It’s been over a year since the COVID-19 pandemic changed the world and all of our lives. One thing that didn’t change was Silvermine’s commitment to meet the needs of our community. We have been and continue to be put to the test as we navigate through this pandemic, which threatens so much of what we hold dear. I am immensely proud of our Silvermine team for supporting each other and constantly pivoting and innovating to stay relevant and accessible for the community we serve.

We’re still here for you and we’re looking forward to a brighter future as we expand and improve our programs and services.

From the very beginning of the pandemic, our focus was squarely upon two things:
- Securing the well-being, health and safety of our staff, instructors, and students and
- Steering the organization successfully through this unprecedented crisis.

I am proud to report that we achieved both.

From the time we re-opened in June 2020, Silvermine has been there for the community. Thanks to many of our esteemed instructors, we conducted over 700 classes for 2100 students during the pandemic. We held 10 exhibitions and sold $66,000 in art through our website and artnet platforms. In addition, our outreach programs ran virtually and still reached over 1300 under-resourced youth.

Despite all of the challenges, we extended our Silvermine community, regionally, and globally, engaging with over 120,000 visitors through our website and social media platforms.

Next year we celebrate 100 years of providing exceptional arts education and appreciation opportunities to our community. We remain steadfast in our mission to: promote and showcase artists, provide outstanding arts education for our students, and inspire a local culture of creative and innovative thinkers. We look forward to a future that will emphasize a renewed commitment to our community, deepening and expanding Silvermine’s reach outside our campus, and sharing our storied institutional history.

2020 was anything but easy. The only way to get through such a year was by working together as a team. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the instructors, students, and staff who kept us operating. They have demonstrated resilience and shown great commitment in these extraordinary times.

I would also like to thank all of our donors for the trust you have placed in us. I recognize there are many deserving organizations that could have used your support and I am extremely honored you chose to support ours!

Thank you to all for standing by Silvermine now and always; we greatly appreciate your generosity, your partnership, and your continued friendship.

With sincere gratitude,
Barbara Linarducci
Chief Executive Officer
We held over 700 classes, both online and in-person, with more than 3,700 enrollments serving students of all ages, experience and proficiency. We navigated through the year continually adapting and innovating to our changing reality.

The 2021 summer session marked Silvermine’s second full summer of classes since the onset of the pandemic. Our Summer Art Studios offered youth an opportunity for safe and enriching in-person classes while still providing online learning options. A dynamic array of 106 camps were offered in a variety of disciplines. Our programs reached almost 95% capacity, a significant increase over the previous summer.

Inclusivity is paramount to Silvermine. In an effort to provide access to the arts for families living in under-resourced communities, Silvermine awarded 11 scholarships to deserving youth ages 4 to 14. Limited financial resources should not prevent the desire to learn and we thank our generous donors for their support.

The School of Art has played a major role in the Center’s growth from the earliest days. Today, it is bustling with creative activity year-round in its 15 studio classrooms specializing in painting, printmaking, sculpting, ceramics, metalworking and foundry, glasswork, jewelry making, woodworking, Ikebana, photography and digital lab. Classes are small with emphasis on individual development. It is an environment where every student can find a place for personal growth.

As the preeminent visual arts destination in Fairfield County, what attracts and keeps students coming to Silvermine are the distinguished group of professional artist educators and the widest range of disciplines in the area. There is nothing else like it.


Silvermine School of Art continued its legacy of award winning art education despite the uncertainties and restrictions caused by the ongoing covid pandemic. It was paramount that we stay connected and accessible to our community because we know that Art sparks creativity, heals the spirit, and brings us together.
June 2021 marked Silvermine’s second summer season since the onset of the pandemic, welcoming almost 900 children to our campus — a huge success!

Summer Art Studios encourage experimentation, creative thinking and skill development in a safe, fun, supportive and socially engaging environment with other creative youth. Age-specific programs are led by our professional Teaching Artists, with classes specifically designed to ensure personalized attention.

Summer Camp as it should be — fun, exciting, a chance to learn something new and make new friends!

Over 100 programs were offered over a ten-week period for youth ages 4 - 17 in a variety of disciplines including, painting & drawing, ceramics, sculpture, woodworking, digital arts, mixed media and specials topics such as puppetry, papermaking and calligraphy. New this year we introduced a free and supervised lunch period for full-day campers called “Lunch Bunch”, in which students participated in unstructured art making and engaged in games. Silvermine provides a unique opportunity for students of all ages and experience levels wishing to explore the visual arts.
Art Partners

Art Partners programs strive to close Connecticut’s educational achievement gap – one of the largest in the nation – by providing access to the arts through uniquely designed programs that target critical student needs. We continued our work with community partners during the pandemic to bring curriculum-based enrichment to over 1,300 students in under-resourced schools throughout Fairfield County. Implementing our programs in remote, hybrid and in-person formats, we further encouraged literacy through poetry and art while reinforcing healthy social and emotional learning. Building on the concept that art transcends race, language, and socio-economic status, our programs create a level playing field leading a pathway to success.

Highlights from this year:
• With a grant from the Cornelia T. Bailey Foundation, Art Partners expanded its reach into Bridgeport. Wilbur Cross Elementary second graders explored the poetic form of Haïnaku while studying anecdotes regarding the animals of the East African savannah and grasslands. The “Jungle Jams” program encouraged students to translate their knowledge into poetry and creative mixed media artworks.
• Inspired by their vivid imaginations, Wilber Cross second graders also built their “dream spaces” utilizing engineering, architecture, and design concepts to create personal, tabletop treehouses. The “Spring Fling” program established a healthy learning environment incorporating both haiku poetry and sculpture, allowing students to take chances and achieve personal goals.

With paint, clay, paper, and willing hands, we’re building bridges one step at a time.

Outreach Education

Left page, clockwise from top:
CM S at Norwalk’s Fodor Farm
This page: Silvermine Elementary School’s mandala mural; Wilbur Cross’s ‘Dream Spaces’; Silvermine Elementary School’s ‘Mandala Mural’

• CMS students returned to Norwalk’s Fodor Farm, an historic agricultural landmark, collaborating on larger-than-life sculptures for their annual public installation in the sustainable gardens. To compensate for the interruptions of the pandemic, first and second graders joined the 2021 project. Remote and in-person learners worked in an impressive collaboration, and artwork from those learning at home was incorporated into the sculptures. Students gained knowledge of gardening, farming, and...
In partnership with STAR, Inc., Silvermine continued its ‘ArtAcademy’ Program to benefit people with disabilities. ArtAcademy taps into the transformative power of art for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities by engaging them in a variety of art classes in an inclusive setting on Silvermine’s campus as well as through remote ‘Zoom’ lessons. The Zoom platform has proven particularly successful because of how many students can be reached. The weekly class is streamed into STAR headquarters, as well as other STAR living facilities and private homes. This program was made possible by generous contributions from the Horizon Foundation and the Sidney Weiner Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Environment while melding science curriculum and the hands-on work of sculpture and painting.

- Silvermine Elementary, a Dual Language Magnet School and a lead SEL (social-emotional learning) school, did not skip a beat, despite the challenges of the pandemic. While studying symmetry, geometry, and the meditative qualities of art, the proud fifth grade students completed their project by creating individual, unique mandalas, installed as a single mural. The mural is a parting gift to the school and a legacy that remains as the students move on.

- In “Me, Myself and Eye”, both Bridgeport and Norwalk students wrote self-reflective poems, studied the proportions of the head and the anatomy of the eye while learning algebra to mix unique skin tones, resulting in impressive self-portraits.

ArtAcademy

Left page: Silvermine Elementary School’s ‘Mandala Mural’
This page, clockwise from top:
Wilbur Cross Elementary’s ‘Jungle Jams’;
Silvermine Elementary School’s ‘Me, Myself and Eye’;
ArtAcademy, Silvermine Elementary School’s ‘Me, Myself and Eye’, Wilbur Cross’s ‘Dream Spaces’
The Galleries present relevant, visually compelling art exhibitions, accompanied by programs and events, to heighten appreciation and understanding of art and its role in society. Our inclusive approach encompasses programming tailored to make our exhibitions meaningful and accessible to diverse audiences of every age and background. Distinguished guest curators jury many of our landmark exhibitions. All of our installations use art to create opportunities for learning and provide a venue for broadening participation across media, disciplines, cultures and contexts.

On the following pages, we proudly display selected highlights from each of these exhibitions. We invite you to walk through and enjoy this wide array of talent!

Silvermine Galleries entered the global art market by subscribing to the online service Artnet. With 2.1 million monthly users from over 239 countries, it is the largest gallery network of its kind. Artnet draws a broad audience generating inquiries from both serious collectors and first-time buyers. Silvermine Galleries has already made sales through this online channel.

Our accomplishments of this past year have highlighted Silvermine’s resilience and perseverance in a trying time for our community. We have and will continue to work towards the larger goal of supporting and cultivating a passionate and talented community of artists while keeping everyone in that community, and beyond, safe and healthy.

Highlights of this year:

- ‘Summer Salon’ Guild Exhibition
  July 21 – August 20, 2020

- 70th A-ONE
  September 5 – October 16, 2020

- The Golden Door
  October 31, 2020 – January 16, 2021

- New Members Exhibition
  February 6 – March 13, 2021

- A-ONE Solo Exhibition
  ‘Divine Frequent See’ - Russell Ritell
  March 27 – April 23, 2021

- Paint 2021
  May 8 - June 30, 2021

View the exhibitions on our Gallery page at: www.silvermineart.org/galleries/
'Summer Salon' Guild Exhibition  
July 21 – August 20, 2020  
Featuring an impressive group of more than 80 members of the Silvermine Guild of Artists working in a broad range of styles and mediums, 'Summer Salon' celebrated our extraordinarily accomplished painters, sculptors, printmakers, collage and mixed media artists. Curated by Roger Mudre, Silvermine Gallery Director.

Artists clockwise from left:  
This page: Robert Meyer, Meg Tweedy  
Right page: Lynn Mara, Pam Ackley, Helen Cantrell, Judith Orsack Katz

View the online exhibition at https://www.silvermineart.org/galleries/
70th A-ONE
September 5 – October 16, 2020
One of the oldest and most prestigious juried competitions, A-ONE highlights the diversity of work that is currently being made by both established and emerging artists. A-ONE spotlights contemporary trends and new explorations across various media. Curated by Barbara O’Brien, Independent Curator and Critic.

Galleries

Divine Frequent See – Russell Ritell
March 27-April 23, 2021
Ritell’s work garnered the Board Chair Grand Prize award at Silvermine’s 69th annual A-ONE in 2019, and this solo exhibition is a result of that honor. Ritell paints contemporary scenes with dramatic illumination that recalls the classical tenebrist painters.

Artists clockwise from left:
This page:
Pattie Carrigan
Right page:
Jaymee Harvey, Tian Hu, Barbara Simco, Russell Ritell

View the online exhibition at https://www.silvermineart.org/galleries/
Artists clockwise from left:
This page:
Donna Namnoum, Connie Brown,
Right page top:
Nancy Natale, Joseph Fusigna, Dana Kotler, Donna Namnoum,
Right page bottom:
Nina Temple, June Ahrens

View the online exhibition at https://www.silvermineart.org/galleries/
The Golden Door
October 21, 2020 – January 16, 2021
This major exhibition of contemporary art explored the American experience of immigration, migration and the American Dream and examined the complex histories and cultural identities that defined and enriched contemporary America. Curated by Robin Jaffee Frank, Ph.D., Independent Curator, Barbara O’Brien, Independent Curator and Critic and Roger Mudre, Silvermine Gallery Director.

View the online exhibition at https://www.silvermineart.org/galleries/
Paint 2021
May 8-June 30, 2020
An exhibition of international artists employ paint as an integral part of their work. Vitality, diversity, skillful execution, experimentation, and new directions were its distinguishing elements.
Curated by Michelle Y. Loh, New York based art advisor, gallery director, and curator.

Artists clockwise from left:
This page:
Jovanni Luna

Right page:
Sarah Lightfoot Brundage, Jennifer McCandless, Chunbum Park, Barry Katz

View the online exhibition at http://www.silvermineart.org/galleries/
Clement Greenberg, Louise Nevelson, Larry Rivers, Jeanne-Claude and Christo, James Rosenquist, Chuck Close, Philip Johnson—and the list goes on. Today, the Guild is comprised of over 300 professional artists who enhance and change the way we experience art. Widely respected and highly collectible, their multi-disciplined work can often be viewed in Gallery exhibitions. Our Guild members have attained a superior level of technical and creative accomplishment as demonstrated by numerous group and solo exhibitions, awards, publications, commercial gallery representation and inclusion in museum and corporate collections.

We continue to honor our heritage by expanding the borders of our contemporary exhibitions to include recognized emerging artists from across the United States to exhibit at Silvermine. These exhibitions highlight current art trends and broaden the community’s understanding and appreciation of art by bringing some of the most influential pundits in contemporary art to Fairfield County.

Since 1906 when visionary sculptor Solon Borglum moved to Silvermine and held annual exhibitions in his studio and weekly critiques called the Knockers Club, Silvermine has been a place for artists to gather.

In 1922 The Silvermine Guild of Artists was formed and later incorporated as a not-for-profit to provide a permanency to the community of artists.

Silvermine has a 99-year reputation of exhibiting and involving art luminaries such as Joseph Albers, Gabor Peterdi, Milton Avery, Elaine deKooning, Alma Thomas, and Charles Demuth. The Guild has hosted exhibitions and events that have significantly impacted the art world, including the groundbreaking exhibition “A Decade of American Painting” in 1957.

Our mission has persisted for decades: To foster art appreciation, education, and the cultural growth of the community.

Artists clockwise from left:
The page: Elaine Langham
Right page: Alder Crocker

In Memoriam
Linda Adato
Dan Bergfeld
Kioishi Otsuka
Joe Saccio

Sadly, each year we lose some of our cherished artists. This year, we honor four long-time members who made a lasting impression in and to our community. Their work, shown below, highlights the many talents of our Guild Artists.
New Members Exhibition
February 6 – March 13, 2021
Highlighting the work of 38 new members recently juried into our dynamic artistic community of over 300 professional artists. Many of its’ members have work represented in permanent collections of some of the world’s most prestigious museums, as well as prominent, private and corporate collections.
Curated by Roger Mudre, Silvermine Galley Director

View the online exhibition at
https://www.silvermineart.org/galleries/
Silv Mine

Guild of Artists

New Member’s

Artists clockwise from left:

This page:
Heide Follin

Right page:
Meg Bloom, Susan Fehlinger,
Fruma Markowitz, David Ottzenstein
### Annual Gifts

#### $500,000+ Connecticut Office of the Arts
- David M. Rubenstein

#### $200,000 - $499,999
- Sheela Reddy
- Eric D. Smith
- Amy C. Shipley

#### $500 - $999
- Lisa Macdonald
- Robert L. Mahoney

### Lifelong Giving

#### $100,000 - $199,999
- The Waters Family
- Debra D. Johnson

#### $5,000 - $9,999
- David M. Rubenstein
- Jack A. Tisch

#### $1,000 - $4,999
- Sally D. Cohen
- Robert L. Mahoney

### Annual Gifts

#### $100,000 - $199,999
- The Waters Family
- Debra D. Johnson

#### $5,000 - $9,999
- David M. Rubenstein
- Jack A. Tisch

#### $1,000 - $4,999
- Sally D. Cohen
- Robert L. Mahoney

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Thank you for being an important part of Silvermine and sharing in our vision for the future.

Our Donors are vital to our success and we greatly appreciate your continued support.

Silvermine
Silvermine performed resiliently during FY21 with a $52,752 Result after Depreciation – a 152% increase over FY20 results of ($101,519). While School revenue was down 30% as compared to FY20 due to restricted capacity and limited classes, the Gallery revenue was down only 7% and equally important, Scholarships and Outreach funding remained constant, a testament to the strong relationships with our grantors and donors.

We received CARES ACT PPP funding and other State government assistance which along with a steady demand for our classes, was crucial in helping to sustain operations. Our donors also stepped up when we truly needed them with contributions in excess of $245k. We are grateful for their commitment and dedication to Silvermine.

Over the past several years, we have steadily and deliberately built back our reserves to create financial sustainability. This strategy has enabled us to weather this crisis so far. Fortunately, we were able to add to our reserves this year and we hope that FY22 will build upon this success.

Silvermine Arts Center received an unqualified opinion of its financial statements by its independent auditor, Berkow, Schechter & Company LLP. Full audited financial statements are available at the Silvermine Administrative Offices.
Grounded in the belief that art is vital to the spirit, creativity, and wholeness of human beings, the mission of Silvermine Arts Center is to cultivate and encourage growth through the arts; to promote and showcase artists; and to provide arts education opportunities for the greater community.