Yes we can!
Celebrating the Creative Legacy of Artists, Scientists, Scholars, and Community Leaders 80 and Older

Creative 360
Yes We Can… Celebrate Greatness!

Creative 360 enthusiastically begins the fourth year of its innovative program that recognizes and honors those aged 80 and over in a way that respects their knowledge and taps into their legacy of creativity. The multi-faceted series is open to people of all ages and gives participants ongoing opportunities to engage with and learn from a dynamic group of senior presenters and educators.

Yes We Can! is designed to share the wisdom and experiences of people over 80 while stimulating, encouraging and motivating others to be more active and to realize by example that they also can continue to be contributing community members.

This group of Great Lakes Bay artists, scholars, scientists and community leaders will share their stories and experiences through performance, lecture, discussion and an exhibition that express and showcase their creative thought process. The events take place from January through May 2017.

Yes We Can! Art Exhibition

Join us in celebrating the art of these Great Lakes Bay artists: Barry Brown (80), Eileen Chritz (92), Luther Hale (83), Louise Herringshaw (80), James Hopfensperger (88), Mary Horning (82), William Horning (84), Robert Iwamasa (80), S. Preston Jones (81), Harold Kluck (86), Robert Lauka (82), Gale Leduc (80), Lois Mead (93), Dale Meier (94), Barbara Meyer (81), Moses Millard (86), Paul Pankratz (84), John Saam (87), Phyl Schneider (82), Annabelle Seymour (92), Grace Shriner (89), Pat Smith (85), Pat Smith (82), Alice Strack (85), Mary Starr (84), Carol Struthers (88), Russell Thayer (83), Marion Tincknell (88), Leslie Tincknell (87), Patricia Yockey (82), and Barbara Zimmerman (85). The vibrant, strong, interesting works of these 31 octogenarian artists will be displayed through February 17. Don’t miss it!
Yes We Can... Draw Inspiration from Their Insight!

Yes We Can... Tuesday Tributes

Join us to hear from a wide array of fascinating octogenarians about their lives, their creative process, and their adventures. There will be lively conversation, tea, treats, and time for Q&A. Please let us know you are coming.

**Barbara Zimmerman (85) • Exhibition Artist**

*Tuesday, February 21 – 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. $5*

Art is the driving force in the life of Zimmerman, an award-winning artist who works in watercolor, mixed media, acrylic, oils and collage. The joy of creating a mood or a feeling with art inspires Barbara’s creative process, and is her life’s devotion. Her bold yet refined images portray a world of beauty, depth, and complexity. Born in Detroit, she turned after 40 years in the workplace, to the study of art, her first love. She has been a practicing artist for more than 30 years.

**Robert Iwamasa (80) • Exhibition Artist**

*Tuesday, March 14 – 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. $5*

As a child, Robert had always loved drawing and painting and wanted to be an artist but chose to have a career in science instead. After retiring from The Dow Chemical Company, he focused on art to see if he could create work that was interesting and original.

In 2015, he took graphic design lessons from Charles Breed which made him think of a way to create drawings that enabled him to develop a recognizable style. His current work focuses on the power of the line and color to express feelings and images that are derived from his subconscious or from reality, and sometimes both.
**Gail Leduc (80) • Exhibition Artist**

Tuesday, March 28 – 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.  $5

Gail has lived a life committed to and enriched by art in all its changing and evolving forms. She paints for the pleasure of creating works that inspire her and hopes that they also spark positive thoughts in the viewer. Her paintings portray the everyday beauty that surrounds us: a special animal, driftwood, or a sunset. Her medium of choice is acrylic, though she has worked in many others. The wonderful blend of colors in nature can never be duplicated, but she loves the endless challenge.

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**Annabelle Seymour (92) • Exhibition Artist**

Tuesday, April 11 – 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.  $5

Raised on a farm in Ithaca, Annabelle has always loved creating art. She remembers telling her mother she wanted to be an artist at the age of five. Moving to Saginaw after graduation, she married and had three children. When her smallest child turned five, she decided to begin painting seriously thinking there had to be more to life than laundry and house work. She painted regularly, honing her craft, later taking lessons at the Saginaw Art Museum. She has attended workshops and classes ever since.

Annabelle loves painting from memory and painting nature. Having painted seriously for 60+ years, she feels she hasn’t reached where she needs to be in her art yet. She paints almost every single day.
**Barbara Meyer (81) • Exhibition Artist**

**Tuesday, April 25 – 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. $5**

Barbara was always good at art. She could draw fairly realistically from the age of five, but always longed for instruction throughout school. It was in college that she finally began receiving the intensive training she craved. She received her B.S. from Manchester College and taught art at eight elementary schools in Indiana where she joyously taught the skills she so longed for as a child.

Barbara married Wendell and they moved to Midland where he worked for the Dow Chemical Company and she, while raising their children, did custom commissions. It was hard, exciting and satisfying to execute ideas people had in their minds.

Barbara taught in the humanities department at Northwood University for 18 years. After retirement, Barbara returned to serious painting, concentrating on landscapes.
Yes We Can…Honor Our Community Leaders!

Luncheon Soirees

Join us in honoring these artists, scientists, scholars, and community leaders.
All lunches catered by NADA. Reservations required.

Art Sweetheart Luncheon Honoring Gerry Hath (95)
Educator, Musician, Founder of Teenage Musicals, Inc.

Tuesday, February 14 – 11:30 to 1:00 p.m. $30 (RSVP required by February 7. Space is limited.)

Each year, Creative 360 honors a Great Lakes Bay Region arts advocate who has made significant contributions through exceptional vision, leadership and commitment to the arts. Our Honor Roll of Sweethearts includes Dorothy Yates, Virginia (Ginny) Morrison, Barbara Prince-Sovereen, Sally Moss, Judy Rapanos, Nancy Barker, Janet I. Martineau, Ruby Iwamasa, Patty Shaheen, Dick and Donna Dolinski, Ruth and Etcyl Blair, Eugene Yehle, and Alice Ralston. This year we are delighted to announce Gerry Hath as our 2017 Art Sweetheart.

Gerry was a teacher in the Midland Public Schools for 31 years. He and his wife Betty founded the summer musical program, Teenage Musicals, Inc. in 1962. From its beginning, TMI has presented an annual summer production with young adults. Without Betty’s vision and Gerry’s stewardship, TMI would not exist today.

Jim (84) & Alice (84) Morgan • Educators, Community Leaders, Volunteers

Friday, February 17 – 11:30 to 1:00 p.m. $30 (RSVP required by February 13. Space is limited.)

Jim and Alice are long time advocates for arts and culture and supporters of nature preservation activities in the community. Jim is a retired business scientist from The Dow Chemical Company where he worked in planning departments. His specialty was Economic Performance Monitoring. After raising her children, Alice worked for the Agriculture Department of Dow specializing in the government registration of chemicals. Jim has been active in education serving as a PTO president and Midland Public Schools board member. He is also active in many community organizations, most particularly Kiwassee Kiwanis, where he has been a board member, treasurer, and web master for over 20 years. Alice has been very active in women’s issues. She was co-chair of Women’s Options Workshop, has been president of the local American Association of University Women, and served as treasurer of the state organization.
William Barnett (86) • Freedom Rider, Educator, Administrator, Volunteer

Friday, February 24 – 11:30 to 1:00 p.m. $30 *(RSVP required by February 20. Space is limited.)

William will present a program during this luncheon on his years as a Civil Rights activist.

Bill graduated from school at 16, and at 18, he went into the army and eloped with his girlfriend. Ten years into their marriage with two children and successful careers, they both quit work, sold everything and started school, finishing with their doctorates.

He has been a teacher and administrator at the University of Iowa (Director of Asian Studies), Lansing Community College (department head), Fayetteville State (department chair) and Saginaw Valley State University (Dean of Arts & Behavioral Sciences).

Bill was very active in the Civil Rights movement having trained in workshops with Dr. Martin Luther King. He participated in sit-ins, was a freedom rider, and had 59 arrests. On his last freedom ride he was beaten badly, resulting in a four month hospital stay.

In the past five years, among other things, he has helped build a water purification system in southern Mexico, a church in the Dominican Republic, and this year was a visiting professor in Southern India.

Sarah Dergazarian (84) • Educator, Musician, Community Leader, Volunteer

Friday, March 3 – 11:30 to 1:00 p.m. $30 *(RSVP required by February 27. Space is limited.)

Sarah is a much beloved musician and conductor. She founded the Youth Honors Chorus at the Midland Center for the Arts in 1982. Since then, thousands of talented youth have been singing nonstop in groups that are now collectively called Center Stage Youth Choirs. Sarah retired from Midland Public Schools after serving as a vocal music educator for 20 years. She also directed St. John’s Episcopal Church Youth Choir for 19 years. She continues her support of music education with the Sarah Keishian Dergazarian Vocal Music Education Scholarship.

She has served on many boards and associations including the Symphony League board, Midland Music Teachers Association, Midland Symphony Youth Orchestra and more.

Sarah met her husband Tom in Boston at a convention of the Armenian Church Youth Organization of America. They were married in 1958 in Racine Wisconsin, and raised and educated three daughters in Midland.
Kay Collison Driver (80) • Community Leader, Educator, Director, Volunteer
Friday, March 17 – 11:30 to 1:00 p.m. $30  *(RSVP required by March 13. Space is limited.)*
A Midlander through and through, Kay, a single parent, raised her four boys here and has been a vital, vibrant influence in the lives of many in our community. It’s been said that, “Kay’s love of musical theatre nearly equals her love of young people.” She has been instrumental in the growth and longevity of Teenage Musicals, Inc. (TMI), and has directed 15 TMI productions, several Peanut Gallery shows with adult casts, and was the assistant director multiple times for both organizations. She worked at Midland Center for the Arts in education and outreach, and served as public relations director and then managing director of Theater Guild. She also taught drama classes for adults with physical and mental challenges for 13 years through Greater Midland Society Arts Education. Kay currently directs both the Happy Trails drama troupe and productions for Golden Guild, a Center Stage Theatre outreach program presenting old-time radio shows at senior facilities. Kay serves on the boards of Reece Endeavor and TMI and has worked on many committees in the community.

Ronnie McQuaid (87) • Commissioner, Community Leader, Advocate, Volunteer
Friday, March 24 – 11:30 to 1:00 p.m. $30  *(RSVP required by March 20. Space is limited.)*
Ronnie grew up on a farm in St. Louis. She and her husband Jack moved to Midland and when her three children were older, she began taking classes, one at a time, at SVSU graduating after 11 years with a degree in psychology and sociology. She said it was the best thing she ever did. A woman of deep faith with a passion for justice, she believes that if a community is to be healthy, one must serve; everyone must pull together to make sure all in the needs in the community are met. She became known for speaking for those who have no voice.

Ronnie spent 32 years as a Midland County Commissioner and 60+ years as a realtor. A charter member of Blessed Sacrament Church, she served on the boards of Midland-Gladwin Community Health, Catholic Family Services, The Family Action Committee and more. She served on the Board of Realtors on the national, state and city levels and was president of the boards of Midland Area Homes, and Volunteers for Recycling. She served on the Governor’s Substance Abuse Commission and was influential in making the Juvenile Care Center a reality, and so much more.
Edward & Elyse Rogers • Community & Business Leaders, Philanthropists, Volunteers

Friday, May 5 – 11:30 to 1:00 p.m. $30  (RSVP required by May 1. Space is limited.)

The Rogers loved living in Tokyo for the over seven years that Ed worked for Dow Japan. They raised three daughters in Midland, and their youngest moved with them to Tokyo to attend university in Japan. Thanks in part to Elyse’s experience with the Dow Foundation, they started the Rogers Family Foundation, supporting causes they believe in, especially conservation and educational institutions. During Ed’s 38 year career with the Dow Chemical Company, he managed seven major businesses, was president and CEO of Dow Chemical Japan, and served as a Dow Chemical vice president. After retiring, he served as V.P. for Wells Fargo Advisors. He has served on many boards of directors including MidMichigan Medical Center, MidMichigan Home Care, Midland United Way, Creative 360 and St. John’s Episcopal Church. He has also served on many national boards and was a Captain in the U.S. Air Force. Elyse is president and CEO of MAC International LTD, and president of the Rogers Family Foundation. She has served as president/CEO (Interim) Midland Area Community Foundation, assistant vice president of the Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation and more. Her board service includes MMI, SVSU, Northwood, MidMichigan Health, Rotary International, Little Forks Conservancy, MNA, Asian Pacific Councils of American Chambers of Commerce and many more. She is a successful, medical-columnist, short-story and nonfiction writer.

Ced Currin (86) • Scientist, Visionary, Community Leader, Volunteer

Friday, April 28 – 11:30 to 1:00 p.m. $30  (RSVP required by April 24. Space is limited.)

Ced graduated from Iowa State in Electrical Engineering 65 years ago and joined the development labs of Dow Corning. He and his wife Betty (Kraft) raised four children in Midland while active in several community groups. During the last years of his 30-year Dow Corning career, Ced recognized the value of solar energy, particularly the need for electricity by a quarter of the global population. The power sought is primarily for simple lighting to extend the days for people in rural communities. Upon retiring, Ced founded Currin Corporation to provide his technical skills in simple solar power and effective lighting technologies. His outreach over 30+ years extended first to the Navajo Nation, then Central America, Haiti and Uganda rural communities. Other solar power activities focused on special needs for remote power in the Upper Great Lakes region and training people in this new power field. In 2010 he received the Global Awareness Program “World View Award” from Delta College.
Gathering Together – YES We Can!
Remembering Mother Tea
Sunday, April 30 – 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. $8  (RSVP required by April 24. Space is limited.)

Join Linda Z. Smith and Karen Gruber for this annual tea where we will be remembering and honoring mothers and the many hats we all wear as women. If you can, bring your mother, but if that is not possible, bring photos and mementos. There will be poetry, songs, and remembrances. Special teas celebrating women authors will be served from Karen’s fantastic collection of teapots.
Thanks to Our Sponsors

THE BARSTOW FOUNDATION

Creative 360 is a not-for-profit community arts and wellness organization founded in 1994. Its mission is to create environments that allow people of all ages and abilities to experience the creative process, and to enhance physical, mental and spiritual wellness through the arts and humanities. The organization’s core values of inclusiveness, creativity, respect and community drive the culture at Creative 360. Activities at Creative 360 are supported in part by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, Midland Area Community Foundation and the Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation.

Please visit our website or call for information on our creative classes and events.

www.becreative360.org  creed@becreative360.org

Creative 360
1517 Bayliss St., Midland, MI 48640
(989) 837-1885
16 events
January - May 2017

more than 42 Great Lakes Bay scientists, scholars, community leaders, and artists

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Celebrating the Creative Legacy of Artists, Scientists, Scholars, and Community Leaders 80 and Older

Creative 360
Stage, Studios & Gallery