

# North Fourth Art Center NEWS

September/October 2012 Volume 3



North Fourth Art Center, 4904 4th NW, Albuquerque NM 87107  
[www.vartnm.org](http://www.vartnm.org)

RUDY VIA'S LION



# NORTH FOURTH ART CENTER

## MISSION

To encourage, develop and present the creative and entrepreneurial endeavors of New Mexicans with disabilities and other unique needs and to engage our community in global awareness, social action and cultural diversity.

### Board of Directors

#### President

**Kristine Maltrud**

Public Health Consultant

#### Vice President

**Teresa Phillips**

Speech-language  
Pathologist

#### Treasurer

**Michael Tamasi**

Tamasi Associates

**Terry Gomez**

Playwright/Director

**James Lujan**

Playwright/Filmmaker

**Joe Lujan**

Graphic Designer

**Michael Murphy**

ILRC Manager

**Nkazi Sinandile**

Refugee Support

**Leonard Stitelman**

Retired Professor UNM

**Robert White**

Attorney

**Dr. Tasia Young**

Consultant/Bernalillo Cty.



**SAMMY**

**MALDONADO**

**DAY ARTS**

**QUILT**



**ARTS**

**ADVENTURES**



**ANDREW GALLEGOS "OCTOPUS"**

**Staff/Telephone: 505 345-2872**

**Marjorie Neset (X21)**

Executive Director

[mneset@vsartsnm.org](mailto:mneset@vsartsnm.org)

**Brynne Badeaux (X27)**

Deputy Director

[bbadeaux@vsartsnm.org](mailto:bbadeaux@vsartsnm.org)

**Leau Phillips (X10)**

Intake Coordinator

[lphillips@vsartsnm.org](mailto:lphillips@vsartsnm.org)

**Karen Davisson (X24)**

Day Arts Director

[kdavisson@vsartsnm.org](mailto:kdavisson@vsartsnm.org)

**Tim Psomas**

**(505-345-2140)**

Exploratory Arts Director

[tpsomas@vsartsnm.org](mailto:tpsomas@vsartsnm.org)

**Deborah Brink (X18)**

Community Outreach Director

[dbrink@vsartsnm.org](mailto:dbrink@vsartsnm.org)

**Lina Jabra (X25)**

Community Development Director

[ljabra@vsartsnm.org](mailto:ljabra@vsartsnm.org)

**Susanna Kearny (X11)**

Marketing Director

[skearny@vsartsnm.org](mailto:skearny@vsartsnm.org)

**John Davis (X15)**

Bldg. Manager

[jdavis@vsartsnm.org](mailto:jdavis@vsartsnm.org)

**Josh Bien (X26)**

Technical Director

[jbien@vsartsnm.org](mailto:jbien@vsartsnm.org)



*Lydia Peterson*  
Dancer/Actor  
 Buen Viaje Dance Company  
 Equilibrium Theater Company

## ARTIST PROFILE: LYDIA PETERSON

Lydia Peterson has been coming to VSA since 2006. She is originally from Oregon but has settled nicely into her NM environment, over the last ten years and lives happily with her Mom, Grandmother with a sister close by. She attends VSA 5 days a week but also manages to find time to volunteer at Four Points Academy where she looks after horses and assists in the office one morning a week.

Many know her as an active member of Buen Viaje Dance Company but this year she also auditioned and earned a spot with our resident Equilibrium Theater Company. Lydia debuted in *“The Family Mood: Relationships of the Heart”* a new play created by ETC about the quest for self fulfillment that people everywhere undertake every day. She played the role of “Mom Daylily” who in her own words is “married to work and married to Dad”

Lydia also performed with Buen Viaje Dance Company's *Souvenirs*, a dance collection of memories and mementos from the past year.

Being in both dance and theater companies has allowed her to “express myself and be free to soar in the sky like an eagle. The memory of my father’s death has helped me to realize to move on while thinking of him but being creative.”

# DAY ARTS ARTISTS & PROJECTS

## Emily Hoffman



I am Emily Hoffman. I had explored and discovered my first year at North Fourth Art Center performing arts and Equilibrium Theatre Company in 2001. I am learning and studying theater performances, dance, acting, music, and writing too. I enjoyed performing in Thriller and Straight from the Heart Fundraiser. I also act on film in Arca's Opening Doors commercial. I did a voice over in a recording studio. I perform in Special Olympics Rhythmic Gymnastics. I have been on the newsletter committee for Center Self Advocacy. I also been going on field trips and doing interviews. I love taking performing arts studies. I have also discovered local theatre's in the community. I like to share North Fourth Art Center with all of you!

## Casey Ferguson



### New Fundraiser T-Shirt Available

Support the VSA Day Arts Program in style with this Casey Ferguson inspired T-Shirt!



Scuba Susan, A Japanese Boat by Casey Ferguson

Casey has perfected his artistic talents while receiving services from VSA since 1998. His great sense of humor is seen in his drawing, painting, sculpting, dancing and singing. Casey uses geometric designs to portray themes of oceans, scuba diving, fish, bands, parades and exotic locales he has visited and dreams of re-visiting! Casey truly enjoys life and in addition to art is involved in several sports including swimming and bowling.

Front



Silver

T-Shirts are available in "Silver" or "Ocean Blue" and the garments are Combed Cotton, Unisex style T-Shirts.

Cost is \$20 + \$3 for Shipping. (For any size 2XL or larger, cost is \$25 + \$3 for Shipping.)

Shirts are available for purchase through Lina Jabra, Community Development Director at VSA, email: [ljabra@vsartsm.org](mailto:ljabra@vsartsm.org) or call: 505-345-2872 ext. 25.

Special thanks to Terry Schurmeier of The Great Southwestern Antique Show for supporting this product line!

Back



Ocean Blue

Shirt design and production by TeeSquat LLC. Shirts also available for purchase at <http://teesquat.com>.



# EXPLORATORY ARTS

This past month, Exploratory Artists were invited to celebrate the opening of a new downtown gallery. The OT Circus opened its doors on July 20<sup>th</sup> and is showcasing art by diverse populations. Jimmy Holmes, Grace Sedillo and Charmaine Ortiz were part of that show and each artist sold their piece.

A new group showing of Exploratory Artists is now on display through the month of September.

Visit the OT Circus at 709 Central Ave. NW (Central between 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> ).



Jessica,  
Hal, Steve  
&  
Sean in  
Creative  
Writing  
Class.



Jimmy at the OT Circus  
with his piece  
"Jesus At The Bus Stop".



Figure  
Drawing  
Class



Rusty McBride working  
on an oil painting.

# Can I make a movie called casablanca with modeling clay

Asks Daithan Naclerio



## ARTS ADVENTURES



Arts Adventures Autism Respite Program is set to start again October 12! And we can hardly wait! This will be Arts Adventures' 6<sup>th</sup> year of offering fun, innovative programming for kids and teens on the autism spectrum and respite for their families. Arts Adventures uses a rich cross-disciplinary approach – arts and crafts, hands-on science, theater and creative play, field trips and other activities and is popular with parents and kids alike!

- “Arts Adventures helps Sean to naturally engage with others more confidently and understand the joy of relating...He is learning the skills to help him in a natural way...This program is incredibly unique and effective. It is changing lives of children with ASD in an extremely positive way and needs to continue to be funded and supported.” (Lauriann King, parent and Senior Therapist at UNM CDD)
- “Kyle receives limited social communications and other services, and virtually no fine arts education in the schools. Kyle looks forward to every session he has attended. He has grown so much through his interactions with the staff, his peers and the activities these caring people design each and every week.” (Kristin Johannson, mother and APS teacher)
- “I really like being at Arts Adventures this year...I really like the visual arts that we do also painting.” (Libby Ferrell, participant)
- “I learned about how to make ‘zines! I cannot wait to come back next time!” (Sydnie Briseno, participant)
- “Henry loves going to Arts Adventures. He looks forward to it every week, loves seeing his friends and is always proud of the arts projects that he brings home.” (Alison Hodge-Selig, parent)



Information: Deborah  
Brink, 345-2872/email  
dbrink@vsartsnm.org

## STAFF PROFILE: CONNIE MARTINEZ

### Direct Care and Compliance Director



The North Fourth Art Center is overflowing with exciting artists in the Day Arts program where nearly all of the staff are accomplished artists in their own right. Connie Martinez is one of them.

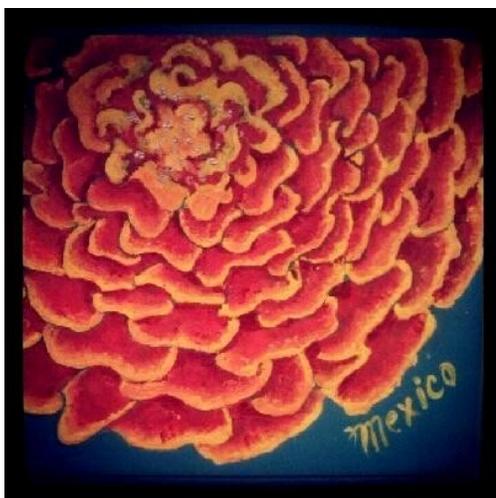
Connie says her slogan is “To Go” on as many new adventures as life offers. While her drawing and painting are her main artistic endeavors, she is also taking Zumba and salsa dance classes, thinking about how she is going to involve herself in still more art projects and, explore the world every chance she gets.



Although Connie has been drawing since she was four years old, she didn't start painting until she came to VSA.

She declares that the Day Arts artists are her inspiration because they are so unconcerned about the limits society places on us all and so unafraid to make work that comes from their hearts. Connie says it gave her a motto to live by, *I will not hold back*.

The big art project for the near future will be Connie's first large scale painting. It will be a group *Pop Art* portrait of her family of five creative kids and will have the place of honor in her living room.



Connie has been at VSA for eight years and says that it's the best of working environments because it has given her a work family with whom she feels very close and the freedom and confidence to be herself.



# Poetry & Performance

## VSA Sunshine a Poem by Lydia

Sunshine, Sunshine!  
VSA is a sunshine  
as bright as a light to  
grew the tallest tree  
I've ever seen....

The sun sometimes blind you,  
so you can hardly to see so many people  
as a mile as far away  
as miles, when the sun goes down  
as it calls the sunset....

The sun goes fading away when skies are grey....  
You know how much I love VSA  
Sunshine, Please don't let VSA Sunshine go away  
into the night, as the sun blinds my eyes  
as I stay in VSA Sunshine



A Poem by Helene  
Rain falls down  
Drops fall from the sky  
I listened to the rain  
Small drops fall  
Rain falls  
Rain looks cool  
Smells good  
I see fall coming  
Forest, trees, rain.



Next  
Top  
Model  
AD  
VEN  
TURE



## DANCE WORKSHOP with VINCENT MANTSOE from SOUTH AFRICA AND FRANCE

