

# Jamie A. Hulley Arts Foundation

Winter 2016 Newsletter

P.O. Box 1208 • Orange, CT 06477-7208 • (203) 891-8869

## A letter from Jamie's family ...

The theme for this newsletter is family. We tell our scholarship and grant winners that they are now a part of our family and we joke that like all good Italian families there is no escaping us. Jamie valued relationships and so does her foundation. We believe that to make an impact you have to be "in it" for the long haul. That is why our scholarships are renewable; that is why our grants to schools are not limited to one year. We hope that you enjoy the stories of our foundation family featured in this issue.



Our 2015 *Evening for the Arts* gala was a family affair masterminded by Square Foot Theatre's Jared Brown & Patrick Laffin and Amity Creative Theatre's Rob & Andrea Kennedy and fueled by the energy of a multitude

of high school & college student volunteers whose lives were touched by the foundation. The highlight of Act 1 was a musical tribute to Jamie – *Corner of the Sky* from *Pippin* performed by our theater scholarship family Addie Robbins, Peter Charney, Kim Simon, Connor Deane, Shaylen Harger & Kevin Durkee.

Being a part of the family also extends to our headlining performers ... the guys from OH WHAT A NIGHT! had such a good time & are so committed to our mission that they are returning in September



OH WHAT A NIGHT! ... Oh what fun!

to perform their Las Vegas act FOUR by FOUR – A Tribute to the Beach Boys, Beatles, Bee Gees & Motown. Many thanks to Chapquist Entertainment's Michael Chapman for believing in Jamie's Foundation and making this happen.

~ Judy Primavera, Fred Hulley, Kari Hulley



### SUPPORT THE ARTS!

send contributions by mail:  
Jamie Hulley Arts Foundation  
P.O. Box 1208  
Orange, CT 06477-7208  
or via PayPal:  
[www.jamiehulleyartsfund.org](http://www.jamiehulleyartsfund.org)

To contact us:  
phone: 203.891.8869  
e-mail: [jamieart@snet.net](mailto:jamieart@snet.net)  
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## Our Early Career Family

Our early career grants are designed to provide support for new endeavors for young, up-and-coming artists. There is nothing more gratifying than to see two of your own foundation family members succeed in their endeavors.

Connor Deane received our theater scholarship while attending the University of Cincinnati's College Conservatory from 2010-2014. Connor's dream was to open his own performing arts studio where young performers would not only develop skills in singing, acting, and dancing but also be exposed to the world of professional theater in a very intimate & exciting way through master classes taught by Broadway performers



... connecting the stars of today with the stars of tomorrow. That dream is now a reality. Connor and business partner, Scott Handley, found



Kaelanny Feliciano

a permanent home for their Broadway Method Academy at 63 Unquowa Rd. in Fairfield, CT ([www.broadwaymethodacademy.com](http://www.broadwaymethodacademy.com)). In addition to the early career grant, the foundation has pledged scholarship support to BMA. We are happy to announce that our first BMA scholarship recipient is 11 year old Kaelanny Feliciano whose mother is the family outreach worker at the Jamie Hulley Early Learning Center in Bridgeport CT.

Wesleyan alumni and 2005 Senior Art Thesis Stipend recipient, Andy Vernon-Jones received a foundation grant to help publish his second book of photographs, *Invitations, Encounters*. Through the vibrant images shot in India, homeland to his partner Avni, Andy illustrates a common humanity shared across cultures ([andyvernonjones.com](http://andyvernonjones.com)). Andy received a previous early career grant in 2011 for his first photographic book, *Here in Red Hook*, a vivid portrayal of life in a small, unique Brooklyn neighborhood. Looking back on his first encounter with Jamie's Foundation, Andy says "It was a huge boost to my confidence. The fact that someone other than my professors was taking an interest in my photography helped me think so much bigger about what I could do ... that was such a special thing to experience just as I was about to graduate college ... that is when I first got a sense of what being a part of this foundation family really meant." At present, Andy uses his talents to motivate teens with academic challenges as a visual art & photography teacher at Brooklyn Frontiers High School.



Andy Vernon-Jones

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Jamie A Hulley Arts Foundation's  
**FOURTEENTH** annual gala benefit ...

*An Evening for the Arts*

Saturday, September 10, 2016  
 Regina A. Quick Center at Fairfield University

featuring



**A Tribute to the Music of the  
 Beach Boys, Beatles, Bee Gees & Motown**

6 p.m. pre-show reception & silent auction; 7 p.m. performance

\$45 in advance \$50 at the door

For information: 203-891-8869, [jamiart@snet.net](mailto:jamiart@snet.net)

**Square Foot Theatre's Summer 2016 Productions**

*Aida* – June 10 - 18, 2016

*Urinetown* – August 4 - 6, 2016

*Children of Eden* – August 11 - 14, 2016

for information: [www.squarefoottheatre.com](http://www.squarefoottheatre.com)

## Friends that are Family

When then 12 year-old Jamie began 7th grade at Amity Junior High in 1993 she was fortunate to surround herself with a most extraordinary group of friends – friends she kept throughout high school & college – friends that were family. Timothy Sykes, a member of that tight knit group of friends, is now a nationally known stock trader,



Caption: Timothy Sykes & the Primavera-Hulley family

entrepreneur, and self-made millionaire ([www.timothysykes.com](http://www.timothysykes.com)). Tim created the Timothy Sykes Foundation to share his good fortune with others and one of the first non-profits he turned to was Jamie's Foundation. At our 2015 *Evening for the Arts* gala, Tim presented us with a very generous \$7,500 gift to expand our "School Readiness through Dance" program in Bridgeport CT. His words to the audience were inspiring and reminiscent of Jamie's philosophy of life. Tim urged our army of student volunteers and the young people in the audience to "dream big" and to "take risks" because there is nothing you can't accomplish when you do.

"The first time her laughter unfurled its wings in the wind, we knew that the world would never be the same."

## All in the Family

You know that things have come full circle when young people who were involved with the foundation in high school return as visiting artists or when they take charge of their own independent artistic venture. 2009 Creative Spirit Award winner Robert Hickerson returned to Amity High School in February to share his journey as an artist with over 80 art students. His basic message was "if you want to do it, you can find a way" ... a life philosophy that inspires his conceptually rich artistic mix of video, installation & photography and has won him the prestigious 2014 Artfile Magazine Emerging Artist Grant.



Robert Hickerson



Tristan Douglas

We first met Tristan Douglas in 2010 when his film won the Best Long Form Film at the foundation sponsored film festival at Amity High School. This year, Tristan has returned to the foundation as an artist in residence at Amity Middle School-Orange where he mentors aspiring young filmmakers as they produce public service videos for the school.

2015 Amity graduate and a most valuable foundation volunteer Alex Cavanagh started his own theatre company, One-Shot Theatre Company, with the goal of using theater to bring awareness to deserving causes. Last summer, with some help from Jamie's foundation Alex produced *DOG SEES GOD: Confessions of a Teenage Blockhead* at Lyric Hall in New Haven. \$1,000 was donated to The Trevor Project, a national organization providing 24 hour crisis intervention and suicide counseling for gay youth. This summer with another grant from the foundation, Alex will bring Steve Yockey's *Pluto* to the stage with proceeds going to Big Brother Big Sisters of Connecticut.



Alex Cavanagh



Carson Adair & The Audition

Carson Adair, Amity Creative Theatre 2012 graduate is producing an original short film, *The Audition*. Carson and her team of five Film, Television & Media Arts majors at Quinnipiac University started from scratch with an original script, chose their film locations, secured the talents of a host of New York actors, and acquired the necessary props, recording & sound equipment, and are scheduled to preview the film in May. The film is a dark comedy about a struggling violinist who just can't seem to catch a break.

Visit Jamie's Arts Foundation Website

[www.jamiehulleyartsfund.org](http://www.jamiehulleyartsfund.org)

