blacksburg regional art association news

1950–2020 ■ Celebrating 70 years of connecting people through art

February 2020

■ Art Calendar

February 21

Opening Reception
Half in Shadows, Half in Flames
XYZ Gallery, 223 N. Main St., Blacksburg • 6–8 p.m.

This art exhibit by member Tereza Tomastikova features works that were inspired by experiences with bipolar affective disorder. The show will be displayed until March 6.

March 13 and **April 10**

BRAA Monthly Lunch and Art Spot
Bull and Bones, First and Main, Blacksburg • 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Join your fellow members for lunch, hear the featured speaker's Art Spot, and share news about the latest art happenings. Rhonda Morgan from the Blacksburg Museum and Cultural Foundation will be the March speaker. In April, Perspective Gallery director Robin Scully Boucher will be speaking on Social Practice Arts as well as our upcoming theme show.

March 21

Ukranian Easter Egg Class
Newport Community Center, 434 Blue Grass Trail, Newport • 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Artist Sandy Randolph is teaching this class on how to decorate Ukranian Easter eggs. The fee is $20 and each student will not only go home with an egg or two, but also with supplies to continue working at home on this ancient and beautiful tradition. The registration deadline is **March 6**. For more information, email Carol Grippo at *newportreccenter19@gmail.com*.

March 23 and **March 25**

Fun with Experimental Mixed Water Media Techniques
Blacksburg Community Center • 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Betty Moore will be teaching this two-day workshop for beginning as well as advanced painters. A variety of techniques will be demonstrated and students are encouraged to experiment with the subject matter of their choice. The fee is $50 for Blacksburg residents and $60 for non-residents. Supplies are extra and you may call 540-443-1142 for a supply list. Registration may be done online, by phone at 540-443-1100, or in person at the Blacksburg Community Center.

continued on page 2

BRAA begins year with transitions

Just as the philosopher Heraclitus said that change is the only constant, our organization is evolving. Recent happenings include new officers and extensive bylaw revisions.

The president's position has been filled by **Charlotte Chan**, former vice president, moving into the position in accordance with the BRAA bylaws. She is replacing **Gerri Young**, who stepped down after six years of diligent service.

The vice president's position has been filled by **Alisa Colpitts**, a returning member. The bylaws provide for the president to appoint members to vacancies when they occur out of the election cycle.

Sue Hossack is filling the secretary's position, replacing **Pat Bevan** who resigned for personal reasons. **Sue Hossack** has also assumed the web administrator position previously held by Gerri Young. She has extensive computer engineering and web design experience and has already had a positive impact on the site at *blacksburgart.org*. Check it out.

A BRAA ad hoc committee was established in October 2019 to review and update the 2010 BRAA bylaws with **Linda Correll** leading the efforts. The focus of review has been to update any technology changes, administrative changes, and wording to project the true mission and operations of the organization in 2020. The committee has met three times and resolved areas of concern, yet maintained critical governance components. The committee plans to have a draft bylaw for membership review within the next few months.

Clearly, our 70-year-old organization is not slowing down and has benefited greatly from momentum gained from our past president's leadership. If you are not actively involved, make this your year to contribute to the continued growth of BRAA! ■

Lois Stephens

Charlie Brouwer, artist in "search of the good, beautiful, and true," was the guest speaker at February's BRAA luncheon. Brouwer has participated in more than 60 public art exhibitions and has shown in more than 300 exhibits throughout the world. He has worked with 14 communities to create large-scale projects, many involving ladders as metaphors for the individual hopes and dreams of the community supporting each other and rising together.

Calendar *continued from page 1*

April 25–26

20th Annual Open Studio Tours of Roanoke
Various Roanoke Locations • 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Come celebrate 20 years of creativity as artists open their working and living spaces. Nine studios will feature 27 regional artists and artisans and their works of paintings, ceramic arts, jewelry, fiber arts, mixed media, and more. For more information, visit *https://www.openstudiostourroanoke.com/*.

May 2

Blacksburg Cork and Fork
Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center, Blacksburg • Noon – 6 p.m.

This fun festival showcases local and regional wineries, artists and restaurants. Attendees enjoy wine, art, food, music, and a unique charity event, Can Do!

May 11–16

Second Plein Air Roanoke
Roanoke, Virginia

The Little Gallery announces its second annual opportunity to paint or watch some of the best artists from across the country paint Roanoke and the Blue Ridge landscape. This year's event kicks off with nationally recognized plein air artist, Mary Garrish, leading a workshop on May 10 and 11. She will also be judging the plein air event on May 15 as well as the Quick Draw session. For more information and registration, visit *https://thelittlegallerysml.com/pages/plein-air-roanoke-2020/*.

Call for Simply Elemental artists

Simply Elemental is an outdoor, multi-artist installation integrated along the garden paths, plantings, and trees of the Hahn Horticulture Garden at Virginia Tech. It is held annually between August 1 and September 30. The deadline for applications for participation in this year's event is May 1. The opening reception will be held from 5–7 p.m. on August 2. For more information, visit the Hahn Horticulture Garden website at *https://www.hort.vt.edu/hhg/index.html*.

Jesse Burgardt (above) led a charcoal workshop during the h'ARTS on Main event on February 15. Paintings by students in the watercolor workshop are shown at right.

BRAA supports art adventures at h'ARTS on Main

BRAA actively participated in the February 14–15 h'ARTS on Main event in Christiansburg. Several members offered works for sale and some taught at the Saturday workshops which were financially supported by our organization. There were 12-18 youth and adult participants in each watercolor, weaving, charcoal drawing, and collage class.

Want to urban sketch, but don't want to do it alone?

Check out *meetup.com*. Sign up for a free account and then search for Drink and Draw Blacksburg. A returning Blacksburger, Chris Corrigan started this fun group. They meet once a month in the evening — at the Cellar restaurant so far — and do just what the name implies!

Here is what the page says about these fun evenings. "Hang with other creatives for some dedicated sketching time! All skill levels and ages welcome (so long as you can get into the event's venue). These events are typically unstructured — bring your sketchbook/tablet, grab a beer, and work on whatever piece you like, but we can explore more dedicated activities or themed days if there's interest."

So far, the only BRAAers taking part are Gerri Young and Matt Gentry. The other two folks attending are Chris and Chris who are both professional graphic designers and really nice guys. According to Gerri, "We order a basket of curly fries, a pitcher of beer and an iced tea for me. No pressure, lots of fun getting to know new people and drawing on iPads or sketch books. The restaurant is happy we are there and nobody pays any attention to us. It is a good way to get over the fear of sketching in public."

Sessions generally last an hour, 7:30–8:30 p.m., but artists can stay longer if they want. Once you sign up at *meetup.com* you will receive an email whenever an evening is set.

Members Gerri Young and Matt Gentry have been participating in monthly sketching meet-ups at The Cellar restaurant. The watercolor shown above, featuring Matt Gentry in his famous hat, was produced by Gerri Young during one of these sessions.

New Member

A hearty welcome to new BRAA member **Aileen Fletcher**.

Now Showing

January 15 – April 15
(except where indicated otherwise)

Lisa Acciai, Blue Ridge Cancer Care, Blacksburg

Marie Collier, The Artful Lawyer BRAA Gallery, Blacksburg

Alisa Colpitts, Glade Church, Blacksburg

Linda Correll, Main Street Inn, Blacksburg

Paula Golden, Blacksburg Transit

Maxine Lyons, Shaheen Law Firm, Blacksburg

David Pearce, The Artful Lawyer BRAA Gallery, Blacksburg

Joy Rosenthal, Pointe West Management, Blacksburg

Robi Sallee, First Bank & Trust, Christiansburg

Karen Sewell, Brown Insurance, Blacksburg

Lois Stephens, See Mark Optical, Blacksburg

Tereza Tomastikova, XYZ Gallery, Blacksburg (thru Mar. 6)

Linda Weatherly, Zeppolis, Blacksburg

Norma Woodward, Long and Foster, Blacksburg

Art begs you to notice it. Why? Because art is God's way of saying hello. So pay attention to poetry. Pay attention to music. Pay attention to paintings and sculptures and photo exhibits and ballets and plays. Don't let all this go unnoticed. Your world is shouting out to you, revealing something intrinsically glorious about itself. Listen carefully. Love art, the way art loves life.

~ Neale Donald Walsch

Exhibit and other opportunities

Artist-in-Residence Program

Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital

The Dr. Robert L.A. Keeley Healing Arts Program at Carilion Clinic is seeking a teaching artist who is skilled in sharing creativity with others to provide bedside experiences for adult patients and their caregivers, demonstrations in public spaces, and occasional workshops for employees. Artists-in-Residence serve across inpatient medical units. Visual artists such as painters and sculptors are especially encouraged to apply. A stipend will be provided as well as orientation and supplies. Time commitment is 8 hours weekly to amount to 312 hours over a 9-month period. For an application or more information, please contact Carilion Clinic Foundation at *healingarts@carilionclinic.org* or 540-224-4548. Applications received by **February 21** will be considered for a current opportunity at Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital.

Moonshining the Arts: Reflections on Canvas

April 4–25, 2020 • Franklin County Public Library, Rocky Mount, Virginia

This year marks a milestone in American history — The Centennial of the passage of Prohibition and the start of an extraordinary era with lessons and legacies relevant to today. Prohibition encompassed greed and glitz, godliness and gluttony. It went from boom to bust, from the Roaring Twenties to the beginning of the Great Depression. It was the time of women's suffrage, the literary movements of the Lost Generation and Harlem Renaissance, changes in music, fashion and the arts, and debates over morality, individual freedom and the will of government.

Moonshining the Arts: Reflections on Canvas encourages artists to look back in history, to consider the influences of the Prohibition era on present day, and to interpret Franklin County's role in the American moonshining story. If you'd like to participate in this exhibit to help shine a light on this time and place in America's history, contact *carolsart1944@gmail.com* or visit *https://conta.cc/399nryP*.

Place — An Invitational Exhibit for the Blacksburg Regional Art Association

June 5 – August 1 • Perspective Gallery, Squires Student Center, Virginia Tech

This show features a focus on "place" and artists may interpret this theme through their mediums of choice. BRAA members may submit up to two entries. Art will be selected by an independent juror and artists will be notified by email on or before May 20. Entry deadline will be mid-May (exact date to be determined). Check next month's newsletter for more information!

C.O.D. — Curator Off Duty

January 2022 • Olin Hall Galleries, Roanoke College, Salem

This exhibition is open to all Virginia artists. The only curatorial criteria is that each submission must fit within one cubic foot. The exhibition aims to unite the Virginia visual arts community through diversity and inclusion. Olin Hall Galleries will host material studies and process oriented workshops until the opening of the exhibition in January 2022. At the closing of the exhibition, participating artists will have the option to sell their work to support a local cause. Artwork is now being accepted and may be dropped off any time during regular gallery hours. Each artist is invited to submit three individual works of art. Any medium is allowed and must arrive ready to hang or install. For further information, visit *www.roanoke.edu/curatoroffduty*.

The art featured in this month's nameplate is "Harvest Sunset" (left, photography, 22 x24") by Linda Correll. This and more of her work can be viewed at Main Street Inn in Blacksburg through mid-April.

Making BRAA Work —

Charlotte Chan, president
Alisa Colpitts, vice president
Jeanette Bowker, treasurer
Sue Hossack, secretary
Rafael Bedia, membership
Gerri Young, past president
Jeanette Bowker and **Nancy Norton**, gallery committee
Gerri Young, marketing and plein air chair
Charlotte Chan, workshop chair
Robi Sallee, luncheon/hospitality chair, theme show chair
Lois Stephens, newsletter chair
Gerri Young, Teri Hoover, Pat Bevan, newsletter editorial board
Sue Hossack, web administrator
Linda Correll, bylaws review chair
Betty Moore, high school workshops chair

http://www.blacksburgart.org/

Find us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/BlacksburgArt

Send Facebook news postings to:
Gerri Young at
younggerri@googlemail.com
or **Teri Hoover**
at *crystalirisphotos@gmail.com*

Twitter @BlacksburgArt1
Instagram: blacksburgartassn

Send news of receptions, exhibits, awards, photos, comments, or newsletter suggestions to Lois Stephens (*loisstephens56@gmail.com*) by the 15th of each month or July 1 for June/July and Dec. 1 for Nov./Dec. issues.