

The Guilford Art Center nurtures and supports excellence in the arts. Through educational programs for adults and children, exhibitions, sale of contemporary crafts and community events, the Center continues the traditions of fine artistic work, fosters creativity and provides opportunities for all to enjoy the process and results of creating art.

The Center has long been a part of the vital artistic culture of the Connecticut shoreline. Creativity promotes self-discovery, problem-solving, and connections to other individuals—all of which enriches our community and helps make it a thriving place to live. With your support, we will continue our mission, as well as increase our efforts to reach those with a passion for the arts who may not know it yet! Thank you!

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Please make checks payable to the Guilford Art Center, 411 Church Street, P.O. Box 589, Guilford, CT 06437. Guilford Art Center is a 501(C)(3) charitable organization. All gifts are deductible to the full extent of the law.

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Guilford Art Center

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connecting through art



Guilford Art Center



creativity & connection

Seeking an engaging, therapeutic activity following her husband's death, Michelle Guerra took a basic drawing class at Guilford Art Center. She has continued to study here ever since, taking increasing pride in her creative progress and forming a community of friends. "People may be hesitant to enroll in a class because they think that they don't have artistic talent. The Center is a very accepting place that encourages artists at all levels. I know students who initially didn't think of themselves as artists—they're now making beautiful work. You'd be amazed at what you can do if you give it a try."

Chris Uminga is an artist from New Haven, and a much-sought-after instructor at the Center, teaching painting, drawing, illustration, cartooning, and more. With a rare gift for working with students old and young, he views teaching as a way to encourage artistic enthusiasm, which in turn influences his own art. "I learn from each group I work with. They all help me be a better teacher and a better artist. There's something great about teaching a small child to draw for the first time, but it's great to teach a senior citizen to draw for the first time, too."



education & enthusiasm

Barbara Shulman-Kirwin's Chroma Gallery, a vibrant retail spot in downtown Guilford, features her brilliant dichroic glass. It is also her studio space, where she creates her signature jewelry, decorative objects, sculptures and architectural installations. Barbara left a successful physical therapy career once she discovered pottery at the Center. When arthritis inhibited her work with clay, she took a glass workshop and struck upon her true artistic calling. "Working as an artist and business person takes a leap of faith. If Guilford Art Center hadn't been here, I would never have been so inspired. The Center provides so many opportunities for people to delve into their interests. It influenced my perspective on what Guilford has to offer."



art & community

Incorporated in 1967, the Guilford Art Center has been a part of the shoreline community for more than **40 years**.

The Center has close to **200 volunteers** & 1,100 members, donors & sponsors who support the Center & arts in the community.

About 70 faculty members, including local and visiting artists, teach over **400 classes & workshops** a year.

Approximately **500 artists** exhibit in our Artistry holiday sale, Craft Expo & Mill Gallery each year.

More than **10,000 people** visit the Guilford Green for the Craft Expo each year.

The Center serves approximately **2,000 students** each year: 920 children & teens, 720 adults & 360 seniors.