



Up North Arts Newsletter

August 2026

Vol. 8 No. 7

Contact Us

Up North Arts, Inc
601 Chestnut Street
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www.upnorthartsinc.com

Office hours

Tuesday 9 - 2
Wednesday 9 - 2
Thursday 9 - 2

Our mission: To sponsor, promote, and encourage the creative efforts and appreciation of visual, performing, and literary arts in the greater Cadillac community!

Executive Board

President – Chris Fisher
Vice President – Jill Doederlein
Treasurer – Jim Meister
Secretary – Rosemary Rokita

2026 Board Meeting Dates

Tuesday, Aug. 11 at 5:30
Tuesday, Sept. 8 at 5:30
Tuesday, Oct. 13 at 5:30
Tuesday, Nov. 10 at 5:30
Tuesday, Dec. 8 at 5:30

New board members
are welcome!

Celebrating the Artists of the Phyllis Olson Juried Art Fair

For nearly six decades, the Phyllis Olson Juried Art Fair has been a cherished summer tradition in Cadillac, bringing together exceptional artists, dedicated volunteers, and visitors in celebration of creativity. Established in 1968 as part of the Cadillac Festival of the Arts, the fair was guided for many years by the Cadillac Area Artists Association and longtime arts advocate Phyllis Olson, whose leadership helped shape it into one of Northern Michigan's premier juried art fairs. Since 2019, Up North Arts has proudly continued this tradition while supporting arts programming throughout our community.

Today, the fair welcomes approximately 100 carefully selected artists representing painting, photography, pottery, jewelry, fiber arts, sculpture, and more. Set along the beautiful shoreline of Lake Cadillac, the event is known for its outstanding artwork, welcoming atmosphere, and dedicated volunteers. It remains a highlight of the Cadillac Festival of the Arts, connecting artists and art lovers while celebrating the creative spirit of Northern Michigan.

One of the hallmarks of the fair is its tradition of recognizing artistic excellence through a variety of juried awards. In addition to Best of Show, First, Second, and Third Place, and the Larry Fisher Fine Craftsmanship Award, the fair presents the Dorothy W. Sorensen Painting Award, honoring excellence in representational painting. We are pleased to recognize this year's award recipients and congratulate the 2026 Dorothy W. Sorensen Painting Award winner, Gayla McDonald, for their exceptional achievement.



First Place
Heidi Barron
Glass by Barron



Best of Show
Jennie Ferwerda
J. Ferwerda Arts



Dorothy Sorensen Best in Painting Award
Gayla McDonald



Second Place
Laura Stockwell
NORDMi.com



Larry Fisher Craftsmanship Award
Tim and Laura Chipman



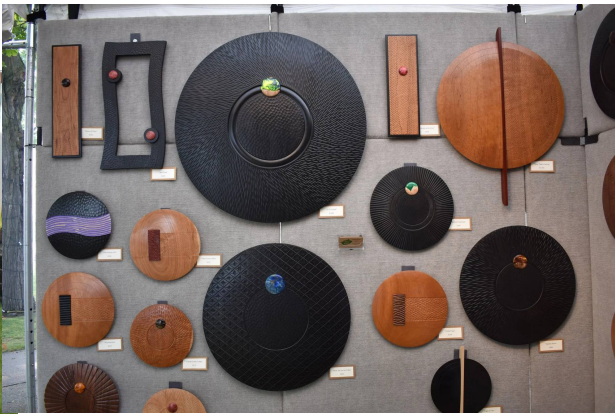
Up And Coming Artist Award
Max Crocker



Third Place
Candy and Jeff Halstead
The Purse Peddlers

Arts Inspired!

Phyllis Olson Juried
Art Fair 2026



Jennifer Harrison - Finding Her Creative Community!



The arts have always been a wonderful part of Jennifer's life. From volunteering with the Cadillac Footlighters to spending summers alongside her mother, Sherilyn Lindberg, at the Phyllis Olson Art Fair, creativity has been a lifelong passion. That passion continued at Central Michigan University, where she minored in Theatre and Communication Arts before earning a PhD in Educational Leadership. A Cadillac resident, off and on, for more than 40 years, she and her husband, Drew, returned to the area to raise their four children and have enjoyed the many opportunities to be involved in the community.

About six years ago, a friend, Ami Peltier, invited her to help paint ceiling tiles at Up North Arts. The experience was so enjoyable that they signed up for a jewelry-making class, and she was hooked. Since then, she has participated in a wide variety of classes, including fused glass, soap making, wreath building, sea glass art, Northern Lites Readers Theatre, and, most of all, pottery.



Up North Arts has given her far more than new artistic skills. She has formed lasting friendships, discovered a welcoming creative community, and developed greater patience and perseverance through challenging projects. One of her favorite creations is a pottery bowl featuring her grandchildren's handprints, a piece that took many attempts to perfect. Looking ahead, she plans to remain involved as a student and volunteer, and hopes to one day inspire others by teaching classes of her own.

The Creative Fix

Why does watercolor paper buckle?

Watercolor paper buckles because its fibers expand unevenly as they absorb water, causing the sheet to warp. To keep your paper flat and workable, use heavier paper (140 lb or higher), tape or stretch it before painting, and allow it to dry completely before removing it from the board. A stable surface makes painting easier and helps your washes dry more evenly. If your paper begins to buckle while you're painting, let it dry before adding additional layers to avoid unwanted puddling and blooms. Taking a few minutes to prepare your paper before you begin can make a noticeable difference in the quality and control of your finished painting.



Become a
UNA
volunteer!

However you can help, you are needed!

Join our vibrant team of volunteers working to make art available to everyone in our Cadillac community! You can find a home here empowering young artists, tackling the supply room, setting up tables and chairs, or working on a board committee. Your enthusiasm and kindness are welcome!

Submit a volunteer form at <https://upnorthartsinc.com/volunteer>

Create. Teach.
Inspire.

Up North Arts is looking for
artists, makers, and creative
minds to lead classes and
workshops. Share your skills.

Spark new ideas. Help
someone discover a passion
they never knew they had.

Whether you teach
professionally or simply love
your craft, your creativity
can make a lasting impact.
Join us in creating, teaching,
and inspiring our

community! Create a course
proposal and submit it
online at
upnorthartsinc.com

Classes and workshops

Children's After School Art Club - grades 1 - 5 & 6 - 9

Spark your child's imagination in our 6-week After School Art Club! Designed specifically for grades 1-5 or 6 - 9, this engaging after-school program meets every Tuesday to help young creators explore their unique artistic voice. Throughout this session, students will dive into a variety of art media, allowing them to experiment, build confidence, and develop real artistic skills in a fun, supportive environment. Each week features a new, hands-on project designed to let their imaginations soar! At Up North Arts, every child is an artist!

Ability level: All **Ages:** grades 1 - 5 or 6 - 9
Cost: member \$60 non-member \$75 (non-member)
Register here: Grades 1 - 5: Autumn session: 9/1 - 10/6 Time: 4 . 5pm
 Grades 6 - 9: Autumn session: 9/1 - 10/6 Time: 5:15 - 6:15pm

Mahjongg Madness!

Up North Arts welcomes all Mahjongg players, Newbies to Mavens, for an afternoon of fun and fellowship! Please bring a 2026 National Mahjongg League card, and Mahjongg set, if available.

Ability level: All **Cost:** Members and Non-Members \$10
Register here: Monday, August 10, 2026, 1 - 4pm Monday, October 12, 2026, 1 - 4pm

Membership at Up NorthArts has its benefits!

- **Discounts on classes**
- **Members-only classes**
- **Support community arts**

Membership Levels

Students (under 18)	\$15
Students (over 18)	\$25
Adults (over 18)	\$35
Seniors (over 62)	\$30
Couples	\$60
Family	\$80
Active duty military	\$30

Join online at upnorthartsinc.com

The Clay Corner

Wheel Throwing for All!

This hands-on pottery class is perfect for beginners looking to explore wheel throwing techniques. With personal instruction from Kassie Hearth, you will learn the basics of wheel throwing, including how to center clay and create forms such as bowls and mugs. You will also gain a foundation in glazing your work and understanding the firing process, to create beautiful lasting results. This class offers a supportive, welcoming environment to experiment and grow. No prior experience is necessary - just bring your curiosity and willingness to get your hands dirty!

Ability level: All **Age:** 18+
Cost: \$175 (members) \$200 (non-members)
Register here: 9/3, 10, 17, & 24, 2026 Time: 5 - 8pm

Handbuilding for All!

Get your hands dirty on Monday evenings with handbuilding instructor Pat Schroeder. Stay turned for registration and pricing details!

Open Clay Studio!

UNA members are invited to hone their ceramics skills during open clay studio. Register below to purchase a punch card, good for instructor supervised studio time and firings. Clay and glazes included with punch card.

Ability level: Must have previously completed a wheel throwing or hand building class at UNA
Members only: \$200 for inital punch card
Register here: Wednesdays 6-9 pm & Saturdays 9:30pm - 12:30pm

Empowered movement: belly dance basics mornings

This all-level belly dance class focuses on developing fluidity, strength, and control! through movements centered on the hips, shoulders, and core. Enhance self-expression, confidence, and the joy of movement while deepening your connection to your body and the art of belly dance! Please bring a yoga mat and water

Ability Level: All **Age:** 12+
Cost: Members \$50 Non Members \$ 65
Register here: Saturdays, August 8, 15, 22 & 29 Time: 9 - 10am

Open Sew Mondays!

Build time in your week to be creative and socialize with other sewists in our comfortable classroom! Bring your project supplies and take advantage of our group knoweldge to inspire your own project. We provide an ironing station and cutting table. You may bring your own machine or reserve one of ours for only \$5. Come out for as many hours as you'd like.

Ability Level: All **Ages:** 14+
Members only: Free!
Mondays – indefinitely (closed on holidays) 12:30pm – 3pm

Open Art Studio!

Nurture your artistic soul each week during open art studio each Wednesday! We do a little bit of everything - watercolor, beading, knitting, crafting, drawing, etc. Bring your supplies and your project, and enjoy our comfortable workspace and great company! Bring your lunch and some snacks too!

Ability Level: All **Ages:** 14+
Members only: Free!
Wednesdays – indefinitely (closed on holidays) 12 – 3pm

Creators Camp

In July 2026, 30 young artists joined instructors at Up North Arts for a week of experimentation, creativity and laughter at UNAs annual Creators' Camp. Led by dedicated teacher, Julie Cieslak, fantastic volunteers from CHS Youth Leadership group provided rich experiences with oil pastels, watercolor, crayon, and more.

A heartfelt thanks to our Creators Camp supporters - the Youth Advisory Council and the CHS Youth Leadership group. Through the Youth Advisory Council, several students were fortunate to receive full scholarships, allowing these talented young artists the opportunity to participate in Creators' Camp, regardless of financial background.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the CHS Youth Leadership group for their invaluable contribution. Their members volunteered their time and energy, and were instrumental in creating a supportive and engaging experience for all participants.

We are already planning for next year's camp, aiming to expand our programs and reach even more young artists. We welcome any suggestions or feedback from this year's participants and their families to make the 2027 camp even more successful!



Special friends and events

Up North Arts
Cadillac, Michigan

DROP-IN STUDIO TIME!
Starting June 3rd 2026

WEDNESDAYS 6-9 PM & SATURDAYS 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Up North Arts
Good clay. Good vibes.
DROP-IN STUDIO PASS
Make. Mess. Magic.

Card # _____ Artist: _____

For Experienced Potters Only!

- Must have completed wheel throwing or hand building class.
- Membership Required.

ONLY 20 CARDS AVAILABLE!

Wheel Use for Qualified Potters
Hand Building Area Available

5 Studio Visits • 25 lbs Clay • 10 Firings!

\$200 Punch Card

- Work Independently
- Personal Clay Storage Bin
- Instructor Supervised Sessions

Buy Your Punch Card!
+ 5 Visits + Clay + Firings = \$200

UpNorthArtsInc.com

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Purchase on our website
<https://upnorthartsinc.app.neoncrm.com/np/clients/upnorthartsinc/event.jsp?event=17491>



DOOR PRIZES!
SNACKS!

MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 2026
1-4PM

MAHJONGG MADNESS!

SIGN UP TODAY ON THE WEBSITE

\$10

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



Up North Arts
Cadillac, Michigan
Building Futures Through The Arts

Member of...



Cadillac Garden Club

HOME Tour

NOVEMBER 7, 2026

SCAN ME



Cadillac Garden Club

All are welcome!

Sound Garden Clean Up
Second Saturday each month
& every Wednesday
9am – 11am

Visit us at
Cadillac Garden Club




2026 Sponsorships

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

2026/27 Class Registration is Open!

Northern Lights Dance Academy

For more information and to register email us at
dance.nlida@gmail.com or call (231) 923-2322

