



MoCo Arts
76 Railroad Street
Keene, NH 03431-3744

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Upcoming Events

Pirates of Penzance, May 15th - May 17th

Hans Christian Anderson: Annual Dance Performance May 31st - June 1st

MoCo Arts Unable to Reach Agreement With MEDC

As our Arts Insiders know, our Feasibility Study (completed in November) enthusiastically endorsed our intention to build an educational arts center in downtown Keene, asked that we delay our capital campaign until the YMCA completed theirs, and encouraged us to take immediate steps to secure an available site in the Railroad Land Development (RLD) project managed by Monadnock Economic Development Corporation. As a result we assiduously pursued this opportunity with MEDC, seeking an agreement that would provide reasonable security for our financial supporters and also meet our requirements for parking and green space. On March 27, 2008, after months of negotiation, the Board of MoCo Arts announced that it was unable to reach closure on a satisfactory agreement within the time frame imposed by MEDC.

While we deeply regretted this outcome, we remain firmly committed to our original goals and have renewed our search for another site for our arts center. Our transition plans designed to make sure that we can meet community-driven demand for our programming are fully in place. This June we will move our adult programs into newly refurbished space (currently under construction) in the MacMillin complex on Elm Street. We are continuing our work on the recommendations that came out of our feasibility study. And above all we remain highly optimistic and deeply grateful to all who continue to support us not just in our desire to build a community arts center but to locate that center in the heart of downtown Keene.

Transforming lives through movement and creative expression

April Spotlight



“If variety is the spice of life, then I have found the secret recipe for success. The variety I experience at MoCo Arts is what has made it enjoyable and interesting to work and study there for nearly a decade.”

-Danielle Fitzpatrick

On any given Saturday morning, the halls of MoCo Arts are filled with laughter, dancing children, and smiling families. These joys are one of the benefits of MoCo’s Creative Dance and Storytime Theatre Programming, run by Danielle Fitzpatrick.

As a little girl from a large family, the youngest of seven, Danielle was very shy and withdrawn. Her mother signed her up for dance classes so that she could build her confidence and esteem... and it worked! Danielle continued to dance throughout her entire life.

She received her undergraduate degree from University of Mass at Amherst, and her Masters from Antioch Graduate School, where she studied psychology, early childhood education and dance.

Musical Theatre Moves to Marlborough

MoCo Arts’ Spring Musical Theatre production of “Mything Links” on March 29th and 30th was performed at the Marlborough Community House. The move to Marlborough enabled students to have more rehearsal time in the performance space and to have a stronger learning experience. Finding available and appropriate performance venues continues to be a challenge as our youth programs continue to grow.

Recent Transformative Experiences

“Fire and Ice” and “Hip Hop Day”

Dance students of all ages performed to *sold out crowds* for MoCo Arts’ annual Faculty and Repertory Show at the Redfern Art Center at Keene State College.

“Children of Eden”

On February 2nd and 3rd, over 50 children ages 13 through 18 from MoCo Arts’ Musical Theatre program took to the Keene High School stage to present “Children of Eden”, to over 800 audience members.



Living Literature

MoCo Arts dancers performed “Little House On The Prairie”, choreographed by Paula Aarons, for 14 elementary schools at the Keene High School theatre. Living Literature is an annual performance by youth for youth, in which stories come alive on stage through dance.

Today, Danielle teaches creative dance, movement, ballet and theatre to 2 year olds through 92 year olds at several MoCo sites and at community locations. She also transforms lives through her leadership in MoCo’s multi-arts camps and through her work at Crotched Mountain.

Many of Danielle’s students develop a life-long passion for dance and the arts and they make MoCo Arts their “second home” until they graduate from high school.

MoCo Arts Welcomes Ted Kuchinski

Ted Kuchinski, CFO of New Hampshire Community Development Finance Authority, joined MoCo Arts’ Board of Directors in January. According to Ted, “We’ve always felt that MoCo has added a lot to the community. When I was asked to join the Board, I felt it was an organization I would feel good about giving my time to and if I could help move MoCo forward it would benefit not only our family but the community as a whole.”



Friday, May 30 through Sunday, June 8 • Downtown Keene



Since 1992, **Art Walk** has filled the windows of downtown establishments with the fine work of some of the best visual artists in the area. Downtown turns into an art gallery where passersby leisurely stroll the sidewalks to experience some of the best artwork in the region. This year’s event is a collaboration of MoCo Arts, The Keene Downtown Group, Keene Art Association, and the Keene Sentinel, and supported, in part by the NH State Council on the Arts.