

THE CAPITAL GALLERY

Society Forum



*Hang
With Us!*
SEE PAGE 3

IN THIS ISSUE

THE HEALING POWER OF ART

GOOD VIBRATIONS

STUDENT ART FUND

MEDORA GALLERY SEASON THREE

CELEBRATING
HISTORY
ART &
CULTURE

THE CAPITAL GALLERY

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'HANG WITH US!' DELIVERS AGAIN

In the continuing saga of "Hanging with Marci and David," Doug and Katie Mark, who live south of Fargo, found just what they were seeking for two special places in their home.



Michael Haynes captured a Red River Valley thunderstorm in this piece adorning the foyer of the home.

Michael Haynes' "Dakota Thunderhead" proved to be the "statement piece" they were looking for in the home's entrance. With expansive space featuring a high ceiling, the scale of the oil painting was just right. Walking into the beautiful home, guests are immediately introduced to the owners' sense of style and love of fine art.

Another room, recently made into an office resplendent with classic furniture, was calling for something traditional. Vern Erickson's images of Hidatsa warriors in their

hometown overlooking the Missouri River perfectly complement the room's sense of decorum.

These pieces and more were delivered, hung

and left behind for the owners to determine if the art accomplished their goals. As impressive as the works were in our gallery, they are so much more impressive in their home!



Vern Erickson's oil paintings bring a historical perspective to their home office.

The pieces first came to the Marks' attention when on display in The Capital Gallery West in Medora. "We loved the work of Kaye Burian and others, and liked the idea of supporting both the gallery and their partner, the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation," says Katie. "When David and Marci offered to bring a variety of pieces to our home, hang them, and let us decide, that was perfect for us!"

Marci and David will be happy to pay a visit to your home to see what transformations may be accomplished. They can't wait to hang with you!



WE'RE RELISHING OUR ROLE IN THE WORLD OF FINE ART!

By David Borlaug, President

Our non-profit organization has enjoyed a reputation for being entrepreneurial since we were chartered over 25 years ago. And while our primary mission has shifted through time, our sense of adventure has only grown with the creation of The Capital Gallery, now located in Bismarck, Fargo, and Medora!

We relish our role in bringing fine art to as many as possible. Watching visitors to our shopping mall gallery over the holidays, gazing in wonder as artists created masterpieces, provided a vivid reminder of our mission and how art and culture bind us together.

The same can be said for our Medora gallery, where over and over we heard from visitors, "This is the first time I've set foot in an art gallery!" We love knowing that now it won't be their last.

With the business sense that we bring to our work, we also love encouraging new artists of all ages by displaying them in our spaces. The past two months, our "Good Vibrations" exhibition paired well-known Fargo artist Ellen Jean Diederich with Bismarck native, 26-year-old Medora Frei, with her first show. Ellen's traditional, expressive watercolors are delightfully complemented by Medora's vivid abstract paintings.

Many artists have approached us for advice on how to become full time and successful. We have shared our thoughts on everything from subject matter to framing to pricing. Some of them were classically educated years ago and just now making the leap, fulfilling a long-held dream. What joy for us to help make that possible!

In our world, success is measured in many ways. We like to think that primarily, it is the number of people we can share that joy of art with, in most cases simply admiring it in our galleries. When they do take it home, that is the ultimate satisfaction, both for us and the artists we represent. We live in a world that depends on commercial success, along with donors' generosity, to thrive, and we are happy to report that we set a record for sales volume this past March!

Thank you for your love of fine art and joining with us on a great adventure of "Celebrating History, Art, and Culture!"



MY NEW HAPPY PLACE

Marci Narum, Vice President

Welcoming you to our galleries is always a treat. Whether a frequent guest or first-time visitor, you will learn and see something new every time you walk through our doors. You might even find something you can't live without.

We enjoy hosting groups of students in the gallery, and we see college and high school students throughout the year, fulfilling an assignment or touring the downtown galleries with an art instructor. In May, a group of elementary school students stopped by the gallery, shepherded by teachers wanting to expose their fledglings to the world of fine art. I was amused as I listened to their questions and comments; there was excitement and curiosity in their voices.

"This is my new happy place," one student said.

What a lovely statement to hear from a child, and how appropriate. The gallery exhibition "Good Vibrations"

featured the abstract, colorful artwork of Bismarck's Medora Frei, paired with neo-impressionism watercolor and acrylic by Ellen Jean Diederich of Fargo. We were hoping for it to be a happy place. It certainly is for me. You might think the flamboyance of pink flamingos and feather boas strewn about the gallery has something to do with it, but that's just frosting on the cake!

Mid-July marks a year since I joined The Capital Gallery, and September 1 will be my one-year anniversary as vice president. Once upon a time I was a semi-frequent visitor to the gallery, and reflecting on that, I realize I learned and saw something new every time I was here. I also found something here I can't live without: the dream job I didn't know I wanted.

Age notwithstanding, there is a student in each of us. I would love for you to discover the good vibes here. This is my new happy place. Maybe it can be yours, too.



A group of graphic art students from the Bismarck Career Academy visits the gallery in May



Mural inside the Life Skills Center in Medora, created by artist Sally Chernenko

EXCITING SEASON IN STORE FOR MEDORA GALLERY!



“Art soothed my soul, and surprisingly grew into a new career,”

It's our third summer season for The Capital Gallery West in Historic Medora, and we couldn't be more excited! Sponsored by Starion Bank and in partnership with the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation, the gallery is located within the Harold Schafer Heritage Center on Fourth Street.

New this year will be artist Sally Chernenko, not only working in the gallery and gift shop, but demonstrating her painting, Wednesday through Friday throughout the summer. Sally calls herself a “late bloomer” artist. Searching for peace after personal loss, Sally began painting in 2016.

“Art soothed my soul, and surprisingly grew into a new career,” she explains.

Sally paints murals, and whimsical, colorful images of sea-life, nature, animals, and her grandchildren. She's looking forward to greeting visitors at The Capital Gallery West and loves visiting with people who stop by to watch her paint!

Visitors will again be able to experience the remarkable story of Harold and Sheila Schafer, the Gold Seal Company, and how Medora came to be North Dakota's premier tourism destination. The gallery is nestled in the Sheila Schafer gallery, featuring a mix of Western Americana artists, including paintings and sculptures. At the Center's entrance you'll find the gallery's exquisite gift shop, showcasing artisanal, one of a kind jewelry, pottery, wood carvings and more.

The nearby historic von Hoffman House reopens this year, and we'll have fine art on display for sale there as well. Enjoy a guided tour of the home built for Marquesa Medora's parents, and notably inhabited by the Foley family, including James, who became North Dakota's poet laureate and nationally acclaimed author. Watch for special events throughout the year that showcase the center and gallery. You'll find David Borlaug, Marci Narum and other staff welcoming you and ready to show you the latest additions from our stable of artists.

Our presence in Medora is benefitted by ongoing general support provided by the North Dakota Council on the Arts, along with Patrons of The Capital Gallery Society. Look in this edition of the Forum to learn how you may join in supporting our nonprofit work as well!

We'll see you in the beautiful Bad Lands this summer!





Original artwork by Linda Donlin

By Linda Donlin

I've always been an artist, but I spent much of my life making a living as a writer and communications professional. Having an artistic eye proved beneficial, though, as I was fortunate to have led talented teams that produced award-winning communications materials in several industries, including energy, higher education, and healthcare.

In 2007, I accepted a position as communications manager at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. I worked with Mayo Clinic leaders in crafting and delivering their messages, first to the 60,000 employees across the Mayo system, and then to the public. It was an amazing experience, and I was impressed with Mayo's dedication to its timeless mission: the needs of the patient come first.

I found that those needs included healing the whole patient: body, mind, and spirit. If you've ever been to a Mayo campus, you've probably noticed the beautiful environment: architecture, landscaping, music, and art. It's all part of creating a healing atmosphere that dates back to the Clinic's founders, Doctors Charles and William Mayo and Dr. Henry Plummer and their families, and the Sisters of Saint Francis.

I stay in touch with my Mayo Clinic friends, some of whom now collect my art, and I recently received an invitation to participate in an exciting project. A new extended-stay facility for patients and their families is opening next to Saint Marys Hospital in Rochester, and the developer's vision is to feature original art in the rooms.

The new facility is called The Berkman, named after Daisy Louise Berkman Plummer, philanthropist, champion of the arts, and wife of Dr. Henry Plummer. "A concert pianist and Red Cross leader, Daisy was a steadfast patron of the arts; stories abound of her creativity, generosity and strong work ethic," according to The Berkman's website. "She went above and beyond to care for others; she opened her home to all and helped establish Rochester's thriving philanthropic culture, which continues today."

After receiving the invitation, I submitted a portfolio of art I have available, and was told, "We'll take all of it! Bring down as much as you can fit in your car!" One of the



Original artwork by Linda Donlin

prerequisites for the art was that it needed to be art that would make people feel good — not anything dark or moody. I was thrilled that my art met that qualification, as one of my goals as an artist is to bring beauty into the world. Knowing that my art may bring some joy to patients as they heal is a dream come true.

The art will be for sale, with the local arts organization receiving a modest commission to support its MedCity Arts Festival. Volunteers began hanging the art in mid-April, and the rooms opened to the public in May.

Linda singing for patients at Mayo while she was employed there





ART: RESTORING AND REPLENISHING

By Sommer Hunke

On the last day of 2020, I was enjoying the unseasonably warm day, as I buzzed around town for a few errands. One moment I was driving, and the next, I was waking up with a deflated airbag in my face, sitting in my crumpled, smoke-filled car. I soon found out another driver had sped through the intersection on a red light, running into my vehicle. The impact totaled my car and left me with a concussion and whiplash.

Life is full of unexpected turns. A few days prior, I was enjoying my time working a few hours at The Capital Gallery's holiday gallery at Kirkwood Mall. It was my first real exposure to art. I never anticipated it would turn into my current role at the gallery, or that it would become a crucial piece in my ongoing healing from that car crash. As a certified health and life coach, and

yoga and barre teacher, I knew recovery would require a balanced approach of mind and body, but art wasn't something on my radar yet.

A few months after the accident, I started working more regular hours at the gallery downtown. The hours I spent with Marci and David, surrounded by the beauty created through watercolor, acrylic and oil, copper, pottery, and the beautiful souls that share their creations with the world, brought a lightness and joy I needed more than ever.

Health and well-being do include the food we eat and the way we move our bodies, however, as I've always known, it's so much bigger than that. We can live our best, most vibrant, fulfilling life when surrounded by things and people that just feel right. Art can restore calm, inspire, stir deep emotions, and may be that slice of heaven in our lives we didn't know was missing.

Watch our next issue of the Society Forum for something

Inspired

NOTEWORTHY PAINTING

CURRENTLY DISPLAYED IN THE GALLERY

The Capital Gallery currently has on display a painting by the late Bismarck artist Ann Linton Hodge, which is a remarkable piece of art. "Becker," captures in oil on canvas a charming scene of a boy and his dog, in an idyllic country setting. The piece was created in 1968.

The painting is being offered on behalf of a local collector, who has long admired Hodge's work. While she died in 2014, Ann made an impact in the Bismarck area soon after arriving from southern California in 1968. She taught art classes, including as an adjunct professor at Bismarck State College, with special emphasis on portraiture.



"Becker" by Ann Linton Hodge

In 1994 she began receiving commissions to produce portraits for recipients of the North Dakota Rough Rider Award, the hall of fame located in the State Capitol.

For more information on the painting, contact David or Marci at the gallery.



Todd Clausnitzer (L) and Sam McQuade (R)

ALSO OF NOTE...

Sam and Maryvonne McQuade, Bismarck, are now owners of two of artist Todd Clausnitzer's most dramatic works, with their acquisition of "Picasso." Joining Clausnitzer's "Little Yellow Jacket," the piece recognizes one of the world's most popular wild horses, roaming in the state of Colorado. The Capital Gallery represents Clausnitzer, showing his pieces in both Bismarck and Medora.



WE'VE BEEN PICKIN' UP GOOD VIBRATIONS



By Marci Narum

The April-May exhibition celebrated the art of Bismarck's abstract artist Medora Frei, along with the neo-impressionist artwork by Ellen Jean Diederich, Fargo. The gallery vibes were high, with the artists' color choices complementing each other. Special thanks to BNC National Bank for sponsoring the exhibition.



We had extra-groovy fun adorning the gallery with flamingos everywhere for "Good Vibrations." Flamingos are known to be very social birds, and they tend to gather in colonies (known as a "flamboyance" — how fun is that!?), and they are the symbol joy and fun. Here at The Capital Gallery, we are known to enjoy flamboyance, fun,



and frivolity. After a year of pandemic protocols, this was the perfect time to party like flamingos and feel all the good vibes!

P.S. The co-directors have hereby declared the flamingo the official bird of The Capital Gallery.



Photos courtesy of Jerry Anderson



PARKING MADE EASY AT OUR GALLERIES!

So there's a thing here in the Rural Midwest about downtown city parking. We tend to think we can pull up to the front door of a business we're visiting, leaving our car as long as we wish, while we conduct our business. And parking ramps? Lions and tigers and bears oh my! No!!

Okay, perhaps not quite so extreme, but we DO hear from clients that they dislike searching for a parking spot, especially near our Bismarck or Fargo galleries. But fear not, at any moment in time, you will find a spot within easy walking distance, on the street, or both locations have parking ramps just as conveniently located. In fact, we have scientifically recorded that parking in the Bismarck ramp at Third and Main results in a two-minute walk to The Capital Gallery. At a leisurely pace.

Parking in the ramp also includes the benefits of not fretting about moving your vehicle within the 90 minute limit during weekdays. Take your time, enjoying all that surrounds our downtown galleries, from boutique clothing stores

to bakeries to restaurants and watering holes. In Fargo, our gallery is ensconced within the exquisite Curated by Trever Hill Design showroom on Roberts Alley, just west of Broadway, where there is literally a parking ramp next door.

As for The Capital Gallery West in Medora, the entire town is a parking lot at street level, and you'll want to walk around, taking in all of this historic treasure, to and from your visit to the gallery! And you'll find ramp parking is more than convenient, but economical. The Third Street ramp is \$1.50 an hour, with a cap of \$8.00 for the entire day. Parking is FREE after 4:00 p.m. each day, which is nice with evening events in our gallery. Finally, the ramps are monitored and staffed in the evenings, making them a safe and reliable place to leave your vehicle.

Downtowns, from small ones to metro areas, are the heart and soul of a community. That's why we choose to make them home to our galleries. We invite you to discover for yourself the vibrancy of a downtown visit!

DONORS HELP LAUNCH STUDENT ART FUND

Grants from the Central Regional Education Association, along with Thrivent have allowed The Capital Gallery Society to launch a Student Art Fund, according to vice president Marci Narum.

“While planning our first Student Art Fair in June, we realized that many students may appreciate assistance with preparing their art for display, including the cost of matting and framing,” says Narum. “Our friends at Thrivent loved the idea and agreed to sponsor the ‘School’s Out: Student Art Fair,’ with their funds going directly into this fund.”

The gallery’s plans also caught the attention of the Central Regional Education Association, which has provided a major grant to the Student Art Fund, with emphasis on providing scholarships for students to enhance their art education.

“We are so happy that within days of making plans for this fund, two important benefactors have come forward to make it happen,” added Narum. “Our scholarships may be used in a variety of ways, including art camps, workshops, online education or college.”

The Student Art Fair is running through the end of June, and will feature art on display and for sale, with the gallery commission going into the fund as well. Prizes will be awarded in a variety of categories, including People’s Choice and Most Promising Young Artist. The fair is co-sponsored by Carden Custom Framing of downtown Bismarck, which is providing prizes.

“We are excited about expanding on our involvement with young people and art, with the fund providing extra incentive for students to get involved,” says Narum.





CHECK OUT OUR 'WISH LIST' OF CONTRIBUTIONS...

As a nonprofit, we enjoy partnering with others to fulfill our mission. Among these has been the Bismarck Mandan Symphony Orchestra. The Capital Gallery provides wonderful acoustics for music, which our patrons have discovered when we've had Dr. Beverly Everett, Music Director, bring talented musicians into our space for special performances. The blending of music and art is truly exquisite.

At our last joint event with BMSO, we were approached by many, asking us to offer these performances more often. It was also pointed out that we should have our own piano in the gallery! So, we've added that to our short list of "in kind" contributions we would welcome, so here you are...

- Steinway & Sons baby grand piano
- Late model tall van art delivery vehicle
- AED equipment
- Specialized portable easels

For businesses, there are ways that each of these gifts can be recognized (imagine an attractive vinyl wrap on a delivery van, for example) and of course all contributions are tax deductible to the full extent of IRS regulations.

If you would like to visit about special ways to support our work, get in touch with Marci or David at 701-751-1698!

DID YOU KNOW ?



THE CAPITAL GALLERY HAS A YOUTUBE CHANNEL

Please subscribe (it's FREE!) and help us reach a minimum of 100 subscribers, which will make it easier for people to find us. As a subscriber, you will receive notifications with each new video release featuring one of our artists.

Our inaugural artist vignettes included:



BRITTA ANDERSON



LINDA DONLIN



BOB MATZ



NICOLE GAGNER

RECENTLY ADDED

ELLEN JEAN DIEDERICH

MEDORA FREI



Marci interviews Vern Erickson for an artist vignette

You can also follow The Capital Gallery on Facebook and Instagram.



**Come to Medora to
see him roam.**



Original oil painting by Kaye Burian

**Come to our Medora
gallery to take one home.**

**THE CAPITAL GALLERY WEST
A Fine Art Gallery**

**Inside the Harold Schafer Heritage Center
Medora, ND**

HERE'S TO
SUMMER
WEEKENDS
WITH FAMILY
AND
FRIENDS!

THE CAPITAL
GALLERY

NEW SUMMER HOURS

Closed SATURDAYS

Open Monday-Friday
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

If you need us, we will gladly meet
you at the gallery!
Message us first!

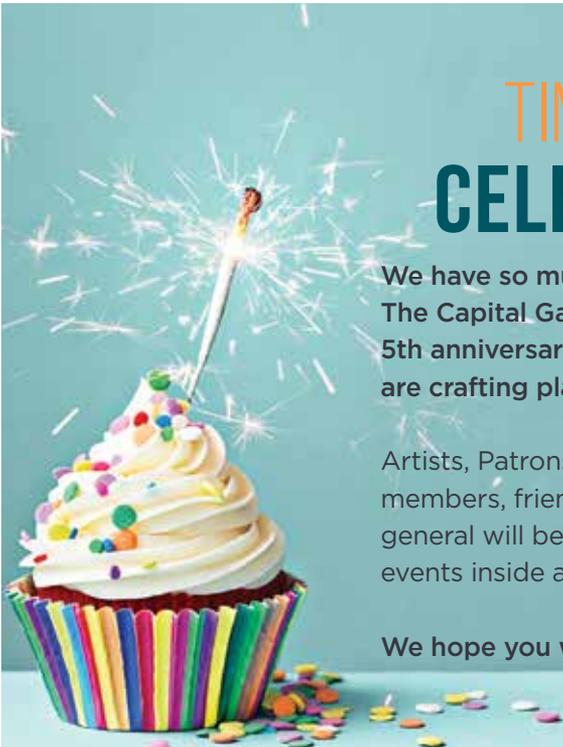


TIME FOR A CELEBRATION!

We have so much to celebrate at The Capital Gallery, and with our 5th anniversary coming in November, we are crafting plans for various celebrations.

Artists, Patrons, art buyers, board members, friends, and supporters in general will be invited to celebratory events inside and outside the gallery.

We hope you will join us - details to come!



THANKS – TO YOU!

By Marci Narum, Vice President

There is a first time for everything, and sometimes, the first time is enough to make a connection so deep, you are willing to make sure there is a next time – for yourself and for others. The Capital Gallery Society exists because of faithful annual supporters, our Society Patrons, and we will never have too many. Maybe you will be one of our next supporters?

It starts with a **First Time**. I've lost track of the number of times people walk into the gallery and say, "This is my first time here. I didn't know this existed." The Capital Gallery is a hidden gem in your own backyard. I invite you to come in and discover why fine art is adding untold value to people's lives.

It starts with **Conversation**. You read or hear about our mission, "Celebrating History, Art, and Culture," and want to know more. We love telling you, and we are thrilled to share stories about our artists, our mission, and our vision for the future of The Capital Gallery.

It starts with **Relationships**. Society Patrons become our friends, or they're already friends who believe in our mission and trust us to be good stewards of the financial gifts we receive.

I look forward to seeing you when it's your **First Time** in the gallery. I hope we can have a **Conversation** and build a **Relationship** with you that leads to even greater things for The Capital Gallery – and you!

Our deepest gratitude to these new and renewing Patron level supporters in 2021:

Larry and Linda Maslowski	Clarice and Reuben Liechty
Dr. Ron and Joyce Tello	John and Mary Bluemle
Rik and Kari Cutting	Janet Carvell
David and Ruth Borlaug	Harvey and Gale Link
Marilyn Cunningham	Ann and Dave Reich
Dr. Steve and Donna Hamar	Roberta Wachter
Nadeane Silbernagel	Martha and Gary Sorenson
Bill Sorensen	D'Arcy Honeycutt
Joy Wezelman	Joel and Jan Gilbertson
Daryl and Virginia Kerzman	Michael and Janel Schmitz
Anna Rathbun	Carol and Bill Fielhaber
Robert and Virginia Dunnigan	Heidi Heitkamp
Lisa Johnson	

Thank you to recent sponsors of receptions and special events:



THE CAPITAL GALLERY

- \$1,000 or more
- \$500 or more
- \$250 or more



Kaye Burian

The Capital Gallery is free and open to the public. We invite you to help expand our nonprofit mission of *Celebrating History, Art, & Culture* with your financial gifts. We appreciate contributions of any amount.

With your annual gift of \$250 or more, become a Patron of The Capital Gallery Society. Your level of support establishes a mutual commitment to delivering fine art programming.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City, State, ZIP _____

Email Address _____ Gift Amount: \$ _____

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Submit this form with check or credit card info:

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PO Box 1197
Bismarck, ND 58502

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Call with credit card info:

701 - 751 - 1698

Your gift is deductible to the full extent of IRS regulations. The Capital Gallery, Federal ID Number 36-4012431.

Thank you!

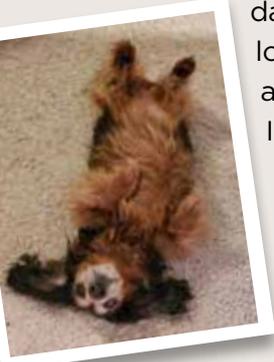


CHERIE ROSHAU'S
DAKOTA THUNDER
PASSES MICKEYS
SNIFF TEST

HA HA I GET
IT. GET A LONG
LITTLE DOGGIE

INTRODUCING MICKEY, THE GALLERY POOCH

Editor's Note: We beg you to indulge us as we introduce our newest columnist Mickey, or, as she is known in the fine art community, Mickyangelo. She is a 15-year-old fluffy, miniature dachshund who loves people, art, and more. If she's not napping, she will love to meet you when you visit the gallery.



Let's get to know Mickey ...

The Capital Gallery: Thank you for waking up from your nap to do this interview. How did you come to be a gallery pooch?

Mickey: I've been a lot of things – office assistant, human trainer, comedian. I'm happy doing most anything as long as I get treats, tummy rubs, and naps.

CG: What are the requirements for this designation?

M: I've heard some gallery pooches are specially trained to be artists, but I'm more of an art critic, so really, just having a nose for art helped me get my paw in the door. Being cute doesn't hurt either. Plus, I live with gallery co-director Marci (my mom). I like her; she is my most well-trained human. I get treats and tummy rubs from her on demand.



CG: But do you consider yourself an artist?

M: Of course. I just don't have any formal education. My preferred medium is fabric and squeakers, and my process is basically destruction, followed by still life of what was once a toy. I'm waiting to have my own exhibition in the gallery.

CG: Who were your early influences?

M: Lassie, Benji, Marmaduke, Scooby Doo, and Snoopy during his French impressionist phase.

CG: When did you discover your interest in fine art?

M: The first time I saw "Dogs Playing Poker," although I still don't know how to play poker.

CG: Who is your favorite gallery artist?

M: In my position, I shouldn't choose favorites, but I know what I like when I sniff it.

CG: What are the demands of a role like this?

M: Knowing which customers are approachable and willing to rub my tummy, and trying to explain the difference between expressive and abstract art.

MICKEY
ARRIVES
FOR
ANOTHER
DAY AT
THE
GALLERY



CG: How do you handle the pressure?

M: I take several naps. Marci (Mom) has four blankets for me in her office. Tummy rubs and treats also help.

CG: What do you find most difficult?

M: Most gallery pooches I've met have long legs. It's hard to appreciate the art from an eight-inch view, but I compensate. David carries me around, so that helps a lot.

CG: Describe a typical day for you at the gallery.

M: Treats. Tummy rubs. Nap. Intervals of greeting people.

CG: What's next for your professional development?

M: Oh, well in dog years, I'm already a senior advisor. I should be getting my own office soon, and I'm eagerly anticipating my role in the Hang With Us concept. It's not all about Marci and David.

MICKEY ADVISES
DAVID ON HANGING
A PAINTING. SHE
SAYS IT'S TOO



If you have questions for Mickey, you can submit them at Info@TheCapitalGallery.com.

YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS A THING....



Kate Baldock

June

School's Out!

Student Art Fair

July/August

Walking on Sunshine

20 artists represented

September/October

Bison Ballet

In Conjunction with the National Bison

Symposium

November/December

I'll Be Home...

Design by Pat Smith, Interiors by Design

THE CAPITAL
GALLERY

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