

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Twelve new artisans, nine retail stops, accepted into PA Wilds Artisan Development Initiative**

*Program works to raise the visibility and profitability of artisans and arts-related businesses in PA Wilds*

June 15 – Twelve skilled local artisans and nine retail establishments were accepted into the Pennsylvania Wilds Artisan Development Initiative this Spring.

The PA Wilds artisan project aims to raise the visibility and profitability of artisans and arts-related businesses in the PA Wilds in two main ways: by branding high-quality, locally-made artisan products with the “Proudly Made in the Pennsylvania Wilds” brand so these products can command a higher price; and helping get more of these items to market by establishing an Artisan Trail and an online presence for the program so artisans can more easily market their products to residents, visitors, design professionals and the like.

Skilled visual and craft artisans living in the PA Wilds are encouraged to apply to the program. Likewise, shops, restaurants, lodges, galleries, visitor centers and other retailers in the region who are interested in selling handcrafted items by PA Wilds Juried Artisans, and tying into the PA Wilds brand, are encouraged to apply to become a stop on the PA Wilds Artisan Trail.

“Our jury session this spring brought a lot of new talent into the program,” said PA Wilds Small Business Ombudsman Ta Brant, who helps oversee the project. “One of our new artisans salvages slate and makes great household products like light switch covers and tables out of it. We also added some incredible jewelry makers and two experienced bird wood carvers to the program. Another couple makes custom farm tables out of vintage wood – just a ton of great stuff.

“We really want to encourage building design professionals to check out the work of these local artisans and others at [www.PAWildsArtisans.com](http://www.PAWildsArtisans.com),” Brant said. “Incorporating locally-made artisan products into building designs is a great way to make a project stand out. Not to mention buying local helps grow our rural economy.”

In addition to the new artisans, nine retail establishments were added to the PA Wilds Artisan Trail, bringing the trail to 24 stops total and representing a wide variety of shops, from traditional galleries to rustic lodges to state park facilities to outfitters and coffee houses. “Visitors and residents are encouraged to stop in to these businesses and check out the work by local artisans. Artisan products make great gifts or additions to the home or office.” To see what businesses are on the PA Wilds Artisan Trail near you, go to the Gallery section of [www.PAWildsArtisans.com](http://www.PAWildsArtisans.com).

New artisans and businesses accepted into the PA Wilds Artisan Development Initiative this Spring/Summer include:

NEW TRAIL STOPS:

Winkler Gallery of Fine Art  
36 North Brady Street  
DuBois, Pa. 15801  
814 375-5834  
[www.thewinklergalleryoffineart.org](http://www.thewinklergalleryoffineart.org)

Jefferson County History Center  
172-176 Main Street  
Brookville, PA 15825  
814-849-0077  
[www.jchconline.org](http://www.jchconline.org)

Main Street Artisans Co-op  
29 South Main Street  
Sheffield, PA 16347  
814-688-5335 or 814-968-3906  
[www.mainstreetartisansco-op.com](http://www.mainstreetartisansco-op.com)

Bully Hollow Alpacas/Black Honey Collectibles  
9730 Route 62  
Tidioute, PA 16351  
814-484-3260 or 814-730-2397  
[www.bullyhollowalpacas.com](http://www.bullyhollowalpacas.com)

Valley Gallery and Gifts  
2880 Quarry Road  
Jersey Shore, PA 17740  
570-745-3634  
[www.donkline.com](http://www.donkline.com)

Stew's Brew  
34 S. Brady Street  
DuBois, PA 15801  
814-503-8433  
[www.stewsbrew.com](http://www.stewsbrew.com)

Briar Hill Rustic Furniture  
4169 Route 36  
Leeper, PA 16233  
814-744-9913  
[www.briarhillfurniture.com](http://www.briarhillfurniture.com)

The Open House Shop  
265 Allegheny Blvd (Route 36)  
Brookville, PA 15825  
814-849-4640  
[www.theopenhouseshop.com](http://www.theopenhouseshop.com)

Allegheny Outfitters

430 Pennsylvania Avenue W.  
Warren, PA 16365  
814-723-3030  
[www.AOcompanystore.com](http://www.AOcompanystore.com)

## NEW ARTISANS

Lynn Kibbe - Foggy Mountain Studio  
acrylics/oils/watercolor/scratchboard  
Trout Run, PA  
<http://foggymountainstudio.weebly.com/>; <http://fmsscratchboard.weebly.com/>

Frank and Kathy Rohrer - Rohrer Photography  
Photography  
Loganton, PA  
[www.rohrerphotography.web.officelive.com](http://www.rohrerphotography.web.officelive.com)

Roy W. Bohn - Bohn Carvings  
Wood  
Milesburg, PA

Bob Crain - Crain Graphics  
Wood/acrylic/colored inks

Robin Mullen-Park – The Open House Shop  
Wood/Custom Farm Tables/native lumber  
Brookville, PA  
[www.theopenhouseshop.com](http://www.theopenhouseshop.com)

Shawn Mason - First Glance  
Photography  
Emporium, PA

Carol Ann Simon Cillo -- If-the Idea Factory  
acrylics/oils/watercolor  
Lock Haven, PA

Brad Coulson -- Slate Accents  
Slate/reclaimed products  
[www.slateaccents.com](http://www.slateaccents.com)

Bobbi Mennetti Shaffer  
Jewelry, metal  
DuBois, PA  
[www.bobbishaffer.etsy.com](http://www.bobbishaffer.etsy.com)

Molly O'Bryon-Welpott  
Photographer  
DuBois, PA  
[www.followmymuse.com](http://www.followmymuse.com)

Barbara Barrett  
Handmade brooms  
Lock Haven, PA

Karolann Hoeltzle  
Colored pencil  
Reynoldsville, PA

The PA Wilds Artisan Development Initiative is funded with support from the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and the Appalachian Regional Commission. To learn more about the program go to [www.PAwildsResources.org](http://www.PAwildsResources.org).

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