



**The Arc**  
*Allegany-Steuben*  
 New York

Spring 2026



**Arc Art 2026 at the Wellsville Creative Arts Center**

Arc Art 2026 was on display at the Wellsville Creative Arts Center March 2nd - March 31st.

“We are honored to have partnered with the Wellsville Creative Arts Center for 19 years to promote disability awareness and to encourage people with disabilities to explore new activities and discover their inner artist,” said Carrie Redman, Development Director for The Arc Allegany-Steuben. “Arc Art is a celebration of self-expression by artists with differing abilities, and this year’s exhibit coincided with National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month in March. Arc Art honors people with disabilities throughout Allegany and Steuben Counties and provides a stimulating and supportive environment that promotes creative expression, independence, dignity, and community integration.”



“The goal of the Arc Art program is to encourage artistic expression among people with intellectual and developmental disabilities by providing an inclusive space to showcase their work while increasing public awareness of the creativity and talent within the disability community,” says Redman. “More than 25 artists were featured in the 2026 exhibit, representing a wide range of styles, techniques, and subject matter. In some cases, an artist’s disability directly influences their art; in others, it has little or no impact at all, which highlights the diversity and individuality of each artist.”

Arc Art is an Arc Allegany-Steuben sponsored initiative that celebrates self-expression by artists with differing abilities while fostering community appreciation for the diversity and value of artistic expression.



**-Save the Date-  
 Upcoming Events**

If you are interested in volunteering for any of the events, please contact Myriah Perry at 607-622-1893 or myriah.perry@thearcas.org.

**May 27, 2026**

Associate Recognition Dinner & Annual Meeting (Hornell, NY)

**June 5, 2026**

The Arc of Steuben Foundation Arc Star Classic Golf Tournament (Bath Country Club)

**July 31, 2026**

Friends of Allegany Arc Foundation Feathered Friends Duck Derby (Wellsville, NY)

**August 21, 2026**

Friends of Allegany Arc Foundation Summer Scramble Golf Tournament (Wellsville Country Club)



Michael Damiano  
Chief Executive Officer

#### Board of Directors

Kevin Gildner  
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Debra Thompson

## March is National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month

In 1987, President Ronald Reagan declared March to be Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month, inspired by years of advocacy. The deinstitutionalization movement of the 1970s and early 1980s had begun reshaping society, and the presidential proclamation encouraged Americans to provide the “encouragement and opportunities” necessary for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) to reach their potential.

As more citizens with developmental disabilities began living in their communities, programs for career planning, job coaching, and supported employment emerged. The idea that people with I/DD could become productive members of the workforce was revolutionary, challenging long-held misconceptions.

The passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act in 1990 further reinforced this progress, making workplace discrimination against people with disabilities illegal. Expectations shifted, and young people with I/DD and their families began to aim for productive, self-directed lives, and goals that are increasingly attainable.

Today, 39 years later, March highlights the contributions and needs of the estimated four million Americans living with developmental disabilities. People with autism, cerebral palsy, and other conditions continue to blaze new trails, living and working in their communities, pursuing higher education, developing their faith, falling in love and getting married, and making their voices heard in every aspect of life.

At The Arc Allegany-Steuben, we are committed to building more welcoming communities through education and outreach. We invite you to join us this month in celebrating the lives of people with I/DD, because awareness and inclusion start now.

Learn how The Arc Allegany-Steuben’s supports and services are advancing the concerns and interests of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities throughout Allegany and Steuben counties by visiting [www.thearcas.org](http://www.thearcas.org).

### You Are Invited to The Arc Allegany-Steuben’s Annual Meeting

Allegany-Steuben Counties Chapter NYSARC, Inc. will hold its Annual Associate Recognition Dinner & Membership Meeting on Wednesday, May 27, 2026 (6pm) at The Main Place (251 Main Street, Hornell, NY).

All members are invited to attend and vote on the following officers: President - Deb Thompson; Vice-President - Kevin Gildner; Treasurer - Christina Torrey; and Secretary - Linda Clayson

The Board of Directors to be elected are: Helen Binkowski, Kevin Gildner, Caroline Matthews, Ed Pekarek, Olivia Stutzman, and Christina Torrey

Members of the Nominating Committee to be elected are: Krissy Hamilton, Linda Clayson, and Deb Thompson

Board of Governors Representatives are: Tom Talbett (Primary) and Krissy Hamilton (Alternate)

#### Agenda Includes:

- 5:30pm - Cocktails & Hors d'oeuvres
- 6:00pm - Board of Directors Election
- 6:15pm - Dinner
- 6:45pm - Awards and Recognition
- 7:30pm - Keynote Speaker Dr. Alonzo Kelly



RSVP to (585) 593-5700 Ext. 537 or [kristen.babbitt@thearcas.org](mailto:kristen.babbitt@thearcas.org) by May 13, 2026. Seating is limited.

*Achieve with us.®*



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The Arc of Steuben Foundation

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## A Stronger Foundation for the Future

We are excited to share that the Friends of Allegany Arc Foundation and the Arc of Steuben Foundation are coming together to form The Arc Allegany-Steuben Foundation.

This unification represents an important milestone and brings together two organizations with a shared commitment to supporting people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. By uniting, the foundation will strengthen fundraising efforts, streamline operations, and create a clearer, more powerful presence across Allegany and Steuben counties.

Most importantly, this step allows us to build on the proud legacies of both foundations while expanding our ability to make a meaningful impact. All existing donor intentions and fund designations will continue to be honored, and support for programs and services will continue without interruption.

Together, as The Arc Allegany-Steuben Foundation, we look forward to growing opportunities, deepening community partnerships, and creating an even stronger future for the people and families we serve.

## Legislative Advocacy

New Yorkers with disabilities deserve a care system that is strong, sustainable, and properly funded. Arc Allegany-Steuben associates, supporters and people we serve have been advocating at rallies in Albany and Syracuse encouraging our Elected Officials and Governor Kathy Hochul to take action to provide the necessary resources for non-profit providers in the NYS Budget. Join the fight by clicking here: <https://tinyurl.com/m5w556ey>



Need Custom apparel that makes an impact? Stitched INK., the custom apparel and embroidery shop of The Arc Allegany-Steuben, is your go-to partner for high-quality, personalized screen-printing, embroidery, and more!

Why Choose Stitched INK? Not only do you get top-tier custom apparel, but you also help create meaningful employment and skill-building opportunities for people with I/DD. Truly changing lives one shirt at a time!

Support quality work, local impact, and great custom apparel. Contact Stitched INK today!

Phone: 607-622-1929

Email: [customer.service@stitchedink.org](mailto:customer.service@stitchedink.org)

Website: [www.stitchedink.org](http://www.stitchedink.org)

Location: One Arc Way, Bath, NY

## The Power of Membership

March kicks off the agency's annual Membership Drive. Membership in The Arc Allegany-Steuben means so much to the people with intellectual and developmental disabilities supported by our agency. Your membership means increased representation on the Arc New York's policy- setting Board of Governors. It also lets local, state

and national legislators know there are thousands of people standing with the people The Arc Allegany-Steuben supports. Most importantly, it lets the people who receive services from The Arc Allegany-Steuben know that they are not alone. It tells them members of their community stand ready to support them as they work toward achieving their dreams.

Please consider becoming a 2026 Arc Allegany-Steuben Member. A year-long Arc Allegany-Steuben Membership only costs \$5 and includes a free Arc Allegany-Steuben logo t-shirt or a Green Machine Spirit Towel. Lifetime Membership options are also available. Visit [www.thearcas.org/get-involved/become-a-member/](http://www.thearcas.org/get-involved/become-a-member/) to join online or download a membership form.

Join your voice with ours. Together, we can create stronger, more inclusive communities.

*Achieve with us.*

**Arc Star Golf Classic**

20 26

**TOURNAMENT**

**June 5, 2026**

Bath Country Club  
330 May St., Bath NY

MARK YOUR CALENDER

REGISTER NOW: <https://shorturl.fm/3jsWb>

The Arc of Steuben Foundation



Congratulations to the Arc Angel Dancers on taking 1st place at the Soar Competition in Rochester! Their hard work, passion, and incredible talent truly shined on stage.

**Gear Up. Give Back. Make a Difference.**

**Shop with Purpose. Support with Pride.**

Score official Green Machine and Incredible Voice apparel through our online stores. From comfortable t-shirts and cozy hoodies to hats, bags, and more! There's something for everyone.

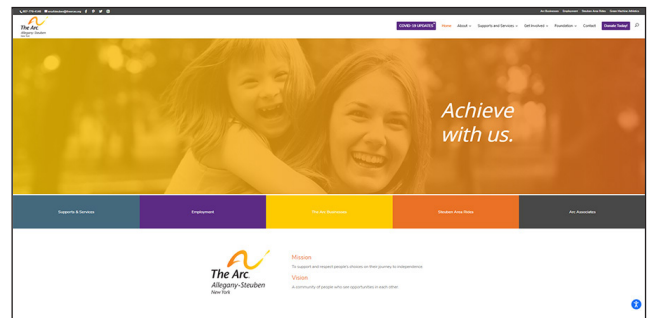
Every purchase helps make a real impact. A portion of all sales goes directly toward supporting the athletes and self-advocates in each program.

- Shop Incredible Voice: <https://incrediblevoice.itemorder.com/shop/home/>
- Shop Green Machine: <https://so-greenmachine.itemorder.com/shop/home/>

**Let's Get Social!**



Did you know the Arc Allegany-Steuben is on Facebook? Follow us today at [facebook.com/thearcas.org](https://facebook.com/thearcas.org) and be kept in the loop on agency events, activities, announcements, etc. The Arc Allegany-Steuben also has an ADA compliant website: [www.thearcas.org](http://www.thearcas.org). Check us out the next time you are online.



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