

Dear _____

This has been a year of challenges and accomplishments for the Arkell Museum and Canajoharie Library. Despite the difficult economic times, we continue to work on our mission *to promote and celebrate the understanding and enjoyment of the arts and humanities in Canajoharie, the Mohawk Valley, and beyond.*

This past year included:

Exhibitions- ***American Impressionism: Masterworks in Watercolor and Pastel*** brought in visitors from throughout the county who were amazed by works created by Cassatt, Hassam and Sargent that we had on display. Earlier in the year the exhibition ***Mark Adams and Beth Van Hoesen: Life Observed Up-Close*** showcased two artists with national reputations and local connections.

Programs & Workshops- ***Polishing the Pearls: Memoir Writing*** and ***Follow the Clues: Mystery Writing*** classes allowed local budding authors a chance to hone their craft and connect with a published author. In our mission to promote literacy and the arts we again held our award winning Summer Reading program for kids and teens. We also brought visitors into the library with our new ***Together Book Club*** which facilitated humanities based discussion between parents and their children. Concerts, films, art talks, Lego contests and more filled the Great Hall with adults and children throughout the year.

Your contribution to the Annual Appeal today will help us care for the museum collections, purchase books for the library, and present exhibitions and programs. Right now we need your support for an exciting exhibition that has been planned for over two years and still needs funding for 2013—a celebration of the American Circus. The exhibition will feature the conserved 1930s miniature Beech-Nut Circus and remarkable circus themed paintings by notable American artists. We also need your support to restore the library budget for books that is currently less than half of what it was a year ago.

Your gift today will help us serve everyone better in 2013. You can contribute by returning the enclosed card and envelope, or online at www.arkellmuseum.org

Thank You!

Diane E. Forsberg
Museum Director & Chief Curator

Leah LaFera
Library Director