



www.grandvalleyartists.com

# Highlights

February 2019

## Two Exciting Workshops Coming Up!

### Paper Clay Workshop with Diann Bartnick

Saturday, March 9

2 p.m.–5 p.m.

Grand Valley Artists Studios

\$45.00 per person

All supplies will be provided.

Sign up deadline is Saturday, March 2nd so Diann can make enough paper clay for everyone.



Diann Barnick Borton will show some of the fabulous work that's been created with paper clay and will have samples of her own work on hand. She will demonstrate how it is made and you will get the opportunity to make something with this truly fun medium....and take home your masterpiece to paint!

Maximum number of participants is 20, if fewer than six people sign up class will be cancelled.

Bring cash or a check made out to Diann to the class. No credit cards.



Please sign up by Saturday, March 2nd, with Joanne Swann at [joswann@sbcglobal.net](mailto:joswann@sbcglobal.net).

### Wes DeVries Abstract Expressionism Workshop

Wes DeVries is offering an Abstract Expressionism Workshop at GVA Studios. The focus is for artists to loosen up their drawing skills and work on composition using shapes and color. Wear old clothes and be prepared to have fun. Please email Joanne Swann at [joswann@sbcglobal.net](mailto:joswann@sbcglobal.net) to sign up for the workshop.

#### When:

Saturday, February 9, 2019 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. The cost will be \$20.00. Please bring cash or a check for that amount made out to Wes. No credit cards. The class is limited to 18 people. There are five places left as of this printing.

#### Supplies:

- You will need to provide your own medium. Wes works in acrylic but you can work in watercolor or oils (oils will take much longer to dry)
- Paper and/or canvas of any size
- Charcoal
- Photos to work with or he will set up a still-life
- Pallet knife, brushes, etc. will all work
- Containers to clean your brushes
- And, of course, old credit cards



# The Gallery in February

## And Now For Something Completely Different

**Submitted by Jim Johnson**

Our challenge in February is for every artist to show us some work that is very different from the art that he or she normally creates. The art does not have to be a recent work. Perhaps it was created long ago when you worked in a different medium and your thought process was very different. It may not be your best work ever but it will be different. All 2D and 3D art is eligible. This exhibit is not juried and the works do not have to be framed, only hangable.

Hang: January 28 / Monday  
Strike: February 25 / Monday

## Critique of “Critique Night”

**by DeLaine Klar**

I was sitting in the last row at a recent critique frustrated by the fact that I couldn't see the art that was being “critiqued”. I felt bad that I didn't add anything to the conversation and for artists who received nothing but silence when their art was placed on the easel. I wasn't sure if the silence was because others like myself couldn't see the artwork well enough to make an assessment, or was it the fact that many of us don't really know where to begin when doing a critique?

The GVA board has agreed that we need to make some changes and improve the Critique Night experience for everyone.

Beginning at next month's critique, instead of placing art on the floor facing the wall, please bring your artwork into the studio and place it on an easel or bench facing out. That way as members come to the meeting they will have the opportunity to view your artwork up close and experience it before the critique session begins.

Secondly, Randy Nyhof and others are working on a set of simple guidelines that will help us all with comments and suggestions for doing critiques of artwork. For some people this is a new process. For some it's a reminder. The main thing is, critiques not only help the person receiving the critique, we all learn how to improve our art. Hopefully there will be less silence and more conversation about what makes good art good!

## Program Night

**Submitted by Randy Nyhof**

Our January Program was presented by Ed Post who is known throughout West Michigan and beyond for his bird, macro, wildlife and landscape images. Great presentation as expected with a great turnout. Ed also covered areas that pertained not only to photographers but also to painters, etc. as he showed the elements of composition and how lighting affects the landscape.

Our presenter for our February Program on the 14th will be Lee Ann Frame. She will be presenting a printmaking demonstration for the GVA group. A short video on photopolymer intaglio also may be shown, which will be of interest to both photographers and printmakers. More info will be forthcoming.



## Art Chat

Come join us for fascinating topical discussions on and about our changing art scene locally, nationally, and beyond. Your ideas are important and welcome in this informal and comfortable setting. We plan to meet Friday, February 8, at 1 p.m. in the GVA library. We look forward to seeing and hearing you there.

# For the Love of Bob Ross

by Steve Scarborough

I had a unique experience on Halloween, and was reluctant to share it, because well, I've made fun of the individual it involves in the past, and I need to apologize before I tell the story.

OK, here it goes. Bob Ross, I'm sorry.

There, that wasn't so hard!

Now, to the event that led me to eat crow as they say.

On Halloween morning I get a text from my wife, Linda. There's a woman at her work who is dressed up in a Bob Ross costume and people are loving it! Linda is insistent that I too dress up as Bob. She knows my history with him and is eager to see me dressed in a big curly hair wig and holding a palette and brush, which is essentially the costume. After getting the pieces I need to pull this off, I examine myself in the mirror. I feel quite ridiculous, but proceed, not wanting to disappoint my wife.

Every year, we go Trick or Treating with my daughter, son-in-law, and our two grandkids. We always get dressed up and go to a subdivision across the street from their house. The whole subdivision is decorated to the hilt and most residents are also dressed up, sitting on their porches and eagerly giving out candy to the kids and even spiced wine to the adults.

People immediately recognize who I'm supposed to be, and break out in huge smiles. Loving smiles. I'm not used to being looked at this way. I respond to all of this by trying to get into character.

"Paint happy little trees!" I say. That seems to satisfy everyone. I sometimes get a quote back. There are quite a few good ones.



The outpouring of pure love and admiration I'm getting humbles me and also embarrasses me. Our grand kids don't share the love I'm getting and are soon annoyed that I have upstaged them.

I get it. Bob Ross didn't so much teach people to paint as much as he shared the joy he got from painting. There's a lesson for us all.

## Show Your Work at Trinity United Methodist

Works by **Sister Laurena Alflen** and **Tom Dandridge** will be on display from February 5 through March.

If you want to show your work at Trinity, please let Mary Marin know. Her email is [marymarin1285@gmail.com](mailto:marymarin1285@gmail.com).

Be sure to stop any Monday through Thursday. You'll enjoy seeing works by Tom (top) and Sister Laurena (bottom).







**GVA Welcomes  
New Members**  
Pamela Browneye  
Daniel Gish  
Robert DeJonge

**Returning Member**  
JR Gilpin

## Display Your Work at the Englehardt Public Library in Lowell

The Lowell Library is looking for artists to exhibit their work for a two month period. The library promotes the artists on their website and at the front desk. Currently the works of **Sri McCarthy** are on display in February, followed by **Ruth VanderMuelen** in March.

If you are interested, please contact Sandi Brogger at [rsbrogger@gmail.com](mailto:rsbrogger@gmail.com).

## Photo Group



### News

#### Submitted by Randy Nyhof

The Photo Group met for their regular meeting on January 8 with their usual critique and announcements. Good attendance of 19. Our next meeting will be January 22 where I will be showing a film entitled "Painted Land: In Search of the Group of Seven." This film follows authors and wilderness photographers Joanie and Gary McGuffin and art historian Michael Burtch as they search for the locations visited by Canada's most celebrated landscape painters. The seven captured the spirit of the land, water, and skies of northern Ontario in the 1920s. Our February meeting is scheduled for February 5.



Today the McMichael Canadian Art Collection in Kleinberg, Ontario contains over six thousand pieces from the Group of Seven. Six of the artists are buried in an onsite graveyard at the Gallery. Check out this website to learn more: <http://mcmichael.com/collection/group-of-seven/>

## Public Service Announcement

Because the GVA e-mail list is used to alert members to last-minute changes in scheduled events, such as a recent cancellation of a sketch session for inclement weather, as well as to send out a link to the monthly newsletter, we send e-mails to all GVA members who supply a valid e-mail address. To opt out of receiving e-mails from GVA, unsubscribe from this list when you receive an e-mail from us and provide a reason such as "no longer interested." By unsubscribing, you will no longer receive any e-mails from GVA. You will always be able to find the newsletter on our website, of course. Please contact [marymbaine@gmail.com](mailto:marymbaine@gmail.com) if you have any questions or wish to update your e-mail address. Thanks!

# Area Art News

## Lowell Arts

Regular Hours: Tues–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m. and Sunday 12–5 p.m.

## Forest Hills Fine Arts Center

February 6–28, Stephen Schoussen's etchings and drawings. Reception Wednesday, February 13, 6–9 p.m. Exhibit Hours: 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Mon.–Fri. All exhibits are free to the public.

## Guardian Gallery Lowell

January 2–February 28 brings the beautiful floral work of Kathleen Mooney to Lowell. She is well known for her water media abstract paintings, often non-representational. The Franciscan Life Process Center is at 11650 Downes St., Lowell, MI 49331. Open during regular business hours.

## Frauenthal Reception Gallery in Muskegon

February brings the work of Esan Sommersell and De-Anthony Carter. The name of their show is "Self Love." They both say, "So many years of education, and yet no one taught us how to love ourselves." Open during regular business hours.

## Guardian Gallery Grand Rapids

"Franciscan Artists Group Show" will feature the work that is as diverse as each person is, and utterly beautiful. This show will hang from November through February. The gallery is located at 654 Davis NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504.

## TerryBerry Gallery at St. Cecilia's

GVA member Charles Schadel will exhibit 27 en plein air and larger studio oil paintings inspired by his travel in West Michigan and elsewhere. The exhibit will run through February 26 with an opening reception February 1 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Parking is free next to St. Cecilia's.

## Dominican Center at Marywood

GVA member Paul Knowles' acrylic show, "Nature, the Beauty All Around Us," is currently on display through February. The reception is February 10 from 1 till 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 Mary Jane Pories' excellent work beginning January 3. 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.

## Trinity United Methodist Church

Beginning February 5: Tom Dandridge and Sister Laurena Alflen. Trinity is located at 1100 Lake Drive SE, and the church is open during business hours on Monday through Thursday. To show your work at Trinity, please contact [marymarin1285@gmail.com](mailto:marymarin1285@gmail.com).



Mary Jane Pories now at Bliss & Vinegar

## Why do you do it?

This art that you make. What good is it? What's the point? Do you sell it? Do you make money teaching it? Not very many people really care about it. So why do you do it?

"A bird doesn't sing because it has an answer, it sings because it has a song."

—Maya Angelou



Who says we can't paint "en plein air" right here in the studio? We practiced one Monday in January when the heat wasn't working. Never let anybody tell you we don't have "the right stuff." Fortunately, we didn't have to prove ourselves for very long.

For several years, the Friday Still Life gang has done a painting exchange during the holiday season, and 2018 found the group, or most of it, at Vitale's, whooping it up as only this group of rowdies can.

## Officers, Board, and Committee Chairs of GVA

### President

Carol Lourn  
616-437-9365  
carollourn@yahoo.com

### Vice President

Emily Green  
www.emilyg@gmail.com

### Secretary

Dana Donnell  
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### Treasurer

Evie Carrier  
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### Interim Membership

Mary Baine  
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### Membership

Mary Myszka  
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### Photography

Lora Cecola  
loracecola@mac.com

### Program

Randy Nyhof  
r.nyhof@comcast.net

### Reeds Lake Art Festival

Bob Kraai  
616-956-7734  
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### Newsletter and Website

Mary Marin  
marymarin1285@gmail.com

### Publicity

Steve Scarborough  
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### GVA Gallery Shows

Jim Johnson  
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### Sketch/Model Coordinators

Kathy Bechtel  
kathleen.bechteler@yahoo.com  
Mary Marin  
marymarin1285@gmail.com

### Hospitality

Peg McKeown  
mcperfitt@me.com

### GVA Library

Jim Johnson  
johntheartist@hotmail.com

### Facilities Coordinator

Dave Bazen  
dbazen@bazenelectric.com

### 501(c)(3) Coordinator

Position Open

### Legacy Liaison

Joanne Swann  
joswann@sbcglobal.net

### Outreach

Doug Klemm  
dougklemm@hotmail.com

### Social Media

Position Open

### Newsletter Distribution

Sallie Zigterman  
sallie.zigterman@yahoo.com





## FEBRUARY

**Board Meeting February 7 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. Figure Sketch\*  
1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month 7:30 p.m. Photo Group

**Wednesdays** 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Open Studio

**Thursdays** 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Long Pose\*\*  
First Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Critique  
Second Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Program

**Fridays** 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Still Life

**Saturdays** 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Figure Sketch\*

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

\*\*Model fee \$10, Non-Member \$15

# **Grand Valley Artists**

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