



The pursuit of excellence

For me, and for every artist, it's important to establish standards of excellence. It's not enough to just be creative, you need to develop high level skills. If you want to improve your work, you need to master all the basic drawing and design fundamentals. Just take a piece of paper and divide it into two columns heading the left side with "these are the things that I have mastered", and head the right side with "these are the things that I have not mastered". Then start with words like: light, volume, color, aerial perspective, geometric perspective, proportion, balance, and anything that you're weak in, and truthfully place them in the appropriate right or left or right column. Whatever ends up in the right column is what you need to learn and master. Go to your bookshelf or the art section in the library and pull out an arm full of books. Open the index of the first book to the first word in the right column and only read the pages indicated. Copy down in your notebook in in a section for that word any pertinent information you find. Close the book without looking at the rest of it and open the next book to the index and repeat the process. Go through all the books following this procedure, and when done, go get another armload and continue looking up that one word.

Now, with all that information written down in your notebook, go back to your artwork and see if you can apply the first notation. Then the second notation and so on. Continue to practice that one word fundamental until you have mastered it, no matter how long it takes. If there is still some gray area in your understanding of the fundamental, continue your research as stated above. When you have mastered that fundamental, and it is very evident in your artwork, move that word to the left

column, and start the whole process over with the second word in the right hand column. Continue working on mastering all the words that you put down in the right hand column.

As a result, your facility will excel, and you will become a better artist. Whenever your artwork calls for the use of a fundamental, like light that you have mastered, you can use it with great power and impact.

Whatever you can't do, learn how to do it, and build your competence. All it takes is practice, practice, practice!

Larry Blovits
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Program

Thursday, November 13

A Chat with Evie Carrier

Come and enjoy some new ideas on how to create images using mixed-media tools such as photography, digital brushes, acrylic paints, gels, textures, stencils, and scripts. She will discuss her process of creation step by step. LC Bailey, artist and engineer, put it like this: "Art will always require tools, and as time goes on those tools will evolve. The computer is just another tool, like a brush and paint.....No one cares what kind of tools Picasso used. It's the artist's vision and the product he creates that are the only things that anyone should be concerned with. Tools are just tools, and you use what works best for you."

Evie will take questions after her presentation. She will also spend a few minutes discussing her ideas for sharing and selling art. There will be door prizes!



by Evie Carrier



by Evie Carrier

“Always face your challenges head on and make them your strengths”

~ David Jon Kassan



Kelly Parker, Speaker at October program night.
photo by Randy Nyhof

Members in the News:

Kathleen Kalinowski will have a new exhibit at the new Arts Rockford Center at 52 Courtland St., Rockford, MI.

November 2 - December 1

Artist reception will be Nov. 7, 5PM - 8pm

“Landscape Inspirations” Landscapes from the studio and local plein air locations that were inspired by the beauty of the seasons.



“Color & Light” by Kathleen Kalinowski

Bill Alexander will have a solo exhibit at St. Cecilia Music Center’s Terryberry Gallery, Dec. 6 - Jan. 28 with an artist’s reception on Thursday December 11 from 5 - 7:30 pm.

Welcome to our new members:

Rebecca Stafford
Robin Bowles
Barb Johnson
Penny Edmison
Barb Thorne
Darlene Pospolucki
Lloyd Wheeler

MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE OVERDUE!

By the time you read this I truly hope our annual membership renewal season has ended.

For that to be the case I will have had to receive your renewal dues. As of this writing (mid-October) that is unfortunately not the case. Some of you are a bit tardy, not many, but a few. It's to the benefit of all current members that a complete and final membership list be compiled and distributed. There is a renewal form attached and/or included with this newsletter. There is always the option to use PayPal via the GVA website.

With the holidays approaching fast, we all get even busier than we already are. Let's wrap up the renewal season folks.

If for any reason you are not planning to renew, simply call or email me to let me know.

Thanks, Marty Klar

GVA Juried Art Competition at Inner City Christian Federation

We hope GVA members will take advantage of this opportunity to display your art work outside of our GVA facility. Chris Stoffel Overvoorde, professor of Art Emeritus at Calvin College, has invited GVA

artists to show their work at the Inner City Christian Federation located at 920 Cherry Street in Grand Rapids. This gorgeous building, renovated in 2008, will be a great location to display your work. Chris has graciously offered to give us a reception [this means no baking ladies] and a planned program in honor of this occasion. The program, which is scheduled for January 8, 2015, will include presentation of awards.

The following information includes instructions for this competition:

Art work for the ICCF will be juried at the GVA building on Tuesday, November 18. Jurors will include Joel Zwart and Chris Stoffel Overvoorde. You can drop your work off in the GVA gallery either Thursday evening, November 13 during sketch from 7pm to 9pm or Saturday, November 15 during sketch from 10am to 1pm. Kathy Bechtel and Carol Lurn will be there to greet and assist you, take your entry form, and entry fee. The registration fee is \$10 for one entry and \$15 for two entries. Make check payable to Grand Valley Artists, Inc.

Each member may submit one or two works to be juried. Work should be no larger than 35". Art work must "look" professionally framed. No giclees or commercial reproductions. Work must be sturdily wired and ready to hang.

The work juried into the show will be transported to ICCF. You will be notified by email whether or not your work is included. Bring a stamped, self-addressed envelope if we cannot contact you by email. The date of installation is November 20. The show is on display from November 24 to February 6. Non selected art work may be picked up as soon as possible at GVA at any time our facility is open. Please consult the activities calendar in our newsletter.

Selected art work may be picked up after February 6. Should our "mature members" feel uncomfortable about retrieving their work from ICCF please contact either Kathy Bechtel or Carol Lurn.

Sales will be the responsibility of the artist. Prices will be available at the front desk including contact information. ICCF will need the value of each piece for insurance purposes. ICCF is leaving its percentage of a sale according to the wishes of the artist.

Inserted into this newsletter is a form which must be completed and attached to the work when left at GVA to be juried.

Please complete the attached information with your submission.

Dominican Center Gallery

November 1 through December 31
Patrica Beauchamp - Photography
Theme: "For Where Your Treasure Is, There Your Heart Will Be Also"
"Matthew 6:21"
Reception: Sunday, December 14, 1-4pm

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

Workshops:

Kathleen Kalinowski:

Landscapes in oil and pastels
Nov. 5 - Dec. 17 (Not including Nov. 26)
Wednesday evenings 6:30 pm- 9:00 pm

This is an open painting class for beginning to intermediate levels and will focus on the fundamentals of technique, principles of design and color as applied to each individual. Each student works on a still life or brings their own landscape photos.

Oil or pastel
\$30.00 a class

Minimum of 5, maximum of 10 students.
Portable easel required. Students bring their own supplies. A recommended supply list is available from Kathleen upon request.

Kalinowski@chartermi.net

To register: e-mail Kathleen or Linda Humbart at LHumberto2020@gmail.com



"July Round Bales" oil, plein air by Kathleen Kalinowski

Jim Markle: 2014 Workshop and Classes

Livonia, MI

Nov. 7 & 8 **Pastel Landscape Workshop**
Sponsored by Visual Arts Association of Livonia
Contact: Laraine Walowich
248-788-1091 or vaalart@yahoo.com

Kathleen Mooney, NWS, ISEA-NF

Gallery featuring the art of Kathleen Mooney.
Art Classes and Workshops 318 East Main - Suite A #1 and #2
P.O. Box 56
Lowell, MI 49331
616-890-1879 or artgallery318@gmail.com
Special Events, Art Exhibit Open House
Receptions, PREMIUM Art Classes
Like us on Facebook - Art Gallery 318 fine Art - and new - Art Academy 318.

Workshops at the Franciscan Life Process Center

You can find all the workshops and their costs at www.lifeprocesscenter.org, under the Visual Arts tab. If you have any questions please call Kathy Bechtel at (616) 540-5744.

Cascade Library Exhibit

Tom Cuniff will continue to display his paintings through the end of November.

If you are interested in showing your work in the library show, please contact Larry Goff @ 949-1247 or by e-mail at lawrencegoff@comcast.net

"To be timid, safe, complacent, or overly satisfied doesn't push the boundaries of creativity."

~ Mark Mehaffey



"Color Play" pastel by Larry Blovits

"If it was easy, everyone would be doing it. That's why they call it artWORK."

~ Lee Hammon

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

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Calendar

NOVEMBER

Saturday	Nov 1	10:00 AM	Figure Sketch
Monday	Nov 3	10:00 AM	Portrait Sketch
Tuesday	Nov 4	7:30 PM	Photo Group
Thursday	Nov 6	7:30 PM	Critique
Saturday	Nov 8	10:00 AM	Figure Sketch
Monday	Nov 10	10:00 AM	Portrait Sketch
Thursday	Nov 13	7:30 PM	Program Night
Saturday	Nov 15	10:00 AM	Figure Sketch
Monday	Nov 17	10:00 AM	Portrait Sketch
Thursday	Nov 20	7:30 PM	Figure Sketch
Saturday	Nov 22	10:00 AM	Figure Sketch
Monday	Nov 24	10:00 AM	Portrait Sketch
Thursday	Nov 27	7:30 PM	Figure Sketch
Saturday	Nov 29	10:00 AM	Figure Sketch

DECEMBER

Monday	Dec 1	10:00 PM	Portrait Sketch
Tuesday	Dec. 2	7:30 AM	Photo Group
Thursday	Dec. 4	6:00 PM	Board Meeting
Thursday	Dec. 4	7:30 PM	Critique
Saturday	Dec. 6	10:00 AM	Figure Sketch
Monday	Dec. 8	10:00 AM	Portrait Sketch
Thursday	Dec. 11	7:30 PM	Holiday Party
Saturday	Dec.13	10:00 AM	Figure Sketch
Monday	Dec. 15	10:00 AM	Portrait Sketch
Thursday	Dec. 18	7:30 PM	Figure Sketch
Saturday	Dec. 20	10:00 AM	Figure Sketch
Monday	Dec. 22	10:00 AM	Portrait Sketch
Thursday	Dec. 25	CHRISTMAS	
Saturday	Dec. 27	10:00 AM	Figure Sketch
Monday	Dec. 29	10:00 AM	Portrait Sketch