



## Grand Valley Artists

### *What it Means to Me*

Grand Valley Artists was around before I was born. Encouraging artists for decades. I stumbled upon it (them, us) when I was filling my spare time with woodworking. I brought some small pieces into the gift shop at 800 Monroe to sell. Looking around, I saw many levels of skill and the support of the people to do better. I joined the group in 2003 and began attending Sketch meetings and Critique. I spent many Thursday and Saturdays (and some Mondays) practicing, practicing, practicing. So, I assume that made me a "Practicing Artist". Not a good one for many years, but improving slowly as I went. I attended classes put on by Jim Markle, Larry Blovits and Kathy Putnam (eventually Bechtel) who all taught me many techniques and the patience to "LOOK and SEE" what is there. I enjoy the fellowship with membership and have made many friends. I volunteered for many events and responsibilities and gained much experience from them.

I have gained so much from my time with GVA and will continue to enjoy and participate as long as I can. I owe much to the group and the friends that I have made and I thank you all!

Dave Bechtel  
President  
Grand Valley Artists

## REEDS LAKE ART FESTIVAL POSTER

Randy Nyhof was very kind to have taken photos and prepared everything for reproduction. Robyn Bomhof was instrumental in getting 200 posters printed, a courtesy of Service Reproduction Company.

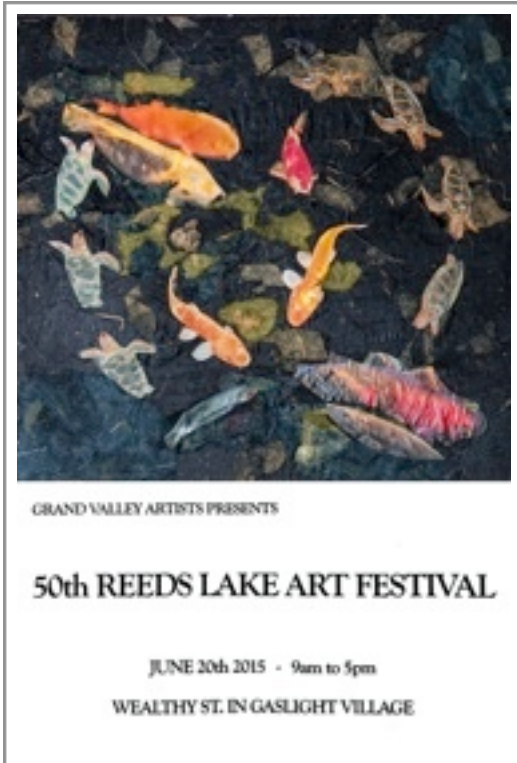
The posters will be available for distribution at GVA by Critique on March 5th.

### Poster Contest Winners:

1st Place Joanne Swann



2nd Place Ruth Hutchinson



*"Happily Married Man"* by Jim Johnson  
First place winner at the ICCS Show in January

Congratulations to **Larry Blovits** on winning first place in the West Michigan Regional Art Competition in Lowell.

3rd Place Joe Goedel



*"Trickle Down Effect"* pastel, 24" x 18" by Larry Blovits



## ADOPT A BENCH PROGRAM HAS LEGS!

It was during a Jim Markel workshop that Bob learned of GVA. He regularly attends the portrait and figure sketch sessions and says, "I thoroughly enjoy the banter and camaraderie of those two groups. I believe my skills have improved with repetition and the wonderful support of my sketch mates. I have plenty of room for improvement and I look forward to the journey." His current medium of choice is pastel but he has also worked in oil and acrylic.

If you see Bob say hello and please thank him. Thank Jim Markel as well. He introduced Bob to GVA and now Jim has volunteered to Adopt A Bench.

### TIME, TOOLS AND METHOD ... ACCORDING TO BOB

Reconditioning the old bench was lots of fun for me. I enjoy woodworking and if I can help GVA in any way, I am happy to do it. The entire refurbishing process — less drying time — took about two hours.

I used a random orbital sander and sanded it first with 100 grit and then 150 grit 3M Sandblaster paper. I sanded the bench between the two coats of polyurethane with 320 grit wet sand paper. The finish was Minwax water based oil modified polyurethane semi-gloss. An 8 oz. can was \$8.00. One can was enough to cover two benches with two coats which is all that I applied. It is probably more cost effective to buy it in a 1 quart can. I purchased all supplies from Lowe's.



Bob McDonald



Refurbished bench - already in use!

## Hospitality

Thanks to those who have signed up to host a month of hospitality.

March - Dave and Kathy Bechtel

April -Peggy Falk

May - Carol Bodbyl

Be sure to sign up to bring a snack and to host for a month. I will send each host a job description and the list of signees.

Thanks to all of the volunteers!

Sarabeth Carr

608-5588

## GVA Gallery

Judy Maggini's work is now showing at the GVA Gallery through the month of March.

Would you like to display your work at GVA?

Contact Mary Marin to choose a month. If you do not have enough to fill the entire space, that's fine. You can share the walls with someone else. Also, the juried Spring show will take place in June, so be thinking about what you will be entering!

Mary Marin contact information:

[marymarin@comcast.net](mailto:marymarin@comcast.net) 616-443-0362

In case you missed it, here were the featured artists for February.



Jon Hunter



Irene Wordhouse



Dave Tulos

## Welcome to our new members:

Denise DeVries

Eric Dulcet

Katie Descheneau

Thomas Jordan



## News from one of our new members Nora Butcher

I simply love painting watercolors, due to my fascination with the ever changing patterns of light and color at the lakeshore. My passion is to express the endless moods, feelings and inspirations experienced at the seashore.

May you always remember the joy of being at the lake and hold in your heart its peaceful treasures.”



Paintings and pottery by Nora Butcher

## Dominican Center Gallery

Donald Karel

Fine Art Photos

March 1 - April 30th

Reception - April 12

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Gallery Hours:

Monday-Thursday 8am-9pm

Friday 8am-8pm

Sat. & Sun 1-6 pm

Lower level of Dominican Center at Marywood.

Address: 2025 Fulton, Grand Rapids, MI

## Cascade Library

The Cascade library has given us 11 more display spaces making the total available 28.

Starting the first of March the new format for this show will be as follows:

\* 60 days duration. March 1st - April 30th

\*Each artist may have up to 3 paintings in a show.

\*Paintings must be dropped off @ GVA by Feb. 25th.

\*If more than 28 are submitted, they will be juried into this show. Those that don't make the March/April show may be picked up after March 1st.

\* This information must be clearly printed and attached to paintings:

Name of Piece, Medium, Artist, Prices,  
Contact Information (address & phone)

\* Labels will be printed and price information will be left at the Information desk at the library.

Any questions: Contact Larry Goff @ 949-1247 or [lawrencegoff@comcast.net](mailto:lawrencegoff@comcast.net)

## Workshops:

### Jim Markle, PSA

Jim Markle is a signature member of the Pastel Society of American and a Master Member of the Great Lakes Plein air Painters Association. He has over fifteen years of experience teaching, all levels of participants in the U.S., Canada, France and Italy. He's the inventor of the Jim Markle Pastel Easelbox and travels extensively throughout Europe and the United States painting en plein air. Great American Art Works markets his North American Landscape Set of pastels.

Grand Rapids, MI

Mar 30, Apr.6, 13, 20 & 27, 20 & 27

#### Landscape Classes

Location: Grand Valley Artists, Inc.

Time: Mondays 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Contact: Jim Markle, 616-458-8559 or

[jimcmarkle@earthlink.net](mailto:jimcmarkle@earthlink.net)

Livonia, MI

May 8 & 9 2015

#### Pastel Landscape Workshop

Sponsored by: Visual Arts Association of Livonia

Contact: Laraine Walowichh 248-788-1091

email: [vaalart@yahoo.com](mailto:vaalart@yahoo.com)

Glen Arbor, MI

July 23 & 24, 2015

#### Plein Air Workshop

Sponsored by: Glen Arbor Art Association

Contact: GAAA 231-334-6112

[info@glenarborart.org](mailto:info@glenarborart.org)

Grand Rapids, MI

Oct. 19, 26, Nov. 2, 9, & 16, 2015

#### Landscape Classes

Location: Grand Valley Artist, Inc.

Time: Monday 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

**Contact:** Jim Markle, 616-458-8559

[jimcmarkle@earthlink.net](mailto:jimcmarkle@earthlink.net)

## Larry Blovits

Landscape Painting; Emphasis on Aerial Perspective

Oil and Pastel

April 10-12, 2015 9am-4 pm daily

Cost: \$225.00

Location: Larry Blovits Studio

O-1835 Luce St. SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49534

Contact: Larry Blovits 616 -677-1765

[larryjblovits@gmail.com](mailto:larryjblovits@gmail.com)

Landscape Painting; Emphasis on Aerial Perspective

Oil and Pastel

Dillman's Creative Art Workshops

June 21-26, 2015

10am-12pm and 1-4pm daily

Cost: \$475.00

Location: Dillman's Bay Resort, Lac du Flambeau, WI 54538

[art@dillmans.com](mailto:art@dillmans.com) 715-588-3143

The Fundamental Approach to Plein Air Painting:

August 24-28, 2015

9am - 4 pm daily

cost: \$425.00

Golden Apple Art Residency

543 Ripley Rd., Harrington, ME

[snstevens@goldenapplestudio.com](mailto:snstevens@goldenapplestudio.com) 989-779-9320

Portrait Basics

May 15,16,17, 2015

9am - 4 pm Friday, Saturday, noon to 5 on Sunday

cost: \$295.00

Midland Center for the Arts

1801 W. St. Andrews, Midland, MI 48640

[arminmersmann@hotmail.com](mailto:arminmersmann@hotmail.com) 989-631-8250

The Elements of Composition - one day workshop

March 28, 2015

10am -3:00 pm

Cost: \$75.

Franciscan Life Process Center

Annex Building

654 Davis Ave NW Grand Rapids, MI 49504

Contact: Kathleen Bechtel 616-540-5744

## **Franciscan Life Process Center**

**March 12, 13, 14 – Adam Clague - “Figure**

**Painting Workshop”** - <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/adam-clague-figure-painting-workshop-tickets-11981092771?aff=efbevent> .

Website: [adamclague.com/](http://adamclague.com/)

Join nationally known artist Adam Clague for an intensive three day workshop exploring the art of painting the clothed figure. Through lectures and demonstrations Adam will the fundamentals necessary to achieve realistic figure paintings. Each day attendees will paint models from life under Adams guidance. Artists of all skill levels will enjoy this information packed class.

**March 27, 28, 29 – Jude Harzer - “The**

**Expressive Portrait”** - <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/jude-harzer-the-expressive-portrait-tickets-12126335195?aff=efbevent>

Website: [www.judeharzer.com/](http://www.judeharzer.com/)

Exploration of techniques using paint, personal photographic resources, and mixed media to create unique and emotionally evocative portraits. Combining both traditional and experimental processes, students will discover new ways to enrich their work and advance their painting practice.

**April 9, 10, 11, 12 – David Shevlino - “Alla Prima Figure and Portrait Painting”,** <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/david-shevlino-alla-prima-figure-and-portrait-painting-tickets-12125532795?aff=efbevent>

Website: [davidshevlino.com/](http://davidshevlino.com/)

This class is about painting the figure and portrait alla prima (wet into wet) and the techniques used to create a fresh, direct response to our subjects. After a demonstration, the class will work in monotone from the model for the first day, concentrating on value. After that, we'll work in full color from the model; learning how to interpret and simplify by seeing the figure as a series of basic shapes described by color/ light and shadow.

**April 17, 18, 19 – Qiang Huang - “3 Day Basics of Oil Painting and Marketing”** - <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/3-day-basics-of-oil-painting-and-marketing-tickets-11979205125?aff=efbevent>

Website: [www.qhart.com/](http://www.qhart.com/)

Qiang's approaches to still-life painting will be demonstrated with particular focus on composing dramatic setups by observing the light distribution, and using bold and loose strokes to create a powerful and accurate representation on canvas. Using demonstrations, presentation, and individual assistance, Qiang will explain his process of creating energetic paintings by manipulating values, colors, edges, and brushwork.

**April 24, 25, 26 – Henry Yan - “Figure Drawing Techniques and Tips”** -

<http://www.eventbrite.com/e/henry-yan-tickets-11922573739?aff=efbevent>

Website: [www.henryyanart.com/](http://www.henryyanart.com/)

This workshop will be based on short and long pose life drawings done from life models. Different techniques mentioned in Henry's book, "Henry Yan's Figure Drawing - Techniques and Tips", will be introduced and practiced in class, as well as some basic skills in drawing human figures. This is a workshop for all levels. Students will be individually helped during practice.

**May 15, 16, 17 – Robert Kogge - “Colored Pencil and Ink Wash on Canvas”** - <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/robert-kogge-colored-pencil-and-ink-wash-on-canvas-tickets-12128038289?aff=efbevent>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/rvkogge>

By working directly with colored pencils and ink wash on unprimed canvas, this class joins painting and drawing disciplines to a single process as an alternate or extension to more traditional methods. These media elect the heavy weave of the canvas as the dominant but impersonal mark, distilling positive and negative space evenly, and rendering a particulate profile to the image emerging through the landscape of its woven ground.

**June 4, 5, 6 – Roger Dale Brown - “The Process Of Creating Plein Air Paintings”** -

<http://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-process-of-creating-plein-air-paintings-roger-dale-brown-tickets-11920643967?aff=efbevent>

Website: [www.rogerdalebrown.com/](http://www.rogerdalebrown.com/)

This class will cover the process of how to create a successful plein air painting. Roger will instruct you

on how to compose a painting out of the vastness of the landscape, how to see as an artist, how to handle the light changing, and much more. He will also give you the thought process that he uses to create a successful painting from the foundation to a completed painting and help you with paint application.

**June 13 & 14 – LeeAnn Frame - “Woodcut With Chine Colle”** - <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/lee-ann-frame-woodcut-with-chine-colle-tickets-12434837935?aff=efbevent>  
Website: [leannframe.com/](http://leannframe.com/)

A relief print is a general term for those printmaking techniques in which the printing surface is carved away so that the image alone appears raised on the surface. We will explore how positive and negative shapes, texture, value and a range of carving techniques contribute to creating beautiful and exciting woodcut images. Techniques include transferring images to blocks, carving, and relief printing with oil-based inks using a press and by hand. Learn registration techniques and working with chine colle' in combination with printing.

#### **SAVE THE DATE:**

On September 20, 2015, in partnership with LowellArts!, the Franciscan Life Process Center will be hosting a plein air event open to all plein air groups in Michigan. Meet at the Franciscan Life Process Center  
- 11650 Downes St., Lowell Michigan between 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM. There is a \$15 entry fee and 20% of the sale of the work at the end of the day. The sale will begin at 5:00 PM at Fallasburg Park. Participants are welcome to paint anything in Lowell, or in Fallasburg Park. For further information call Kathy Bechtel at (616) 897-7842, ext. 352.

**Franciscan Painters:** Every Wednesday on the third floor of St. Adalberts, from 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM a group of artists meet in an open studio experience. We learn and grow in art together. Bring whatever artwork that you're working on and enjoy this time with other artists, and experience a place to grow in your art and make dear friendships. For further information call Kathy Bechtel at (616) 897-7842, ext. 352

## **Lake Odessa's Art in the Park**

To all of our past, present and future artists & crafters: As Art in the Park begins its 41st year, the Lake Odessa Area Arts Commission is pleased to announce a new and improved format for 2015. A number of exciting changes are on the horizon, including:

A new event date (the first Saturday in August), to coincide with Lake Odessa's Classic Car Show, just a few blocks away in Lake Odessa's downtown business district; A greater emphasis on unique and high-quality original works of art. Fine art and fine craft categories will include pottery, fiber, glass, jewelry, painting, photography, sculpture and more; Increased marketing and advertising support; A new online application and jurying process; **An earlier application deadline for all entries (April 1);** and **ParkPrize!**, an optional competition open to all accepted exhibitors, whose entries will be voted upon by the general public, with the winner receiving a \$1,000 cash prize.

We believe these changes will help us to grow Art in the Park and to ensure its continued viability for years to come.

You will want to apply early to participate in the 2015 Art in the Park in the "friendly port" of Lake Odessa. So mark your calendars now for **Saturday, August 1, 2015**, or visit our website to find updates, as well as ParkPrize! information. We've made it easier than ever to apply to next year's Art in the Park.

Apply online at CaFE ([www.CallForEntry.org](http://www.CallForEntry.org)); or Visit our website for a printable application form and rules.\*

[\* Note: If you would like an application mailed to you, please call our hotline (616-374-4325) or send us an e-mail ([LakeOdessaArts@gmail.com](mailto:LakeOdessaArts@gmail.com)).]

## **Fallasburg Fall Festival for the Arts 2015**

Applications to be an artist vendor are now available.

Apply on [www.zapplication.org](http://www.zapplication.org)  
[info@lowellartsmi.org](mailto:info@lowellartsmi.org) 616-897-8545





*"Classical American Electric" by Sallie Zigterman*

**The Celebration Cinema North/IMAX** will be showing some films that people may want to see.

Vincent van Gogh - "A New Way of Seeing". With exclusive access to the Van Gogh Museum in Amsterdam.

In cinemas on Tuesday April 14, 2015.

The Impressionists, from the Musee du Luxembourg, Paris, National Gallery, London and the Philadelphia Museum of Art  
In cinemas Tuesday, July 14, 2015.

*Please be advised that Grand Valley Artists may use photographs from our events and images of artwork in our gallery for promotional purpose.*

## Contact Listings for Grand Valley Artists

President	Dave Bechtel 616-818-9618 <a href="mailto:davidbechtel@sbcglobal.net">davidbechtel@sbcglobal.net</a>
Vice President	Mary Marin 616-443-0362 <a href="mailto:marymarin@comcast.net">marymarin@comcast.net</a>
Treasurer	Evie Carrier 616-648-6858 <a href="mailto:evie.carrier@gmail.com">evie.carrier@gmail.com</a>
Secretary	
Membership	Marty Klar 616-813-7921 <a href="mailto:martyklar@comcast.net">martyklar@comcast.net</a>
Photography	Dave Tulos <a href="mailto:dnmtulos@gmail.com">dnmtulos@gmail.com</a>
Program	Randy Nyhof 616-745-1486 <a href="mailto:r.nyhof@comcast.net">r.nyhof@comcast.net</a> Robyn Bomhof 616-581-2994 <a href="mailto:robynbomhof@gmail.com">robynbomhof@gmail.com</a>
Publicity/Reed's Lake Art Festival	Bob Kraai 616-956-7734 <a href="mailto:rkraai@ameritech.net">rkraai@ameritech.net</a>
Newsletter	Mary Jo Hays 616-676-2261 <a href="mailto:haysmaryjo@gmail.com">haysmaryjo@gmail.com</a> Jeremy Kuhn <a href="mailto:jeremy@jeremykuhn.com">jeremy@jeremykuhn.com</a>
Sketch Coordinators	Kathy Bechtel 616-894-5956 <a href="mailto:kathleen.bechtel@yahoo.com">kathleen.bechtel@yahoo.com</a> Dave Bazen <a href="mailto:dbazen@bazenelectric.com">dbazen@bazenelectric.com</a> Larry Goff <a href="mailto:lawrencegoff@comcast.net">lawrencegoff@comcast.net</a> Jim Johnson 615-451-2211 <a href="mailto:johnsontheartist@hotmail.com">johnsontheartist@hotmail.com</a>
Hospitality	Sarabeth Carr 616-608-5588 <a href="mailto:sarabethcarr@gmail.com">sarabethcarr@gmail.com</a>
Library	Jim Johnson 615-451-2211 <a href="mailto:johnsontheartist@hotmail.com">johnsontheartist@hotmail.com</a>

Visit our website for more information:  
[www.grandvalleyartists.com](http://www.grandvalleyartists.com)



1345 Monroe Ave. NW Suite 130  
Grand Rapids, MI 49505

## Calendar:

### MARCH

Monday	Mar. 2	10:00 am	Portrait Sketch
Tuesday	Mar. 3	7:30 pm	Photo Group
Thursday	Mar. 5	7:30 pm	Critique
Saturday	Mar. 7	10:00 am	Figure Sketch
Saturday	Mar. 7	1:15 pm	Board Meeting
Monday	Mar. 9	10:00 am	Portrait Sketch
Thursday	Mar. 12	7:30 pm	Program
Saturday	Mar. 14	10:00 am	Figure Sketch
Monday	Mar. 16	10:00 am	Portrait Sketch
Thursday	Mar. 19	7:30 pm	Figure Sketch
Saturday	Mar. 21	10:00 am	Figure Sketch
Monday	Mar. 23	10:00 am	Portrait Sketch
Thursday	Mar. 26	7:30 pm	Figure Sketch
Saturday	Mar. 28	10:00 am	Portrait Sketch
Monday	Mar. 30	10:00 am	Portrait Sketch

### APRIL

Thursday	April 2	7:30 pm	Critique
Saturday	April 4	10:00 am	Figure Sketch
Monday	April 6	10:00 am	Portrait Sketch
Tuesday	April 7	7:30 pm	Photo Group
Thursday	April 9	7:30 pm	Program
Saturday	April 11	10:00 am	Figure Sketch
Monday	April 13	10:00 am	Portrait Sketch
Thursday	April 16	7:30 pm	Figure Sketch
Saturday	April 18	10:00 am	Figure Sketch
Monday	April 20	10:00 am	Portrait Sketch
Thursday	April 23	7:30 pm	Figure Sketch
Saturday	April 25	10:00 am	Figure Sketch
Monday	April 27	10:00 am	Portrait Sketch
Thursday	April 30	7:30 pm	Figure Sketch