



**For Immediate Release**  
Contact: Phil Gilchrist, Executive Director  
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July 31, 2020

## **ANTON ART CENTER ANNOUNCES REIMAGINED ARTPARTY FUNDRAISER**

While the Anton Art Center is celebrating more than 50 years of service to our community, The ArtParty planning committee is re-imagining how ArtParty can remain a favorite fundraising program without risk to personal health or safety. We are excited to announce that this year's event will take shape as ArtParty @ Home – a celebration of the Anton Art Center which will begin with a giving campaign kick off on August 13 at 6:00pm and culminating with the ArtParty @ Home livestream program on Thursday, September 24 at 6:00pm. Art Center supporters can look forward to video and photo content throughout the campaign on the Anton Art Center website ([www.theartcenter.org/artparty](http://www.theartcenter.org/artparty)) as well as on our social media (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube), including special participatory opportunities utilizing Zoom.

Our new ArtParty @ Home format will include an online silent auction, special recognition of our sponsors and donors throughout the program, virtual involvement from our longtime ArtParty restaurants, a livestreamed recognition program featuring donors and sponsors, live art demonstrations, and more! We are excited about the possibilities for an expanded audience by using an online format and hope to reach more viewers and supporters than the ArtParty ever has before. Our new online silent auction will open on Thursday, August 13 at 6:00pm and close on Thursday, September 24 at 7:00pm. Most activities have no cost to participate, making the ArtParty more accessible than ever.

“Like so many other programs in the last few months, producing the popular ArtParty event as a virtual program is posing challenges while also creating opportunities. In planning, we are working to keep many familiar elements of ArtParty while attracting a wider, virtual audience, and I am excited about the new creative ideas we are developing for the occasion,” shares Phil Gilchrist, Anton Art Center Executive Director.

Anna Doe and Pat Woodstock, co-chairs of ArtParty @ Home hope that in times when physical presence is not possible the Anton Art Center will be able to provide a full schedule of online classes, exhibitions and community outreach programs. Your donations and involvement will guarantee that this happens. Sponsorship opportunities are still available – see [www.theartcenter.org/artparty](http://www.theartcenter.org/artparty) for details, or contact Phil Gilchrist at [pgilchrist@theartcenter.org](mailto:pgilchrist@theartcenter.org) for more information.

In the last several months, the Anton Art Center has focused on creating original virtual content – a juried worldwide online exhibit which attracted more than 1,500 entries from more than 500 artists around the world; a virtual studio visit with local artist Karole Sharpe and a virtual lecture on popular operas La Boheme and La Traviata with our friends from the Michigan Opera Theatre, activities which became part of our regular SatARTday programming presented by First State Bank. *Conversations with our Mentor* was launched as an online exhibit featuring regional artists. Our virtual Super SatARTday event featured a full day of follow-along-at-home art activities, performances, and other online activities also sponsored by First State Bank and Consumers Energy. Many of these activities supplemented student at home learning during the pandemic.



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**ArtParty @ Home Honorary Committee**

Gebran S. & Suzanne P. Anton  
Dr. Julie Dichtel  
Mary Ann & Gene Gargaro  
Laura & Paul Kropp  
Gene Lovell  
Candice S. Miller  
Dr. James O. Sawyer, IV  
Norma & David Stone  
Carrie Way

*The Anton Art Center Board of Trustees and ArtParty @ Home Planning Committee extend special thanks to our sponsors:*

**Anton Art Center Sponsor**

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Macomb Community College  
Norma & David Stone  
Patricia Woodstock

**Innovation Sponsors**

Anna & Peter Doe  
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Terri North

The Anton Art Center is temporarily closed. For more information about the Anton Art Center, visit [www.theartcenter.org](http://www.theartcenter.org) or call 586-469-8666. The Anton Art Center is a registered nonprofit organization located in Mount Clemens, Michigan, with a mission to *enrich and inspire people of all ages through the arts* and a vision to *create an open community around creative expression*. Connect with us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

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**Images from ArtParty 2019, courtesy Beautiful Beginnings**

