



# Imagine

Spring 2009 Newsletter

## ArtsErie has your 'Passport to Barcelona'

Benefit scheduled May 1st

On Friday, May 1, 2009, ArtsErie will host Passport to Barcelona, the follow-up to last year's successful Passport to Paris benefit event. Passport to Barcelona will transform the Warner Theatre into the streets of dynamic Barcelona, Spain – complete with artists, cuisine, music, dancers and more. Funds raised are invaluable to promoting the programs of ArtsErie and supporting the arts in Erie.

Throughout the evening, guests will sample Spanish tapas and desserts, and enjoy a sangría bar donated by Mazza Vineyards. Guests will also be able to shop

for local handiwork, view the artwork at El Museu Picasso, admire the architecture of Antonio

Gaudí and bid on great silent auction items... all right in Downtown Erie. And, the evening will feature live Spanish-style dance performances by Dafmark Dance Theatre and musical performances by the band Mambo featuring Latin guitarist Julio Quezada.

Tickets are \$65.00 each, while corporate tables of



An ArtsErie Benefit

8 are available for \$500. The event includes plentiful tapas-style hors d'oeuvres and one beverage per person. Additional beverages are available at the sangría bar and a cash bar. Casual chic attire is suggested; Spanish attire welcome.

To purchase tickets or inquire about sponsorships, contact Mary Lou at (814) 452-3427.

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Want to become an ArtsErie member? Call (814) 452-3427 or visit [www.artserie.org](http://www.artserie.org).

### The former Arts Council of Erie is now ArtsErie!

In case you missed the exciting news, the Arts Council of Erie became ArtsErie in October 2008. The succinct new name and fresh logo design gives our organization a strong, clear identity.

“When you think of art in Erie—whether it’s music, dance, theater or visual art—the connection is there with ArtsErie,” said Char Mashyna, Executive Director of ArtsErie.

Our new tag line and campaign message, “Imagine what we can create,” emphasizes our connection to the community and our importance to the success of art in the Erie area.

Feedback to the name change has been enormously positive.

## 2009 ArtsErie United Fund Wraps Up



Launching a fundraising campaign in an economic downturn may cause any organization to take a pause. But, ArtsErie simply doubled its efforts by reinvigorating the Workplace Giving Campaign; reaching out to organizations such as the Erie Downtown Partnership, the Erie Regional Chamber and Growth Partnership and Young Erie Professionals; and utilizing social networking tools like Facebook.

### 'Faces of the Arts'

"The 2009 campaign again asks 'What's Your Art?,' says ArtsErie Executive Director Charlotte P. Mashyna, "but this year, we're highlighting Erie business professionals and their children who exemplify the arts in our community."

Ten Erie residents with ties to the Erie business community and talents in the arts were selected to appear on billboards and in ads for the 2009 ArtsErie United Fund as the 'Faces of the Arts.' These individuals were introduced at the public kick-off on Feb. 2. They are:

- **Craig Schneider**, 51  
Talent: Theater  
Employer: Highmark
- **Cathy Allen**, 43  
Talent: Mosaics  
Employer: Erie County
- **Carla Hughes**, 37  
Talent: Dance  
Employer: Erie School District
- **Tony Oshlick**, 26  
Talent: Graphic Art  
Employer: Scott Enterprises
- **Tina Gregory**, 51  
Talent: Stained Glass  
Employer: Hamot
- **Nia Darby**, 13  
Talent: Singing/Theater  
Mother's Employer: Erie Insurance
- **Victor Chavez**, 6  
Talent: Drawing/Painting  
Father's Employer: GE
- **Amber Dougherty**, 27  
Talent: Singing  
Employer: PNC
- **Jim Griffey**, 53  
Talent: Drums  
Employer: Citadel Broadcasting
- **Emily Potts**, 24  
Talent: Dance  
Employer: Northwest Savings Bank

### Donate Today

There's still time to donate to the ArtsErie United Fund! To make a secure cash donation online or learn about other ways to donate to the ArtsErie United Fund, please visit our website.

A monetary gift of any amount will help to ensure that over 50 arts and cultural organizations throughout the region receive support through the ArtsErie United Fund.

## ArtsErie United Fund Workplace Giving Campaign

Did you know that ArtsErie offers a workplace giving program that can be tailored to any business?

Employees are offered the opportunity to contribute to the arts by check or credit card and in exchange for a minimum contribution of \$25, will receive a voucher for 2 free tickets to an arts event from a participating organization. The campaign typically lasts no more than 2 weeks, may include arts performances or exhibits, and solicitation materials are typically delivered electronically.

For more information or to launch your own ArtsErie United Fund Workplace Giving campaign, contact Mary Lou at (814) 452-3427.

# Catching Up with ArtsErie

## Here's what we've been doing...

### New Faces at ArtsErie

ArtsErie welcomes **Michele Marini** and **Allison Counasse** to our staff. Michele is the Program Associate for Member Services. Allison is the Program Associate for Marketing.

### What's Your Art? T-Shirts Still Available

Buy your very own "What's Your Art?" t-shirt — just \$10 each! Stop by our office or visit [www.artserie.org/wya\\_shirts.htm](http://www.artserie.org/wya_shirts.htm)

### Become our fan on Facebook

If you're a Facebook member, support the arts in Erie by becoming a fan of the ArtsErie Facebook page. We'll be drawing a new winner for one of our "What's Your Art?" t-shirts from everyone who is a fan of our page at the end of April! Just visit the URL below and click "Become a fan!" Visit [www.facebook.com/pages/ArtsErie/56980029467](http://www.facebook.com/pages/ArtsErie/56980029467)

### Arts and the Economy Seminar Held

ArtsErie held a seminar called "The Current Economy and its Impact on the Arts" on Jan. 28 at the Erie Insurance Auditorium. Speakers included: **Jim Kurre**, Penn State Erie, The Behrend College; **Shiloh Turner**, Erie Community Foundation; **Phil Scrimenti**, DCED; and **John Masterson**, Merrill Lynch. Their presentations are available on our website.

### 'Poetry Out Loud' Regional Winner Announced

ArtsErie and the PA Council on the Arts presented the 2009 Poetry Out Loud: National Recitation Contest regional competition on Saturday, February 21, 2009 at Allegheny College in Meadville. **Luka Glinsky**, an 18-year-old, home-schooled high school senior from Erie, was selected as the winner of the regional finals.

This year, 4 students participated in the regional finals. In addition to Glinsky, the following students competed: **Katie Ahrens**, junior, NW PA Collegiate Academy, Erie; **Krista Ivan**, junior, Hickory High School, Hermitage; and **Gabrielle Taylor**, sophomore, Mercyhurst Preparatory School, Erie.

Glinsky placed second in the Pennsylvania state finals of the 2009 Poetry Out Loud: National Recitation Contest on Thursday, March 12, 2009 at the Governor's Residence in Harrisburg.



Contestants in Poetry Out Loud memorize and recite works they select from an anthology of more than 500 classic and contemporary poems.

*Luka Glinsky placed first in the regional competition and second in the state competition for the Poetry Out Loud: National Recitation Contest.*

## Imagine

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### Mission

ArtsErie nurtures the arts and enriches the lives of everyone in Northwest Pennsylvania through leadership, financial support, education and advocacy.

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# Snapshots

ArtsErie kicked off its annual ArtsErie United Fund on Mon., Feb. 2 at the Erie Playhouse with a brief press conference, the introduction of its 2009 'Faces of the Arts' and a performance by Amber Dougherty.



The 2009 'Faces of the Arts' join John Stockard, Board Vice Chair; Char Mashyna, Executive Director; and Susan K. Breon, Campaign Chair.



Guests at the reception included artist Ehren Knapp, one of the 2008 'Faces;' Joy Fronzoli; and Sara Galbreath, Board Member.

## Get Involved with ArtsErie!

Are you looking for an opportunity to get involved?

The Nominating Committee recently hosted a Recruitment Reception to share information about ArtsErie with potential committee members, board members and panelists.

If you'd like to get involved with ArtsErie, please contact Erin at either 452-3427 or [info@artserie.org](mailto:info@artserie.org).

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