

The El Morro Area Arts Council News

1st Quarter 2003



All Events are held at the Gallery unless otherwise indicated.

January Events

January Cont.

Irish Dance Workshop and Concert

Wilson and McKee

Saturday, January 18th

4pm Adult Ceili (Pronounced Kay-lee) Dance Workshop. This is the social dancing of Ireland. This dance is not as vigorous as the dance style of "Riverdance", but is great fun and no previous dance skills are needed. Come alone or with a partner. Comfortable clothes and shoes required. Rubber soles are a bit sticky so leather or slick shoes are best. Spectators are invited. Laughter is a necessity. \$2.00

5:30 pm Irish Dinner prepared by Jill Acheson. \$5.00

7:00 pm Concert and Dance Demonstration. \$5.00

Wilson & McKee have crisscrossed the western United States together since 1991. This duo's breakneck instrumentals and warm harmony vocals weave a colorful pallet of styles and sounds. A pulsating traditional Irish dance tune gives way to an ancient soulful ballad.

Dave Levin in Concert

Saturday, January 25th, 7:30 pm (\$5.00)

Former Zuni resident, Dave Levin, returns from frozen Minnesota to frozen New Mexico for an evening of music featuring new songs as well as favorites from his CD's, "Zuni" and "Heaven". "Dave Levin has a warm, soulful voice and rich, multi-faceted songs full of depth, beauty and emotion, and he brings a wonderful authentic and playful presence to the stage. David's Gallery shows have always been a real treat, so mark your calendar. Get here early for a good seat.

Winter High School Student Art Show

Opening Reception

Friday, January 31st, 12-2 pm

Students from Ramah, Pine Hill and Zuni High Schools will exhibit their work at the Gallery. Come join us for an afternoon of **free** student entertainment and refreshments. The exhibition will hang through February 13.

Spanish Language Lessons

With Luis Beltran

An exciting opportunity for young and old alike to study beginning Spanish. No previous experience necessary.

Friday Jan. 10th, 17th, 24th, and 31st

6:30 pm

Classes will also be offered through February.

Donations will be accepted but not required.

Spanish Dance

Taught by Luis Beltran

Fridays, 7:30 pm

Now is the chance to learn to Tango, swing with the Salsa and the Cumbia. Put on your dancing shoes and come and join us for the rare opportunity to strut your stuff.

Jan. 10th, 17th, 24th, and 31st. Classes continue throughout Feb.

Donations will be accepted but not required.

Introduction To Maharaji

Barbara Duncan

January 25th, at 2:00 pm

"I really enjoy the experience of Self Knowledge offered by Maharaji and would like to share the possibility of this wonderful experience with you. You are invited to a program that introduces Maharaji and the experience of Self Knowledge. This is a message of the heart. It is free."

For more information, contact Barbara Duncan, 783-4647

The El Morro Arts Council and the Old School Gallery is open every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 11:00 am until 5:00 pm during the winter.

February Events

Spanish Language Lessons &

Spanish Dance

With Luis Beltran

Friday February 7th, 14th, 21th, and 28th

Lessons at 6:30, Dance at 7:30

(See front page for more information)

Valentine's Day Baking Class

Saturday, February 1, 12-4pm (\$10.00)

Christie Blankfield

Come bake with Christie, 2000 Pillsbury Bake-Off finalist and recipe contest winner. The class will be at **Christie's home** where you will spend the afternoon baking and learning how to make delicious Valentine's Day treats for you or your special someone. Go home with recipes, treats and ideas. Call Christie by January 28 to register at 783-4479. Class size is limited to four, so register early.

Valentine's Salon

February 16th, 2:00pm to 4:00pm

Guess what the subject is? Of Course it's LOVE! Bring your favorite love poem or story, writing and thoughts to share with all your loving community. See the new exhibit "**Unknown Country**". Artists will discuss their work in the new show.

High Tea, \$3.00

Deadline for the Spring Newsletter is March 1, 2003. Please try very hard to have all the necessary information to us by this date. Thank you for your submissions.

Note: All workshop participants please sign up by the Sunday before date of the workshop so that presenters can prepare.

Call or sign up at the gallery (783-4710) or contact the presenter.

Thanks.

March Events

Open Mic

Saturday, March 15th, 7:00pm

\$2.00 (participants free)

One of our most popular events!

The last Open Mic was *Standing Room Only*.

Musicians, poets, comics, dancers, storytellers, adults & children come and share your talent and watch the fun. Delicious desserts are for sale during intermission.

Remember to come early!

To SIGN UP to perform at Open Mic, please phone (783-4710) at least 24 HOURS IN ADVANCE so we know how many will be performing. It is imperative that each act arrives no later than ONE-HALF HOUR before opening so that we may arrange the order of performance. Latecomers may not be able to be worked in smoothly. Please help us out. Call Early.

Natural Wisdom Cards

Lisa de St. Croix

Saturday, March 16th, 1:30 to 4:30pm.

(\$5.00 materials fee)

Using meditation, journeying techniques and the natural world we will access our inner wisdom, spirit guides, plant and animal allies to create a series of divination cards. We will be using a variety of materials, such as collage, rubber stamps, found images, paint and text. Cards can be added throughout your life as symbols, dreams and images appear which have meaning and wisdom for you.

Labyrinths and Mazes

Frank and Vicky Giannangelo

Saturday, March 29th

10am-1pm (\$15.00)

This workshop includes: History, Myths, and Folklore, Ancient to Modern Designs, Materials and Possibilities, Rituals and Uses, Drawing and Creating the Designs. This workshop will be held at **Giannangelo Farms Southwest**. Bring a sack lunch and call for directions. Telephone 783-4412.

Labyrinth Tour- if you have made a labyrinth, and would like to show your labyrinth on a tour next summer, please call Vicky Giannangelo to be placed on the tour schedule.

Special Notes

There are some special things happening in our on-going events this Quarter.

Imbolc Drumming on February 1st at the Gallery where we will come and celebrate Groundhog/Candlemas/Brigid day. Bring a candle to charge from one lit at Brigid's sacred fire in Kildare. Drumming starts at 7:00 pm at the Gallery.

Visual Journals On Saturday Jan. 11th Carol Casady will demonstrate wax resist technique. Bring wax crayons, black ink if you have them. Free.

On Saturday March 8th Jane Chilton will demonstrate "Simple Book Making". Please call the Gallery to find out what supplies to bring.

Here is a **new opportunity** for all you photographers and graphic artists. We need photos of interest and line drawings for the newsletters. Your submissions will be put in a file and chosen at random according to subject matter and how it looks on the page. So, submit soon and please give us copies that can remain in our files. We cannot assure you that they will be returned. Thanks, Seanie.

The Art of Forgetfulness by Paul Jundar, Ph.D.

There will be a continued Meditation and Discussion Session on Wednesdays from 7-8pm, beginning January 8, at the Gallery. The title of Paul's new book serves as the focus of this quarter's exploration into the serendipitous discovery of the key to the *Cloud of Unknowing Meditation* that has remained unsolved since the Fourteenth Century. The "Art of Forgetfulness" has also been found to decrease real life forgetting experiences, to assist in erasing unwanted subconscious patterns (such as writer's block), and to result in a greater appreciation of the perfect world around us.

Most important of all, the now solved Cloud of Unknowing Meditation provides a new and meaningful path to Enlightenment.

Each session is free, and will include a guided meditation. Copies of Paul's books are available in the library at the gallery. Attend one session, or attend all. See you there. Don't forget. For information call Paul at (505) 782-3331.

All Events are held at the Gallery unless otherwise indicated.

Tribal Dance

Includes Belly Dance, African Dance, Hawaiian Dance and Ecstatic Dance. Once a month on Sunday, 10:30am-Noon. Free. Jan. 26th (Jo-An Barkman-Berndt - Hawaiian Dance), Feb. 23rd (Lisa McNitt & Candace Lee - Tribal Belly Dance, presenting Fat Chance Belly Dance video), March 30th (Lisa de St Croix - Ecstatic Dance, presenting Gabriella Roth Video). Call Lisa at 783-4502.

Tai Chi Chuan

Mondays: 5pm - Beginners, 7pm - Advanced. Taught by Urs and Monika Gauderon at the Gallery. \$10.00 requested donation. Call Monika at 775-3045.

Drumming Circles

Meetings: Saturdays, Jan. 11th, Feb. 1st (Imbolc, see Special Notes this page), and March 1st. Bring your instruments and join us in the making of beautiful music! Dancers welcome. Absolutely no experience necessary! Drums available for beginners. Free. Call the Gallery at 783-4710.

Visual Journals/ Artist's Way

Meetings on Saturdays Jan. 11th, Feb. 8th, and March 8th, from 2 to 4 pm. Visual Journaling is a wonderful, creative process of making art, which integrates visual and the written forms. Jan. 11th, wax resist technique and March 8th, simple book making (see Special Notes this page). Absolutely no experience necessary. Call Lisa at 783-4502.

Meditation and Discussion Session

Meetings every Wednesday from 7-8 pm beginning January 8. See article under Special Notes, this page.

Book Club

Book Club meets the 3rd Tues of every month at 7:30 pm. Jan. 21st at Linda Koelbel's home, 783-4515, "Yankee Hobo in the Orient", by John Patric. Feb. 18th at Jill Acheson's home, 783-4803, "An Island to Myself", by Tom Neale. On March 18th at Vicky Giannangelo's home, 783-4412, "House of Sand and Fog", by Andre Dubus.

Writers' Group.

Meetings are the 1st Wednesday of each month (except New Year's Day) at 8:00 pm at the home of Lisa de St. Croix and David Kessler. Anyone interested in writing is encouraged to join our group. We begin with writing exercises, which we then share. We may also share works written outside the group. Dates are: Jan. 8th, Feb. 5th, and March 5th.

Exhibition Space Available

The Gallery Committee is collecting the names of member artists interested in a solo exhibition. Each artist will have an opportunity to use the stage area to mount a mini exhibition of their work. The "**Artist's Quarter**" shows will run in conjunction with the regular gallery exhibitions. Interested artists submit your name to Pam Davis, (783-4679). Names will be chosen at random.

Artist Volunteer Policy

All Artists interested in receiving the 10% discount on the gallery fee for sales please stop by or call the Gallery about signing up as an artist volunteer. Artists interested in the discount must commit to 24 hours of volunteer work a year. Call the gallery at 783-4710 and leave your name and number.

ARTISTS, PLEASE NOTE!

Upcoming Exhibits: Feb.-Apr. "**Unknown Country**"
May-July "**Emergence**"

All local artists are encouraged to submit several works for each show. As with all of EMAAC's exhibitions, these themes are open to wide interpretation. Details regarding drop off dates and Opening Receptions will be available in each quarterly newsletter.

BOARD MEETINGS

Board meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7pm. Anyone interested is encouraged to attend. Please call the Gallery, 783-4510, for more information.

EMAAC WEB SITE

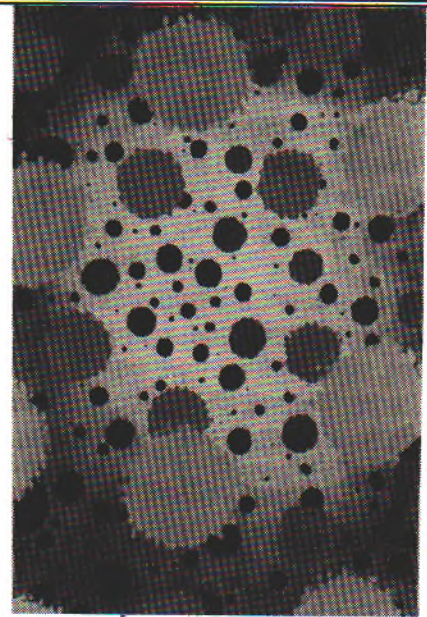
Artists are encouraged to join the Member Artist section of our web site, www.elmorroarts.org

This is a great opportunity to advertise your work beyond the gallery walls. For \$15.00 per year you will receive a web page containing some text and a small photo of your work. To see, click on www.elmorroarts.org/sample.htm. Guidelines for submission are available at the gallery. Stop by, call 783-4710, or email emaac@nm.net

TO JOIN EMAAC

(And get the newsletter)

To receive an application form for EMAAC membership call 505-783-4710, email emaac@nm.net or write PO Box 296, Ramah, NM 87321



The Artist's Quarter

Showing Original Paintings by
Jane Chilton

Opening February 16, the show runs through April in conjunction with the gallery exhibition, "**Unknown Country**".

New Show "Unknown Country" Call For Entries

Membership must be current!
Pick up old work & drop off new,
Sunday February 9.
Opening, February 16, 2-4 pm, during
The Valentine's Day Salon.

During the salon, exhibiting artists will have the opportunity to speak to the public about their work.

Call for Entries

The El Morro Area Arts Council announces a Call for Entries for an artist to create a mural on the south side of the Old School Gallery, across the street from the El Morro R V Park and Cafe on Highway 53. Projected completion of the mural will be the Spring of 2003.

The goals for the mural are the following:

- To attract more visitors to the gallery.
- To represent the building as a community art gallery that encourages a variety of styles and themes.
- To make the building more colorful and eye catching.

It is hoped that a stipend can be provided, although funding has not yet been secured. Money for materials *will* be provided. **As of January 15, further information and entry materials will be available at distributed sites or may be picked up at the Old School Gallery** on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For answers to questions, please call 783-4710 during those hours.

President's Letter

Happy Year 2003 to you. Recently I read a Native American prayer that expresses the sense of community that can provide healing and comfort.

Now we will feel no rain
for each of us will be shelter for the other
Now we will feel no cold
for each of us will be warmth for the other
Now there is no more loneliness
for each of us will be companion to the other
There is only a shared life before us
and our seasons will be long and good.

Please read through the pages of this newsletter and know that we welcome your involvement and look forward to seeing you.

Dana Letts

EMAAC Wish List

Do you have one of those small **espresso machines** (perhaps clogged?) hidden away in a closet somewhere? Consider donating it to the gallery – we'll get it working. **Demitasse cups** would also be wonderful. Also, a small dormitory type **refrigerator** would be very useful for events. Thanks for the books, CDs and videos: Keep them coming.

EMAAC THANKS

Thanks to George & Maryann McBeath, Rocco Tripodi, Sterling Tipton of Zuni Furniture Enterprise, and "anonymous" for their generous donations to the Youth Art Series "The Ice Wolf" production. Thanks to Karen Olson for her generous donation to the Grants High School Poetry Contest. Thanks to Mendel's Far Out Fabrics for their generous donation to the Youth Art Series.

Thanks to Billie & Lou Gross for their generous copying services and for picking up slides in Grants. Thanks to Bob Schafer for his help with the computer. Thanks to Karen Olson for planning, organizing and implementing the **Grants High School Poetry Contest**, and for interviewing and editing the **Writer's Hearth**. Thanks to Sean Steaws for organizing and typing this newsletter, and for teaching the **Children's Arts & Crafts** during the Fall quarter. Thanks to the entire **The Ice Wolf** crew, and to Bob Schafer and Jim Ivanovich for clean up.

Thanks to our hard working "working board members", committee chairs and committee members involved with the building, business campaign, education, membership, mural, programming, and publicity committees. Committees and committee members are the heart of EMAAC. For **September Gallery Sitting**: Thanks to Alan Burnham, Flora Neubert, Lisa de St. Croix and Jesse Gray. For **October events**: Thanks to Pam for organizing the **Annual Board Meeting Potluck** and for hanging the **Student Art Show**. Thanks to Laurie Van Grinsven for event coordinating the **Halloween Dance**, also Dan Berndt, Jo-An Barkman-Berndt, Sean Steaws and Lisa de St. Croix. Thanks to Nita Schafer for event coordinating the **Paul Hurst Concert**, also Jill Acheson and Bob Schafer. For **October Gallery Sitting**: Thanks to Candace Lee and Verny Eccles. For **November Events**: Thanks to Scott Clifford for event coordinating the **Techno-Shamanism Dance**, also Sean Steaws and Dana Letts and David Kessler. Thanks to Pam Davis, Lisa de St Croix and Jill Acheson for hanging the **"Hibernation" Art Show**. Thanks to Jill Acheson for Event Coordinating the **Poet's Promise Concert**, also Vicky Giannangelo, Jim Koelbel, Linda Koelbel, Katharine Jorgensen, Ed Sober, Tim Amsden, Ken Moore and Marti Moore. Thanks to Sean Steaws for Event Coordinating the **Jyemo Dance Concert**. Thanks to Sarah Huber for opening for the drumming group. Thanks to Nita Schafer and Marge Gross for Event Coordinating **"The Ice Wolf" I and II**, also Billie Gross and Bob Schafer. Thanks to Carol Casady for Event Coordinating the **Holiday Craft Fair**. Thanks to Pam Davis and Nita Schafer for an outstanding **Newsletter** reorganization. Thanks to Tim & Lucia Amsden and Lisa de St. Croix for newsletter editing. Thanks to Daniel Sellier for newsletter folding and labeling. Thanks to Scott Clifford for the **Sound System** cabinet and the shelves. **Thank you every one, especially those I've forgotten – your efforts are much appreciated! JYR-S**

Board of Directors

President	Dana Letts
Vice President	Jill Acheson
Treasurer	Dan Berndt
Secretary	Nita Schafer
Board members	Tim Amsden, Carol Casady, Scott Clifford, Vicky Giannangelo, David Kessler, Maqui, Flora Neubert, Laurie Van Grinsven

Executive Director Jackie Yeats Rossignol-Sellier 783-4440

Committees

Building
Education
Fundraising
Gallery
Programming & Planning
Public Relations & Membership
Volunteers

Committee Chairs

Scott Clifford	783-4113
Dan Berndt	775-3083
Billie Gross	783-4554
Tim Amsden	783-4144
Jill Acheson	783-4803
Pam Davis	783-4679
Lisa De St. Croix	783-4502
Dana Letts	783-2448
Flora Neubert	783-4751

JOIN EMAAC

Call 505-783-4710,
e-mail Emaac@nm.net or write
PO Box 296, Ramah, NM 87321

***Persons with special needs
are encouraged to contact us
to ensure that their needs are
met.***

***The El Morro Arts Council and the
Old School Gallery is open every
Friday, Saturday and Sunday from
11:00 am until 5:00 pm during the
winter.***

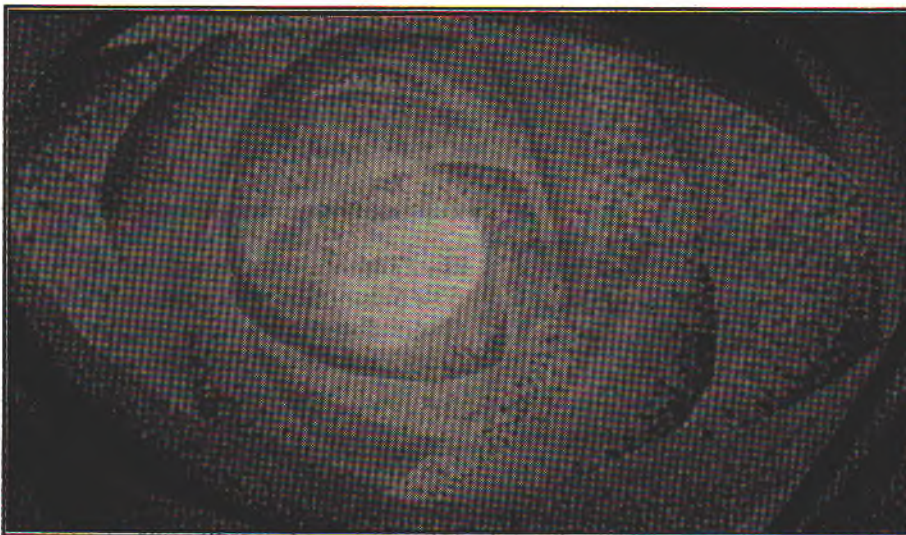
P.O. Box 296, Ramah, NM 87321 ~ (505) 783-4710 ~ email emaac@nm.net ~ Internet www.elmorroarts.org

Jane Chilton

"It is the reconciliation with truth, and only truth, in which the peace of heaven lies." Excerpt from A Course in Miracles.

Inspired more by the need to understand and express her thoughts, ideas, and experiences than by the sole desire to create art, Jane started using drawing as a form of self-expression at an early age. She recalls drawing as a manner of acting out fantasies and daydreams. She says, "Many flying scenes followed my first viewing of Peter Pan."

Jane grew up in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. It was there, at the age of eighteen, that Jane had what she refers to as an "Un-born-again experience", in which she "questioned the only belief system that she had known until that point in time". She states, "I was teethered on a strong Christian doctrine, and my childhood God was very real. Instantaneously, God and everything solid that I had unquestioningly depended upon disappeared into empty space." It was not until a scientist friend of her father's gave her a tiny book, *The ABC's of Relativity* by Bertrand Russell, that she recognized the truths that she had unconsciously been seeking. Jane adds, "I felt as though the Arrow of Truth had been shot through my mind, leaving a hot-glowing trace." Her creative process has always involved how she perceives God and God-ing. She says, "I am not a driven artist, I am a driven "God-ist", driven mainly by the desire for enlightenment (a concept in flux!), I am obsessed with physics as my "key to God." Painting is my way of talking about these things." In her (earlier) Anasazi ruins period, she felt the ruins to be symbolic of the material and mental realms. The decaying ruins were worn-out belief systems, ideas, rituals, and form of any kind. More recently, her work has been a return to her greater joy, abstract forms. Jane says, "The ideas begin as geometries-of-meaning that I feel inside - a kind of inner gestalt sense about the nature of God. My art is a working outward into line, form and color of these inner states." When I asked her what mentors had been inspirational in her work, she replied; "Jesus, (for a way of going and loving); Albert Einstein (for revealing a mystery); John Wheeler and Roger Penrose (for working the mystery); Seth (for revealing the illusion-making); Don Juan (for taking the leap); and Van Gogh (for the style)." ~Karen Olson~



From the Giannangelo Farms Southwest

15 people attended the sustainable organic gardening workshop at Giannangelo Farms Southwest. Guest speaker Lea Lewis talked about working with her grandmother in the waffle gardens of Nutria village during the 1950's. Other discussions included soil preparation, composting and a question/answer period. Everyone participated in a hands-on composting demonstration.

13 people attended a rockwork workshop at the Farm. The morning was spent learning about the qualities of different cements, tools and materials and included inspecting various types of walls, pools and patios. After lunch everyone participated in a hands-on application of cement to stucco lath and then placing more rocks on rubble-backed rock wall, continuing the work of the previous rockwork workshop. A great time was had by all.

From the Youth Arts Program

Seanie here, I just thought I would take a minute to let everyone know how the Sunday Youth Art's Adventure has been going. We had mask workshops in October with 12 kids. We had a great time and I wish to thank Kate Wilson, Jim, Cathy and Danitza Ivanovich for their help. Several of the kids in the incredible play, "The Ice Wolf", made their masks during this time. The November workshop was a surprise as 22 kids showed up. I have to admit I wasn't prepared for this many kids. Everything went well with the additional help of Kate Wilson again, the adult staff from Zuni Z-21 program and several parents who stepped right in. A special thanks to Bob Schafer for coming out and taking the pictures of all the kids so that they may take home a framed picture of themselves with various impressions of their lives emblazoned on the frames. Thanks, Bob, I know I said only 12 kids or so... Sean Steaws

Call For Entries

One of EMAAC's objectives as a local arts council is to provide events and opportunities for community members that not only encourage participation but also facilitate their artistic goals. Whether you are on the board of directors or just drop by the Gallery occasionally to pick up a newsletter for current events, it is important to have you on-board. You are part of an eclectic mix of artists, writers, dancers, musicians, volunteers and supporters that are essential to EMAAC's continued growth.

Thank you for your continued support and participation in *The Writers' Hearth*. To those of you who submitted literary work for publication, your efforts are greatly appreciated. Submitting your work is not only an opportunity to be published, it is a chance to be heard. If your work does not appear in *The Writer's Hearth*, in this issue of the Newsletter, it may be used in a future issue.

We invite you to submit a poem, short story or creative writing piece to EMAAC News. Entries are open to any topic and will be chosen based on originality and appeal. You do not need to be a member and your work does not have to be current to be published in EMAAC News. The subject matter of submitted work remains open. Submit your entry to Karen Olson, Attn: The Writer's Hearth, P.O. Box 371, Ramah, NM, 87321.

~The Writer's Hearth~

The Writer's Hearth welcomes the Holiday season with gratitude. Thank you for your participation and support. With this issue, the column devoted to literary work celebrates its first year! A special thanks goes out to the following people, who have helped make the writer's column a possibility this past year. Jackie Yeats Rossignol-Sellier, Dana Letts, Tim and Lucia Amsden, the EMAAC Board of Directors, Daniel Sellier, Bob Longoni, Sean Steaws, Ken Moore, Billie Gross, Jack Carter-North, the late, Douglas Bloomfield and the late Minnie Bloomfield, Barbara Burge, Barbara Gunn, Donna Suttle, Jill Acheson, Pam Davis, Nita Schafer, Misty Dawn Smalley, Jesse Terrazas, Chris Harrison, Cyrus Yazzie, and Rosemary Harrington who passed September 2, 2002. (Rosie lives on in spirit, in memory and through her poetry.) Thank you all Grants High School poetry contest participants. Your work was commendable!

~Poetry Contest at Grants High School~

A poetry contest took place at Grants High School during the month of November. Students, grades 9-12, were invited to submit. A panel of seven judges from El Morro Area Art Council was selected to judge the contest. The judges were Ken Moore, Tim and Lucia Amsden, Jackie Rossignol-Sellier and Daniel Sellier, Billie Gross and Dana Letts. I organized the event and was pleasantly surprised by the quality of work the students submitted, especially on such short notice. Judges that I had the opportunity to talk to mentioned that the contest had been difficult to judge because all the entries were so good. The competition was tight!

1st place prize was \$25 and being published in EMAAC News, and 2nd place prize was publication in EMAAC News. Poets Jesse Terrazas and Chris Harrison shared 2nd place. Honorable mention goes to Cyrus Yazzie and Chris Harrison.

Grants High Poetry Contest Winners are:

1st place *Misty Dawn Smalley* "Fall Visions"
2nd place *Jesse Terrazas* "Tears"
Chris Harrison "Clothes"

Congratulations, Misty, Jesse and Chris!

"Fall Visions"

By Misty Dawn Smalley

There is a hidden beauty
in death
The leaves fade changing
colors of valor
Be sweet sleeping season
Warm maple smell
Couples covered by a quilt
Music of a burning log
Smoke curls at the chimneys top
Cloud painted sky
Celebrate candy costumes with smiling pumpkins
A converse holiday
Our hard work rewarded
Harvest all the crops
Friends and families found together
Thankful for home
There is a hidden beauty
in death
Shown like frames in a movie
Fall visions

"Tears" By Jesse Terrazas

My river of tears is getting bigger.
My finger starts embracing the trigger.
This river of tears is getting longer.
My river of tears is getting stronger.
These rivers make a drastic sound.
These fragile tears hit the ground.
My tears that roll down my chin.
Are my thoughts of mortal sin.
These tears are because of you.
There has been very few.

"Clothes" By Chris Harrison

You, only you, understand
the unearthly possessions.
The closet scattered with clothes,
unable to find a thing.
Everything all jumbled up in the hamper,
stuffed there long ago.
You can help me sort it out.
Find my thoughts, feelings.
Figure out who I am.

From Rocco Tripodi
"The Ice Wolf"

The most important and wonderful aspect of the production of "The Ice Wolf" was that fifteen young people, home-schoolers and regular schoolers, aged 6 to 16, worked together toward one common goal and had fun doing it as well. There was participation on costumes, make-up, sets, lights and sound from many community members and parents.

The fact that the show, on Saturday, Nov. 23rd, was performed beyond expectation and may be called "great" was an added bonus for which we are all very grateful. The performance on Tuesday, Nov. 26th, was to a large audience of children from Zuni. To the actors delight, the children asked the cast members to autograph their programs after the show. The actors found this gratifying and fun.

It has long been my belief that mixed-age education, as the case with older, small schoolhouses of the past, is a worthy educational model. Drama, in a curriculum, serves to overcome self-image problems and gives children a chance to work and achieve a goal that requires cooperation.

My gratitude to the young folks and adults involved in this production, as they came through and reached beyond our common goals. We are projecting a summer drama project and I hope to see some of the same faces, and new faces then.

Thank you all! Rocco Tripodi

"I listen to and honor the wishes and dreams of my deepest self because they are aligned with my creative flow". Quoted from Heartlines, by Lucia Amsden.

"The Ice Wolf"

Reviewed by Lisa de St. Croix

The lights dimmed, and a hush fell over the one hundred people filling every available chair in the Old School Gallery. From the back, the strong and dramatic voice of Sophia Tripodi, "The Storyteller", began to weave the magical tale of Anatou, an Inuit girl who was rejected by her people for being different. The background paintings and costumes set the scene of an Eskimo village, while the sound of the wind and the lights catching the glinting snowflakes created the atmosphere of the vast and icy land. Anatou, played by Anne Duffield, led us on a heartbreaking journey from isolation to bitterness to revenge and eventually to redemption. Anne's performance was a remarkable feat for a 12 year old. She delivered her many, many lines in a clear and strong voice.

What a surprise it was to see the ten foot high Wood God emerge masked and dressed in a wondrous costume of leaves. Jake McNitt created the powerful and magical role while moving gracefully on stilts. His entourage of Beaver (Angela Baxter), Elk (Broderick Tipton), Fox (Kyrie Ivanovich), and Snow Hare (Ivory Tipton), with their wonderful masks, added a delightful touch - their antics invoking the laughter of the audience. In the final scene Tarto, Anatou's childhood playmate -acted with great ease and naturalness by Zach McNitt - is rescued by the Wolf who had once been Anatou. This act of kindness melts the icy hold in which revenge had trapped her, and, even though she dies, her legend lives on.

As the lights came up the audience rose to give the cast - all under the age of 18 - and their dedicated director, Rocco Tripodi, and all who were involved in this fabulous production, a standing ovation, an accolade well deserved. After the play we were all treated to an Eskimo Pie, and despite the November chill, we all went home with our hearts warmed by our community and the talent that emerges and blossoms at the Old School Gallery.

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS
OF EMMAC WISH ALL OF YOU PROSPERITY, LOVE AND PEACE FOR 2003**

