

Promoting the Town of Colton through the Arts

An Update on 'Art Around Town' as a Town-School Collaboration
[Revised December 2014]

Vision

We believe the potential exists for the arts (defined broadly) to excite more people about the town and to attract more people to reside, do business or at least visit here. And we believe a vision of the arts creating a more vital, vibrant community would help promote both existing and new efforts without dominating them.

Existing Efforts

Art already exists and we need to help build greater awareness about and appreciation for existing arts-related efforts including the following.

- School-based or -related performing and visual arts (e.g., concerts, painting, pottery, etc.)
- Biannual art show by the Friends of the Colton Hepburn Library
- Annual Quilt Show during the town's Winterfest Weekend each January
- Summer music series by the town's Tourism & Beautification Committee
- Annual historical, theatrical and educational endeavors of the Colton Historical Society in partnership with Grasse River Players and Colton-Pierrepont Central School (known as The Sunday Rock Legacy Project)

'Art Around Town' as a Town-School Collaboration

'Art Around Town' is a collaborative venture of the town's Tourism & Beautification Committee and the Colton-Pierrepont Central School Art Department. Since 2013 symbiotic opportunities have emerged as the two have explored ways to mutually support each other through real-world projects, including the following.

- ✓ During the 2013-14 school year art teacher Krystal (Stowe) Hewer and her students assisted with the town logo project by helping the town explore options and developing the basic structure of the final logo design now used on town letterhead, business cards, our Facebook page and elsewhere.
- ✓ Since 2013 art students, under the guidance of their teacher, have created murals to be displayed outdoors during the town's annual Winterfest Weekend, leaving one during each of the last two years in a permanent location.
- ✓ During the 2014-15 school year one of the Winterfest murals is a painted barn quilt done in consultation with the Colton Historical Society for displaying on the exterior of the Colton Museum and for jumpstarting a barn quilt project in town supporting heritage tourism, drawing attention to the local quilting tradition and providing opportunities for lots of people to get involved.
- ✓ During the summer of 2015 visual art created by school students will be incorporated into fund raising efforts for the town's summer music performances.