



Dear Friends and Family,

We have spent the last year working on developing art therapy programs at the **Integrated Arts Academy at the H.O. Wheeler School** in Burlington's Old North End and at other locations in Burlington.

We feel that art therapy is a crucial way to continue our work to prevent sexual and domestic violence while at the same time honor Laura as an artist and teacher.



As an early intervention tool, art therapy can help to avert abusive, anti-social behaviors and also promote healing in children affected by abuse either directly or indirectly. Art therapy impacts the emotional, mental, and behavioral health of at-risk children by allowing them to not only explore but also express their feelings and learn to resolve conflicts safely and constructively.

Although the renovation of the physical art therapy space at IAA has had some unanticipated delays, the art therapy program itself is moving forward. We are delighted to report that new LKW Fund board member Lisa Myers, a credentialed and licensed art therapist, along with art therapists Marion Pope and Melissa Daltry, are working with students at IAA. Lisa has also recruited credentialed art therapist Randi Becker to work with students at Hunt Middle School and Flynn Elementary School.

The LKW Fund has also established an art therapy program, arranged by Lisa and Marion, at **King Street Center** in the **Laura Kate Winterbottom Art Studio**. There Marion Pope will conduct an after-school program consisting of two six-week groups that will serve 15-25 children/adolescents from kindergarten through high school. According to Lisa, the program will use the open studio model in which students use art "... to increase coping, problem-solving, and social skills, as well as flexibility and frustration tolerance, while safely exploring and integrating feelings and thoughts in a contained, supportive setting."

Under Lisa's direction, the number of students served in the community is expected to increase significantly. Sustaining an art therapy program and expanding it to include more students and more schools and venues, as we plan to do, require a substantial financial commitment.

We need your help and support to accomplish our goals. Please consider making a donation [here](#) or send a check to LKW Fund, PO Box 65176, Burlington VT 05401.

[Make Your 2018 Donation Here](#)

Our 2018 Donations

In 2018, the LKW Fund made donations to the following organizations

- Burlington City Arts' Art from the Heart
- The Caroline Fund
- HomeShare VT
- HOPE Works
- Humane Society of Chittenden County
- Lund Family Center
- Pride Center of VT
- SafeArt
- The Safety Team
- The Sexual Assault Crisis Team
- Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Program
- STEPS to End Domestic Violence
- WomenSafe
- We also gave ECHO memberships to 3 families at Lund and KidSafe

Collaborative and we participated in STEPS' Wish List program and Burlington's Women's Day celebration.

The LKW Fund has now donated almost \$195,000 back to the community! With your help, we can do even more.

Shopping Amazon this Holiday Season? Support us when you shop too! Go to smile.amazon.com/ch/04-3811327 and Amazon donates a portion of your purchase to The LKW Fund or click this box to go directly to Amazon Smile!

A Thought

Art washes from the soul the dust of everyday life. - Pablo Picasso

The lovely picture at the top of this newsletter is an example of the art being created by the students at IAA. We remain grateful for your support over the years and hope you will add us to your annual giving list this holiday season so that we may continue to serve the community.

With wishes for a New Year of abiding peace and well-being,

JoAnn and Ned



The Laura K Winterbottom Memorial Fund | lkwfund@yahoo.com | www.lkwfund.org