

Dear friends,

This year is the first time that I can ever remember hearing the geese in the beginning of February. It has been a warm winter with very little snow and now spring is on its way. Thank you for being a part of Still Mountain Center and for your support in the form of energy, vision and money. We've put together a collage of voices and hope this conveys the spirit of Still Mountain Center!

With appreciation,

Joy Brown



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Still Mountain Center is a 501(c)(3)
nonprofit organization.

Ananda Saha is an artist and one of the founding members of Still Mountain Center

"There have been times in my life, when I felt adrift from my creativity. Then life itself feels flat to me. It has always been a creative environment with like-minded people that has restored me. Perhaps it is a simple fact that artists need to be with other artists. The exchange of ideas, the witnessing of others' work, helps to keep us vital.

"Still Mountain Center is a place where I have been restored and excited, where I can come away exclaiming, 'Who has more fun than artists!?' — glad, happy, revitalized and thankful, inspired by the many kinds of success there: exhibitions, teaching situations, firings, studio work, late night conversations, and walks in the sculpture garden."



SAVE THE DATE!

This year's autumn celebration dinner will be October 27, 2012.



Freia Then, a student from Germany, came for three weeks between high school and college to be involved in every aspect of the firing. She dove into every task assisting us with mixing clay, loading and firing the kiln (night shift!), cooking,

"I met Joy for the first time when I was 12 years old. My family came to Kent every summer and Joy gave me the opportunity to make little things out of clay. Through this experience I came to the wish to get to know the firing process.

"I am grateful for the opportunity of joining you in Kent for the firing and to talk and work with the people at Still Mountain Center. I was happy to have the time at your place, in which I could reflect on my life, to be more sure about the things I want to do in my future. I remember your place as very peaceful."



BIG POTLUCK PARTY, APRIL 21, WASHINGTON CLUB HALL

The one big snow storm this winter was on the day of our celebration dinner in October. With 90 people expected for dinner, the chefs already cooking from the day before, only 20 people made it there through the downed trees and power lines. Very exciting!

For all of you who missed it, we're going to have a big party! Bring your friends and food to share. Joy Brown will give a presentation about her work and projects in China.

Saturday, April 21, 6 PM

at the Washington Club Hall, Washington CT

(RSVP by April 15; donations will help cover expenses)

See website for directions: www.stillmountaincenter.org

The tsunami in Japan and the devastation it caused incited us to action. In a collaborative effort, we raffled off a sculpture and donated the proceeds to the hospital in Osaka, founded by Dr. Frank Brown, that had an active presence in the earthquake area. Letters of concern and contributions flowed in from all over the world, raising twenty-four thousand dollars for tsunami relief.



CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP LED BY CHRIS OWEN, CERAMIC ARTIST

At Still Mountain Center this summer Christine Owen will be running a 5 day clay camp for ages 8-12. Students will learn a variety of hand building and surface design techniques making masks and more!

Contact Christine for more information. christineowen13@gmail.com



We would like to give special thanks to Michael Friedman, who has given Still Mountain Center his moral support and money as well as his energy over many years. In the construction of the tea house, he laid every block for the foundation, cut every mortise and tenon of the timbers, put all the shingles on the roof and contributed towards the electrical wiring. He designed and guided the chimney work in the tea house as well as the barn. He has served as the Master of Ceremonies for the celebration dinner as well as waiter and behind the scenes kitchen help in recent years. He has helped to develop the sculpture garden and has been an active participant in many Still Mountain Center activities. Thank you Michael!



Naoko Ojio is an intern at SMC, coming once a week for a year to work in the clay studio. She has been involved in every part of the process of making things in clay.

"I feel so happy, excited, full of joy and energy when I drive on the scenic country road toward Joy's studio.

"This place is a magnet for me. Being with Joy and working with clay, being in an environment for creativity and meeting nice people through SMC has become the source of my art mind.

"It inspires me in many ways and gives me power and passion for not only art but also for my life."



The barn has been used for a studio, gallery, gathering place for dinners, music and poetry, clay workshops and mural making. This past summer, Jimmy Griffin moved his wood working machines in to set up a wood shop to continue making furniture and other projects.

"Its exciting to have all my tools and materials in one place. Come share them!"

Life moves quickly.
Mountains stand still.
Closed doors open,
We walk through,

Then blue sky!

– Denis R.B. Cooper

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