



Newsletter

December 2020

## President's Message



**“The snow is snowing, the wind is blowing, but we can weather the storm”.** These lyrics seem quite appropriate this time of year, especially now. Some of us are still digging out of twenty five inches of snow, trying to evade the monster virus and managing to stay positive.

Our program committee has decided, with the blessing of FAA, to offer programs only (no luncheon) for \$10. This will be by reservation only, no walk-ins. We have scheduled Nwaka Onwusa from the Rock Hall of Fame to speak in January. (See attached news release for further information.) There are programs scheduled for March, April and May. All of these are contingent upon CDC guidelines.

Lady Luck was really shining down on Dave Malinowski who was the Grand Prize winner of the 50/50 raffle which was held on December 6<sup>th</sup>. Dave will receive a check in the amount of \$1,045.00. **CONGRATULATIONS DAVE!!!!** Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets and/or made a donation to the Women's Committee. You can read more about our benefit in the Special Events report.

Even though there are no in house performances and all classes are virtual this December at FAA, one can still view the Christmas Cabaret, “Home for the Holidays”, on YouTube December 20<sup>th</sup>. Here is a brief synopsis taken from FAA website:

“Jingles the elf is searching for a promotion at the North Pole. She will help our cast earn “Nice” points by having them share holiday memories and familiar melodies like “I’ll Be Home for Christmas,” “Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas,” “Where Are You, Christmas?,” and many more. The original performance is family-friendly, uplifting, and just what you need to start off your Holiday in a cheerful way”...

The Women's Committee would like to wish everyone a safe and healthy holiday season. “Merry Christmas, may your New Year dreams come true”.

*Karen Pribula*

## Special Projects Committee



### The Holiday 50/50 Raffle winners are announced!

The lucky 1<sup>st</sup> place winner netting him a big \$1045.00 was David Malinowski.

2<sup>nd</sup> place winner was Sonia Golden

3<sup>rd</sup> place winner was Grace Laurio



Roberta Lucia, Sandy Taddeo and Lois Wigton drawing the lucky winners.



**The Women's Committee is proud to announce that we are able to donate \$8,000 to the Fine Arts Association as of this date.**

Thanks to all who gave an additional donation to make this a very special offering to the FAA!

## Membership News

Without our normally scheduled "Luncheon Series" it has been difficult reaching perspective new members...

**SO WE NEED YOUR HELP.**

**Please TELL A FRIEND about The Women's Committee.**

**Their \$25 membership will go a**

**long way in support of the ARTS!**

## C.E.O.'S CORNER



It was 1989 and I was directing and producing a Christmas musical at my home church in Ravenna while attending college in Indiana. We decided to do something a little non-traditional that year instead of a cantata. The musical we chose was set in December 1941 in the living room of a typical American family. The cast was a multi-generational family much like your or mine but without the modern-day distractions of technology and separation. Evening life was centered in the family room around the radio and shows like the Lone Ranger and many variety shows. Commercials for Fixodent and Carmen Miranda were made in the studio during the live shows so we had a our stage split into a living room scene and a radio studio scene. It was fun to produce and yet a somewhat sobering portrayal of life as the musical centered around December 7, President Roosevelt's "Day of Infamy" speech, and how the world would change very quickly. The musical was entitled, "Christmas is Calling You Home."

While that music ended with a call to faith and what the Christian purpose for the season is, I can't help but connect to the theme in our modern day of COVID and quarantine's, fear, and sense of loss. This is a holiday season unlike we have experienced in some time without galas and musicals, shopping, parties, and celebratory gatherings of all types. We all feel the sense of loss this season brings as we mourn friends and family lost to the virus or just the loss of normalcy and celebration.

Yes, in 2020, Christmas (or Hanukah) calls us home. But not just for safety's sake. The promise and the hope of the season should remind us that no matter what the present challenge is, hope is on the way. We will once again see days of decorating and caroling, galas and musicals, and parties and commemorations of all types. We can still decorate, listen to the music of the season, send presents to families and friends, and celebrate the hope and sense of belonging and community Christmas and Hanukah represent. And we can plan even bigger and better celebrations for next year when we all hope this is behind us.

I told someone recently that a few years from now, I think we will look back grateful in many ways for the journey of reflection and discovery we are now on. Sometimes hardship produces reflection and getting back to what is most important. It reminds of why we do what we do and who we do it for. I hope that it is that type of season for you. I pray that the 2020 season provides you a light in the darkness – a trusted candle in the wind. And may you also know that the hope you provide through your giving of time, talent, and treasure to the students and community at Fine Arts continues to make a difference. You are missed and we can't wait to welcome you back soon to our Fine Arts home with open arms.

May the joy of the season be yours each and every day!

With love and appreciation,

Paul Holm , CEO

## The Second Wednesday Program Series



Date: January 13, 2021

Time: 11 a.m. Program Only

**Topic: Rock & Roll is Here to Stay!**

Presenter: Nwaka Onwusa, Vice President of Curatorial Affairs & Chief Curator of the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame

The Women's Committee of the Fine Arts Association is excited to have Nwaka Onwusa, Vice President of Curatorial Affairs & Chief Curator of the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame join us for our first program of 2021. Onwusa will focus on how the Rock Hall develops exhibit ideas, collects artifacts and then curates the exhibits.

**NOTE:** The presentation will be in the theater and there is limited seating for this program in accordance with the protocols of safe distancing and wearing masks. **If circumstances warrant cancellation, notification will be made accordingly.**



**Reservations are required no later than January 6, 2021**

To make a reservation either email [anthonyjanem@yahoo.com](mailto:anthonyjanem@yahoo.com) or call 579-5020.

The cost is \$10.00 per person payable at the door in cash or by check.

**NO WALK-INS for this program!**