

SAVE THE DATE!

NINTH ANNUAL

# Gala and Dance Party

Celebrate Theatre for an Inclusive World

Sunday, September 22, 2019 | 5:00-9:30 PM

The Ballroom, Bethesda, MD



Have you joined the legendary ArtStream Conga Line?



Conga line at the 2018 Gala & Dance Party. Photo by Katrina Kubrik.

ArtStream, Inc is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit arts organization, supported by individual donors and by funding from the Montgomery County Government and the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County, and by the Maryland State Arts Council, on the web at [msac.org/recognizing-our-grants](http://msac.org/recognizing-our-grants) <<http://msac.org/recognizing-our-grants>>.



ArtStream, Inc. | 8401 Connecticut Ave, Ste 1230 | Chevy Chase, MD 20815 | [www.art-stream.org](http://www.art-stream.org) | [info@art-stream.org](mailto:info@art-stream.org) | (301) 565-4567



# NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2019

## CELEBRATE OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCES!

Medusa, Shakespeare, Rodgers and Hammerstein II, magicians, detectives, mermaids, authors, travelers and more sang and danced on ArtStream stages this spring. Actors who have performed with ArtStream since the Maryland Companies started in 2006 and the Virginia Companies started in 2007 welcomed first time actors Emily D'Eugenio, Ivy Gilat, Peter Han, Jason Hartt, Ricky Kuron, Faith McLuckie, Amy Merrell, Laurie Pippenger, and Christopher Sudbrink.

Special thanks to the volunteer mentors and everyone behind the scenes who made these shows possible. Each actor participates in the creative improvisation process that results in original stories and characters. Talented musicians and dancers craft the songs and choreograph the dance moves. During the weekly rehearsals, friendships are born and strengthened.

### POOF! THE HEIST AT HARRINGTON MANOR

Directed by Elizabeth Cronin



### MEDUSA'S MYSTICAL JOURNEY OR "SNAKES ON A BRAIN"

Directed by Patricia Woolsey



### THE MAGIC WITHIN

Directed by Madeleine Barry



### SOMEWHERE IN SHOWTIME

Directed by Jake Young



### WRONG VOYAGE

Directed by Natalie Zanin



### THAT'S SHOWBIZ

Directed by Britt Burr



Reserve YOUR spot on the audition list for a 2019-2020 ArtStream Inclusive Theatre Company or Cabaret by calling (301) 565-4567.

**Requirements to perform:** Be 18 years of age or older. Participated in at least 8 weeks of ArtStream classes in the past two years.

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## Porto Charities Supports ArtStream



Thank you to Porto Charities for donating \$5,000 to expand classes and continue Cabaret in Virginia, and for providing free tickets for transitioning youth and young adults to attend Virginia performances. Porto Charities is a strong supporter of programs for people with IDD's living in Virginia.

*ArtStreamers and their families enjoy the Porto Charities Founders Day Dinner and Awards Celebration. Left to right, front row: Frank Stephens, Jenny Holden, Elizabeth Eisenberg, Vivian Alonso, Greg Hoppe. Back row, Michael Eisenberg, Heller An Shapiro, Christie DePlacido, Ben Fowler*

## Volunteers Go out to the Ball Game

### ARTSTREAM OFFICE VOLUNTEERS ENJOY AN AFTERNOON AT THE BALLGAME!

Thank you to our office volunteers who get mailings out, assist with the database, file and organize. The Washington Nationals Baseball team provided free tickets to these hard-working volunteers.



(From left to right) John Wortman, Nadia Abouraya, Alex Lightfoot, Adam McCrensky



(From left to right) Meday Medhin, Ezra Lewis, Steve Sabia, Eli Lewis



(Back row left to right) Becky Webb, Langston Caldwell, Nadia Abouraya, Alyssa Combs, Vu Tran, Pat Kearns-Michaelsen; (front) Adam McCrensky, Van Tran

## ArtStream at Work



Laura at work in the ArtStream office

ArtStream is lucky to have talented people on our stages, in our classes, and behind the scenes. Laura Pastel manages the ArtStream costume shop, checking costumes in and out and helping us keep the shop organized. We can save money by re-using costumes and props instead of purchasing new. Laura makes sure everything is easy to find. Thanks to SEEC for supporting Laura.



Nadia at work during a Cabaret rehearsal.

Nadia Abouraya works as the Production Assistant with the Maryland Cabaret. It's her job to document where everyone stands at the start of each number and the order of the performance, and to submit rehearsal reports.

## The Power of 100

A new organization in the DMV, the Power of 100 is a group of women who come together to network and support causes they care about. At each quarterly meeting, members learn about three charities, and then each person donates \$100 to the selected charity. ArtStream was selected at the March 2019 meeting and \$3,900 was donated. At the May meeting, Katy Donahue gave a speech thanking the donors and describing the impact the gift had at ArtStream.



The FY18 ArtStream Impact Report is available online at [art-stream.org](http://art-stream.org) or contact the office for a copy.

## ArtStream in Action



Kelly DeRoy

Thanks to Kelly DeRoy for a moving speech to the Congregation at Immanuel Presbyterian Church's Legacy Sunday celebration.

*"When I was a little girl, I always wanted to be onstage. My dad even built me a little three-step stage. But in middle and high school I was not allowed to be in chorus or drama. But then I got out of high school and went to an Art Stream performance and I saw a place where I could perform on stage. Since then I have been in nine shows. Among the characters I have played are a witch, a queen, a cat and a country singer. We develop the characters, the script and the music. It is a lot of hard work. When I get the final script, I practice the entire play every day. By opening night, I know all of the lines to the play. I have met a lot of new people. I love it when people bring me flowers after the show. Thank you for supporting Art Stream. Come and see a show."*

Kelly's mother, Paula DeRoy, acknowledges how impressive Kelly's speech was:

*"I am so proud of Kelly. For me it was very emotional to see her so articulate and confident. Kelly persevered in spite of low expectations from "experts." Finding ArtStream gave Kelly the training and opportunities that are allowing her to thrive. And, just as important, other people can now appreciate her talents. Thanks for giving her these opportunities."*

ArtStream received a grant of \$1,210 from the church's endowment fund to support sign interpretation and lighting at the Arlington Inclusive Theatre Company performances.

## Why I Became a Monthly Donor

*"Every time I go to see an ArtStream performance, I imagine the day my son will be joining the cast on stage and it gives me such great hope for the future! That's why it is important to us to support ArtStream now so it will be there for our family in the future. ArtStream's automatic monthly donation allows us to space out our donation, making it easier for us to give more and create a longer, lasting impact. It is now baked into our monthly budget!"*

- Maggie Haslam, ArtStream Board Member

When you become a monthly donor to ArtStream, you help us plan ahead, knowing you will be supporting us. You can choose the amount and the number of months you would like to give. Change your donation at any time by contacting the ArtStream office. With more than 60 classes or rehearsals happening every month, along with 40 performances each year, **Your monthly gift of \$25, \$50 or \$100 makes a real impact at ArtStream!**

**\$25 per month**

underwrites a public speaking workshop teaching self-advocacy and pre-employment skills

**\$50 per month**

funds a full costume for eight actors in an Inclusive Theatre Company

**\$100 per month**

sponsors an eight-week class in Broadway Song & Dance, Shakespeare, or Dance Ensemble

## Farewell to Colleen Marie Siler

Colleen joined the ArtStream staff team in 2017. During her almost two-year tenure, Colleen standardized and improved our Inclusive Theatre Companies and launched the Cabaret performances in Maryland and Virginia. She negotiated new theatre and rehearsal spaces and created legendary checklists. She also coordinated performances by our Traveling Troupe, including the performance of the National Anthem at Orioles Park, and a performance at the Kennedy Center's 2018 Page-to-Stage Festival.

She organized the joyful 2017 and 2018 ArtStream Gala and Dance Parties. Colleen was instrumental in creating work opportunities at ArtStream for people with IDD's, including the Costume Shop Manager and Cabaret Production Assistant. Colleen recruited numerous volunteers, including her mother, Pat, who plans to continue as a MD Cabaret mentor, and her father, Lane, who videotapes Cabaret performances. Colleen is joining her husband, Rob Siler, as he begins a new position as assistant professor of theatre at the University of Central Florida. Rob donated his time to ArtStream as a lighting designer and all-around theatre expert. We wish them both the best of luck in their new home and career path.

### A message from Colleen:

*"ArtStream has meant so much to me and what we do is so important. The joy on each actor's face will stay with me forever. The talent Teaching Artists and Theatre staff possess is staggering and I am honored to have been able to support them these past two years. I have done my best, and will continue to do so, to make ArtStream successful and to set it up for success in the future. I am grateful for my time with ArtStream and I am excited to go to Disney World every day."*



Colleen Marie Siler, ArtStream's Theatre and Events Manager, will be leaving the ArtStream office team July 26, 2019.

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