



*Nourishing the creative spirit in everyone*

Dear Friends of the AAYC,

Thank you once again for your support of the arts in Yamhill County. Membership in the Arts Alliance impacts the lives of thousands of people every year, nourishing and renewing the creative spirit of the women, men and children who participate in our sponsored programs and events.

2021 continued with the disruptions and challenges of 2020, and once more, two of our events did not take place, including the **Terroir** Creative Writing Festival, and the 28<sup>th</sup> annual **Art Harvest Studio Tour**. Thanks to our partnership with Chehalem Cultural Center, an art show featuring several Art Harvest artists was held at the CCC Gallery this fall.

**Paper Gardens**, one of our longest lived programs recognizing the literary talents of adults and children throughout our county, held a virtual celebration on Zoom with 85 attendees. The 2021 anthology featured 60 selections of prose and poetry written by Yamhill county students and adults. We received over 350 entries this year, including entries from 23 public and private schools. This was quite an accomplishment given the pandemic and schools meeting on-line. I am grateful for our wonderful judges, John Sibley Williams for Poetry and Prose judge Dionisia Morales.

With students working outside the traditional classrooms, the number of applications for our **education grants** was down significantly. We did fund one awesome request from a teacher at Wascher Elementary in Lafayette, combining writing and visual arts in a project that was enjoyed by over fifty first graders. We also awarded two \$1,000 **college scholarships** to members of the talented Class of 2021 pursuing further study in the arts.

As we plan for 2022, the AAYC volunteer board and committees are working to determine how to best support the arts while ensuring the health and safety of both the artists and our larger community. The **Art Harvest Studio Tour** hopes to restart their much anticipated annual in-person studio tours; the artists are anxious to see their visitors and supporters! If health and safety concerns are still prevalent, there is the possibility of video tours, online art for purchase, and more. **Terroir** will likely remain on hold as organizers figure how to move forward. Happily, **Paper Gardens** will continue in 2022, with plans to culminate in a wonderful celebration event on May 12, 2022 at Chehalem Cultural Center. We're currently accepting applications for our **education grants** from teachers all over the county to support special arts projects (deadline is November 5<sup>th</sup>), and we look forward to seeing the inventive nature of the 2022 projects! We'll award **scholarships** next spring to two Class of 2022 seniors. And we hope to see members at our Annual meeting on Tuesday February 22 (details to come).

Now, more than ever, **we need your help**. The arts community has been hit particularly hard by the economic shifts during the pandemic, but the generous contributions of our members will enable us to nurture and share the artistic spirit among Yamhill county residents of all ages. **We ask you to help us continue our work by joining as a member, or renewing your membership today.**

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Kristen Korn'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.