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Greenwich Arts Council Holds Its Annual Meeting and Honors High School Seniors with Annual Creative Achievement Awards

The Greenwich Arts Council held its Annual Meeting on Thursday afternoon, June 5 and at that time new board members were introduced. Welcomed to the board were Janet Clausi, Barbara Collier, Connie Cowen, Victoria Hackman, and Martha Spector. Emily Ragsdale was voted in as Board President with the following back up slate of officers: Sonja Blom, Vice President of Programs; Barbara Collier, Vice President of Development; Jane Finn, Treasurer; Heidi Manwaring, Secretary. Special recognition was given to Mary DeSilva, John Dixon, Amy Fleishman, Neroli McSherry, and Victor Zimmerman who will be stepping down from the board.

Immediately following the Annual Meeting, the Greenwich Arts Council honored six high school seniors from Greenwich schools with the annual presentation of the Arts Council's Creative Achievement Awards. Selected by their teachers for their "exceptional artistic ability and creative vision," this year's honorees included Greg Louis of Brunswick School for music, visual, and the performing arts; Genevieve Irwin from Convent of the Sacred Heart for music and visual arts; Greenwich Academy student Lily Galef also for excellence in music and visual arts; and Greenwich High School seniors Matt Hurwit for music, Madeline Marianacci for her outstanding achievements in theatrical design, and Nicola Parisi for visual arts. Greenwich Arts Council board advisor, Elinor Carr, served as host and chair of the award presentation.

"Once again we witness the radically democratic nature of the arts by this wonderful and diverse sampling of talent," remarked GAC's Executive Director, Frank Juliano. The students played and presented to a standing-room only house in the Arts Council Meeting Room and the program concluding with a rousing jazz quartet led by Matt Hurwit.

The Greenwich Arts Council's mission is to support and nurture emerging artists, bringing the arts to the community and the community to the arts. The Creative Achievement Awards is just one of the many ways by which the Arts Council helps young artists reach their potential.

(Students from left to right: Matt Hurwit, Greg Louis, Genevieve Irwin, Madeline Marianacci, and Nicola Parisi; separate picture, Lily Galef)

(New Board Members from left to right: Victoria Hackman, Janet Clausi, Barbara Collier, and Connie Cowen; missing, Martha Spector).