

Bethlehem Art Association

Mar./Apr. 2025
Newsletter



I hope that this winter's extreme cold has kept everyone inside, well and welcoming the chance to be creative.

I, along with some fellow members, have been busy with continuing to meet the requirements for our filing as a non-profit, now that we are BAA, Inc. Mainly, this has entitled revisiting and revising our By-Laws, which were last revised in 1990. The BAA was established in 1969. As I write, the updated By-Laws will be approved by our Corporate Directors and thereafter further Federal and State documents will be filed to conclude the process.

One of our requirements is to hold an Annual Meeting, which we will conduct at our scheduled April meeting. At that time, we will vote on our officers – President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. A slate is to be presented by a Nominating Committee and nominations will be allowed from the floor.

I am therefore asking for three members to volunteer to be our Nominating Committee. If, interested, you can contact me or speak to me at our March meeting. The task is not onerous as most of the positions have incumbents.

We were overdue in revisiting our corporate framework and I am certain that this effort will help us stay a viable and solid organization for a long time devoted to the visual artists and our appreciative public.

On another topic, we will be distributing a member survey next month regarding your interests that will help with planning our monthly programs.

Warm regards,

Lynda

BAA Mission Statement

The BAA is a focal point for all kinds of visual art activities in Bethlehem.
We promote art, art activities, and artists in Bethlehem.

www.bethlehemartassociation.com

*Please welcome new members:
Laura Morrill and Megan O'Toole*

President

Lynda Spielman

718-463-5679

lyndaspelman@aol.com

1st Vice President

Peter Keitel

pjkeitel@gmail.com

2nd Vice President

Open

Treasurer

David Chapin

Recording Secretary

Laurel Petersen

Exhibitions/Shows

Ellie Prakken

Membership Chair

Gary Mehlum: 482-8606

gmehlum@gmail.com

Publicity

Anne Levitt

Community Spaces

Jacqueline Smith

TShock1882@aol.com

Newsletter

Ellie Prakken: 439-7559

ellieprakken@gmail.com

Refreshments

Sue Nye

Student Scholarships

Lynda Spielman

Webmaster

Peter Keitel

Susan Trottier

Workshops

Denise Crisafulli



Meetings

**Thursday,
March 20, 6:45 p.m.**

Natalie Boburka Conceptual Art



Natalie Boburka will be the presenter at the March meeting as well as the conductor of the spring workshop in April. Natalie is a mixed media artist known for working with natural and discarded materials. Her work is primarily conceptual and consists of several evolving series. Natalie works in a variety of media, expressing reactions to social, environmental, feminist, and political topics. She



often uses natural dyes as an underlayer for her paintings, and natural or discarded objects to apply pigment. Natalie has shown work in galleries and public spaces primarily in

New York State since 2009. She recently founded "Arts Around Greenville". She has a long history as an art instructor working in school districts as

well as with adults in a variety of settings. She has a Bachelor of Science from Buffalo State College studying Art Education and Art Therapy, and a Master of Arts in Liberal Studies from Empire State College in Albany.

The presentation will focus on Conceptual Art, the evolution of what many people consider the inspiration of Ready-Mades, the differences between them, and some of the artists in the field. Natalie will show what she is working on presently. She will also bring actual pieces of her work and will show more work through her website. To see more of Natalie's work go to

www.boburkastudios.com

Natalie will have a show of 12 pieces at the Athens Cultural Center, in Athens, NY opening on March 7.

Thursday, April 24, 6:45p.m.

Annual Member Meeting and

Pastel Demo with Takeyce Walter

Takeyce Walter is an award-winning contemporary American painter (Jamaican-born), art instructor, and media producer living and working in upstate New York. Since her formative years, the impulse to create has driven her, resulting in a lifelong journey of artistic expression. Takeyce's work



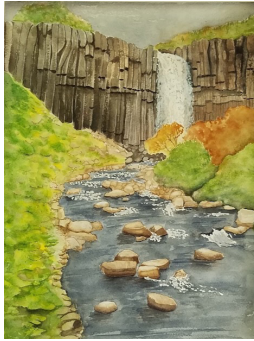
is a testament to her deep-rooted connection with the Northeastern landscape, reflecting her profound contemplation of humanity's relationship with nature and the environment. Through the masterful manipulation of

oil paint, gouache, and pastels, she crafts evocative portrayals of the natural world, capturing its essence in every stroke—be it the meandering rivers, the ethereal skies, or the tranquil lakes. Each composition exudes a sense of intimacy, serenity, and veneration, inviting viewers to find belonging and connection in the beauty of the natural world. Beyond her artistic endeavors, Takeyce serves as a staunch advocate for both art and the environment, dedicating her time and expertise to local non-profit organizations championing these causes. To see more about Takeyce go to her website at takeycewalter.com.





News of Our Members



Svartifoss
by Sue Nye



Spiral Nuance
by John Smolinsky



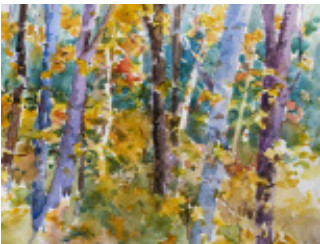
Say When
by Pam Agan-Smith



Early Spring
by Carol Turner

Members **Sue Nye, John Smolinsky, Lynda Spielman, and Marsh Walton** have been accepted in the Nature Art Show at the Thacher Park Visitor Center.

The show runs from March 15 to April 4 with an opening reception March 15, from 1:00-3:00pm



Birch Confetti
by Lynda Spielman



Pine Hollow Arboretum
by Marsha Walton

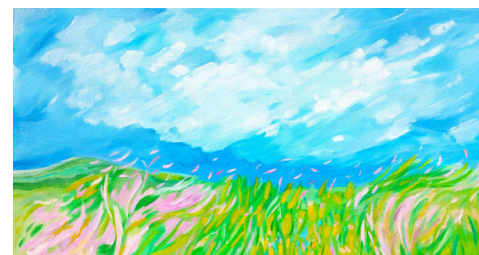
Beach Treasures



John LaForte

is showing of a number of pieces at the American Italian Heritage Museum, 1227 Central Ave., Albany. The show runs thru February and March.

Cathy Laccetti was honored to receive the Albany Center Gallery Award for her mixed media collage, "Put a Bird on It" at Arlene's Fourth Annual Student Art Show being held at the William K. Sanford Library in Colonie. She also received the Diana Bangert-Drowns Memorial Creativity Award at the same event. The show runs until February 27, 2025.



Love Story

Anne Levitt is now a half-share member of an artist-owned and managed gallery, the 501 Warren Street Gallery in Hudson, NY, meaning her work is on display every other month, along with a featured artist. She will be the featured artist in June with an opening on Saturday, June 7. The gallery's website is www.510warrenstreetgallery.com/ and there is also a Facebook page.



More Member News

Kevin Kuhne is having a one-person show at Canajoharie Library/Arnell Museum Regional Art Gallery, 2 Erie Blvd., Canajoharie, from February. 26 to April 29, 2025. <https://www.canajoharielibrary.org>

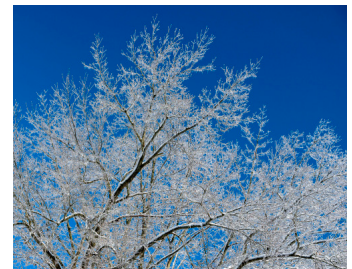
Kevin also has 8 watercolors on display at Storied Coffee, 123 Jay Street, Schenectady through the end of May, open daily 8:30 am - 3:30 pm. (storiedcoffee.com)



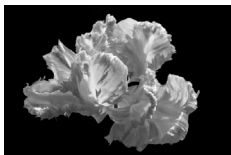
*At the Sewing Machine
Showing at the Canajoharie Library*

In addition he has 2 large watercolors on display in a group show at the Schenectady Armory, 125 Washington Avenue, Schenectady, NY 12305 <https://www.armorystudiosny.com>. The Armory is only open for special events and from 5 - 8:30pm on the 3rd Friday of every month for the Schenectady Arts Walk.

Peggy Becker will be in a show called "MUD Season" at Artistree Gallery in Pomfret Vermont Opening March 14 . See image "Late Season Ice Storm: Diamonds Everywhere" to the right.



Diamonds Everywhere



Dance With Me

Peggy received the Electric City Arts 2024 Award for Photograph: "Dance with Me"

Peggy created custom local images for Artforms Gallery that are now installed in a Malta health care facility. Includes the "Iron Spring" in Ballston Spa.



Iron Spring



B Boys Havana

Peggy's series of B-boys from Havana, Cuba, will be a part of an art installation at the Armory Studios in Schenectady beginning this month.

Diane Wozniak will have a show at the Voorheesville Public Library for the month of March. A reception will be held on **March 16** from 1:30-3:30pm. All are invited.



Delaney

Survey Coming Soon!

*We will be sending out a survey soon to all our members on your interests for BAA.
Please look for it and respond.*



Meeting Recaps

Al Gury Demo~January Alla Prima Landscape

Al gave a very interesting video oil demonstration of Alla Prima landscape painting and a portrait painting.

61 participants from the BAA and the Colonie Art League watched the Zoom program. Al has 2 books that describe his teaching methods.



Alla Prima is a comprehensive guide to direct painting, characterized by bold, expressive brushwork and a painterly, atmospheric surface.

Color for Painters describes both the art and science of color,

and offers exercises and demonstrations of basic color techniques. He also stresses that drawing is the foundation of the whole process.

Alla prima is an Italian phrase that means 'at first attempt'. It refers to a wet-on-wet approach whereby wet paint is applied to previous layers of still-wet paint, often in a single sitting. The quality of the brushwork is important. There should be rich, vigorous brush work with no blending. Light and darks are done at the end with smaller pointed brushes. He does very simple underpainting drawings.

Al suggests that copying the masters is a good way to learn the technique. Tom Thompson and John Constable are famous landscape painters and

Robert Henri and John Singer Sargent are good examples of portrait painters.



Member Critique~February Scott Nelson Foster

About 20 people braved the cold, windy night to come and participate in the critique lead by Scott Nelson Foster, an art professor from Siena College. He started out by talking about avoiding *confirmation bias* and wanted comments from the audience and not from the artist. When

someone wants a specific outcome, they may only pay attention to information that supports that outcome.

To avoid *confirmation bias*, you can try to actively consider information sources and alternative explanations.

Scott would give a few comments on a piece and then folks in the audience would give lots of comments, with the artist speaking last. Scott liked when pieces had layers when things come on top and others go beneath, creating great interest.

A couple of quotes from Scott were: "You can be lazy as an artist: let the viewer fill in the details." "Art can be like a sandwich made up of individual things that are good in and of themselves, but when you take a bite, it is better than the sum of the individual things."





Artist Opportunities

Spring Workshop Conceptual Drawing with Natalie Boburka

Saturday, April 12

9am to 4pm

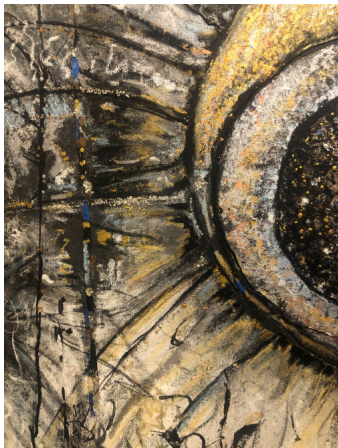
**Delmar Presbyterian Church
585 Delaware Ave., Delmar**

\$35 ~ Members only

Register online via the BAA website under News
or contact Cathy Laccetti at 518-698-5563 or
calaccetti@outlook.com

A Materials List will be posted on the website

The inspiration for the workshop will be the last sample of work shown at the March meeting. Five specific ways of mark-making to add texture, create value, and enhance form, emotion and movement will be investigated.



Working with the drawing materials of the participants' choice, and paper that Natalie will provide, participants will create a series of sketches using the techniques explored in the first part of the workshop. Participants will either choose one sketch that best fits their idea to develop a concept, or they may work by beginning fresh on a large piece. They will each complete one large piece, several smaller sketches, and a series of small exercises in mark-making.

Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy

New offices now open for exhibits

The Mohawk Hudson Land Conservancy (MHLC) is offering wall space of six to ten paintings for nature-themed artwork such as: landscapes, animals and botanicals. The venue is on the second floor of the Albany Pine Bush Discovery Center, 195 New Karner Road, Albany NY 12205. The second floor is shared by MHLC and The Nature Conservancy. A conference room which hosts meetings is there so many people go through the room. Although the public cannot access the second floor without an appointment, anyone can call the MHLC office at 518-436-6346, ext. 3004 ahead of time to schedule an appointment to view the artwork.

Spring Art Challenge

The BAA Art Challenge provides an incentive for you to create and share your work. It's hard to believe right now, but spring will come. Use this reference photo as a starting point for the Challenge. Copy it, crop it, pick other flowers or anything else that represents spring to you. Go to www.bethlehemartassociation.com/baa-art-challenge for instructions on how to participate in the Challenge, or just to see how different artists have interpreted a given subject

Here's the Spring Challenge photo:



"Irises" by Vincent Van Gogh



Venues

BAA Community Exhibit Schedule March 2025 through June 2025

Please sign up!

Sign up at a monthly meeting to schedule a showing of your work
or contact Jacqueline Smith at 518-489-1882 or TShock1882@aol.com

VENUES RESERVED FOR BAA MEMBERS

	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE
BANK OF COXSACKIE Rte. 9W, Glenmont - 10-13 spaces	OPEN		OPEN	
MOHAWK HUDSON LAND CONSERVANCY 195 New Karner Rd., Albany Landscapes/Nature 6-10 hangers	JACQUELINE SMITH		OPEN	
BETHLEHEM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 3 small 3 large paintings Main Square, Suite 27 318 Delaware Ave. Delmar Contact Diane Wozniak dcwozniak@gmail.com or 518-698-1819	JACQUELINE SMITH	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN

VENUES FREQUENTLY AVAILABLE FOR BAA MEMBERS

Berne Public Library, 1763 Helderberg Trail, Berne, NY

Contact Ann Hein at 914-953-0804 or ahein6711@yahoo.com

The Massry Residence at the Daughters of Sarah Senior Community:

Contact Bridgit Rockwell at 518-724-3406. Space for 15 pictures

Merriman and Pfister, An Artisan's Marketplace, 340 Delaware Ave., Delmar

Contact Kathy Agneta at 518-588-7268

Big Eye Gallery Fine Arts and Crafts, 270 County Route 405, South Westerlo, NY

Contact Hope Konecny at 518-66-5833

Bethlehem Public Library, Delaware Ave., Delmar:

Please use the Library website at "Book a Space" to reserve a date to hang paintings.

The system will send a confirmation.

Beverwyck Independent Retirement & Assisted Living:

Contact Jessica Steber, 518-451-2111 or Jessica.Steber@SPHP.com

Beverwyck Lane/Autumn Drive, Slingerlands, 15 spaces, availability.

Uncommon Grounds Coffee & Bagels, 1235 Western Ave., Albany:

Contact Saratoga-Arts.org for more information, but you must be a member of their group to show your paintings at any Uncommon Grounds location.

Voorheesville Public Library: 51 School Rd., Voorheesville

Contact Lynn Kohler at 518-765-2791 to schedule a show and reception.



CALENDAR IS SUBJECT TO REVISION

This Year's Main Events

*All Monthly Meetings gather at 6:45PM & begin at 7PM
in the Bethlehem Public Library Community Room unless otherwise noted*

Pay close attention to DAYS, DATES, and LIBRARY or ZOOM
Dates with asterisk's are not yet confirmed

Friday, September 27 ~	Prof. Matthew McElligott, Sage College ~ Perspective
Tuesday, October 22 ~	Acrylic Demonstration with Tom Myott
Monday, November 4 ~	Fall Member Exhibit Submissions Drop-off at Bethlehem Public Library ~ 4:00pm - 6:00pm
Saturday, November 9 ~	One-Day Show and Sale ~ contact Dee Foley
Saturday, November 16 ~	Workshop ~ Acrylic and Oil workshop with Tom Myott
Tuesday, November 19 ~	Fall Member Exhibit Reception ~ Judge's Comments by Ed Ticson
Saturday, November 30~	Fall Show Removal by 5:00pm (No Exceptions)
Wednesday, December 18 ~	Photography Presentation ~ Members Peggy Becker and John Tobison
Tuesday, January 7 ~	Al Gury ~ Alla Prima Landscape ZOOM ~ Joint with Colonie Art League
Tuesday, February 18 ~	Member Critique ~ Scott Nelson Foster
Thursday, March 20 ~	Conceptual Painting with Natalie Boburka
Thursday, April 10 ~	Annual Planning Meeting ~ ZOOM
Saturday, April 12 ~	Workshop ~ Conceptual Painting with Natalie Boburka
Thursday, April 24 ~	Annual Meeting and Pastel Demo with Takeyce Walter
Friday, May 2 ~	Spring Member Exhibit Submissions Drop-off at Bethlehem Public Library ~ 4:00pm - 6:00pm
Wednesday, May 21 ~	Spring Member Exhibit Reception with Scholarship Awards Judge TBD
Friday, May 30 ~	Spring Show Removal by 5:00pm (No exceptions)
Thursday, June 19 ~	Picnic ~ Five Rivers Environmental Center