



WHERE ART  
MAKES A  
DIFFERENCE

**CCAA**  
CHESTER COUNTY ART ASSOCIATION

CHESTER COUNTY ART ASSOCIATION IS A NONPROFIT CULTURAL ORGANIZATION THAT PROMOTES PARTICIPATION IN THE ARTS THROUGH QUALITY INSTRUCTION, EXHIBITIONS, AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH. CCAA BELIEVES THAT ART DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE AND HAS ENHANCED THE COMMUNITY BY INVOLVING PEOPLE OF ALL AGES AND ASPIRATIONS IN THE ARTS SINCE 1931.

*CCAA was founded as The Sketch Club by several prominent artists and community leaders including renowned illustrators William Palmer Lear, N.C. Wyeth, and Dr. Christian Brinton, an internationally known art critic and early promoter of the Modernist art movement.*

# 1930S

“...Making Chester county more actively and courageously art conscious... it is a congenial task.”  
Dr. Christan Brinton

Horace Pippin enters two paintings in CCAA's Annual Invitational. N.C. Wyeth comments on the fine quality of his work and plans a solo show.

# 1940S

The Sketch Club has 36 members and \$1 membership. The original group met weekly to sketch and plan exhibits, many of them featuring the works of the young Andrew Wyeth as well as those of other soon-to-be celebrated artists such as Horace Pippin, Tom Bostelle, Barclay Rubincam, Philip Jamison, Peter Sculthorpe, and Harry Dunn.

In those early years, members met mostly in private homes. Finally, in the early 1950s, local resident Mary E. Page Allinson donated more than an acre of land on the edge of West Chester. It was here that the present art center was built in 1953. In 1974, another gift from West Chester resident W.W. “Chick” Laird expanded the property to a total of five acres. Bequests from Stewart Huston and Alison Farmer Wescott enabled the addition of a second gallery as well as several spacious studios in the mid 1970s.

# 1950S

Multi-faceted and devoted CCAA President Albert Davis designs the Bradford Avenue building. November 15, 1952 groundbreaking. September 13, 1953 building officially opened.

# 1980S-NOW

In the 81 years since its founding, CCAA has held to its mission as a community-minded organization and has grown almost exponentially to include an amazing array of activities and “ArtReach” programs. These include popular summer art camps; FREE art classes in Kennett Square; and a satellite facility known as the Exton Square Studio, a gallery/gift shop/classroom space in the Exton Square Mall. There is also an ever-expanding curriculum of classes for adults and children alike, with vital scholarships provided for those most in need.

CCAA at any one time can be home to the cancer survivors’ art therapy group, weekly Irish dance classes, or yoga classes. CCAA artists have, for several years, worked with veterans at the Coatesville VA Medical Center’s In-Patient Psychiatry Unit. CCAA has been a venue for community groups like Build-a-Band and for several years partnered with West Chester University and the Chester County Intermediate Unit to bring to West Chester free field-trip performances by the Kennedy Center Theater for Young Audiences on Tour.



## HISTORY OF THE CCAA LOGO

CCAA's logo was designed by N.C. Wyeth. It has been in use representing CCAA since the Art Center's very early days.

## EXPANDING THE REALM OF ART OUTSIDE CHESTER COUNTY

Since 1973 CCAA has hosted ‘Adventure Trips’ to museums and private collections in Philadelphia, Washington, and New York as well as traveling to attend numerous blockbuster Broadway shows.

Ground breaking at 100 North Bradford Avenue



Allinson Gallery Exhibition, 1950



CCAA Members' Show at the Chester County Courthouse



# WHERE CREATIVITY IS BORN

THE TEACHERS AND VOLUNTEERS OF  
CHESTER COUNTY ART ASSOCIATION



## WHERE THE COMMUNITY CONNECTS

Volunteers have long been what keeps CCAA going, whether they are Summer Teen Volunteers who help out in the classrooms, adult students and artists who help with managing and hanging exhibitions, or retirees who help maintain the art center building. All of these supporters put the “community” in community art center. And CCAA’s teacher-artists are the finest practicing artists in the area, all of them holding bachelor’s or master’s degrees in art. CCAA offers classes at all levels for children, teens,

and adults throughout the year in all media: drawing, ceramics, painting — whether you’re a landscape, portrait, or abstract artist — sculpture, jewelry making, anime, printmaking, photography, fashion design, multi-media collage, and 3D art. And this is just a sampling. An award-winning CCAA class may be 8 or 10 weeks long, giving a strong foundation in technique, methods, art history, or a one-day workshop that adds a new approach or medium to your artistic repertoire. Visit our website to join a class!

*Pictured L to R: Sherri Schultz, Rhoda Kahler, Darcie Goldberg, Monique Kendikian-Sarkessian, Marisa Marlowe, Karen Delaney. Left to right, back row: Bette Naughton, Jeff Dippel, Joe Fuiman, Mary Beaumont, Kathy Miller, Ann Christie, Jill Benjamin, Maria Tesone, Abby Hall.*

## JOIN IN ON THE CREATIVITY

Adult Classes

Solo & Group Exhibitions

Teen & Youth Classes

Workshops for All Ages

Art Show Receptions

Gallery Talks

Community Events

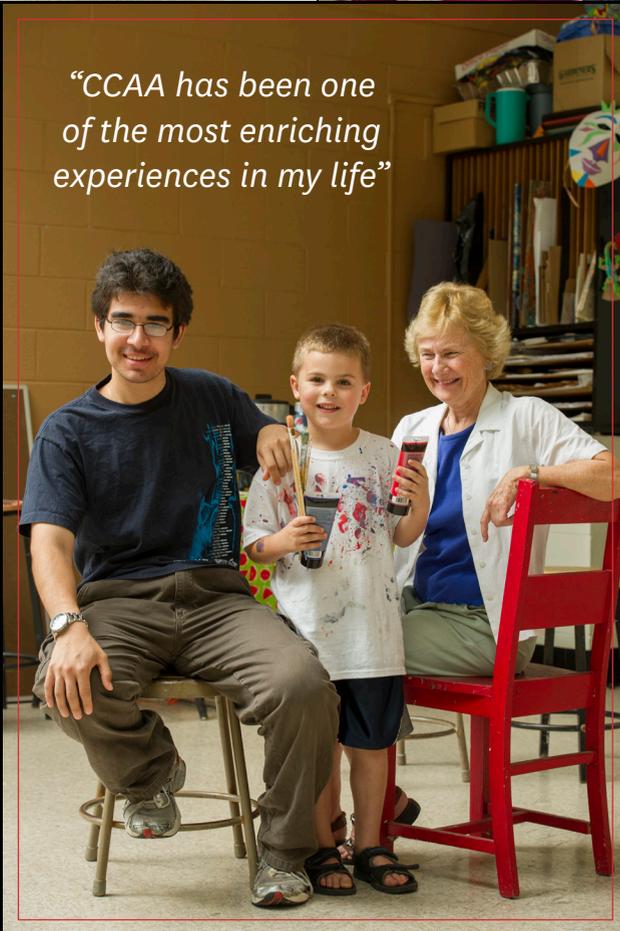




*"It's a place  
where I can let my  
imagination flow"*



*"CCAА has been one  
of the most enriching  
experiences in my life"*



"CCAА has graciously given the Chester County Hospital's Art Therapy Support group the space to have our art time together. The love and support they have shown us has certainly made a huge difference in helping to raise the spirits of those in the group."

**SHARON DENAULT** *Adult Volunteer & Leader of Cancer Survivors' Art Therapy Group*

"I have been taking art classes at CCAА since I was 5 or 6, so for almost 10 years. CCAА has meant so much to me; the art center has helped me improve my skills and technique and I have developed so many close relationships with the terrific people there. It's great working as a volunteer now! I love working with kids and seeing all their amazing artwork. It's especially neat when kids come back to CCAА over the years because you really see the progress they make as artists."

**SHEA MCNEIL** *Young Student & Teen Volunteer*



"As a new resident in the area and beginning art student, I particularly valued the great instructors and training at CCAА plus the chance to make new friends there who shared my art interest."

**FANNY WARREN** *Adult Student & Volunteer*



DENNIS HAGGERTY  
PHILIP JAMISON  
CHARLES JAY

PICTURED BELOW  
ADRIAN MARTINEZ

**CCAA WAS STARTED BY A GROUP OF HIGHLY ACCOMPLISHED AND COMMITTED ARTISTS,** and that legacy continues on in artists like Dennis Haggerty, Philip Jamison, Charles Jay, and Adrian Martinez, whose much-sought-after artwork is collected by private collectors and museums alike. Their work represents the incredible depth, range, and richness of art being created today. As CCAA turns another page in its history — heading toward its 82<sup>nd</sup> year — a new generation of CCAA artists and teachers continues to demand the very best from themselves and their art.



ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES, MEET THE ARTISTS & TEACHERS OF CHESTER COUNTY ART ASSOCIATION

# MEET THE CREATIVES



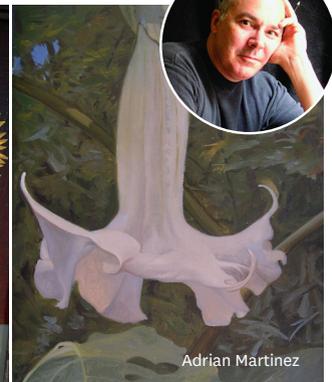
Dennis Haggerty



Philip Jamison

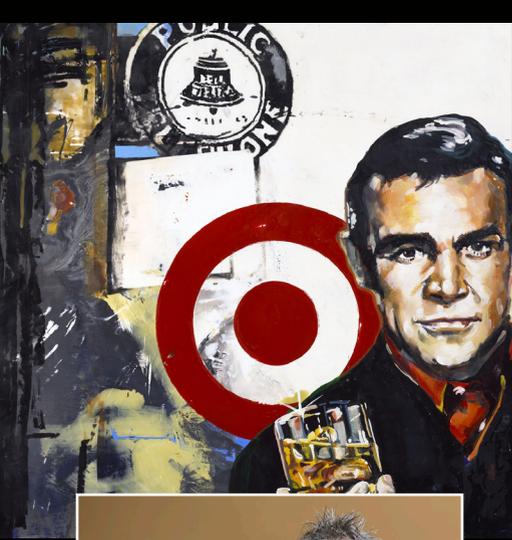


Charles Jay



Adrian Martinez

**DENNIS HAGGERTY 1947-2012** To become a recognized artist requires years of dedication and passion: Dennis Haggerty had these. He spent all his years making a difference with his art here in West Chester and afar. But it was not only with his art that he made a difference; as a teacher, he inspired, encouraged, and sparked creativity in children in ways that would stay with them for a lifetime. He truly touched the future. Dennis will be sadly missed: he left such a mark on our community — he painted the sky.

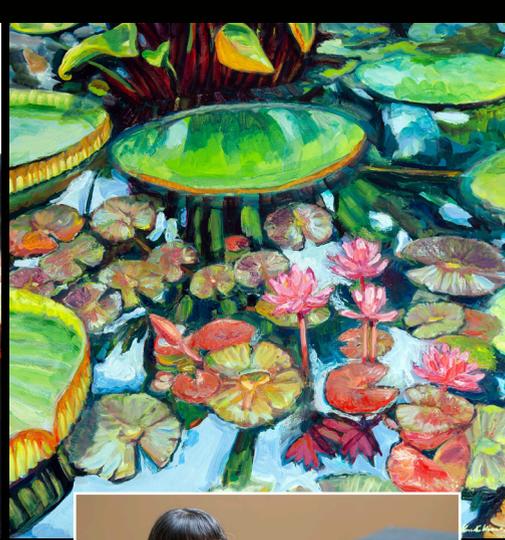


JEFF SCHALLER



**BIO:** Jeff’s encaustic paintings and silk screens have been exhibited throughout the United States and abroad. He’s worked on commissioned murals—including the art at Iron Hill restaurants—and with the City of Philadelphia on a mural for SEPTA. He was the recipient of the prestigious Philadelphia Museum of Art Purchase Award and an Arts Fellowship from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

[jeffschaller.com](http://jeffschaller.com)

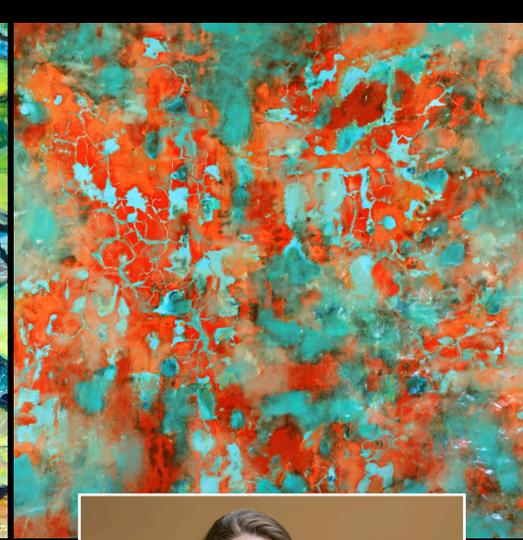


MONIQUE  
KENDIKIAN-  
SARKESSIAN



**BIO:** Monique earned her BFA in painting at Temple University’s Tyler School of Art. Her work has been shown at numerous exhibitions across the country: in New York, New Jersey, Los Angeles, Boston, Delaware, and in the Philadelphia area. “I love the process of painting,” she says, “how the paint glides on from one color to the next, and what happens when colors touch...”

[moniquekendikiansarkessian.com](http://moniquekendikiansarkessian.com)



ERICA BROWN



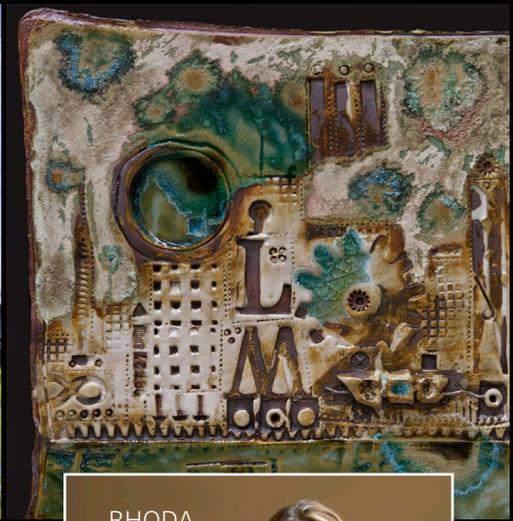
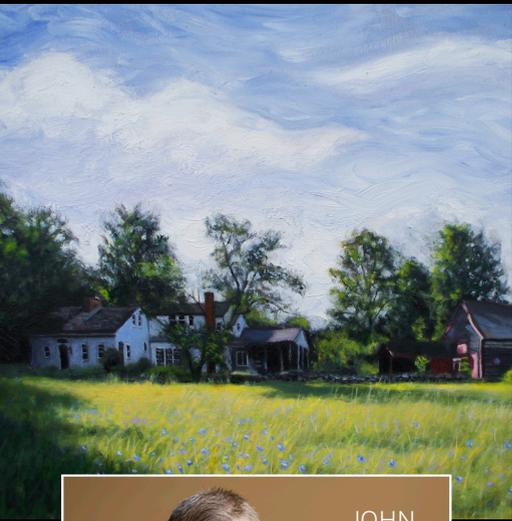
**BIO:** Erica is a Philadelphia area native. She is both self-taught and largely influenced by her education at Tyler School of Art. She has been involved in several solo shows, group shows, and donated pieces to charity auctions. Ms. Brown has a background in art education and art therapy. She currently resides and has her studio in West Chester.

[ebcbrown.com](http://ebcbrown.com)



Jeff Schaller has recently partnered with other CCAA artists on the Size Matters show and the Chester County Open Studio Tour. Monique Kendikian-Sarkessian’s work often wins Excellence Awards in CCAA Members’ Shows; she taught the Learning from the Masters and Watercolor/Acrylic classes at CCAA’s Summer Art Camps this year. One of Erica Brown’s large-scale works is currently featured in a mural installation at the Daily Local News in its Community MediaLab and Conference space.





JOHN  
HANNAFIN



RHODA  
KAHLER



KAREN DELANEY

**BIO:** John is an oil painter with a particular focus on landscape and Chester County’s barns and historic architecture. Hannafin’s Art Across America project saw him traveling around the country painting and filming national parks; his projects have been featured on several television networks and frequently at the Chester County Historical Society.

[johnhannafin.com](http://johnhannafin.com)

**BIO:** Rhoda is an incredibly sought-after ceramic artist continuing to push the envelope of how all the qualities of clay can be intuited and explored. Kahler works in tile and sculpture (of all sizes) and is widely known. Her work, she says, “usually starts with a fortuitous glimpse of some random point of inspiration catching my eye, forcing me to stop and take a closer look, embracing texture, line, and emotion.”

[rhodakahler.com](http://rhodakahler.com)

**BIO:** Karen creates nuanced and intriguing metal sculpture. She has exhibited in several galleries and group shows in the US and Europe. After earning her MFA, she turned to teaching and worked at the Carnegie Museum of Art as a program manager and also teaching a range of studio classes. “I like working with steel,” Delaney says, “because of its strength and color and the immediacy of the welding technique.”

[karendelaneysculpture.com](http://karendelaneysculpture.com)

**John Hannafin** has been a particularly successful participant in two recent *plein air* painting festivals/art shows/sales: Plein Air Brandywine Valley and CCAA’s Paint the Town. **Rhoda Kahler’s** solo exhibition schedule is daunting; still, she makes time to regularly teach the Teen Clay class and Summer Camp ceramic classes. She has just been awarded a Guest Artist residency at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. **Karen Delaney** has just finished teaching a teen class on creating chess boards and sculptural chess sets by hand. Her work was recently featured at a show organized by CCAA at Penn State Great Valley.



# WHERE CREATIVITY INSPIRES OUR FUTURE

BE A PART OF A VIBRANT ARTS  
COMMUNITY IN CHESTER COUNTY

**VICTORIA WYETH, *Visionary***

“My family has a long history with CCAA and in this community. I choose to be part of CCAA particularly for the children. It is a positive, happy, light-hearted and safe place for them. I’ve been — for such a long time — a huge advocate of getting the community involved in the arts. You come to CCAA and you see these teachers with so much creativity, girls designing prom dresses with 3D skirts of tissue paper, and you realize what a crucial outlet this is for kids. They can discuss their emotions, explore the psychological, social, intellectual — and feel cool doing it. You don’t have to be a Rembrandt, Picasso, or Wyeth to make and experience art. And Darcie is awesome; it has been her enthusiasm and spearheading of amazing arts projects that have kept me involved with CCAA. I’ve spoken on behalf of CCAA, acted as juror and member of the Board, have hosted Halloween balls, and even auctioned myself off for this place.

Thinking ahead to the future: I hope CCAA can even further expand its scholarship programs so that more kids can be exposed to the arts and call this place home. I feel those in the community with financial resources have a moral obligation to support the arts and to help with this type of growth.”

“The visual arts engage children in a way that nothing else can. **The arts show children that there can be more than one answer to a question** — and when children see their parents encouraging participation in the visual arts — through extracurricular classes like those CCAA offers year-round — it shows them what the adults in their lives believe is important.” **JILL BENJAMIN, *Teaching Artist***





# JOIN US



Project designed by  
Bernardon Haber  
Holloway Architects.



**THE ADDITION AND PROPOSED RENOVATIONS** will include a new ceramics studio with an outdoor studio terrace, digital media studio, a faculty workroom and library, and gallery shop. Renovations will take place in the existing lobby, art galleries, and sculpture and flexible studios. Sustainability will play a large role, including incorporating natural daylighting throughout and the use of recycled building materials.

**“My hope for the future of Chester County Art Association is that it continues to serve so many adults and children so well, at all their many levels of talent and interest. We are blessed to have a community art center right in West Chester where anyone and everyone who comes in the door can have an experience in the arts.”**  
Vivian Lasko, *Donor and supporter of CCAA*



**STEVE MOONEY**  
Member of CCAA  
Board of Directors  
& Visionary for the  
expansion project

“The planned renovations will ensure that **CCAA’s important contributions to the arts and the community will be available for future generations.** The building and program upgrades will also allow CCAA to participate in the new technologies available to the arts.”



# LET'S GET STARTED

**LIKE WHAT YOU SEE?** Join the arts at CCAA — become a member, take a class, visit our galleries, buy art by our local artists at both our West Chester galleries and at CCAA's Exton Square Studio, show your artwork in our exhibitions, donate to our ArtReach programs, make a donation to support our renovations, have your business sponsor an event, consider planned giving or creating a scholarship fund, rent out our space, volunteer, have a clay, tie-dye, or girls' night out party — make a difference through the arts! Online at [chestercountyarts.org](http://chestercountyarts.org) Call us! 610.696.5600

CCAA  
CHESTER COUNTY ART ASSOCIATION



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