

The Women & Girls Fund honors

*Susan Stockman*

with the 2018 Women & Girls Fund Award



IN HER NOMINATION LETTER to the Women & Girls Fund, Julie Heikes, of Easton, wrote, "I nominate my friend, Sue Stockman, for this award for more reasons than I can fit on one page." And, she was right – the comprehensive list of professional accomplishments and personal outreach was remarkable.

Julie highlighted the years of art workshops given through schools and organizations across the Mid-Shore that reach people of every age and station – including the homeless and incarcerated, the personal commitment to helping others in need, and for inspiring her personally to be braver in turning toward people in need. "Sue's courage has given me courage." It is this sort of leadership, compassion, integrity, and generosity of time and talent that defines the Women & Girls Fund Award.



PHOTO BY SUSAN SCHAUER

In her own words, Susan says...

*There is nothing that could have prepared me for life more than studying art, making art and being an artist. The act of creating asks you to show up in vulnerability, to make things up and make a bunch of mistakes along the way. Becoming an artist asks you to dig deeply within yourself, to look far outside of yourself and to believe in magic. Learning to change perspective and see things from other angles is part of that training. Working your butt off is also part of the training; finding the magical 'flow' or 'being in the zone' is the pay off. I am eternally grateful to my sister who told me to pursue art as a major in college, rather than stick with the biology that I started with. 'Don't worry about what Mom and Dad want, this is your life.'*

*And so it is. I'm free to make of it what I want, and lately this is what I want: I want to recognize how lucky I am to be born a white woman at this time and in this country. I want to always realize how fortunate my siblings and I were to have two parents that loved us. They were community-minded, down to earth people. Having dinner every night was a six-person debate, with one parent Republican and one a Democrat. There I learned to speak my mind and am still learning to speak my truth.*

*I have raised two amazing young women with a constant flow of help from a vast tribe of folks who pitched in to fill in gaps and provide support, love and diversity.*

*Art has defined my life, allowed me to survive and process rape, and losses that have gutted my faith. It has allowed me to witness atrocities that no child should endure and to be present for my fellow humans. Art has healed me, guided me and helped me do the same for others. I am humbled by the magic and beauty in this world and honored to be adding to it.*

And so it is with honor, the Women & Girls Fund names Susan Stockman the recipient of the 2018 Women & Girls Fund Award.



## About the Women & Girls Fund Award

The Women & Girls Fund Award was established to recognize and honor a community member who has made outstanding professional or personal contributions towards understanding and addressing the needs of women and girls in the Mid-Shore region. Candidates for this award will have demonstrated leadership, vision, integrity, compassion, cooperation, and generosity of time and talent in their efforts to improve the lives and opportunities of women and girls



## *Women & Girls Fund Awards* — since 2004

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|------|---------------------------|------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2004 | <i>Lois Duffey</i>        | 2013 | Kathleen Francis<br>Maureen Jacobs<br>Janet Pfeffer<br>Joy Price<br>Nancy Wilson |
| 2005 | Harriet S. Critchlow      | 2014 | Mary Lou McAllister                                                              |
| 2006 | Sandra W. King            | 2015 | Diana Mautz                                                                      |
| 2007 | Maria Boria, M.D.         | 2016 | Kathy Weaver                                                                     |
| 2008 | Sr. Patricia Gamgort, OSB | 2017 | Ellen Rajacich                                                                   |
| 2009 | Tracy Davenport           |      |                                                                                  |
| 2010 | Sandra Redd               |      |                                                                                  |
| 2011 | Sara Jane Davidson        |      |                                                                                  |
| 2012 | Karen Murphy Jensen       |      |                                                                                  |

