



### September Art Challenge Winners!

## *The President's Message*

Sept Art Challenge  
WINNERS revealed inside

Good Morning, It's a great day! Thursday the 22<sup>nd</sup>...saw the news (the world is still here), did my bible study, went to doctor, voted (glad that's done), been to the grocery store and had breakfast with my sweetie and home again. How's your day going?

We are getting ready for our November meeting. I think it will be with the same restrictions, mask and social distancing. We had 54 chairs and we used about 35 of them. Diane Timperley will be giving a PowerPoint presentation on three stages of portrait creations. We will be using the same reservation system we used at the last meeting. SEND ME ([grannieb43@gmail.com](mailto:grannieb43@gmail.com)) A REQUEST FOR A SEAT, I WILL IMMEDIATELY REPLY TO YOU THAT YOU HAVE A RESERVATION. If you do not get a response from me, the reservations are full.

Our first art challenge had been voted on and by time you read this they are probably on the website for your viewing. The October Challenge is underway with themes of "Harvest Moon" or "Villages Skylines." It is your interpretation and due by Nov. 8. The November challenge is "Count Your Blessings." Remember, this is anything that makes you happy and blessed. It could be a sunrise, a bird's song, just anything that floats your boat. You have from November 1 until December 8 to create and enter your November Challenge art by sending a .jpg image to [vaanews@yahoo.com](mailto:vaanews@yahoo.com). Be sure to check the Rules for this Challenge on our website.

Also, we are having another Art Show on Channel 2, the Village's TV station. (See notice in this Newsletter below.) Same rules as before. Theme is "Flavors of Fall." The .jpg image is to be sent to Dave Boege at [pasador03@gmail.com](mailto:pasador03@gmail.com) by Nov. 7.

As soon as I end this letter, I will think of something else to tell you, but I am going to close. Hope to see as many of you as I can at the Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. It's not too early to request a seat at the meeting. Take care and keep creating your great art.

Barb Justice  
president



## Reminder:

Submit/Renew your Annual Dues of \$15

[Download](#) the Membership/Renewal form from our Website

Mail form with check payable to VAA to:

Janeen Whetstone  
3420 Ridgewood Path  
The Villages, FL 32163

**NOTE: Dues must be paid  
In order to participate in any VAA Event!  
Once paid, you are eligible**

## New Members



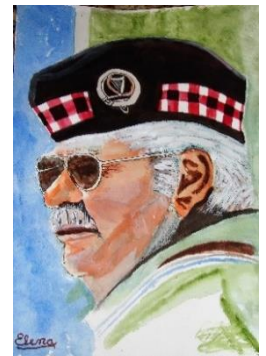
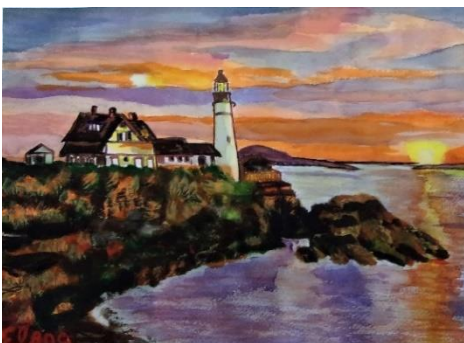
**Ellen Cora**

**Phone:** 352-750-0167

**Email:** [artel1805@gmail.com](mailto:artel1805@gmail.com)

In 2001, Ellen moved to The Villages and resides in the Village of De la Vista North. She has lived in NYC, Spain, Mexico, Puerto Rico, North

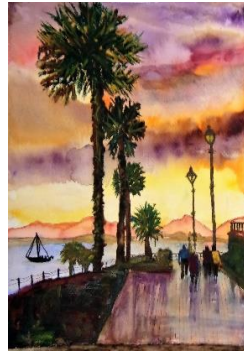
Carolina, Switzerland, and New Jersey. Schooled in economics, political science, marketing, medicine and psychology, she continues to be a perpetual student. She retired after 32 years in the healthcare industry, which included running her own consulting business, Elcor Marketing Associates, Inc. She more recently worked as columnist, photographer and editor-in-chief for several local magazines, including the Villages Daily Sun and [villages-news.com](http://villages-news.com).



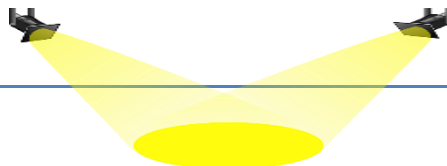
According to Ellen, "I took occasional oil and acrylic classes over the years, but began watercolor about two



years ago and love it. I'm a wannabe artist! I also love photography and creative writing."



## Spotlight on You





Hi, I'm **Diana Crow** and I hope you always know that you are never too old to learn something new, and never give up on your passion! Once upon a time a smiling heart with rainbow tails danced out of the drippy paint when I tickled children with my paintbrush at the Farmer's Market in Boulder, CO. This joyful rainbow inspired me to write Rainbow Tales about love, feelings & making healthy choices like **Eat A Rainbow!**

I created a menagerie of characters that became Cozy Treehouse Creations and was the little red hen drawing little books & cards. It was delightful to present storytelling programs at schools and libraries, but in 2008 I retired to focus my energies on plein air painting in The Villages where I've painted almost 100 oil paintings of our community.

When the COVID 19 Pandemic stopped the world in 2020 I was disappointed that I couldn't be with my only grandchild on his first birthday in Colorado~ so I began to write new Rainbow Tales. During this time of quarantine it has been fun to paint at My Cozy Treehouse in The Villages, but instead of oil paints, I'm using markers, acrylic paint and watercolors to design a new series of 5x5 board books.





Will we find  at the end of ?



Be AWAKE !!!  
I see a Rattlesnake!!!



Let's eat a treat by the tall waterfall.

The pix here are a peek at pages from a read aloud book for children ages 0-6 **Let's Go Find The End of The Rainbow**. Now I'm making a mini art instruction book for children ages 7+ to show them how to use color like an artist: **Let's Explore The Colors of The Rainbow**.

My creativity has been heightened during this Covid crisis and much to my amazement I tackled a **different art medium** in October when I created a new website for this venture. The task was challenging and I almost gave up but with the encouragement from family & friends and the assistance of **You Tube** videos, it will launch.

**Remember never give up?** A student lawyer just revealed that I cannot use my character's name (Smiley Tickle) and my 2000 domain name because it will most certainly be contested by companies using the words "smiley" and "tickles." And so I have just changed my website name to [www.nanasbooksmakemyheartsmile.com](http://www.nanasbooksmakemyheartsmile.com). This site will go live in November.

Rainbow Tales emerged during my 50s and now I'm adding a new perspective to this project when I'm 74. Just wait til I'm 94...that's my Mom's age and she's now sewing my hearty finger puppets! **The moral of the story is we are never too old to learn and we're blessed to be able to create and share our art with others. Be sure to pursue your passion and never give up & most importantly be thankful for Divine Guidance!**

## CONGRATULATIONS !!

### Banner Artists - Winners of Sept Art Challenge

First Place	"Fall Fig Harvest" Pastel	Kathy Karol
Painting #2	"Wild Turkey" Watercolor on Yupo	Marcella Martin
Painting #3	"What A Nutty Guy" Watercolor	Martha Ayotte



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## Online Art Challenge

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Our First Art Challenge has concluded and many members voted for first, second and third place based on photos of excellent art submitted. Ribbons will be awarded to those winners attending our meeting on November 6. We invite winners to bring their art to this meeting so members can view it in person. It's amazing how talented our members are! Several voting mentioned how difficult their selections were. *(All votes are kept confidential and are deleted once documented and verified with total counts.)*

The **October themes** are “Harvest Moon” or “Villages Skyline,” to be submitted **by November 8.**

The **November theme** is “Count your Blessings,” to be submitted by December 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!**

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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## Program Presentation

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**Diane Timperley** will be giving a PowerPoint presentation at our upcoming meeting at Seabreeze (1:30 pm), November 6, on 3 stages of portrait creations:

1. Honoring the Elderly - watercolor on YUPO ( 2 artist Gallery show, 2017)
2. Personas - Mixed media and acrylic (a solo Gallery show, 2018)
3. African Animals - mixed media acrylics and watercolor on textured gesso (taught in The Villages at Wet 'N Wild, 2019)

Diane's background includes studying drawing and painting while a student at Sheridan College School of Design, but postponed her art until retirement. Since 2012, she has taken many workshops, served on art programs, taught via videos and classroom instruction, and has been recognized in art exhibits and competitions. Her media includes watercolor, drawing, acrylic and mixed media.

No beverages or food will be available. Please bring your own.



## Conversations

With Martha Ayotte



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

### WHERE ARE ALL THE FAMOUS WOMEN ARTISTS?

When asked to name some famous artists, many names come to mind: Da Vinci, Michelangelo, Van Gogh, Picasso. When asked to name some famous female artists Mary Cassatt or Georgia O'Keeffe may come to mind but is that all? Where are all the famous female artists?

Women were rarely named in history at all unless they were aristocratic. If women worked in art, they did not design but performed the menial work of needlework or tapestry. When women were allowed into the art world, they were limited to portraits or still life.

Famous male artists were born with talent, but they also spent many years studying and apprenticing with the masters. Schools did not even admit women years ago. The first woman admitted to the Royal Academy was Laura Herford. She was accepted by mistake because she signed her name with the initials L.H.

I have chosen three women artists that fought the odds and became great women artists and I have briefly described their lives.

Rosa Bonheur (1822–1899) was the oldest child in a family of French artists. She loved drawing animals and was exceptional at it. She wanted to study animal anatomy, so she got permission from the French authorities to wear men's clothes. Trousers were more suitable to wear in slaughterhouses, and they cut down on harassment by others. Rosa's lifestyle of smoking cigars and wearing trousers definitely defied gender norms. She was financially independent, and she openly lived with two other women during her lifetime. They were all buried together under a tombstone that reads: "Friendship is divine affection." In the painting below, she painted a self-portrait. She is the rider in the background in the turquoise jacket on the brown horse.

Eventually, she was decorated with the French Legion of Honor by Empress Eugenie in 1865. The order promoted her to in 1894. She was the first female artist to be given this award.





The Horse Fair by Rosa Bonheur 1855



Judith Leyster (1609–1660) was a very successful artist. She liked to paint energetic scenes with one or two figures engaged in merrymaking. Judith lived in the Netherlands, married artist Jan Miense Molenaer, and together they had five children. Judith was one of only a few female painters who joined a guild in the seventeenth century. Her self-portrait at the National Gallery of Art in Washington D.C., is

a vibrant and energetic example. She portrays herself as a confident, smart professional, ready for work. It was discovered her entire artworks were previously attributed to her husband Molenaer or to the artist Frans Hals. Her distinctive monogram was found on six of the works. This may have been due to the fact some of her artwork was labeled as "wife of Molenaer."

Judith Leyster painted the picture below. With infrared photography, we can see her original painting on the right was a self-portrait. Judith changed her mind and painted the violin player over her image. Her most successful paintings were scenes of merrymaking.



**Self-Portrait by Judith Leyster**

Elizabeth Louise Vigée Le Brun (more popularly known as Madame Le Brun, was born in Paris in 1755. She was the daughter of a portrait painter, Louis Vigée. Her father died when Judith was 12, so she basically taught herself to paint. When she reached her teens, she painted portraits professionally, but the authorities seized her studio for practicing without a license.

She then applied to the Académie de Saint-Luc, which unwittingly exhibited her works in their Salon. In 1774, the Académie made her a member. In 1776 she married Jean-Baptiste-Pierre Le Brun, a painter and art dealer, and in 1780, she gave birth to a daughter, Jeanne Lucie Louise. On 31 May 1783, Vigée Le Brun was received as a member of the Académie royale de Peinture et de sculpture.



She was one of only 15 women to be granted full membership in the Académie between 1648 and 1793.

In 1787, she caused a minor public scandal when her *Self-Portrait with Her Daughter Julie* (1787) was exhibited, showing her smiling with an open-mouth. This type of painting was in direct violation of traditional painting conventions going back to antiquity.

Elizabeth then became the official portraitist of Marie Antoinette and her family, but she fled from France during the French Revolution, fearing her safety. From that time on, she traveled around Europe but finally moved back to France, where she died in 1842.

Madame Le Brun left more than 660 portraits and 200 landscapes. Her paintings are owned by major museums, such as the Louvre, Hermitage Museum, National Gallery in London, Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, and many other collections in continental Europe and the United States.

Self-portrait of Elizabeth Louise Vigée Le Brun and her daughter Julie.



These were only three of the few women who fought traditional norms and followed their passion for art.

Is this because women do not have the artistic genius men have? I don't believe so. Over the centuries, society relegated women to child caring and domestic duties. A few women learned to paint from their fathers or brothers, but women could not attend universities and certainly could not study the human body. Painting outside or being inspired by nature was considered too strenuous for dainty females. Society limited women's expectations, but many women prevailed, even using their own children as models and inspirations. These paintings became scandalous.

Things are better today, right? Wrong! Just 11 percent of all museum acquisitions over the past decade have been artworks by women. In the Museum of Art in New York, there are only ten women out of 169 artists. In the National Galleries in London, there are only 21 women out of 2300 artists. Since 2008 art auction house sales totaled 196 Billion Dollars. Only 2% of that went to women artists, and that only went to five women. An article in "Artland Magazine" listed the 30 most famous artists today in order of talent. There were three women listed towards the end of the list: Njideka Akunyili Crosby, Cecily Brown, and Cindy Sherman. The rest were men. The largest art institutions are almost always run by men: of the top ten institutions budget, only one has a female director.

I believe Mickalene Thomas, who is a contemporary African-American visual artist, sums it up nicely. Mickalene states, "These numbers are a little heart-wrenching. This is not about who you are as an artist—there is a system that you aren't a part of. It's still a boys' game."





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## Scholarship News

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In these challenging times, the Visual Arts Association will continue to support our regional HS Art Programs and teachers. Class time and art curriculums have surely seen major adjustments. However, if we have deserving applicants, we plan to offer Scholarships to qualified art majors in the spring of 2021. There is no question that with Villages postponements and shutdowns, fundraising is more challenging than ever before. So please remember.... Creative event ideas, financial gifts and artistic donations help make the VAA Art Scholarships possible. We know we can we count on you!

As announced at the end of last month, the VAA has been invited to do a another TV Art Exhibit. We are hoping to again showcase your best art for the **Villages Channel 2**. Autumn themes will be especially welcomed, but any special two or three dimensional art piece can be submitted. Please remember we need your **name, title and media** with each piece, entered. We ask you to reference the guidelines and the recent announcements for submissions. VAA Photographer/Arranger Dave Boege will again receive and assemble your images for this on-air show. **Entry deadline in Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>**

Our October **Wine Tasting and Fashion Show** at the Corkscrew Winery in Spanish Springs had to be canceled....but we will try again in safer times, and possibly have it as a spring outing. Also, our artistic partners, **The Villages Movie Entertainment Group** and **KC Productions** hope to join with us soon again for collaborations and shows. At this writing still no stage or movie venues or calendars have been finalized. As soon as things open and programs are in place, we will put out notices and dates. Safety first, of course!

The Holidays are fast approaching..... a time for sharing and giving. Tax exempt donations for art scholarships are surely welcomed and so appreciated. If you can help or have questions....do let us know.

Be patient, stay well.....and HAVE A WONDERFUL THANKSGIVING !

Helen Poor & The VAA Scholarship Team 352- 561- 4474

TV Art Exhibit Questions to Dave Boege [pasador03@gmail.com](mailto:pasador03@gmail.com)  
or Helen Poor [helenpoor@comcast.net](mailto:helenpoor@comcast.net)



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## Events & Opportunities

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*From Bev Hennessy and Wanda Boyd, Village Art Center*

At Village Art Workshops, we've made our space as safe as possible for the health of our workshop attendees. We require face masks for all classes, and sanitize between classes. Here's what's going on at the art center for November:

Recently showcased in The Villages Daily Sun, and back to Village Art Workshops by popular demand, artist **Cindy Vener** is teaching another one day acrylic workshop on November 2 from 9 am to 3 pm. Cindy's workshops are designed specifically for beginners interested in learning the basics of acrylic painting, and students will complete a fall still life in a day using a loose painting style with big brush strokes.

Cindy will touch on concepts of a toned background, a variety of brushstrokes, color mixing, composition and negative space. Attendees will do brushstroke and color mixing exercises in the morning, followed by a demonstration, and will complete the painting together with Cindy step-by-step. The fee for this class is \$79. Visit <http://www.villageartworkshops.com> or call Wanda at (804) 536-1794 to register.

If watercolor is more your style, Village Art Workshops is proud to present a very special set of watercolor workshops with **Tom Jones**, scheduled for November 9, 10 and 11. Take an individual day at \$118 each, or take all three days for \$334, a \$20 savings.

***But wait, there's more!***

***Tom will bring the watercolor pigments and paper students will need to do these projects, and Tom will have drawings for prizes and he is bringing some art supplies for sale to us at special prices. This is a pretty sweet deal!***

We worked with Tom to pick three beautiful paintings that will help you learn his loose, impressionistic technique. Visit <http://www.villageartworkshop.com> or call Wanda at (804) 536-1794 to register.



*November 9*



*November 10*



*November 11*

Looking forward to seeing YOU at a Village Art Workshops event soon!

Wanda Boyd  
Co-Director

All artists interested in the January 10, 2021 "Artists 'Round The Square" (ARTS), it is time for your early indication to me that you wish to participate in the show. This outdoor, sidewalk show will be at Spanish Springs with the opportunity to show more than three works of art. The new rules will be posted in December.

If you have a desire to show in this event. Please email me at [kohr240@gmail.com](mailto:kohr240@gmail.com).

Nan Kohr, Chair





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## **SUBMIT YOUR ART NOW!!**

### **VAA Art Show on Channel 2 TV Update**

1. The deadline for entries has been extended to **NOVEMBER 7**. Thank you to those who have already submitted an entry. We only have 18 entries so we are looking for more artwork.
2. We encourage members who have submitted artwork to the VAA Fall Art Contest to consider entering the same work to the Art Show on TV.
3. VAA members who have submitted work to the VAL Isolation Art Project may also submit that work to the VAA Art Show on TV.
4. VAA members who have created work at the Village Art Center are also eligible to enter the VAA Art Show on TV.
5. If you have a concern about how to size your image for the art show, just submit it to Dave Boege as a .jpg file; and he can make sure it is sized properly for the TV show producer. Dave Boege's email address is: [pasador03@gmail.com](mailto:pasador03@gmail.com).



## Bulletin Board



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

### CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

**Friday, November 6, 1:00**  
General Meeting

**November 8 Deadline** \*  
October Online Art Challenge

**Friday, December 4, 1:00**  
General Meeting

**December 8 Deadline** \*  
November Online Art Challenge

### 2021

**January 8, 2021 Deadline** \*  
December Online Art Challenge

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

**Saturday, February 6, 2021** \*  
*Winter Show*

\* *indicates show or exhibit activity*

### VAA Executive Board

President	Barb Justice	<a href="mailto:grannieb43@gmail.com">grannieb43@gmail.com</a>
Vice Pres	Catherine Sullivan	<a href="mailto:cnjsullivan@aol.com">cnjsullivan@aol.com</a>
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>

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### Appointed Board Members

Helen Poor  
Sally LaBaugh  
Cheri Ptacek  
Lisa Melcher

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**Betty Eich**, Photo Frame  
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**Darlene Hayes**,  
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**Martha Ayotte**, Conversations  
[mayotte22@aol.com](mailto:mayotte22@aol.com)

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

**Next Meeting**  
**November 6<sup>th</sup>**  
**1:00 pm**  
**Arrive early**  
**Bring your dues payment**  
**(download form on our website)**