

Creative 360 honors Patricia Shaheen as 2011 Art Sweetheart at February 14 luncheon

What: Art Sweetheart Luncheon

Where: Creative 360 (formerly Creative Spirit Center) at 1517 Bayliss in Midland.

When: Monday, February 14 / 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Cost: \$45 per person (luncheon catered by Horizons Conference Center)

For more information: Elizabeth Ruediger at (989) 837-1885

Midland – The annual Art Sweetheart award is given by Creative 360 to honor an area resident for exceptional contributions of vision, leadership and commitment to the arts in the region.

The 2011 Art Sweetheart, Patricia Shaheen, epitomizes all of these qualities. In addition to her support of Creative 360, Mrs. Shaheen has made countless contributions to the arts in the Great Lakes Bay Region.

The Temple Theatre in Saginaw stands as one of Mrs. Shaheen's most outstanding contributions – a \$7 million restoration project to immaculately restore the building which now serves as home to the Saginaw Bay Symphony Orchestra standing as a testament to the generosity and commitment of her years of selfless service.

Mrs. Shaheen's involvement with the Saginaw Bay Symphony Orchestra has included service as board member as well as board president. For the past ten years, she has served as chair of the Symphony's Holiday Housewalk.

Mrs. Shaheen was a 2008 recipient of The Governor's Award for Arts & Culture, Michigan's premiere state-wide celebration of arts, culture and creativity. In 2004, Mrs. Shaheen and her husband, Dr. Samuel Shaheen, received the All-Area Arts Award given by the Saginaw Arts and Enrichment Commission.

She served as a founding member of the "Art in Public Places" and chaired the Saginaw participation in the first Great Book Read by the Michigan Humanities Council. Her service continues on the board of directors for the Michigan Humanities

Council as well as the Saginaw Bay Symphony Orchestra. She has recently joined the board of the Michigan Jazz Trail Festival, a Midland-based organization committed to celebrating the rich heritage of Michigan jazz by linking local festivals throughout the state.

Mrs. Shaheen will be honored at a luncheon at Creative 360 on Monday, February 14 from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. Tickets for the luncheon are \$45 each and are available at Creative 360 by calling 989.837.1885 or visiting www.becreative360.org. Reservations are requested by February 9.

The Art Sweetheart award was initiated in 2003 and is given annually to an area resident who is not a working artist but who has served as a highly visible advocate and supporter of the arts and humanities for a least a decade. Previous Art Sweetheart honorees are Dorothy Yates, Virginia (Ginny) Morrison, Janet I. Martineau, Barbara Prince-Sovereign, Sally Moss, Judy Rapanos, Nancy Barker, and Ruby Iwamasa.

About Creative 360

Creative 360 is a not-for-profit community arts and wellness organization. The organization incorporated in 1994 as Creative Spirit Center and began offering programs in fall of 1995. The Center's mission is help people of all ages to experience the creative process through ongoing classes, art exhibits, events, concerts, speakers and outreach programs; and its goal is to enhance the development of physical, mental and spiritual wellness through the arts and humanities. Visit www.becreative360.org for information about the offerings at Creative 360, or call (989) 837-1885 to request a mailed copy of the current schedule.

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