



Art program receives support from GEF

by Shirley Murtha

March 2009

The Granby Education Foundation recently presented the Senior Center with a \$1,200 grant to keep the Art is Ageless program going strong. As reported previously in the *Drummer*, the program got its start when Helen Decher, a graduate student in gerontology, approached Sandra Yost, senior center program coordinator, with the idea for an arts program for seniors.

The Granby Artists Association was happy to participate, and to date three classes have been offered. Anne Dixon's "All You Need to Bead" class was so popular that nearly all the students continued to meet as a group for weeks after the session was over. Forming their own beading club, the group eagerly awaits a repeat of the class.

In her digital photography class, Wendy Van Welie tailored her instruction to the ability level of each of her students. Some had previously had little experience with computers, but learned how photography has benefited from this technology.

Currently in session is Carole Day's "Techniques in Watercolor." Day's students are so delighted with the class that they show up a little earlier each week, eager to get started.

The mission of the Senior Center is to maximize the social, physical and educational well-being of older adults, and the Art is Ageless program certainly does that and more. The staff truly appreciates this grant from the GEF, for it will enable them to continue the existing program classes and to add others as the season progresses.

