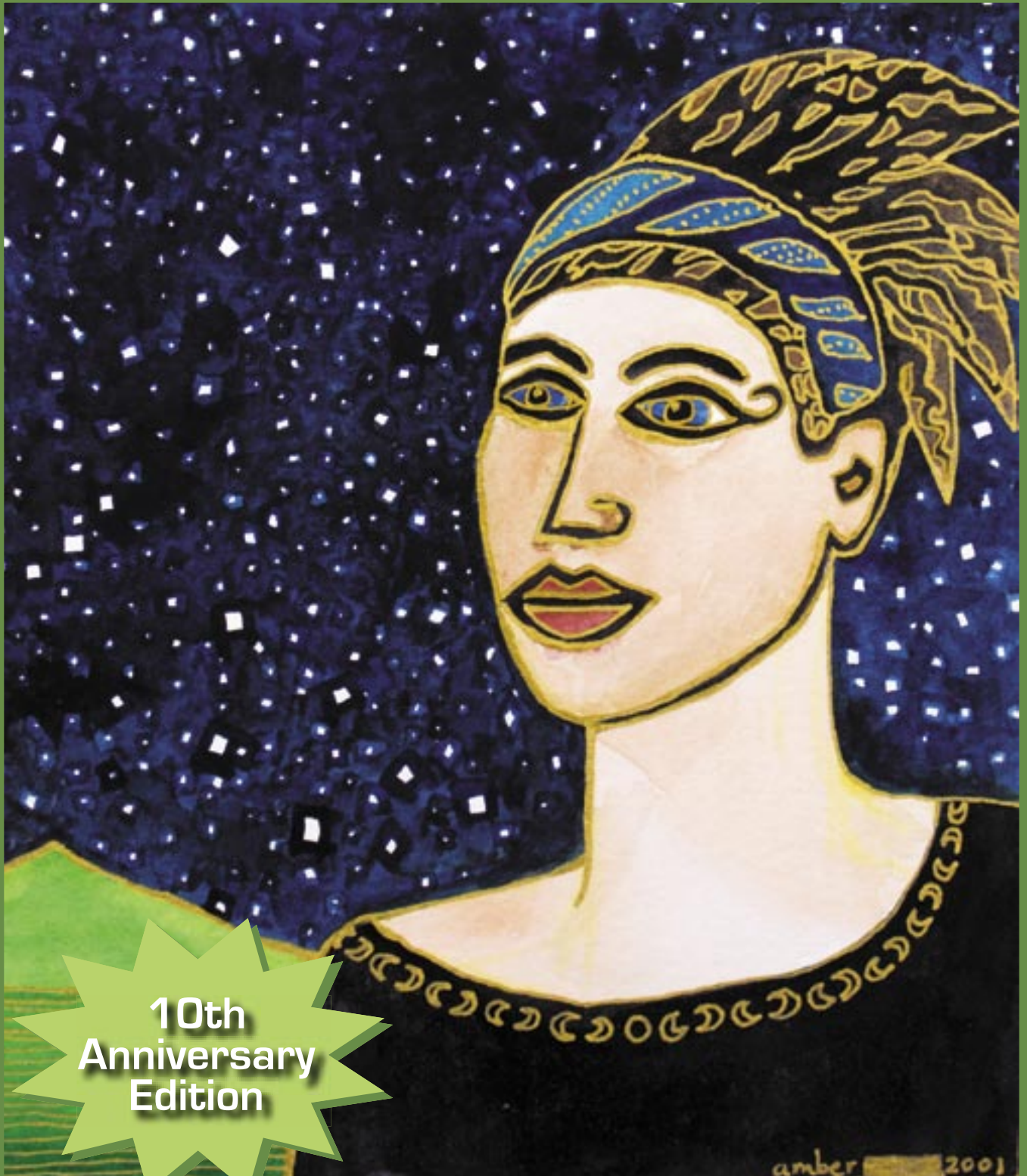


UNIQUE

The Art & Literary Magazine

2010



10th
Anniversary
Edition

UNIQUE

The Art & Literary Magazine 2010

Publisher

ARISE Child and Family Service, Inc. (ARISE)

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Submission Process

UNIQUE is published annually to display the creative work of artists with disabilities living in Central New York. We welcome submissions of written and visual works. Guidelines and deadlines for UNIQUE 2011 will be announced in March 2011 and will be published on the ARISE web site.

Alternative Formats

Portions of UNIQUE are available in alternative formats upon request. Please contact ARISE's Information and Referral Specialist at (315) 472-3171.

How you can Support UNIQUE

Your contribution to UNIQUE helps increase awareness of the capabilities and talents of people with disabilities. As a non-profit agency, ARISE depends on the generosity of our supporters to continue publishing UNIQUE. To make a contribution, please mail your check, made payable to ARISE, to the address below or use our secure online form at www.ariseinc.org. Thank you for your generosity.

ARISE

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The Art & Literary Magazine 2010

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UNIQUE

The Art & Literary Magazine 2010

Editor's Note

Once again, I am honored to be a part of this publication. UNIQUE 2010 is full of milestones. Not only did we top last year's record number of submissions, but we have included the largest number of creative works with 54 pieces published. The publication itself marks the tenth edition of the magazine, and UNIQUE has now featured over 200 area artists and writers with disabilities!

Through the support of our sponsors, we are providing a retrospective on the evolution and growth of UNIQUE over the past ten years. I encourage everyone to view the UNIQUE archives on the ARISE website to see how many of the UNIQUE artists have grown in skill over the years. I also encourage everyone to keep an eye on the first-year artists for more great work to come.

The talent displayed by the artists published in these pages, the artists published in previous issues of UNIQUE, and the artists who submit their work for consideration is amazing. These artists and writers prove that creativity is a part of us all. Art and inspiration are human traits: we only have to open our senses to feel them all around us.

Please enjoy this milestone 10th edition of UNIQUE, and look for us as we continue to celebrate creativity again in 2011 and beyond.

About ARISE

Founded in 1979, ARISE is a non-profit Center for Independent Living run by and for people with disabilities. Our mission is to work with people of all abilities to create a fair and just community in which everyone can fully participate. We are guided by the philosophy that individuals with disabilities have a right to dignity, personal responsibility, and self-determination. ARISE is committed to an open and safe environment for people of all abilities.

ARISE serves children and adults with disabilities through more than 50 programs and services in several broad areas including advocacy, employment, independent living supports, information and referral services, integrated recreation programs, mental health services, and peer counseling. Programs are primarily based in Onondaga, Oswego, and Madison Counties, though some programs serve an 8-county region across Central and Northern New York.

UNIQUE, an art and literary magazine, is one of the many programs coordinated by ARISE. Published annually in the fall, UNIQUE gives voice to individuals with disabilities, increases community awareness of the creative abilities of individuals with disabilities, and broadens communities of artists to those of differing abilities.

UNIQUE

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UNIQUE

A UNIQUE History

UNIQUE 2001

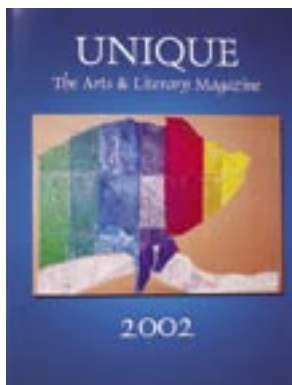


ARISE published the first edition of UNIQUE Magazine to “display the expressive and artistic quality of creative work by people with disabilities and those who care.” The first edition primarily featured written works, and had a four-page section of artwork in color.

As the first publication, UNIQUE started small and featured ten artists and writers who contributed a total of nineteen works. Artists and writers either were individuals with disabilities or those who had a loved one with a disability, and the focus of the writing and artwork was to build awareness about what life is like for individuals with disabilities.

The cover featured “Poppies,” a photograph by Dave Listowski, one of the earliest driving forces behind UNIQUE; a former UNIQUE Editorial Board Member, and a consistent UNIQUE contributor.

UNIQUE 2002



For the second edition, the Editorial Board at UNIQUE narrowed the focus of the magazine to feature only artists and writers who have disabilities. The magazine was already growing, expanding to eight pages of color artwork in addition to extra pages for written works.

The second publication showed thirty-three pieces of art and literary work by twenty-four artists or artist groups. All the featured artists have a disability of some sort.

The cover art work selected was “Chameleon,” a drawing by Tanner Woodlawn, with painting assistance by other members of the program he attended.

UNIQUE 2003



By the third year, UNIQUE was beginning to find its footing and solidifying its role in increasing awareness of the capabilities of people with disabilities and inspiring understanding and ethical treatment for all. Restructuring under Managing Editors Acela Soler-Figueroa and Ali Stieglitz, the third edition showed twenty-four pieces by nineteen artists or artist groups. In a year featuring many collaborative works, more than 50 artists contributed to the magazine.

Nine participants in Enable’s Community Networks program worked together to create “Community Art #9,” the cover artwork for UNIQUE 2003. The piece also won the People’s Choice Award at the 2003 Vineyard Art Show.

UNIQUE

A UNIQUE History

Constantly growing and changing, the 2004 edition has the distinction of being the only UNIQUE to feature two families where both the parent's work and the child's work were published!

The cover artwork for the magazine featured "Flower Explosion: An Adventure in Microscanning" by John G. Poupore. It was created digitally, using scans of flowers, gems, gold, leaves, and other natural objects, each at different magnifications and transparencies. The result is a piece that outwardly looks simple, but has many layers and detail as the viewer looks closer.

By the fifth edition, UNIQUE had more than doubled in size. It featured forty works by thirty-two artists.

Managing Editor Ali Stieglitz wrote in her Editor's Note, "What has made UNIQUE so compelling over the past five years, and what we hope will support the magazine's growth over the next five years and beyond, is the contributing artists' honest, thoughtful and passionate interpretations of life."

The cover of UNIQUE 2005 again featured a photograph by Dave Listowski. "Night Whirl" is an exciting photograph of one of the State Fair's midway rides at night.

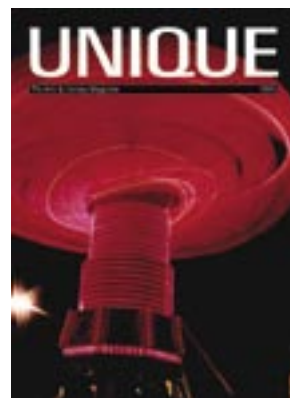
The sixth publication of UNIQUE featured another year of tremendous growth. It showed 41 works by more than 50 artists, however more than 70 artists submitted 128 works for consideration by the Editorial Board. The geographic area of the featured artists also expanded.

Charles F. Serway, a participant in the David Clark Learning Center of Transitional Living Services created the cover artwork, "Winter Chill." Many participants in the David Clark Learning Center have had their artwork published in UNIQUE over the years.

UNIQUE 2004



UNIQUE 2005



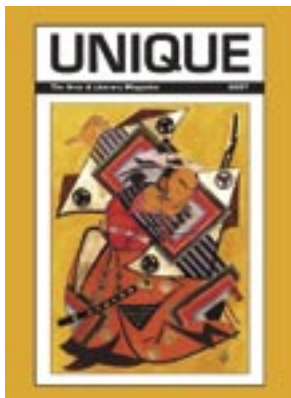
UNIQUE 2006



UNIQUE

A UNIQUE History

UNIQUE 2007



Continuing to evolve under the new leadership of Patricia Smith, UNIQUE 2007 was larger still. The magazine featured 44 works by more than forty artists, and again increased the number of pages. It was the first edition to feature “honorable mentions,” recognizing artists whose work was not selected for publication, but whose talent and effort should nonetheless be recognized.

It was also the first year the Unveiling Celebration was held at the Delavan Art Gallery, displaying the art and literary work selected for publication alongside the current exhibit at the gallery, connecting UNIQUE artists with the broader art community.

The cover featured “To Battle” by William D. Whinery.

UNIQUE 2008



The eighth edition continued to gain momentum and build on the strong foundation of previous publications. It featured 43 works by more than forty artists and artist groups.

After the magazine was unveiled, Bill Delavan requested that two of the sculptures featured in the magazine remain on display. The two pieces were the cover work, “Surfin’ Pirate” and “George McRooster.” Both were collaborative efforts by participants in the Cortland Community Reentry Art Therapy Program.

UNIQUE 2009



UNIQUE enjoyed tremendous growth in both the number and geographic area of the artists submitting artwork. UNIQUE 2009 was no exception. Ninety-five artists or groups of artists submitted over 140 works of art for consideration by the Editorial Board. The magazine again increased in size to accommodate fifty-two pieces by as many artists.

New Managing Editor, Elizabeth Dunn, wrote: “If art is born of personal experience, in order to widen our dialogue on art, we need to seek out diverse people with a wide range of experiences.” UNIQUE shows a rich array of art and literary works from people who have lived diverse lives.

Alice Olcott created “Blue Moon,” the cover artwork. It was her first year submitting artwork to UNIQUE.

UNIQUE

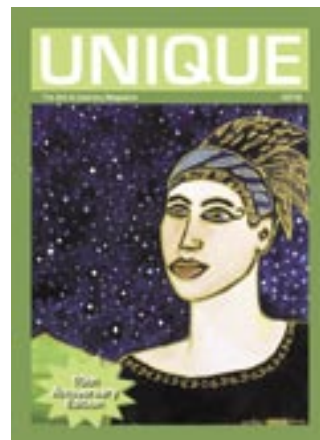
A UNIQUE History

With nearly 150 entries put before the Editorial Board, it is no wonder that UNIQUE 2010 is the largest magazine to date. It features 54 works of art and literature by as many artists. The Editorial Board expanded as well, including two celebrity judges: Steven Kern, Executive Director of the Everson Museum of Art and Sean Kirst, Columnist for the Post Standard.

2010 marks the first year that UNIQUE will have an art exhibit to accompany the Unveiling Celebration. "UNIQUE 2010: Celebrating Creativity" will show two weeks in October and will travel to other galleries in Central New York.

We are excited to present the cover artwork, an untitled piece by Amber Micek. She comes from an artistic family with both her mother and her late uncle as close artistic inspirations. She feels her untitled piece expresses beauty and melancholy.

UNIQUE 2010



Untitled

Amber Micek

*Honorable Mention for
the submission: "Fly"*





Comedian

Joseph Rufo

Honorable Mention for the submission: "Pop-Pop John"



Swan

Laura Payte

Honorable Mention for the submission: "Hmmmmmmm"

The Last Day of Analogue Television

Sheala Burks

*Honorable Mention for the
submission: "Flower Lady"*

11:30 P.M., 12 of June in the year 2009; I tuned into channel three on my 1992 signature 2000 TV set. It was a little fuzzy but the Late Night was still there. My roommate was filming with my hand-size camera with small monitor.

Suddenly, when the clock struck five minutes to midnight, the news anchor interrupted the nighttime laughter.

"This is channel three. In a few minutes we will be turning off our analog transmitter permanently. If you are receiving this message this means your TV is not DTV ready. We would like to say farewell and see you on the digital side."

As the "Star-Spangled Banner" played, I saw what was to be the last few minutes of our television history to the point.

Black and white; color.

Cable; satellite.

HDTV; Plasma, LED.

I nearly cried when the TV sang, "the land of the free and the home of the brave."

After a few seconds of black, the TV gave one final scream with a rainbow of test panels; then faded to black-and-white microdots and a scratchy sound.

Joseph and the Coat of Many Colors

Eyal Sherman

*Honorable Mention for the
submission: "The Hero Within"*





Beautiful Bloom

Theodora Emch

Honorable Mention for the submission: "Daisy & Lady Bug"



Portrait of a New Friend

Josh Webster

Honorable Mention for the submission: "Trucking into the Future"

Birds of Life

Victoria Giangatti



Morning Glories

Michael Simmons

Honorable Mention for the submission: "Guiding Light"



Depression is to be the disappearing one
From cycle to circle to fade
And yet hypomania returns when it's done.
It's a subtle cascade.

Reigning around the fabrics of the
mental quilting follicles.

I jump from synapse to molecules
And try to clothe and grasp.

I cure and not to take the asp;
For I'd like to be on a curing,
caring country's land.

I shake my hand
As to assure myself of a tide washing
my symptoms dull—

So these waters and capsules pacify
and kindness will classify.

I grasp reins of a rockiness ventured
To defame my sense of the indentured
And wanting to be no mortal's servant.

I stand my mind tall and fervent.

Disappearing One

Jennifer A. Fulco

*Honorable Mention for the
submission: "The Rhapsody of a
Flying Monarch"*



Hidden Flowers

Jennifer Dunlop

*Honorable Mention for the
submission: "Cottage by a Peaceful
Stream"*

Cascade

Timothy Wobus

Honorable Mention for the submission: "Tim's Bling"



Tucan in the Rainforest

Richard Russell

Honorable Mention for the submission: "Sailboats"





Untitled

Midge Lawless

Honorable Mention for the submission: "Spring Hat"



Shine on Me

Rhonda Peterson

Honorable Mention for the submission: "Then there was Color"

Whatever It Takes

Cortland Community Reentry Art Therapy Group

*Honorable Mention for the
submission: "Spring Flowers in a
Vase"*



A View from Florida

Jeremiah Werden





Water versus Fire

Charles Fitzpatrick

Honorable Mention for the submission: "Lava Draco"



Snake on a Log

Samuel Wayne

Honorable Mention for the submission: "All About Me"

Oh Sister, Oh Sister

Sultan Alsafadi

*Honorable Mention for the
submission: "Deliverance"*

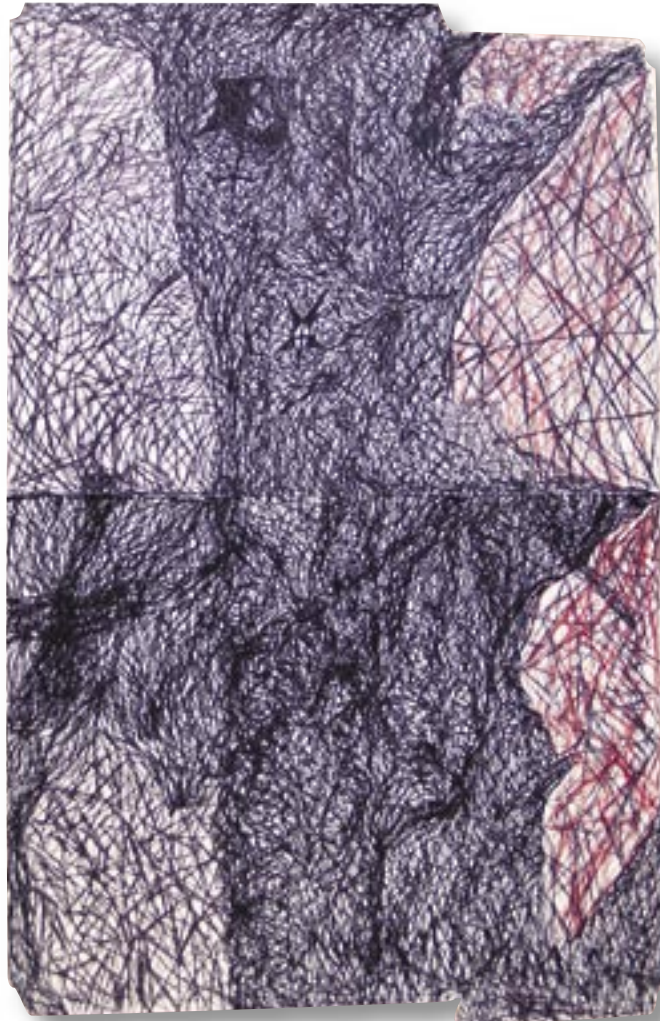
A dark, dark presence of evil,
engulfs me
in a pit of madness.

The Speaker of Fate,
with his sharp tongue and sleek frame,
crafted to kill, covered in blood
plunges into the flesh that pained me for
so many years.

Unremorseful celebration,
To the death of my madness.
Oh sister, oh sister.

Lines of Life

Mark Wilson



Leonard's Place
Leonard Hires



Rain Forest
Craig Champlin

*Honorable Mention for the
submission: "Dragon"*



Untitled

Heritage Farm
Senior Program



Red White and
Blue Starburst

Dick McCarthy



The Rose

Cynde Hammond

Honorable Mention for the submission: "Mistaken Identity"

"How am I supposed to live without you?" I asked him, tears rushing down my cheeks. He and I were surrounded, but most of the names I did not recognize. I sat staring ahead, despair enveloping me as I tried to put into words how I felt about his leaving me, shattering my life forever. It was difficult for my teenaged mind to grasp.

Crickets were chirping in the darkness as the moon slid under the clouds. The leaves on the trees swayed to and fro as the wind picked up its speed. I shivered and raised the collar of his plaid hunting jacket over my slender neck.

Crossing my ankles, I wedged my hands under the backs of my knees to keep them warm after I sat down on the concrete bench next to the rose bush that was now between us. The smell of flowers assaulted my senses causing my eyes to burn as I struggled to swallow the lump forming in my throat.

"Life isn't worth living without you," I whispered so he alone could hear me. I sobbed uncontrollably, praying he would respond, but all was silent, save the wind rustling through the trees. Piece by piece, I was torn and crumbled.

"Please don't leave me alone," I pleaded. "I need you." by that time, I was prostrate before him, totally unaware of my surroundings and was so immersed in my desperation that when I thought I heard the pitiful, heart-wrenching screams, I hadn't realized they were pouring from my own lips.

"I can't live without you," I cried. "Please, take me with you!"

Within moments, my father had knelt down beside me and wrapped me in his arms, consoling me. He held me as I emptied my grief, begging the Lord for His help, until finally I had quieted.

"It's time to go now, Sweetheart," he soothed me, with his loving, velvety voice. "What you need now is rest."

All around us, mercury-vapor lights had snapped on, buzzing and casting an eerie glow in the fog that had rolled in, with pinpoints of fairy lights – the lightning bugs that were dancing in the night.

I could hear the echo of our steps as my father and I walked in unison down the paved walkway toward the car. I prayed that he would take the single rose that I had left him as a sign of my love – it had always been our special message to each other.

As we exited down the long, winding road, I turned to take one last look. Tears of relief coursed down my cheeks when I discovered that the rose was gone – it had disappeared from on top of his gravestone.

Giant Rose
Mitch Ciarpelli



Products of War
Vykky Ebner

*Honorable Mention for the
submission: "The Great Wall"*





Sun Splash
Luann Knight



Vase with Gears
Hilary Cookhouse

*Honorable Mention for the
submission: "Bowl"*

**Pretty Girl with Flowers
in Her Hair**

Jeffrey D. Harrington

*Honorable Mention for the
submission: "In a Cozy Cabin After
the Storm"*



Allium

Kristen Webb

*Honorable Mention for the
submission: "Lupins"*





Summer Breeze
Shawn Mack



Three Flower Pots
Erin Kelley

Slow and Sweet

Sarah Hamlin

Honorable Mention for the submission: "Singing Fiddle"

Slow and sweet,
My life began to unfold.
And as I walked in the autumn leaves,
I saw the dream which my memories did hold.
The wheelchair was gone, and I was running free.
And in my ears, I could hear the prison
lock meet the key.
I ran with my arms out wide, putting
everything else aside.
I could taste the candy in the air and smell the scent
Of a beautiful flower.
I heard the music of the birds, and felt
my legs gain power.
Slow and sweet,
My life began to unfold.
I sat before young children,
Their hearts open, as I let my story be told.
I could feel my skin turn to silk,
Tingling with bliss.
I welcomed a new life,
A new me, with a kiss.
It was slow and sweet,
In the fall heat.
Freedom grabbed me and took me for a ride.
And when I woke up, I found myself within
The center of a crowd...
Even though I was in a wheelchair, I was proud.
For this time...
I no longer felt like I needed to hide.

Life Cycle of a Butterfly

Connor McHale

Honorable Mention for the submission: "Go Yankees"





Yellow Bird
Kyle Bonner



The Morning Sunrise
Betsey DuFour

Calm
Hannah Rufo



Memory of Chittenango Falls
Michele Gaframcesco



Where is the key?
Won't someone please help me out
Of this prison I'm in?
I know there is a way out:
Because I've been there before!

My, how I used to shine THEN...
But it is nearly impossible to live NOW.
The future seems an unlikely and dim path
For me to follow.
Where will it lead me...
It would be so great if there were a key or answer
To my future.

Won't someone please let me out of this
Darkness I'm in?
It seems to go on FOREVER!
Can it even be helped?

Let Me Out

Christine Eldred

*Honorable Mention for the
submission: "In My Mind"*

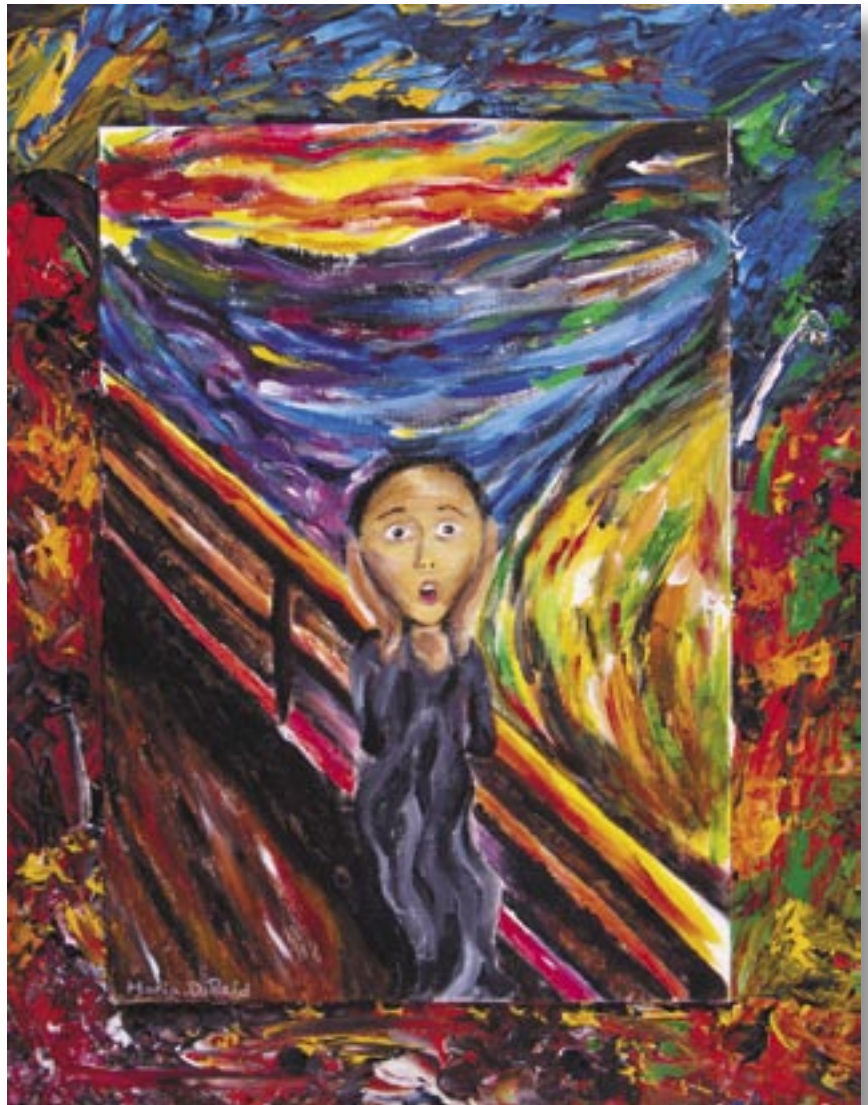


Untitled

Bonita Tanney

*Honorable Mention for the
submission: "Flowers of Color"*

I Scream 2!
Maria Reid



Green
Joseph A. Dumas





Blue Jay in Season
Diedre Berkley



Winter Tears
Mark Kearney

Cabin in the Woods

Jane Maillet



Scarf #2

Walter Koennecke

*Honorable Mention for the
submission: "Scarf #1"*





9-12

Derek Grindle

Honorable Mention for the submission: "One Lone Indian"

I heard the sounds of the waters
Out at sea
As I heard the winds calling my name
Felt the warmth of my Lord's
Hand in mine
The Promised Land waits for me
My work on earth is done
At last brothers Joe and Jack Bobby
I will see again
I know Heaven is where I am to be
No more worries of life of man
Promised Land waits for me
Life forever now will be
With my Lord
I heard the Lord call my name
Promised Land waits for me
I am home
Life forever with my Lord
Heaven peaceful land
I know I am home
Like the sounds of the waters
Out at sea
Heaven is where I am to be

**The Promised Land
Waits for Me**

Sue Ellis

Honorable Mention for the submission: "The Greatest Man I Wish I Knew"

Adventure of the Night

Amanda Townsend

Honorable Mention for the submission: "An Evening at My Camp"



Rocky Mountain Colors

Jason Statsny

Honorable Mention for the submission: "Cabin in the Woods"



UNIQUE

About the Artists

Sultan Alsafadi, *Oh Sister, Oh Sister*: Sultan is a 20-year-old student who has Cerebral Palsy. He is inspired by Sylvia Plath, Edgar Allan Poe, and personal experiences. "Oh Sister, Oh Sister" is about sibling rivalry getting out of hand. First Year

Diedre Berkley, *Blue Jay in Season*: Diedre is a 37-year old mother of two, has Cerebral Palsy, and is a participant at Winds of Agape. She created her paper mosaic, "Blue Jay in Season," based on her love for animals. First Year

Kyle Bonner, *Yellow Bird*: Kyle sustained a Traumatic Brain Injury as a teenager. At 32, he enjoys attending Winds of Agape to socialize and meet new people. He feels yellow expresses happiness and sunshine, inspiring the "Yellow Bird." First Year

Sheala Burks, *The Last Day of Analogue Television*: Sheala, 31, is a resident of Syracuse, has Autism, and uses art and poetry to help express her feelings. Her short story uses the transition from analog to digital TV as a metaphor about life. 2008, 2010

Craig Champlin, *Rain Forest*: Craig is 24 and lives in Chittenango. He participates at Heritage Farm, and is motivated to create art through the Exceptional Arts Program. He loves the rainbow colors, the monkey and the bird in "Rain Forest." First Year

Mitch Ciarpelli, *Giant Rose*: Mitch is 60, has enjoyed drawing since high school, and is a member of the David Clark Learning Center. As he drew "Giant Rose," the picture kept growing. He added a bright yellow background for contrast. First Year

Hilary Cookhouse, *Vase with Gears*: Hilary incurred a Traumatic Brain Injury at the age of 3 months. Now 17, she is blind, has other disabilities, and loves working with clay. She creates textures and details in slabs, and molds them over objects. First Year

Cortland Community Reentry Art Program, *Whatever It Takes*: Steven Brownell, Kenneth R. Cormack, Tony Daniels, Atif Sabree Hasari, John A. Kauffman, Joseph Krieg, Amy Moore, Shereé J. Lateer, and Sandra Wilder all have sustained Traumatic Brain Injuries and meet bi-weekly in an art group through the Cortland Community Reentry Program Day Program. "Whatever It Takes" is a free-form collaborative piece focusing on texture, color, and form. 2008, 2009, 2010

Betsey DuFour, *The Morning Sunrise*: Betsey is 29 and uses painting as a way to relax. She participates at Heritage Farm, where the staff inspires her to create art. Her painting reminds her of the sunrise and she feels happy when she looks at it. 2006, 2010

Joseph A. Dumas, *Green*: Joseph is a 16-year-old artist who completed his freshman year in high school. He enjoys Art Club because he can meet new people. "Green" is typical of his work, using primary colors where the shapes do not touch. First Year

Jennifer Dunlop, *Hidden Flowers*: Jenny is 16, a student, poet, and artist, and is diagnosed with Schizoaffective Disorder. "Hidden Flowers" shows the need to look beyond the surface of people to fully appreciate one another. 2007, 2009, 2010

Vykky Ebner, *Products of War*: Vykky, 31, has been creating art her entire life, and is diagnosed with Schizoaffective Disorder. "Products of War" expresses loss, war, fear, but also the peace that comes with eternal slumber. First Year

Christine Eldred, *Let Me Out*: Christine was in a car accident when she was 17 and sustained a Traumatic Brain Injury. Now 46, she uses poetry for self expression. "Let Me Out" expresses her frustration early in her recovery after the accident. 2008, 2009, 2010

Sue Ellis, *The Promised Land Waits for Me*: Sue, 60, loves creating meaningful poetry, despite having a learning disability resulting from Encephalitis she had as a child. Her poem is inspired by the connection she feels to the Kennedy family. First Year

Theodora Emch, *Beautiful Bloom*: Teddy is 66, has low vision and is Deaf. She retired from working for Onondaga County, and is an amateur photographer. The white lilacs caught her eye, inspiring her to take the photograph "Beautiful Bloom." 2008, 2010

Charles Fitzpatrick, *Water versus Fire*: Charles, 23, creates art as a form of meditation and tries not to let his Autism influence his work. He feels "Water versus Fire" is about the struggle and balance between Nature and Nurture. First Year

Jennifer A. Fulco, *Disappearing One*: Jennifer is a 42-year old writer who uses art to express emotions and creative surges. "Disappearing One" represents a need to stabilize and then dismiss the melancholic side of Bipolar Disorder. 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010

Michele Gaframcesco, *Memory of Chittenango Falls*: Mike is 88, a World War II Navy Veteran, and has Multiple Sclerosis. He began painting after retirement. His piece is inspired by the memory of one of his favorite fishing spots. 2009, 2010

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About the Artists

Victoria Giangatti, *Birds of Life*: Vicky is 81, a participant at Heritage Farms and in the Exceptional Arts Program. She was inspired to create the bird's nest after she looked out her window to see a mother bird with baby birds. First Year

Derek Grindle, *9/12*: Derek, 20, is a young man with Autism Spectrum Disorder, which directly influences his multi-fragmented art forms. "9/12" celebrates America; the two mats represent American cities before and after 9/11. 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010

Sarah Hamlin, *Slow and Sweet*: Sarah is a 14-year-old young poet who has Spastic Hemiplegic Cerebral Palsy. Writing has helped her to feel confident in herself. Her poem shows how she is inspired to become the person she wants to be! 2007, 2008, 2010

Cynde Hammond, *The Rose*: Cynde, 54, has been writing since she was young. She developed Complex Regional Pain Syndrome (CRPS) and writing keeps her mind off the pain. "The Rose" is about the death of her teenage sweetheart. First Year

Jeffrey D. Harrington, *Pretty Girl with Flowers in Her Hair*: Jeff is a 20-year-old young man with Autism who sometimes uses art to express what he can't say easily. He used a sample of wallpaper as the background for his drawing of a girl. 2008, 2009, 2010

Heritage Farm Senior Program, *Untitled*: The members of the Heritage Farm Senior Group worked together to create the molded baseball cap. As the hat evolved, they chose to paint it the green color of the Heritage Farm, Inc. logo. First Year

Leonard Hires, *Leonard's Place*: Leonard is 46 and working toward his GED. He is a member of the David Clark Learning Center, and created the collage to show himself hosting a party for all his friends in the program. He enjoys using his imagination. 2003, 2010

Steven Ingerson, *Resolution*: Steven, 59, is a poet and photographer and has Post-Polio Syndrome and Fibromyalgia. "Resolution" uses music as a metaphor for life and overcoming bouts of Depression. He lives in Oswego with his family. 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010

Mark Kearney, *Winter Tears*: Mark, 56, converted a bedroom in his home to an art studio. He is a member of the David Clark Learning Center. "Winter Tears" is a watercolor painting, named because of the two teardrops in the scenery. 2006, 2008, 2010

Erin Kelley, *Three Flower Pots*: Erin is 51, loves art, and is a member of the David Clark Learning Center. "Three Flower Pots" is a combination of watercolor, digitally-manipulated photographs, and a shadowbox, all made into a collage. 2007, 2010

Luann Knight, *Sun Splash*: Luann, 55, was diagnosed with Photophobia and uses her camera as a window to the outside world. "Sun Splash" is a manipulation of a digital photograph she took of a sunflower in the courtyard of her apartment. 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010

Walter Koennecke, *Scarf #2*: Walter participates at Heritage Farms, the source of his inspiration and the wool for his scarves. He takes the wool from the animals at the Farm and uses his loom to weave it into scarves and other items. First Year

Midge Lawless, *Untitled*: Midge is 52, a participant at Heritage Farms, and enjoys working with clay. Her untitled sculpture of an ear of corn can be built and re-built since each piece of the whole is separate. First Year

Shawn Mack, *Summer Breeze*: Shawn is 34, living independently for over a year, and a member of the David Clark Learning Center. He created "Summer Breeze" using watercolor, stained balsa wood and wheat stalks. 2006, 2008, 2010

Jane Maillet, *Cabin in the Woods*: Art allows Jane to express her feelings and to show that there are colors still in her life. She made "Cabin in the Woods" as part of the Art Program at Heritage Farm. She lives in Hamilton. 2007, 2010

Dick McCarthy, *Red White and Blue Starburst*: Dick is 77 and lived his adult life with a shaking disorder. He began his starburst with a hubcap, adding stars and rays. He created it for a national magazine looking for patriotic themes. 2004, 2005, 2006, 2008, 2009, 2010

Connor McHale, *Life Cycle of a Butterfly*: Connor is a 15-year-old student who finished his first year of ceramics class. He created his piece using leaves and branches pressed into clay tiles showing caterpillar, chrysalis and butterfly. First Year

Amber Micek, *Untitled*: Amber, 32, has Schizoaffective Disorder and is Bipolar, but she says "I feel my disability helps my imagination." She loves making things, and created the painting of the woman for its beauty and melancholy. First Year

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About the Artists

Laura Payte, *Swan*: Laura is 18 and a high school student with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. She completed her first year of drawing and used colored pencils to draw "Bella Swan" from the Twilight Series of books and movies. First Year

Rhonda Peterson, *Shine on Me*: Rhonda, 54, uses quilting as therapy for working through intense physical pain. "Shine on Me" represents hope for a warm and sunny spring. It is made using scraps of fabric, feathers and beads for a 3D effect. 2009, 2010

Maria Reid, *I Scream 2!*: Maria is 17 and is inspired by her Bi-Polar Disorder to become an Art Therapist and help others. "I Scream 2!" is based on "The Scream" to show that sometimes it can be good to "let it out" in a healthy, expressive way. First Year

Hannah Rufo, *Calm*: Hannah is a 15-year-old student and violin player with Autism who uses drawing and music to slow down. She drew "Calm" with pencils and oil pastels and feels it expresses a symphony of calming music. First Year

Joseph Rufo, *Comedian*: Joseph, 17, is a student with Down Syndrome who enjoys drawing and painting. Joseph branched out into oil paints to create a portrait of Jerry Seinfeld. The orange background represents the comedian's smile. First Year

Richard Russell, *Tucan in the Rainforest*: Richard is 55, and is a Traumatic Brain Injury client at Winds of Agape. He finds his artwork relaxes and soothes him. "Tucan in the Rainforest" is a paper mosaic inspired from a photograph in a book. First Year

Eyal Sherman, *Joseph and the Coat of Many Colors*: Eyal, 29, is a graduate of Syracuse University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts. He is a quadriplegic, and uses a mouth-stick to paint. His piece is based on one of his favorite Bible stories. 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010

Michael Simmons, *Morning Glories*: Michael, 48, gradually went blind from Inverted Retinitis Pigmentosa. Painting helps him envision the world in color and boldness. "Morning Glories" was inspired by a love poem he wrote to his wife. First Year

Jason Statsny, *Rocky Mountain Colors*: Jason is a 24-year-old young man who loves to paint. He participates at Heritage Farms, and was inspired to create "Rocky Mountain Colors" from the colors he saw in a rainbow. First Year

Robert Szpak, *Man of Sound and Fury*: Robert, 61, is a former instructor at Boston Museum of Fine Arts who has Schizoaffective Disorder. In his painting, he held the brush in different positions to get the effects of "sound" and "fury." 2008, 2009, 2010

Bonita Tanney, *Untitled*: Bonita is 54 and likes to keep busy. She does so participating in arts and crafts at Heritage Farm. Art helps her feel at peace, and has taught her there is no disability, just ability to create. She enjoyed creating the lion. First Year

Amanda Townsend, *Adventure of the Night*: Amanda, 19, is inspired by nature around her family's camp on Lake Ontario. Her painting suggests mystery in the cold, dark lake. She has Down Syndrome and lives in Manlius with her family. 2009, 2010

Samuel Wayne, *Snake on a Log*: Sam is 11, and an aspiring cartoonist. He believes his Autism has made him more visual and artistically-inclined. "Snake on a Log" was drawn in a lesson to show how animals wrap themselves around objects. First Year

Kristen Webb, *Allium*: Kristen is 25, takes classes at Syracuse University, and has Cerebral Palsy. She began painting in high school and continues to take art lessons. She painted "Allium" because she loved the look of the flowers. First Year

Josh Webster, *Portrait of a New Friend*: Josh, 21, has a Traumatic Brain Injury and other disabilities, and has been creating art for many years. He rarely draws people, but a new friend inspired him to create the featured portrait. 2008, 2009, 2010

Jeremiah Werden, *A View from Florida*: Jeremiah is 26, loves to paint and helps his step-father with landscaping. "A View from Florida" was inspired by a picture, though he created his own colors. He is a participant at Heritage Farm. First Year

Mark Wilson, *Lines of Life*: Mark sustained a Traumatic Brain Injury in 1992. Now 32, he is flowing with pride and energy. "Lines of Life" began as a doodle, but expanded when he let his hand lead his pen on the page. 2008, 2010

Timothy Wobus, *Cascade*: Tim, 26, has Autism and Epilepsy, and is nonverbal. He speaks through his art, and is focused, enthusiastic and animated while creating. "Cascade" shows his typical broad, bold strokes, and use of strong color. 2006, 2007, 2008, 2010

UNIQUE

Honorable Mention

The **UNIQUE**
Editorial Board
wishes to recognize
the talent and
creativity of
the following
submissions:

Douglas Barclay
Barney

Tom Barnard
Jurassic Farm

Lisa Benner
Rev Your Engines

Jacob Bryant
Jewel Crosses
Wilderness

David Burns
Deer Ones
Memories Past

Maggie Byrnes
Baby
Friend

Mark Cappoletti
Belle
Fly Jet Blue

Alan Chubbuck, Jr.
Peaceful View

Shawn Collins
Cabin in the
Mountains

Jacqueline Colone
Colorful Dresses
Let There Be Light

Joseph D'Anna
Under the Sea

Christopher Duck
K-9 Mark II
Lost in Space Robot

Ray Every
Otto the Otter

Tracey Ford
Jewelry by Tracey
The Story of a
Stressed Black
Woman: A Memoir

Christopher Foster
Bleach
Yu-Gi-Oh

Evan Freeley
Sports Painting
with Pictures

Cathy Giambatista
Game Day

Ivette Gonzalez
Animal Love

Ryan Gorke
Sports Themes

Brian Hahr
Dimensional Portal

Paleigh Iannerelli
Cheetahs in Nature

Steven Ingerson
Fair Day

Jessica Jaworski
Art Project
Same and Together

Jeremy Kelley
Home Sweet Home
Lead Ropes For
Horses

John Kettler
A Pair of
Sunflowers

Alex LaBrague
Toucan on a Branch

Sean Larkin
Four Evergreens

Dave Listowski
Spring is Here
Sunrise

Joanne Mark
The MonSter

John McCoy
Animal Characters
Indian Warrior

Jared Okun
Indian Corn
Iris

Bruce Parsons
Take Me Out to
the Ball Game

Russell Parsons
Syracuse Orange

Omarella Putman
Pot of Flowers

Ed Reister
Hall Way of Life

Heleni Santos
Feelings Within Me...
Rock Dat Body!!!

Clark Simson
Out on a Limb

Rebecca Stam
My Dad, My Hero
Rocky Mountain
Field of Flowers

Becky Staple
Summer

Robert Szpak
Sampson of
the Nineties

Jill Talmage
Amidst the Morning

Jonathan Tipton
Barack Obama:
The First Black
President
I Love Red Rams

Kayla Trimm
Kayla and Captain
Blackbeard

Erika Vitthuhn
Depths of the Sea

Elizabeth Watson
Past Love
Sunshine



Man of Sound and Fury
Robert Szpak

My song is written
in a minor key:
a soulful serenade
of melancholic melody.
But this song's not mine alone.
My partner and my inspiration,
you call me back
from discordant dissonance
resolving and restoring harmony.

Resolution
Steven Ingerson

ARISE