



Newsletter

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www.sunburstfoundation.org

Holiday Arts Competition

Last year Sunburst held its first Sunburst Calendar and Holiday Card competition and it was fabulous! Participants from five Sunburst sites submitted examples of their creativity. With so many great entries, it was a challenge for our judges to select the twelve pieces that became part of our 2014 Sunburst calendar. Another piece done by an artist in Polson was selected for the Sunburst holiday card. Now it is that time of year again and we are soliciting your entries!

To submit art to be considered for this year's calendar and holiday card, give your entry to any Sunburst staff



or mail directly to Sunburst PO Box 1863 Eureka, MT 59917. All entries must include the artist's full name, the Sunburst site and a signed release. It is necessary to have this information and release form submitted with the art work to be considered for the calendar or holiday card. Any two-dimensional art piece is suitable: photographs, paintings, collages. Art work will be returned to the artists after the judging. Winners will receive a 2015 Sunburst calendar and 3 holiday cards.

The deadline for getting your art entries to the Eureka Sunburst office is **November 15**. Late entries unfortunately cannot be considered. So look over all the cool stuff you created this year and select the best to be included in this year's Sunburst calendar or as the image for our holiday card. Get yours in the mail today!

Congratulations to Julie!

Sunburst's very own Julie Fleck was selected to receive the award for Outstanding and Innovative Services at the Geriatric Mental Health Conference that was held at Flathead Valley Community College on October 21, 2014. Julie received the certificate and praise for all the work that she has been involved in serving older consumers in Hot Springs, MT. It was exciting to see Julie and Sunburst



recognized for all that is done in the field of mental health and serving people in the communities where they live. Julie, who has been busy supervising Sunburst sites in Lake, Flathead and Lincoln

Counties, is still deciding in which of her offices she will hang the new certificate. Congratulations, Julie!

Soroptimist Rock!

The Whitefish Soroptimist recently donated \$2500 to the Sunburst Child and Family Center in Kalispell. The donation is very much appreciated as it will allow staff to purchase items (fruit for after school snacks, sports equipments, tickets to events) for their young consumers. A representative from the Whitefish civic organization toured the center as well as learned about other Sunburst programs.

REO Reaches out to Sunburst

REO (Rural Employment Opportunities) is a non-profit organization helping workers and their families throughout Montana. Most of their participants live in rural communities throughout the state and have struggled to find good paying, stable jobs. The goal of REO is to help participants get the education and training they need to obtain better quality jobs that will benefit them and their families. The organization serves many of the same communities where Sunburst has a presence. They can help the individuals they work with connect with educational and vocational programs and opportunities. More information and contact numbers can be found on the REO website: www.reomontana.org

Thanks to all of you....

who responded to surveys with your ideas and opinions on how Sunburst can shine even brighter. Fifty-seven staff and four board members took the time to complete the online survey. Consumers from three sites and fourteen stakeholders (agencies Sunburst works with in the communities) also responded. The results were collected to be used by the group that meets November 1 for this year's Strategic Planning Retreat. It is extremely helpful for the group which is composed of board members, the management team and other key staff to know how so many of you view Sunburst and the ideas you have for how to make what we do as an organization even better. Thanks for your input! We will keep you posted as soon as this year's strategic plan is finalized.

Amazing Board There has never been a doubt that awesome people serve on the Sunburst board. It makes sense as Sunburst is an amazing organization so amazing people would want to be part of it. Our board members put in lots of energy to learn about Sunburst programs and help with special events as well as creating a strong vision for the future and the best way to achieve that vision. And they do more....We were very appreciative of the wonderful dinner that board member Carol Lechner brought for the October meeting. Delicious and healthy. Thanks, Carol, for all you do!



Eureka Sunburst Fund Raiser

Staff, advisory board members and volunteers will host the 6th annual Toast of the Town to raise funds for Sunburst programs in Eureka on November 7th. The event features a silent auction, wine tasting, a 50/50 raffle and delicious hors d'oeuvres. This year Toast of the Town will be held at the Four Corners Restaurant and the restaurant's owner, Deb Alexander, is generously donating all the food for the event. Items for the silent auction are given by local businesses and include gift certificates for the Wilderness Club, a handmade silver bracelet, paintings, ceramics and a privately catered dinner for two with Eureka author Alicja Edwards. Last year 89 people attended the event which is always held in early November. Over \$4000 was raised which was put towards expenses that aren't covered by program fees and grants such as rent, utilities and other indirect costs. This year's organizers are hoping to have over one hundred people attend.

