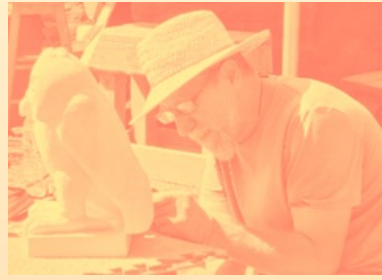


CREATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

SERVING GREENE, COLUMBIA + SCHOHARIE COUNTIES



2025 REPORT



CREATECOUNCIL.ORG
453 Main St, Catskill NY

CREATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

2025 - Annual Report

CREATE Council on the Arts is a nonprofit service organization committed to enriching the communities of Greene, Columbia, and Schoharie counties through the arts. We foster a vibrant arts ecosystem by championing local artists and cultural organizations, offering essential resources, and promoting creativity.

As the regional arts council, our primary role is to support individual artists and small to mid-sized arts organizations with funding opportunities, advocacy and by serving as a vital connector across the creative community.

Our mission in action serves the community in 3 essential ways.

- **ACCESS TO FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**
- **SOURCE FOR RESOURCES**
- **CONNECTING THE ARTS COMMUNITY**

Achievements + Highlights in 2025

Growth in Community Reach

- People connected to the arts grew from 8,100 (2024) to 10,525 (2025) — a 30% increase
- Greene County SCR funding increased 40% from 2024 to 2025 (\$52,000 → \$73,000), reflecting successful advocacy and outreach efforts

Grant Program Expansion

- Total SCR grants distributed grew from \$160,000 to \$208,000 across the three counties
- Individual artist grants funded in Greene County jumped from 3 to 10 — more than tripling local artist support
- Greene County Cultural Fund program added in 2025, distributing \$40,000 among 10 organizations

Expanded Offsite Reach

- 2024: One offsite gallery location (Hudson Amtrak)
- 2025: Three offsite locations added (Amtrak, Cornell Cooperative Extension Agroforestry Center, Wave Farm's Catskill Studio)

Youth Programming Growth

- Added new programs in 2025: 2nd Sunday Art Club, Dance for All spring break workshops, and expanded school participation in Outside the Lines

New Community Programming Initiatives

- Launched the Catskill Gallery Crawl in 2025 — held every third Saturday starting in spring, uniting galleries, studios, and creative businesses across Catskill into a single shared day of art exploration. With five to seven regular participating venues, the Crawl strengthens Catskill's identity as a regional arts destination while driving visibility and foot traffic for local artists and businesses
- Added the Minute Mixer in partnership with Bridge Street Theatre, a free public event giving performing artists — and first-timers — a low-stakes platform to perform for one minute, try out material, and connect with the local creative community. Expanding CREATE's reach into the performing arts, this collaboration with one of Greene County's anchor cultural institutions.

ACCESS TO FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

REGRANT PROGRAMS

CREATE's regrant programs are central to the mission and role of the arts council. CREATE administers the SCR (Statewide Community Regrant) program in partnership with the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) for artists and organizations impacting 3 rural counties. In partnership with the Greene County Legislature, CREATE administers the Greene County Cultural Fund.

SCR (Statewide Community Regrant) Program - NYSCA partnership

We distributed \$208,000 in grants to activate arts activities across Greene, Columbia and Schoharie counties. **GREENE COUNTY SCR 2025** (10) individual artists (9) Community Arts Projects (1) Arts Ed \$73,000 awarded. There was a 40% increase in funding from 2024 and there was a marked jump of Individual Artist applications and funded projects (3 in 2024 and 10 in 2025).

GREENE COUNTY COMMUNITY PROJECTS



Earth Arts Initiative / Miriam Atkin, "Verbatim: Text Sound Expo" — \$5,000.

The 5th annual Verbatim: Text Sound Expo, a small press / record label fair and performance festival. Support from the grant goes towards the planning, promotion, and execution of the 5th annual Verbatim: Text Sound Expo. Verbatim is an admission-free, day-long market and performance festival; a celebration of experiments in language, text, and sound, bringing together local and regional presses and record labels to sell their wares and curate 9 hours of live performance.

Mountain Top Library / Room Collaborative — \$5,000.

Room Collaborative presents life drawing sessions from a model as a time-tested artistic discipline for developing and maintaining technical skill as an artist, at no cost. We will also offer art tutorials, at no cost. Our chief aim is to reach an audience not previously served, by our lack of a fee, our community outreach, and our personal, social, and artistic networks.

Athens Cultural Center, Athens Cultural Center's 2nd Annual Summer Music Series — \$5,000.

The Athens Cultural Center presents its second annual free summer music series! Showcasing the diverse musical landscape of the greater Hudson Valley and activating unconventional performance spaces, this series presents an eclectic mix of woman-led ensembles at award-winning brewpub Night School, and outdoor performances by The

Big Takeover and The Goddess Party at the Athens Riverfront Park. Students from Cocksackie-Athens middle and high school as well as those served by programs for at-risk youth will be invited to shadow artists and production staff prior to performances, and to interact directly with the musicians during Q&A sessions.



Catskill Mountain Shakespeare, Catskill Mountain Shakespeare Presents Romeo and Juliet — \$5,000.

Our three-week MainStage summer production of *Romeo and Juliet*, directed by Rebecca Wahls, combines classical training with modern values, offering a vibrant cultural experience for all. We honor the text's integrity with cohesive storytelling and embodied performances while embracing inclusive casting, forgoing traditional gender, racial, body, and age expectations. Unique to our vision, we celebrate theatrical magic through bold staging, music, and design. Performed on Main Street in Hunter, the production supports local revitalization and boosts nearby businesses.



Community Partners Of Greenville, Greenville Summer Concert Series 2025 — \$2,500.

Enjoy a summer Tuesday night listening and dancing to music in Greenville, at the crossroads of Rte 81 & 32. From July 1st-August 19th, neighbors, families and visitors assemble between 6-7:30 pm under the shade trees at the gazebo in Veteran's Park to experience free live concerts, food trucks and ice cream. The 8 week Greenville Concert Series features the rich local talent of Greene County and Capital District favorites, some making their only Greene County appearance.

The Goddess Party, The Goddess Awakened: A Transformative Performance — \$5,000.

"The Goddess Awakened: A Transformative Performance" will be more than a show—it will be a portal into the divine, where the Goddess dances through us, reminding us of our power, wisdom, and sacred connection. An immersive 45-minute experience blending music, singing, and projections, with singer-songwriter Shana Falana conducting interactive vocalizations. The performance will spill onto the street to engage the community attending the free block party hosted by the Athens Cultural Center.

This performance will open the "Goddess Exhibition," curated by filmmaker Niva Dorell, on August 1st, 2025 at the Athens Cultural Center in Athens, NY.

Town of Hunter / Kevin VanHentenryck, Hunter Stone Carving Seminar — \$5,000.

Learn the Ancient Art of Stone Carving, FREE! No prior artistic experience or ability required. It is not as hard as you think. Join us for a moment, an hour, a day, or the whole two weeks. While there, stroll through the sculpture park and enjoy the over three hundred stone carvings created by the students over the last seventeen years.



Mountain Top Library, *Mountain Primitives Awaken* — \$2,500.

"Mountain Primitives Awaken" allows us to revisit fundamental ritualistic practices of human kind, and examine how culture, ecology, and individual expression have shaped them into modern fine arts. With workshops in music, poetry, painting, and mosaic, artists at any level can engage & connect with our primitive desire for pattern, order, and storytelling.

The Catskill Comedy Festival, "*The Catskills Comedy Festival*" — \$5,000.

After an extremely successful inaugural Festival in 2024, The Catskills Comedy Festival is returning to create its annual multi-day, multi-venue festival based primarily in Catskill, NY (and surrounding areas). The Festival showcases a wide variety of comedic genres which appeal to all audiences (Stand-up/sketch/improv/drag/musical comedy/clown/storytellers/children's programming/comedy films, etc.). In addition to performances we provide free workshops for local students wherein they can train with professionals in the comedic arts and storytelling with the opportunity to apply those skills in front of live audiences. The Festival will make Catskill and the neighboring areas a destination for comedic entertainment, culture, and inclusivity.

GREENE COUNTY ARTS EDUCATION

Boundless Arts, *Boundless Arts @ Hunter Day Camp* — \$3,000.

The Boundless Arts program will provide five distinct sequential workshops for 65 school aged children in grades K-6. Each workshop will be led by a professional Teaching Artist. Participants will be guided through the process of creating original works of art using nature, found objects, and provided materials. Children will learn printmaking, mosaic design, sculpture, and landscape painting.



GREENE COUNTY
INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS



Jane Toby, *WHEN WE MEET: Stories from the West Bank* — \$3,000.

The project is twofold: to work towards completing a full-length documentary *WHEN WE MEET* based on my travels to East Jerusalem and experiences in the West Bank; to hold film-screening events in my community. In three separate trips (2005, 2008, 2010) I lived with and interviewed Arab Christian and Muslim women and their families and documented many aspects of their lives. Forty hours of footage have been logged and reviewed and I am editing scenes to faithfully represent the aspirations and struggles of the Palestinian people I grew to know. Events to present my research and film are in process.

Jeffrey Benjamin, *General Delivery* — \$3,000.

I will create a series of 50 one-of-a-kind artworks (drawings, gouaches and handmade books) to be placed in public locations throughout Greene County for anyone to find and take home.



Lou Thorne, *Catskill Abundance Palette* — \$3,000.

I will create a palette of local colors by foraging and processing pigment materials found in Catskill, as a way to explore the region's intertwined social and environmental histories. Specifically, I will create handmade inks sourced from the area's "abundance stream"—materials so abundant in our landscape as to be considered worthless, such as brick fragments and invasive plants. Through public workshops, I will teach community members to forage and process pigments, inviting participants to contribute to the palette. Together, we will discuss working with place as material, connecting to history through pigments, and practicing reciprocity with our environment.

Bruce Byers, *Catskill Portraits* — \$3,000.

Visual stories of Catskill NY through photographic portraits capturing the spirit and resilience of the community.

Caitlin Rose Sweet, *Tending* — \$3,000.

Tending is a mixed media project that explores rural queer peoples' relationship to land and belonging. I am inviting local LGBTQIA herbalists, farmers, gardeners, and foragers to participate in Tending as collaborative artists. For each collaborator I will sculpt an abstract ceramic vase inspired by their individual relationship to the land. I will film the collaborators interacting with their ceramic piece within their environment. Using the footage of each performance, I am creating video collages that will form an outdoor immersive installation that will be at Shadow Walls in Purling, NY in the fall of 2025.



Kate Taverna, *Flesh Against Steel* — \$3,000.

I am obsessed with the vulnerability of the human body to violence. Have we always lived in the age of violence? Is violence a part of our DNA? This project of drawings invoking flesh against steel will transition me from the literal to abstraction. And hopefully the viewing public will share my concerns and be inspired to react.

Corinne Botz, *Milk Factory* — \$3,000.

"Milk Factory" makes lactation rooms and the invisible labor of motherhood visible. I'm currently photographing lactation spaces in Greene and Columbia counties. Each participant receives a photograph of their pumping space. Through my photographs, I hope to normalize pumping, empower moms, and create a public discourse concerning the politics of care. This project involves engagement with the community to make the work and it's released back into the community, and the greater public, through book form. "Milk Factory" will be published by Saint Lucy Books in Fall 2025.

Kulvinder Kaur Dhew, *Beyond The Visual - Experiencing The Landscape* — \$3,000.

A suite of drawings for exhibition that offers a contemporary interpretation of the Hudson River School's legacy, exploring the sublime in nature within a modern context. My process involves immersive engagement with landscapes, echoing transcendentalist philosophies. Building upon rich artistic, literary, and philosophical traditions, I attempt to articulate the intangible – emotional resonance, and the human-nature interface. Through drawing, I invite viewers to share this journey, contemplate their own landscape relationship, sublime or otherwise. This work

explores personal experience and a continuing dialogue with artistic traditions shaping my understanding of the American landscape.

Justin Harmon-Calder, *Sunday Night Swim* — \$3,000.

Sunday Night Swim invites artists of all genres to tune into a deeper state with their instrument/ voice. Every show is donation based and all proceeds benefit a non-profit organization serving marginalized populations in our region. The goal is to provide a communal space for softer sensibilities and open minded exploration, collaborative music performance, and exposure to different cultural versions of this type of music.

Renee Baumann, *Woven, Embodied* — \$3,000.

This project will enable the creation of new works and an interactive exhibition exploring the relationship of traditional and contemporary basket forms to the human body. The funding will allow for creating new works using locally gathered plant material (particularly willow) as an art medium. The exhibition will also focus on facilitating participants' connection with basketry materials-- having a chance to feel, smell, touch and weave with local plants. The completed works will be featured in an interactive exhibition at Sugar Maples Arts Center in Maplecrest.

Greene County Cultural Fund Program - Greene County Legislature partnership

Since 1983, the Greene County Legislature has allocated funds to CREATE Council on the Arts for regranting to major arts and cultural organizations in Greene County. The purpose of this program is to provide general operating or programmatic support to major Greene County organizations that offer quality professional services and programs of benefit to the residents of Greene County. This funding is intended to promote the development, growth and viability of major cultural organizations. In 2025, \$40,000 was distributed among 10 organizations.

Bridge Street Theatre Performing Arts — \$4,850.

To enhance the cultural life of Catskill and the surrounding areas by presenting, independently and in collaboration with other artists, unique theatrical productions and other similar events unlike those generally available to audiences at other theaters in the region. To bring to light works we feel have been unjustly neglected, returning them to the stage where they belong. To present, devise, and commission brand-new works for the stage. To forge a diverse community of like-minded artists to aid in the creation of our work. To continue to locate and bring to our patrons the finest in local, national, and international talent. And to keep our ticket prices affordable and our work readily accessible to the widest possible audience.



Catskill Mountain Foundation Multidisciplinary — \$2,850.

Catskill Mountain Foundation is a not-for-profit, 501C-3 tax exempt corporation dedicated to arts, culture and educational enhancements in the Northern Catskills and celebrated its 25th Anniversary in 2023. The goals of the CMF are to operate a multi-arts center on the Mountaintop area of Greene County and to engage in other activities that will create a culturally enriched environment in the Catskill Region. CMF offers programming on a year-round basis in the visual, performing and film arts. Through performances, artists residencies, classes and workshops in the fine arts and fine crafts, educational programs in the arts, CMF serves artists and audiences from Greene County and the surrounding counties of the Catskills. Since it began 27 years ago, CMF has undertaken many Main St. Revitalization projects in three villages on the Mountaintop including the Doctorow Center for the Arts, Hunter Village Square, Orpheum PAC and Sugar Maples Center for the Arts. CMF is currently in the midst of constructing a two-story dance studio adjacent to the Orpheum Theater and completion is expected at the end of 2025.



Friends of Beattie-Powers Place Multidisciplinary — \$3,850.

The Friends of Beattie-Powers Place is dedicated to protecting the natural beauty and historic integrity of the Beattie-Powers grounds and 1840s house and opening it to the public. Support helps us maintain the house and park, and present a diverse calendar of concerts and events.



Greene County Historical Society Multidisciplinary — \$4,850.

The mission of the Greene County Historical Society is to collect, preserve and safely keep materials and objects relating the history of Greene County and to heighten interest, awareness and appreciation of county history. The special programming offered by the Bronck Museum is designed to highlight historic persons, episodes and eras from county history. To accomplish this we utilize music, performance, and interactive programming.

Michael J. Quill Irish Cultural Centre Multidisciplinary — \$2,350.

The mission of the Michael J. Quill Irish Cultural and Sports Centre is to serve as a center of Irish culture by preserving and promoting Irish/Irish-American cultural and artistic heritage. While dedicated to preserving the symbols of our past, the Centre will present to the public, state and nation, a variety of Irish cultural programs, both historic and contemporary, in fine arts, language, literature, theater, music, dance, and folk arts. Its mission is to promote and preserve the cultural and artistic heritage of the Irish and those of Irish descent.



Music and Art Center of Greene County Multidisciplinary — \$3,850.

The Music and Art Center of Greene County (established in 1983) public program offerings include a summer concert series and summer folk art courses. The concert series as well as the courses are oriented toward the general public, attracting local audiences and from further afield. As a known music and arts destination in the Catskills, the series contributes towards drawing tourism. The continuing crisis in Ukraine, which began in 2014 and escalated into a major war at the end of February 2022, has engendered a multitude of artistic responses in a variety of media including music, film, painting, digital art, poetry, prose, and photography. MACGC aspires to source such creative endeavors as a means to inform the local communities about the power of music and art as a force for good in wartime.

Prattsville Art Center Multidisciplinary — \$4,850.

The Prattsville Art Project is an artist-directed creative placemaking project that uses the power of the arts to bring inspiration and opportunity to a geographically isolated, economically depressed rural region. The Project operates the Prattsville Art Center and Residency to provide arts and social services to the recovering Main Street of the Town of Prattsville, NY, which was virtually destroyed by Hurricane Irene, and serves communities across the larger Catskill Mountaintop Region, the Hudson Valley, and urban visitors. By mixing respect for local traditions with exposure to new media, diverse artists, and innovative ideas we are working to bring together rural and urban communities and help a remote region to build self-empowerment and embrace change through creativity.

The 3,000 sq ft Prattsville Art Center includes exhibition, video screening, and performance spaces, a free library, wi-fi coffee bar & lounge, as well as three artist's residency apartments, studio workspace for artists and classes, and a computer lab. Exhibitions and events combine recognized artists' projects with outsider artists and work made by locals in collaboration with visiting Artists in Residence.

Shandaken Projects (Blue Mountains Projects Inc) Visual Arts — \$3,350.

Shandaken Projects was founded in late 2011 by artists and art workers, to support their community with opportunities for process, experimentation, and dialogue. Since then, the organization has delivered residency, education, and exhibition opportunities to over 500 professional artists and artists from vulnerable populations, in partnership with many of New York's premiere civic, art, and educational institutions; and presented artwork to over a million people.

Shandaken maintains a particular focus on under-served artists of all descriptions; prioritizes exhibition experiences for the public at large—rather than typical “art” audiences; and hope that all of our programs, which take place throughout the Hudson Valley corridor, provide opportunities for participants to explore new pathways in their work or in the world. All of our programs are entirely free.

Thomas Cole National Historic Site Visual Arts — \$4,350.

The Thomas Cole National Historic Site (TCNHS) is an international destination presenting the original home and studios of the artist and early environmentalist Thomas Cole (1801- 1848). Cole founded the influential art movement of the United States, now known as the Hudson River School of American landscape painting. Located on six acres in the Hudson Valley, the site includes the 1815 Main House where the artist lived; Cole's 1839 Storehouse Studio; the reconstructed 1846 New Studio building, which now features a museum gallery of rotating exhibitions; a new visitors center called the Cole Center, designed pro bono by AD100 Stephen Shadley; and gardens and grounds with panoramic views of the Catskill Mountains. It is a National Historic Landmark and an affiliated area of the National Park System, operating as an independent 501c3 nonprofit organization. Activities include special exhibitions of both 19th-century and contemporary art, print publications, lectures, extensive online programs, school programs, the Cole Fellowship, free community events, and innovative public programs such as the Hudson River School Art Trail—a map and website that enable people to visit the places in nature that Cole painted—and the Hudson River Skywalk, a scenic walkway connecting the Thomas Cole Site with Frederic Church's Olana over the Hudson River. The purpose of all programs at the Thomas Cole Site is to enable visitors to find meaning and inspiration in Thomas Cole's life and work. The themes that Cole explored in his art and writings—such as landscape preservation and our conception of nature as a restorative power—are both historic and timely, providing the opportunity to connect to audiences with insights that are highly relevant to their own lives.

Wave Farm Media Arts— \$4,850.

Wave Farm is an international transmission arts organization driven by experimentation with the electromagnetic spectrum. We cultivate creative practices in radio and support artists and nonprofits in their cultural endeavors.

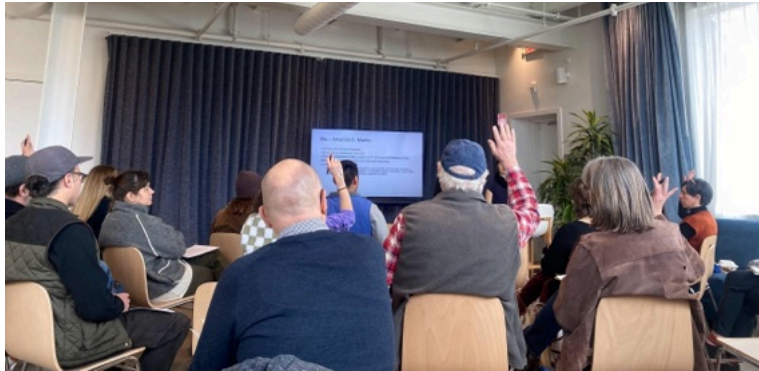
Founded in 1997 in Brooklyn, New York and based in New York's Upper Hudson Valley since 2004, Wave Farm is a media arts center, media platform, and arts service organization. Wave Farm offers interdisciplinary outdoor installations, residencies and fellowships, and a research library. We operate FM radio station WGXC and host many online radio channels. Wave Farm provides fiscal sponsorship, consultation, and grants to artists and organizations.

FISCAL SPONSORSHIP

Arts in Corrections NYS program in partnership with WaveFarm - working with teaching artists who facilitate a storytelling and personal narrative workshop at Green Haven Correctional Facility.

SOURCE FOR RESOURCES

LEARNING TOGETHER



Writing Grants
A Workshop for Artists
w/ Andrea Kleine

Learn about putting together a grant application and writing about your work. In this workshop, we will go over what makes a compelling project description, how to write an artist statement, and how to select work samples that showcase who you are.

Nov 3rd
6-7:15pm
Virtual Workshop
ZOOM link will be provided



UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

March 14 - 10AM
ELEVATE YOUR WEBSITE:
A creative entrepreneur's guide to building a smarter, more impactful online presence
w/ Nate Padavick

March 28 - 1PM
BOOKKEEPING BASICS FOR CREATIVES
w/ Amanda Mathis



Budget Basics for Projects + Grants
w/ Richard Royer

A tutorial and work-session focused on the SCR Budget Form and YOUR project budget

Dec 3rd
12pm-1:30pm
Bridge St Theatre
Catskill, NY



Professional Development Workshops: CREATE provides free workshops to help artists develop their creative practice and also secure funding to sustain their careers. During the grant application periods, we host workshops that support applicants with preparing grant materials so that whether it's their project narrative or budget, they can use these assets for CREATE grant programs but also use them when applying for other funding opportunities.



2ND SUNDAY ART CLUB: Visual Arts Free Youth Workshop Series

Open to youth 8-14 years old led by a local arts educator to create work inspired by the themes of the gallery shows and get experience in a variety of techniques from painting, making block prints to small sculptures.

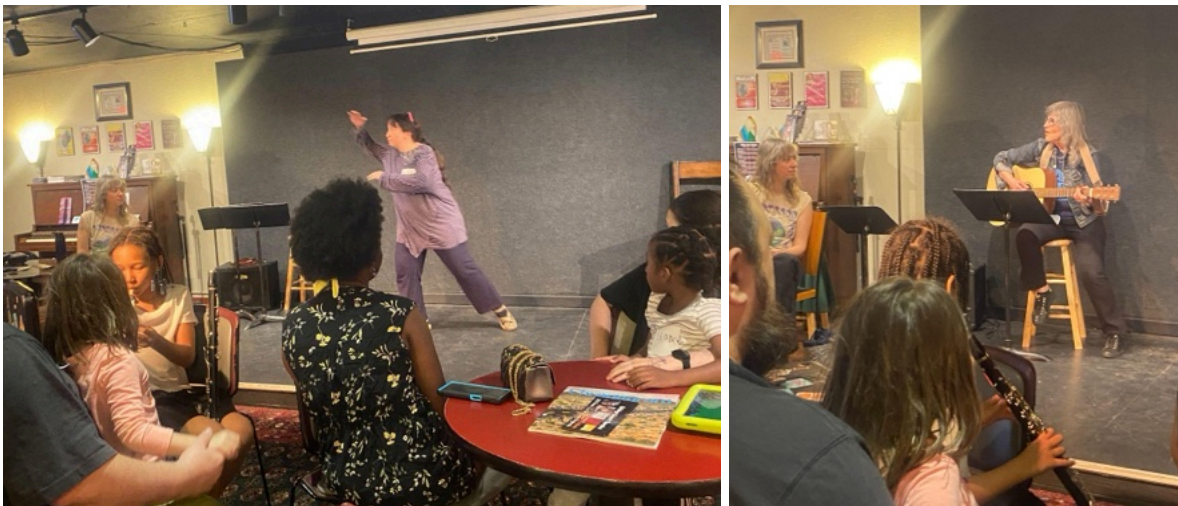


DANCE FOR ALL - Spring Break Dance Workshops - Co-sponsored by the Greene County Youth Bureau, Catskill Public Library & CCSD: In groups, ages 5-8 and 9-12, students were introduced to movement and dance in different genres by different teaching artists - musical theater, improvisational, Capoeira Angola, and ballet inspired.





Creative Crit Meetups: Creative Crit - a monthly peer feedback meetup for creatives to share work-in-progress or a question about their artistic practice or creative business. Creatives often feel isolated while working on projects and these gatherings offer connection and support.

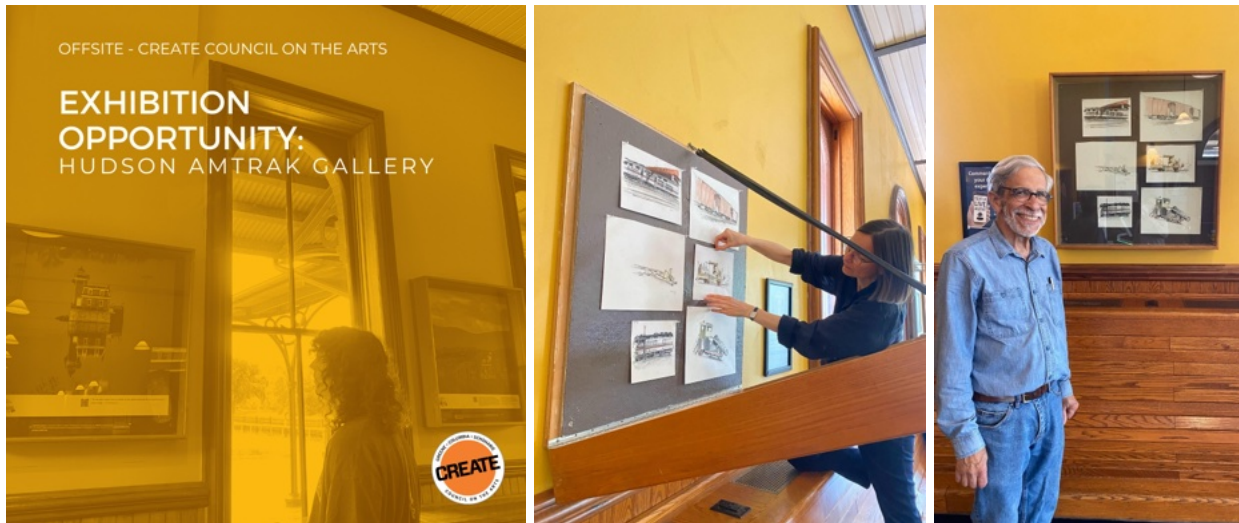


Minute Mixer - in partnership with Bridge Street Theatre: Free and open to the public, attendees were invited to sign up and perform for 1 minute. Targeted towards performing artists but open to anyone looking for a little stage time to brush up their skills, try out material and meet local creatives. There were musical performances, poetry reading and a young performer's first time playing the clarinet in front of an audience!

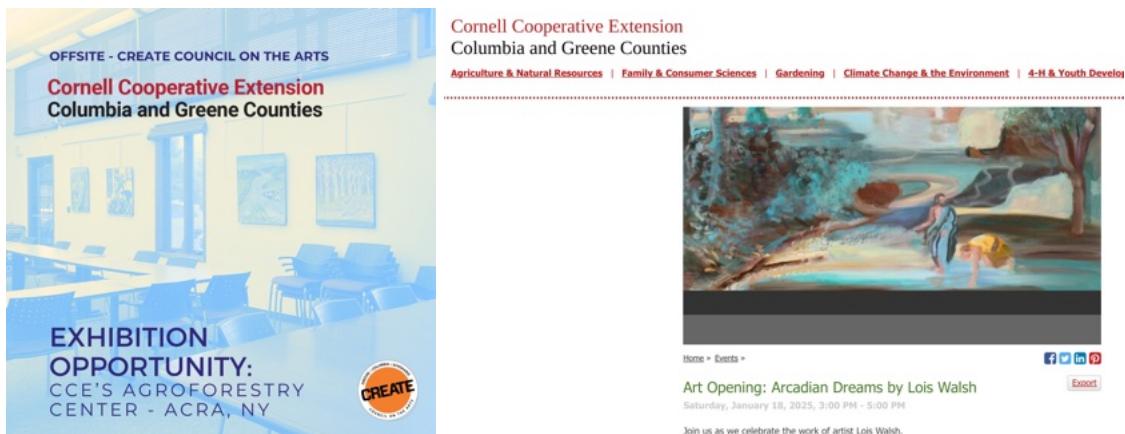
CONNECTING THE ARTS COMMUNITY

OFFSITE EXHIBITIONS + EXPANDING ARTIST OPPORTUNITIES

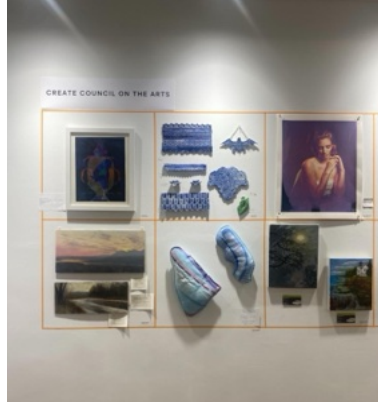
Amtrak - Hudson NY: CREATE oversees the offsite gallery at the Hudson Amtrak station, the third busiest station in NYS. We showcase visual artists from the community every quarter. In partnership with the FlowChart Foundation, we feature poetry through this program.



Cornell Cooperative Extension's Agroforestry Center - Acra, NY: CREATE collaborates with CCE of Columbia and Greene counties as a part of the offsite gallery program and coordinated 3 exhibits featuring artists from Greene and Columbia county. CREATE facilitates the application process and helps CCE CG reach a wider audience by tapping into our network of artists.



WAVE FARM's Catskill Studio - Catskill, NY: Converging of WGXC (media arts) + CREATE (visual arts) community members via pop up gallery at the Catskill radio station. Artists in the exhibit were interviewed by CREATE member and WGXC programmer Lucy Bohnsack.



FASNY Museum of Firefighting - Hudson, NY: In preparation for their 150 anniversary, we worked with the museum to create their submission process for artist commissions. We were able to provide outreach, expand their network and identify two artists who are creating paintings for their special exhibition and will be added to their permanent collection. 2 Greene County artists were awarded these commissions - Richard Scott and Elbert Perez.



PROMOTING THE ARTS

Catskill Gallery Crawl: As the arts community in Catskill continues to grow, CREATE plays a central role in connecting its galleries, studios, and creative businesses into a visible, cohesive network. Every third Saturday beginning in the Spring, CREATE promotes the Catskill Gallery Crawl — rounding up art openings, artist talks, and creative workshops happening across the village into a single, shared day of art exploration. With five to seven regular participants and several others joining throughout the season, the Crawl amplifies individual venues, encourages cross-pollination between artists and audiences, and reinforces Catskill's identity as a destination for the arts.



GALLERY AT 398 Main Street, Catskill, NY: CREATE's gallery programs provide an accessible space for artistic expression, inspiration, and community connection. In 2025, the gallery welcomed more than 3,000 visitors and hosted seven exhibitions featuring over 200 regional artists of all ages, each accompanied by an artist talk exploring creative process, techniques, and concepts. CREATE also hosted *Creatives in Conversation*, a community series fostering dialogue, resilience, and networking among local artists, business owners, and professionals. Beyond exhibitions, the gallery served as a community resource: the REACH Center of MHACG presented a special exhibit during Crime Victims Awareness Month and the gallery hosted community-led gatherings - Catskill Artists and Creatives for Housing Equity (CACHE) meetings, a weekly regenerative writing workshop and a local poet's book launch.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH - March 2025

WHAT WE HOLD: Stories + Objects



YOUTH ART MONTH - March 2025

OUTSIDE THE LINES - 42nd Annual Youth Art Show + Teacher Showcase

Participating schools include: Cairo-Durham High School, Catskill Elementary, Catskill High School, Catskill Middle School, Coxsackie-Athens Elementary/Edward J Arthur, Coxsackie-Athens High School, Germantown Central School, Gilboa-Conesville Central School, Hudson High School, Montgomery C. Smith Elementary, Schoharie Elementary and Schoharie High School.



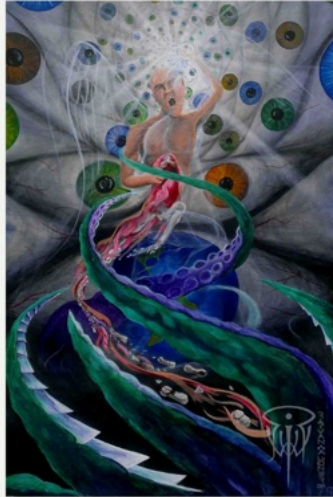
MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH - May 2025

UNSEEN LIGHT: Spotlighting Stories Beyond Stigmas

"We are here to shine a bright light. To show others we can heal and live full and filled lives. It is our hope, through this exhibit, that many will realize how invaluable we are in our communities."

— Lizbette Martinez,
curator + artist

UNSEEN LIGHT
SPOTLIGHTING STORIES BEYOND STIGMAS



"Unseen Light" features work from 17 local artists, many who have lived experience with mental health disorders and bring their perspectives and thoughts on view at the CREATE gallery. Art serves as a vehicle for connection especially for artists expanding their identity beyond the stigmas of mental health.

This exhibit invites visitors to broaden their awareness of invisible disabilities that are a part of the artists' experiences.

UNSEEN LIGHT
SPOTLIGHTING STORIES BEYOND STIGMAS



New Chapter for CREATE

In September, CREATE moved from its longtime headquarters to new administrative offices at 453 Main Street, Catskill. The decision to sell 398 Main Street and relocate reflects CREATE's vision for the future: to bring more programming and arts activations throughout the three counties it serves through roving programs hosted in partnership with local organizations and businesses.

This next chapter is about deepening connections and expanding our reach — meeting artists and audiences where they are and fostering partnerships that strengthen the whole. Building resilience through collaboration allows us to highlight the power of cross-pollination — sharing resources and shining a light on the remarkable artists and organizations in our community. There is extraordinary talent, rich history, and creative energy here that too often goes unnoticed, and we see it as our role to change that.

As an arts council, we continue to evolve the way we CREATE so that we can help keep our local arts ecosystem vibrant and thriving.

OPEN HOUSE - NOV 2025

Showcase of CREATE grantees - artists and organizations at the new administrative offices.

