

The RAAC Reporter

"Building and Strengthening Our Community Through the Arts"

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The Rosemount Area Arts Council



Welcome New Board Member Liz Swabey-Keith!

Liz is excited to join the RAAC Board as the secretary after performing with Rosemount for quite a few years now. She caught the theater bug in high school after taking a class and being in a production and has never looked back. Favorite roles at RAAC include Cecily Cardew in



The Importance of Being Earnest, Claire Boltwood in Free Air, and Gretta Ohlsson in Murder on the Orient Express. When not on stage or in rehearsal, she enjoys singing, playing video games, and craft projects. Liz works as a technical writer during the day and is excited to put her skills to good use in the theater world. She lives in Savage with her husband, Corey, and their cats.

Although not a stranger to RAAC, welcome, Liz, in your new role as Secretary!

ArtBlast 2026 takes place June 22-28 in Rosemount. All are welcome!

Most events are free!



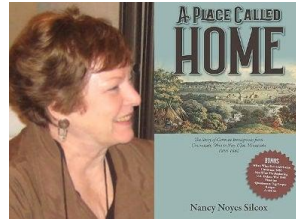
ArtBlast is a week-long celebration of the arts sponsored by RAAC, designed to provide Rosemount and the surrounding communities with the opportunity to experience many kinds of art in a

single, art-filled week. It includes daily and nightly entertainment, performing arts, visual arts, arts and crafts activities, art exhibits, a photo contest, and a melodrama in the park by the Front Porch Players.

Meet the Author: Robert Trail Library (Free event)

Thursday, May 21, 6:30-7:30 PM

A Place Called Home - Nancy Noyes Silcox



It's the fictional story of German immigrants from Cincinnati who travel by steamboat to the new settlement of New Ulm, MN in 1857. In 1862, they defend their town against desperate Dakota warriors whose tribes were dependent on insufficient supplies from the U.S. government. Nancy grew up in rural Minnesota, studied Speech and Theater Arts, joined the Peace Corps, and taught in Guyana. She later studied Library Science and was a librarian in the U.S. as well as Egypt, Jordan, Belgium, and Ukraine! Join Nancy to learn of her exciting road to unexpectedly becoming an author.

ArtBlast - Submit your photos for the Photo Contest

Deadline: No later than 3:30 PM Thursday, May 28

Categories: Landscape, wildlife, floral, lifestyle, "Give us your best shot," black & white, youth, and enhanced or significantly altered by software. Drop off photos at the RAAC Box Office (Steeple Center) Mon.-Thur. 8:30 AM-3:30 PM & Fri. 8:30 AM-12 noon. Contest rules and entry forms are found at rosemountarts.com/photo-contest. The photos will be on display June 22-27 in the Steeple Center (see opening hrs. above). Come view them and vote for the People's Choice awards!



ArtBlast - Quilt and Fiber Art Show Submissions

Deadline: Friday, May 29



Artists who wish to have their quilts or fiber arts considered for display in this show should submit photos of up to 3 of their works by May 29. The show will take place during ArtBlast, Thursday, June 25 through Saturday, June 27, 2026, at the Steeple Center. Consult RAAC's website and click on the ArtBlast button for details or contact Jean Crewson at jccrewson@gmail.com.

Letters From Home - Musical Duo

Friday, May 29, 7 PM at the Steeple Center

This USO-style show honors veterans, active military heroes and their families by reviving patriotism through music. Featuring high energy singing and tap dancing by founder Erinn Dearth and "tall guy" Dan Beckmann. The duo has performed around the world including at the 75th anniversary of D-Day in Normandy.

Tickets: Reserved seats \$15, RAAC members and veterans \$12; available at RosemountArts.com/box-office or during Steeple Center Box Office hrs.: Mon. 10 AM-12 PM, Tues. 9-11 AM, Thurs. 1-3 PM.



With over 20 ArtBlast events, *many volunteers are needed*. If you can help, the schedule of events can be found at rosemountarts.com/artblast or contact Claire Ramsay at cramsay4@aol.com.

Volunteers are also needed for the Quilt and Fiber Art Show. Contact Jean Crewson at jcrewson@gmail.com for more details.

Congratulations, April artists!



Left to right: Cindy Seagren, Sara O'Neal, Diane Hird, Jill Galassi (mom), **Ellie Galassi (4th gr. artist)**, Cate Galassi (sister), Nick Galassi (dad), Greg Hird, Terry Giinther, and John Loch.

On Display in May

In the Robert Trail Library:

Emerald Trail Elementary artists are showing their masterpieces until May 24. The public is invited to their reception on Saturday, May 9, 1-2 PM.

In the Steeple Center:

Birgit Mac features driftwood, roots, bones and feathers to create a world made by time and tales. She uses embellishments and narratives to give her creations meaning and a life of their own. Come in Mon. - Thurs. 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM, and Fri. 8:30 - noon to view her work through May.



Join us

Coffee: Wednesdays at 8 AM at Lunds & Byerlys on Pilot Knob Rd in Apple Valley, across from Target South. Meet in the dining area by the East entrance.

Board Meeting: The next meeting is on Wednesday, May 13, at 7 PM at the Steeple Center. All members are invited to attend and give input on RAAC's future events. Others interested in the organization are also welcome.

Stats

RAAC 2026 membership: 238
 April volunteer hrs.: 1089 hrs. by 44 people
 Year to date: 2969 hrs. by 62 people

ArtBlast Preview - Let's Play: A Play in a Day

Tuesday, June 23, 9 AM- 3:30 PM at the Steeple Center



It's the perfect theater activity for children headed to 3rd grade, up to 6th grade, this fall. In this day-long workshop, under the guidance of ETC Teaching Artists, students work collaboratively to create their very own "Play in a Day" which they perform for family and friends at the end of the event. More details and how to

register at rosemountarts.com/play-in-a-day.

Registration: \$20/child. Bring lunch from home. Space limited to 25 students.

ArtBlast Preview - Acrylic Painting Class

Tuesday, June 23, 6:30-8:30 PM at the Steeple Center

Instructor: Laura Baker, RAAC Art Director, local artist

Take home your own "Under the Sea" canvas painting after enjoying a fun and creative evening. All materials are included in the cost.

Registration: \$45 (RAAC members \$40). Limited to 14 people. Register early!



ArtBlast Preview- Writing Workshop: Telling Your Story

Saturday, June 27, 10 AM-12 PM at the Steeple Center

Instructor: Alida Winternheimer, winner of the 2025 Minnesota Author Project Adult Fiction Award



You know you have a story to tell, and it's worth telling...Get started in this class under the instruction of this multiple award winning author. Whether you'd like to record something to pass on to your kids, need to turn your history into a narrative for your business, or want to explore creative writing, this workshop will give you tools to turn your story into a clear, engaging narrative. Details and registration form at rosemountarts.com/writing-class. **Registration:** \$20 (RAAC members \$15). Limited to 25 people.

Membership News

We'd love for new members to join us! Members can purchase two discounted tickets per individual membership or four discounted tickets per family membership. Volunteering for our events allows members to see them for free.

Four ways to become a member:

1. Mail a check to RAAC (address below)
2. Sign up on our website RosemountArts.com
3. Pay to "Rosemount Area Arts Council" through Venmo
4. Pay in person at our Box Office at the Steeple Center (see Tickets section above for days/hrs.)

Membership Levels are the Annual Dues

Full-time Student	\$15.00	Family/Household	\$35.00
Senior (50+)	\$15.00	Friend	\$100.00
Senior Family	\$25.00	Patron	\$250.00
Individual	\$25.00	Benefactor	\$500.00

RosemountArts.com

Rosemount Area Arts Council, P.O. Box 409, Rosemount, MN 55068

RosemountArts@gmail.com