

Art Sales to Benefit Scholarship Fund



Two years ago we lost a dear friend and fellow member, Mary Ellen Jones. A bright, energetic and inspiring artist, she believed passionately in our programs, particularly those for youth and teens. In her honor, husband Cecil and family created the **Mary Ellen Jones Scholarship Fund**, providing children's education scholarships and college tuition

scholarships to those who plan to study art, design, or architecture.

This month, Mary Ellen's daughter, Beth Westra, a collage artist and elementary school teacher has placed her artworks in our Turtle Gift Shop with proceeds from sales to go directly to Mary Ellen's Scholarship Fund. Beth uses decorative papers from around the world to create colorful, fanciful and inspiring still lifes and landscapes.

Speaking about her mother and her own art, Beth says, "My mother was always creating something. I saw how her involvement in the arts brought such richness to her life. Watching my mother over the years made me realize most of the enjoyment of being an artist is in the process itself. In my case, I'm forever amazed that I begin with a blank sheet of white paper and after hours of cutting, moving shapes around, and deciding which colors look best, I can look at what I've created and feel quite satisfied."

Beth sells her work in galleries near her home in North Yarmouth, Maine. She and her father, Cecil, are pleased that the sale of her artworks will not only benefit area youth, but will help keep Mary Ellen's memory alive.