

DECEMBER 2021

Perspectives

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



GRAND VALLEY ARTISTS

grandvalleyartists.com



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- Dec 2** Critique & Election info // 7:00-9:00pm
-
- Dec 3** Robyn Gransow Class // 7:00-9:00pm
-
- Dec 9** Holiday Party & Election Results // 6:00-8:00pm
-



Bowen's Mill by Yankee Springs



© Randall Wyhof



Art by various GVA members

*"Every artist
was first
an amateur."*

Ralph Waldo Emerson

CRANE
PAINTING

The mission of Grand Valley Artists is to nurture excellence in the visual arts by providing opportunities for self-expression, education, and exhibition within West Michigan's dynamic cultural community.



Your Vote Counts!

Submitted by Joanne Swann, Outgoing GVA President

It's that time to elect two officers for two very important Grand Valley Artists Board positions, President and Treasurer. These positions will determine the direction GVA takes in the next two years and your vote counts. The election will be held at Critique on Thursday, December 2 at 7:00pm. There will be printed ballots for you when you come into the studio. Please make your selections and place them in a ballot box before Critique begins. The new President and Treasurer will be announced at our Holiday Program on Thursday, December 9 from 6:00 – 8:00pm.

Two candidates have stepped forward, one for each position. Please read their introductions.

FOR PRESIDENT

Hello! My name is **Dana Donnell** and I currently serve as secretary to the board of Grand Valley Artists. According to our bylaws, GVA will be electing a new president to serve for 2 years. I would be honored to be considered for this position.



I have been a member for 9 years, primarily active as a still life pastelist. I have tried my hand at many art forms; I seem to always be curious about something new.

I have a professional background as a librarian with advanced degrees in education and high school art education. My strengths lie in collaboration and consensus building and I offer administrative skills with a modest grasp of new technologies.

My vision for GVA includes an assertive effort to diversify our membership, a strong engagement with our community and a continuing rich program of classes, workshops and personal artistic development. I will be asking many questions and listening carefully to all our members so that I can represent the organization in its entirety to our board, to our peers and to our state.

Thank you for considering me as a nominee for president of Grand Valley Artists. You can contact me any time at danabdonnell@gmail.com or 616-706-8732.

FOR TREASURER

Hello, fellow GVA artists. My name is **Julia Berry** and I joined GVA in 2020. I was born in Grand Rapids but haven't lived here since I went off to college ages ago. I came to know of GVA by occasionally accompanying my mother, Carol Berry, to sketch when visiting GR over the past many years.



Last July I retired from a career as a science teacher and director of a school for young children in Washington, DC and moved to Rockford—in part to keep an eye on Mom and also to be halfway closer to my three children, all of whom live on the West Coast. I inherited an artistic inclination from my mother but lacked the time to really practice until now.

Regarding the treasurer position, I have acquired substantial experience working with non-profit boards over the years including starting two tuition-free/subsidized school programs for children in underserved communities in DC. I have served as treasurer for three organizations. The school program that I directed had a budget of nearly \$1.5M. Creating and keeping within the budget, fundraising, and creating a reserve fund to sustain the school was a huge part of my role as director.

I'm currently working on the GVA Strategic Planning Committee and have loved getting to know your dedicated leadership. I've met with Lloyd Wheeler and feel I have a good start at understanding the organization's finances. It will be a pleasure to help GVA continue to grow and flourish should you elect me. The arts are so important to any thriving community.

It's Time for GVA's Annual Holiday Exhibit and Party

Submitted by DeLaine Klar

Join us for a Holiday Pie Bar on Thursday, December 9 from 6:00 to 8:00pm in our GVA studio!

In the past, our holiday parties were potlucks. This year we are doing things a little differently: **GVA is providing pies and beverages!** No need to bring anything but yourself and your excitement about our year-end celebration. We'll be offering a variety of different types of pies, coffee, wine, and infused water. This is our way of saying THANK YOU for your support during the move and all the events of this past year.

Enjoy a fun evening with fellow GVA members and your significant other at this annual festive gathering. Meet the new Board members, find out who won awards from the Holiday Show, and enjoy some yummy desserts!

Cheers!



TOYS FOR TOTS

Submitted by DeLaine Klar

You can help a child in need this holiday season. It's as easy as bringing a new unwrapped toy to GVA. Please help us fill this box for Toys For Tots. The box will be in our facility until December 13. Thank you!



Look at Us Grow!

Submitted by Mary Baine

Welcome to new and returning members!

New members: Kate DeHart, Robyn Gransow, Frances Hull, Christine Kolenda, Roy Robinson

Returning: Jesús Solis, Anna Kooienga, Maarten VanVoorthuysen

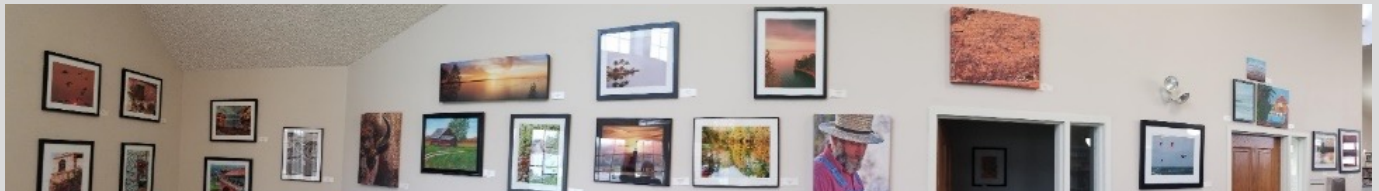


LOWELL ENGLEHARDT LIBRARY

Submitted by Sara Youngman.

On November 5, **Linda and Steve Scarborough** hung their photographs, pencil drawings, and paintings at the Kent District Lowell Englehardt Library, 200 N Monroe St, Lowell, MI 49331. Their joint show will be up through December.

If you haven't visited the library, enjoy this panoramic view of its wall space.



Bliss & Vinegar (888 Forest Hill Ave. SE, Grand Rapids)

Currently showing: **Jim Johnson**

Jim Johnson's art will be up until December 14, when it's swapped-out for the artwork of **Kathy Bechtel**. If you want to show your work at Bliss & Vinegar, you will need to share some of it in the gallery on our website, grandvalleyartists.com, so the owners can see what you do. They decide whose work they want to feature. Please do not contact them directly. Marty Klar coordinates this venue. Exhibits rotate every 6 weeks. Have questions? Call Marty at 616-813-7921.



GVA Photo Group

Submitted by Randy Nyhof

The GVA Photo Group met on Tuesday, November 2 in-person at our studio. We had 19 in attendance. We did our usual show and tell, plus critique. A good time was had by all. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, December 7 beginning at 7:00 pm. We usually end between 8:30-9:00 pm.

Galleries featuring GVA Artists

Please visit these galleries in December to see the artwork of some of your GVA Artists:

Barbara Schilling - An outstanding collection of her work at the Franciscan Life Process Center in Lowell. It's up now! Open during regular business hours. This work is up through the end of January.

Lynn Anderson - A beautiful collection of Lynn's work. Please call ahead at the Downtown Campus of the Franciscan Life Process Center. This work is up through the end of January.



Exciting Opportunity Coming Soon

Submitted by Jim Johnson

GVA has partnered with the Wyoming High School Chapter of the National Art Honor Society to facilitate a local Student Art Show in our front gallery. Students from Wyoming HS have invited 7 local high school art program teachers to select 6 or 7 pieces each from their students' body of work to be exhibited at GVA during the month of January. The students at Wyoming HS will be responsible for the invitations, the management of the work, and the curation of the exhibit. An open reception will be held at GVA for the students, families, friends and community on January 13, 2022, from 7pm to 9pm. Please mark your calendars to attend and support these talented young men and women.

Congratulations, GVA Artists!

Submitted by Mary Helmick

Several of our GVA artists were invited to participate in the Forest Hills Fine Arts Center *15 Year Retrospective Exhibit*. Congratulations to: **Larry Blovits, Jim Johnson, Kathleen Kalinowski, Margaret Kriegbaum, Stone Peng, and Mary Reusch**. The show ran from Oct. 8 – Nov. 19.





Suggestion Box Is Open For Business

Submitted by Marty Klar

Maybe it's a suggestion for the GVA Board. Maybe it's a question or a complaint and you wish to remain anonymous. Whatever it is, this beautifully engraved wooden box is where you should put your message if you choose not to send it via email or talk directly to a Board member. The contents are under lock and key and will be viewed periodically. Responses will be made directly to you if possible or posted on our website as a generic reply. The suggestion box is conveniently located by the microwave in the studio.

Opportunity to Show Your Art at Grand Rapids Biggby's

Submitted by Steve Scarborough

We have been asked by Biggby Coffee to exhibit our art at their stores in the greater Grand Rapids area (appx. 12 stores). Each store will have a hanging system and room for the equivalent of ten 11"x14" pieces (or a smaller number of a larger size). Each exhibit will last two months or so, then we'll swap it out. This call is for FAMILY-FRIENDLY ART ONLY. They will expect each exhibitor to sign a contract. Featured artists can display their contact information, too, as well as information about GVA.

Linda and I are going to check out the store on Lake Michigan Dr. to see the hanging system and get a good sense of what sizes they can accommodate. We should be able to start very soon at the locations that have their lobbies open, and we can add more stores to exhibit in as they open up. We can also branch out to their locations in Ionia and Kalamazoo if we have the interest from our members. Biggby's is hoping we will!

For more information, please contact **Steve** stevescarb1@yahoo.com or **Linda Scarborough** lindaascarborough@yahoo.com.



Paint and Sip

Submitted by Kathleen Bechtel

Would you like to enjoy a night out to paint with your family or friends who maybe aren't artists? At the Franciscan Life Process Center in Lowell on December 17, **Kathy Bechtel** will be hosting a Paint and Sip from 6:30-8:30pm. The cost is \$35 per person.

Please register at:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/paint-and-siptickets-168632894527>.

Photography 101

Submitted by Terri Hannah

GVA's **David Jackson** will be teaching a 6-week photography course exploring all of the beginning things our "smart" digital cameras know that the camera user does not. The class will begin on Tuesday, January 11 from 7:00 to 9:00pm. All you need is your camera, its User Manual, and a desire to learn. Class fees will be \$200.00 per person for GVA members and \$250.00 for non-members. Contact **Terri Hanna** at 616.293.7888 or tlhanna0807@gmail.com to register. Space is limited, so please sign up now.

Look at What Can Happen if You Hang Out with Wes DeVries!

Submitted by Mary Helmick. Photos: Marty Klar

When **Wes DeVries** promises to teach artists to "go with the flow," he delivers! Please enjoy this artwork created by participants during his Nov. 13 workshop.

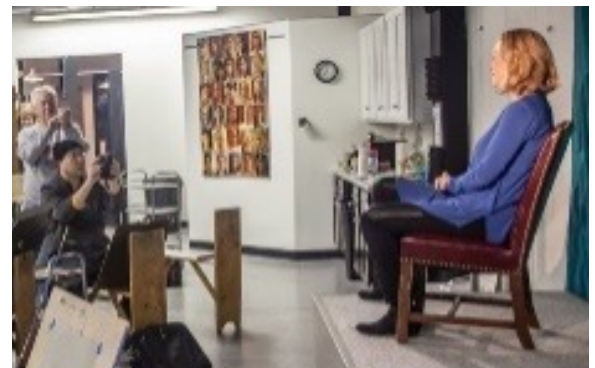


From Interviews to Sketches, GVA Appreciated Time Spent with Shelley Irwin

Submitted by Joanne Swann. Photos: Randy Nyhof, Marty Klar.

It was fun to have Shelley Irwin, the WGVU morning show host, as our model at our Monday evening portrait session on November 1. Shelley is an energetic and dynamic personality who did a wonderful job interviewing many GVA members on Monday, October 18 about what it's like to be a member of GVA as well as promoting the Pop-Up Bazaar on her program Thursday, October 21. We had a lot of members come out to paint or draw her portrait so she had a nice selection of images from which to choose a portrait to take home. She selected Judy Magini's pastel painting.

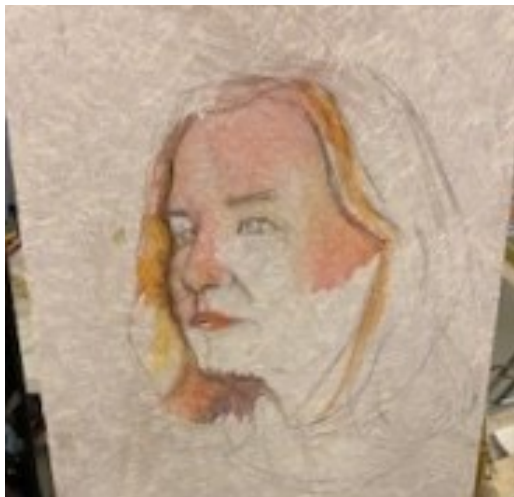
INTERVIEW PHOTOS



SKETCH PHOTOS



WORKS IN PROGRESS



Our Village Is The Best!

Submitted by Terri Hanna.

We all know that it takes a village to be the best community we can be. We also know that many hands make light work. GVA needs its village and hands in a variety of ways. We not only need people with strong skill sets to be officers of our organization, but we need the gifts and talents of all of you to succeed.

Consider running for the current open officer positions. Have leadership skills but don't want the responsibility of an officer? Consider chairing one of the many open committees. Maybe you don't have time to chair, but have time to help get some of our new projects off and running. Can't do the heavy lifting? We will need help throughout the year to be a docent for our open shows and to open and close for our many workshops and classes.

Like to keep things neat and tidy? GVA always needs help with mailings, filing, and recordkeeping. Have great ideas for fundraisers? We need 5 creative minds to coordinate our annual fundraisers. Are you articulate and good with words? There are a variety of positions open within our communications group. Have a marketing background? Have experience in web design? Have ideas on where we can place our informational materials to help bring in new members and grow our community presence?

Well, the list goes on and on. Our board and some of our members have done an amazing job, but let's add YOU to our pool of volunteers to keep the momentum going and bring our organization from good to great! Terri Hanna will be putting together a database of volunteers, so please send her an email at tlhanna0807@gmail.com or call 616.293.7888 to get involved! Thanks much tribe! You are the best!

Call For Artists

GRAND VALLEY ARTISTS JURIED EXHIBITION AT THE FOREST HILLS FINE ARTS CENTER

February 3 - March 18, 2022

Submitted by Doug Klemm. Interior photo: Mary Helmic.

Located in Grand Rapids on the far southeast side, the Forest Hills Fine Arts Center (FHFAC) is a state-of-the-art contemporary arts facility nestled in the beautiful natural surroundings of the Forest Hills Public Schools campus. The scenic yet expansive lobby provides a perfect venue for the display of artwork which will be viewed by the many people who frequent the building. The exhibitions of the FHFAC are actively promoted within the community throughout the year.

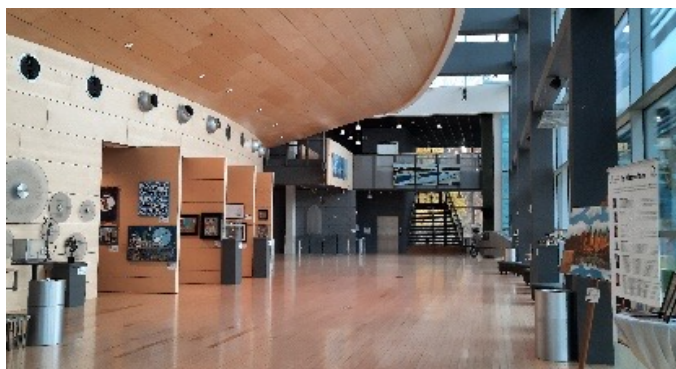
Our Juror, Jon McDonald, is an American artist who grew up in Grand Haven. He earned both his BFA and MFA degrees at the San Francisco Art Institute. Jon has been a Professor of Art for over four decades in the Illustration program at Kendall College of Art and Design. He has distinguished himself as one of the finest and most prolific painters in West Michigan. Jon has positively influenced literally thousands of students to pursue their talents and launch their careers as artists and designers.



Call For Artists (cont.)

The following guidelines have been established for this exhibit:

- This exhibition will be juried to approximately 80-90 works. All types of art and mediums are welcome.
- All work submitted must be suitable for viewing by children in a school community.
- 3D work including sculptures is permitted; large works (more than 60" or 100lbs) need prior approval before submission. Check with Doug Klemm (616) 481-6121.
- There is no commission charged for sales. Potential purchasers will be referred to the artists by FHFAC staff.
- The FHFAC reserves the right to use the exhibition space for other activities during the exhibit. It is possible that some work may be temporarily moved.
- GVA volunteers and GVA staff will hang the exhibit with oversight by Jane Bunting, FHFAC Coordinator.
- The Opening Reception will be hosted jointly by FHFAC and GVA.
- Awards: 1st Place \$300; 2nd Place \$200; 3rd Place \$150; and 4th Place \$100 will be selected by the juror and awarded at the opening reception.



APPLYING & SUBMITTING YOUR WORK

Submissions open December 1, 2021 and close December 30, 2021. (No late entries will be accepted.)

- Send up to **4 entries** to the following email account: GVAsubmissions@gmail.com
- In the subject line, enter: **GVA Exhibit-FHFAC**
- Enter your name, address, city, state, zip
- Enter your phone number and email address

Next, list your entries, numbering as follows:

- Entry 1: Title of Work
- Medium
- Size
- Price \$\$\$ or NFS
- Repeat for Entries 2, 3, and 4.
- Attach a photo of each entry.
- Your cost of entry is \$25 for one entry. Add \$5 for each additional entry.
- Entries will not be considered complete until payment is received.

FEE PAYMENT

Promptly send payment the **SAME DAY** you apply for the exhibit.

Address check or money order to:

GRAND VALLEY ARTISTS

MAIL TO: Doug Klemm,
7941 Park Lane Avenue,
Jenison, MI 49428

Or use this PayPal link:



Scan. Pay. Go.

Call For Artists (cont.)

PRESENTATION OF WORK

It is to your advantage to submit clear, crisp images of properly photographed work. Do not shoot your images through glass! Remove artwork from the frame before photographing. It is also best to crop the images so that only the art and not the mat or frame is photographed.

- Work must be wired for hanging. Sawtooth hangers are not permitted.
- Submit original art. No reproductions of your art will be allowed. Exceptions: printmaking, photographs, or original digitally created artwork.
- Framing must show good craftsmanship.
- No exposed glass edges.
- Entries will be handled with care. However, neither GVA nor the FHFAC, or staff or members of either, are responsible for loss or damage to an artist's work.
- Selected images must remain for the duration of the show.
- Please do not submit work that was previously shown in an exhibit at the FHFAC.
- If you have no computer access, or have difficulty submitting your entries, please contact Doug Klemm at (616) 481-6121 or dougklemm@hotmail.com



NOTIFICATION/DROP OFF

ACCEPTED ARTWORK/PICK-UP ARTWORK

- **Notification of Acceptance/Decline** will be by email prior to January 10, 2022
- **Drop-off Accepted Artwork to the Forest Hills Fine Arts Center**
- Monday, January 31, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM
- **FHFAC and GVA Volunteers** will hang the exhibit February 1 and 2
- **Exhibit Opens:** February 3
- **Gallery Hours Monday-Friday:** 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
- **Exhibit Closes:** March 18
- **Pick-up Artwork:** March 31, 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM

OPENING RECEPTION

February 10, 6:00-7:30 PM at FHFAC

- Reception is hosted by FHFAC and GVA
- Juror Remarks and Awards Presentation at 7:00 PM

**Location: Forest Hills Fine Arts Center,
600 Forest Hill Avenue SE, Grand Rapids,
MI 49546**

We look forward to receiving your entries!
Best wishes and good luck to all of you!
Please address any questions/concerns you may have to:

Doug Klemm at dougklemm@hotmail.com
(616) 481-6121 or Carol Laurn at:
carollaurn@yahoo.com (616) 437-9365



Your Generosity Keeps Us Going!

Submitted by Mary Helmick

We can't thank you enough for all the contributions which allowed us to make it through some tough financial times. Surviving without 2 years of income from our annual Reeds Lake Art Festival was tricky indeed! **Lloyd Wheeler**, current GVA Treasurer, asked that we let you know what a difference your generosity made in keeping us out of troubled financial waters.

If you'd like to make any year-end contributions, here are your options:

Go to grandvalleyartists.com and use the PayPal link.

Mail a check made out to Grand Valley Artists to:

Grand Valley Artists
2661 29th St. SE, Suite B
Grand Rapids, MI 49512

It helps if you add a note (even in the memo line on the check) so Lloyd can process your donation properly.

Thank you!

We're Smiling Thanks to You!

Submitted by DeLaine Klar and Mary Helmick

Did you know a portion of your Amazon purchases can come to GVA at no extra cost to you? To date, we've received over \$500 through the Smile.Amazon program!

If you shop Amazon.com, make your purchases through Smile.Amazon.com and designate Grand Valley Artists as the non-profit recipient. It's that easy! It's a great way to support GVA without having to do anything extra. Thank you to Mary Marin who originally set this up for us.



How to turn on AmazonSmile in the mobile app

1

Join AmazonSmile

If you are not already an AmazonSmile member, [sign up](#) on your web browser. Simply select your favorite charity to start generating donations, at no cost to you.

2

Get the app

Download or update to the latest version of the Amazon Shopping app on your phone. You can find it in the [App Store](#) for iOS or [Google Play](#) for Android.

3

Turn on AmazonSmile

Open the app and find 'Settings' in the main menu (≡). Tap on 'AmazonSmile' and follow the on-screen instructions to turn on AmazonSmile on your phone.



Your \$ Donations are Always Appreciated

Please visit grandvalleyartists.com for information on contributing by check or through PayPal. Grand Valley Artists, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit entity. All donations are tax deductible.

If you shop Smile.Amazon.com, choose Grand Valley Artists as the recipient and we will receive a small percentage of your purchases at no extra cost to you. Thank you!

Current Officers, Board Members and Committee Chairs

President	Sketch/Model Chair	Outreach Chair
Joanne Swann joswann@sbcglobal.net	Kathy Bechtel kathleen.bechtel@yahoo.com	Doug Klemm dougklemm@hotmail.com
Interim Vice President	Fundraising Chair	GVA Gallery Shows
Diane Haworth dhaworth623@gmail.com	Open Position	Jim Johnson johnsontheartist@hotmail.com
Secretary	Publicity Chair	Communications Chair
Dana Donnell danabdonnell@gmail.com	Open Position	Open Position
Treasurer	Hospitality Chairs	Social Media
Lloyd Wheeler lbwheeler518@gmail.com	DeLaine Klar/Evie Carrier dklar@comcast.net Evie.carrier@gmail.com	Daniel Gish Gishdesigns@gmail.com
Membership Chair	Facilities Chair	GVA Library
Mary Baine marymbaine@gmail.com	Marty Klar martyklar@comcast.net	Richard Schaf srichardsally@yahoo.com
Photography Chair	Legacy Chair	Art Festival Fund Raiser
Randy Nyhof r.nyhof@comcast.net	Robert Kraai rkraai@ameritech.net	Subcommittee 5 Open Positions
Program Chair		
Terri Hanna tlhanna0807@gmail.com		

Grand Valley Artists
2661 29th Street SE, Suite B
Grand Rapids, MI 49512



GRAND VALLEY ARTISTS

Membership Application 2021

Membership Year is September 1st through August 31st.

Note: All memberships expire on August 31st and require renewal on September 1st; the annual membership fee is due every September 1st and remains the same regardless of collection date.

The information on this form is used for contact purposes and member services; please provide as many details as you feel comfortable sharing.

Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Your e-mail address is used to distribute the monthly newsletter as well as important announcements and updates; regarding this service, every member is able to “unsubscribe”. If you do not have a valid e-mail address, please check the GVA website for news—and newsletters. Printed copies of the newsletter are available at the studio as well.

Annual dues are \$60 for all new, renewing, or rejoining members except as otherwise noted. Payment may be made as follows:

- **PayPal**—Log onto grandvalleyartists.com; choose the link “Artists: Join here!”, then follow the prompts until payment is complete.
- **Check**—Make the check payable to GVA or Grand Valley Artists.
- **Mail to:**
Grand Valley Artists
% Mary M. Baine, Membership Chair
2280 Leonard Street
Marne, Michigan 49435

Charitable contributions may be added to your dues.

The William (Bill) Kubiak fund was established to offer assistance to artists coping with financial hardship. Grand Valley Artists is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Donations made to support GVA are tax-deductible; you will receive a receipt for your records.

Date: _____ Please check one: New member _____ Returning member _____ Renew current membership _____

Please check one:

_____ Lifetime membership (20 consecutive years in good standing): \$0

Monthly Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Open studio 2:00-5:00pm	Portrait session 10:00-12:00pm Portrait session 7:00-9:00pm	Photo group (1st Tues) 7:00-9:00pm	Open studio 10:00-1:00pm Plein air (Summer) 1:00-4:00pm	Critique (1st Thurs) 7:00-9:00pm Board meeting (1st Thurs) 5:30-7:00pm Program (2nd Thurs) 7:00-9:00pm	Still life 10:00-1:00pm	Full figure sketch session 10:00-1:00pm

December Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Open Studio 10:00am-1:00pm	2 Critique & Election info 7:00-9:00pm	3 Open Studio 10:00am- 1:00pm Robyn Gransow Class 7:00-9:00pm	4 Figure Sketch 10:00am
5 Open Studio 2:00-5:00pm	6 Portrait Sketch 10:00am- 12:00pm Portrait Sketch 7:00-9:00pm	7 Kathleen Kalinowski Class 9:00am- 2:00pm	8 Open Studio 10:00am-1:00pm	9 Holiday Party & Election Results 6:00-8:00pm	10 Open Studio 10:00am- 1:00pm	11 Figure Sketch 10:00am
12 Open Studio 2:00-5:00pm	13 Portrait Sketch 10:00am- 12:00pm Portrait Sketch 7:00-9:00pm	14	15 Open Studio 10:00am-1:00pm	16	17 Open Studio 10:00am- 1:00pm	18 Figure Sketch 10:00am
19 Open Studio 2:00-5:00pm	20 Portrait Sketch 10:00am- 12:00pm Portrait Sketch 7:00-9:00pm	21	22 Open Studio 10:00am-1:00pm	23	24 Open Studio 10:00am- 1:00pm	25
26 Open Studio 2:00-5:00pm	27 Portrait Sketch 10:00am- 12:00pm Portrait Sketch 7:00-9:00pm	28	29 Open Studio 10:00am-1:00pm	30	31 Open Studio 10:00am- 1:00pm	