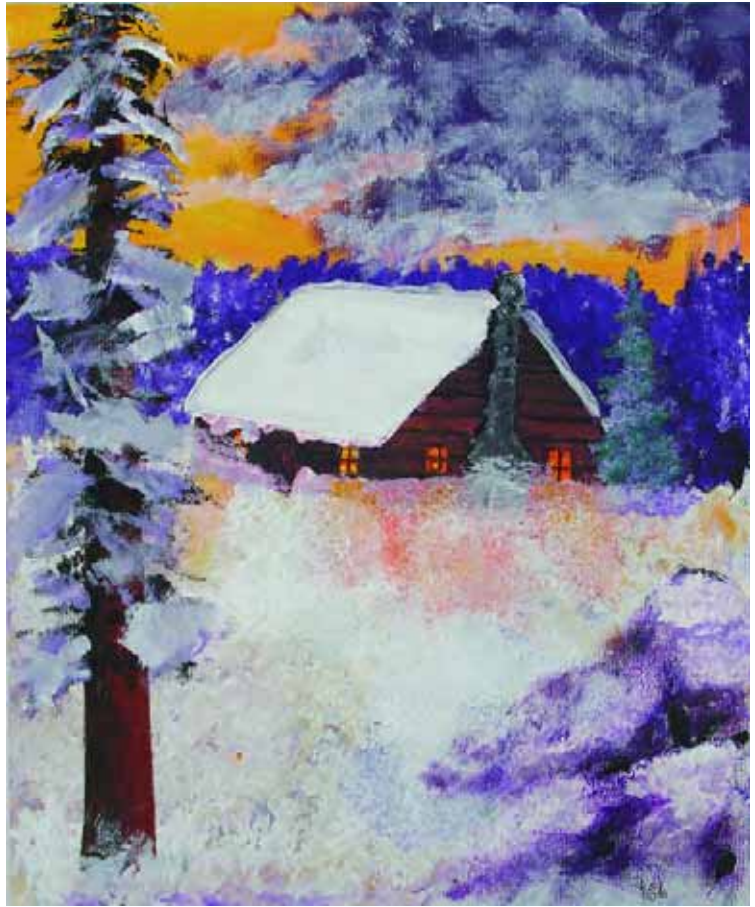
Michael DeNardo
The View



Ray Thompson is 14 years old and lives in Syracuse, NY. He explained, "I use art to help me cope with anger." Of *Winter Home*, Ray said, "After I looked at it, I couldn't believe it was mine."

Ray Thompson

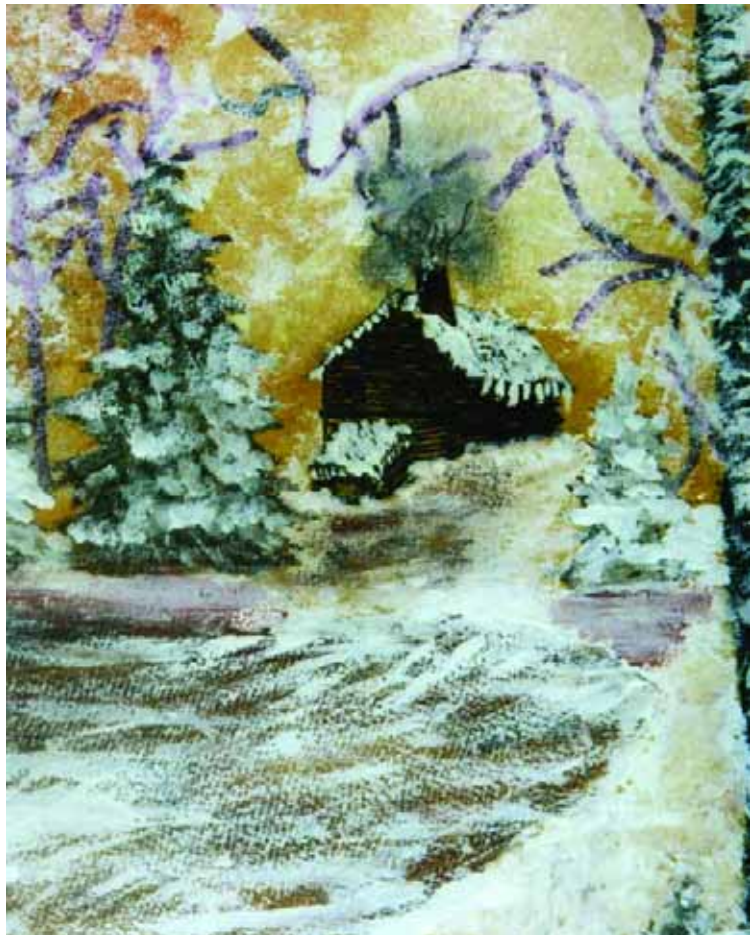
Winter Home



Patrick Burgess is 15 years old. He says, "I love my artwork. I'm interested in art a lot and would like to take a class on art." For *On a Snowy Night*, Patrick used warm colors in the background, a glazing technique for the frost on the trees, and a dry brush on the lake.

Patrick Burgess

On a Snowy Night



Dick McCarthy is in his early seventies. A talented artist from an early age, he has lived his entire adult life with an inherited shaking disorder known as "familial tremor." He broke a long addiction to alcohol in the late '60s, at which time he turned to craft work. Dick has been winning ribbons at the NY State Fair for the past 12 years. He recalls creating *DVD Wreath*, "Recently seeing wreaths in a magazine, I remembered the words of a high school art teacher: 'be original.' I've made several pieces with pull tabs and decided to use them in a wreath."

Dick McCarthy
DVD Wreath



Barbara Carnrite, Patty Davis, and four other members of Onondaga Arc Eastwood's Enhanced Day Habilitation Program jointly produced this work. The six artists enjoy creating art, holidays, parades, singing and dancing, picnics, and ice cream socials.

Members of Onondaga Arc Eastwood
Springtime



Tanner Woodland has a great love of all types of music. He says, "I like to think of myself as being very artistic." Tanner is a member of the David Clark Learning Center, a program of Transitional Living Services. For *Mozartal Symphony*, he explained that he "tried to show how diverse my love for music is with this series of pictures."

Tanner Woodland
Mozartal Symphony



Jeremy Ravenscraft is interested in computers, rock n' roll, and artwork. He is a member of the David Clark Learning Center, a program of Transitional Living Services. Jeremy explained that his work, *Jeremy's Jam*, shows "my chord positions on the guitar."

Jeremy Ravenscraft
Jeremy's Jam



Kim Grindle lives in Oswego, NY with her son, Derek, and husband, Marc. She is involved with many community organizations. Kim has a form of Scoliosis of the neck that was found through a soccer injury when she was a junior in high school. She is working on a book that explains Autism to children using characters from the past. Kim says her poem "is a reflection of how I feel when explaining my son's Autism to people who are still 'stuck in the mud.'"

Kim Grindle

Coming into the Light of Thinking

Oh, to the History past
Let us not forget the past
To help in the future

There is a need to mix
The old with the new
The museum with the skateboard

It is to document that we exist
We are human with emotions
We show our strength,
Our weakness,
Our greatness,
Our oneness,
Our uniqueness,
Our struggles

Oh, to the History past
Let us not forget the past
To help us in the future

Derek Grindle is 16 years old and lives in Oswego, NY. He attends Oswego High School and belongs to 4-H, Grace Lutheran Church, Boy Scouts, Special Olympics, and the High School Track and Swim Teams. Derek is taking private music and art lessons; he created this work "for the community and for school" and was inspired by abstract artists.

Derek Grindle

Cross of Churches of Oswego



Ashley Tyler is 23 years old and lives in Oneida, NY. She works in the Oneida School System as a substitute classroom aide and volunteers at North Broad Street Elementary School. She said she "painted *Grandma's Kitchen* on an oval canvas with oil paints. I like creating pictures that people can enjoy."

Ashley Tyler
Grandma's Kitchen



Robert Linderoth, Marie Vilasi, and four other members of Onondaga Arc Eastwood's Enhanced Day Habilitation Program collaborated to create this work. The six artists enjoy "oldies" music, classic television shows, parades, arts and crafts, holidays, and picnics.

Members of Onondaga Arc Eastwood
Springtime Flowers



David Burns is 45 years old and lives in Boonville, NY. He works at a local restaurant and belongs to a photography club called "Sharp Shooters." In his spare time, David likes to take pictures with his digital camera and create business and special occasion cards on his computer. He says of *Flowers*, "I have a love of nature and enjoy taking pictures of the beauty nature has to offer."

David Burns
Flowers



Christopher M. Duck lives in Marcy, NY. He has many interests, including using his computer for graphic design and creating CDs and DVDs with his recorder. Christopher also is a big fan of "Dr. Who," "Star Trek," and "Mr. Bean" and enjoys attending plays and musicals, miniature golfing, and bowling. *Bus Stop* was created with clay and recyclable materials (cardboard cylinders, boxes, styrofoam, and plastic containers).

Christopher M. Duck

Bus Stop



Nicholas Brewer is 13 years old and is part of a set of identical triplets. He says, "I have a learning disability, which makes it harder for me to process work at my age level; however, I love to draw and I put a lot of thinking into it." Nicholas creates artwork because "it is fun for me and takes my mind off stressful things."

Nicholas Brewer

Lazy Pants



Betsey DuFour is a 25-year-old woman who has Williams Syndrome. She lives in rural Madison County with her father, Fred. She attends a Day Habilitation program at Heritage Farm, Inc. in Bouckville, NY. Betsey enjoys writing poetry "as a way to share my ideas with others." She says *Visions* "is a poem that expresses a wide array of ideas, hopes, and thoughts about my life and the world we live in."

Betsey DuFour
Visions

Visions and memories
Things, thoughts, questions
Visions of past and visions of tomorrow
Visions of good times with friends
Visions of ideas that merge to become one
Visions of people doing good things for others
Visions of colors that make a picture
Visions that help you to learn
Visions of peace
Visions of laughter and visions of smiles
Visions of rain, visions of snow
Visions of a land far away
Visions of you and me
Visions of eyes meeting others
Visions of truth being spoken to others
Visions of hurt being replaced by healing
Visions of the day when we can finally accept ourselves as we are
Visions.....where would we be without them?

Brian Cole and Sara Morrow participate in ARISE's Day Habilitation program. They both have a developmental disability. Sara enjoys art projects and social events. Brian likes playing games outside and watching movies. They say that *ARISE in Flight* "shows how we can still rise above the clouds. We will not let our disability keep us from living a full and happy life. If you work hard you will accomplish all you want in life."

**Brian Cole and
Sara Morrow**
ARISE in Flight



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Design by
Adam Rozum Design
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Winter Chill is by Charles F. Serway. He said, "I enjoyed drafting throughout high school and for three years of college. I designed kitchens, since my dad owns a cabinet building business. I also worked at making cabinets and countertops before my accident." Charles is now a member of the David Clark Learning Center, a program of Transitional Living Services. *Winter Chill*, created using watercolors, portrays the winter season.

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