



www.grandvalleyartists.com

Highlights

August 2019

*Be the People
you want to see in the world*

Dear GVA members,

Our constitution requires us to hold elections for board positions at the annual meeting each year. This year, we need to form a nominating committee to elect a new President to replace Carol Lurn and Treasurer to replace Evie Carrier. Following the procedures in our bylaws, we have selected 3 board members, Dana Donnell, Emily Green, and Mary Baine, to form a team that will garner nominees and plan for the election. These board members will select 3 non-board members to join them in this effort. If you wish to serve on the nominating committee, please contact GVA secretary Dana Donnell, as soon as possible. (danabdonnell@gmail.com)

At this time, we have scheduled voting for these officers for 7:30 p.m. (Critique Night) on December 5, 2019. We are notifying you of this election quite early in order for you to have time to seriously consider volunteering for these positions. You can be assured you will have a great time working with our board members and board activities will give you great pleasure. I have had so much fun working with our present board because they are sharp, forward thinking, and wonderful to work with. Evie has been our treasurer for eight consecutive years so she can attest to the joy/ fun of working with the board. It has been such a pleasure to have Evie sit at the board table. I have developed so much respect for Evie as well as the other board members who love our association and volunteer to make our activities worthwhile to our membership. If you could see yourself as President or Treasurer of this fine organization, please contact our secretary Dana Donnell (danabdonnell@gmail.com or 616-706-8732) to have your name added to the list of potential candidates.

Carol Lurn, President

Summer Party on Saturday, August 3!!!
(details on page 3)

DIA Trip Cancelled— Plan a Carpool!

Alas, we did not get enough interest to go forward with this bus trip to the Detroit Institute of Arts to see *Humble and Human: Impressionist Era Treasures*. This very special exhibit includes works by many of the famous artists of the 19th century who have so inspired our work today. There is a Pop Art exhibit going on during August, too. Your admission includes all the permanent exhibits in the museum.

Although we won't be taking a bus, we encourage our members to grab a few buddies and head on over to the museum together! No doubt it will be well worth the time and effort, with some great bonding with fellow artists along the way.

Learn more about this very special exhibit here:
<https://www.dia.org/humbleandhuman>

NOTE: Bob Kraai will be returning the money to those who sent it.



Lowell Arts Holiday Artists Market

Deadline for Artist Applications: August 1. Only members of LowellArts can enter.

The annual LowellArts Holiday Artists Market is a great opportunity to have your artwork available for sale during the gift-giving season!

Your fine art and fine gifts will be available along with other handmade items by Michigan artists in a gallery setting from November 14 to December 22.

Learn more here:

<https://www.lowellartsmi.org/holiday-artists-market>



GVA Gallery in August

Submitted by Jim Johnson

FRIENDS is the theme for our August exhibit. And when I say friends I don't necessarily mean friends in the conventional sense. We usually think of friends as a relationship between people or perhaps between a person and a beloved animal. That of course is wonderful. But feel free to interpret friends as a metaphor describing another kind of relationship all together. Consider the possibilities. All 2D and 3D art is eligible, including drawings, paintings, prints, sculpture, photography, digital works, mixed media, etc. This exhibit is not juried and the works do not have to be framed, only hangable with a wire in back. And please remember to sign your work.

Hang: July 29/ Monday

Strike: Aug 30 / Friday

Grand Valley Artists Annual Summer Party on Saturday, August 3!!!

What: Grand Valley Artists Annual Summer Party

When: Saturday, August 3, 5 pm buffet supper (Come earlier if you want. We'll have some sandwich "fixins" or bring a box lunch. Stay for the sunset over Lake Michigan: 9:05 pm)

Where: Celia Said's cottage at 7206 Lifeguard Rd, Montague, Mi, 49437



Why: To have fun, enjoy Lake Michigan, maybe draw, paint, or take photos and get to know more members of GVA.

Directions to the cottage:

Take 31 towards Ludington. Use Whitehall/Montague exit. Turn right & go straight thru town, down the hill, over the causeway, & up the hill on Dowling St. (We will have GVA signs at all of the turns from here on.) Turn left onto Lamos. Turn left onto Lau Road towards Medbury Park and the Channel. Go over the bridge. Take 1st 2-track after the bridge. Stay right at the forks in the two track. If you prefer to follow the lake shore you can take an alternate route which is: turn left at the beginning of Dowling and follow the lake around on the Old Channel Trail, eventually turning left onto Lau Rd. It takes about an hour from the GVA gallery.

Bring your camera and/or art supplies.

We are the 6th house north of the pier, channel, and lighthouse , so you can walk or drive to paint the White River Lighthouse which is across the channel. You could set up an easel on the pier and paint people, boats, landscape, or the lighthouse, or just take pictures for reference. If it rains, some people could paint from my studio or from the balcony of my studio overlooking Lake Michigan.

Photo Group

Picnic!

Submitted by Randy Nyhof



Our Annual Picnic with the Photo Group will be on **Saturday, Aug. 17th** starting at around 2:00. Burgers etc. will be around 5:00, I believe. It will again be at Mary Harbert's place on Lake Michigan in West Olive. So mark your calendars. More info to come.

August Program

Submitted by Randy Nyhof

The annual GVA picnic at Celia Said's place on Lake Michigan in Montague will replace the August Program. See above for details.

Thank you, Thank you

Our membership cannot thank enough the people who have donated wonderful books/art magazines to our GVA library. I have walked into the boardroom a number of times to find books laying on our table with a donation note; often with no signature. One of the latest donated books was a color pencil book with techniques for using the medium that I used throughout my teaching career. What a treasure!!! While I have had to adjust to working with the computer, there is nothing like the feel of a great art book in my hands and time to study artwork. We use the honor system for checking out books and realize the importance of returning borrowed books. Thank you for your generosity. Sincerely, Carol Lourn

Help Wanted! An easy way to give back to GVA (and to me!)

Submitted by Mary Marin

Managing the exhibits at Trinity United Methodist Church on Lake Drive isn't difficult. It takes less than 2 hours every 2 months to oversee the hanging of the art and maybe another half an hour to create little tags to go with each work. I have been switching out the artists every two months. You could do it every month if you wanted. I would love to find a willing volunteer to take over this task for me, and I'll be happy to train you. It will take about 10 minutes. Super simple, and a great way to be of service to our favorite art club! To learn more, please pick up that phone and call Mary Marin at 616-443-0362 or email me at marymarin1285@mail.com.



Good News From Sallie!

Our own Sallie Zigterman reports that she has sold two paintings at Biggby Coffee House. You can see more of Sallie's work at 146 Monroe Center, Grand Rapids. Congratulations, Sallie!



"Night and Day"

"Blooms of Spring"



Show Your Work at Trinity United Methodist Church

Be sure to stop by any Monday through Thursday. You'll enjoy seeing works by **Darlene Podpolucki, Michael Stewart, and Cindy Wojciakowski** on display until the end of July. If you want to show your work at Trinity, located at 1100 Lake Drive SE, please let Mary Marin know: marymarin1285@gmail.com.

Almost Free, But Not Quite!

Submitted by Mary Baine

The best things in life are not always free; one of them costs \$40 per year, with a modest increase expected soon. This is the price members of Grand Valley Artists currently pay—primarily to maintain the place that many of us consider a home away from home.

Because GVA is run by volunteers, we don't actually have "staff," but we do need to cover the cost of renting and maintaining the facility we require in order to provide a regular schedule of activities for our members. Some of our events must be subsidized, too; your dues support everything from flat fees for sketch sessions involving models to artists' receptions for exhibitions, while "hidden" expenses include a steady supply of paper products, repair or replacement of furnishings, and services or equipment essential to the technology on which we rely for communication or presentation of information.

Our dues have remained the same for many years; to guarantee the level of customer service expected by members while having the flexibility to offer fresh opportunities, the decision was made to raise the individual membership fee by the amount typically charged at a single sketch session featuring a model: \$5. Effective October 1st, 2019, standard individual memberships will be \$45 per year; additional family members may still be added for 50% (\$22.50).

GVA's 2019–2020 "membership year" officially begins September 1st. Beginning August 1st, renewals and new memberships will continue to be available at the "old" rate (\$40)—for a limited time. Existing members are encouraged to renew via the GVA website ("Artists: Join Here!"), by mail using the paper forms available at the studio, or in person (as the Membership Chair usually is present at board meetings that precede Critique as well as at selected sketch sessions). Please contact Mary Baine (marymbaine@gmail.com) with any questions you might have.

Speaking of Free.....

Our Pandora account is not free, but I thought that headline would get your attention. Now for the ulterior motive. We ask that members refrain from messing with the little laptop that we use to enjoy music in the sketch room — leave that up to the sketch coordinators. If you have a music request, just ask them to find it for you. We have been having problems because people are logging us off, switching to their own Pandora accounts, or somehow disabling everything altogether! Also, IF you are Lucy Diamond or know who she is, please ask her to refrain from logging into her own Pandora account. This has repeatedly created problems for the next sketch group. We use the little laptop ONLY for music, and we use our GVA Pandora account to avoid having to listen to advertising. We do not share the password to that account because we don't want anybody using our account outside of GVA, as that could result in us being unable to listen to it ourselves!



A trip to the Upper Peninsula

by Steve Scarborough

A couple weeks ago, Linda and I had a chance to go to the UP for the weekend. Munising has 17 waterfalls, plus the Pictured Rocks, which run along the south edge of Lake Superior, stretching 45 miles along the shoreline and ranging in height from 50 to 200 feet above the water. If all this wasn't enough, on the way home, we planned to see Tahquamenon Falls, which are really two waterfalls in one, an upper half and a lower half.

Crossing the Mackinaw Bridge is always exciting, and luckily it was calm the day we crossed it. I always worry about getting blown off into Lake Michigan!

Making a few stops along the way, we reached Munising by late afternoon and immediately went on a search for pasties. Luckily for us, I had to wait another day to have one and one is quite enough, I have to say. After checking in to our hotel, we were told that this weekend was 'Yooper Days', where all the locals can ride the boats to Pictured Rocks for free. The lady at the desk seemed to think I was going to face a lot of crowds and wished us well and even suggested I postpone our boat ride. There was also a huge fair in town and she said parking was going to be difficult.

Luckily, being from Grand Rapids, we have experienced crowds that dwarf anything Munising can throw at us, and we enjoyed the fair that was along the waterfront that weekend and had no problem parking at all. Also, the boat company had boats for paying customers separate from the locals, so we boarded with ease.

As we walked from booth to booth at the Yooper Fair, we ran into a fellow GVA member, Mike Carrier, who had a booth set up at the fair. He told us that we were going to have a terrific time on the tour of Pictured Rocks seeing as how it was an uncommonly calm and warm day. He and Evie had a very cold and windy ride the last time they went on the boat tour, so we felt everything was going our way.



Linda and I took a seat on the top of the boat and soon were taking pictures as fast as we could of the amazing beauty of Pictured Rocks. In all, we took 2,200 photographs that weekend, of the park, waterfalls, and other landscapes we encountered on our trip.

As we toured the cliffs along the shoreline, we heard everyone gasp and saw a man, haphazardly hanging from a thick rope tied to a tree hanging about 50 feet above the water. It was immediately obvious that he was no experienced climber. He was dressed in only a pair of cut off jeans, no shirt, no shoes, no safety harness and without a helper.

I couldn't tell if he was trying to go up or down, but one thing was certain, he was in trouble and as he scrambled up back to the top, rocks fell away from the edge into the water and everyone on the boat held their breath until he made it back up to the top.

Selfishly, I sat there taking pictures of his dilemma. To my credit, I



vowed to donate all money for the shots of him falling into the water to charity. Luckily, I didn't have to—he made it back up and, I assume, didn't try that trick again.

After the exciting boat ride, we went on a tour of waterfalls and soon found that you needed a bottle of mosquito spray the size of a scuba tank to go into the woods in the UP. We found a store to get supplies and headed back out and captured some wonderful shots of various waterfalls and landscapes. Finding Au Train Falls was challenging, but we met an older lady out getting her mail who directed us, saying that they have changed the name of the road it was on and

no way would we find it without being from the area. It seemed we were having an abundance of good luck on this trip!

After leaving Munising, we stopped at Tahquamenon Falls, where I hadn't been since I was 10 years old. We had to rent a row boat to go to an island to see completely around the lower falls. The water running down the river and falls is brown in color from the tannins which leach out of the cedar swamps surrounding the area. It was a taxing walk covering the whole grounds, and various walkways up and down the cliffs, but well worth it.

I would recommend to anyone to take a tour of the Upper Peninsula and especially the Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore, and to see as many of the waterfalls as you can hike to. We found out later that if we'd kept going west, we would have seen even more waterfalls. Linda and I both got some good shots and hope to display them soon. In fact, we are already talking about going back!





“En Plein Air”



Join Us!

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Position Open

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Area Art News

Lowell Arts

Living Is Easy, a collection of colorful paintings and drawings by six Michigan artists, will make up a summertime exhibition at LowellArts until August 17. Gallery Hours: Tuesday–Friday 10 a.m.–6 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

Forest Hills Fine Arts Center

Exhibit Hours: 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Mon.–Fri. All exhibits are free to the public.

Guardian Gallery Lowell

See the works of **Valentina Grigorieva** through the month of October. The Guardian Gallery is located at the Franciscan Life Process Center, 11650 Downes St., Lowell, MI 49331, (616) 897-7842. This show is open during regular business hours.

Frauenthal Reception Gallery in Muskegon

Brenda Sipe is the featured artist from July 30–October 1. The Gallery of the Frauenthal Center is open during regular business hours.

TerryBerry Gallery at St. Cecilia's

Artist Christi Dreese's art exhibition *Live in Color* will feature a collection of her oil paintings representing our beautiful West Michigan scenes from July 31–August 23, with a reception on Thursday, August 1, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Parking is free next to St. Cecilia's.

Dominican Center at Marywood

Father Joachim Lally will be showing his work during August. The reception will be August 11. Dianne Carroll Butrick will be sharing her photography in September and October. The reception will be on October 13 from 1 until 4. The gallery is located at 2025 E. Fulton Street, Grand Rapids, MI 49503, and is open Monday–Thursday: 8:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m., Friday: 8:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m., Saturday and Sunday: 8:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.

Bliss & Vinegar

Stop in to B&V to see **Wes DeVries'** work. If you want to

show your work at B&V, load some images to our website, as that is where the owners go to find artists whose work they would like to display. Marty Klar coordinates this opportunity for us. Please do not contact the restaurant directly. Questions? Call Marty at 616-813-7921.

Guardian Gallery Grand Rapids

Kristen Thornton's work will be on display until October 25, Monday–Thursday 12–6, at 654 Davis St., Grand Rapids, MI 49504.

Englehardt Public Library in Lowell

Stop in to see the works of **Todd Darling** and **Wenxi Haisma**, on display now. If you are interested in showing your work at the library, contact Sandi Brogger at rsbrogger@gmail.com



Wes DeVries at Bliss & Vinegar



ART CHAT

The next Art Chat will take place on **Friday August 2**, at 1:00 p.m. in the GVA Gallery. Join us, won't you?

AUGUST CALENDAR

Board Meeting AUGUST 1 at 6:00 p.m.

EVERY WEEK

Sundays Closed

Mondays 10:00 a.m. until noon

Portrait Sketch*

Tuesdays Every Tuesday 7:00 p.m. until 9:30 p.m.
1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month 7:30 p.m.

Figure Sketch*
Photo Group

Wednesdays 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

Open Studio or Plein Air
(check the weather! and the website)

Thursdays First Thursday of this month at 7:30 p.m.
Second Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

Critique
No Program Night This Month

Fridays 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.
First Friday of the month at 1 p.m.

Still Life
Art Chat

Saturdays 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

Figure Sketch*

*Member Model fee \$5, Non-Member \$10

ISEA: Annual Juried Exhibition at LowellArts

September 7–October 26

LowellArts hosts the 28th Juried Experimental Art Exhibit for the International Society of Experimental Art (ISEA). Over 100 pieces of art will be on display, and were chosen by guest juror Joseph Becherer. Monetary awards totaling over \$10,000 will be presented for Best of Show and other works considered by the juror to be “cutting edge.” The exhibition coincides with the ISEA’s Educational Symposium held in Grand Rapids September 15–20. Awards Reception: Thursday, September 19, 5–8 p.m.

LowellArts is located at 223 W. Main St, Lowell, MI 49331. Gallery Hours: Tuesday–Friday 10 a.m.–6 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m.–5 p.m. You can also visit us at LowellArtsMi.org.



**GVA Welcomes
New Members:
Thien Nguyen
Laura Ruggles
David Skidmore**

Grand Valley Artists

1695 Service Road NE, Suite 106

Grand Rapids, MI 49503