



PROUD of its past
PREPARED for its future



September 2025

Nan's Notes

Nan Kohr, President

"Most people see what is and might never see what can be."

So we artists have a responsibility!

Often I get a little silly with my responsibility by painting dwarfs and mushrooms (thank you Julie).

Sometimes I even amuse myself.

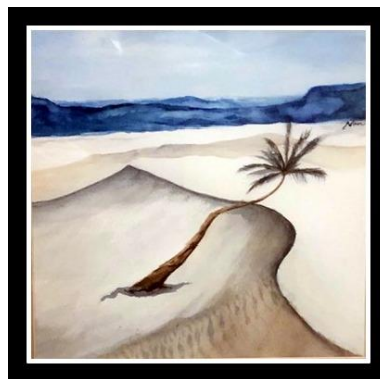
An opportunity to show the area public what we artists see is by entering the Annex Showcase on September 6th. You still have a chance to sign up for this at the next meeting on Sept. 5th..

What a gift when we see someone smile as they view our artwork. As summer moves into fall get ready to display what you have been doing at the **Fall Festival of Art** on October 11, 2025. It's a good chance to share what you see. This is a 3D & 2D original artwork venue to show off visual art.

Speaking of visual.....

the demo for the VAA Membership Meeting on September 5th will get your imagination sparked as you will be traveling to Morocco.

Imagine foreign sand dunes in the desert.



We all will soon see what can be !!

Nan Kohr, president
Eileen Sklon, vice president
Ramonde Winans, secretary
Bob Schutte, treasurer



Coming next meeting September 5th

Morocco: Exploring a Culture through Photography

Speaker will be Betty Eich

What do you think of when you hear the word “Morocco”? What do you know about the culture of Morocco? Would you like to learn more? In her presentation at the September 5th VAA meeting, Betty Eich will use her photos to explore with all of us the culture of Morocco: its foods, dress, customs, values, architecture, arts, and social institutions.

The goal of travel photography is to cast a spotlight on all aspects of a culture so that in that spotlight we can better see both that culture – and our own.

Come to the presentation to discuss how, through photography, we can experience another country’s uniqueness as well as its commonalities with us.



Spotlight on You

Carol O'Brien



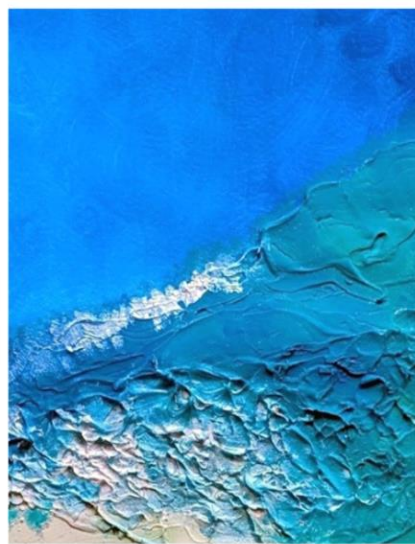
Christine Roberts approaches all areas of her life with curiosity, humor and a sense of creativity. Like many people of a certain generation, when she looked at something she wanted her first thought was "how can I make that?"

That one question has motivated her and confounded her throughout her life. That question led Christine to learn a multitude of skills and pursue a multitude of creative endeavors. Everything from furniture repair and flipping, tattooing, home repair, macrame, wire sculpture, jewelry design and finally painting.

She picked up a paint brush during covid between her projects of renovating a farm house in GA. "I needed a piece of art, so what did I do, I painted it!" From that first painting I have been kind of hooked. Her painting blends realistic with a sense of humor and abstract sensibility. She hopes her work brings a smile to your face.



Purple



Ocean Sand



Floral Sky



Conversations

Jane Furr Davis

“Doesn’t Look Like Anything at All... or Does It?”

by Jane Furr Davis

Most of us have stood before a painting and thought, Well, that doesn’t look like anything at all. And this is a perfectly human response. Our eyes and brains are wired to search for meaning—to find patterns, shapes, and familiar images, even in the most tangled of brushstrokes. Think of how often we gaze at clouds and suddenly see a galloping horse, a dancing figure, or a dragon rolling across the sky. Here in central Florida, we have incredible cloud formations and very tall skies—vistas that many people remark upon. It’s as if nature herself reminds us daily how much imagination is at work in our seeing.

Abstract art often asks us to lean into that same instinct. Instead of presenting us with a barn or a bowl of fruit, it offers motion, gesture, color, and line. For some, that feels frustrating—like trying to solve a puzzle with no clear solution. For others, it can be wonderfully freeing. The “not knowing” gives them permission to find their own way in.

So, the next time you encounter a piece that, “doesn’t look like anything,” why not linger just a little longer? I was once advised by an art curator to look, and then when I was tired of looking, to look some more. I’ve always found something new in that extra looking, and perhaps you will too. Let your mind wander, the way you would with clouds drifting by on a summer afternoon. Abstract art invites us to do just that: not to “solve” it, but to keep returning, keep noticing.

When I first began exploring abstract painting myself, I was surprised at how much of it was about trust—trusting that the lines and color could carry meaning without having to explain themselves. Sometimes we see a storm, or music, or movement across the canvas. Sometimes we see nothing at all... and that’s fine too. Art isn’t always about a single right answer. It can be about sparking curiosity, stirring a memory, or simply giving the eye a place to rest.

So perhaps “doesn’t look like anything” is not the end of the conversation, but the beginning. After all, if a patch of clouds can become a horse or a dragon in the sky, Why shouldn’t a patch of paint hold just as much possibility?



New Member Liaison

Jo Magram

Members, I'm doing the advertising for the wonderful show at Rohan on October 11th. Whether you are in the show or not you can always help to spread the word. Although I cover many venues, if you put the word out on your Facebook page to your clubs and any other way, your help is always a plus. I will be sending out the flyer that I and my son created to all the members in September and if you want to use it in your advertising or to copy off small versions to pass around that is a big help also.....

Many Thanks.....jo



IS IT AN ART, OR IS IT A CRAFT?

There are so many hobbies and crafts out there today! Some familiar crafts are weaving, carving, pottery, embroidery, macrame, beading, sewing, quilting, glassmaking, ceramics, flowers, leather, and paper. But, can these crafts ever be considered art?

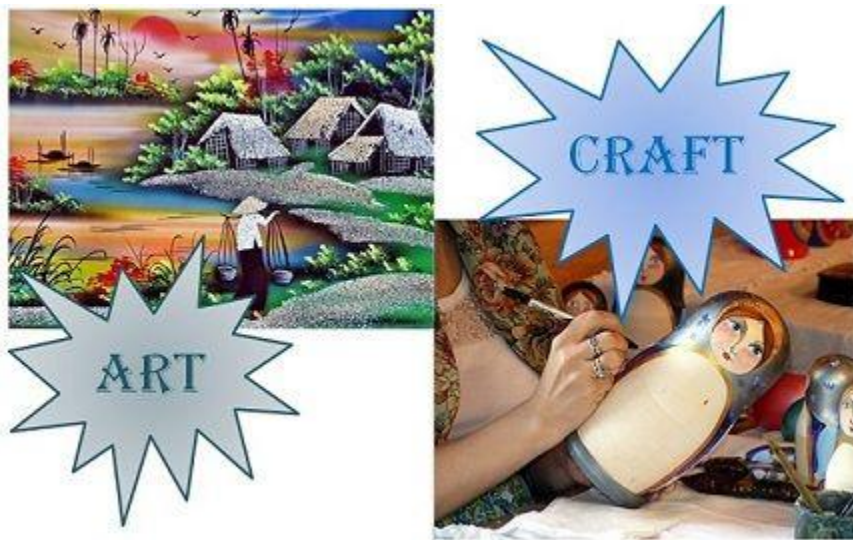
On the other hand, can some art be considered just a craft, like watercolor or collage? If we paint by number or copy another's painting, is that considered art? Can glass firing be considered art? Is designing a quilt just a craft, or is it art?

I found a great article on this I'd like to share with you. At the end of the article is a comparison table. You be the judge.

Martha Ayotte

Difference Between Art and Craft

Last updated on June 8, 2020 by Surbhi S



Weaving, painting, sculpture, pottery, photography, embroidery, macrame, etc. is it art or craft? These are two forms of creativity that are commonly juxtaposed by the people,



as they don't see any difference in them. But the fact is that art is different from the craft in a sense that **art** is a creative merit that comes from within.

On the contrary, the **craft** is skilled work, wherein there is an application of technique, that people learn through much practice.

Next, art emerges from the heart, whereas craft comes from the mind. Here, in the given article, you may find all the important differences between art and craft, so have a glance.

Definition of Art

We define the term 'art' is an expression and application of imagination, feelings, thoughts, ideas or any other human creativity, in a visual form, having aesthetic and emotional value. It includes painting, sculpture, drawing, photography, architecture, etc. It is an open-ended, unstructured form of work; that cannot be reproducible. 'Monalisa,' the famous painting, made by Leonardo DA Vinci is a great example of it.

A piece of art has an intended meaning that provokes a person's feelings. It has a limitless expression and endless interpretation, which depends on the person.

Definition of Craft

The term 'craft' implies an activity involving skill and experience in the creation handmade tangible objects that fulfil a particular purpose. It is defined as the production of those objects that has utility for people. The purpose can be decorative or functional or both, depending on the use.

Craft is a product of the mind; that attracts people. It is a learned ability, which is acquired by a person through regular practice. It includes things made of hands like bird houses, mats, woven basket, embroidery, blankets, handbags, candles, jewelery, pottery, glass work and so on.



Key Differences Between Art and Craft

The difference between art and craft can be drawn clearly on the following grounds:

1. Art is described as an unstructured and open-ended form of work; that expresses emotions, feelings, and vision. Craft denotes a form of work, involving the creation of physical objects, by the use of hands and brain.
2. Art relies on artistic merit whereas craft is based on learned skills and technique.
3. Art is well known for serving an aesthetic purpose. On the other hand, craft serves human objectives.
4. Art gives particular attention to ideas, feelings and visual qualities. Conversely, craft gives stress on the right use of tools and materials, and the application of technique.
5. There is a flow of emotion in art, which emerges from heart and soul. In contrast, the craft is the product of the mind.
6. Craft can be quantified easily which is not in the case of art.
7. The duplicability of art forms is not possible while craft forms can easily be copied.
8. Art is the consequence of an individual's innate ability. On the contrary, craft is the result of learned ability and experience.

Conclusion

To sum up this article, we can say that art is something that expresses emotions or imagination. The craft has a tangible form (like moulding, carving, etc.). It is the creation of goods of a utilitarian nature, to serve a human purpose. Art appeals to the mind and makes the connection emotionally, whereas craft only attracts people.



Comparison Chart

BASIS FOR COMPARISON	ART	CRAFT
Meaning	An unstructured and boundless form of work, that expresses emotions, feelings and vision is called art.	Craft refers to an activity, which involves creation of tangible objects with the use of hands and brain.
Based on	Creative merit	Learned skills and technique
Serves	Aesthetic purpose	Decorative or functional purpose
Emphasizes	Ideas, feelings and visual qualities.	Right use of tools and materials.
Quantification	Difficult	Easy
Reproducible	No	Yes
Emergence	Heart and soul	Mind
Result of	Innate talent	Skill and experience



A Call To All VAA Members (in good standing)

*There is still time to participate in the September 6th Annex
Showcase*

*A venue where your art can be seen, enjoyed and possibly sold to
the general public*

No Theme - No Judge - No Entry Fee

What have you got to lose!!!

*You will find the Rules and Application attached here as a courtesy
(next pages)*

*E-Mail it back to Me or bring to the September Meeting
You will never get a better offer*

All the Best

Catherine Sullivan, Exhibit Chair

cnjsullivan@aol.com



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VAA Annex Showcase Registration
Saturday – September 6, 2025 thru December 6, 2025

To be held at:

Sumter County Office/Sheriffs Annex
8033 E County Rd 466 (and Morse Blvd)
Lady Lake, FL 32162

Mail or drop off completed Registration Form to C: Sullivan, Showcase Chair - 3081 Batailly Court, The Villages, FL 32162

Entry Deadline: Saturday – August 31, 2025

NO Annex Entry Fee for VAA Members in good standing for this Showcase - No Judging
Free to the Public

www.visualartsassociation.com

PLEASE PRINT:

Artist's Name: _____ Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____ Alternate Contact: _____ Phone : _____

1) Title of Artwork: _____ Medium: _____

Framed Size: Height: _____ Width: _____ Price \$: _____ Not for Sale: _____

2) Title of Artwork: _____ Medium: _____

Framed Size: Height: _____ Width: _____ Price \$: _____ Not for Sale: _____

All entries will be reviewed at registration to ensure that the Rules for the Annex Exhibit have been followed. The Exhibit Chair reserves the right to decline any entry that does not comply with the rules and their decision will be final. Please contact the Exhibit Chair if you have any offers to purchase your work and be prepared to replace it with another piece of the same size. **Please do not attempt to remove your work or to ask Annex employees to remove any work before the conclusion of the Showcase.** Contact the Exhibit Chair C. Sullivan if you have any questions or concerns, and we will meet with you to replace your work one time only for this venue if time permits.

Disclaimer: I agree that neither the VAA nor The Sumter County Office/Annex nor its employees will be held responsible for any loss or damage to my artwork. Any work that is not picked up on the designated date below will become the property of the VAA. **If you choose an alternate contact, please have the courtesy to inform them if you need assistance in picking up your work if you are unable to do so yourself.**

Artist's Signature: _____ Date: _____

(1) Artwork Received by: _____ Date: _____

(2) Artwork Removed by: _____ Date: _____



CUT _____ Artist please keep bottom portion for your records

VAA Annex Showcase – Reminder for Artist

Install Date: Saturday Sept. 6, 2025 8:00am – 10:30am

Pick up Artwork: Saturday Dec. 6, 2025 8:00am – 10:30am

8/29/2025



THE VISUAL ARTS ASSOCIATION (VAA) ANNEX SHOWCASE RULES

RULES FOR THE VISUAL ARTS ASSOCIATION (VAA) ANNEX SHOWCASE:

- Each VAA artist may enter one piece of **original** artwork (no prints, giclée's, etc.). Reproductions of other artists' artwork, published photos, greeting cards, calendar photos or prints (and the like) of any kind are not acceptable.
- Entries will not be accepted past the deadline noted on the Registration Form and none will be accepted on the date of the SHOWCASE unless prior arrangements have been made.
- The work must be framed, or gallery wrapped, wired, clean and in good condition before bringing it to show.
- Work must be safe to hang and be wired properly. Place bumpers on the back corners of work. No saw tooth hangers or holes in the back of the work for hanging.
- Work size (finished size when framed) must not exceed 36" in either direction.
- Work created while attending a workshop of any kind or class is **not** acceptable.
- Religious, political themes and nudes are **not** acceptable.
- Work is to remain for the **entire length of the SHOWCASE**. When a buyer contacts the artist directly, the artist must notify the SHOWCASE Chair and be prepared to replace the piece with another that is approximately the same size. **DO NOT REMOVE OR REPLACE THE WORK YOURSELF without authorization from the Chair. This just invites art theft.**
- Work may be shown once only at this venue and must have a Tracking Form attached to the back. All earlier venues must be noted on this form.
- The SHOWCASE Committee Chair reserves the right to decline any entry **before** it is accepted if it does not follow the rules of this SHOWCASE. The decision of the SHOWCASE Chair will be final.

If an entry is disqualified **after** it has been accepted and installed, the artist will be notified whereby the work will be removed from the SHOWCASE and picked up by the artist.



VILAGE ART WORKSHOPS 2025-2026 SEASON NATIONALLY KNOWN ARTISTS



October 20 & 21, Anne Abgott, Watercolor
October 27 & 28, Jane Slivka, Acrylic
November 10 & 11, Lynn Ferris, Watercolor
November 17 & 18, Linda Wokoun, Watercolor
January 19 - 21, Cole Wolford, Watercolor
January 26 - 28, James Turner, Watercolor
February 2 - 4, Dan Weimer, Acrylic & Watercolor
February 9 - 11, Susan Stuller, Watercolor & Gesso
February 12 & 13, Laurie Goldstein-Warren, Watercolor
February 23 - 25, Jennifer Stone, Collage and Watercolor
February 16 & 17, Jodi Ohl, Mixed Media
March 2 - 4, Christopher Leeper, Watercolor
March 9 & 10, Tom Jones, Watercolor
March 16 & 17, Mark Menendez, Color Pencil
March 26 - 28, Janet Rogers, Watercolor
April 13 & 14, Karen Schaaf, Watercolor

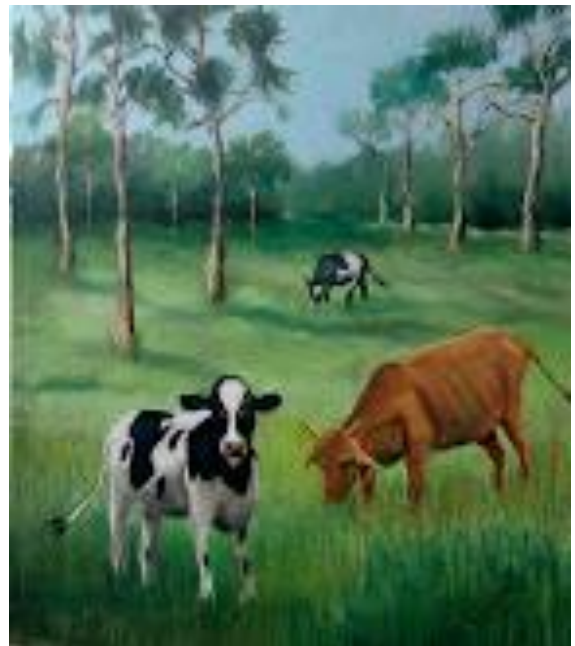


Member's Gallery

**Please send critiques to those with email*



Nan Kohr
"Fitting In"
Watercolor
Kohr240@gmail.com



Alexander (Sandy) Turnbull
"Grazing in the Grass"
Pastels on sanded paper
Sturnbull007@yahoo.com



Doris Glapion
"Early Morning in the Preserve"
Oil



Jane Bowman
"Happy Hugs"
Colored Pencil
Blj4445@hotmail.com



Member's Gallery



Michelle Nicotera

"Pink Bliss"

Acrylic

anoyinmom@gmail.com



Ellen Cora

"Soft Sounds"

Mixed Media

Artel1805@gmail.com



Ella Cora

"Sailboat Hallucination"

Mixed Media

Artel1805@gmail.com

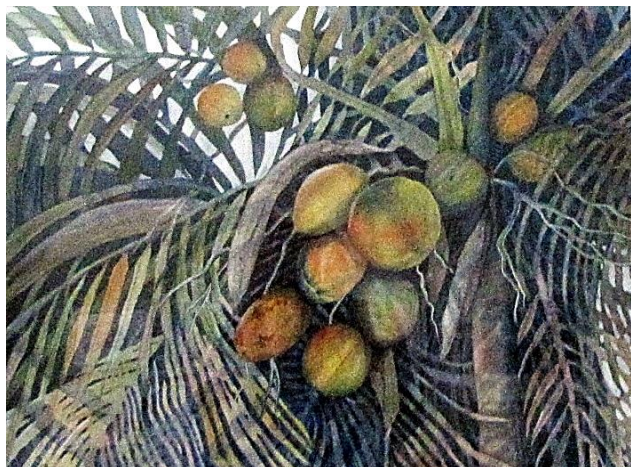


Ellen Cora

"Red Ecstasy"

Mixed Media

Artel1805@gmail.com



Martha Ayotte
"Coconut Canopy"
Watercolor



Bob Schutte
"Window Dressing"
Oil on Panel

If you would like to include your art
In the next month's **Members Gallery**:

Send a good photo (jpeg) of your art (*one or two*)
Now or before September 23 to vaanewsletter@gmail.com

and include your **name, title of art, media**
(*and your **email** if you would like feedback/critique*)

Martha Ayotte at 508-215-6155
with questions

This is a chance to show us the art you've been working on!
****No judging – just Show Off****



Bulletin Board



P. O. Box 964
Lady Lake, FL 32158-1655

visualartsassociation.com

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

VAA Fiscal Year:

Sept 1 – Aug 31

Must complete form

on our website

Mail in with \$15 dues

(Or bring to a membership meeting)

***NOTE: Participation in VAA events
requires your dues are current**

VAA Board Members

President	Nan Kohr	kohr240@gmail.com
Vice Pres	Eileen Sklon	eyesklon@icloud.com
Secretary	Raymonde Winans	rpwinans@gmail.com
Treasurer	Bob Shutte	rshutte100@gmail.com

Past Presidents

Lee Asta
Marge McQueston
Frank Zampardi
Nan Kohr
Catherine Sullivan

Appointed Board Members

Helen Poor, Scholarship
Martha Ayotte, Newsletter
Christine Roberts, Membership
Jo Magram, New Member Liaison
Carol O'Brien, Programs
Cheri Ptacek, Communications

CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Membership Mtg

Friday, September 5th, 1:00 pm
October 3rd, 1:00 pm
Seabreeze Rec Center

★ **Annex Exhibit September 6**
8-9:30 am

Fall Festival of Art October 11, 9-3 at
Rohan

★ indicates show or exhibit activity

Newsletter Staff

Martha Ayotte, Editor
VAAnewsletter@gmail.com

Helen Poor, Scholarship
helenpoor@comcast.net

Betty Eich, Photo Frame
bettybrock@comcast.net

Carol O'Brien, Spotlight Artist
Carolobrien0101@gmail.com

Jane Davis, Conversations
figdavis@yahoo.com

Sunshine Committee Ellen Cora