



The 1980's—

At Salisbury University, Art Professor Marie Cavallaro worked with artists, faculty and art students to create a special fund within the Salisbury University Foundation providing financial awards for incoming visual arts students.

SU had to compete with other institutions offering students scholarships for their art programs. A small, energetic group of SU art students wanted to enrich the talent pool drawn to Salisbury University by encouraging art students to see SU as a great place to complete a fine arts education.

To fund this initiative we at SU established an Annual Art Sale to raise scholarship funds exclusively for SU art majors during a time when scholarships for students studying the visual arts were scarce.



Ruth O'Mara

1988 first Salisbury University Visual Art Scholarship Recipient

The 1990's—

SU Art Professor John Cleary began working on a different track. His passion was introducing SU and pre-college art students on the Eastern Shore to potential careers open to them in the visual arts. He channeled his passion into creating an annual Art Professionals Market. This career exploration event brought artists in a variety of media to SU to highlight the many career options that were available with a visual arts degree. His strategy was to introduce students and families to experienced artists and “snuff out the doubt” for those unfamiliar with the career options or were skeptical of the value of pursuing an art degree as a basis for a career choice. These events also engaged potential students to consider SU for their advanced studies.



CCART Inaugural Board, 1999. L to R: Marie Cavallaro, President; John Cleary, Vice President; Sue Thomas, Friends of CCART; Jane Bailey, Treasurer; Beth Hébert, Secretary & Graphic Designer.

The Cavallaro & Cleary Visual Arts Foundation Is Born

On November 8th, 2000 CCART became a non-profit Foundation. Officially earning the 501(c)3 status enabled CCART to begin to reach out to and encourage gifted senior high school art students in nine counties from the mid

to lower Eastern Shore to compete for scholarships that would help them pursue their studies in the visual arts at a university of their choice. This has remained our focus through the years.

CCART Art Sale and Special Art Exhibition—

This exhibit was on the 2nd and 3rd floors of the Cleary Gallery & Studio at 118 North Division St. (once the top floors of the old Saddle Club restaurant and night club in the Ciminoz Building) in downtown Salisbury. The 2nd floor showcased work

Continued below...

Cleary Galleries at 118 North Division St.

