

Perspectives



grandvalleyartists.com

November 2020

Annual Elections Around the Corner!

Every year, our GVA constitution requires us to nominate and elect two board officers. These officers then will serve on the board for two years. This year, we will be voting on the positions of Vice President and Secretary. If YOU would like to assume one of these positions, please let our Nominating Committee know so we can add your name to the ballot. Deadline to submit your name is November 15.

Submit your name and the position for which you would like to run directly to DeLaine Klar via email: **dklar@comcast.net** by November 15. Election ballots will be sent out to all members, and results will be announced at our annual meeting, which is held on Program Night in December. That will be an exciting night, too, as it will also be the night we get to see all the entries into the Holiday Show and learn who the winners are!

The December Program will be virtual, via Zoom, and you will receive more information later about how to enter your work into the show and how to participate in this online Holiday Zoom Event. We encourage our new members to attend so we can meet you, at least virtually! Zoom is easy and fun, and we hope all will join in!

GVA Welcomes

New Members this Month

Julia Berry, Jessica Brown, Shannon Mack

Returning Member

Maggie Clifford-Bandstra



Holiday Greeting Card Submissions

Your Holiday Card submissions must be loaded into the Holiday album on our GVA Artists Hunkering Down and Making Art! page on Facebook by October 25. As with the earlier sets of cards, the GVA Board will vote for their favorite images to be included in the sets. Sets will be available for purchase in plenty of time for mailing, and we hope you will support GVA by purchasing cards to send your holiday greetings.

Holiday Competition!

It will be different, but it will be exciting!!! Our first Holiday Online Competition will offer members the opportunity to submit one or two pieces into this juried show, and the submissions will be presented in a beautiful magazine that will be available online and in hard copy for those who would like a hands-on version for posterity, too.

To enter the competition, please provide a completed [Entry Form](#) for your submissions (maximum of two per artist), and an excellent photo of the work electronically to Kathy Bechtel (kathleen.bechtel@yahoo.com), and mail the entry fee by mail along with a check made out to Grand Valley Artists to Kathy Bechtel, 8418 Golfside Drive, Jenison, MI 49428. The cost to enter will be \$15 for one piece and \$25 for two entries. Deadline: Nov. 30.

Holiday Shopping at the Downtown Market

Submitted by Marty Klar

Done any holiday shopping yet? Our very own very favorite brand ambassador — AKA Bliss & Vinegar — is now featuring new artwork, new note cards, including the just released GVA note card sets, as well as beautifully-crafted kitchen and household items. Tell your family, tell your friends, tell your neighbors. The holidays are approaching fast. Sure you can shop online, but Amazon will survive if you don't buy everything from them. To varying degrees we've all been keeping super low profiles these days due to Covid. It's time to don your gay apparel face mask and get some shopping done before snow and freezing temps take the joy out of driving.

GR's Downtown Market hosts numerous food options besides the fresh and delicious offerings from Bliss & Vinegar. There are aisles to wander, aromas to entice you and gift ideas for the stockings and under the tree. Support your fellow artists, artisans and of course, Bliss & Vinegar.



GVA Gallery

Artwork Created During the Quarantine

Submitted by Jim Johnson

Some of our artists are already sharing current artwork on social media, of course, and that's great. But whenever we get the ALL CLEAR, let's put this work up on the wall. One of the wonderful things about creating original art is that the artist always remembers what he/she was thinking and feeling during the creation of the art. I think for this period of time it will be that to the tenth power. Be well, fellow artists.

Program Night

Submitted by Randy Nyhof

No program report for November. Our Holiday Party, always held on program night in December, will be virtual this year, though (December 10), and all of the artwork submitted into the Holiday competition will be shared with those who attend. If you've never Zoomed to a party before, this will be your chance!

Critique Night

Submitted by Randy Nyhof

Thursday, November 5, GVA will again have an online Zoom critique meeting at 7:00 p.m. The GVA facilities are still closed for larger group gatherings. Randy Nyhof will be the Zoom host, and our facilitator will be Ken Cadwallader. If you would like to show your work for critique, email photos of your artwork to Randy ASAP. Any questions please contact Randy Nyhof (r.nyhof@comcast.net).



Order Yours Today!

Submitted by Joanne Swann

GVA's note card sales are going great. The original set and the photography set are almost sold out. If you want to grab some of what is left, contact me (original set) or Randy (for photo cards). You'll want to order Holiday/Christmas/Season's Greetings cards ASAP, too! Sets contain 10 cards/envelopes for \$12.

As with the fine art cards, the images for the Holiday cards will be selected by our GVA board from the Holiday images posted on our Facebook Hunkering Down site. If you want your image to be considered, be sure it is in the Holiday Images album by October 25. We will let you know as soon as they are available. We also expect to sell them at the Downtown Market, although the price will be a tad higher.

2020 Plein Air Wrap Up

Submitted by Jim Johnson

During this pandemic year these outings were especially important to me because they gave me a good reason to get out of the house and meet up with other artists in person. On many of our paint outs, I spent half the time in conversation with old friends before I even got down to painting. The painting sites we visited this year were evenly divided between city and country scenes. I hope to work in a few more outings this fall, weather permitting, so please join us if you can.

If you're not already on my email list of plein air artists, contact me at johnsontheartist@hotmail.com. and I will send you our latest information.

This is a list of locations we've visited so far this year: Mary Marin's home, Central Reformed Church, Riverside Park, Cannonsburg, MSU Grand Ideas Garden, Coopersville, St Adalbert's Basilica, St. Mary's Church in Lowell, Fulton Street Farmers Market, Dominican Center at Marywood, St. Isidore Church, Highland Park, David and Hattie Amberg House, John Ball Park, corner of Paris and Logan Streets, Luton Prairie, Peg McKeown's home, Eastmanville Park, Meyer May House, Ada Township Park, The Highlands Land Conservatory, Waterfront Park, Lookout Park, and the Meadows at Millennium Park.

Shining Through Art Show & Auction Goes Virtual

Submitted by Mary Helmie

Unsurprisingly, this year's annual fall fundraiser for The Mental Health Foundation of West Michigan has transitioned from an in-person event to an online platform. Instead of one evening of food and fun, this year's bidding will occur over a four day period. The work of many local artists will be featured, with a portion of the proceeds going to each artist. This marks my 3rd year of participating in this exciting event and I'm grateful to be included in this year's show.

The kick-off event with a LIVE component will occur via their Facebook site: [themhf](https://www.facebook.com/themhf). Bidding begins Monday, November 9 and runs through Thursday, November 12. Once the link for bidding is established, it will be accessible through their website: [benice.org](https://www.benice.org)

This organization provides vital services to people of all ages through their programming. Consider checking out the art for sale as well as other fun items to bid on!



Sunflower Field, Mary Helmie

Bliss & Vinegar

We have enjoyed a wonderful relationship with B&V for a few years already, which has been a great opportunity for our artists to share their work. The work of Pat Buist goes in on the Tuesday 10/27. Be sure to swing by, grab a fantastic salad, and check it out!

If you want to show your work at Bliss & Vinegar, you will need to share some of it in the gallery on our website, www.grandvalleyartists.com, so the owners of B&V can see what you do. They decide whose work they want to feature. Please don't contact them directly. Marty Klar coordinates this opportunity for us. Please do not contact the restaurant directly. Questions? Call Marty at 616-813-7921.



Sketch...the Rules

The GVA board wants to ensure that the studio remains a safe and clean environment for our members upon reopening. Our current plans for sketch groups include but are not limited to the following:

- We will have regular deep cleaning of the space, but we request your help in sanitizing the areas you come in contact with; door handles, light switches, easels, tables, counter tops, equipment, restrooms, etc. Disinfectant wipes are provided around the studio.
- Before and after using the space, wipe down all frequently touched surfaces. See above.
- A disinfectant spray is in the bathroom. Please use it on all surfaces before and after using the room.
- Wash your hands frequently and/or use hand sanitizer. There are several bottles provided around the studio.
- If you have some sort of gloves, e.g., latex, wear them.
- We will limit the number of artists in sketch sessions to provide proper distancing. 6' between easels.
- We will have an online sign-up site set up for you to sign up for a sketch session. Information will be sent on how to access it. Sessions will be limited to 10 plus the model. When that limit is reached, no one else will be allowed into the session. If we find that a specific session is very popular, we will consider adding sessions. Please be considerate of your fellow members. If you sign up for a session and later find you can't make it, please take your name off the list.
- A mask is weird and hard to wear, but it is required.
- Don't share tools or supplies.
- Don't use the coffeemakers or tea kettles. Bring your own beverage in its own container.
- Don't bring food to be shared.
- Books and magazines in our library should not be used or shared at this time.
- If you're sick, stay home.
- Be respectful of your fellow members. We are all in this together.

Thank you for understanding.

Membership Update

Submitted by Mary Baine, Membership Chair

September is the month to pay GVA dues: \$45 for a typical member, \$67.50 (\$22.50 plus \$45) for two members living in the same household, and \$25 for students ages 18+. Dues are expected by the end of September. Individual reminders were issued in October for those who seem to have unwittingly allowed their GVA memberships to lapse. Paying dues is as easy as using the link on our website or writing a check to Grand Valley Artists and mailing it to Mary Baine, Membership, 2280 Leonard Street, Marne, MI 49435. If you don't fill out a form (form on following page), please include a note if any of your contact information has changed.

FAQ

What if you don't plan to renew? Please contact marymbaine@gmail.com so she will know not to pursue the matter further. You can even unsubscribe from our email list and offer that as the reason.

Not sure if you have already paid? Please contact marymbaine@gmail.com. She will be delighted to let you know either way.

Any other questions concerning your membership status? Please contact marymbaine@gmail.com.

Officers, Board, and Committee Chairs of GVA

President

Joanne Swann
joswann@sbcglobal.net

Vice President

Emily Green
ww.emilyg@gmail.com

Secretary

Dana Donnell
danaBdonnell@gmail.com

Treasurer

Lloyd Wheeler
lbwheeler518@gmail.com

Membership

Mary Baine
marymbaine@gmail.com

Photography

Randy Nyhof
r.nyhof@comcast.net

Program

Randy Nyhof
r.nyhof@comcast.net

501(c)(3) Coordinator

Open Position

Reeds Lake Art Festival

Open Position

Newsletter and Website

Mary Marin
marymarin1285@gmail.com

Publicity

Steve Scarborough
stevescarb1@yahoo.com

GVA Gallery Shows

Jim Johnson
johnsontheartist@hotmail.com

Sketch/Model Coordinators

Kathy Bechtel
kathleen.bechtel@yahoo.com

Hospitality

Sarah Youngman

Facilities Coordinator

Dave Bazen
dbazen@bazenelectric.com

Legacy Liaison

Robert Kraai
rkraai@ameritech.net

Outreach

Doug Klemm
dougklemm@hotmail.com

Facebook

Emily Green
ww.emilyg@gmail.com

Instagram

Open Position

GVA Library

Wenxi Gu

Note from the editor: Until we are back in full swing, we will only be distributing the newsletter online. If you have any news to share, please always feel free to send it to marymarin1285@gmail.com for inclusion.



GRAND VALLEY ARTISTS

Membership Application: 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: _____ **Apt:** _____

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 \$45 for all new, renewing, or rejoining members except as otherwise noted; payment may be made as follows:

By PayPal—Log onto grandvalleyartists.com and choose the link "Artists: Join here!", then follow the prompts until payment is complete.

By check—Make the check payable to GVA or Grand Valley Artists, then mail it 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 _____

Renewal of current membership _____

Please select one:

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

>Individual adult membership: \$45

>Student membership (age 18+): \$25

>Family membership: \$45 for the first adult; \$22.50 per spouse/partner/child (18+) Please list:

Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Please confirm amounts:

Dues: \$ _____

Donation(s):

Kubiak Fund—\$ _____

GVA 501(c) (3)—\$ _____

Total: \$ _____

Please choose method of payment:

PayPal: _____

Check: # _____

Cash: _____

Grand Valley Artists

1695 Service Road NE, Suite 106
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Photo Group

November

2020

Submitted by Randy
Nyhof



We had our regular Zoom critique meeting on October 6 at 7:30 p.m. Our next meeting is scheduled for November 10. This will be an in-person meeting with social distancing and wearing masks. Any member wishing to show work should email them to Randy (r.nyhof@comcast.net) no later than the day before. Due to the fact that the first Tuesday of November is Election Day we are having the meeting a week later than usual. No other events planned at this time.

Three GVA members are included in the second bi-annual FOTOG Regional Photography Exhibition at the Holland Area Arts Council: Sri McCarthy, Henri Droski, and Randy Nyhof (Honorable Mention). This show runs from Sept. 10 to Nov. 7. You have to call 616-396-3278 to set up a private tour.

Randy also has a one person show at the Van Singel Gallery in Byron Center, which is open to the public at this time but by appointment only. Contact them at sbower@bcpsk12.net to view the art in-person (subject to COVID screening protocol). This show will run until the end of October.

Cadwallader Painting Class

Ken Cadwallader will be teaching a once-a-week six week class starting on Thursday, November 5, and ending on Thursday, December 17, 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. at GVA. Ken will start out the day with a demo and students will then paint until 4, so you'll want to bring a lunch. From 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. there will be a critique. The class will paint the still-life and possibly portrait. The cost for all six full-day sessions is a very reasonable \$300. Masks will be required, and you will need to sign a paper as you come into the class that you are not currently experiencing any of the symptoms of the virus. Contact Kathy Bechtel to sign up. Kathy's email is kbechtel@lifeprocesscenter.org. 10 people will be allowed. First come, first in.

Class days November 5,12,19, December 3,10,17.