

MARCH, 2024

Crystal Lake Camera Club

Serving Crystal Lake, IL and Surrounding Communities Since 1980

crystallakecameraclub.com



Colorful Fall

Color Image by CLCC Member Doug Frey

February 2024 Competition Award and Image of the Month. See related gallery, Page 4.

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Special Guest for the March 12 Meeting: Willard Clay

At the March 12, 2024 CLCC meeting, we will have a special guest speaker, the photographer Willard Clay. A former Professor of Botany, Willard Clay has been a full-time photographer since 1982. Specializing in large format photography, Willard Clay has been the primary photographer for nine coffee table books and has been published in a myriad of calendars, magazines, books, and advertising agencies. His portfolio consists of large format film and high-resolution digital files ready for publication. You can view his images at www.willardclayphotography.com.

Several club members receive *Therapy Photos*, a regular email that Will sends to former students and camera club members. He says, “I started writing the letters in 2020 during the pandemic to keep my newsletter readers communicating with each other because we were sheltering in place. They touched people in ways I could never have predicted and my readers did not want them stopped, so here we are 3 years and 230+ letters later.”

Be sure to attend the March 12, 2024 meeting!

PHOTO BY WILLARD CLAY

Used with permission



CLUB MEETING CALENDAR

All meetings start at 7PM and are at the Algonquin Township Building, 3702 Northwest Hwy, Crystal Lake, in **Meeting Room 2**. Enter at the back of the building.

March 12	Special Guest: Willard Clay
April 9	This meeting will be in Room 1 . Competition Show & Tell, Before & After
May 14	Show & Tell, Before & After

Show & Tell and **Before & After** have provided some lively, informative conversations for CLCC attendees. Great suggestions for outings and club offerings have come from these activities.

For Show & Tell: submit 3-4 JPG images to Rich Bickham (richbickham@comcast.net) on the **Sunday before the meeting** date.

For Before & After: submit *pairs* of JPG images to Rich Bickham (richbickham@comcast.net) on the **Sunday before the meeting** date. The pairs would include the image as it came out of the camera and the image after post-processing. Be prepared to tell (and perhaps even show) the changes that were made.

Join the **Crystal Lake Camera Club Group Chat** on FaceBook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/446897199179146> or scan this QR Code:

This is a closed group, so only members have access. Request membership through the page. Then, post your favorite images, join in the discussions, share information about photo outings, speakers, contests, etc.

Only group members will see your posts.



Morning Breakfast Meeting – Everyone invited!

Please join your CLCC friends for the casual, monthly Saturday morning breakfast meeting. Lively discussions, good food! The next one will be held on Saturday, March 23, 2024, 8:30 a.m. at

Buttered Toast Restaurant, 2520 Bunker Hill Dr, Algonquin.

HOW TO ENTER THE APRIL 2024 COMPETITION

- Only DPI images (JPG) will be accepted for entry (no prints until further notice).
- No more than 2 Color images and 4 Mono images per entrant.
- Maximum JPG image size is 1400 pixels wide x 1050 pixels high.
- The deadline for jpg entries is Monday, March 25, 2024.
- Entries must be sent to Rich Bickham (richbickham@comcast.net) by Monday, March 25, 2024.
- The judges will be emailed the images on Tuesday, March 26 and will have one week to score the images.
- The judges' scores will be submitted to Rich by Tuesday, April 2
- Scores will be tallied and the results will be presented at the meeting on Tuesday, April 9.

FEBRUARY 2024 COMPETITION



Butterfly Flower Light Bulb
Color Image by Tom Hughes
Award

Sunrise
Color Image by
Jeff Chemelewski
Honorable Mention



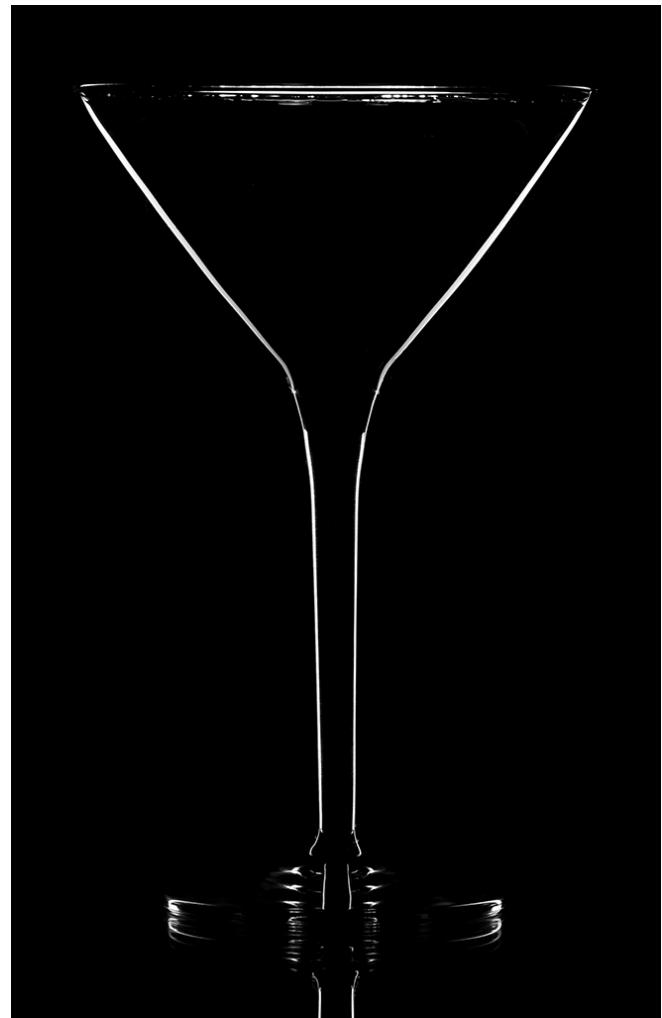
FEBRUARY 2024 COMPETITION



Notre Dame
Color Image by
Peter Pelke
Honorable Mention

Martini Night
Monochrome Image by
Kevin Getty
Award

Editor's Note: See the story about how this image was created in the December 2023 newsletter.



FEBRUARY 2024 COMPETITION



Skeleton of Winter
Monochrome Image
by Jeff Chemelewski
Award

Pepper
Monochrome Image
by Peter Pelke
Honorable Mention



FEBRUARY 2024 COMPETITION



Civic Opera

Monochrome by Doug Frey
Honorable Mention

Art of the Land Amateur Photography Contest

The Land Conservancy of McHenry County (TLC) hosts the *Art of the Land Amateur Photography Contest* each year to highlight the inspiring natural landscapes found throughout McHenry County. Once you sign up, you will be matched with a site and sent notifications on what's blooming around the county, tips and tricks for taking winning photos, and which invasive species are in bloom that should NOT be photographed.

The contest is open now. The cost is \$10 for three images. Images must be submitted both digital and print. Full instructions for the contest are at:

<https://conservemc.org/photo-contest/>

Tips and Snippets

Submitted by Judy Jorgensen, CLCC President

from: VISION Enhancement Techniques Abrieta Hope, Landscape Photograph Workshops

These techniques may help keep or recover ambient vision which is necessary for peripheral awareness, balance, coordination, and spatial awareness of which all are critical for landscape photography.

1. TAKE LONG WALKS OUTSIDE - without glasses on if possible.
Big spaces encourage expansive vision.
2. CLOSE YOUR EYES - move them slowly and smoothly as far to the right as you can.
Then move them to the left.
Do this for 2 minutes.
3. WITH OPEN EYES, picture a LARGE clock in front of you.
Move your eyes as far up as you can to see 12:00.
Slowly move them clockwise 1, 2, 3, etc.
Repeat counterclockwise.
Next move your eyes again to 12:00 back to the center.
Then, move slowly clockwise 1, 2, 3, 3, each time moving back to the center.
Repeat counterclockwise.
4. FINGER PUSH-UPS
With open eyes, hold one finger up at arms length away and bring it slowing to your nose.
Keep your finger clear and single.
Slowly move it back to arms length, then in again.
This trains both eyes to work together.
5. PERIPHERAL AWARENESS
Have someone stand behind with a stack of paper of different colors.
Have them bring one color at a time forward for you to see.
While looking forward, call out the color as quickly as you can identify it.
6. TAKE TIME TO STRETCH AND PRACTICE DEEP BREATHING
If your muscles are tight anywhere in your body, your vision will be tight and therefore restricted and less efficient.

It's time to pay CLCC dues for 2024. Dues are \$25.00 for the year (such a deal!). Please give a check to our treasurer, Gail Schulz, or mail it to:

Crystal Lake Camera Club
PO Box 2193
Crystal Lake, IL 60039-2193

The Future of CLCC

Notes and News from February 13, 2024

Submitted by Kim Walkup

Sixteen members attended this meeting.

DPI COMPETITION

Twenty photographs were submitted (10 color and 10 monochrome) by six entrants with the following results: Average score overall was 21.2.

Color competition:

- Award: Colorful Fall by Doug Frey
- Award: Butterfly Flower Light Bulb by Tom Hughes
- Honorable Mention: Notre Dame by Peter Pelke
- Honorable Mention: Sunrise by Jeff Chemelewski

Monochrome competition:

- Award: Skeleton of Winter by Jeff Chemelewski
- Award: Martini Night by Kevin Getty
- Honorable Mention: Civic Opera by Doug Frey
- Honorable Mention: Pepper by Peter Pelke

February 2023 Image of the Month: Colorful Fall by Doug Frey

Show and Tell

- Hockey Players
- Landscapes
- Storm Clouds and Yellow Tree
- Old Barn
- Walking Path
- Flying Owls

CACCA REPRESENTATIVE

Gail Schulz has volunteered to be the CACCA Representative. We need to find out from CACCA if they are doing only digital or prints for their competitions. Jim Pierce from Downtown Photo in Crystal Lake was recommended for printing photos.

NEW PROJECTOR

The new projector that Doug purchased for the club was used for the meeting and worked well. Doug reported that it is color calibrated, and has a high resolution. Doug noted that video and audio does not seem to be working. He will follow-up with the company since that was part of the price. The cost was \$1,600 which the club has in its funds.

Club members that were present unanimously approved the purchase of the projector.

OTHER ITEMS

Peter will secure Jim Pierce as a future speaker.

Gail will have club information put on the sign outside the building on Highway 14.

Correction on name spellings for Pat Jorgenson and Judy Jorgensen.

Who has the lightbox?

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- March 12, 2024 - Special Presentation by photographer Willard Clay
- April 9, 2024 - Competition Night, and will also include *Show & Tell* and *Before & After*
- May 14, 2024 - TBA

Photo Opportunity: Chicago Botanic Garden Orchid Show

The Orchid Show of Wonders

February 10 – March 24, Daily, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Adults: \$7/\$19; Children age 3–12: \$5/\$14; Free for children age 2 and under

<https://www.chicagobotanic.org/orchid/tickets>

Step right up to The Orchid Show of Wonders, where your favorite carnival and circus attractions come to life in new ways. You'll walk under Ferris wheel seats, and marvel at unicycles on tightropes and other gravity-defying surprises under the big top. This Orchid Show whisks you away to a whimsical world of 10,000 fresh, vibrant blooms.

Nonmembers: Your Orchid Show ticket includes admission to the Garden; parking not included. Note that free Garden admission days do not include Orchid Show tickets.

Members: If you have complimentary, one-time use Orchid Show tickets, don't forget to bring them! Entry is subject to availability; best availability on weekdays. Members may buy tickets at a discounted rate.

Photographers Hour: Tuesdays, February 13, 20, 27, March 5, 12, 19, 2024, 8:15 – 9:45 AM, and 4:15 - 5:45 PM. Tripods and monopods allowed; no screens or backdrops please. Regular parking and Garden admission fees apply for nonmembers; capacity is limited. Ticketing link for Photographers Hours:

www.chicagobotanic.org/orchid/photography

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**Crystal Lake Camera Club, PO Box 2193
Crystal Lake, IL 60039-2193**

CRYSTAL LAKE CAMERA CLUB OFFICERS

See The Club Directory For Contact Information

President	<u>Judy Jorgensen</u>
Secretary	<u>Kim Walkup</u>
Treasurer	<u>Gail Schulz</u>
Board Member	<u>Rich Bickham</u>

YOUR IDEAS MATTER!

Do you have a story, images, trip, post-processing technique, event, etc. that would be good for Camera Club members to know about? Your submissions will make this newsletter valuable! Write it up, and send it to **Steven Szalaj, Newsletter Editor** at the email address in the club directory. **Please make your submission by the 22nd of the month.**

CLCC SUPPORT PERSONNEL

Newsletter Editor	<u>Steven Szalaj</u>	Publicity	OPEN
Webmaster	<u>Sandy Wittman</u>	Competition Chairman	Rich Bickham
CACCA Delegate 1	<u>Gail Schulz</u>	Competition Assistant	John Williams
CACCA Delegate 2	OPEN	Competition Assistant	Ernie Hagenow
Education	<u>Peter Pelke II</u>	Small Groups	OPEN
Advisor	OPEN	Outings	Karl Gabby
Advisor	OPEN	Refreshments	OPEN
Facebook Administrator	<u>Doug Frey</u>	Librarian	OPEN
Membership	OPEN	Mentor Program	OPEN

Helpful Resources

Contribute to this page! If you have resources that you find useful, please share that link with me. Include a short summary of what can be found in the link. The reference can be a video, web page, PDF, or any other format that has an online link. Send your contributions to szjsings@mac.com by the 20th of each month.

~SJS, Newsletter Editor

Profoto Tutorials, submitted by Kevin Getty:

Tips and Tricks

profoto.com/us/tips

A terrific collection to help photographers of any level.

Photographic Composition Webinar, submitted by Scott Larsen:

The Art of Photography: Crafting Compelling Compositions

tinyurl.com/5ak88xt6

Natural Habitat Adventures posts a weekly webinar. This hour-long video is very helpful.

Photographers you may be interested in viewing, contributed by Judy Jorgensen:

Dan Anderson

danielandersonphotography.com/

Beautiful color landscapes and seascapes with striking composition from America, Norway, Faroe Islands, Scotland, Patagonia, Ireland, Antarctica, Europe, Iceland, etc. If you love black and white, check out his American West, Europe, Antarctica, and Greek islands black and white images of land, sea, and architecture.

Ed Callaert

edcallaert.photoshelter.com

This nature photographer travels extensively along the west coastal and mountain states as well as upper to mid east coast United States. His gallery is full of colorful landscapes and seascapes with interesting composition techniques you may want to try.

Willard Clay

willardclay.photoshelter.com

This landscape and bird photographer has a vast collection in his gallery by states and a stunning collection under birds. He also teaches at Mayslake in the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County. Enjoy, study, and try.

Resource for camera repair, contributed by Bill Batalden:

APS (AUTHORIZED PHOTO SERVICE)

8125 River Dr # 100

Morton Grove, IL 60053

repair@authorizedphotoservice.com

(800) 406-2046

Bill said: "I recently had my camera & lens repaired at APS authorized camera repair. I felt the work was good and the price reasonable. They give an estimate, which you have to approve, before proceeding with the work. When I spoke with the owner, he said he could offer a 'Club' rate."

(Helpful Resources, *continued*)

Resource for camera repair, contributed by Sandy Wittman:

ROYAL CAMERA SERVICE, INC.

1134 E Lake Street
Hanover Park, IL
(630) 372-6150

Sandy said: "I had my Canon 7D Mark II repaired there this fall. They did an excellent job in about 10 days. The price was very reasonable. I found them to be knowledgeable and professional."

GALLERIES, STORIES, VIDEOS AND INSPIRATION ON THE WEB

(Click any bold-face heading to follow the link)

How to Give Your Photos and Videos a Vintage Look

Retro-photography apps that mimic the appearance of analog film formats make your digital files seem like they're from another era.

Reckoning With Memories of Budapest

A New York Times journalist spent three months capturing a contemporary portrait of Hungary's capital, where he lived for several years as a child in the early '90s.

40 Years Ago, This Ad Changed the Super Bowl Forever

An oral history of Apple's groundbreaking "1984" spot, which helped to establish the Super Bowl as TV's biggest commercial showcase. This is a study in the power of imagery - the product it was advertising is not even mentioned.

The best performers of the year — when they're not on film

James Nachtwey, an eminent photojournalist known for his intimate depictions of the front lines in places like Iraq, Afghanistan and Ukraine, had never photographed a movie star. So for this year's Great Performers issue of the NYT Magazine, Nachtwey was asked to capture a dozen of the world's best actors away from the red carpets and awards ceremonies that often define how we see them.

iPhone Photography Basics: Follow these seven tips to improve your pictures instantly

You can own the best iPhone available right now, but there's really no shortcut to learning the iPhone photography basics. You can fast-track your progress by focusing on a few key aspects that will set you on the right path.

5 tricks and settings I use when I shoot architecture

The travel photographer, Yasser Alaa Mobarak, reveals how he brings a human dimension to architecture, with a photo he took during a trip to photograph the Heydar Aliyev Center in Baku, Azerbaijan. The Center is a 57,500-sq m building complex designed by Iraqi-British architect Zaha Hadid, and is noted for its distinctive architecture and flowing, curved style that eschews sharp angles. You can view more of Mobarak's work at www.yasseralaaamobarak.com.

Steve McCurry: Icons - Exhibition Extended to March 27!

Steve McCurry: ICONS is an extraordinary photography exhibition in Chicago showcasing the work of Steve McCurry, one of the main international figures in the world of photography over the last 40 years. Learn about his career, his photography, and much more. His photo of the young Afghan girl is iconic, as are many other of his images.

- **Loyola University Museum of Art (LUMA)**, 820 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, 60611
- **Open now, and must close on March 27, 2024**
- Tickets are \$21 - \$25 depending on the day
- Senior (65+), Student, or Military 10% discount - valid ID required
- Group Prices available (minimum 6 tickets)
- More information and tickets: <https://stevemccurryicons.com/chicago/>
- Video preview of the exhibition: <https://youtu.be/m8l49bNQsx4>

Immerse yourself in the world of this famous and audacious photographer in an unprecedented photography exhibition! With more than 80 large-format photographs, ICONS is one of the most complete retrospectives of the career of Steve McCurry. And if, on the one hand, his work encompasses conflicts, endangered cultures, ancient traditions, and contemporary culture, on the other hand, he always maintains the human element that made his famous photograph of the Afghan girl such a powerful image. This unprecedented journey through the inspiration, life, and work of the artist—who has already been recognized with some of the most prestigious awards in the industry—is not to be missed! Get your tickets now for Steve McCurry: ICONS in Chicago!

Highlights of the exhibition:

- 🌟 Celebrate the life and work of Steve McCurry in this international photography exhibition
- 📸 Discover over 80 iconic large-format photographs, such as the “Afghan Girl”, Sharbat Gula, who captivated the world on the cover of National Geographic magazine in 1985
- 🌐 Admire a selection of the most impressive images from his trips to Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, and China, among others
- 🎧 Access audio descriptions from 42 selected photographs to hear the story behind the photo, in Steve McCurry's own words
- 🎬 Watch Steve McCurry testify about his life and experiences as a photographer



Morton Arboretum Sculpture Show



Mind Eye (2023) by Olga Ziemska
Locally reclaimed wood logs, metal armature
Morton Arboretum

Of the Earth

The exhibition will run through spring 2025.

Five large-scale sculptures by Polish American artist Olga Ziemska will be created exclusively for a new exhibition at The Morton Arboretum, Of the Earth.

The exhibition will explore the artist's expression and philosophy that, she says, "We are nature." Ziemska said that her aim is to remind people that "everything in life is derived from the same basic elements that form everything in nature, including ourselves. There is no separation." In Polish, Ziemska means "of the earth."

The artist's work will be created from reclaimed tree branches and other natural materials gathered from various locations throughout the Arboretum's 1,700 acres. "I am giving reclaimed natural materials a new life and transforming them from nature into new forms," Ziemska said.



Stillness in Motion (2023) by Olga Ziemska
Locally reclaimed branches, wire, metal armature
Morton Arboretum

TWO OPPORTUNITIES TO SHOW YOUR IMAGES

4th FRIDAYS AT STARLINE

300 W. Front Street
Harvard IL 60033
815-943-4805

4th Friday Event: March 22, 2024

Submission Deadline: Monday, March 11, at 11:59 PM

Fee to Enter: \$25 for 3 Pieces

<https://starlinefactory.com/call-for-art-2/>

Awards available for the juried show include:

- Best of Show (Art or Photography): \$50 Cash Prize and Starline Medal
- 1st Place for Art (any Artwork but Photography): \$25 Starline Gift Card and Starline Medal
- 1st Place for Photography (any Photography): \$25 Starline Gift Card and Starline Medal
- People's Choice (Art or Photography): \$25 Starline Gift Card and Starline Medal
- Judge's Option Honorable Mention (All entries): Starline Medal

Click here for the **SUBMISSION APPLICATION**

Click here for the **PROSPECTUS**

Click here for directions on **HOW TO ENTER ART INTO THE STARLINE 4TH FRIDAY EVENT**



4th FRIDAYS ART EVENT AT THE DOLE

401 Country Club Rd
Crystal Lake, IL 60014
815-347-8535

4th Friday Event: March 22, 2024

Submission Deadline for the March 22 Event: Sunday, March 10, by midnight

Non-refundable submission fee: \$35 for up to 5 pieces

Cash Awards:

- 4th Fridays Team Choice: \$50 cash each
- Nancy Merkling Choice: \$50 cash
- Kim Holz Memorial Award: \$50 cash
- 5 Honorable Mentions: \$50 cash each
- People's Choice Award: \$50 cash

Click here for the **PROSPECTUS**

6X6 PROJECT ART AUCTION AND FUNDRAISER

Raue Center's **6x6 PROJECT** fundraiser and online art auction & exhibition celebrates its fifth year of supporting arts with Art!

All proceeds benefit Raue Center's fine arts education programs, Mission Imagination (MI) and Raue Center School For The Arts (RCSA), which has been enriching the lives of over 20,000 kids a year in the local community since 2001.

Artists of all ages and abilities are invited to participate by creating original works of art, in a variety of mediums, on 6x6" canvases. Since the inaugural event in 2019, 6x6 Project has raised over **\$80,000** for MI and RCSA with canvases coming from around the nation!

All artwork submitted to the **6x6 PROJECT** will be available for viewing and bidding online at Auctria.com starting **June 10, 2024**. Artists and the public are cordially invited to our Reception on **June 29, 2024** from 5:30-8 pm to mix, mingle and bid on your favorite pieces!

Create a mini-masterpiece and support the arts in your community!

Several of our CLCC members have participated in this event. It is a good way to get your images seen by a public that loves art, and you are supporting an arts venue right here in McHenry County. Entering is easy! Complete instructions are at the [6x6 PROJECT WEBSITE](#).

Purchase one or two 6" X 6" canvases from the project partners (listed on the website and the links below) for \$5 per canvas. You must use these official canvases. Mount or print an image on the canvas and drop your artwork off by **May 24, 2024**. All artwork submitted to the 6x6 PROJECT will be available for viewing online and can be bid on in an online auction starting **June 10, 2024**. All auction proceeds go to education programs at the Raue. There will be an Artists's Reception on **June 29, 2024** at the Raue Center that is free and open to the public.

[Click here for Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#)

[Click here for Participation Guidelines](#)

[Click here for Participation Form](#)

PARTICIPATING LOCATIONS:

Out of the Box – 71 N. Williams Street | Crystal Lake | (815) 444-7446

Makity Make – 203 E. Main Street | Algonquin | (224) 678-7090

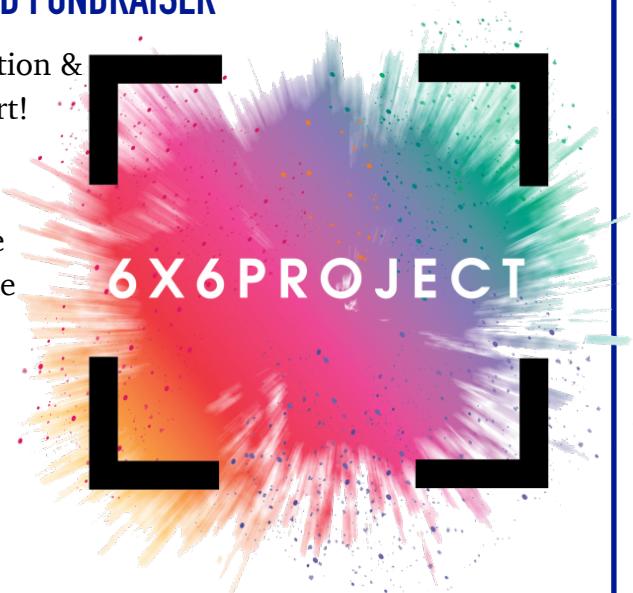
Creative Arts, Inc. – 400 Highland Avenue | Crystal Lake | (815) 219-9243

Reprographics – 26 Crystal Lake Plaza | Crystal Lake | (815) 477-1018

Piano Trends – 35 Berkshire Drive | Crystal Lake | (815) 477-4266

Material Things – 103 E. Van Buren | Woodstock | (815) 575-9710

Raue Center For The Arts – 26 N. Williams St | Crystal Lake | (815) 356-9212 | Tu – Fr, 12 to 4 pm



SUPPORT THE ARTS WITH ART!