

ARTS CENTER HOSTS FIRST EXHIBIT FEATURING ONLY SENIOR ARTISTS

The Simpsonville Arts Center experienced one of its many “firsts” to come when it hosted an opening for its first art exhibition exclusively featuring artists who are senior citizens.

The Senior Artists Showcase art exhibit runs Aug. 15 - Sept. 21 and features 10 senior artists. An opening and reception for the artists and exhibit free and open to the public were held Aug. 31 in the Lobby Art Gallery. Arts Center Manager Melissa Sturgis said the Senior Artists Showcase is a landmark exhibit in the history of the Arts Center.

“The Simpsonville Arts Center is what we like to call around the halls ‘the People’s Arts Center,’ and we mean that,” Sturgis said. “The art exhibitions that a gallery hosts should reflect the public it serves, and senior artists play a vital role in and bring invaluable experience to the art scene. What a proud moment it was to welcome the artists and public to the exhibit opening.”

The artists featured in the show are Larry Coble, Gayle Caregnato, Chris Graves, Sandy Maurer, Bibi Perez-Rubio, Sobaida Salomon, Ph.D., Rosemary Slobodian, Pamela Taylor, Ph.D., Dan Wil-



The Simpsonville Arts Center hosted an opening for the Senior Artists Showcase art exhibition on Aug. 31 in the Lobby Art Gallery.

liams and Robin Zotara. Following the exhibit opening was a free concert by the Carolinians Senior Jazz Band. Founded in the 1940s, the Carolinians was re-established in 2013 and has 18 members who play trumpets, trombones, saxophones, piano, string bass and trap set. Accompanying the band was a vocalist.

Simpsonville Community Relations Specialist Justin Campbell said programming is flourishing at the Arts Center, and the dual exhib-

it and jazz concert is a great example.

“Having an art exhibit is great, and having a jazz concert is great, but hosting the opening of an art exhibition of work by senior artists and then a concert by the talented and well-respected Carolinians comprised of seniors as well is truly special,” said Campbell, who works closely with Sturgis to promote the Arts Center. “We like to think of 110 Academy St. as the ‘People’s Arts Center,’ and the senior art exhibit and jazz concert are proof of that.”

The Simpsonville Arts Center hosts several art exhibitions in the Lobby Art Gallery throughout the year. Visit simpsonvilleartscenter.com/events for more information.



The Carolinians Senior Jazz Band performed a free concert for attendees of the Senior Artists Showcase art exhibition on Aug. 31 in the auditorium.