

Up North Arts Newsletter



APRIL 2026

Vol. 8 No.4



Elisha Helsel

Hello! I'm Elisha Helsel and I am Up North Arts' new Administrative Assistant. I am a freelance artist and graphic designer. I moved to Cadillac in 2014 with my late husband, Apollo, and we have two girls, Anaiah and Eden. I come from many years of customer service and creative endeavors. I attended Concord Academy in Petoskey and then pursued Digital Media Design at the Baker College campus in Cadillac. I have previously worked for other non-profits in Cadillac and the surrounding area. I am so excited to be part of Up North Arts and I look forward to using my skills to help bring art and beauty to my community!

Elisha's Office hours are currently Tuesday thru Thursday 3:30-6:30pm, but please call first to confirm the office is open and/or to make an appointment 231-468-3040. Please leave a message.



CONTACT US!

~~3/31~~

**MISSED
APPLYING?**

**APPLICATION DEADLINE
HAS PASSED BUT CONTACT US IF
YOU'D STILL LIKE TO APPLY**

artfair@upnorthartsinc.com

Questions? artfair@upnorthartsinc.com



**DOOR PRIZES!
SNACKS!**

Monday, April 13, 2026
1pm - 4 pm

MAHJONGG MADNESS!

**SIGN UP TODAY
ON THE WEBSITE**

\$10

231-468-3040
Upnorthartsinc.com 601
Chestnut St. Suite C
Cadillac, MI 49601

*BRING 2026 NATIONAL MAHJONGG LEAGUE CARD
AND A MAHJONGG SET, IF AVAILABLE*

REGISTER HERE:
[Mahjongg Madness! Mondays, April 13, 2026 1-4pm \\$10](#)




2026 SPONSORSHIP DRIVE THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS 2026 SPONSORS

Avon Protection

- Linda Anderson
- Barbara Elmore
- Chris Beydoun
- Colleen Kollmeyer
- Piranha Hose Products
- Harrietta's Blueberry Hill

**Cadillac Family Physicians
James Smith**

- Sandi Brayman
- Julia Maxwell
- Jill Doederlein
- Mary Jo Stratman
- Janice Heuer
- Lola Swanson
- Stephanie Horlocker
- Kimberly Watson

Interested in donating? Scan the QR code and donate to be included in a social media shout out!



Mail Check to:
Up North Arts, Inc
601 Chestnut, Suite C
Cadillac, MI 49601

Up North Arts Inc is a registered 501c3 Non Profit



save the date

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY JUNE 26/27
9 A.M. TO 2 P.M.**

SPONSORSHIP DRIVE 2026

Up North—Arts

Cadillac Michigan's Community Art Center



Help us support our mission of Providing Space to Create. Your generosity will ensure that artists can access the tools they need to bring their visions to life, provide a platform for local talent, and sustain the programs that make creativity accessible to all.

Donations of any amount are welcomed
Every \$1 donated helps us reach our goal.

Please donate by March 31, 2026



Mail Check to:
 Up North Arts, Inc
 601 Chestnut, Suite C
 Cadillac, MI 49601

Up North Arts Inc is a registered 501c3 Non Profit



Company logos in PDF format should be emailed to:
 Questions? email or call 231-468-3040

info@upnorthartsinc.com
<https://upnorthartsinc.com>

Company/Individual Name:

Contact Name:

Phone::

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Donation Amount:

Email:

\$100

- Social Media Recognition**
- Up North Arts Swag

\$500

- Social Media Recognition**
- Member Pricing for 2 classes*

\$1000

- Digital Sign Recognition**
- Social Media Recognition*
- Member Pricing for 4 classes*

\$2500

- Includes all recognition perks above
- Member Pricing for 8 classes*

*Membership Pricing for any number of participants depending on class limits. Must be used within 1 year

**Social Media includes Facebook, Instagram, Newsletter & Website

Up North Arts Board Meetings, & Contact Info

Board meetings are usually on the second Tuesdays of each month at 5:30pm. Our next meeting will be on **TUESDAY, APRIL 14, at 5:30pm** at Up North Arts Center, 601 Chestnut (across from CAPS stadium).

WE ARE LOOKING FOR A BOARD SECRETARY AND ADDITIONAL BOARD MEMBERS

For questions or information on meetings, classes or other UNA matters, call 231-468-3040 or email info@upnorthartsinc.com. You can also call this number to leave a message for any of our board members.



We are always looking for people in the community who are looking to be actively involved as volunteers.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

- Audio & Visual
- Classroom Assistance
- Events, Maintenance
- Network & IT

If you have experience, talent, or a strong interest in being an active part of a fun, growing art center, contact us by phone 231-468-3040 or go to <https://upnorthartsinc.com/volunteer/>

Donate As An Individual or Family <https://upnorthartsinc.app.neoncrm.com/forms/donate-as-an-individual-2>

Donate As A Company <https://upnorthartsinc.app.neoncrm.com/forms/13> **EASY ON-LINE ACCESS !!**



Miss Gabby's class drew flowers and then had the medium of their choice to add color- acrylic, watercolor, or pastels.

BLICK
art materials

Cadillac welcomes you to the

Up North—Arts
CADILLAC, MICHIGAN
601 Chestnut St. Ste. C
Cadillac, MI 49601

Youth Art Gala

May 1st, 2026

5:00pm-8:00pm

@ Drill Deck of Up North Arts

Awards at 7:30pm

\$10 Suggested Donation

Free for Students (18U)



Join us for an evening to celebrate the talents of our area youth artists
Light refreshments provided

Up North Arts Proudly Presents

CREATORS Summer Art CAMP

A dynamic, all-inclusive art experience
designed to ignite and nurture
young imaginations.

JULY 27-30, 2026
1st through 8th Grades

Guided by experienced instructors, each child will delve into
the elements and principles of art, gaining real skills
in a supportive and inspiring environment.

Color Theory, 2D Art, 3D Art, Drawing, Painting, Printing, Clay

\$65 MEMBERS | \$85 NON MEMBERS

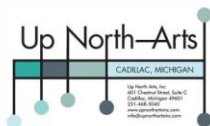
1-4th Grade 9am - 12pm 5-8th Grade 1-4pm

REGISTER ONLINE TODAY

231-468-3040

upnorthartsinc.com

classes@upnorthartsinc.com



My Little & Me Sensory Classes AGES 1 - 5

[Art with Miss Gabby](#) are starting again

Several dates to choose from: 4/8, 5/6/26

Spend this monthly class with your Little to make memories
through crafting, sensory and play! Ages: 1 - 5

Purchase a yearly membership for member pricing and
additional benefits.

Wednesdays, 1 - 2pm

Members \$20 Per session Non Members \$25 per session

My Little & Me Sensory Class with Miss Gabby registration links:

[My Little & Me Sensory Class with Miss Gabby 04/08/2026 @ 1pm - 2pm](#)

[My Little & Me Sensory Class with Miss Gabby 05/6/2026 @ 1pm - 2pm](#)

CLASSES AND EVENTS – register on the links

POTTERY FOR ALL! DAY & NIGHT CLASSES - SESSION 25A W/PAT SCHROEDER

In this class you will learn the slab and coil methods as well as glazing techniques. This class is geared for both the beginner and the experienced potter. Projects are selected by the student. Ages 12 and up
Member Fee: \$135 Non-Member Fee: \$170

Mondays April 6, 13, 20, 27, May 4, 11 DAY 12:30-3pm NIGHT 6-8:30pm

[Pottery For All! -DAY CLASS- w/Pat Schroeder Session 26a 12:30-3pm 4/6/26 - 5/11/26](#)

[Pottery For All! -NIGHT CLASS- w/Pat Schroeder Session 26b 6-8:30pm 4/6/26 - 5/11/26](#)



MAHJONGG MADNESS! MONDAYS, APRIL 13, JUNE 8, AUGUST 10 & OCTOBER 12

Up North Arts welcomes all Mahjongg players, Newbies to Mavens, for an afternoon of fun and fellowship! Players will need to have their 2026 National Mahjongg League card, and bring a Mahjongg set, if available. Enjoy an afternoon with fellow Mahjongg enthusiasts!

If registering more than one person, you will be required to provide names and emails of others you are purchasing for when you check out. All ability levels Only 28 spots available

Mondays, 1 – 4 pm, Members and Non-Members \$10 Register for all at the same time!

[Mahjongg Madness! Mondays, April 13, 2026 1-4pm \\$10](#)

[Mahjongg Madness! Mondays, June 8, 2026 1-4pm \\$10](#)

[Mahjongg Madness! Mondays, August 10, 2026 1-4pm \\$10](#)

[Mahjongg Madness! Mondays, October 12, 2026 1-4pm \\$10](#)



PUNCH NEEDLE MUG RUG WITH MANDY ALSAGER

Create a beautiful punch needle mug rug in this beginner-friendly class! The instructor will provide a simple design and color inspiration, but students are welcome to choose their own yarn colors to make the project uniquely theirs. Students will trace the pattern onto monk's cloth and learn the basics of punch needle rug hooking while creating a finished mug rug.

Tools needed:

A 10" x 10" gripper frame and a #10 punch needle. If you do not own these tools, they will be available to borrow during class. If you discover that you love punch needle rug hooking, tools will also be available for purchase from the instructor.

Monday, April 20, 6pm – 9pm

Members: \$60 Non Members: \$75

[Punch Needle Mug Rug with Mandy Alsager April 20, 2026 6pm-9pm](#)



CADILLAC SPRING AND SUMMER 2026 PLEIN AIR CHALLENGE (12 WEEKS)

Join us for a 12-week Plein Air Challenge in Cadillac! Begins MAY 5 or join us at any time up to July 21st.

- ✓ Each Tuesday, we'll gather at a different outdoor location to draw, sketch, or paint from life while enjoying the beauty of Northern Michigan.
- ✓ Work in any medium you choose—pencil, pen, charcoal, watercolor, oil, acrylic, or pastel. Try something new each week or stick with your favorite.
- ✓ Attend as many sessions as you like—weekly attendance is encouraged but not required.
- ✓ Membership to Up North Arts is required for this class. Purchase a membership prior to registering.
- ✓ Ages: Teens Through Adult (Children under 16 must have parent with them during all challenges.)
- ✓ Ability Level: ALL LEVELS - Beginner through Advanced
- ✓ Purchase a yearly membership before registering.

Begins Tuesday May 5th through July 21st, 2026 9:30am – 11:30am

Members Only: Free

Non Members must purchase membership before registering

[Cadillac Plein Air Challenge - Spring and Summer 2026 - FREE FOR MEMBERS ONLY](#)

REGISTER
HERE:

CLASSES AND EVENTS – register on the links

EMPOWERED MOVEMENT: BELLY DANCE BASICS, 4 SESSIONS

This all-level belly dance class focuses on developing fluidity, strength, and control through movements centered on the hips, shoulders, and core. Dancers of all experience levels are guided through isolations, combinations, and gentle conditioning exercises designed to enhance body awareness and flexibility. The class begins with a dynamic warm-up to prepare the muscles and joints, followed by technique drills that refine hip articulations, shoulder shimmies, and undulations. Emphasis is placed on posture, alignment, and connecting movement with breath and rhythm. This class encourages self-expression, confidence, and the joy of movement while deepening participants' connection to the art of belly dance.

Ages: 12+ Ability Level: All

Students should bring to class: Yoga Mat and Water

Saturdays May 2, 9, 16, & 23, 2026 9am - 10am

Members \$50 Non Members \$ 65

This is a
**Saturday
Morning class!**



[Empowered Movement: Belly Dance Basics, 4 sessions - May 2, 9, 16, & 23, 2026 - 9am-10am](#)

MARBLING ON PAPER WITH SANDIE BRAYMAN

This class is a daylong workshop instructing participants in how to marble on paper, from preparing the surface of the paper and mixing acrylic paint to the right consistency, to floating the paint on thickened water and combing and raking the colors into intricate patterns. You will leave this class with the information and experience needed to marble at home, as well as with 10 to 12 marbled papers of your own design. These papers can be used in future projects, such as endpapers in bookbinding, making one-of-kind note cards, and wrapping small gifts. The morning hours will be spent preparing, then we'll take a brief lunch break (Bring your own lunch), and spend the afternoon making the marbled prints.

Only 8 seats Available! Ages: 16+ Ability Level: Beginner

Saturday, June 20 10am – 4pm

Members \$85 Non Members \$100

Additional Materials Fee Paid Directly to Teacher at beginning of class \$15

NOTE: From the president of UNA, Chris Fisher:

I've seen many who claim to know how to do paper marbling, but none as good as Sandie's work. If you do any type of altered book art, journaling or card making crafts, and you've always wanted to learn this process, I strongly urge you to take this workshop. You will NOT be disappointed.

[Marbling on Paper with Sandie Brayman June 20, 2026 10am-4pm](#)



OPEN SEW MONDAYS - 12 Noon – 3pm CREATIVITY * COLLABORATION * COMMUNITY

We are excited to offer a **WEEKLY OPEN SEW** for members of UNA! No cost— A benefit of annual membership. Every Monday, you may bring your supplies and your project, and take advantage of our comfortable classroom to work on a project of your choice! Carve out some time in your week to be creative and hang out and socialize with other sewists . You will have access to an ironing station, cutting table, and one of our sewing machines (You may bring your own machine or reserve one of ours for only \$5.) Come out for as many hours as you'd like. Ages 14+ Ability Level Beginners to Advanced. Help is available through a Host who will be on site!

Purchase a yearly membership to enjoy OPEN SEW.

Every Monday – indefinitely (closed on holidays) 12:30pm – 3pm Members Only



BOTH OF THESE MEMBER BENEFITS ARE ON A DROP-IN BASIS! No registration required.

OPEN ART STUDIO - EVERY WEDNESDAY – 12 NOON - 3 PM CREATIVITY * COLLABORATION * COMMUNITY

OPEN STUDIO for members of UNA! No cost— A benefit of annual membership. Every Wednesday, bring your supplies and your project, and take advantage of our comfortable classroom to work on a project of your choice! Bring your lunch and some snacks too! Ages 14+ Ability Level Beginners to Advanced.

Purchase a yearly membership to enjoy OPEN ART and create with other artists. Join Us!

Every Wednesday – indefinitely (closed on holidays) 12 Noon – 3pm Members only



**Purchase a yearly membership for member pricing and additional benefits.
Additional Classes are being added continuously – go to: <https://upnorthartsinc.com/>**

Members Save Money 

Sign Up Today and Save On Average 20% Or More On Classes & Events All Year Long!

Youth \$15 - 18 & Under

Student \$25 - Over 18 with valid Student ID

Adult \$35 - Over 18

Senior \$30 - 62 & Older

Couples \$60 - 2 Adults

Family \$80 - Up to 5 Members

Scan Here to Sign Up Online! 

www.upnorthartsinc.com/memberships

Teachers Wanted! 

Bring your Talents to the classroom at Up North Arts!

Paid positions or volunteer. Submit a class proposal from our website: <https://upnorthartsinc.com/teaching-staff/>

Questions? Contact by email: classes@upnorthartsinc.com

Or call 231-468-3040

601 Chestnut Street, Suite 3, Cadillac, MI 49601

Cadillac Plein Air Challenge 2026

Free for Members!
Purchase A Membership
(Membership Required to Register)

Tuesdays
Beginner-Expert 9:30-11:30am
Ages 16+ May 5 - July 21
12 Weeks

 www.upnorthartsinc.com
info@upnorthartsinc.com
231-468-3040

Scan QR for more info and to sign up



UNA Board Member Highlight:

ROSEMARY ROKITA

- Board member 2020-2026
- Secretary/ Newsletter 2021-2026



What made you decide to join the board?

I was asked to join, assuming based on my experience with the Friends of the Library and the Cadillac Arts Council. I was impressed by all UNA had accomplished after only a few years in business.

What life experiences have you had that inspired you to take a leadership role in the arts?

I was active in other non-profit organizations and enjoy being part of various groups and meeting a variety of people. In my pre-retirement job, I annually helped organize the art show put on by Community Mental Health. Being around that creativity inspired me to explore my own creative side.

What is your favorite artistic medium?

I have taken many classes at UNA and enjoyed them all. On my own, I'm still trying my hand at the basics of pencil drawing.

Do you create art of your own?

I enjoy creating art through the classes I take. I enjoy the variety and enjoying the journey.

What was one of your more memorable experiences?

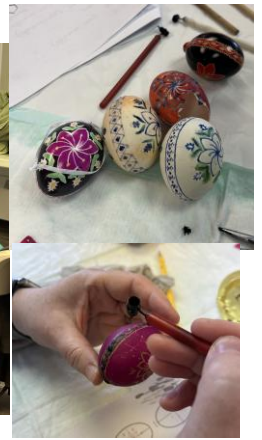
My first experience on my own at the Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA) when I was a freshman at Wayne State U. The DIA is across Woodward from the campus. There was a John Singer Sargent exhibit and of course the Diego Rivera murals. I realized that people can view art and appreciate it without it being a class requirement. When traveling I try to visit local museums, including the Louvre, MOMA, the Picasso (Barcelona). Locally, I enjoy visiting the Oliver Art Center and the Dennon Museum.

Who is your favorite artist?

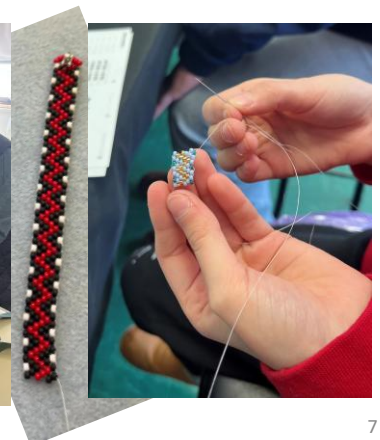
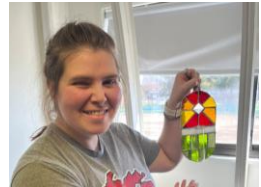
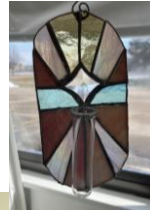
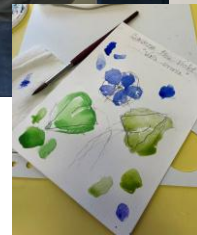
The Impressionists and the dreamlike Chagall.

Current Favorite Song?

I'm currently playing through 100's of CDs to see if there are any, I'm willing to give up for the FOL book sale. Very hard to do. Did I mention I like variety?



When artist, Ellie Harold, came to visit in February, she had workshop participants use black paint to place their mark on these blank canvases. On the right is after Ellie added her mark.



Lots of classes in March – Psanky Eggs (Kate Stacy), Watercolor (Julie Raabe Gentry, Stained Glass (Sherrie Sandell), Peyote bracelets (Denise Nathe), Punch Hook (Mandy Alsager), Pottery (Kassie Hearth), Artist Speaker Series (Pat Markham). Instructors' names in parentheses.

Gopherwood Concerts



Willie Porter Saturday 7pm-9pm
 Cadillac Elks Lodge April 18

Up North Arts is proud to be a member of the Cadillac Arts Council, Northwest Michigan Arts & Culture Network, and Michigan Arts & Culture Council



Please Support our Fellow CAC Organizations

- Cadillac Area Symphony Orchestra
- Cadillac Community Chorus
- Cadillac Footlites
- Cadillac Garden Club
- Cadillac Philharmonic Club
- Clam Lake Band
- Friends of the Cadillac Wexford Public Library
- Gopherwood
- Jam & Bread
- Up North Arts
- Wexford County Historical Society

Cadillac Philharmonic Club Presents

Cadillac Area Symphony Orchestra

String Quartet

Monday, April 13, 2026

1:30 P.M.

Cadillac Zion Lutheran Church

350 Pearl Street, Cadillac



Free will offering to support club activities.

CADILLAC GARDEN CLUB

meets 2nd Monday of every month April – Dec. at 6pm.

Meetings at the Presbyterian Church in Cadillac.

MONDAY, APRIL 13

Learn about

BEES

with Nate Walton, PhD

The Public

is invited to attend

For more info on Cadillac area events go to Cadillac Area Visitors Bureau <https://cadillacmichigan.com/>



Northern Lites Readers Theatre

How Does Your Garden Grow?

Jokes, Quotes & Anecdotes

April 25 & 26



PERFORMANCES AT 2PM EACH DAY @ UP NORTH ARTS 601 CHESTNUT, CADILLAC

2026 Sponsorships

May 30
 GT Vinyl Rooftop Concert

June 13
 Tin Can Campers Music Stage
 Delilah DeWyld

June 18-August 27
 Thursdays in the Park
 Up Beat Cadillac Music Series

July 3
 Cadillac Freedom Festival
 California Summers

July 18
 Cadillac Festival of the Arts
 Musical Mayhem in the Market

Jam & Bread

