

February 2023

Dear supporters of the Arts and Culture Alliance of Manistee County,

Thank you for your past membership in our organization. The ACA was founded in 2006 to promote arts and culture in Manistee County. We have done that in many ways thanks to dues and donations from our supporting members. Our current project is monumental(!).

“Mentorship Can Be Life-Changing” is our plan to place life-sized bronze sculptures of James Earl Jones and his mentor, Donald Crouch on the grounds of the KND school.

Here is an update on the project:

- We have reached 60% of our goal of \$102,000. Most of it has been from individual donors, many have given more than once.
- There have been more than 30 mentors nominated for our Wall of Mentors which will be part of the installation.
- James’ sculpture is being bronzed and Bernadette will be starting the sculpture of Donald Crouch soon.
- Our goal is to place the sculptures and wall on a concrete foundation in front of the KND schools by September, 2023.

In order to reach that goal we **MUST** have more donations. We thank those of you who have already given to the project. If you are able to give again please do. Consider nominating another mentor (donation of \$100) or give to complete the sculptures and to pay for the placement of the sculptures. Your board of directors has worked very hard to make this meaningful project a reality. **We are close and we need your help to get there.**

On February 16 the Garden Theater in Frankfort will present A Field Of Dreams, one of James’ most well-known movies. There is no charge but donations to the project will be accepted. There may be a similar event at the Vogue Theater in Manistee. Sometime in early May we will present to grades K-12 at KND regarding its famous graduate and his inspiring teacher, emphasizing the importance of mentoring.

The dues for 2023 remain the same: \$15 individual, \$20 family, \$25 organization, \$50 for 501c3 coverage. Please renew your membership by sending a check to ACA, 19708 Cadillac Hwy., Copemish, MI 49625. There is more information on our website <allartsmanistee.com>. You can make a donation there as well as on our Facebook page.

Joy Smith, Cynthia Asiala, Janet Stroup, Linda Cudney, Kathi Houston, Steve Rogers, Jan Thomas, Pam Tompke, William Hattendorf, Rhonda Erbel.