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## MURAL COMPLETED AT ARTPARK



Artpark & Company used its unusually (and pandemic-related) slower spring months to plot out a new mural project for the main parking lot on South Fourth Street in Lewiston. That grand canvas was recently completed and can be seen in these pictures from K&D Action Photo & Aerial Imaging.

A jury selected Rob Lynch and Matt Sagurney (aka The Solo Roths) as lead creators. The duo was tasked with collaborating with Cynthia Pegado and the "Artpark Bridges" community outreach program to "transform the largest Artpark parking lot into a large canvas of color that gives voice to the underserved members of our community and expresses shared humanity."

The Solo Roths worked with People Inc., Empower, Artisan's Edge and the Parkinson's community, among others, in crafting design ideas.

When the mural work began in late-June, Artpark & Company Executive Director Sonia Kozlova Clark said, "Every time I enter Artpark and I look at this vast (main) parking lot, I always think, 'Well, this has got to be the next big project for us.' It's an entryway; it's the gateway to Artpark; it's what should say to everybody 'This is Artpark. You've arrived.'"

"It's been my plan to definitely do an artwork here, sooner or later. And this year was just a perfect opportunity. I realized we're gonna have so much less traffic and so much less use," as New York's efforts to combat the coronavirus prevented the venue from holding its annual "Tuesdays in the Park" concert series.

Artpark & Company drew rave

reviews in 2017 when Director of Visual Arts & Family Programs Tanis Winslow and a team of artists recreated "Niagara 1979" - the late Gene Davis' "Painted Parking Lot" in the South Fourth

Street C lot. That parking area is normally reserved for sponsors and VIPs.

See additional photos at www.wnypapers.com. Find more information at www.artpark.net.

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## ASI opens applications for 2020-21 Arts Access program

Applications are open to re-new or sign up for Arts Access, a program by Arts Services Initiative of Western New York that removes financial barriers that may prevent access to arts experiences. ASI partnered with more than 50 Western New York-based galleries, theaters, and other arts and cultural organizations in 2020 to offer passholders free or discounted admission, free transportation to and from events and venues, and digital spaces that connect passholders to news of both in-person and virtual activities.

The Arts Access pass is available to any resident of Erie or Niagara counties who receives income-based public assistance, such as SNAP, HEAP, WIC, Medicaid or TANE. According to a study completed by the Mobile Safety-Net Team and University at Buffalo's Regional Institute, nearly one-third of Buffalo-Niagara residents, or 338,000 people, lived in or near poverty before COVID-19 hit. Since COVID-19 hit, those who serve those communities di-

rectly anticipate a spike in that number making the demand for this type of free access program even more important.

ASI has been working closely with the program's partner organizations to continue providing accessible programming even while many arts organizations remain closed or are open at limited capacity. To continue the program in the current state of COVID-19, ASI overhauled its Arts Access website to include a calendar of virtual events and activities, launched a biweekly e-newsletter to share updates on these offerings with passholders, and continues to build space in its Arts Access Facebook Group for passholders to connect, post questions and ideas, and discover in-person and virtual arts and cultural activities.

Arts Access was established in 2013. To register or learn more about ASI's Arts Access program, visit arts-access.org or contact Jess at 833-3004, ext. 514, or artsaccesswny@gmail.com.

## Fichte Endl & Elmer EYE CARE

### September Educational Events

You are invited to register for one of our socially distanced & safe patient education events.

### CATARACT SURGERY LUNCH & LEARN Wednesday September 9th at 12 noon



- Held at My Tomato Pie Restaurant
- Enjoy an informative presentation
- Lunch is on us!
- Hosted by Dr. Thomas Elmer Jr MD
- Learn the difference between laser & traditional cataract procedures
- Hear about astigmatic correction
- Q&A session at the end of the event in a safe socially distance setting
- We are making your safety a priority therefore space is VERY limited. We will offer seating 6 ft apart, NYS Face covering policy will be enforced.

Call today to reserve your seats or sign up on line www.fichte.com  
1-800-309-2020



3035 Niagara Falls Blvd, Amherst 14228

### OUR LASIK OPEN HOUSE IS BACK!! Thursday September 10th at 6pm



- Doors open at 5:30 pm
- Hosted by the Surgeons
- See a LASIK procedure
- Meet the patient
- Bring a friend, Q&A Session
- Refreshments by Wurlitzer
- Enter to WIN FREE LASIK
- Just for attending we will waive our usual LASIK evaluation fee of \$150

Join us at Wurlitzer Events for a SAFE & SOCIALLY DISTANCED LASIK Open House. Just for attending we will waive the usual \$150 LASIK evaluation fee AND your name will be entered to win the a FREE LASIK procedure. Keeping with CC and NYS guidelines we will limit attendance to just 50 guests. Seats will be spaced 6 ft apart & face coverings are required to be worn. Your safety is of the utmost importance. NOTE: A second session may be added if event fills quickly

Reserve seats at www.fichte.com or call 1-800-309-2020  
Held at Wurlitzer Events 908 Niagara Falls Blvd, North Tonawanda NY 14120