# WHERE WE LIVE:

# A Zine Celebrating the Places We Call Home



















## **2020 ANNUAL REPORT**



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## LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Where do I even begin? 2020 was not what we expected. Pre-pandemic, with the help of students at the University of New Hampshire, we hit the ground running with a modified charrette of Durham. Soon, the plans we had for 2020 evolved! We embraced virtual meetings and working from home, but all the while I was missing being face-to-face with you (if you've met me, you know I am an extrovert).

Looking back, I am amazed at what we were able to accomplish this year – humans are truly resilient creatures! We helped Durham get their housing committee up and running, hosted a series of webinars, including our annual Greater Seacoast Housing Summit in partnership with the Seacoast Chamber Alliance, and partnered with New Hampshire Housing to introduce you to Joe Minicozzi of Urban 3.

This year, in lieu of the traditional annual report, we present you with Where We Live: The 'Zine! Where We Live is a virtual art exhibit celebrating the places we call home and hosted on the Coalition's website. Our goal was to demonstrate how universally important the concept of "home" is to us and how beautiful and diverse housing can be. When you visit the Coalition's website, you will find great resources and data, but we wanted to ensure visitors also find something relatable and human. Why not beautiful images of homes?

We put out a call for art in the spring and received dozens of submissions from local, national, and global artists. We asked each artist to provide a one sentence statement about what home means to them and what we found is that while "home" means something a little different to everyone, there are common themes of safety, comfort, and warmth. You can view the gallery, along with the artists' statements, on our website and now in this 'Zine!

We are so grateful this year more than ever to get to do the important work we do and for your support!

Sincerely,

Sarah Wrightsman Executive Director

# MISSION OF THE "



Through a united coalition of business, municipal, and community groups, our mission is to be a catalyst for the development of a range of housing options for the diverse workforce in the Greater Seacoast region of New Hampshire. We envision an ample supply of affordable, desirable housing throughout the region, providing opportunities for the workforce to put down roots and create a more diverse community that benefits all of us.

We are a coalition of advocates and educators. We work across the seacoast region of New Hampshire as a convener, educator, and advocate. The Coalition strategically works toward the goal of promoting housing affordability, availability, and diversity by addressing the barriers to the development of workforce housing: exclusionary land use regulations at the local level and pervasive myths and misunderstandings about housing and housing development.

# **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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#### Bart McDonough

Town Planner, Town of Kittery

#### **Thomas Howard**

Director of Business Development, Stateside Construction



#### **Pat Cheal**

"Beth's Sunset" Oil on Panel

"Home to me is my most favorite place to connect with the sun as it colors my life."

www.pattheartist.com



## Jake Henzler / Boy Knits World

"Copenhagen Building Blocks" Cotton

"To me, home has always been a building and a neighbourhood and a group of people who feel the same way."

Instagram: @boy\_knits\_world Facebook: @boyknitsworld



#### **Carol Sherwin**

"By the Sea" Oil on Panel

"Home is where I find, love, comfort, laughter, sometimes tears, but most of all, family."



#### **Carol VanLoon**

"Kitchen Shadows" Photography

"Home is the safest, most comfortable place I know."



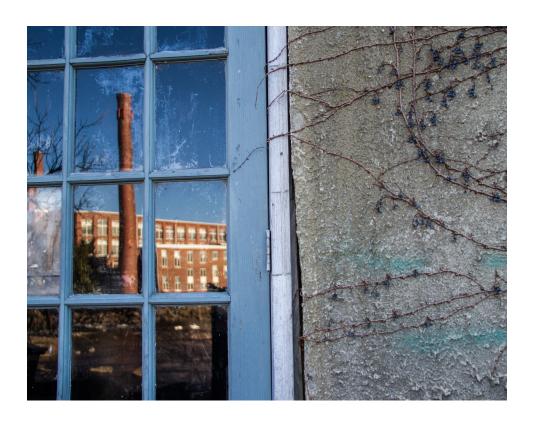
#### **Debbie Mueller**

"Beyond My Easel" Oil on Panel

"Home means comfort- the comfort of the sun shining into my living room in the morning, the comfort of the smells emanating from my kitchen, and the comfort of being in the company of my favorite 2 and 4 legged family members."

www.debbiemuellerart.com

Instagram: @thelatebloomerartist Facebook: @latebloomerartist



#### **Debra Woodward**

"Exeter Reflections" Photography

"My home wouldn't be complete without my three cats, so here is a great quote about both cats and home from Jean Cocteau, 'I love cats because I enjoy my home; and little by little, they become its visible soul.'"

www.seacoastartist.org/gallery/debra-woodward-gallery



#### **Bri Custer**

"Neighbors" Guoache on Paper

"Home is a place I feel peace and belonging while being fully myself."

www.bricuster.com Instagram: @briiiicuster

Facebook: @bricusterpaintings



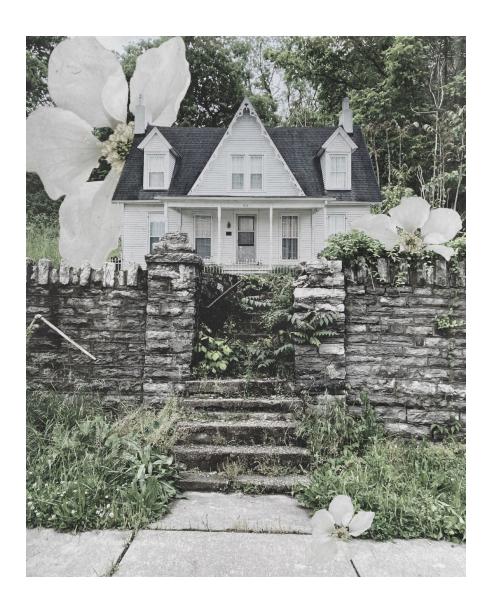
#### Elissa Von Letkemann

"Shadows of the Past, Court Street"
Hand drawn digital illustration
From the "Windows of Portsmouth" Series

"Home is where the heart is. Having lived in many places over the years, I realize that home is more of a feeling than a physical structure. Though my Windows of Portsmouth illustration series focuses on exterior architecture of homes, I am always more interested in the narratives of what could be happening behind the glass."

www.elissavonletkemann.com

Facebook: @ElissaVonLetkemannDesign Instagram: @elissa\_von\_letkemann\_design



## **Emily Griswold Templeton**

"Untitled" Digital photography, collage

"Home is where daydreams are sheltered, solitude is guarded, and memories are cherished."

www.instagram.com/emilyseeks



## **Lindsay Gwinn Parker**

"New Neighbors" Watercolor on Paper

"Home is wherever I feel free and at peace."

www.lindsaygwinnparker.com Instagram: @artandfavor

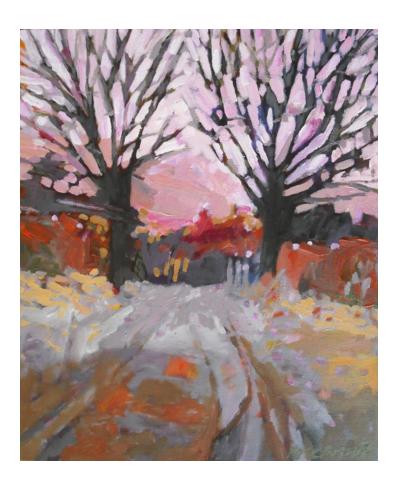


#### **Kate Knox**

"Sprouted" Mixed Media

"Most of my work is centered around structures and the precariousness of safety and sanctuary."

www.kate-knox.com Instagram: @katemcgirlver



## **Rose Bryant**

"Winter Snow" Acrylic on Canvas

"This day, on Union St. in Exeter, was incredible. The light was amazing, the snow was deep, there were car tracks before the snow plows came. The colors of the day were different from what is shown here, but the drama of the view and the quiet of the soft padding co-existed beautifully. Our little neighborhood is a most amazing place."

www.rosebryant.blogspot.com Instagram: @rosebryantartist

Facebook: @RoseBryantOriginalPaintings



#### **Melissa Peterson**

"Growth" Mellifera Modern Polaroid

"For me home has always been a place flooded with warm light where I can recharge from the day and feel entirely myself."

www.melliferamodern.com Instagram: @melliferamodern



#### **Kaitlin Sconce**

"Mr. Mac's House" Oil on Panel

"Home is a place we can be ourselves while watching the landscape change with the seasons."













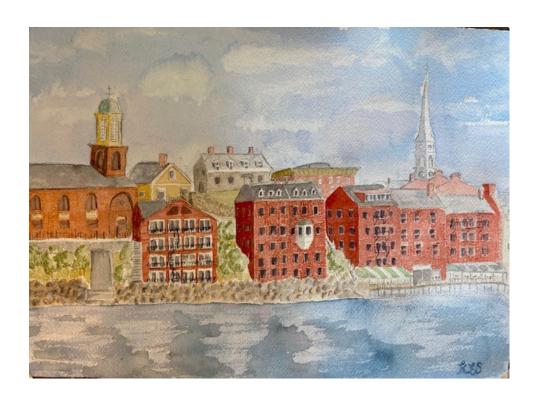


#### Kathleen Tunnell Handel

"Typology Grid - Maine #02, 2018' Limited Edition Photograph, Archival Pigment Print From Where the Heart Is: Portraits from Vernacular American Trailer and Mobile Home Parks

"Home should be a place where everyone can feel safe to be themselves, but unfortunately, housing affordability and housing security are increasingly elusive."

www.kathleentunnellhandel.com Instagram: @kathleen\_tunnellhandel



## **Katy Eveland Sherman**

"Untitled" Watercolor

"Home is food simmering on the stove, a warm bath, a clean soft bed with lots of pillows, and loved ones together through the four seasons of life."



#### **Union Haus**

"Confined" Digital

"Confined is a personal piece I created during the pandemic. Because of the quarantine, I felt stuck inside my house and it was very difficult for me as an artist to find inspiration and energy to make art. The person cramped inside the house was how I felt on a daily basis. Confined. Now that the virus has let up some and I have moved back to my studio, I have a newfound appreciation for what home means to me."

www.unionhaus.com Instagram: @unionhaus



## Sarah Wrightsman

"Let Them Stay/Your Zoning is Bad" Relief Print/Cartography

"In my quest to define home, I realized you don't define home — your home defines you. New Hampshire is where my heart is and the seacoast is where I feel at home."



## **Nancy Reiss**

"Walk Around Powder House Pond" Watercolor

"My wonderful apartment at the Mill in Exeter only lacks a patio and outdoor space. So this walk around the Powder House Pond has become my sanctuary."



## **Stacey Durand**

"Aubuchon, Portsmouth to Nashua" Acrylic, collage, and graphite on panel

"Home is comfort and community."

www.staceydurandart.com



## **Laura Harper Lake / Artful Harper Studios**

"Home Landing" Digital Collage

"Home to me means your own safe haven. As someone who is currently looking to purchase her second house, it's very difficult to find a safe haven right now in this region. This piece represents how far it feels I have to look to find an available home."

www.artfulharperstudios.com Instagram: @ArtfulHarperStudios Facebook: @ArtfulHarperStudios



## **Stephanye Schuyler**

"Housing for Everyone" Quilt

"Home has always meant sanctuary, and now in this strange Covid time, it has also become a workplace, play space and headquarters for all my virtual activities."

www.stephanyeschuyler.com



#### Stephanie Webster / Stephanie Art & Design

"The Old Mill Bridge" Relief Print

"They say home is where the heart is, and my heart lies in the little town of Roswell: the home of my dearest friends and family, an endless source of inspiration, and the birthplace of countless memories."

stephanieartdesign.pb.gallery Instagram: @stephanie.artdesign Facebook: @stephanieartdesigns

## DONORS/MEMBERS/SPONSORS

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## **Master Builders & Major Funders**









## **Community Builders**













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- CJ Architects
- Community Action Partnership of Strafford County
- Credere Associates
- Cross Roads House
- D.F. Richard Energy
- New Hampshire Community Loan Fund
- Piscataqua Savings Bank
- Portsmouth Housing Authority
- Portsmouth Smart Growth
- Rockingham Planning Commission
- The Housing Partnership
- TMS Architects
- York Housing Authority

#### **Individual Members**

- Michael Behrendt
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- Georgann Cherim
- Michael Donahue
- Chris Dwyer
- Greg and Kathy Gosselin
- Lisa Henderson

- Andrew Jarmon
- Jill Peters
- Kim Rogers
- Lindsay and Malcolm Sonnett
- Sentator David Watters

## **Special Thank You to The Brook**





# www.SeacoastWHC.org







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The Workforce Housing Coalition of the Greater Seacoast is a 501c3 nonprofit organization.