

The Palette January 2024

The Newsletter of the Williamsville Art Society

Letter from the President

Hope you all had a great holiday filled with family and celebration! We can chalk up our 2023 Holiday Show as another success story for the Williamsville Art Society. From the day of drop off to the day we took the paintings off the wall....I heard nothing but praise from passersby about the work that was on exhibit. The opening reception is always a phenomenal exhibition. But it's the compliments coming from every direction, while the commotion is going on during set up and take down, that helps to ground the group of volunteers and encourages them to do the best they can to present a great show! At every opening I give a short speech on my thoughts of that day. It actually gives the auction table time to wrap things up! Following is an excerpt of my reflections of preparing for the day...

"I just stared into the thick fog that was enveloping my property. I was forced to rely on my memories and imagination to put together this early morning. It reminded me of each time I begin a painting. Staring into this fog was just like staring at my blank canvas. As the minutes passed...the fog became less dense. I could see the day developing just as I see my paintings develop as I apply paint to my canvas. The fog will dissipate with the sunrise, and my property will appear as it did yesterday, with only minor changes. My painting will emerge, as does a budding flower. The visions of my piece will progress and alter until I am satisfied. Just as the bud emerges into a beautiful flower, with its own identity...my paintings emerge into a work of art like no other. As I put my name onto the bottom of the painting...I realize my fog has lifted as well."

Our Spring show will be Sunday, May 5, 2024. Consider signing up on the Show volunteer sheet as early as possible. I will once again reiterate that the check off boxes on the show entry form IS NOT THE VOLUNTEER SHEET! The volunteer sheet is at every meeting for you to sign or near my phone so you can call me to volunteer as well.

Judie Pufpaff has a slew of records from the society since it's conception. If anyone is interested in taking on a "historian" position, please contact myself or Judie. If there is no interest, the records will be destroyed.

Just a reminder, there is no meeting in February.

"Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success."
Henry Ford

Cathy Eckman (716) 510-0043

This Month's Demonstration



Doug Mess is not your typical artist working in acrylics. His whimsical paintings beg the viewer to make an emotional connection and hopefully smile. Doug takes inspiration from the world...and the people...around him. Each life experience that touches his creative muse is rendered multiple times on paper, eventually ending in a finished image on canvas. His finished works border on surrealism and abstract expressionism. Like many artists who work in such a genre, he aims to engage viewers who can relate to the theme of his painting through their own life experiences. Come hear and see his creative process for yourself at our January meeting. Doug Mess feels that his best work is painted in the evening, so you just might witness the creation of a masterpiece.



Call for work

Do you have some beautiful, springy artwork? It could be on the cover of the 2024 Spring Show Program! Text your artwork to Cathy Eckman at (716) 510-0043 for consideration.

Local Exhibits

Kenan Center

The Kenan Center is featuring an exhibit of works by Lockport native Frank Penfold (1849—1921), along with paintings by his contemporaries Raphael Beck, Burr Nicholls, Claire Shuttleworth, and other impressionists associated with Western New York. Kenan House Gallery, Lockport, NY January 7—February 18, 2024

Burchfield Penney

Colorway brings together photographs in the Burchfield Penney collection that emphasize color in the natural and constructed environments that surround us.

On view Dec 8, 2023 - Jun 2, 2024

Art in Craft Media 2023 features art by juror Peter B. Jones, an exceptional artist. In his artwork and in his leadership, he always informs us of past traditions and contemporary concerns. We are thankful to him for holding true to this vision in the selections that he has made. His work

draws on aspects of traditional pit-fired Haudenosaunee pottery, which features hand-built coiling and slab construction. Jones' art reflects the issues that have impacted the Haudenosaunee. His pottery is admired and collected by community members, Native American art collectors, and museums across the country and internationally. On view Nov 10, 2023 - Mar 10, 2024

Doug is a Video and Sound Installation by Bufffluxus, an ensemble composed of musicians, vocalists and artists focused on exploring and developing the ideas and long and short forms proposed by the New Music, Fluxus and Dada art movements. Doug can best be described as an Inter-Media Enjambment (in literature a continuation of a sentence or idea without interruption) On view Nov 10, 2023 - Apr 28, 2024

Buffalo Art Movement

The current exhibit at BAM features new works by Jeannine Mullan, Mackenzy Julias Cesar, Gary Kyte, and Michael Constantine.

From the Desk of the Editor

If you have news about an art show opening, a class that you're teaching, etc. please send it to me at dianelorenzi@gmail.com or call me at 832-585-7426. You can be a spotlight artist by answering a few questions from a questionnaire I have prepared. I will write up a brief article about you and put a couple of your artworks in the newsletter. Remember that I am also looking for artwork to feature on our banner each month. Right now I still have three openings for banner artwork for this year. Remember that information or artwork must be submitted by the 20th of the month to be considered for the following month's newsletter.

Happy painting!

Diane Lorenzi

"I don't paint dreams or nightmares. I paint my own reality."

~Frida Kahlo