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## PRESS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **AOY Art Center to Host Third Annual Show of Works by Pennsbury Art Majors**

(FALLSINGTON, PA – December 15, 2018) The AOY Art Center, a Pennsbury Partner, will host the third annual gallery show of adjudicated Pennsbury student work on two weekends in January, 2019. As in past years, this showcase of up-and-coming talent will be juried by members of Artists of Yardley (AOY) and prizes will be awarded. First prize is \$500, with second and third place prizes of \$250 each.

A wide variety of student work in many different media will be exhibited, including original still life drawings, airbrushed skateboards, ceramics, stained glass lamps and digital photography. Pennsbury Art Majors also created unique portraits and self-portraits in the style of master artist Guiseppe Arcimboldo, using a variety of surprising objects. In addition, guests will see a collection of large 3-D pieces from the sculpture and advanced 3-D classes. The works will be adjudicated and selected for the AOY exhibition during the Pennsbury High School Art Majors Show at PHS East on the evening of January 9<sup>th</sup>.

The AOY Art Center is located on the Patterson Farm at 949 Mirror Lake Road in Lower Makefield Township. The public is invited to an opening reception at the center on Friday, January 18<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-8:00 p.m., and the show will continue that Saturday and Sunday, January 19-20, and the following weekend, January 25-27. Gallery hours on the weekends are 12:00-5:00 p.m.

The AOY jurors this year will be established artists, Renee Pelletier Egan and Pat Proniewski. The award funds were donated in memory of Chris Leyenberger by his family. Mr. Leyenberger, who was a Pennsbury parent, was also a Bucks County native, member of AOY, a Boy Scouts of America leader, and an LMT community volunteer. His wife, Fran Leyenberger, is an original member of AOY who has been creating ceramic and raku art for 45 years. Ms. Leyenberger attributes her lifelong love of art to her high school art teachers and claims this is her way to “pay it forward,” adding, “There is great talent in these students and we have an amazing Art Department and teachers at Pennsbury.”

Ruth Anne Schultz, Pennsbury’s K-12 Art Curriculum Coordinator, said, “On behalf of the Art Department, I’d like to say that this partnership with the AOY Art Center is a win-win for both the students of Pennsbury and the community. We appreciate all the extra effort that AOY is contributing to host this student show and we are excited this will provide more community exposure for the work of our students and their teachers.”

(continued...)

The purpose of the AOY Art Center is to pursue art education for the community. For more information about the center or to request private access to the show, visit [www.artistsofyardley.org](http://www.artistsofyardley.org) or call Bette Sovinee 215-493-1205.

The mission of the Pennsbury Partners Program is to establish and sustain collaborative partnerships between the School District and the community-at-large to enrich educational opportunities for all students. For more information, visit [www.pennsburyisd.org](http://www.pennsburyisd.org) >Departments>Pennsbury Partners Program or call 215-428-4178.

### *About the Jurors*

#### **Renee Pelletier Egan**

Renee Pelletier Egan is an award-winning artist and a founding member of the Artists of Yardley who recently retired from the New Jersey public school system where she taught art to middle school and high school students for 18 years. Ms. Egan's dedication to her students helped propel them toward success as they won many awards in both county and state competitions.

During Ms. Egan's early career, she worked as a commercial art director in New York City. She was educated at the Paier College of Art in Connecticut and at the School of Visual Arts in NYC. Later, she returned to school and earned a degree in Art Education from The College of New Jersey. Ms. Egan continues to show her landscape paintings throughout Bucks County and East Coast venues. Currently, she has a painting in a juried group show at D&R Greenway Land and Trust in Princeton and is working on a collection of oil paintings for a solo show in Cape May in July. [www.eganpaint.com](http://www.eganpaint.com)

#### **Pat Proniewski**

Pat Proniewski is an award-winning artist currently pursuing realist renderings of pastoral landscapes and florals. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Art Education at Georgian Court University. During her 37-year career as a New Jersey high school art teacher, she studied painting with Mel Leipzig. From 1995 to 2013 she designed a ceramic program in clay, which led to her graduate study in ceramics at The University of the Arts in Philadelphia.

Retirement from teaching allowed Ms. Proniewski to return to painting while still working in clay. Over the past five years she shifted her interest to painting full-time. Primarily a realist who paints in oils, she finds nature her greatest source of inspiration. Ms. Proniewski's paintings have been seen in numerous local and national juried shows throughout New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania. Her painting, "Bridge Street Stroll," was accepted into the 64<sup>th</sup> annual Juried Exhibition of the National Society of Painters at the Salmagundi Club in NYC. [www.patproniewski.com](http://www.patproniewski.com)

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