

## **Chosen Honorees for 2019**

**Betty Breclaw** – a former kindergarten teacher and advocate for children’s art. She was instrumental in getting our Youth in Art featured in the Escanaba Ludington Park Pavilion. An effort that has grown to Gladstone and Bark River as well.

**Jack Chown** – an extraordinary musician who taught Band at Escanaba High School for 40 years and has been and continues to be an active part of the City Band.

**City of Escanaba Band** - an institution in our city and area. Andrea Sullivan, Band Manager, and Bruce Cassell, Band Conductor, will be accepting the honor.

**Harold & Nina Johnson** – a remarkable Escanaba couple who took out a life insurance policy on themselves with the Bonifas as the owner and beneficiary. They believe in the arts and want to support. They’ve allowed us to cash in their policy (they are both 94 years old and in good health and didn’t want us to have to wait) and we are using that money to start our project to bring handicapped accessible restrooms to the Bonifas Theater lobby.

**Marie Peterson** - an early member of Players de Noc and pianist. Her dedication to live theater and music have inspired many.

**Lynn Soderberg** – a retired English teacher who directed the Escanaba High School musical for 28 years and is an active member and director in Players de Noc.

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- **Escanaba GFWC** (General Federation of Women's Clubs), organized in 1913, have donated over ten thousand dollars to the Bonifas over the last 10 years and are strong supporters of youth arts programs
- **Carol Irving** - an award winning local fiber artist whose success is growing. She was part of the Bay Area Arts Association (one of the Bonifas’ founding organizations), has been a long time Bonifas instructor, member and contributor and is a regular participant in our Northern Exposure exhibit and Fabrications exhibits.

- **Rose Peltier** - a local fiber artist, who is expanding her mediums these days. Rose coordinated our Holiday Arts Fair in 2018 and 2019. She often participates in Fiber Art exhibits and the Bonifas Membership Show.
- **James Soderberg** - a lawyer-cum-actor who's worked with high school students for over 25 years teaching set and prop construction methods (and safety), helped build EHS and Players sets and has both acted in and directed Players de Noc productions. His wife, Lynn, was honored last year.
- **Bruce Hansen and Sandy Auble** - local volunteers who host Bonifas Gather at the Gallery sessions (for nursing home and adult group home residents) with gallery tours, art projects, and conversation for area nursing home and adult group home residents. They are deeply committed to this work and have been volunteering for more than 5 years.
- **Ann Wood** - a local teacher of voice, strings, and piano. She directs the Bay Choral Society, is Director of Music at First Presbyterian Church, has composed for handbells, is the state chair for Handbell Musicians of America, and has regularly played her violin in pit orchestras of EHS and Players de Noc productions.