

Harbinger

Swords into Plowshares Peace Center and Gallery

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33 East Adams

Detroit, MI 48226

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Spring 2016

Exhibits: Coming Soon

Summer heat can be hazardous to many art pieces but posters are durable. So we've planned an exhibit for July and August - a series of "Ban the Bombs" posters by local peace activist Kim Bergier. On Friday October 7, "Art4Detroit4" will be our opening exhibit for the 2016-17 season.

Art and Soul, the ongoing art project of members of Central Methodist's N.O.A.H. project, coordinated by Susan Greenhalgh, will display its work at the Peace Gallery and offer it for sale January 12-15, 2017.

Other 2017 exhibits we are considering include "Children in Crisis", paintings by Lynn Baum, "Humanize Not Militarize", a traveling exhibition of American Friends Service Committee, and an exhibit by local artist/activist Wayne Curtis.

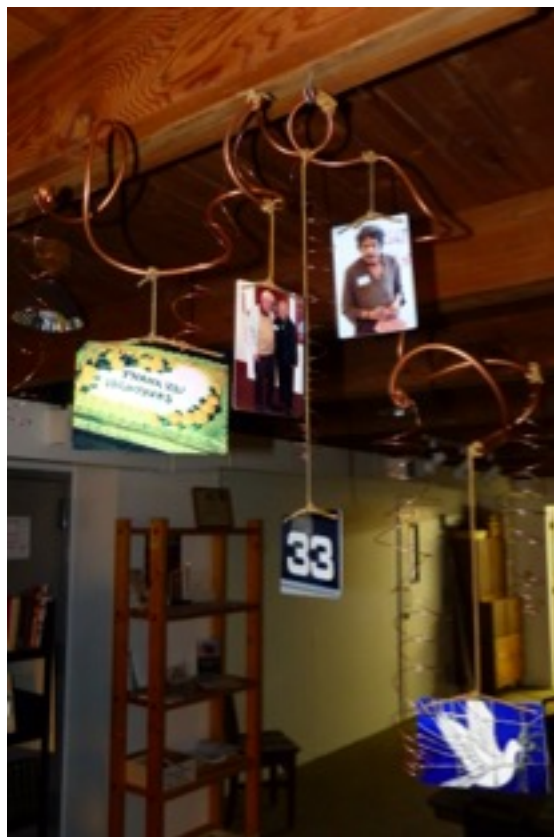
We on the Exhibit Committee welcome your suggestions for art exhibits at Swords into Plowshares.

Pauline Feltner

Do we have your email address? We'd like to save trees. So please help us do a little less paper printing. Send your email address to:

swordsintoplowshares313@gmail.com

New Art in the Gallery



When it comes to recognizing the contributions of volunteers, sometimes testimonials just aren't enough.

That's why you'll find at SIP a new original and permanent work of art (above) to honor the incredible service of Wendy Hamilton, Ron and Joyce Mason, Bob Missirlian and Ed Brown.

cont'd on p.2

Director's Corner

Swords into Plowshares is moving into the greater electronic media age with our new Facebook page and an updated webpage. But our most vital support and help comes from our dedicated volunteers and financial contributors. It is my intent to encourage our volunteers to inform visitors about our mission of blending Art with Peace and Social Justice issues. Thank you to all the rental groups that have used our space during the past six months: Michigan Coalition on Human Rights, Peace Action, MFSA, Jobs for Justice, Veterans for Peace, Jewish Voice for Peace, Progressive Movies, our Cuba Lecturer, Bee Keepers, and of course, our Good News Pizza Party. The opening of "Visions of Peace," our children's exhibit, was attended by over 80 students, families and their teachers. And church and school field trips also attended, prior to the exhibit's closing in mid-May. Our Annual Fundraiser at Detroit Repertory was well attended, and we thank all of you who came to the reception and performance. Our plans for the summer months include the May 27 Exhibit Opening of "Chernobyl +30" and "Drones Quilt Project" – both in the Main Gallery and Lounge. We encourage summer art classes and Sidewalk Chalk Days. Bring your chalk and create your vision of a more just world - starting right here in Detroit. Your help in planning and implementation is always appreciated. I invite you to join in our work.

Clara Lawrence

Thank You

To all of you who responded to our annual year-end fundraising appeal, we sincerely thank you. Your response and generosity allows us to "keep the lights on" and to continue our wonderful exhibits and programming for the coming year.

If you misplaced your letter, don't despair. The next time your family member or friend asks you what you would like for your birthday, suggest a donation to the Peace Gallery in your honor. Or, instead of purchasing more "stuff" for the special people in your life, make a donation in their honor. This would make both of you feel good, having helped to further the cause of peace.

Jack Chase

NEW ART cont'd from p.1

The art is a collaborative work of Richie Campbell and Chris Charron, both long time SIP volunteers. As Chris said, "It was an honor to be asked to do this piece and be able to recognize these good people who were so much a part of the Gallery."

Richie, who characterizes herself as a "structural artist" received her artistic training at Marygrove College, where she is currently employed. She has exhibited her art here at SIP as well as at galleries throughout Detroit and Michigan.

Chris, an award winning photographer, has similarly exhibited at SIP and other galleries throughout the area. Together, they created this free-flowing structure personalized with photos of Wendy, Ron, and Joyce, Bob and Ed.

Although on display now, the piece is still a work in progress. Recently discovered photographs of veteran volunteer Ed Brown will be incorporated soon, completing a permanent recognition for those who gave so much to Swords into Plowshares. When you come to the Gallery for our current exhibit, check it out!

Audrey Chase

Plan Ahead

... and mark your calendars for two Saturdays in November when you'll be able to make sure your shopping dollars support worthy organizations.

Our annual **Treasure Sale**: Please plan ahead now to donate your unneeded or unwanted household possessions, to become someone else's treasures. At the Gallery, early in November, we will begin accepting: household items, working small appliances, jewelry, purses, etc., but no clothes or furniture, please. Then, be prepared to return, on Saturday November 12, and shop, when you turn someone else's donations into your treasures. All of the funds generated will, of course, benefit the Peace Center.

Shop For a Cause is scheduled for Saturday, November 19, 2016. This popular event allows various local non-profit groups to come here and sell goods to support their respective missions. It also allows you the opportunity to begin your holiday shopping in the best way possible! What could be better?

Joyce Mason 1928-2016

In early February, Joyce Mason died. I need to start with those stark words because it reinforces the impact of her death on the many people and organizations that were blessed to have her presence. Her family, if course...what a caring, loving mother, grandmother, and great grandmother. In addition, the DIA, Hilberry Theatre, the Detroit Symphony and many other art organizations were grateful recipients of the work that she and Ron gave of so selflessly. I can really only partially write of her work here. There isn't any spot in the Peace Center that wasn't touched and improved by Joyce's interest and work. She was a consummate proof reader, record keeper, Gift Shop head, volunteer supporter and mentor, cleaner and straightener, booster of Peace Center activities, and the first to arrive and last to leave. As someone who valued the history of an organization, she carefully created and maintained a physical record of each exhibit and event which the Peace Center will continue to utilize. And her artistic talents were evident in the hand-thrown ceramics she created and donated to the Gift Shop.

She was a scrupulous steward of donations and Peace Center resources - she was a recycler long before it became a widespread practice.

Joyce was an avid reader and critical thinker and a tireless fighter against inequality. At so many lunch conversations during our work week, if we did not solve the world's problems, we at least found one positive action, thanks to Joyce's insights and understanding.

Joyce's life was a life well lived. She was truly a good woman, a good friend, and a good citizen.

Wendy Hamilton, Director Emerita

Students and Their art



Friday, April 29 was an art filled day for students of Detroit's Madison-Carver Academy, when I brought my students here. They had earlier entered their own pieces in this year's "Visions of Peace," the Peace Gallery's annual student art exhibit. The gallery and gift shop were filled with the music of children's voices as they played the piano and (carefully) played with some of the sculptures. Although the sun was hiding behind the clouds that day, there were plenty of sunny smiles in the Peace Gallery as students were reunited with their art pieces.

Christa Perdue

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Words

How we use our language can affect change, either intended or not.

In our daily use of language, it is so easy to slip into familiar - and warlike - sayings like "stick to our guns," "gunned down," "soldier on," even "marching orders" - because war has become such an integral part of every society on earth, and especially ours. You can easily make your own additions to this list and I invite you to try. Every day we take our speech cues from the military like this.

If we can be mindful of the way we speak, of the words we choose to use, of the military clichés we so easily slip into, it is only one short step to replacing those clichés with other words.

Not only will we be changing our own language, but perhaps will be modeling for others by using more careful words: "stick to our guns" can become "stay with it." "soldier on" can change to "continue courageously" - you can make your own list that you're comfortable with, once you decide to do this.

We of the peace movement may speak of the ravages of war - but we must take on some of the responsibility for it, and change the way we speak, or we become part of the problem - part of the war machine that we say we are opposing every day.

Suzanne Antisdal

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