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Dear Friends,

This is my first letter as President of the school, having been entrusted to step into the position earlier this year. Writing this to you, our students, instructors, supporters, and the community-at-large, I am filled with gratitude. I am now in my fifth year of service on the WSA board, and I have really enjoyed all my work with our terrific board and staff these past few years.

I am also grateful to be living in Woodstock and the Hudson Valley. The Woodstock School of Art is one of our area’s artistic jewels. And how wonderful that our traditions of artistic vision, history, and community are brought to vivid life in the current show in our Robert H. Angeloch Gallery: *Grant Arnold and the Golden Era of Woodstock Lithography, 1930-1940*. Curator Bruce Weber worked closely with the Tyler Art Gallery at SUNY Oswego to bring this history and this wonderful collection of art to the WSA, and we are so grateful to the folks who brought this show to life. The Woodstock Art Colony was an integral part of the growth in lithography and printmaking activity in the early to mid-20th century. Here we are some 75 years later, and WSA continues to be a leading art school teaching and inspiring artists to explore and make stunning prints in our printmaking studio. Thanks to support from community members like you, we continue to increase student enrollment in drawing, painting, printmaking, and sculpture.

In addition, during 2023 the WSA:

- continued our “on the job” training program for printmaking/studio management, helping program participants prepare to enter the art-making workplace
- provided more than \$12,000 in merit and work exchange scholarships to adult students
- awarded over \$9,000 in Thompson Family Foundation scholarships to high school and college students
- held five beautiful exhibitions in our Robert H. Angeloch Gallery, along with several in various other venues throughout the community, showcasing the work of our students and instructors.

This year was also a big year for WSA sculpture! With a generous \$60,000 grant from the NY State Council on the Arts, alongside support from generous private donors as well as the building fund in our carefully managed endowment, we doubled the size of Studio 5. One of our ongest serving instructors, Tricia Cline, has led our sculpture instruction program for 25 years. She has inspired countless students and gallery show attendees with her breathtaking sculptures. In 1999 when she arrived, Studio 5 was not much more than a maintenance shed, with no plumbing, and memorably, well-worn shag rugs. Tricia remembers carrying

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bucketsful of water with her students over to Studio 5. The result of this year's expansion is increased capacity for classes and students, loads of light, and a lot more elbow room. It is fantastic to walk in there and see our students hard at work, sculptures drying on shelves, waiting for firing, living side by side in that special world of clay.

I know that so many of you who are reading this letter have felt the wonder of stepping onto our historic campus, taking classes, workshops, attending gallery shows and other special events. We rely on the support of you, our past donors, and hopefully some more of you who would like to join our list of funders. We thank you so much. We work hard to find new grants, carefully manage our budget, support and appreciate our superb instructors, and most of all, teach and inspire our students. We are also paying close attention to protecting the historical and architectural lineage represented by the beautiful buildings on our campus.

With your generous support, we will do all this, and, yes, even more in the future. Thank you so much for your trust and support.

Sincerely,



Scott Clugstone
Board President