

November 2021

FROM THE ART ROOM



Verdes Fine Art & Holiday Gift Show

Sunday, November 21 st
9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Rio Verde Community Center

The Verdes Art League is anxious to present this show again after a year off due to Covid. A wide range of media will be included this year including oil, acrylic, watercolor and mixed media original art. Along with two dimensional art there will be gourd art, jewelry, holiday arrangements, wood, knitting, clay, handbags, greeting cards, and more!

Looking for that special gift or something special for you? You won't be disappointed this year as you browse a wide array of fine art at the Verdes Fine Art & Holiday Gift Show.

Twenty four artists will participate in this annual show:

- Ed Botkin
- Kathy Brancheau
- Janis Bunchman
- Kathy Clements
- Chris Demma
- Evonne Evans
- Patricia Franklin
- Retha Herman
- Kari Hogden
- Anita Kempers
- Jackie Kingsbury
- Mary Kuhr
- Julia Kulikoff
- Connie Lewis
- Michael Luksich
- Carol Lewellen Matthews
- Ann McDowell
- Heidi Middleton
- Kathy Morgan
- Michele Mulleady
- Katherine Otte
- Margaret Sullivan
- Debi Visconti
- Jackie Yuhas



Like us on Facebook

Newsletter is online at www.rioverdearizona.com under Community Center & Verdes Art League, in the Post Office and online at www.verdesartleague.org



Marz Doerflinger

Toni Lowden

I'm sitting in my front courtyard enjoying a cup of tea after a beautiful morning of painting the sunrise in McDowell Mountain Park. Neighbors walk by, either briskly for morning exercise, or more leisurely while their dogs sniff every rock and bush. Every morning, a few more familiar faces join the morning parade. Residents are trickling in, ready for what promises to be a wonderful winter season. I'm enjoying the quiet for now, but that will soon change as I take on the role of the Verdes Art League Co-President. Our first meeting will be November 10 at 2:00 pm in the multi-purpose room next to the art studio. Anne Buhler and I will greet members at the door to collect dues and distribute name tags, so bring your checkbook. Immediately following the General Meeting, Ed Bodkin will give a demo on stretching canvas. I am really looking forward to this demonstration: it's been at least 40 years since I have stretched my own canvases. Mark your calendars and I will see you there (I'm so excited to be meeting in person again!)

Marz



New and Old

Welcome Back to Fellow Artists. As we gather on November 10th to celebrate in person I am happy to report that our Zoom meetings have come to an end. We will be meeting to begin a new year with great plans and new ideas. Your new board will be led by Marz, offering a New voice to our leadership. I am the Old voice.

I will be filling in for your Co-President, Toni Lowden. Toni is currently going through some health issues in Reno, Nevada. She is having great success and hopes to join us in 2022. With both new and old ideas we know this will be a fun filled year. Your board is excited to offer new classes and tours. Join activities when you can! You will be inspired to be creative, share experiences and explore with new and old friends.

Jackie Kingsbury

VAL General Meeting

WEDNESDAY
November 10th
2:00 pm
Rio Verde
Multi-Purpose Room

Don't miss this meeting.
Come and find out about all
of the exciting plans made
for the 2021/2022 Season!

Refreshments will be
served following the
meeting.

Ed Botkin will give a
presentation on
"How To Stretch A Canvas"

New Season New Workshops New Art Excursions

Art Excursion
Page 3

Workshops & Classes
Pages 4 through 7



Art Excursions

November

Art Supply Trip Friday, November 12th



Jump start your winter art projects by joining us for a trip to Dick Blick and Jerry's Artarama art supply stores in Tempe. We will meet in the parking lot of the Rio Verde Community Center at 9:00 am. Please sign up in the black file box in the Art Room so we don't leave anyone behind. We will be looking for people to drive. Any questions call or text Diane or Mary. We will end our trip with lunch!

Dick Blick's Holiday Sale runs November 4-24th. Jerry's Artarama has generously offered our group a 20% discount on November 12th. Coupons will be handed out before we depart. You can check out the deals before we go:

www.dickblick.com/stores/arizona/tempe/
www.jerrysretailstores.com/tempe-az/

Any questions, contact:

Diane Kizewski
715-498-9958
steve.diane@yahoo.com

Mary Kuhr
602-430-5898
marykuhr@gmail.com

Verdes Fine Art & Holiday Gift Show

A lineup of twenty four artists is slated for the Verdes Fine Art & Holiday Gift Show on November 21st.

Chairs Margaret Sullivan and Chris Demma are looking forward to a great show. Setup will be done on Saturday, November 20th in the afternoon by Margaret, Chris, Ed Botkin and Michele Mulleady. Artist's tables, tablecloths, chairs and grids will be set up in the spaces assigned.

Artists will be able to set up their space the morning of November 21st at 7:00 am. They will need to be done by opening of the show at 9:00 am.

After the show, participants will be expected to put away your tables, chairs and grids.

More information will be sent to participants a couple weeks before the show. If you have any questions that need to be answered, please contact:

Margaret Sullivan
msull3519@aol.com
or
Chris Demma
ckdemma0111@yahoo.com

Volunteers Needed!

Two Volunteer Greeters are needed for the Show on November 21st, please contact:

Chris Demma
480-518-6429
ckdemma0111@yahoo.com

Date Set For Spring Art Show

The third Saturday in March 2022 will be the date of the Verdes Art League Spring Art Show: Saturday, March 19th. Ed Botkin will again chair this event. Look for more information as the date nears.

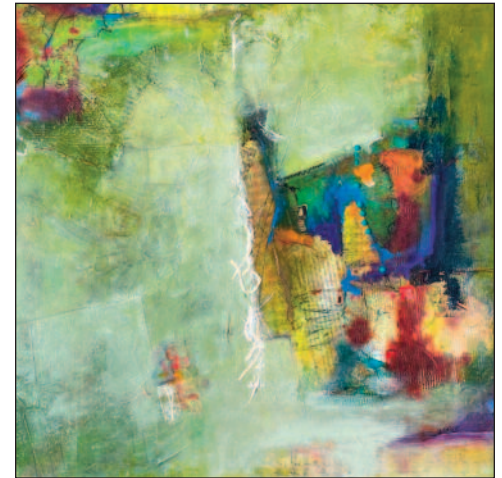
If you have any questions, please contact Ed Botkin at:
ek@edbotkin.com
480-488-1051

Plein Air at the Plant Sale



Would you like to paint or sketch in Plein Air during the RV Plant Sale? Wednesday, November 3rd in the Community Center parking lot. If you are interested, contact:
Nancy Tartaglia
203-395-9872

Marz Doerflinger Wins Top Prize



Marz Doerflinger's painting *Mama and Me* won the top prize in the August International Bold Brush Competition. The Bold Brush for Abstract is considered a lifetime achievement award and only given to an artist once during their career.

Congratulations to Marz!

Classes Workshops

November

Jewelry & Wine

With Kathy Morgan
Saturday, November 6th
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Tonto Verde Multi-purpose Room
\$40, includes all materials



Oval Double Bracelet with Charms & 2 Pair of Earrings

Create a one-of-a-kind bracelet and matching earrings with jewelry artist Kathy Morgan. Wine will be served following class. Pay Kathy directly.

Register with Kathy by call or email:
210-240-8674
bigkbig@aol.com

If you have questions regarding any of the workshops, please contact Educational Program Chairs:

Kathy Brancheau
kathybrancheau@gmail.com
925-786-3771

Kimberly Schols
kimberlybellschols@gmail.com
480-566-5823

Kari Hogden
karihogden@gmail.com
608-387-1350

Paint Your Pet

With Kelly Bowman
Saturday, November 13th
10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Rio Verde Art Room
\$70, materials provided including a 9"x12" canvas with a sketch of your pet for you to paint!
Limit 8



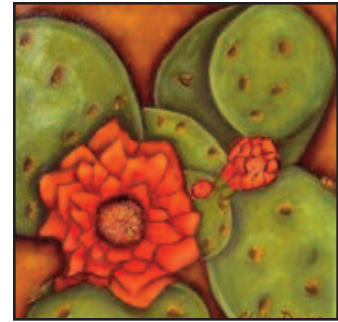
Paint Your Pet is a fun way to paint your favorite pet or animal. No painting experience or materials needed. Kelly shares her techniques and guides you through to a completed portrait. You must send her a photo of your pet or favorite animal by **November 6th** for her to sketch ahead of time. Head shots, especially ones from above or below are great. Please see the *Paint Your Pet* examples for inspiration. Send your photo to Kelly at:

rollinghorsestudio@cox.net

These fun paintings will make great gifts or keepers. Class size is limited to 8, so sign up in the Art Room as soon as you can! Sign up is in black file box in the Art Room. Include your check payable to Kelly Bowman in the pertaining envelope.

Flora Grande: Oil

With Chris Demma
Monday, November 15th
9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Trilogy Art Loft
\$75, materials provided, no experience necessary.
Participants must bring their lunch



Participants will paint in oil on a 10 x 10" canvas. Space is limited,

Register by call or email to Chris:
480-519-6429
ckdemma0111@yahoo.com

Cash or check needed to guarantee spot. Leave a voice mail if she doesn't answer.

Workshops Continued on Page 5

November

Small Works: Oil Christmas Bright & Shiny

With Marcy Roth
 Wednesday, November 17th and
 Friday, November 19th
 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
 Rio Verde Art Room
 \$10, includes 5 x 7" linen panel and
 Christmas ornaments



Participants will paint a still life of shiny Christmas ornaments. These paintings can be small gifts or used to create Christmas cards.

Supply List: Flat brushes in assorted sizes... medium to small. Cadmium Red, Alizarin, Hansa Yellow (or other Yellow such as Cad Yellow Lemon, or Cad Yellow Light), Yellow Ochre, Ultramarine Blue, Viridian, or White, and brush cleaner. Optional: Shiny round Christmas ornaments.

Sign up in the Art Room in the black file box. Make check payable to Marcy Roth.

Spirit Maiden Gourd Class

With Margaret Sullivan
 Friday, November 19th
 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
 Rio Verde Art Room
 \$129, includes all materials
 Limit 7



Finished art piece will be between two and three feet tall with feather headdress. Texture will be applied in different designs to gourd, acrylic paint will be used for body of maiden.

Register with Margaret. Check required to hold your spot. Make check payable to Margaret and mail to 18518 E Horseshoe Bend, Rio Verde AZ 85263.

Contact Margaret:

480-710-2388
msull3519@aol.com

December

Large Beaded Cross

With Kathy Morgan
 Saturday, December 4th
 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm
 Tonto Verde Multi-purpose Room
 \$45, includes all materials



You will be creating a large 1 foot by 7 foot beaded cross. A treasure for yourself or an amazing gift. Wine will be served following class. Pay Kathy directly.

Register with Kathy by call or email:

210-240-8674
bigkbig@aol.com

Workshops Continued on Page 6

Classes Workshops

December

Cowboy Rope Vessel

With Margaret Sullivan
 Tuesday, December 7th
 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
 Margaret's Home
 18518 E Horseshoe Bend, Rio Verde
 \$99, includes all materials
 Limit 7



This is not a gourd class! Vessel will be made from three cowboy ropes - deer horn provided. If a lamp is preferred, add \$10.00 to class fee.

Register with Margaret. Check required to hold your spot. Make check payable to Margaret and mail to 18518 E Horseshoe Bend, Rio Verde AZ 85263.

Contact Margaret:

480-710-2388
msull3519@aol.com

Zentangle

With Suzanne O'Malley
 Friday, December 10th
 10:00 am - 3:00 pm
 Rio Verde Art Room
 \$50, materials included
 Limit 10



Zentangles are miniature pieces of planned abstract art created through a very specific method to form structured patterns. The Zentangle Method is an easy to learn, relaxing & a fun way to create beautiful images by drawing structured patterns called "Tangles". This workshop will provide step-by-step instructions on how to create tangles & then move onto applying them to create a beautiful art piece.

All materials are included: micron pens, tiles, stumps, pencils, templates and bristol paper are given to you to take home and coloured pencils and gel pens are available for use.

This year the subject will be hummingbirds, geckos and cacti. Please sign up in the Art Room or email kimberlybellschols@gmail.com.

Payment is required to hold your spot. Checks payable to Suzanne O'Malley must be placed in envelope along with the sign up sheet in the black file box in the Art Room.

Tablita Maiden Gourd Class

With Margaret Sullivan
 Saturday, December 11th
 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
 Rio Verde Art Room
 \$119, includes all materials
 Limit 7



Maiden will have a beautifully designed tablita (designed by you!), a beautiful necklace and clothing of tapestry and leather.

Register with Margaret. Check required to hold your spot. Make check payable to Margaret and mail to 18518 E Horseshoe Bend, Rio Verde AZ 85263.

Contact Margaret:

480-710-2388
msull3519@aol.com

Workshops Continued on Page 7

Classes Workshops

December

Origami Boxes Plus

With Kathy Brancheau
Friday, December 17th
10:30 am - 12:30 pm
Rio Verde Art Room
\$25, some materials included
Limit 6-8



What does a box and a present have in common? With the magic of Origami, they can become one and the same! Join Kathy and find out how you can make beautiful gifts/boxes for yourself, family and friends. We will be decorating larger pieces of paper with markers, pens, and pencils to make great designs to use in the box folding. Then, using colored foil and patterned papers, plus our personal papers, we'll make three different kinds of boxes. If you can fold a piece of paper in half you too can make beautiful, one of a kind presents this year!

Some paper, pens and markers will be supplied. Supplies needed: your favorite Christmas wrapping paper (at least 10 x 10", scissors, glue stick.

Sign up in the Art Room in the black file box. Make checks payable to Kathy Brancheau and place in the envelope with registration.

Workshops at the Holland Center

Learn to do Realistic Watercolors
Tuesdays, November 2, 9, 16, 30
9:00 am to 12:00 pm, \$200

If you have always been fascinated with watercolor painting, now's your chance. This four-session watercolor workshop is designed for beginners and those current watercolorists who want to achieve more realistic techniques. With each class, Larry introduces new techniques so that you can take his classes over and over! Instructor, noted local artist, Larry Charles, teaches five techniques for capturing landscapes in fleeting sunlight, quick-sketch plein air pictures, lifelike characters, watercolor postcards, and landscape perspectives. Workshop attendees should bring their own watercolor supplies, based on a list of recommendations from the instructor, which will be sent to you upon registration.

Colorful Copper Earrings
Thursday, November 18th
1:00 pm to 4:00 pm, \$45

Think it would be fun to make your own jewelry - either for yourself or as a gift? Here's a perfect opportunity to get started! This class will show you how to transform a simple piece of copper sheet into a beautiful jewelry component. You'll learn how to punch holes, file, and sand the piece. And then we'll get into the art of using liver of sulfur to patina the surface. Once we seal the patina, there's just a quick assembly process and you will leave with a fabulous pair of earrings your friends will be impressed you made! Jennifer Hanscom is a premier jewelry artist in the Valley. You will be learning from one of the best! There are minimal tools and supplies involved, so you will be able to enjoy making more colorful copper jewelry on your own at home afterwards. When you register, a materials list will be sent to you. You also have the choice to purchase the tool kit required for this class.

Register at the Holland Art Center
34250 N 60th St, Bldg B, Scottsdale AZ
www.hollandcenter.org
click on Lifelong Learning

Upcoming Workshops At The Scottsdale Artists' School

JANUARY

Negative Painting With Watercolor

Brenda Swenson
January 3-6
Watercolor - Intermediate Advanced
9:00-4:00
\$525 + fees

Painting the Inspired Portrait and Figure in Oil

Johanna Harmon
January 31 - February 4
Oil - Intermediate Advanced
9:00-4:00
\$655 + fees

Capturing the Light

Timothy Horn
January 31 - February 4
Oil - Intermediate to Advanced
9:00-4:00
\$715 + fees

FEBRUARY

The Figure: Arriving at Full Color

Rose Frantzen
February 11-15
Watercolor - Intermediate Advanced
9:00-4:00
\$840 + fees

Plein Air Painters of America

Mitch Baird, Aimee Erickson, Dave Santillanes and Eric Jabocsen
February 13-17
Oil - All Levels
9:00-4:00
\$850 + fees

Portrait Painting

Rose Frantzen
February 18-20
Oil - Intermediate Advanced
9:00-4:00
\$600 + fees

Listed above are just a few of the upcoming workshops being offered at the Scottsdale Artists' School. Please visit their website for more information at:

www.scottsdaleartschool.org

Verdes Art League Member Directory

With the inclusion in this newsletter of seven member's pages from the Verdes Art League Directory, we have featured all artists who are currently members of the VAL. We hope that you will go to the online Directory on the VAL website to see these two-page submissions full-size.

www.verdesartleague.org

Heidi Middleton



Quilted tapestry, 20" by 20"

I am now 73 years old, and I still love to quilt and make seed bead jewelry. It is a passion and relaxing expression of creative for me. I can't count the years that I have been doing this, but fortunately the desire still continues. I have had many lessons to perfect both hobbies over the years. I am so grateful to have interests that can be continued at any age. I still most of what I make in order to have space and motivation for more projects.

Heidi Middleton

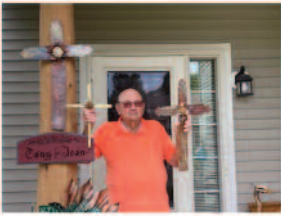


Pyrite stitched beanie, stockin, large, medium



Red quilted plate, 10" x 10"

Tony Ouellette



was a sheet metal worker by trade. When I retired I had craft classes for the grandkids, some of whom are working in glass, and other.

When I bought a home in Rio Verde, I started working in copper making crosses, wall hangings and jewelry. I also can repair silver jewelry and I make jewelry art.

tonyo@yahood.com



Susie Pringle

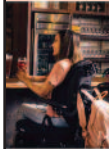


My name is Susie Pringle and I am many things but not an artist. I have joined the Art League because I support what they do and enjoy participating in their programs, fairs, museum visits and more. The closest I come to being an artist is my illustrated invitations and limericks. I use computer art rather than Susie art to embellish my writing. As sample is included.

As a New Yorker I have visited most of the array of art museums in New York and am delighted when there is a decent or some technology to help me appreciate more the items I am viewing. One of my favorite moments at the Met was to listen to a lecture on Child Hassam given by my college mate Barbara Warming who was the curator of American Art for many years. Barbara's comments so enthralled my visit.

I might try some jewelry making this year. I know that no one will laugh at my efforts.

With love,
Susie susiepr@earthlink.net



Cheryl Ravenschlag



From the time I was a child I liked to color and draw horses. By the time I was in high school, I majored in Commercial Art in the vocational branch available on our campus. At Western Illinois University I majored in art, specializing in portraits and figure drawing. Keeping my eye toward my horses, during the summers I worked for a gallery in county and state fairs. When I graduated, jobs for art teachers were scarce and I taught English, my second career, both at the high school and university level. Then, my art was put on the back burner for many years when I married, raised three children, before returning to teaching English again after twenty years off. During those years my husband, Keith, and I had a mountain home, raised cattle and winter horses all while he taught physical ed, color and film grade. When we retired, I was teaching English and composition to adults at a local community college. In retirement we built a mountain cabin, and began writing adventures novels for young adults. In 2008 we sought a warm place for our winters and bought a home in Rio Verde, AZ. We joined in the outdoor activities available here and I began sketching in art again, along with my writing. I took several classes from Margaret Sullivan, watercolor classes from Lori Cline and started from Edie Lopez to learn oil the way I am now eager to try more art venues as I continue my writing, hiking, horse and riding—and quilting and jewelry art.... Making quality art and welcoming people around me keeps me motivated in this journey.

cherylravenschlag@aol.com



"Cherry," quilted rock.



"Red Bonnets High," charcoal drawing, 12"

"Ride a White Horse," watercolor, 8" x 10"

Mona Donatello Rizzolo



During the past many years I have taken a number of painting classes in oils and acrylics as well as watercolor painting in oils. Unfortunately, I was not able to continue with any of the projects. Now I do have an opportunity to do so and I would like to take advantage of my membership in the Verdes Art League so I can learn to paint with your fine instructors and see how the different painting techniques.

monadonatello@yahoo.com



This is the only painting that I have in Arizona, everything else is in my New Jersey home. "The Acrylic" is 58" x 38"

Bonnie Silkers



I am a watercolor painter who lives in New Jersey and Fountain Hills. I never painted when I was younger. I was a nurse for many years, then I started a house painting/ decorating business for 14 years. I became interested in latex finishes and technique on walls. Sheerling and marble were part of my job. When I came to Arizona about 10 years ago I took a class off I called and was hooked on watercolor painting. I have taken a few workshops and other classes always watercolor. I don't paint it for my own pleasure and give some away. I give the way I feel and am excited at the same time when I paint, so any class will be successful. I am all kinds of inspiration, so you will not see me to be inspired and inspired. I have always felt very much at home with the Verdes artists. Thanks.

callforbonnie@aol.com



Portrait, 8" x 10"



"Cajun, New Cajun Dances" watercolor, 8" x 12"

Hannelore Bailey-Wolcott



Hannelore Bailey-Wolcott received her formal art education at the Academy of Fine Arts in Pleasanton, California. She immigrated to the United States in 1952 and worked for the Arctic Circle CO in Lima, New York, designing greeting cards. After her marriage and three children, she participated in many painting workshops with well known artists, the Frank Meeks, John P. Hill, Zoltan Zszo and others, then when opportunities in watercolor presented, she enjoyed painting as well. She has exhibited her work in numerous galleries in the New York area as well as in Fountain Hills and Scottsdale, AZ. She spends her summers with her husband, Tom in Palm Spn, New York, and her winters in Rio Verde.

Hannelore is greatly inspired by nature, the forest in winter, the blue Verdes and the animals and birds of the area: jays, coyotes, roadrunners and quail; they have all become her friends. Recently, she received a commission to do a replica in watercolor of a stained glass window located at Garnet Chapel in Palm Spn which was well received.

Hannelore has been participating for many years in the art group in Rio Verde and Fountain Hills.

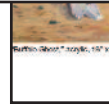
wolcottbailey@gmail.com



Boys, 16" x 10"



"Blue Pinks," acrylic, 10" x 11"



"Purple Glow," acrylic, 10" x 11"

VERDES Art League
www.verdesartleague.org

Hidden In The Hills Studio Tour



Two Weekends In November
November 19-21 and November 26-28
10:00 am to 5:00 pm

The mission of the Hidden In The Hills Artist Studio Tour is to provide an opportunity for the public to visit the workspaces of dedicated artists in the Sonoran Foothills, to learn about the artist's methodology and process and to purchase directly from them in a friendly, engaging atmosphere that showcases quality art.

A signature event of the non-profit Sonoran Arts League, the 2021 tour will feature artists in various studio locations throughout the scenic Desert Foothills communities of Cave Creek, Carefree, and North Scottsdale.

Now in its 25th year, the free, self-guided studio tour offers seasoned collectors and art enthusiasts a rare chance to observe artists at work in their private studios during the six-day tour. The studio tour also attracts holiday shoppers seeking original, unique gifts.

Each studio has one or more guest artists who also display and sell their work. All artists are Sonoran Arts League members, and several will be coming from different parts of the state to participate in the annual event.

For more information & map, visit:
www.sonoranartsleague.org

We Can All Only Wish

Contributed by Margie Barritt
from *The Writer's Almanac*



On September 7, 1860 Anna Mary Robertson, the painter known as Grandma Moses, was born in Greenwich, New York. She didn't take up painting until her sister suggested she try it at age 77. She submitted a number of her canvases to the county fair along with her canned jams; the preserves won but the pictures didn't. But a Manhattan collector spotted her paintings in the window of a Hoosick Falls, New York hardware store and bought them all. He arranged for a gallery to show her work and, in 1940, Grandma Moses' quaint, primitive scenes became a hit.

She died at the age of 101 having made fifteen hundred paintings, some of which are in the Art Institute of Chicago and the Metropolitan Museum in New York City. Hallmark bought the rights to the images and her original works have sold for as much as a million dollars.

Learning Online

Contributed by Diane Kizewski



Dan Scott, a mostly self-taught artist, shares his instruction online at:

www.drawpaintacademy.com

Light and Legacy: The Art and Techniques of Edward S. Curtis



Mosa-Mohave, 1903, photogravure; From *The North American Indian* Volume 2, Portfolio Plate no. 61. The Peterson Family Collection

Western Spirit: Scottsdale's Museum of the West is proud to announce the stunning exhibition celebrating the life and works of Edward Curtis. The show opened on October 19th and will run through late spring 2023.

Over three decades, Curtis created thousands of images, audio recordings, and the earliest motion pictures of Native Americans, all while making tremendous contributions to the art and science of photography.

Due to Covid protocols, advanced ticket sales for timed entries will take place. Masks must be worn. Visit website for more information:

<https://scottsdalemuseumwest.org>

How Water Makes Your Ideas Flow

From *The Groove* by Maria Brito

Artists have known this for a long time, as have entrepreneurs and scientists: being close to water stimulates your creativity in ways nothing else does. We have a fundamental evolutionary connection to water. It's the matrix of life and of our bodies.

For example, Lin-Manuel Miranda attributes the idea of creating Hamilton to being away on a summer holiday on a beach in Mexico and able to read Ron Chernow's extensive Alexander Hamilton biography. Ernest Hemingway wrote his finest novel, *The Old Man and the Sea*, in 1951 when he lived in Cayo Blanco, Cuba. That was the work that turned him into a celebrity.

After being burned out by the demands of a corporate job in New York City, entrepreneur Mike Coughlin, moved back with his parents in Cape Cod. While spending time by the ocean every day, he came up with the idea to open his company, *The Blue Ocean Life*, which helps provide access to surf therapy for people who are mentally, physically or socially disadvantaged.

Of course, being far away from the worries and stresses of daily life helps, but I set out to investigate if there's something else about being close to water that prompts the mind to make associations or solve problems in new ways. And I found that there is a connection with being close to water that is worth examining.

How Monet's Obsession With Water Served Him Well



Claude Monet in his studio in 1923 surrounded by his famous *Water Lilies* paintings.

Throughout his life, Claude Monet made a conscious choice to always be close to water. In his prolific career, he created some 2,500 paintings, drawings and pastels. That's an impressive number for an artist even by today's standards. Which makes me think that Monet's proximity to water fueled his creativity quite a bit.

A very large part of his work was dedicated to capturing hundreds of different bodies of water, from the canals of Venice to bathers and a floating restaurant in a French resort called La Grenouillère.

Regarding the Seine, an enormous source of inspiration to him that he constantly physically approached, he said: "I have painted it all my life, at all hours of the day, at all times of the year, from Paris to the sea...Argenteuil, Poissy, Vétheuil, Giverny, Rouen, Le Havre."

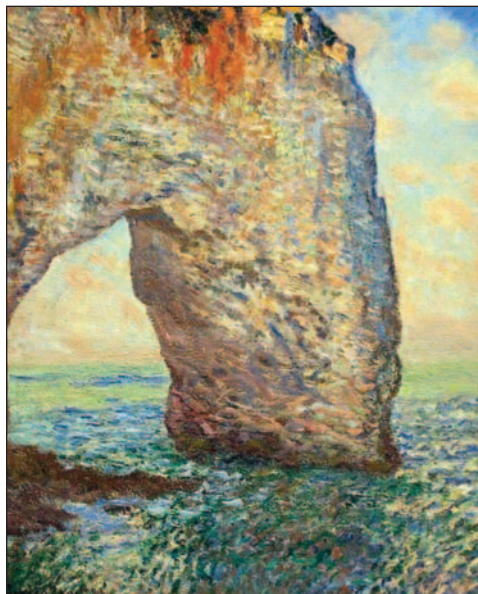


Claude Monet, *La Grenouillère*, 1869, oil on canvas.

In 1883, Monet moved to a property in Giverny, France. It was in Normandy, and he focused on making improvements to the gardens which had required long negotiations with local authorities to allow a diversion of river water so he could have his own pond.

In his last decade, he painted little else but his famous and prized *Water Lilies* (or *nymphéas*), which he called *paysages d'eau* (waterscapes), which became more and more abstract with the passage of time. He painted more than 250 of them, allowing him to accumulate considerable wealth and to cement his legacy as one of the most important painters in history.

Fun fact: one of the *Water Lilies* paintings sold at Sotheby's this past May for \$70 million.



Claude Monet, *The Manneporte near Etretat*, 1886, oil on canvas.

Getting The Blue Mind

Wallace Nichols is a renowned marine biologist and author who for decades has been studying the phenomenon of water and the human brain. Here are some of his main findings, which are described with great detail in his book "*Blue Mind: The Surprising Science That Shows How Being Near, In, On, or Under Water Can Make You Happier, Healthier, More Connected, and Better at What You Do*":

1. When you put yourself at the edge of the water, your field of vision is simplified and so is your auditory spectrum.

2. When you get into the water, the hundreds of muscles that have been holding you in standing position no longer need to do that work, and the brain regions that were taking care of that get a break.

3. The default mode network is activated and you go into the "default mode," which is a more contemplative, self-referential perspective. Your brain doesn't have this complex auditory and visual input, so it goes to work on some other things. This is when you achieve a state that according to Nichols is called "Blue Mind."

4. That mindset, that default mode, opens us up to a whole toolbox of cognitive, emotional, psychological, and social skills that are not always available to us in our Red Mind mode, where we're rushing around, processing lots of visual information, taking in and filtering lots of sound.

The good news is that according to Nichols, you don't have to be close to the ocean, a river or a pond. Getting inside of a bathtub full of water has a very similar effect on your brain. Sitting by a functioning urban fountain works well too.

While I hope you can be close to water this summer (or always, really) even the rhythmic sound of waves in meditation tracks can make your brain reap some of the benefits of getting into the Blue Mind. The app *myNOISE* is free and offers a bunch of different water sounds to choose from.

Art Trivia

Which famous painting by Vincent Van Gogh was created while he was living in an asylum?

Answer on Page 12

VAL CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

- 6 Jewelry & Wine
- 10 VAL General Meeting
- 12 Art Supply Trip
- 13 Paint Your Pet Workshop
- 15 Flora Grande
- 17 Christmas Bright & Shiny
- 19 Christmas Bright & Shiny
- 19 Spirit Maiden
- 21 Verdes Fine Art & Holiday Gift Show

DECEMBER

- 4 Large Beaded Cross
- 7 Cowboy Rope Vessel
- 10 Zentangle Workshop
- 11 Tablita Gourd
- 17 Origami Boxes Plus

MARCH

- 19 Spring Art Show

Calendar Is Subject To Change.

Art Room Updates



In September the drywall was finished in the Art Room closet and the new window was frosted for security, so there is plenty of natural light in the closet. The wood floor and base boards were finished at the end of September.

Fountain Hills Juried Art Show

The Fountain Hills Juried Art Show will return for 2022 at the Fountain Hills Community Center. Entries will be accepted on Thursday, January 6th from 12:30 to 2:00 pm. The reception will be held on Thursday, January 13th from 6:00 to 7:30 pm.

The juror this year will be Donna Levine. Donna has taught wise and foolish senior citizens, tentative middle aged adults, emerging young people, and toddlers having their first luscious experience with finger paint. She has critiqued at the Scottsdale Art league and taught drawing, watercolor and acrylic painting at the Pyle Adult Recreational Center in Tempe for many years, as well as a participating artist in *Hidden in the Hills* and the *Arizona Fine Art Expo* in Scottsdale.

Ribbons and monetary prizes will be awarded. Details will be published in the Fountain Hills Times near the end of October and in this newsletter in December.



VAL members were big winners in the 2020 Juried Show. L-R: Marcy Roth, Jackie Kingsbury, Margie Barritt, Linda Berck, Michele Mulleady, Kari Hogden, Lori Coue, and Jessica Allen.

VAL Library



The Verdes Art League Library in the Art Room is a great source for information and inspiration. Please take advantage of the library and remember to return the books once you are done.

“ Art enables us to find ourselves and lose ourselves at the same time. ”

Thomas Merton



Alcove & Glass Case Exhibits

Sharing Your Art With The Community

Sign-up sheets for the 2021/2022 Season are in the Art Room on the bulletin Board. Please consider signing up to show your work in either exhibit. We would like to have two persons share the Glass Case and Alcove Exhibits through April. ^

For the Alcove Exhibit contact:

Michele Mulleady
703-408-5795
mmulleady29@gmail.com

For the Glass Case Exhibit contact:

Katherine Otte
480-404-6107
kathotte@hotmail.com

* In order to give all members a chance to display their crafts or artwork, a limit of displaying twice in a calendar year will be observed.

Alcove Exhibit

NOV Sullivan/C. Lewis
DEC Gaughen/Perry
JAN Abstract Painters/Brancheau
FEB Demma/Botkin
MAR Schols/Doerflinger
APR

Glass Case Exhibit

NOV Demma/Sullivan
DEC
JAN
FEB
MAR
APR

Welcome New Members

For orientation or questions, contact:

Marcy Roth
785-452-1063
mroth47@gmail.com

Chris Rich
720-771-0274
chris_rich@msn.com

VAL Membership Dues

Membership Dues are now due for the 2021/2022 Season. Annual dues are \$30.00 for the season which runs from November 2021 to November 2022.

Please make your check payable to the Verdes Art League. Bring it to the meeting on November 10th, or you may put it in the Membership Envelope in the Black File Box in the Art Room, or mail it to our treasurer:

Anne Buhler
18426 E Picacho Rd
Rio Verde AZ 85263

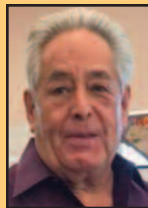
Trivia Answer: Starry Night

Next Newsletter

Deadline for December Newsletter is **Friday, November 19th**. Please keep sending in your stories and images to Susan Murphy: sdmurphy@gmail.com

Ongoing Classes

General Art Instruction:



Instructor: Eddie Lopez
Rio Verde Community Center
Art Room
Mondays 9:30 am-12:30 pm

Curriculum includes Drawing and Painting in all media. When the number of students exceeds what works well for the class, he will add additional classes. Watch this space for continuing information or check out the Art Room door for the current schedule. Classes are \$25 payable in cash only. Messages can be left for Eddie at the Community Association office.

Draw Studio:

Marcy Roth 785-452-1063
Rio Verde Community Center
Art Room
Wednesdays 10:00 am-noon
Discussions will take place to determine what direction participants want to go with this group.

Abstract Group:

Kathy Brancheau 925-786-3771
Rio Verde Community Center
Art Room
Starting December 1st
Wednesdays 1:00 pm-4:00pm

Educational Programs:

Kathy Brancheau
Kimberly Schols
Kari Hogden

Rio Verde Community Center
Art Room

TUESDAYS:

Open Studio/Classes/Workshops
All Day

WEDNESDAYS:

Draw Studio, Mornings
Abstract Group, Afternoons

THURSDAYS:

Open Studio/Classes/Workshops
Mornings
Woodworkers All Afternoon

FRIDAYS:

Open Studio/Classes/Workshops
All Day

SATURDAYS:

Open for Guest Art Teachers



2021/2022

Co-Presidents

Toni Lowden
tonilowden@yahoo.com
775-772-0844

Marz Doerflinger
marz@marzdoerflinger.com
360-481-2005

Secretary

Kay Hatcher
hatcherhello@gmail.com
630-649-4481

Treasurer

Ann Buhler
buhlerak@gmail.com
253-318-2869

Newsletter

Susan Murphy
sdmurphy@gmail.com
480-707-3152

Lecture Series

Valerie Holton
valerie.holton@comcast.net
847-507-5348

Glass Case Exhibit

Katherine Otte
kathotte@hotmail.com
480-404-6107

Alcove Exhibit

Michele Mulleady
mmulleady29@gmail.com
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Educational Programs

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925-786-3771

Kimberly Schols
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480-566-5823

Kari Hogden
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608-387-1350

Social

Jacki Westbay
jbwestbay@aol.com
480-620-8833

Peg Zarlengo
pegzarlengo@comcast.net
303-910-0730

Hospitality

Connie Lewis
dkcllewis@cox.net
480-250-9336

New Member Orientation

Marcy Roth
mcroth47@gmail.com
785-452-1063

Chris Rich
chris_rich@msn.com
720-771-0274

Art Excursions

Diane Kizewski
steve.diane@yahoo.com
715-498-9958

Mary Kuhr
marykuhr@gmail.com
602-430-5898

Website/Directory Additions

Margie Barritt
margb@umich.org
480-347-5098

Librarian

Ruth Orton
ruthorton@gmail.com
443-871-5515

Past Co-Presidents

Jackie Kingsbury
jackiekingsbury28@gmail.com
303-589-1712

Connie Lewis
dkcllewis@cox.net
480-250-9336

What's Happening

MESA CONTEMPORARY ART MUSEUM

Wiley Wallace: Lucid Fate
Through January 2nd



Phoenix painter Wiley Wallace creates luminous and ostensibly radioactive worlds intersecting the real and imagined. Under a neon-hued glow, his realistic and surreal renderings of children and adults are placed amid Arizona landscapes, creating "near-magical" references of the supernatural. Through narratives of connection and communication, Wallace's imagery suspends the viewer with a playful and macabre innocence

PHOENIX ART MUSEUM

Oscar Muñoz: Invisibilia
Through January 16th



Oscar Muñoz: Invisibilia is the first mid-career survey of Colombian artist Oscar Muñoz's work in the United States. Although he has had large-scale retrospectives throughout Europe and Latin America, this exhibition will introduce U.S. audiences to a broad scope of his evolving practice.

HEARD MUSEUM

Remembering the Future
Through January 2nd



Remembering the Future: 100 Years of Inspiring Art will showcase painting and sculpture produced by leading American Indian artists of the 20th and 21st centuries.