

Fiscal Year July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022



CELEBRATING 100



Silvermine Festival
1938

Silvermine Arts Center

NORWALK
CONN

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On our cover:
 Silvermine through the years in photos from our archives

This page:
 Silvermine Campus, circa 1960

Page 3:
 Map of Silvermine CT by John Vassos. This is a birds eye view map of Silvermine CT designed and drafted by the famous industrial designer John Vassos. The original resides in the Smithsonian Archives of American Art.



Letter from CEO



I feel very fortunate and honored to be a part of this wonderful institution as we celebrate our 100th anniversary.

Looking back at 100 years of arts programming and exhibitions, one cannot help but be impressed and inspired by the magnitude of what has taken place in what began in a mid-sized barn in rural Connecticut.

100 years ago – Artists in the Silvermine Group, or “Knockers” as they were informally known, originally coalesced around the studio of world-renowned sculptor Solon Borglum to critique or “knock” each other’s work.

Acknowledging the need for community outreach, the group offered an annual exhibition at the end of every summer that ultimately began attracting hundreds of viewers – many who came from New York by train – the so-called “Silvermine Express”.

Their ideals of artistic excellence and mutual encouragement endured and flourished and in 1922 the Group formally reorganized itself as the Silvermine Guild of Artists. Today Silvermine boasts a nationally renowned Guild of over 300 professional artists from around the world and our Galleries present relevant, visually compelling art

exhibitions and programming year-round, that heightens appreciation and understanding of art and its role in society.

From the very beginning, education was always an important part of Guild activity. The School of Art opened shortly after in 1924 and the first painting class was offered. For 35 cents, students could sketch from a live model and enjoy discussion and refreshments. Today the School is an award-winning institution with over 4,000 enrollments annually offering classes in painting, ceramics, sculpture, printmaking, photography and woodworking – to name just a few.

Our educational programs have since reached beyond the Silvermine campus. 30 years ago, the *Art Partners* programs began in a Stamford elementary school with 65 first graders participating. Fueled by donor funding, the program brings curriculum-based arts education to children in under-resourced neighboring schools in Bridgeport, Norwalk and Stamford. Today the program serves over 1,500 students annually.

We are so proud to be able to bring arts education to children who

might never have had exposure to the arts.

We continue to expand our educational programming by collaborating with other non-profits. Just a few years ago, we launched a new *ArtAcademy* program in partnership with STAR, Inc., that benefits adults with intellectual and development disabilities. Offering both onsite and zoom classes, the curriculum encourages students to explore, develop and share their talents.

Reaching 100 years is a milestone for any organization, but it is just a foundation. While we honor the accomplishments of the last century, we are focused on moving Silvermine forward and upward into the next 100 years.

Thank you to all our supporters for your generosity and friendship and for joining with us as we chart Silvermine’s unbridled future.

On the following pages, we present a glimpse of our storied past and invite you to walk through the decades of our rich and illustrious history.

With sincere gratitude,

Barbara Linarducci
 Chief Executive Officer
 Vice-Chair, Board of Trustees

1900

1906

Sculptor Solom Borglum purchased a farm in Silvermine. In 1908, Borglum invited artists to join him at his barn to socialize, exhibit, and critique or "knock" one another's work on Sundays. The gathering became known as the Knockers Club, and members began to share their work with the community. The exhibition became a yearly event in the late summer and grew in popularity.



1910

A pair of American icons, Raggedy Ann and Andy, were created by guild member Johnny Gruelle.

And another Guild member, Clifton Meek, who drew cute little mice, inspired Walt Disney to create Mickey Mouse.

A Squeak From Johnny Mouse.



1910



1913

Silvermine artists Daniel Putnam Brinley, Mahroni Mackintosh Young, and Solon Borglum all participated in the organization of the groundbreaking 1913 Armory Show in New York.

It became a legendary watershed event in the history of American art. Exhibited there was Matisse's painting, *Red Room*.



1913-22

The Silvermine Group of Artists was formed, purchasing a barn on Silvermine Road which served as an exhibition gallery and home to the annual exhibition—the biggest social event in Silvermine.

In 1924, the Silvermine Guild of Artists was incorporated. The guild included not only painters, sculptors, and illustrators, but musical, literary, and dramatic artists as well.

1920

1924

The Barn, now called Hays Gallery, originally served as both classroom and exhibition space.

From the beginning, education was an important part of Guild activity. The first painting class was taught in 1924 by Robert Schmidt. Sculpture and classes for children soon followed.

For 35 cents, students could sketch from a live model and enjoy discussion and refreshments.



1925-1939

The Silvermine Sillies were established. While the visual arts were paramount in Silvermine, music, theater, film, and other arts were well represented as well. These hilarious, bawdy musicals were presented outdoors on summer evenings. The Sillies were the primary fundraiser for the Guild through the mid 40's.



1930



1935

During the depression, the Works Progress Administration (WPA), created the conditions for widespread socially minded art productions throughout the nation. Social commentary and cultural forums also flourished at Silvermine. Several Guild members completed major projects for the WPA.



1938

This proved to be a watershed year for the Guild in terms of artistic creativity and crossover collaboration. In that year, the Silvermine Music Festival melded the visual arts with live classical music concerts performed by the New York Philharmonic, conducted by Eugene Ormandy, José Iturbi, and Quinto Maganini.

The event attracted over 30,000 attendees, and all of the proceeds went toward building a new annex to the barn, which allowed for new

1940

classes in drama, dance, music, and experimental film.

1938

Every painter in the Guild was invited to paint a contemporary social statement – they could register any protest or make any comment on canvas, depicting the unusual world at the time. When the exhibition closed, it travelled the country where it was shown in various museums and exhibition halls.



1938 - 1945

During WWII, most of the Guild's facilities were turned over to the local Red Cross and Civilian Defense. Barn activities were limited to returning veterans.

In 1943, the First Annual War Bond exhibition was established, which paid artists in war bonds. The show was so successful, it was held annually until the end of the war.



John Vassos was the President of the guild for 10 terms, in 1936, 1940, 1941, 1949-1955 and raised significant funds for the center using his considerable influence with RCA, where he worked as a consultant designer for almost four decades.

He was highly regarded as an artist, industrial designer, illustrator, inventor, interior designer, architect and social commentator. John was a pioneer in the field of Industrial Design along with Norman Bel Geddes, Raymond Lowey and Eliot Noyes among others.



When he died, an exhibition "A Tribute to John Vassos, 1898-1985" was held for him in the galleries, which examined his leadership of the organization and his role as a driving force behind the development of the Silvermine Guild of Artists.

1945

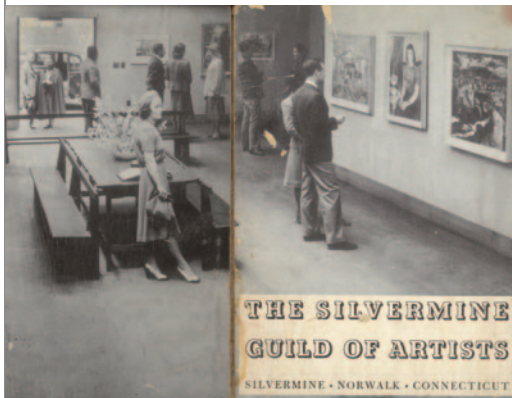
The original sketches for the Silvermine Map along with more work by Vassos can be viewed in the Smithsonian's Archives of American Art. Map shown on p.3.

1940

1949

The Guild established the first New England Exhibition in 1949, a Silvermine tradition to this day and one of the area's oldest and most prestigious juried competitions.

Originally open to artists in the New England states, the expanded exhibition now includes artists nationally. Currently known as AoNE, the exhibition is in its 72nd year.



AoNE has introduced emerging artists to critical exposure for decades with the help of many distinguished critics, dealers, artists, and museum professionals who have served as jurors over the years.

Louise Nevelson, Elaine de Kooning and Richard Anuszkiewicz are among the artists whose early recognition in the annual competition contributed to outstanding careers.

1949

A meeting of the board of directors in the gallery garden patio.



1950



1950

Space for classes was extremely limited and the buildings had no heat. When Guild president, John Vassos, an award winning industrial designer and book illustrator returned from war, he dedicated himself to moving forward Silvermine's expansion plans which had been halted during the war.



Begun in the mid-40's, the expansion was completed in 1950 and dedicated in 1951. The new school building included a large auditorium, a painting studio, a mirrored dance studio and a children's workshop.

1952

In 1952, the Leonardo da Vinci Exhibition, celebrating his Quincentenary, attracted hundreds of people from all over the state, to see the fascinating work of the master of all artistic trades.

Displayed were models, sketches and reproductions from the Burndy Corporation Library and from IBM.



1952

Having already achieved international renown as both a painter and printmaker, Gabor Peterdi joined the Silvermine Guild. In 1959, he launched the National Print Biennial exhibition and established a permanent print collection for exhibition and study by students and Guild members.

Peterdi established the printmaking department at Yale University, and as a professor there, he guided many budding talents such as Chuck Close into the individual expression that later resulted in major recognition. His two books on printmaking are considered definitive works.



1956

Interest in sculpture was also burgeoning at Silvermine in the 50's. A large new sculpture studio was dedicated in 1956 with a ceremony featuring a speech by Jacques Lipchitz and an exhibition of the medium interpreted by world class artists - including Calder, Moore, and Giacometti - on loan from museums and collectors.



Pablo Picasso, *The Owl* - Courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bareiss



1958

Jean Woodham (r) is shown with her guest Louise Nevelson and the latter's sculpture "Portrait", at the opening of Silvermine's "Be My Guest" show.

1960

Woodham worked and studied at the Clay Club alongside Louise Nevelson. In a short time Woodham was exhibiting her sculpture in group shows with David Smith, Alexander Calder, Isamu Noguchi, and Nevelson.

In 1955, the family moved to CT where Woodham became head of the sculpture program at Silvermine. She showed her work in galleries and museum exhibitions and won many prestigious prizes.

In 1959, Louise Nevelson sponsored her for membership in the Sculptors Guild.

In 2021, Silvermine hosted a memorial service for Woodham in the Silvermine Galleries to honor her lifelong commitment to Silvermine and its educational mission and her prestigious career.



1960

An affiliation with the University of Bridgeport led to the establishment of the Silvermine College of Art in 1960.

Accredited by the state of CT, the school offered a two-year Associate in Fine Arts degree and remained open until 1969 when demands of accrediting and lack of funds prompted its closing.

1961

Continuing a focus on contemporary design, an exhibition in 1961, *Architectural Directions*, celebrated local architects who were making their mark.

Internationally known contemporary architects such as Marcel Breuer, John Johansen, Philip Johnson and Elliot Noyes were featured.



1966

The summer music series was flourishing and in 1966 the Silvermine Chamber Orchestra was established. Distinguished soloists and the Silvermine String Quartet performed concerts each summer.



1970

1972

The Guild held a 50th Anniversary Ball at Waveny House, a Tudor Mansion in New Canaan, to the beat of Lester Lanin's music.

In celebration of Silvermines' 50 years, Outdoor Jazz Concerts featured renowned artists such as Dave Brubeck.



1974

Dance was taught in four week master classes by the Alvin Ailey Dancers.



1980



Reuben Nakian with Alice Neel

1979

A retrospective of portraits and drawings by Alice Neel took place at Silvermine in 1979.

Fifty-two paintings, many of them never before exhibited, were on display. A second group of fifty works by the artist was exhibited at the University of Bridgeport.



1983

Beginning in 1983, annual fundraisers called "Silvermine Collections" created an interaction with the corporate world.

Public spaces such as Perkin-Elmer, Pitney Bowes, and Richardson-Vicks were transformed into art galleries for a weekend offering Guild art for sale.

1984

In 1984, the Institute for Visual Artists was established to function as an educational resource for professional artists. The IVA hosted monthly lectures and forums for both artists and art lovers.

The IVA ran programming for 17 years.

ART MATERIALS FAIR
 Saturday, September 9, 2000 / 10AM-4PM / \$20.00
 Proceeds to benefit
THE INSTITUTE FOR VISUAL ARTISTS' PROGRAMS
 Silvermine Guild Art Center
 1037 Silvermine Avenue, New Canaan, CT / 203-966-5617

★ DEMONSTRATIONS / FREE SAMPLES ★

GOLDEN PAINTS WORKSHOP -- 11AM & 2PM
 WINSOR & NEWTON PRESENTATION -- 12:30PM

DOOR PRIZE
 DRAWING AT 3:30PM
 Do not need to be present to win!

PARTICIPATING MANUFACTURERS: WINSOR & NEWTON, LIQUITEX, CANSON, ROWNEY, SAKURA, STEADTLER, LOGAN, GOLDEN, HOLBER, AMPERSAND, C B&B, RULER, DAVINCI, GENERAL PENCIL, SILVER BRUSH, SPEEDBALL, ART SUPPLY WAREHOUSE, STRUCTURAL, GENESIS, PRAT, AMACO, BEE PAPER, BORDEN RILEY, POLYFORM, RICHESON, WEBER, SANFORD -- *Have donated door prizes.

1987

The Silvermine Guild branched out in 1987 to have a temporary exhibition space at the Stamford Metro Center. In 1988, the Stamford Gallery exhibited a retrospective of work by Jimmy Ernst, Guild artist and son of celebrated artist Max Ernst.

The below group photo of Guild artists from the 1950s went out to the press to promote the Jimmy Ernst retrospective.

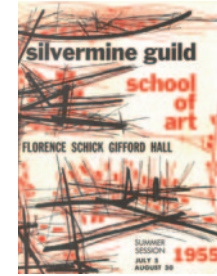
Jimmy Ernst taught at the Silvermine School of Art, and he designed the cover for the 1955 summer session catalogue seen



From left to right, are artists Jimmy Ernst, Revington Arthur, George Constant, John Vassos, Gabor Peterdi, Albert Jacobson, and William Baziotes.
 Image source: Francis X. Fay Jr., "Ernst's acclaim grows four years after death," *The Hour*, Saturday, April 23, 1988, pg. 8.

1990

here and his bio listed in this catalogue demonstrated the range of his career. He had twelve one-man shows in New York City and was an instructor at the Pratt Institute and the Brooklyn College Department of Design.



His artwork is represented in the Metropolitan Museum, Museum of Modern Art, Whitney Museum, Brooklyn Museum, Guggenheim Museum, Chicago Art Institute, Toledo Museum, Toronto Art Gallery, Wadsworth Atheneum, and many more institutions and private collections.



1992

Community Outreach became a major goal of the expanding arts center. In 1992 an Art Partners program was launched in Stamford elementary schools in which Silvermine provided Teaching Artists to work directly with classroom teachers to develop art projects related to curriculum.

Students from underserved schools discovered new self-confidence through creating art.

Today the program extends to Norwalk, Stamford and Bridgeport children.

1993

Construction began for a major renovation and expansion of the Sculpture and Ceramics Studios. The ground-breaking ceremony was a symbolic culmination of the efforts of hundreds who contributed time, talent and money to the capital campaign which topped \$1 million.



1994

The first Summer Art Camps were offered in 1994, and ran for one week sessions in July and August. An instant success, they have continued to this day, remaining an integral part of introducing the next generation to the world of art through encouraging experimentation, creative thinking, and skill development in a safe, fun, supportive and socially engaging environment with other creative youth.



Two national juried competitions were launched in the 1990's. The first competition, *Craft USA Today* was held in 1993 and *Spectra*, the national photography competition established in 1997, showcased the rising significance of photography as an artistic medium.

SPECTRA '97

NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY BIENNIAL
 OCTOBER 19 THROUGH NOVEMBER 16, 1997



As the Silvermine Guild celebrated its 75th anniversary in 1997, the galleries began *Spectra*, a national juried photography exhibition. The exhibition continued for many years. Peter MacGill of Pace/MacGill Galleries juried *Spectra* in 2007 and gave a lecture. This exhibition also featured a lecture by Jane Jackson, the director of Sir Elton John's photography collection.

2000

2001

Renowned painter and printmaker Michael Mazur, a star pupil of Gabor Peterdi, began an international career with his first exhibition at Silvermine. A 2001 exhibition of etchings inspired by *The Inferno of Dante* served as homecoming for the artist, whose



monotypes accompanying the Robert Pinsky translation garnered international acclaim.

Mazur had a lifelong fascination with the poem. In the early 1990s, Mazur and longtime friend poet Robert Pinsky (U.S. Poet Laureate 1997-2000) collaborated on the production of a new illustrated translation of *The Inferno* pairing Mazur's monotypes with Pinsky's translations. This initial project was later expanded into a portfolio of 41 etchings.

Right:
Michael
Mazur,
Canto VIII:
The Tower,
1997-2000,
Etching on
paper.
Collection
of the
Springfield
Art Museum.
© The Estate
of Michael
Mazur.



Jean-Claude, Burt Chernow, and Christo

2002

In the spring of 2002, the galleries hosted two simultaneous exhibitions of internationally renowned artists – Paul Cadmus, as well as Christo and Jean-Claude. The illustrious showing of two 20th century modernists inspired panel discussions, slide presentations and the signing of a biography, *Christo and Jean-Claude*, written by guild member Burt Chernow.



The Gates, Project for Central Park, 2002 Anita Soos

The exhibition of world-famous environmental artists Christo and Jeanne-Claude featured sketches of works in progress for *"The Gates, Project for Central Park, New York City"*, and *"Over The River, Project for The Arkansas River, Colorado"*. Two Works in Progress. Often requiring decades of planning, sketching, surveying and engaging the public about their projects, admirers of this illustrious duo had the chance to experience and discuss their process and projects.

2010

2016

The Governors Island exhibition, entitled "The Tide is High," brought together the work of 23 contemporary artists including members of Silvermine's Guild of Artists, along with other invited artists from Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, and Rhode Island. The goal of the exhibition



was twofold, to create a greater dialog between the Connecticut region and the larger contemporary art world; and begin to create a new context for art outside of the gallery/museum structure. As the show's co-curator Christopher Joy said, "The contemporary art world permeates everywhere."

2017

CT Contemporary Art Fair - offering a look into what is happening NOW in Connecticut's major contemporary art galleries. The first-of-its-kind event brought together galleries from all over the state to give a broader understanding of Connecticut's gallery landscape and provided an opportunity for people to encounter galleries they might not usually have the chance to see. CT contemporary was the culmination of the three-part Cultivating Collectors series organized by the Cultural Alliance of Fairfield County and Silvermine.



2017

Silvermine curated a unique benefit exhibition in honor of Frank Lloyd Wright's 150-year anniversary. The pop-up exhibition of contemporary art took place in two Wrightian structures —one designed and built by Wright during his lifetime and the other inspired by his design. The event brought artists and art lovers to Petra Island in Mahopac, New York to view a vibrant mix of contemporary artists whose works echo the aesthetic sensibilities of Frank Lloyd Wright's architecture.

2019

In partnership with STAR, Inc., Silvermine launched the "ArtAcademy" program to benefit adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, engaging them in a variety of art classes in an inclusive setting on Silvermine's campus.



Professional art instruction encourages curiosity and builds skills and self-esteem. The program fosters not only artistic and social development—but also joy through art.

2019

Silvermine established an International Artist-in-Residency Program, initiated and funded by artist and philanthropist Janet Hennessey Dilenschneider and Robert Dilenschneider, and managed by the International Institute of Education (IIE).



The Fulbright residency was created to foster creative, intellectual and professional growth for emerging or established visual artists who have access to Silvermine faculty as well as a private workspace and generous studio time.

The inaugural artist in residence, Ivana Radovanovich, from Centinje, Montenegro earned a PhD at the Faculty of Fine Arts in Belgrade, Serbia, and is pursuing post-doctoral research at St. John's University in New York as a Fulbright Scholar.

2020

2019

Silvermine announced representation of Guild Artists on artnet, the online leader in global art and gallery representation, increasing our exposure internationally. Silvermine now joins major NYC, London and Hong Kong Galleries in worldwide prestige.

2020

Silvermine's outreach education program, Art Partners, and the Silvermine Elementary School in Norwalk (a Dual Language Magnet School) were able to reach a milestone this year with the 20th anniversary of the fifth-grade mural project. Just weeks before the pandemic closed all public schools throughout the state, the fifth graders at Silvermine Elementary completed their parting gift of a collaborative mural gracing the school's main hallway. Every year the fifth graders create a 9' x 20' mural, a legacy that remains as they move on to middle school. Past subjects have included "The Rainforest," "A Multicultural Feast," and "Birds and Insects of New England." This year's theme was "Hoyt Island: Nature and Environmental Awareness."



Silvermine



Our mission has persisted for 100 years: To foster art appreciation, education, and the cultural growth of the community.

guild of artists



From the Guild's 1922 formation with 32 members to over 300 at present, the fertile ground of cultural exchange established by the dozen founding members of the Silvermine Art Colony has adapted to the challenges of changing times.

In fact, this infectious spirit of creative camaraderie continues to attract new members and visitors alike to one of the nation's oldest surviving guilds.

Silvermine has a 100-year reputation of exhibiting and involving art luminaries such as Joseph Albers, Gabor Peterdi, Alice Neal, Milton Avery, Elaine de Kooning, Clement Greenberg, Louise Nevelson, Larry Rivers, Christo and Jeanne-Claude,

James Rosenquist, Chuck Close, Philip Johnson, Jean Woodham — 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.

Sadly, each year we lose some of our cherished artists. This year,

In Memoriam

- Anne Anderson
- Alberta Cifoletti
- Pamela Davis
- Lou Hicks
- Ann Weiner
- Jean Woodham

we honor six 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.

Artists left to right:

Top row: Ann Weiner, Alberta Cifoletti

Middle row: Pamela Davis, Lou Hicks

Bottom row: Jean Woodham, Anne Anderson





galleries

From the early days, hundreds of viewers poured into the galleries from New York on the “Silvermine Express”.



Since the early 1900's Sculptor Solon Borglum invited artists to join him at his barn to socialize, exhibit, and critique or “knock” one another’s work on Sundays. The gathering became known as the Knockers Club, and members began to share their work with the community. The exhibition became a yearly event in the late summer and grew in popularity. By 1909, the artists had renamed themselves the Silvermine Group, and on Sept. 20, 1909 the American Art News announced the group as a “New Artists’ Society”.

Eventually, the Silvermine Group exhibitions began attracting hundreds of viewers, some who came out from New York by train, the so-called “Silvermine Express”.

As the artist colony outgrew Borglum’s Barn, they purchased a larger barn and moved it to its present location.

Today, 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!

Jeremy Stenger, the Grand Prize awardee from Silvermine’s PAINT 2021 Exhibition.





Silvermine

Highlights of this year:

'Summer Salon' Guild Exhibition

July 21 – August 20, 2021

Voices of Reflection

September 4 – October 9, 2021

71st AoNE

October 30 – December 29, 2021

New Members Exhibition

January 22 – February 25, 2022

Jeremy Stenger Solo Exhibition

January 22 – April 14, 2022

Silvermine Instructors Exhibition

March 12 – April 14, 2022

Alexander Churchill Solo Exhibition

March 12 – April 14, 2022

Future Perfect/Imperfect

April 30 – June 9, 2022

View the past exhibitions on our Gallery page by year at:

www.silvermineart.org/galleries/



'Summer Salon' Guild Exhibition

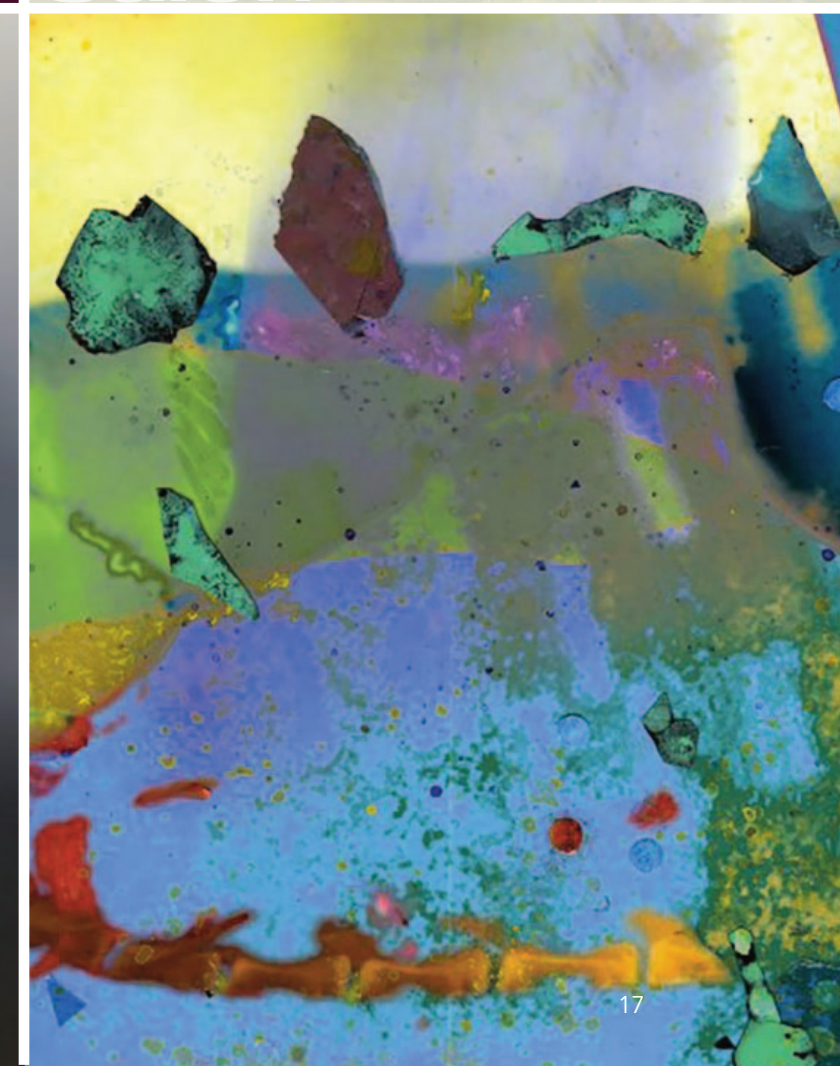
July 21 – August 20, 2021

Featuring an impressive group of more than 100 members of the Silvermine Guild of Artists working in a broad range of styles and mediums. This annual summer exhibition celebrates our extraordinarily accomplished painters, sculptors, printmakers, mixed media and fiber artists.

Curated by Roger Mudre, Silvermine Gallery Director



Summer Salon

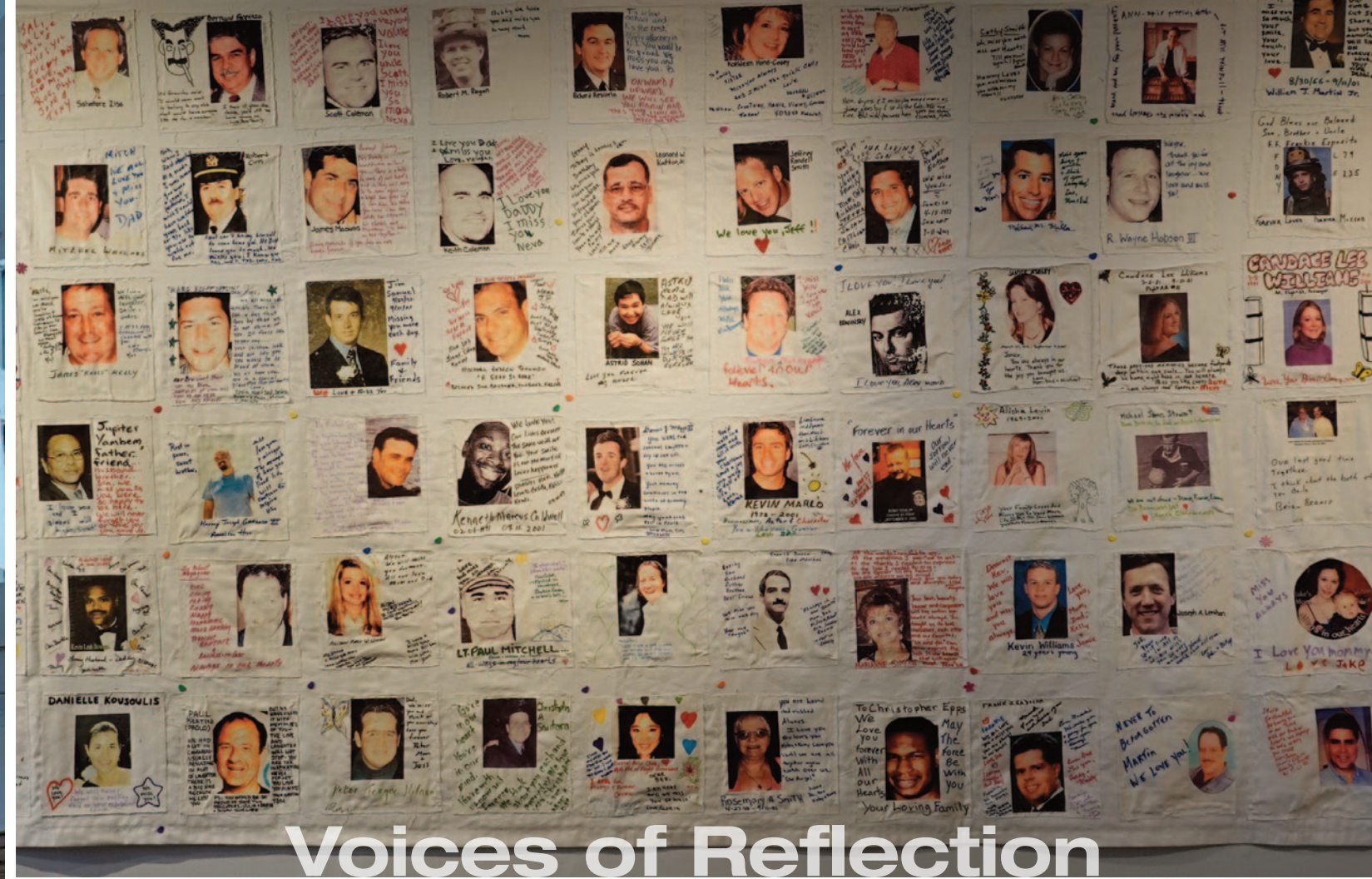




Galleries



Voices of Reflection
September 4 – October 9, 2021
New Canaan's Voices Center for Resilience commemorated the 20th anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attacks with a retrospective exhibition created in response to, and in the years following 9/11.
Voices extensive collection includes thousands of pieces of inspirational artwork, mail art, photographs, sculptures, drawings, and quilts that express a range of emotions around loss. They also commemorate the lives lost, document the stories, and capture the comfort extended to our Nation.)



Voices of Reflection





71st AoNE

October 30 – December 29, 2021

One of the oldest and most prestigious juried competitions, AoNE highlights the diversity of work that is currently being made by both established and emerging artists. AoNE spotlights contemporary trends and new explorations across various media. Curated by Richard Klein, Curator, Artist and Writer.

Churchill is the Grand Prize awardee from Silvermine's 70th AoNE exhibition. His work addresses issues of the digital age in a postmodern world, infusing a satirical humor with an artistic take on absurdism.



Silvermine



71st AoNE



Silvermine



New Members Exhibition

January 22 - February 25, 2022

Highlighting the work of 22 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

New Member's Exhibiton

Galleries

ELM TREE STUDIO

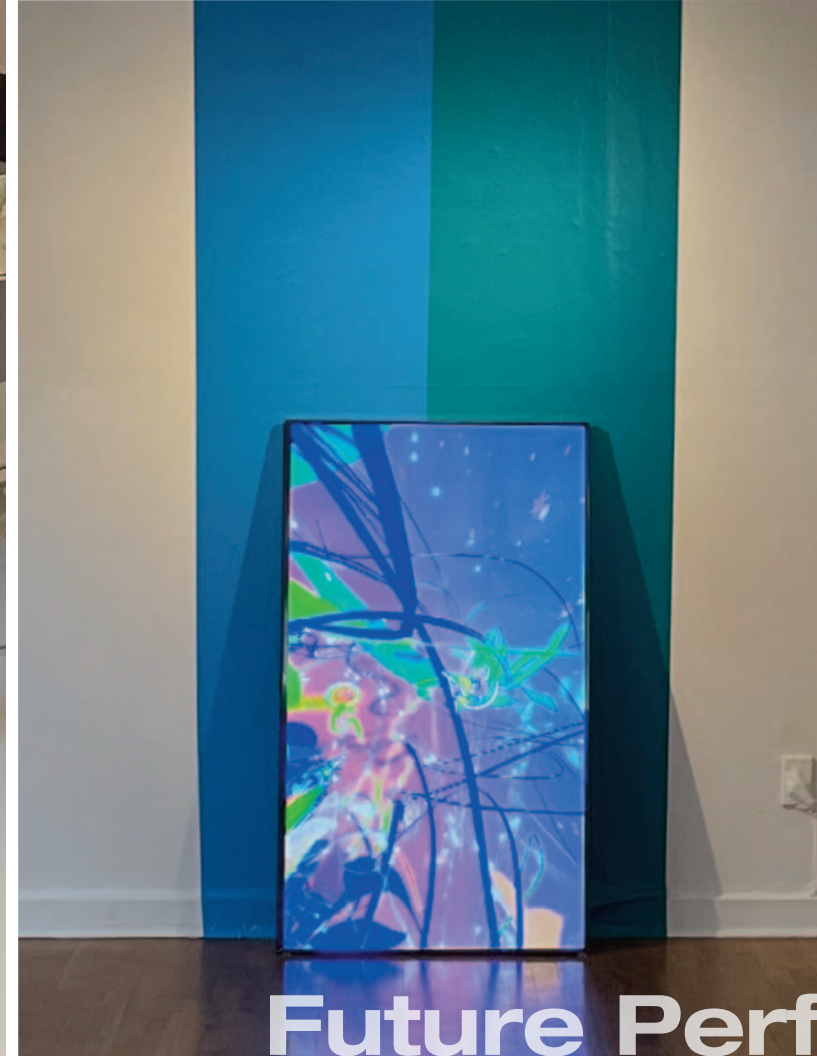


New Member's Exhibition





**Future Perfect/Imperfect:
The Next Century**
April 30 – June 9, 2022
This exhibition, one of the highlights of Silvermine Arts Center's yearlong centennial celebration, commemorates the organization's many past achievements by looking forward. Artists were asked to submit (remarkable, original) projects in any medium, stylistic mode, or genre that reflect their vision of what that future might look like, how it might be manifested.
Curated by Lilly Wei,
Independent Curator, Critic
and Journalist.



Future Perfect/Imperfect



SILVERMINE ARTS CENTER



school of art



From the beginning, education was an important part of Guild activity. The first painting class was taught in 1924. For 35 cents, students could sketch from a live model and enjoy discussion and refreshments.



Education has been an integral part of Silvermine since its beginning in 1922. From their origins, the Guild and the School of Art have shared traditions, which sustain their reputation for educational integrity and quality. Their sole purposes have been to foster, promote, and encourage activities in the arts and art education.

Today, the award-winning School of Art is the preeminent learning destination for visual arts in Fairfield County, with more than 4,000 annual enrollments (ages 4 to 94) in all levels of art proficiency from beginner to advanced. With over 1,100 courses, workshops and youth programs held throughout the year it provides a nurturing environment – unstructured enough to encourage



creativity, yet disciplined enough to provide a solid foundation. What draws and keeps students at Silvermine is the outstanding, dedicated instructors and the widest range of disciplines in the area. There is nothing else like it.

Highlights:

After 40 years of continuous operation, the ceramics studio



gas fired kiln was rebuilt from the ground up, by internationally known ceramicist, author and teacher, Bruce Dehnert. Bruce was also responsible

for building Silvermine's Soda kiln just a few years ago. Ceramics is one of our most popular programs with over 1000 students per year. Funding for this project was provided by the New Canaan Community Foundation, the Newman's Own Foundation and contributions from many individual donors.



In June 2022, we had the pleasure of welcoming our second Fulbright Artist-in-Residence since the programs' inauguration in 2019 – a program initiated and funded by artist and philanthropist Janet Dilenschneider and Robert Dilenschneider. The residency, administered by the International Institute of Education (IIE), runs for 4 weeks and is open to current foreign Fulbright grantees and Fulbright Visiting Scholars.

Elena Kovylyaeva, from Leipzig, Germany, joined us directly from the Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA) in Baltimore, Maryland where she is studying at the LeRoy E. Hoffberger School of Painting. Prior to coming to the United States, Elena completed studies in Painting and Graphic Arts at the Academy of Visual Arts in Leipzig Germany as well as Film Studies and Comparative Literature at the Free University of Berlin Abitur, Theodor-Fliegener-Gymnasium in Düsseldorf.

During her month long residency, the staff and instructors carefully curated an itinerary for Elena to include a wide range of invaluable experiences, while also providing her with the opportunity to deeply engage and explore her artistic practice, process and future aspirations.

In her final week of residency, Elena held a two-day workshop for Guild members and instructors, in which she demonstrated her core techniques, conducted an artist talk and shared with the group her experiences and experimental processes. It was a formative experience, allowing her to connect with artists and see a new value in her personal expression and present pathway as a professional artist.



Fulbright Artist-in-Residence





summer camps



Since 1994, Summer Art Camps have introduced the next generation to the world of art through experimentation, creative thinking, and social engagement.

The campus at Silvermine transformed in June as we welcomed upwards of 620 children over a period of 10 weeks for our Summer Art Studio programs. The celebratory spirit of spring, shifted to the bustling energy of summer camps, as children of all ages joined us for a creative experience. Students from ages 3 to 17 enjoyed a wide variety of high quality arts education throughout the summer.

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.

Over 100 programs were offered, with options to learn from more than 20 highly accomplished Teaching Artists, in a variety of disciplines including, painting & drawing, ceramics, sculpture,

woodworking, digital arts, mixed media and specials topics such as puppetry, and calligraphy. Silvermine campers had the opportunity to attend either morning or afternoon camps and those who

choose to spend the entire day at Silvermine enjoyed a free and supervised lunch period known as, "Lunch Bunch", in which students participated in unstructured art making and engaged in games.



summer camps



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

This past year was filled with a tremendous amount of enrichment and excitement for learning!

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. 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.

We returned to our partner schools for a 30th year offering arts enrichment opportunities to over 1500 first through eighth grade youth in Bridgeport, Norwalk and Stamford. Collaborating directly with classroom teachers, our professional Teaching Artists led students through sequential lesson plans giving them the opportunity to more fully understand important curricula and experience the meditative qualities of art. As each project was completed, the sense of pride among the students was palpable.

Tying directly to Connecticut state standards and collaborating with a local nature center, second graders from Wilbur Cross, Dunbar and Hallen schools were exposed

outreach



to "Animals and their Habitat" where new vocabulary was introduced and visual studies were created to explore multiple ways to render specific animals. While building "Magic Treehouses", second graders also learned the concepts of architecture, engineering and design as they were given the chance to imagine and dream. By painting stunning self-portraits, third graders focused on all that makes each of them unique, mixing primary colors and learning algebra to create varying hues of skin tone. They then wrote "I am" poems, comprehending how their writing can be a parallel form of expression to their visual art.



Art Partners STEAM programming was further enhanced and developed to allow fourth graders a chance to learn more about nature,

the environment, pollinators and the water cycle. Studying the journey of a droplet, mixed media landscapes were created to illustrate Seaside Park and the spectacular crescent shaped beach that is so close to many of the students' homes in Bridgeport. Sand, shells and a bit of glitter were collaged onto canvases giving the mixed media studies a bit of bling.

Our signature legacy mural program entered its 23rd year with eighty Silvermine Elementary fifth graders who fostered new friendships while collaborating



to transform their 9 by 20 foot wall into a winter wonderland. Based on the New England winter landscape, students explored topics that were specific to the outdoor environment found in Norwalk. While documenting the scientific name, the diet, size and habitat of their species, each student researched interesting facts used to write visual paragraphs. Mathematical concepts were examined to understand the structures of the many and varied snowflakes and students were proud to leave the mural behind as a gift to their school. In addition, the fifth graders at CMS embraced their own



mural opportunity by painting nature-inspired panels that were installed to bring the outside into their stunning and open foyer allowing them to make their mark on their new home.

Norwalk Housing Authority youth published self-portraits and haiku poems in their book, "What Makes Me Smile" which is now part of the Norwalk Public Library's permanent collection. We celebrated both the stunning and thoughtful visual self-portraits and poetry with a formal exhibition on our campus that shared the confidence, resilience and optimism of our area youth.





Our flagship public installation, Fodor Farm Garden People, was back in full force with nine larger than life sculptures illustrating fruits, vegetables and a wide variety of pollinators. Each year, Silvermine, the City of Norwalk and CMS first graders look to this collaborative effort to celebrate all that has been learned in the classroom regarding the plant cycle and bringing goods from farm to market. Colorful banners displayed the poetry written by each student as they adorned the surrounding fences of these public gardens for all visitors to enjoy.

With a 36% increase in the number of students who received our programming, we entered new schools in Bridgeport and increased our reach at a number of schools in Norwalk. Stamford High School students called Sara Victoria Hall “home” for their outstanding citywide exhibition that brought over 200 visitors to our campus.

Overall, it was a dynamic year of amazing art enrichment and celebration, yet every day we are reminded that there remains a tremendous need to extend our reach to more students.

ArtAcademy

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.

Creative Connections

In partnership with Creative Connections Inc., Silvermine Arts Center is expanding the cultural and creative experiences of students in the after-school studio-art program at Dunbar and Wilbur Cross schools in Bridgeport. The students create and exchange art with peers in other countries—this year, Ireland and Russia—using art to communicate about their lives and learn how others live across the globe, promoting understanding and appreciation of customs and traditions. Each semester culminates in a video conference with their new art friends. Through this face-to-face engagement, the students discover that despite differences and distance, they are more alike than they are different.

Scholarships

Inclusivity is paramount to Silvermine. This year 33 scholarships were awarded to under-served youth and adults to extend the opportunity to learn and create at Silvermine. Limited financial resources should not prevent access to art education. The Scholarship Program is made possible by gifts, donations and proceeds from special events.

We are grateful for the continued support of our Corporate and Foundation sponsors: the Hearst Foundation, Cornelia T. Bailey Foundation, Horizon Foundation, Colgate-Palmolive, Pitney Bowes, as well the generous support of individuals who enable us to continue these important Programs.



Living Art Awards Benefit



Inside of everyone is an artist and a philanthropist. Share your passion. It could be life-changing.

The Fifth Annual Living Art Awards Benefit
Silvermine celebrated its Centennial at its annual Living Art Awards Benefit on May 21 at the picturesque Stamford Yacht Club.



As it marks 100 years as a vibrant center for artists, art education, and contemporary art exhibitions, Silvermine paid tribute to visionaries who have made a significant commitment to enriching lives through art's transformative power.

Each honoree played a principle role in Silvermine's triumphs and partners with us today in forging our future. Some are artists, some not, but all share in their passion for supporting the arts—it changed their lives and ours. Silvermine honored:

Colgate-Palmolive—Living Art Award— for its international leadership in areas of health, sustainability, and social impact as well as its educational programs and scholarships. At Silvermine, Colgate has been a generous donor to Art Partners, Silvermine's outreach education program

that brings curriculum-based art projects to underserved students in Stamford, Norwalk, and Bridgeport.

Jan and Robert Dilenschneider—Legacy Award—for creating a Silvermine Legacy - The International Fulbright Scholar Residency. The residency fosters creative and professional growth for emerging artists by providing an immersive environment on Silvermine's campus with access to instructors in a wide range of mediums. These Fulbright scholars herald globally and contribute to art's impact in creating a more connected world.



June Ahrens, Marilyn Clements and Judith Steinberg—Artist Awards— Three longtime members of the Silvermine Guild of Artists were honored with Artist Awards —sculptor and installation artist June Ahrens, painter and printmaker Marilyn Clements, and sculptor and painter Judith Steinberg.

Each of these honorees has been an inspiration in the Silvermine community and beyond. Our centennial was the ideal time to celebrate their innovative endeavors and remarkable accomplishments.



Barbara Linarducci, CEO, Artist Award Honorees: Marilyn Clements, Judith Steinberg and June Ahrens, Rose-Marie Fox, Board Chair

Brigitte King accepting the Living Art Award for honoree Colgate-Palmolive



Left: Legacy Award Honoree, Jan Dilenschneider, Rose-Marie Fox, Board Chair

New Canaan First Selectman Kevin Moynihan with wife Mim, Guild artist Torrance York with husband Greg Walters



Board members: Mark Carta with wife Darcy, Roger Mudre, Jon Puzzuoli



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Our Donors are vital
to our success and we
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*3 Years Continual Giving

For FY22, Silvermine posted a \$448,737 Result after Depreciation – a significant increase over FY21 results of \$52,752. CARES ACT PPP funding and other State government assistance totaling \$468,196 was crucial in helping to sustain operations while the economic effects of the pandemic persisted into a second year.

School revenue was up 59% as compared to FY21 as a result of steady demand for classes. Gallery revenue was up 2% over last year and equally important, Scholarships and Outreach funding rose 145%, a testament to the strong relationships with our grantors and donors. We are grateful for their commitment and dedication to Silvermine.

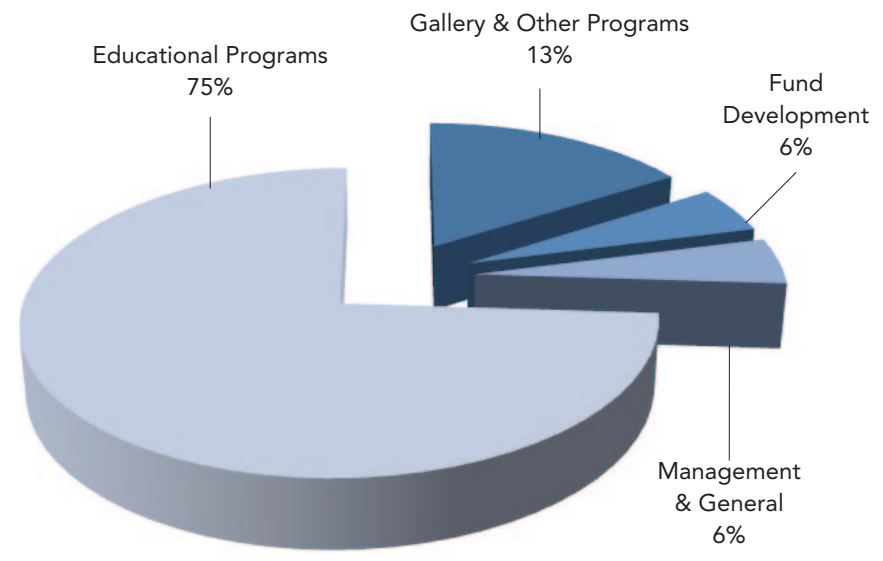
Silvermine's management is led by two goals: financial sustainability and relevance to the community. Each year we rebuild the reserve required for operations and set aside funding to restore our aging facilities and increase needed staffing, all critical to the future sustainability and growth of Silvermine.

Financial Summary

Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022

Operating Information

REVENUE:	
Tuition	\$1,507,623
Gala Net Income	71,235
Other Earned Income	324,737
Paycheck Protection Program Grant	133,500
Contributions & Membership	480,811
TOTAL REVENUE	\$2,517,906
EXPENSES:	
Compensation & Commissions	\$1,227,244
Scholarships & Outreach	88,246
Programming & Supporting Services	716,500
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2,031,990
Depreciation Expense	37,179
RESULT AFTER DEPRECIATION	\$448,737



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.

Functional Expense Distribution

Silvermine is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization

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For 100 years, Silvermine has been grounded in the belief that art is vital to the spirit, creativity, and wholeness of human beings, and made the mission of Silvermine Arts Center to cultivate and encourage growth through the arts; to promote and showcase artists; and to provide arts education opportunities for the greater community.

Silvermine

Silvermine Arts Center 1037 Silvermine Road New Canaan, CT 06840