



Festival of the Arts

Festival of the Arts is June 7-8-9, 2019, in downtown Grand Rapids and is celebrating 50 years in 2019!

Artists, there is still time to enter. Drop off dates are May 2, 3, and 4. Here's a link for more information and applications:

<https://festivalgr.org/regional-arts-exhibition/>

See You at PASTA-THON!

See you on May 9th, at **6:00 p.m.** Bring your appetite and a pasta dish to share (hot or cold), and we could use some salads, and bread, too. If you bring a hot dish, please bring a way to keep it warm. GVA will provide wine, water, coffee and cookies.

Please email Joanne Swann at joswann@sbcglobal.net to let her know what you're bringing so she can make certain we have a good balance of main dishes and salads. Or text or call and leave a message at 616-406-8648.

At about 7:30 p.m., Randy Nyhof will be showing a 60-minute BBC episode of "The Power of Art" on Vincent van Gogh for all who can stick around to see it.

holland area arts council

GVA Show at Holland Area Arts Council

Don't miss the Grand Valley Artists Juried Exhibition at the Holland Area Arts Council from May 17 to July 6. The Opening Reception will be on May 17th from 6 till 8 p.m. The reception is open to the public.

Holland Area Arts Council
150 E. 8th St
Holland, MI 49423



Critique Night with Vianna Szabo

Submitted by Carol Lourn

April 14, 2019 was a busy night at GVA. Our Studio was filled to capacity because Vianna Szabo was scheduled to lead our critique session by demonstrating to our membership the critique process. Vianna's presentation was given with warmth and a desire to help us with strategies to critique our members' work.

Vianna made 4 statements which helped us to verbalize some specific techniques:

1. A critique is not effective when it is expressed as a personal opinion on subject matter, style, or medium. Nor should the artist take a critique as a personal attack. Your peers are here to support you.

2. State whether you want a critique or you just want to share your work.

3. Say what the idea or inspiration is behind the painting and then talk about the medium, reference, or whatever you feel the group should know.

4. If you have asked for a critique, it is important to listen and ask questions. Remember that the purpose of a critique is to help take your art to the next level.

Vianna also included this statement in a handout:

"Artists are magicians who create the illusion of form, light and dimension on a canvas by orchestrating the visual elements. By interpreting what we see into a visual language we can use the tools of shape, value, edge, color, and texture to tell our story."

Vianna spent the major portion of the evening critiquing our members' art work. Her questions to artists helped us to remember successful strategies for critique.

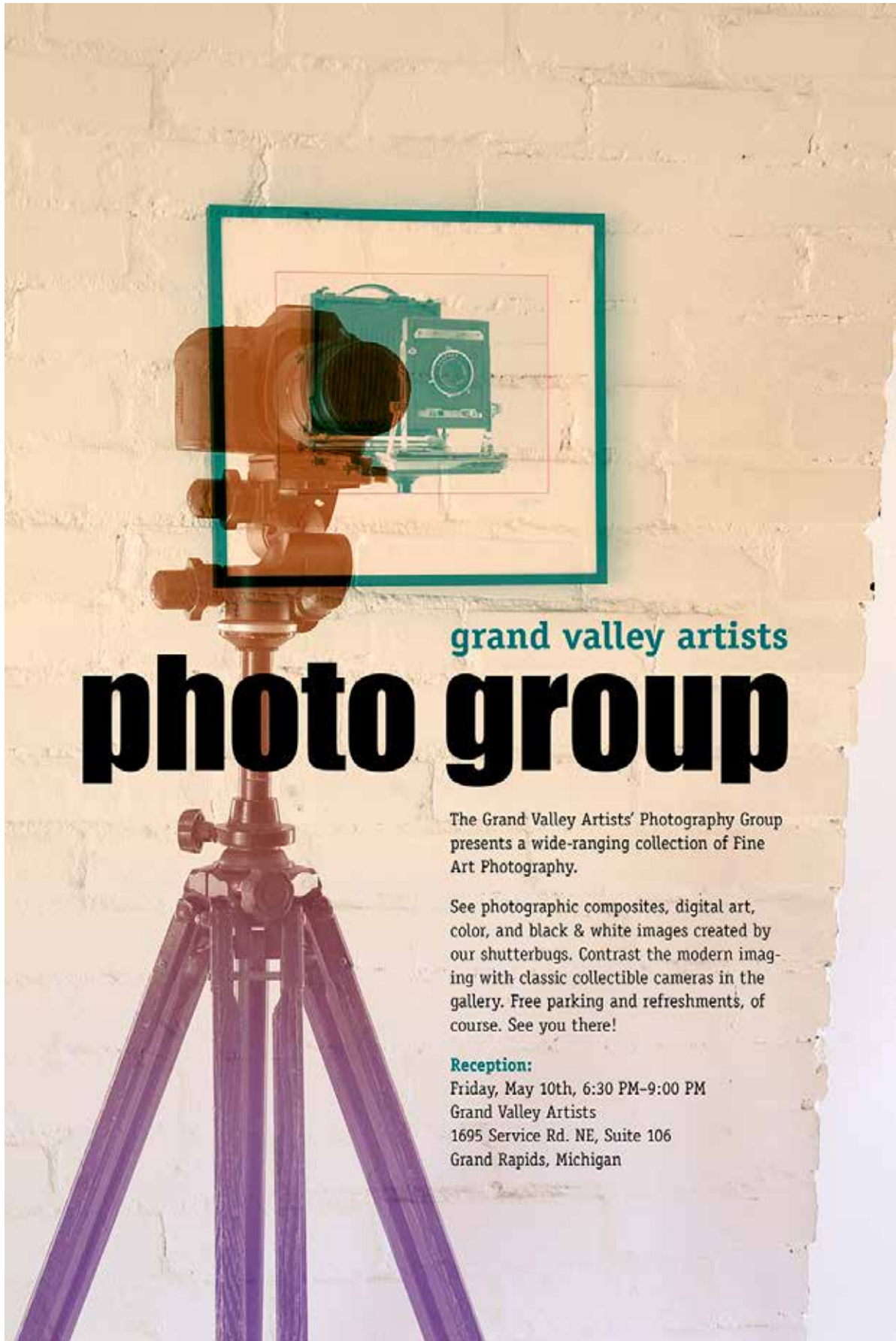


She highly recommended that each critique have a facilitator and stated that teachers often make great facilitators. A facilitator's function is to keep the discussion moving and interject questions when/if the discussion has stagnated. If any of our members are interested in facilitating a critique session please let us know.



Show Your Work at Trinity United Methodist Church

Be sure to stop by any Monday through Thursday. You'll enjoy seeing works by **Debbie Bell** on display until the end of May. If you want to show your work at Trinity, located at 1100 Lake Drive SE, please let Mary Marin know: marymarin1285@gmail.com.



grand valley artists
photo group

The Grand Valley Artists' Photography Group presents a wide-ranging collection of Fine Art Photography.

See photographic composites, digital art, color, and black & white images created by our shutterbugs. Contrast the modern imaging with classic collectible cameras in the gallery. Free parking and refreshments, of course. See you there!

Reception:

Friday, May 10th, 6:30 PM-9:00 PM
Grand Valley Artists
1695 Service Rd. NE, Suite 106
Grand Rapids, Michigan

GVA Gallery on Fine Art America!

We now have our own Fine Art America site! Last month Randy Nyhof presented a program about it: how it works and how to take advantage of this opportunity. Randy knows it pretty well, as he has thousands of images posted and is a very successful seller on the site.

Grand Valley Artists has paid the fee associated with the unlimited plan that they offer, meaning we can (on our member site) post unlimited images—and make them available for sale—free of charge to our GVA members.

Here's how it works.

Fine Art America lets you post your artwork. If you are selling the original, post an image, set a price, and when a buyer decides they want it, Fine Art America sends the buyer's information to you, letting you complete the sale.

If you are selling prints of your original piece, or selling photographs, you also post an image, and set a price (Randy has already filled out the pricing he uses, but you are free to change it) and when someone buys it, Fine Art America does all the work for you, manufacturing the print, or mug, shower curtain, towel, canvas wrap, etc. They can also frame it. They also ship it to the customer. You then get a check.

If you attended the program that Randy presented, you know how to log on and set up your own collection. If you've forgotten, or this is the first you've heard of this opportunity, e-mail him at r.nyhof@comcast.net and he will send you a PDF of the program he presented.

Be sure to get your images of your art in order before logging on. They can be as small as 1200 x 1800 pixels, but in order to sell really large art prints (and make the most money you can), use images that are in the range of 5400 x 3600 pixels. 25 MB is the largest file size they accept.

Thanks, Randy, for your patience and for sharing your knowledge of this subject. It's a great opportunity for our members to be able to post their work on Fine Art America. Not only can we make sales, but it gives us an online presence that is vital in today's market.

I know this can be a bit overwhelming, but don't be afraid to reach out to your fellow members who are already using the site to ask for some help. We're all in the same boat here, and while it can seem too difficult to do, we can all learn how to do this and start selling our work online!

Take a peek using this link:

<https://fineartamerica.com/profiles/1-evie-carrier.html?tab=artworkgalleries>

You will see images identifying each of the GVA artists who currently has loaded images to the Gallery.

PASTA-THON STARTS AT 6:00 P.M. on MAY 9



GVA Welcomes New Members

Marin Alexander
Mindy Alexander
Janella Smart

Workshop: Exploring a Painting's Structure

What makes a photo or painting “work” or “not work”? Margaret Kriegbaum will teach a 1-day workshop on "Exploring a Painting's Structure" on Saturday, May 4, from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Grand Valley Artists Studio. The workshop costs \$35.00 including materials and is limited to 15 people. The class begins with short exercises about the elements of good composition: shapes, color, planes, how they work together, and how they affect our emotional response to the picture plane. Then, the focus moves from intent to execution by incorporating what is learned in the short exercises into your work. The goal is to improve compositions, build emotional content, and encourage your instincts beyond replicating reality as an end in itself, rather using it as inspiration.

To sign up:
Contact Margaret at Kriegbaum@outlook.com to sign up. Please put “Exploring a Picture” in the subject line.

GVA Workshops

We are very fortunate to have many excellent workshops right here at GVA, and always at a reasonable price.

Most recently our own Margaret Kriegbaum offered a workshop entitled “Color, Color, Color” to an appreciative group. Workshops are usually open to non-GVA members, too, so feel free to invite a friend to attend with you!



Photo Group



News

Submitted by Randy Nyhof

The Photo Group met for their regular meeting on April 2 with their usual critique and announcements. Again very good attendance of 18. Our next meeting was on April 6 where I showed the film on Jim Brandenburg’s “Chased By The Light” project.

On Monday, May 6, the Photo Group will be hanging their annual show in the GVA Gallery from 9 a.m.–12 noon. The show will remain until June 3. See the poster that Joe Goedel designed on page 3. We will be having a reception on Friday, May 10 from 6:30 p.m. until 9 p.m. with Evie Carrier arranging the catering. Our next meeting will be May 7.



ART CHAT

What is Art Chat? Think the salons of old, maybe, those informal gatherings where artists toss around their thoughts on a variety of art-related topics. We sometimes talk about GVA and how we can be even more spectacular...all ideas are welcome! No preparation is needed...just show up and join in the fun! The next Art Chat will take place on Friday, June 14, at 1:00 p.m. Join us, won't you?

Area Art News

Lowell Arts

LowellArts hosts an exhibition that features the works of two all-female artist groups through May 18. Gallery Hours: Tuesday–Friday 10 a.m.–6 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

Forest Hills Fine Arts Center

April 11–May 17 will feature Forest Hills Public Schools artwork. Exhibit Hours: 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Mon.–Fri. All exhibits are free to the public.

Guardian Gallery Lowell

The artist through June 28 is GVA member Dennis O'Mara. The Guardian Gallery is located at the Franciscan Life Process Center, 11650 Downes St., Lowell, MI 49331, (616) 897-7842. This show is open during regular business hours.

Frauenthal Reception Gallery in Muskegon

The artist for May at the Reception Gallery will be Charles LaRue. This show begins on April 30 and ends on May 30. The Gallery of the Frauenthal Center is open during regular business hours.

Guardian Gallery Grand Rapids

Richard Schaf's work will be on display until June 28, Monday–Thursday 12–6, at 654 Davis St., Grand Rapids, MI 49504. The gallery is the building that is the farthest north. Go to the handicapped entrance and about 10 feet back from the door there is a box on the half wall. Buzz the Franciscan Life Process Center button and someone will let you in. Take the elevator up to the third floor and the work will be on the hall walls.

TerryBerry Gallery at St. Cecilia's

The upcoming exhibit features the pastels of Todd Darling and oils by Ruth VanderMuelen. This show runs from May 1 until May 25. The reception is **Friday, May 3**, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Parking is free next to St. Cecilia's.

Dominican Center at Marywood

Jim Johnson's work will be on display during the months of May and June. The reception will be on June 9 from 1 to 4. Father Joachim Lally will be showing his work during July and August. The reception for that show will be August 11. The gallery is located at 2025 E. Fulton Street, Grand Rapids, MI 49503, and is open Monday–Thursday: 8:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m., Friday: 8:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m., Saturday and Sunday: 8:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.

Bliss & Vinegar

Stop in to B&V to see Tom Dandridge's work, now on display. If you want to show your work at B&V, load some images to our website, as that is where the owners go to find artists whose work they would like to display. Marty Klar coordinates this opportunity for us. Please do not contact the restaurant directly. Questions? Call Marty at 616-813-7921.

Trinity United Methodist Church

Debbie Bell's work is now gracing the walls at Trinity, located at 1100 Lake Drive SE. The church is open during business hours on Monday through Thursday. Her work will remain through the month of May. To show your work at Trinity, contact marymarin1285@gmail.com.



Debbie Bell and her assistant (a.k.a. granddaughter) Kendal at Trinity United Methodist



Tom Dandridge at Bliss & Vinegar



Display Your Work at the Englehardt Public Library in Lowell

The Lowell Library is looking for artists to exhibit their work for a two month period. The beautiful and popular library promotes the artists on their website and at the front desk. Stop in to see the works of **Ruth VanderMuelen**, on display now.

If you are interested in showing your work at the library, contact Sandi Brogger at rsbrogger@gmail.com.



Stop in to see Ruth VanderMuelen's beautiful paintings at the Englehardt Library in Lowell.

Officers, Board, and Committee Chairs of GVA

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501(c)(3) Coordinator

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Outreach

Doug Klemm
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Social Media

Position Open

Newsletter Distribution

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Grand Valley Artists

1695 Service Road NE, Suite 106

Grand Rapids, MI 49503

MAY CALENDAR

Board Meeting May 2 at 6:00 p.m.

EVERY WEEK

Sundays Closed

Mondays 10:00 a.m. until noon

Portrait Sketch*

Tuesdays Every Tuesday 7:00 p.m. until 9:30 p.m.
1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month 7:30 p.m.

Figure Sketch*
Photo Group

Wednesdays 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

Open Studio or Plein Air
(check the weather!)

Thursdays 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.
First Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m.
Second Thursday of May at 6 p.m.

Long Pose**
Critique
Pasta-Thon!

Fridays 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.
First Friday of the month at 1 p.m.

Still Life
Art Chat

Saturdays 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

Figure Sketch*

*Member Model fee \$5, Non-Member \$10

**Model fee \$10, Non-Member \$15