

Raising Friends, Raising Funds



Friends and Neighbors filled the yard at Arts N' Craft Brews on August 1st, 2019

For the past decade, Maud Morgan Arts has paid tribute to its namesake through the Spirit Awards. Each year, the event honored someone who embodied Maud's spirit, whether that person was an artist or supported arts in the community. Approaching its 10th anniversary seemed like the perfect opportunity to really change it up, according to Cory Shea, Director.

Taking the place of just one event in the fall, Maud Morgan will host Arts N' Craft Brews, a free event in late summer, and a more formal, ticketed fundraiser in the spring. This change reflects a priority to better connect to the community, feature more artists and celebrate Maud Morgan's spirit throughout the year, instead of just once annually.

The first-ever Arts N' Craft Brews was held August 1st in the backyard of 20 Sacramento Street. Featuring craft beer, live music, and art demos, the evening felt more like an intimate gathering of friends and neighbors.

The event also coincided with the biannual postcard show "Postcards to Fay" at the Chandler Gallery, which was free for artists to submit to. The universal \$50 price tag for the work, which is split between paying the artists and fundraising for the gallery, also gave art appreciators a unique opportunity.

"It's a steal, in a way, to buy art from artists you might not otherwise be able to afford," noted Taylor Mortell, Development Coordinator for Agassiz Baldwin Community.

In March 2020, Maud Morgan Arts will host its second new fundraising event at Lesley's Lunder Arts Center. While Arts N' Craft Brews aims to better connect with the community, the spring gala will reintroduce Maud Morgan, the artist.

"We want to honor the past but bring it into the future," Cory explained.

To better reflect who Maud was as a person and artist, the event will be colorful and light-hearted with a '60s theme. Thanks to the extra space in the Lunder Arts Center, more of Maud's work will be displayed than was previously possible at Spirit Awards. In addition to being able to welcome more guests and honor Maud's expansive body of work, the spring gala will also raise money for MMA programs, collaborations, and the Equity & Access Scholarship Initiative, which grants scholarships for students to participate in Maud Morgan Arts classes.

For anyone who might be interested in playing a role in making this event possible, Maud Morgan Arts is seeking individuals with event planning, marketing or fundraising experience to join a planning committee.

A Mod Makeover

Save the Date for our new fundraiser and 10th Anniversary Celebration!

THE MOD MORGAN GALA

A Swinging '60s Party

Celebrating Our First 10 Years, and Laying the Foundation for Our Future

Thursday, March 12

6:30-9:30 pm

Lunder Arts Center

Tickets: \$150 each

Proceeds to benefit our growing Equity and Access Scholarship Initiative, MMA programs, and collaborations.

More details to come this fall.

To purchase tickets or get involved, please email Cory Shea, Director of Maud Morgan Arts at cshea@agassiz.org

See our full catalogue at
MaudMorganArts.org

A Community Resource That Goes Way Back



Arts N' Craft Brews attendees enjoying *Postcards to Fay* in the Fay Chandler Gallery

The Chandler Gallery can be one of a great many things, depending on who you ask. As one of the few existing galleries in Cambridge, and one of the even fewer galleries that allows artists to have solo shows, Chandler Gallery is a truly rare community space - by the community and for the community.

In the 1970s, it was called the Sacramento Street Gallery and gave local artists the opportunity to display work to friends, neighbors or interested buyers. In 2010, it was renamed and rededicated in honor of artist Fay Chandler, who lived in Cambridge and was a longtime and very generous donor to the Sacramento Street Gallery. Fay would eventually start her own nonprofit, The Art Connection.

Once a year, Boriana Kantcheva, the Gallery Coordinator since 2011, puts out a call for artists and curators, which are ultimately selected by the

gallery's Advisory Committee. Recurring shows like the Small Works Salon and the staff sourced "Drawn From Within" also bring in plenty of amazing work.

Artists range from those with decades of experience to newcomers just developing their style. Because of the diversity of offerings, exhibitions always engage audiences in unique ways. Boriana enhances that experience by thoughtfully installing each piece, thinking about how the show works as a whole, whether the art comes from one series or is selected from different artists.

"The Chandler Gallery is a wonderful resource for the Boston area art community," said Heidi Whitman, who has contributed both as a juror for the Small Works Salon and in her own solo show.

"I had my first ever solo show at the Chandler Gallery, and it was a fantastic experience," said Cindy Lu, who earned her solo show *Data Collection* through the Small Works Salon. "I really appreciate the opportunities the gallery provides for artists in the community to share their work."

In 2017, the Chandler Gallery space has expanded to include the "Community Spotlight" inside Maud Morgan Arts with the capacity to run three shows a year, sometimes as an extension of what's in the Chandler Gallery or as an entirely separate show.

In the next year, the community can look forward to offerings including work from Somerville-based printmaker Annie Silverman and a selection of photography from Cambridge Rindge and Latin students.

Upcoming at the Center

Join Us for the Fall Session

Have you taken a class or a workshop with us? Come see what your donations support this fall! Join one of our master teachers for 5 weeks or 10 weeks, and learn something new. Our faculty are practiced at meeting each student where they are. Whether it's your first art class or your twenty-first art class, there's something for you here.

Fall Session begins with 10-week classes September 16th, 2019.

MMA also offers 5-week classes as well as evening and weekend workshops throughout the year!

Class Spotlight: Color Impression

Jump into this five week class and experiment with mixing colors and layered shapes with award winning artist, Cicely Carew. Processes demonstrated include multiple plate printing with color overlays.

Color Impression: Printmaking

With Cicely Carew

Adult / Teen

5 Wednesdays, 10am – 12:30pm

October 16 – November 13, 2019

Q&A with Boriana Kantcheva, Gallery Coordinator and MMA Faculty



Boriana Kantcheva (right) has been part of our staff since 2010, both as an instructor and as Chandler Gallery Coordinator. A lifelong artist, Boriana's work is often inspired by fairy tales, folklore and nature. Taylor Mortell, her former student and Agassiz

Baldwin's Development Coordinator, chatted with her about her style, influences and career thus far.

Taylor: How has your art practice changed, and when did you first realize it was something serious for you?

Boriana: Serious is not the right word; I just know I have to keep making things. I took time in between [high school and college]. I didn't have a portfolio, so first I took classes at Bunker Hill Community College, like drawing and oil painting.

Have you had any teachers or artist mentors over the years who have changed/influenced your work?

I learned about how to approach art and practice art from a good friend of mine, Annette Lemieux. I was interested to watch how she makes her art and how long it takes to research before she starts making the physical object.

What artists inspire you?

I've always liked Matisse for his collages and his colors. I really like Kiki Smith. Betty Saar and Alison Saar. They have similar pursuits but done very differently. Valerie Hammond, early 20th century artists like Dorothea Tanning, Max Ernst, Lenora Carrington, and countless contemporary artists I follow on Instagram.

Can you talk about the role of animals and characters, and the narrative qualities of your work?

I am interested in the complex relationships between humans and animals. Sometimes they are friends and guides, and sometimes they are the enemies. I am also interested in animal archetypes like wise owl, sly fox, dangerous wolf, etc.

I loved taking your sketchbook class. You structured each week around introducing a new medium, but everything built on each other and the sketchbook was a way to collect it all. Is that how you tend to work?

A lot of the time, even if I'm not working on more "finished" pieces of work, I'm working on my sketchbooks. It becomes like a dictionary you can go back to. You'll never have an artist block that way. Some people have taken the class multiple times and probably filled up 3 or 4 sketchbooks.

What advice do you have for young artists?

Find a community for yourself. If you can't afford a studio, make a little space in your house, and keep working. Once you are out of that environment, a lot of people just stop. Keep going! You have to fit it in your schedule, like an hour a day.

Would you say that being a teacher has changed or influenced your own studio practice in any way?

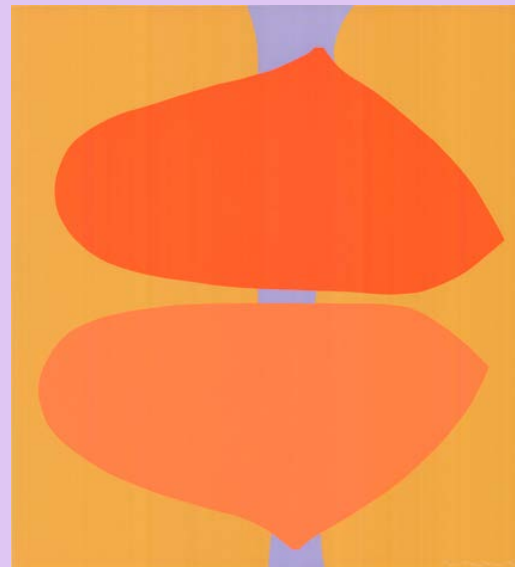
I've learned a lot from my students. They have their own approach to materials and ideas. [Teaching] is a very rewarding experience, especially the sketchbook class. I've had a lot of students with interesting ideas, and even though we are all using the same materials, everybody always comes up with something different.



Instructor Cicely Carew working in MMA's print studio

A New Look for an Evolving Art Center

Our new look is inspired by the prints of our namesake. This newsletter takes some of its colors from this untitled screen-print from 1973. Visit our website to see our full collection.



To Be New



Once upon a time, everything that you did was new. By nature, we try to live in a world that is filled with efficient choices. Because a certain world is an easier place to live in. When one chooses to try something new, or jump into being creative, there is no guarantee of success. Maud Morgan Arts hosts classrooms filled with these artistic risk-takers. Our studios are constantly ushering in new waves

of students, artistic practices and ideas.

Launching into a new experience is an exercise of personal humility. In our studios artists at any age are giving themselves

permission to try something new - owning their creative decisions all the while being nestled amongst a community of innovative cheerleaders. Our programs are built to fit the needs of our newcomers as well as our art masters, each sharing part of their creative day with MMA.

Thank you for choosing to make art with us. Cheers to another year; to our risk takers and supporters for constantly championing the importance of the creative spirit.

Cory Shea
Director

See our full catalogue at

MaudMorganArts.org

A program of Agassiz Baldwin Community

WORKSHOPS
EVENTS
EXHIBITS
CLASSES

inspiring visual arts

MAUD MORGAN ARTS

