



The President's Letter

Hello everyone,

It is my hope that all of you are staying warm and not slipping/falling on the ice. I did see five Spring robins and I refuse to believe these were robins that "stay in the area all year long". Has anyone really ever seen a robin in December?!

Recently, there was a shocking incident in the Buffalo art community. A talented artist, who was unable (for personal reasons) to be active in an art society where she had been very active in the past years was given an "eviction notice" by the society. The reasons were for not being accountable nor participating within the art community. The society also expressed wanting to have "young blood" in the studios.

This got me reflecting on our society. As long as you pay your dues you are a member. We do not have a list of requirements. You do not need to show a portfolio to be juried in as a member. There is no probation time required before you are considered to be a full member. You are not required to attend a specific number of meetings. To enter our shows, as long as you paid your dues and entry fee you can enter two pieces. WAS does not charge a fee to jury the pieces to decide if any will be allowed in the show.

Yes, we are looking to bring in new members and hoping that some will be "young blood". WAS values all our members, regardless of age. But many of us (and I include myself) are getting older.

Many have tirelessly volunteered over the years and are now finding it a challenge to continue volunteering for show positions.

It takes approximately 55 volunteers to put on our show. At our March meeting we will start passing around the sign-up sheet for the Spring Show. A big thank you in advance to all the members who consistently sign up for the shows each year, but they can not cover all 55 positions. If you have never volunteered please consider which position you would like to sign up for the Spring show. This is the only request we ask of you as a member.

At the January meeting, I asked those who attended, to write down on a 3x5 card why they became a member. The responses will be a discussion at the March 14 meeting. I invite all of you to come and share in the discussion. Help us make WAS an art society that artists want to join.

I'm very excited about the demo for the March 14 meeting. Two of our members will be sharing their talents. Patricia Poreda is a published Historical Romance novel writer, under the name of Patricia Bond. She will be talking about the process in developing plots and characters. Deb Meier, who did the artwork for one of Pat's book covers, will be doing a watercolor, possibly for a future cover. It promises to be an enjoyable evening.

I look forward to seeing you on Friday March 14, 6:30pm at the Audubon Library.

Always in Art,
Vicki Oliver, President

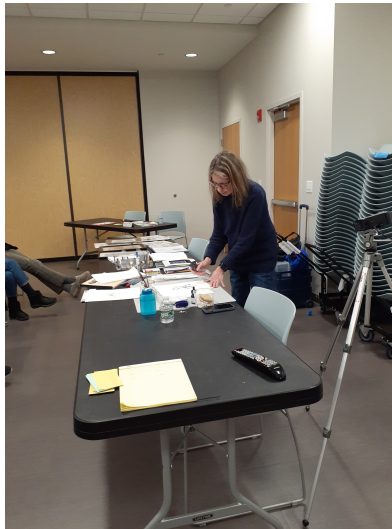
You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have.
Maya Angelou

2024-2025 Programs

March 14: Pat Poreda, character and plot development; Deb Meier, watercolor
April 11: Jeanne Gugino, gelliplate printing
May 9: Deanna Weinholtz
June 13: Critiques

January 2025 Program

Cindi O'Mara demonstrated drawing techniques at our January meeting.



Calls for Work

Springville Center for the Arts has two exciting opportunities for exhibiting coming up! The Art of Zoar Valley will be held in the Olmsted Gallery this summer, with an opening date of June 7th to correspond with Art Crawl. They welcome submissions of any work related to the beauty of Zoar Valley. The application can be found at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScSXHf69x-TiRP8I4TOAkBXADicxHVGBwudME7VIAJNqJznsg/viewform>. Submissions are due April 18th. There will be a great series of educational programs and hikes coordinated by the Zoar Valley Coalition as well.

The Annual Art Crawl will be held June 7th this year. Downtown Springville will transform into an interactive art gallery for one day filled with a parade, art demos, activity tents, live music, performances, vendors, food trucks, and artwork located in local businesses. Submit to the juried art show at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScBiR9BKJ9c7Ig09WheW5525-m8vWsO_h2DbIKp7uyQuw9-Xg/viewform. Submissions are due May 3rd. Selected pieces will be placed throughout businesses in downtown Springville; grab your map and find them all. More information about Art Crawl can be found at SpringvilleArtCrawl.com.

Please contact Cassandra Cross, Springville Center for the Arts Visual Arts Director, at 716.592.9038 if you have any questions about either of these exhibiting opportunities!

Artists in the Wild

WAS members Deb Meier, Janet Ide and Nancy Zielinski all have pieces in the "Traditional Works" Juried Members Exhibition at the Artist Group Gallery, 1 Linwood Avenue in Buffalo, NY. The show will be viewable through Friday, April 4th, 2025.

It is with a heavy heart that we announce the loss of two of our members.

Carole Coniglio passed away in December.

Enid Edelman passed away in February.

Their friendship and artistic talent will truly be missed.

Important Dates to Remember

The mailings for the Spring Show entry forms went out on February 17.

Entry forms with payment must be received NO LATER than **March 25**.

No exceptions. We have to meet this date so that the info can be input into a file and sent to the printer for the program.

Drop off date for your artwork -

Thursday May 1. 3-5:30pm

Reception - **Sunday May 4. 2-4pm**

Show runs from **May 4 to June 24**

Pick up for your artwork - **Tuesday June 24. 3-5:30pm**