



LaGalleria Winners!

LaGalleria WINNERS  
revealed inside

**The President's Message**

I hope everyone had a very nice Christmas and that you are looking forward to a GREAT New Year. This year has been very trying for all of us. I know we are all hoping for a more normal new year. The vaccine should be available soon. I hope it will give us confidence that we can again get together without fear of being ill. Everyone has different challenges. And only you know what is right for you and your loved ones.

Good News! Jo Magram got the go-ahead for the February Winter Fine Art Show. Also, Nan Kohr is working on the January 10, 2021 Art Around The Square. It is different than the ARTS in the past. A great opportunity for our member to sell their work and have a nice day at Spanish Springs.

2021 is the 25th anniversary of the founding of the VAA. We have a few members who remember the start-up. As the year progresses, we will be doing small things to remember our founders and hopefully be able to have a day of celebration as the COVID-19 restrictions are eased.

Our scholarship committee is really having a very tough year. They are trying to find ways to raise money for our scholarship winners. As the health restrictions improve, I am sure they will be sponsoring different events that will be fun to attend and raise money our young scholars. When that day comes, I hope all of you will participate.

Remember the Art Challenge is due by January 8<sup>th</sup>. The next challenge will be "NEW BEGINNINGS". Also on You Tube there are lots of paint along videos you can sharpen your skills with. Also we are blessed that many of our members offer workshops throughout the Villages for a very reasonable price; plus the Villages Art Center offers many opportunities to learn.

I am hoping you will have a very Happy New Year. No general membership meeting in January, so hope to see you at our February meeting on February 5.

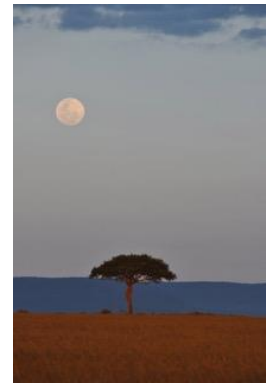
Barb Justice

President

## New Members



MEET: **Lucy Cabrera**  
Phone: 917-693-0306  
Email: [lucycabrera12@gmail.com](mailto:lucycabrera12@gmail.com)

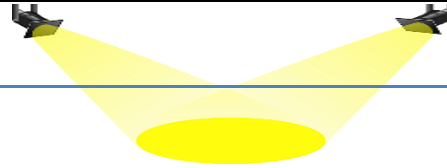


Living in NYC most of her life, Lucy earned her Ph.D. from Columbia University. She led various NYC not-for-profit agencies as a senior manager or CEO. There was little time to pursue her interest in sketching, although she admits to major doodling during conferencing calls. She enjoys collecting art and traveling. As a retiree, in 2017 she purchased a townhouse in Spanish Springs. The first few years, as a Village snowbird, she made time to focus on photography. Once the pandemic hit, travel back to NYC seemed too risky, so she started to take various art classes. Lucy is delighted to find so many masterful artists teaching and leading art clubs. "I am interested in learning about and producing work in as many mediums as possible," she said. She participates in the Friday figure drawing class and has enrolled in an Academy portrait class. (Below is her first attempt of a pencil portrait sketch of her granddaughter.) She has experimented with acrylic paint and loves its vibrancy and fluidity, especially when painting details. One of her goals is to come up with a way to combine her love of photography with painting. "Now that I am in the Villages, there is so much opportunity to expand on whatever talent I may have. As a new member, I'm very delighted to have connected with VAA and look forward to participating in events, competition and volunteering."





## Spotlight on You



### Meet Harriet Dobbins

"I have always loved doing artwork but became more serious about it twenty five years ago. I also love being outdoors and love nature. I usually put the words 'everything matters' on my work because I believe that it all does matter.

I lived in my motorhome for two years and traveled around the United States with my companion and fur friend Bear. We went to most of the National Parks and many of the state parks. I still hike and bike in Santos State Park.

Most of the inspiration for my art comes from the things I do in my life. My art is a story of my life.



## Banner Artists - Winners of LaGalleria Winter Show

**First Place**  
Painting 1

**"Pisano Man"**

Peggy Lefebvre

**Second Place**  
Painting 2

**"Amber Vase"**

Linda Bourassa

**Third Place**  
Painting 3

**"Proud of Her Heritage"**

Diane Timperley

## Award of Merit

Iris Kaplan



*Love to Dance*

Diane Pattie



*Red Eyed Frog on Heliconia*

## Honorable Mention

Harriet Dobbins



*My Campsite*

Steven Friedman



*Pottery Shop in Assisi*

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## Online Art Challenge

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### **You still have time to create and enter into the Holiday Art Challenge!**

We are combining November and December themes: "Count your Blessings" and "Best Gift Ever" (**due by Friday, Jan. 8**)

All themes are your interpretation, so think outside the box. It's about art, **new art**. We are challenging you to keep making NEW art every month!

Submit your entry to [vaanews@yahoo.com](mailto:vaanews@yahoo.com). (be sure to obscure your signature, and make sure no frames are included in your submission)

Happy New Year!  
Cheri Ptacek

Please read the [RULES on the VAA website](#). *Be sure to vote as soon as possible after submissions are posted on the 9<sup>th</sup> of the month so that your opinion is counted! Votes will be tallied on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month, with first place votes given 3 points, second place votes given 2 points, and third place given 1 point. Ribbons will be given at the following VAA meeting. All submissions (with artist names) will be published once winners are determined. Winners' creations will be posted in the following newsletter as Banner Art.*

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## ARTISTS 'ROUND THE SQUARE

Several member artists will be participating in the January 10 "Artists 'Round the Square" event. This outdoor sidewalk show will be at Spanish Springs.

Please plan to attend!!

Nan Kohr [kohr240@gmail.com](mailto:kohr240@gmail.com)



## Conversations

With Martha Ayotte



Send your topic suggestions for  
Conversations to Martha at  
[mayotte22@aol.com](mailto:mayotte22@aol.com)

## Artists New Year's Resolutions

It's the end of the year, and now is the time for you to look back and take stock of what you learned and accomplished last year. Then ask yourself what you would like to accomplish this coming year? Now is a great time to make some New Years' resolutions to help you achieve your goals. Below I have some suggestions.

- Schedule a time to paint every day or on certain days of the week. Art is like golf; the more you practice, the better you get!
- Try a new medium or technique. Is there a technique you've always wanted to learn? Is there another medium you wanted to try?
- Buy some new supplies. Buy good quality supplies. There is something so inspiring about a brand-new set of paints!
- Take a class, online or in-person. Take your time and choose the right class. There are plenty of free classes in The Villages, and if you want to learn from a pro, The Villages brings in many famous artists to teach you:  
<http://www.villageartworkshops.com/>.
- Teach a class! If some of you have a unique talent or a specific technique, share it! If you aren't that talented yet, get some ladies in your neighborhood together and paint together. It's great fun!
- Enter a Contest! If you've never entered one before, it's a good challenge. Strive for a prize! Keep working at it. There are a lot of contests right here in The Villages.
- Clean up your art space and organize. Have it ready to walk over to and start painting if you have the urge. Nothing is as disheartening as to have to set up everything or clean up first if you have an inspiring idea. If you don't have a space set aside to paint, make one. I know artists that find a corner of the lanai or even a closet to make a work area.
- Go to an art show and see what other artists are doing. The Villages has a lot of art shows. You can learn a lot about what subjects sell well, prices, how to set-up, and more. If you are in an art slump and don't know what to paint, an art show is excellent! There are a lot of online shows also, for example, [www.fineartamerica.com](http://www.fineartamerica.com).

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- Enter an art show in The Villages. The VAA has many shows during the year. If you already enter the shows, create some business cards, a mission statement, flyers to tell about yourself, or a biography.
  - Plan to go to a conference like the Florida Watercolor Society has every year. They have great workshops there.
  - Take some time to Photograph all your artwork. Get a good camera that can take large, quality photos. These photos can be used to make prints.
  - Sort photos of your artwork and make categories or albums for different media or subject matter.
  - Start a photo reference library. Make subfolders for the various subject matters, so it easy to locate a reference photo when you need a photo of a chicken for that farm you are painting.
  - Backup your photos. One power outage and you can lose all your photos. I have a backup of my backup!
  - Start a sketchbook or a journal, and if you feel really industrious, start a blog!
  - Create a Spreadsheet for your artwork. Include titles, dimensions, medium, date, sold date and price, and who bought the artwork. Invaluable information!
  - Make a Facebook, Instagram, or Pinterest page for your artwork.

Make this year “your year” when you become a better artist and a happier person!

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## WINTER FINE ART SHOW

Join us for the Winter Fine Art Show at Laurel Manor on Saturday, February 13! The Registration and Rules for the show are posted on the VAA website. Due to Covid restrictions, the number of artist tables will be reduced and the room layouts will be entirely different from our norm. **The layout will not be on the website but sent to all of you in a VAA email.** PLEASE remember that **you cannot send your registration form and check before January 4th** and if postmarked before will not be counted unless we have space after the 13th.

Also note that masks are mandatory for all exhibitors, setting up and during the show, so if you have an objection to this contact me. We are all trying to be as safe as possible under these difficult conditions.

Thanks,  
Jo Magram  
[jomagram8859@gmail.com](mailto:jomagram8859@gmail.com)

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## Scholarship News-

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### Despite what is going on in the world.....

VAA Scholarship is continuing its yearly outreach to local high schools. We will be sending out applications mid-January to art teachers and Senior candidates in our three-county area.

As stated previously, seniors in traditional, Honors and AP Art Programs have never been more challenged. Instructors (we have spoken with) are adapting to seriously reduced in-person teaching time.....and adding online demos and critiques. Districts are trying to keep High Schools open and safe in various ways and need public support and parent cooperation. VAA is hopeful that central FL programs will have some talented and qualified art graduates for us this spring. The art faculty we have reached hope the VAA will again be offering our scholarships and college support. So.....we are moving ahead and plan to do our best! If any member knows of a local/regional senior art student who might be home schooled or tutored during these unusual times, please let us know. We will place them on our send out list and get in touch.

Before we slip to far into 2021..... Appreciation goes out to the caring members who supported our **HOLIDAY SCHOLARSHIP STOCKING STUFFER** 2020 ! Jo Magram and Tom & Sally La Baugh were especially generous elves. It has been our most challenging year ever to raise funds to support our cause. Anyone can still help with a check made out to the VAA Scholarship Fund. All donations go directly to help students, and are tax deductible. If you have questions, ideas or support concerning our outreach, please note the phone number below.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> VAA TV Art Show for **Villages Channel 2** went on live Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>. **Set to music, over 40 works of art by members were viewed every half hour.....and they looked great !** Dave Boege again carefully organized the two & three **dimensional art** works submitted by members. **THANK YOU, Dave.....** for your time and expertise! We hope to show the TV Exhibits again at a future VAA meeting for all to see.

Movies and performances have been slow to return to the Villages, but live shows are starting again. KC Productions (our theater partner) is launching an early Jan. 5<sup>th</sup> musical production "THE BEST OF BROADWAY." There will be two performances at the Savannah Center. Please check out additional information at the Villages Entertainment Site. At this writing still no art movie venues or calendars have been finalized. As soon as things open and showings are in place, we will put out notices and times.

May You and your Families stay connected, and have a  
HAPPY & HEALTHY NEW YEAR.

Helen Poor & The VAA Scholarship Team  
352 561 4474



## Events & Opportunities

Village Art Workshops  
[www.villageartworkshops.com](http://www.villageartworkshops.com)  
January through April, 2021



Village Art Center has revamped and rebooted, and we are bringing the art community a line-up of workshops for this season that satisfies those wanting to stay home to paint and those ready to paint in a safe, in-person environment. Have it your way!

January 10, 2021  
David R. Becker In-person Paint Party  
"BeckerArt Paint Party"  
\$49



January 11-12, 2021  
David R. Becker In-person Workshop  
"The Most Important Watercolor Workshop You Will Ever Take"  
\$247 All Supplies Included



January 13-14, 2021  
David R. Becker In-person Workshop  
"The Most Important Acrylic Workshop You Will Ever Take"  
\$247 All Supplies Included

January 19, 2021  
Linda Wokoun Live Zoom Workshop  
"Positive Flow/Negative Control Rhododendron"  
Watercolor  
\$89



January 25-26, 2021  
Soon Y. Warren YouTube Workshop  
“Vibrant Watercolor Painting”  
\$199



**Coming in February, March and April 2021:**

<p>February 8-10 David Smith YouTube Workshop “Master the Mist” and “Three Shades of Gray” \$108</p>	<p>March 17 Linda Kemp Zoom Virtual Demonstration &amp; Chat “Landscape in Layers” Watercolor \$39</p>
<p>February 15-17 Karen Knutson In-person Workshop “Watercolor &amp; Wire Drawing on a Textured Surface” \$342</p>	<p>March 18-19, 2021 Linda Kemp Zoom Workshop “Negative Painting Obsession – Blossoms &amp; Foliage” Watercolor \$224</p>
<p>February 22-24 Kathy Durdin Live Zoom Workshop “Loosening Up &amp; Seeing Color Everywhere” Watercolor \$224</p>	<p>March 22-24, 2021 Jennifer Stone In-person Workshop Acrylic Collage \$339</p>
<p>March 1-3 Mary Natale In-Person Workshop “Watercolors: Loose, Luminous &amp; Colorful” \$359</p>	<p>April 12-14, 2021 Kathie George In-person Workshop “Watercolor Batik” &amp; “Watercolor with a Twist” \$354</p>

## Bulletin Board



PO Box 1655  
Lady Lake, FL 32158-1655  
[visualartsassociation.com](http://visualartsassociation.com)

### CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

**January 8, 2021 Deadline** \*  
December Online Art Challenge  
"Best Gift Ever" or  
"Count Your Blessings"

**Sunday, January 10, 2021** \*  
ARTS at Spanish Springs

**Friday, February 5, 1:00**  
Membership Meeting  
Seabreeze

**Saturday, February 13, 2021** \*  
Winter Show

**February 8, 2021 Deadline** \*  
January Online Art Challenge  
"New Beginnings"

\* *indicates show or exhibit activity*

### VAA Executive Board

President	Barb Justice	<a href="mailto:grannieb43@gmail.com">grannieb43@gmail.com</a>
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Secretary	Nan Kohr	<a href="mailto:kohr240@gmail.com">kohr240@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Billie Edwards	<a href="mailto:billieedwards@gmail.com">billieedwards@gmail.com</a>

#### Past Presidents

Lee Asta  
Marge McQueston  
Frank Zampardi  
Nan Kohr

#### Appointed Board Members

Helen Poor  
Sally LaBaugh  
Cheri Ptacek  
Lisa Melcher

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