

**Genesis and History**  
**Cable Hayward Area Arts Council (CHARAC)**

**1990 - 1991** The first meetings held with area artists in the townships of Cable, Drummond and Hayward were organized by Sara Balbin.

**1991** - First public meeting with the Executive Director of the Wisconsin Arts Board George Tzougros was held at the United Church of Christ in Cable to discuss possibility of organizing an arts festival, and arts council. Present at this meeting was the Cable Chamber of Commerce, artists, patrons, School administrators, and businessmen.

**1992** - The Chequamegon Fine Arts Festival was organized to serve all the disciplines of the fine arts- music, dance, theater, literary and the visual arts.

**Board of Directors:**

President; Sara Balbin,

Vice President; Seddie Cogswell,

Recording Secretary; Fran Turcin,

Treasurer; Shellie Milford,

Board Members; Betsy Johnston, Lea Justice, Phyllis Krutsch, Julie Louis, Jane Matteson, Margaret Modine, Tracy Morris, Betty Nemec, Deanna Persson, Corinne Rasmussen, Jane White and Patricia Schroeder.

**Director:** Ron Bergin

**1993 – First Annual Chequamegon Fine Arts Festival (CFAF)**

July 7 – 11, Telemark Resort, Cable Wisconsin.

A reception, exhibit “Preview Benefit” and silent auction were held on the evening of July 7<sup>th</sup> with special entertainment. The festival opened with the Gallery/exhibit of fifty three (53) visual artists displaying one to three works of art, and Youth Exhibit with approximately thirty children exhibiting over the five-day weekend festivities.

**Board of Directors:**

President; Sara Balbin,

Vice President; Seddie Cogswell,

Recording Secretary; Fran Turcin,

Treasurer; Shellie Milford,

Board Members; Betsy Johnston, Lea Justice, Phyllis Krutsch, Julie Louis, Jane Matteson, Margaret Modine, Tracy Morris, Betty Nemec, Corinne Rasmussen, Jane White, Deanna Persson and Patricia Schroeder.

**CFAF Performances 1993:**

Duluth / Minnesota Ballet, evening of Chamber Music, Randy Sabien and Frank Montano in Concert, Northwinds Brass Band, Serendipity Productions “Nonsense”, Lynn Dance Company of Chalis Stream, Madeline Island Music Camp in Concert, and Theater in the Woods.

**Workshops 1993:**

|                                 |                                 |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Song and Movement               | Native American Music and Dance |
| Ballet                          | Madeline Island Music Camp      |
| Floral Arranging                | The Art of Clowning             |
| Theater Games and Improvisation | Water Color                     |
| The Creative Process            | Puppet Theater                  |

**1994 - Second Annual Chequamegon Fine Arts Festival**

July 6 – 10, Telemark Resort, Cable, Wisconsin.

**Board of Directors:**

President; Sara Balbin,  
 Vice President; Lee Gerhke,  
 Secretary; Sylvia Buckel,  
 Treasurer; Shellie Milford  
 Board Members; Carol Cox, Ron Hobart, Lea Justice, Julie Louis, Jane Matteson,  
 Margaret Modine, Deanna Persson, Corinne Rasmussen, Peg Sandin, Diane Stewart,  
 Lora Vanderploeg.

**Director:** Ron Bergin

The Festival opened with a private Gallery/ exhibit reception, preview Benefit and silent auction on July 6<sup>th</sup>. from 5:30p.m. – 9:00p.m. with special entertainment for patrons and artists. Sixty (60) visual artists displaying one to three works of art. Youth exhibit with approximately thirty Children and reception with youth entertainment.

**CFAF Performances 1994:**

Native American Cultural, Nick Hockings, Madeline Island Music Camp in Concert, Pipestone Creek Singers (Native American Singers), Kevin McMullin – Concert for Children, Chippewa Valley Theater Guild, Wading for Cadott, The Guardian Human and Two original one-act plays by Al Westlick, Mime with Michael Nugent, performance and workshop, Lake Superior Ragtime society, Chequamegon Theater Association and Ashland Historical Society, Theater in the Woods, (Where Have All the Lightning Bugs gone?), Minnesota Ballet performance and Dance demonstration, The Big Woods Band, Northwinds, Chamber Music, Serena O’Meara-Harp, The Old Rittenhouse Inn Barbershop Quartet, Warren Nelson and Lost Nation String Band.

**Workshops 1994:**

|                                        |                      |
|----------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Suzuki Violin                          | Mime                 |
| Native American Culture                | Lake Superior        |
| Pewter Sculpture                       | Ragtime Society      |
| Origami for Children and Adults        | The art of Computer  |
| Master Class with the Minnesota Ballet | Spinning and Weaving |
| Experience the Harp                    |                      |

**Cable 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade;** Nick Henricks, Ron Bergin, and Sara Balbin participated in the parade with a mobile steel sculpture by Balbin.

## **1995 - Third Annual Chequamegon Fine Arts Festival**

July 7 - 9, Telemark Resort, Cable Wisconsin.

### **Board of Directors:**

President; Sara Balbin

Vice President; Lee Gerhke

Secretary; Sylvia Buckel

Treasurer; Marilyn Einspanier

Board Members; Carol Cox, Nick Henricks, Julie Louis, Shellie Milford, Margaret Modine, John Prinzler, Corinne Rasmussen, Peg Sandin, Chris Smith, Diane Stewart.

### **Festival Directors:**

Sara Balbin, Sylvia Buckel and Lee Gerhke.

“Silent Auction” on July 7<sup>th</sup>. Special entertainment for patrons and artists.

July 8<sup>th</sup>. Gallery/Exhibit opened with sixty-two visual artists displaying one to three works of art. Youth exhibit and reception with approximately thirty children exhibiting one to three works of art, and special youth entertainment.

### **Performances 1995:**

Highland String Quartet from Duluth/Superior, Symphony Orchestra from Ashland, The Minnesota Ballet, Jazzocracy, Theater by Delores Meschievitz “Romeo Smith and Juliet Jankowski”, 50’s dance group, Theater in the Woods “Mama Drama”, Serendipity “The Authors Voice”, “Open Mouth” regional poets.

### **Workshops:**

Nature drawing by Sue Benson- Cable Natural History Museum

Children’s Theater Production by Playing Around

Hat and Puppet by Clowns Giggles and Wishia Ponastar

Paper Making by Liza Radke and Margaret Eggers

Acting Surprise by Shellie Pierce

Drawing by Diana Randolph

Ballet by Minnesota Ballet

Felt and Fiber by Joan Kozak

Wolves by Sarah Boles

## **1996- Founding year of the Cable Hayward Area Arts Council (CHARAC).**

### **Board of directors:**

President; Sara Balbin

Vice President; Lee Gerhke

Secretary; Sylvia Buckle

Treasurer; Marilyn Einspanier

Board Members; Shellie Milford, Chris Smith, Fran Turcin, Jackie Stinsic, Diane Peterson, Eric Schubring, Seddie Cogswell, Julie Louis, Corinne Rasmussen.

In 1996, The Chequamegon Fine Arts Festival (CFAF) Board of Directors decided to form the Cable/Hayward Area Arts Council (CHARAC), and cancel the five day Festival in order to better service the artists, patrons, and region throughout the calendar year.

The CHARAC mission statement, goals and bi-laws were created. District Attorney for Bayfield County, Fred Bourg of Drummond, worked with the Board of Directors through this process.

CHARAC's goals and mission; to encourage the production, performance, and appreciation of the fine arts as a not for profit organization. Mission statement: "To establish our presence in the community we want to provide continuing exhibits, workshops, events to bring together working artists and young developing artists; facilitate networking; and provide direction for arts in our communities. We believe in the long run, our present approach will enhance, and encourage a stronger more vibrant arts community."

It was decided that the CFAF logo would continue to be used during the transition.

The new CHARAC Board of directors found a home, the Old Cable School, and founded the "CHARAC Cultural Arts Center (CCAC)," 1100 square feet of space was rented on the second floor of the Cable School. During the summer of 1996, the rooms were cleaned, painted and organized.

In addition to the reorganization, CHARAC sponsored Native American dancers in the Drummond school, organized a volunteer group for the Chequamegon Children's theater, and visual artist workshops were coordinated for the gifted and talented program at the LCO school; watercolor, pastel, drawing, and photography.

## **1997 – 2<sup>nd</sup> year**

### **Board of Directors:**

President; Sara Balbin

Vice President; Nick Hendricks

Secretary; Sylvia Buckel

Treasurer; Natalie Haug

Newsletter Editor; Founder Marilyn Einspanier (1<sup>st</sup>. year).

Board Members; Marilyn Einspanier, Cindy Ferraro, Lee Gerhke, Lori Laberee, Camile Lacapa, Julie Louis, Barbara Peterson and Chris Smith.

### **Sponsored Events:**

The senior citizen's theater production of "Campaign Caper" performed at the Cable Community Center and the Senior Expo in Ashland.

The Training Center in Hayward for the developmentally delayed in producing note cards.

The Big Mill exhibits on Hayward's Main Street, director Deanna Persson.

Youth Art Exhibit at the First Financial bank in Hayward.

**CHARAC Cultural Center Exhibits:**

Adult Group show of three dimensional works (sculpture, pottery, fiber etc.)

Adult Group exhibit (all media), Quilt exhibit.

Youth group exhibit.

**Workshops:**

Adult; Creative Writing, Native American Weaving, Oil, Pastel, Watercolor, Acrylic painting, Pen and Ink techniques. Children's; painting in all mediums and taxidermy.

CHARAC worked with the Northland College Life long Learning Center for numerous workshops.

**Presentations:**

Second Sunday Poets; directors Sylvia Gilberg and Diana Randolph.

**Classes:**

Guitar, piano, drumming, dance, drawing and painting classes.

Ken Mansfield presented Sara Balbin with a piano for the CCAC.

**1998 – 3<sup>rd</sup> year****Board of Directors:**

President; Sara Balbin

Vice President; Shelly Galloway

Secretary; Sylvia Buckel,

Treasurer; Natalie Haug

Newsletter Editor; Marilyn Einspanier (2<sup>nd</sup> Year)

Board members; Marilyn Einspanier, Lee Gerhke, Joan Kozak, Nick Hendricks, Jacci Stincic, Fran Turcin, Julie Louis, Nadine Van den Bosch, Camile Lacapa, Lori Laberee, Chris Smith, Trace DeMeyer and Pat Walling.

**New projects:**

First annual membership meeting held at the Big Mill Coffee Shop.

First year of the archive committee, chaired by Pat Walling.

First year of the CHARAC permanent art collection, chaired by Sara Balbin. The permanent art collection was given to the Hayward Carnegie Library (Sherman And Ruth Weiss Community Library) for display, and safety.

Interim CHARAC logo was designed by Board member Jacci Stincic.

**Sponsored Events:**

The second annual Youth Art Exhibit at the First Financial Bank in Hayward. Over 125 young artists from three school districts displayed their works of art.

The Humane Society "Art for Animals" fundraising event for the Northwoods Humane Society.

First Financial Bank of Hayward to feature monthly artists and a youth art exhibit.

Quilt Exhibit at the Lakewoods Resort.

The Sesquicentennial "Good Ol' Days" Festival, Hayward. Board member Jacci Stincic chaired the Sesquicentennial committee and organized an artist's exhibit.

The Chequamegon Children's Theater in Cable.

**Exhibits:**

Adult, and youth exhibits at the CHARAC Cultural Arts Center, Cable. The Big Mill coffee shop closed. CHARAC seeks new exhibit space in Hayward.

**Workshops:**

Adult; Watercolor, Pastel and Oil painting ( Humberto Hernandez, Cuban cultural exchange program with the Tweed Museum), Creative Writing, Origami, Native American Finger Weaving, Felting and open critique workshops for artists.  
Youth; Taxidermy, Origami and Felting.

**Presentations:**

Second Sunday Poets.

**Classes:**

Ballroom and Line Dancing, Tai Chi Chuan, Jazz Improvisation, piano, guitar, children's painting and drawing classes in a variety of mediums.  
CHARAC offered free studio space to artists in the Cultural Center this year.

**1999 – 4<sup>th</sup> year**

**Board of Directors:**

President; Sara Balbin

Vice President; Shelly Galloway

Secretary; Sylvia Buckel

Treasurer; Natalie Haug

Newsletter Editor; Marilyn Einspanier (3<sup>rd</sup>. year).

Board Members; Lee Gerhke, Jacci Stincic, Fran Turcin, Julie Louis, Pat Walling and Nadine Van den Bosch.

New Board Members; Wendy Hanneman (Newsletter Editor), Gerri Kowalski, Brent Fuqua and Susan Kaye.

**New events/projects**

CHARAC offers its first annual scholarship of three hundred dollars (\$300.) to the school districts of Hayward, Lac Courte Oreilles, and Drummond. The grants are offered to high school students pursuing a higher education in the arts, and art education. Chaired by Deanna Persson and Sara Balbin.

On August 15, 1999, Board member Susan Kaye, (director of the North Woods Community Health Center) Hayward, with Deanna Persson directed the CHARAC Gallery at the Center.

CHARAC held its first annual dinner.

**Sponsored Events:**

Artist Arna Rennan from the Duluth Outreach Program at the First Lutheran Church, Hayward for a mixed media workshop.  
A "Taste of Art" Hayward High School.  
Youth and the Adult Art Exhibits at the Associate Bank in Hayward.  
Arts and Academic Achievement (AAA) Club in the Drummond school district.  
The Chequamegon Children's Theater in Cable.  
The play "First Born" by Delores Meschievitz of Cable.  
Sponsored the first annual Cable "Arts and Heritage Festival" on August 8, 1999, director Kristine Lendved.  
A visual arts cultural exchange with the Union of Writers and Artists of Cuba (UNEAC).  
The First Annual Seeley-"Namekagon Arts Festival" July 10, 1999, director Cindy Ferraro.  
First Song Writers Showcase in Seeley, director Kristine Lendved.  
Participated in developing the sculpture park at Cranberry Max (presently Firefly Company) Cable, director Sara Balbin.  
Participated in the Humane Society fund raiser "Art For Animals".  
Hosted an arts exhibit in the CHARAC Cultural Arts Center for the Cable Christmas events.

**Exhibits:**

Drawings from Sara Balbin's live model figure study class at the CHARAC Cultural Arts Center, Cable. North Woods Medical Center and Associated Bank of Hayward.

**Workshops:**

Adults; Watercolor, Pencil drawing, Pastel, Felting, Belly dancing, Thai cooking.  
Youth; Acrylic, Pencil, Watercolor, Pen and Ink, Felting and Puppet Making.

**Presentations:**

Second Sunday Poets, CHARAC hosted artist Mario Garcia Portela and art historian Maria De los Angeles of Cuba through the "Cultural Exchange Program" of the Duluth Tweed Museum.

**Classes:**

Figure study (drawing), Youth art classes (mixed media), spinning, guitar, piano, Line Dancing, Tai Chi Chuan.

**2000 – 5<sup>th</sup> year****Board of Directors**

President; Susan Kaye

Vice President; Sara Balbin

Secretary; Brent Fuqua

Treasurer; Tore Gram

Newsletter; Wendy Hanneman

Board members; Shelly Galloway, Pat Walling, Sylvia Buckel, Cindy Ferraro, Kristine Lendved, Gerri Kowalski, Barbara Grossi, Dana Gretz, Jim Schirrot and Natalie Haug.

**Year of transition**

The CHARAC Board of Directors decided to close the Cable Cultural Arts Center (CCAC), which serviced the artists, and arts throughout the year.

**New events/projects**

Kathi Dunn accepted invitation to design a new logo for CHARAC that would service the organization in all of its promotions and business activities.

CHARAC held it's second annual dinner on April 25<sup>th</sup>, Telemark Resort, Cable.

CHARAC hosted Mark Fraire, Grant Programs and Services Specialist for the Wisconsin Arts Board at Sara Balbin's "Dragonfly Studio."

**Sponsored Events:**

The 2<sup>nd</sup>. Annual "Namekagon Arts Festival" in Seeley, directed by Cindy Ferraro.

The Cable "Arts and Heritage Festival" in Cable, directed by Kristine Lendved.

The Song writers showcase in Seeley, directed by Brent Fuqua and Cindy Ferraro.

The Chequamegon Children's Theater of Cable, chaired by Sara Balbin.

Serendipity Players and Song Writers Showcase in Seeley, directed by Cindy Ferraro.

Second Sunday Poets; directed by Sylvia Gilberg and Diana Randolph.

The Wisconsin Arts Board Town Meeting with Executive Director George Tzougros and Karen Genskow, Assistant Director for Programs, and Services at the Sawmill Saloon, Seeley on Jan. 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Exhibits:**

The Wisconsin Arts Board (WAB), CHARAC visual arts exhibit at the State of Wisconsin Department of Administration Building Gallery in Madison Aug.7 through Oct. 20, 2000, directed by Sara Balbin.

The WAB/CHARAC exhibit traveled to the Washburn Historical Museum through the month of November, and then to the Northwoods Community Health Center, Hayward.

**Presentations:**

A power point presentation by Northland college professor and photographer Don Albrecht; titled "Cuba, A Portrait" on March 4<sup>th</sup>, Seeley, WI.

**2001 – 6<sup>th</sup> year****Board of Directors:**

President; Pat Walling

Vice President; Sara Balbin

Secretary; Wendy Hanneman

Treasurer; Tore Gram

Corresponding Secretary; Kristine Lendved

Newsletter Editor; Wendy Hanneman

Board Members; Sylvia Buckel, Cindy Ferraro, Gerri Kowalski and Barbara Grossi.



**News:**

The CHARAC Board of Directors for the first time since its inception requested that two Board members step down due to compromising public indiscretions.

**Sponsored Events:**

The Chequamegon Children's Theater of Cable.

Serendipity Theater Productions of Hayward.

Second Sunday Poets.

Justin Roth and Chris Cunningham at Telemark Resort.

Molly Scheer and Bruce Burnside at Songwriter's Showcase, Seeley.

The Namekagon Arts Festival, Seeley.

The Arts and Heritage Festival, Cable.

Art in the Park, Hayward.

**Exhibits:**

Northwoods Community Health Center.

**2002 – 7<sup>th</sup> year****Board of Directors:**

President; Pat Walling

Vice President; Sara Balbin

Secretary; Wendy Hanneman

Treasurer; Tore Gram

Corresponding Secretary; Kristine Lendved

Newsletter Editor; Wendy Hanneman

Board Members; Sylvia Buckel, Cindy Ferraro, Gerri Kowalski, Barbara Grossi.

New Board members; Don Melton, Sara Qualey and Tysa Gould.

**Sponsored Events/projects:**

-Launched the Emerging Artists Grant Program, chaired by Sara Balbin, and directed by Deanna Persson. Applicants must be 15 years old (no Maximum age limit) and be referred by a teacher, social worker or a member of the art community. Each chosen artist receives a total of \$150. Art Beat offers a 20% discount. Twenty-five dollars of the \$150 is reserved for the matting/framing of the artwork for a group exhibit by participants. CHARAC covers the entire cost of the grants. Up to ten emerging artists will be accepted yearly.

-CHARAC Artist's exhibit at the Duluth Art Institute, Sept.23<sup>rd</sup>. through Oct.27<sup>th</sup>.

The exhibit "Art From Lake Country" was organized by Sara Balbin two years prior to the opening reception. Sara Qualey, designed promotional materials. Deanna Persson collected the art work at Art Beat. A Bush Foundation Grant funding made the exhibit possible.

-The new CHARAC logo design by Kathi Dunn is introduced in the masthead of the Newsletter and stationary.

**News:**

The Cable Arts and Heritage Festival was canceled. Kristine Lendved stepped down as director of the Festival due to her studio burning down. Board members were not available to direct the Festival.

**Sponsored Events:**

CHARAC annual dinner held on May 13<sup>th</sup>, at the Telemark Resort.  
The Encore Chamber Ensembles at the “Art From Lake Country” exhibit.  
Second Sunday Poets.  
Chequamegon Children’s Theater.  
The Namekagon Arts Festival.  
Emerging Artists Grant Program.

**Exhibits:**

Northwoods Community Health Center.

**2003- 8<sup>th</sup> year****Board of Directors:**

President; Pat Walling  
Vice President; Don Melton  
Secretary; Kath Almer  
Treasurer; Tore Gram  
Corresponding Secretary; Kristine Lendved  
Newsletter Editor; Kath Almer  
Board members; Tysa Goold, Sara Qualey,  
New Board members; Dennis Kinsel, Caroline Paulson and Helen Morgan.

**Sponsored Events:**

The “Lips Production” Ten minute plays directed by Board members Cindy Ferraro, and Kristine Lendved at the Mooselips Theater, Seeley, WI.  
Emerging Artists Grant Program, directed by Deanna Persson.  
The Namekagon Arts and Music Festival, Seeley, WI. Directed by Cindy Ferraro and Kristine Lendved.

**Exhibits:**

Artist and CHARAC member Wilmar Narr was named the new director of the Northwoods Community Health Center Gallery.