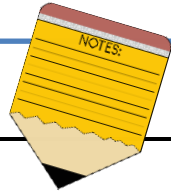




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## **Nan's Notes**

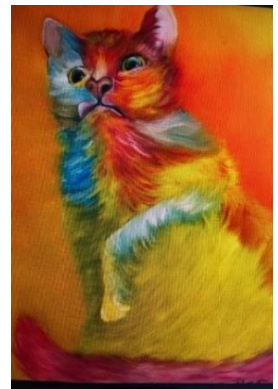


*Nan Kohr, President*

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Time for a little March Madness!

Taking your pallet to the next level by choosing bright, vibrant colors to dab on your canvas will show how madness is really meant to be arranged. My cat Sparky is no longer a simple grey and white but rather the colors of a rainbow. It makes me giggle!



Join me for Artists 'Round the Square on March 24<sup>th</sup> at Lake Sumter Landing to show Villagers how much fun it is to be a bit mad!

Before you do that – there is the next exhibit at La Galleria on March 9<sup>th</sup>. This is a chance to hang your favorite colorful madnesspiece! Find the forms to register for these March marvels on the VAA website [www.visualartsassociation.com](http://www.visualartsassociation.com) under Exhibits/Shows/Forms.



To increase our madness, we will be shown at the VAA membership meeting how to make a Japanese Ikebana creation of flowers from Marcella Martin who received her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Sculpture. Hard to get crazier than that!

*Nan's Self-Portrait of Madness*

*Nan Kohr, president  
Betty Eich, secretary*

*Carol Reynolds, vice-president  
Connie Giebels, treasurer*



## New Members

Debby Bloom

### MEET Carol O'Brien

Carol O'Brien  
[carolobrien0101@gmail.com](mailto:carolobrien0101@gmail.com)  
732-407-0192



It's as big a surprise to Carol as it is to any of her friends that she is now thriving in Florida as an artist—creating crepe paper flowers.

Carol O'Brien lived in New Jersey and worked in Manhattan as a global financial analyst for 35 years. Restless after retirement, she volunteered with Habitat for Humanity and helped build several homes while working at a tiny garden center.

Moving to The Villages mid-COVID, she continued her solitary gardening hobby. Fascinated by flowers and color, Carol searched for something creative to do when the weather became oppressively hot. When she came across a book on how to make crepe paper flowers, she tried it, buying a single roll of white paper and dyeing it by hand using food coloring and isopropyl alcohol. A single peony flower required 90 hand-cut, hand-tinted petals. She was hooked.

Now she has a dedicated studio, *Bouquet Papier*. Her garden center experience taught her a great deal about flowers, leaves, and color combinations which has been critical to her creation of life-like flowers and floral sculptures.

Calling the Village of Tall Trees home, Carol is once again a Habitat volunteer and a line dancer. A member the Village Art League and Visual Arts Association, her first show was the VAA Winter Fine Arts Show in February 2024.





## Spotlight on You



*Darlene Hayes*

### Meet our VAA Board

**Eileen Sklon**  
*Parliamentarian*

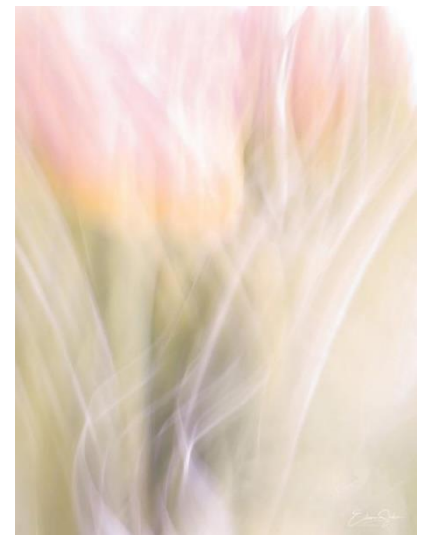


Eileen Sklon is a Fine Art Photographer living in The Villages, Florida. She also does mixed media with pastels, Colored pencils and watercolor. Photography has made me “see the world”. Everywhere I go I see beautiful pictures I can make. She has been a photographer for 40 years and has been creating watercolor effects from her photographs. She uses in-camera/iPhone techniques and Photoshop, and then prints



on watercolor paper. She also uses iPhone apps to edit images shot with the iPhone. She paints or uses pastels on some images to create a more painterly look.

Eileen was born in New York and lived there for 53 years before moving to Florida. She has won numerous awards for her photography. She has been teaching for Jackie Kramer in-person workshops as well as online for about 6 years. She also does presentations for photography clubs and art groups in Florida. She has presented topics such as Impressionist Photography, Abstract Photography, Using Negative Space, ICM and iPhone Photography. She loves to share her techniques of creating Art with your cameras or iPhones. She will share her love of Impressionism and some of the many ways to step out of the box.





## Winter Fine Art Show

*Jo Magram, Chair*



### IT WAS A HIT !!!

Dear Members: We had a wonderful Fine Arts Show Saturday which was well received by the crowd of visitors that streamed in. I hope the exhibitors enjoyed the day taking home all the positive moments to remember. I was so pleased with the Art Scholarship donations from all the donated artwork and the refreshments.

I would especially like to thank **Carol Reynolds** for all her efficient work she did on registration, room layouts, beautiful name cards and art exhibitors boards at the entrance of each room. Thanks also to Leda for helping correct and put the paperwork up on the site for the show. I spread my thanks also to all the wonderful volunteers who help so much in making the show run smoothly for me and all the artists exhibiting. Many thanks to Doreen Lowther, Jean Patterson, Michelle Nicotera, Richard Bachelor. Virginia Hughes' husband, Jane Bowman, Joyce Trabattoni, Rita Dickey, Marcella Martin, Linda McVicar, Bill Beck, Steve Friedman, Milly Bruno and Joe Cirillo.

Lastly, I must also mention my thanks always goes to the staff members of the Daily Sun, Villages T.V. and Radio, The Daily Sun Magazine and the many members that took time to promote this show. I was very pleased with the many staff members promoting my requests which is vital for any show, especially when there are other events occurring.

In conclusion, I hope many members are looking forward to another wonderful Fine Arts Show next February.....ThankYou Everyone!

- Jo Magram, Winter Show Chair



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## Scholarship Program



*Helen Poor, Chair*

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Thanks to all, especially Jo Magram and Nan Kohr who helped make our February Art Show and Scholarship efforts a great success. Sales of donated paintings, art works and show raffle tickets brought in over \$700, and gave us a nice financial boost for our upcoming awards. We also appreciated the gifts of art and sculpture that were brought to our table that day by our generous members in the show.

Our applications are out to the 12<sup>th</sup> grade art students in three central FL Counties, and will be due in to us on March 9<sup>th</sup>. We are hoping things have rebounded in our regional art departments, and we will see more fine work and applicants this year.

Since our last newsletter, we have gotten some wonderful news and a most generous gift. **Our Scholarship Fund has received a Ten Thousand Dollar donation!!!** It is being given in memory of Susan Evans. She was a long-time VAA and Scholarship team member. Susan passed away last summer after a long and courageous battle with cancer. Her husband Bruce and family knew how she believed in and worked for art scholarships. They wanted to support our program in her memory. Our sincere thanks go out to them for such a special gesture and gift for our cause !!!

In ongoing news, we would like to remind you that good seats are still available for tickets to "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels." It will be put on by our Scholarship Partners (KC Productions) March 26<sup>th</sup> through 28<sup>th</sup> at Savannah Center .....Don't miss it!

WE CONTINUE WITH OUR MEMBER **VOLUNTEER** RECRUITMENT SEARCH AND ARE ASKING FOR YOUR TIME AND IDEAS FOR OUR SCHOLARSHIPS AND OUTREACH. Fundraising ideas and event help are always needed!!! Please consider coming onboard with energy, suggestions and time to be a chair for projects and activities to benefit our cause!

We will soon be meeting the best young regional artists of the class of '24. It is a time we work for all year, and a time when the VAA shines in its support and commitment to future generations.

Thank you for being there for them and for us!

*Helen Poor for the VAA Scholarship team*  
352-561-4474



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## La Galleria Exhibit

*Meg Hay, Chair*

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### A Call to Artists – The VAA La Galleria Spring Fine Arts Exhibit – Ribbons and Monetary Awards

Our Spring 2024 La Galleria Show will hang Saturday, March 9, 2024 at La Hacienda Recreation Center. **The registration forms and instructions are now on the VAA website under FORMS.** The show ends Saturday, June 8.

The following awards will be given: 1<sup>st</sup> Place \$100.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place \$75.00 and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place \$50.00. Our judge for this show is noted artist Sally Evans, who works in a variety of media.



The **postmarked deadline** for registration forms is **March 2**, 2024.

Don't delay, get your registration forms in the mail and let's make this another terrific exhibit for the VAA.

*Reminder: Pick up of your artwork from the Winter 2023 exhibit is at the same time.*

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## Artists 'Round the Square

*Nan Kehr, Chair*

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**USING BIG BRUSH STROKES, WE WILL SHOW  
OUR 2024 ARTWORK!**

"Artists 'Round the Square" will be  
**Sunday, March 24**  
at Lake Sumter Landing  
1:00 to 4:00 pm.



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## **Annex Exhibit**

*Catherine Sullivan, Chair*

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Thank you to all the entrants to the February 3rd Annex Exhibit now on display until June 15, 2024 at the Sumter Annex. We had a total of 21 entries to be judged with 18 bonus entries (BOGO) that were not judged.

Our judge, Susan Silverman Fink, did a marvelous job selecting the winners from such a fine array of works.

**First Place:** Victoria Peterson - Colored Pencil; "Wash Day"

**Second Place:** Helen Poor – Gouache; "Morning in the Corn Patch"

**Third Place:** Vera Kasberger – Oil; "Shady Archway"

**Honorable Mention:** Terri Behar - Watercolor on Silk; "Open Heart"

**Honorable Mention:** Maureen Terrien – Photography; "Golden Morn"

**Award of Merit:** Marge McQueston – Watercolor; "Proud Peacock"

**Award of Merit:** Katharine Bloom - Graphite Pencil; "Gentle Strength"

I will be posting photos on our VAA website shortly and I suggest that you stop by the Annex to see these wonderful works in person.

The winners will be contacted personally and requested to attend our March meeting when they will receive their awards and the Judge's critiques.

Thank you to our Volunteers who stepped up to assist with the installation, check in and check out. Our next Annex Exhibit will be held at the Annex on June 15 so get busy creating some new work!

It was my privilege to serve as your Chairman and wish to thank Joan Picarelli for Co Chairing with me.

All the Best,  
*Catherine Sullivan*  
*Annex Exhibit Chair*



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## Conversations



Martha Ayotte

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### The Power of Color in Art

*This was created with **Write for Me** - Writing Made Easier with Artificial Intelligence!*

The use of color in art has long been recognized as one of the most powerful and versatile elements of visual expression. Color can evoke emotions, convey messages, capture attention, and impact the overall success of a work of art. Artists and creatives alike often rely upon the use of color to achieve their desired results. The power of color in art is undeniable, and understanding how to use it effectively can mean the difference between creating a masterpiece and a flop.

When it comes to creating a work of art, color has the power to set the mood and evoke specific reactions. Through hue, saturation and intensity, color can be used to create depth, emphasize certain elements, and lend a sense of emotion to an image. Cool colors such as blues, greens and purples are often used to create a calm and soothing ambience while warm colors such as yellows, oranges and reds can be used to evoke energy and excitement. Color is also used to convey messages; a landscape in warm colors might suggest the warmth of a cozy home while a landscape in cool blues and greens could suggest a lonely void.

The use of color can also heavily influence the overall success of a piece of artwork. By strategically utilizing different colors, an artist can draw attention to the main focal point of their piece while also drawing the viewer's eye away from any flaws or weaknesses. Additionally, utilizing bright, vibrant colors can make a painting seem livelier and engaging. It can also be used to create contrast within an image and make certain elements stand out from the rest.

Color can also be used to create an atmosphere or mood within a painting. By incorporating certain colors into a painting, an artist can create a harmonious piece that elicits a certain emotion or feeling in the viewer. Every color has its own set of connotations and meanings which can be used to evoke emotion or sympathy in the viewer.

In short, the power of color in art is undeniable and understanding how to use it effectively can add life, energy, and dimension to any piece of artwork. Utilizing colors strategically can evoke emotions, create contrast, draw the viewer's eyes, and ultimately make a painting successful. Artists and creatives alike should use color thoughtfully in order to produce works that are captivating and meaningful.





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## Members Gallery

Send pictures of your latest art to [VAAnews@yahoo.com](mailto:VAAnews@yahoo.com)

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*Doris Glapion*



*Doris Glapion*



*Merilee Tutcik*



## Events & Opportunities



### Village Art Workshops

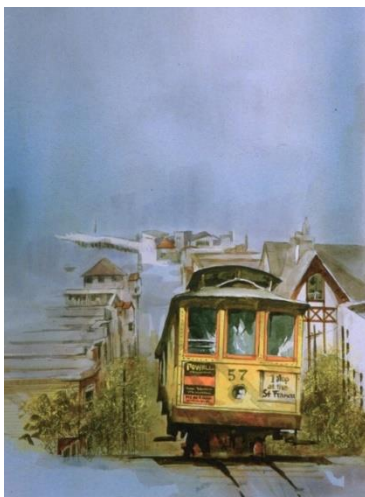
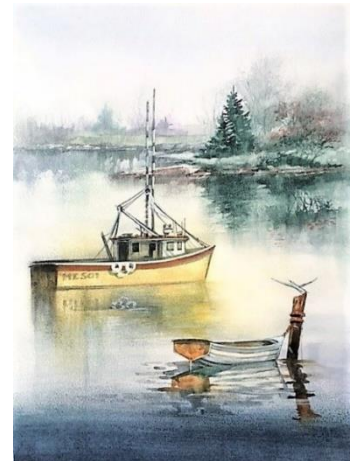
Art in the Heart of Florida

## WORKSHOPS WITH NATIONALLY KNOWN ARTISTS MARCH THROUGH APRIL

[March 4 – 6, Jean Pederson, Acrylic](#)  
[March 11 – 13, Cole Wolford, Watercolor](#)  
[March 18 – 20, Kathleen Giles, Watercolor](#)  
[March 25 and 26, Gene Rizzo, Watercolor](#)  
[April 8 and 9, Tom Jones, Watercolor](#)  
[April 15 - 17, Janelle Johnson, Color Pencil](#)  
[April 19 – 21, Janet Rogers, Watercolor](#)

## OTHER MARCH ACTIVITIES

March 7, 9 am to 2 pm  
Mark Polomchak  
Watercolor



March 21, 9 am to 2 pm  
Mark Polomchak  
Watercolor



Village Art Workshops

Art in the Heart of Florida

MASTER CLASS WATERCOLOR LESSONS WITH LIONEL SANCHEZ, CLASSES ON MARCH 14 AND 28; TAKE ONE OR BOTH!

# Limited Palette Watercolor

**HIGH-KEY  
LOW-KEY  
PEN AND WASH**



**FEATURING ARTIST AND  
INSTRUCTOR LIONEL SANCHEZ**



## Bulletin Board



PO Box 964  
Lady Lake, FL 32158-1655

[visualartsassociation.com](http://visualartsassociation.com)

### CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

#### Membership Mtg

Friday, Mar 1, 1:00pm  
Sea Breeze

#### La Galleria Exhibit \*

Saturday, Mar 9

#### ARTS Exhibit \*

Sunday, Mar 24

#### Membership Mtg

Friday, Apr 5, 1:00pm  
Sea Breeze

#### Membership Mtg

Friday, May 3, 1:00pm  
Sea Breeze

#### Membership Mtg

Friday, June 7, 1:00pm  
Sea Breeze

July – August Summer Break

\* *indicates show or exhibit activity*

### VAA Executive Board

|           |                |  |
|-----------|----------------|--|
| President | Nan Kohr       | <a href="mailto:kohr240@gmail.com">kohr240@gmail.com</a>           |
| Vice Pres | Carol Reynolds | <a href="mailto:caroljr46@gmail.com">caroljr46@gmail.com</a>       |
| Secretary | Betty Eich     | <a href="mailto:bettybrock@comcast.net">bettybrock@comcast.net</a> |
| Treasurer | Connie Giebels | <a href="mailto:cgiebels43@gmail.com">cgiebels43@gmail.com</a>     |

#### Past Presidents

Lee Asta  
Marge McQueston  
Frank Zampardi  
Nan Kohr  
Catherine Sullivan

#### Appointed Board Members

Helen Poor  
Sally LaBaugh  
Cheri Ptacek  
Lisa Melcher  
Karyn Zais  
Eileen Sklon

### Newsletter Staff

**Debby Bloom**, New Members  
[bgdbloom@gmail.com](mailto:bgdbloom@gmail.com)

**Helen Poor**, Scholarship  
[helenpoor@comcast.net](mailto:helenpoor@comcast.net)

**Betty Eich**, Photo Frame  
[bettybrock@comcast.net](mailto:bettybrock@comcast.net)

**Darlene Hayes**, Spotlight Artist  
[dgh@comcast.net](mailto:dgh@comcast.net)

**Martha Ayotte**, Conversations  
[mayotte22@gmail.com](mailto:mayotte22@gmail.com)

**Cheri Ptacek**, Editor  
[vaanews@yahoo.com](mailto:vaanews@yahoo.com)

### MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

VAA Fiscal Year:

Sept 1 – Aug 31

Download form on our website

To mail in with \$15 dues  
(Or bring to membership meeting)

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