



Sparked by loss and betrayal, *A Heart Story* was three years in the making. Through this series, heartbreak was transformed, stage-by-stage, into a new whole heart.

Arla Patch

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



A Heart Story

A polymer clay series by Arla Patch

April 27—September 4, 2018

The Barn Gallery at Pendle Hill

Artist's Talk and Reception May 17, 7:30-9:00 pm

A "creativity midwife" feels like a good way to describe my life work of supporting others in using art as a tool for healing and personal transformation. Art making has served me in recovering from life's challenges and as celebration and affirmation. It has been an honor to support others in tapping their own creativity. I have seen its power with at-risk teens, cancer survivors, incarcerated women and teens, and those recovering from trauma. I believe that our creativity is Spirit manifest through us.

Arla Patch

An educator for over 45 years, **Arla Patch** has worked in a range of public and private settings, including the Omega Institute for Holistic Studies, colleges and universities, public schools, therapeutic academies for troubled teens, one-on-one with individual clients, with incarcerated youth and women, and at numerous conferences and workshops.

Arla grew up in Bucks County, joining Doylestown Friends Meeting at age 12. She left in her senior year to graduate from the International School of Bangkok, Thailand, later earning a BFA, Ed. at Tyler School of Art and an MFA in Sculpture at Indiana University. In 2015 Arla returned to Bucks County after 30 years in Maine and now lives in Quakertown. She is the author of two award winning books on art and healing: *A Body Story* and *Finding Ground: Girls and Women in Recovery*.

Arla's interest in healing led to her involvement with the first truth and reconciliation commission in the United States for what happened to Indigenous children in the child welfare system, the Maine Wabanaki-State Child Welfare Truth and Reconciliation Commission. She is continuing to work on Indigenous rights education here in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. See www.arlapatch.com.

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PENDLE HILL

A Quaker Study, Retreat, and Conference Center