Quarterly, a publication of the Erie Art Museum, 20 East 5th Street, Erie, PA 16507, is published four times a year in May, August, November and February.
On April 6, 2020, in the middle of a global crisis, I joined the tEAM. To say it has been challenging is an understatement. The remarkable resilience, ingenuity, and dedication of the Erie Art Museum staff made the transition as smoothly as possible under a stay-at-home order.

The highly anticipated Nicole & Harry Martin Spring Show has been forever changed due to COVID-19. We expect the opening of the show by the end of June with health and safety precautions in place and scheduled appointments for viewing.

Adjustments were made to several of our programs to keep them going while the staff and participants were staying safe at home. Online versions of EAM Paint Nights, Open-mic Poetry, and Art Critique were held with growing enthusiasm. Second Sundays became weekly at-home project ideas for the family.

We also had to make some difficult decisions over the past few months. Museum rentals for weddings, proms, corporate events had to be rescheduled or canceled. Our beloved fundraising event, ARTrageous, was postponed for 2020 and is now on for June 12, 2021. Be sure to save the date!

One of the best things to come out of the past several months is the virtual tour that we launched in early May. It features works by Brett Kern, Chuck Johnson, Brian Pardini, Bill Brady, and more. What’s even cooler is that our tour allows us to include video links and educational information. Of course, it’s not the same as seeing it in person, but we hope to inspire viewers to come in person and tour inside.

I am thrilled to be a part of this organization and over the next 18 months or so, I am committed to keeping the Erie Art Museum alive. We will continue to offer thoughtful and engaging programming that meets the diverse needs of our community. We will maintain financial stability through these difficult times because we understand the impact art can make on healing a community, growing a community, and sustaining a community.

Looking forward to sharing this journey with all of you!
Interim Director, Pam Masi
Before I received the works to review, I asked my Facebook friends what art they were looking at to sustain themselves through this period of self-isolation, of financial precarity, of fear about the future, and—for many—of illness and of caretaking. I was surprised that so many of the respondents—largely artists, art historians, and art writers—referred to the music they were listening to, the books they were reading, the movies and television they were watching. They spoke of the things they were making themselves—even those who did not consider themselves to be artists. They showed me the pictures their children were making, or the crafts they were doing to keep themselves busy. They talked about the ways that they were discovering to share their work with others and to have conversations about what art can do to help people at this moment.

When I opened up the set of over 500 images I had been asked to weigh in on, it was with this conversation in the back of my mind. And what I discovered was, in a word, sustenance—the sustenance I was looking for among my Facebook friends. Because what was contained in the submitted images was a kind of persistence and hope—people making art, in whatever form they are most drawn to, sometimes as part of their regular studio practice and other times in the time that they manage to steal between jobs and families and community obligations. With all that weighs on our minds during times of crisis, the propensity to create, to make, to think with our hands and our minds at once is a survival skill for so many of us.

I wish I could tell you that I had a set of strict criteria that I was using to make my decisions, but I’m afraid that my approach to art has always been, at root, very intuitive—I know what I like if you know what I mean. There were some terrific riffs on the traditional genre of portraiture—taking it towards abstraction or towards hyperrealism, placing figures in romantic or even futuristic landscapes or in their quotidian surroundings, using painting, photography, and sculpture. Often, these varied approaches to portraiture were attempts to map out communities, making visible people who are often overlooked. I saw a tremendous spirit of experimentation in the use of materials and media—painting melded with photography, photography rooted in collage or printmaking, uses of shaped canvases and a variety of supports in painting, collage, and assemblage, digital manipulations in photography, use of fiber and of ceramics, woodworking, and so on. There was even a painted denim jacket and a hand-decorated eggshell, done in the style of traditional Ukrainian Easter eggs. Subject matter was somber and serious, or joyful and playful.

What I hope is consistent in what I selected was a combination of skill and imaginative daring—a willingness to take risks and push oneself beyond the expected, whether that is in the type of subjects an artist addresses or their play with materials and method. The works made me smile or made something catch in my throat—but whatever the reaction, they made me feel. Above all, they made me feel like there might be hope for our species yet.

Congratulations to all the artists who had the courage and the faith to submit their works for the show—keep doing it. It is an act of generosity to share your creativity with the world, and I thank you for sharing it with me.

With warmest regards,
Aruna
Proudly, the annual Nicole & Harry Martin Spring Show has been a 97-year tradition at the Erie Art Museum. Through determination and flexibility, a pandemic wasn’t going to change that. The Museum staff had to pivot on a dime and in turn, the artists followed. The result - a fluid process and another spectacular show.

In early March, COVID-19 was spreading around the world. Watching what was happening overseas and what had started to happen in the U.S., decisions had to be made that would change the 2020 Spring Show. Drop-off moved online. Artists emailed in photos of their works. A presentation of the photos was created to share with the juror. With more than 500 works submitted, it was an incredible task. Happily, it worked!

On April 1st, Aruna D’Souza worked her way through the presentation contemplating her selections for the show. D’Souza also chose five artists of distinction. Later that evening, artists were notified of their acceptance or omittance from the show. A list was posted on the website of all the works accepted to the show. With the accepted works selected and labels created, it was just a matter of determining when the Museum could open for drop-off and how the show would open.

The All-Day Art Sale morphed into a daily art break on Facebook. Works omitted from the show were given a place to be seen and appreciated by the followers of the page and those whom they shared it with as well as on the website in a downloadable document. An inquiry form was created on erieartmuseum.org to allow potential buyers to be connected with the artist directly. The goal of these efforts was to provide exposure for the artists and encourage sales of their works, without the Museum taking a commission; 100% of sales going to the artists.

The 97th Annual Nicole & Harry Martin Spring Show at the Erie Art Museum opening will be announced on social media and on erieartmuseum.org. It is expected that the Museum will be open by appointment, for safety and to keep the total number of visitors within the state guidelines. Online registration will be available. Admission will be free for members, standard admission for non-members.

**Artists of Distinction:** D’Souza chose 5 artists of distinction. A few have multiple pieces in the show. Here is an example of each of the artists’ work.

Fredy Hauman Mallqui
*Puchka (Spindle)*

Fred Scruton
*Hubbell’s Rubble, Howard, KS 2019*

Gwen Waight
*Shitting Balls*

Bruce Adams
*Untitled 029 (Shop Vac)*

Carol Amidi
*Milquetoast I*
Membership is the BEST way to support the Erie Art Museum. Thank you to our current members listed below. Become a member by visiting erieartmuseum.org/member-plans. Members receive free admission to the Museum, reduced fees on programs, and more.
What’s On

July/August/September

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**HIGHMARK MID•DAY ARTbreak 2020**

At Noon, every Thursday, June 18 through September 10, we’ll have music by local artists on our Facebook page. Listen to local favorites like Monica Lewis, The Division Street Machine, Mountain Thyme Ramblers, Jeremy Jaeger, Country Blue, Mambo, Gem City Jazz Ensemble, Box of Chocolates, and more.

Sponsored by:

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**VIRTUAL TOUR**

Miss us?! There’s no reason not to enjoy the Erie Art Museum. Take a “walk” through the Museum from your phone, tablet, or computer. Access the tour at erleartmuseum.org/virtualtour.

Sponsored by: ErieMultimedia

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**ART CRITIQUE**

July 24, August 28, & September 25 from 6 – 7 pm

Working on a new piece? Want feedback? The Erie Art Museum will host its monthly Art Critique online. Get together with other local and regional artists to share and discuss your work. It’s a great way to meet fellow artists and strengthen the artist community in Erie. Professional and amateur artists welcome.

Register online erleartmuseum.org to receive the video link.

Sponsored by:

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**SPRING SHOW**

Through September 6, 2020

Presented in partnership with Edinboro University, the Spring Show is an annual juried exhibition of local and regional art. This year’s Spring Show was juried by Aruna D’Souza, who picked 96 pieces out of over 500 submissions to be included in the exhibition.

Sponsored by:
ON VIEW

LAKE ERIE FIBER ARTS GUILD
The Right to Vote Story Quilt
Through July 19, 2020

Created in commemoration of the 100 year ratification of the 19th Amendment, granting women the right to vote. The Lake Erie Fiberarts Guild provides visual images depicting individual artist views of the Suffrage, both then and now. This quilt tells the story of the Suffrage Movement, drawing on the long history of African-American story quilts.

ART CLASS

PRECIOUS METAL JEWELRY MAKING
with Jan & Dan Niebauer

In this class, you’ll learn basic and advanced jewelry making techniques. Make and follow your own project plan from start to finish. Space is limited due to social distancing guidelines. Register online.

Class Meets: 9/16, 9/23, 9/30, 10/1, 10/8, 10/15, 10/22 from 7 – 9 pm
$125 ($100 Members)
Materials not included, tools provided.

GOT ART?

Show us what you’re working on; finished or not, we want to share what regional artists are doing during the pandemic. Share images through Facebook messenger or by email. We will post them on our social media pages.

ARTrageous

ARTrageous, the Museum’s annual fundraiser, will not be held in 2020. Special thanks to all of our corporate and individual sponsors who were onboard for ARTrageous 2020. We look forward to working with you on next year’s event. Save the date for June 12, 2021.

MEET THE ARTIST

We’re getting to know local and regional artists better. What are they working on, what’s their inspiration, what media do they like to use and more. The staff-led, online interviews are posted on Facebook on a weekly basis. Tune in! facebook.com/erieartmuseum
SECOND SUNDAYS

Spend time with your family creating. Every Sunday while we are all safe at home, the Erie Art Museum will share cool projects that use items around the house that you can do at home. Put your own creative spin on one of these projects! erieartmuseum.org/second-sundays

Sponsored by:

ON VIEW

TREACY ZIEGLER: UNDER A CONCRETE SKY
September 25, 2020 – August 8, 2021
An expression of transformation and acceptance, Treacy Ziegler’s work attempts a balance between the creation of the work and compassion, justice, and humility. Using animals - who are free of moral judgement - to tell the stories of prisoners, Ziegler creates impressive sculpture from letters written by inmates.

ON VIEW

COLLECTION HIGHLIGHTS
October 16, 2020 – May 9, 2021
Fifty of the Museum’s most treasured works on display at one time. From Steiglitz, Rauschenberg, Sloan, and Close to Warhol, Hockney, Picasso, Daumier, and more. We’re pulling out our heavy hitters.

EAM PAINT NIGHTS

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July 24, August 13, & September 18 from 6 – 7 pm
What’s better than an evening of painting with a group of friends? Guidance is provided as you create a twist on a famous work of art. Online until the Museum re-opens. Registration is required erieartmuseum.org/eam-paint-nights. Check our website or Facebook for updates.
BRETT KERN: THE LOST WORLD
Through August 16, 2020
A master of clay, Brett’s sculptures are fun, smart and exceptional. A must-see before it’s extinct. Sponsored by:

OPEN-MIC POETRY
July 9 & 23, August 6 & 20, September 3 & 17, from 6 – 7 pm
We’ve made our poetry nights biweekly while we are unable to be open. They are now online, every other Thursday. It’s a great way to meet other writers in the area, workshop your newest poem, and get a sense of the local writing scene. Register online to receive the link to the video conference.

TOM FERRARO: SAFETY ZONE
Through March 7, 2021
Local artist, Tom Ferraro, personally selected works that express the complex emotions of dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic.

STAY SAFE
The safety of our visitors and staff is a top priority at the Erie Art Museum. When the Museum reopens, visitors and staff members will be required to follow the guidelines. Masks will be required and a six-foot distance between visitors will be followed. The number of visitors will be restricted and visitation will be by appointment to ensure that the Museum is in compliance. Thanks for your understanding.

FORGERY HOUR
September 17 from 6 – 7 pm
Ever look at a famous work of art and think “I could do that”? Well here’s your chance. The challenge? Can you counterfeit a famous work of art from our collection? We’ll provide the materials and even have an artist on hand to help you make your fake. $15 plus the price of admission for non-members and $10 for members. Register online; space is limited.
The Erie Art Museum receives general support from Pennsylvania Council on the Arts and the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority.

On the Cover:
Judith Hodge
Trees for a Green Cow, 2017/2020

Inside Cover:
Thomas Paquette
Stay In, 2018

Visit erieartmuseum.org, Facebook.com/erieartmuseum or call us for updated hours during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Hmmm...I wonder which art museum I should give to on Erie Gives Day?

All gifts made to the Erie Art Museum on August 11 receive a match from the Erie Community Foundation.