



Bedford Arts and Crafts Society Newsletter September 2023

Dear BACS friends,

The tropical weather notwithstanding, autumn is relentlessly marching in. As the season changes, I hope you'll find some interesting tidbits and opportunities in this latest BACS newsletter. Hope to see you on Bedford Day! Have a happy September.



Sylvia



Volunteers for Bedford Day

We need a few more volunteers to help with BACS's activities on Bedford Day, September 23. We're especially looking for members to sit at the Art Show for the 10:00–11:00 a.m. and the 12:00–2:00 p.m. time slots, as well as to assist with the art pickup beginning at 2:00 p.m. when the show ends.

We can always use more help with sales at the outdoor craft tables too, where we'll be offering jewelry, mini-paintings, silk scarfs, greeting cards, and more, all created by members. If you can join us at the craft tables for a 1-hour shift

between 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. on the 23rd, that would be super great!

Here's what you need to do to sign on to pitch in:

- E-mail booth@bacsma.org to help with the craft tables.

- E-mail artshow@bacsma.org to assist with hosting the art show on Bedford Day and/or helping at the art pickup.
- In your message, please indicate the time slot(s) when you will be available.

Thank you!

Bedford Day Regional Art Show & Sale

This year’s Regional Art Show will be *unjuried*. There will be no judging and no prizes—just a convenient opportunity to display and (if you wish) to sell your work. BACS members may submit up to three pieces of artwork or craftwork at no charge.



***Jazz #1* by Doris Smith from the 2021 show**

The exhibit categories are (1) watercolor painting; (2) oil/acrylic painting; (3) drawing and pastel; (4) three-dimensional (includes fiber art, sculpture, ceramics, stained glass, woodwork, metal jewelry, basketry); (5) photography (includes film and digital); and (6) other media (includes collage, batik, mixed media, printmaking of various types).

We have attached the art show entry form with this September newsletter. The form is also available on the BACS website at <http://www.bacsma.org/bedford-day/>. We’re hoping for a great showing of members’ beautiful art and crafts!

The art show will feature a silent auction of paintings donated by the family of the late **Evelyn Rice**, a dedicated BACS member for years. For more info on this generous gift, see page 11.

Scholarship Recipient’s Art on View on Bedford Day



Amelia Hill

The 2023 BACS scholarship was awarded to **Amelia Hill**, who will attend Mass College of Art in the fall. A sampling of Amelia’s work will be on display at our Regional Art Show on Bedford Day.

Though most of her current works are paintings in acrylics, Amelia also draws and does ceramics and collage. People are her favorite subjects, and her inspiration comes from being a political activist focusing on femininity.

Along with the honor of receiving the BACS scholarship, Amelia was also recognized with a first-place award for one of her paintings in the 2023 Congressional Art Awards. Thanks to scholarship chair **Kathy Morse** for coordinating with Amelia on her award and facilitating Amelia's contributions to the art show.

BACS Workshop Coming on October 14: Taking Great Pictures with Your Smartphone



The first BACS workshop of the new season is coming soon! **Randi Freundlich** will lead participants in part 2 of her popular spring workshop on taking photos using a smartphone. She will go beyond the basics to unlock the secrets of making the most of the amazing tools built into the phone camera—whether an iPhone or an android.

Randi's workshop will take place on Saturday, October 14, from 2:00 to

4:00 p.m. in the Upper Fellowship Hall at the First Church of Christ, Congregational, 25 Great Road, Bedford. The workshop is free for BACS members. Sign-up information will follow soon via e-mail.

Wednesday Crafting, 2:00-4:00 p.m. Weekly

Here's the Wednesday crafting schedule through September. Watch for updates in **Gail Terrell's** weekly e-mail blasts. Kindly remember to reserve your place at crafts@bacsma.org every time you plan to attend.

- September 13: Fabric-covered light-switch plates with **Sandi Rosenfeld**
- September 20: Felting with **Sandi Rosenfeld**
- September 27: Crepe paper flowers with **Sandi Rosenfeld**



We are awed by the imaginations and the beautiful creations of our crafters. And we're grateful for all their work in support of Bedford Day. Thanks especially to **Sandi, Eileen, Dawn, Sally, and Marita.**

Annemarie's Hat



Also on the topic of crafts, look at the adorable hat **Annemarie Creason** recently knitted. Annemarie (who also does gorgeous paintings) shared it with us at a recent artist support group meet-up and offered it to anyone who wanted it for a special little one in their life. Of course, we *all* wanted it—who wouldn't!? Ultimately the hat went to **Judi Babcock**, who will donate it to baby **Ayuen**, whose South Sudanese family is supported by Judi and other women in town.

Annemarie with her handiwork

Bedford Cultural District News

The Bedford Cultural District Partnership is promoting a special exhibit and sale of contemporary Ukrainian art, opening on September 23 at the Gallery@First Parish. See poster, *right*, and go to pages 9–10 for details.

The Partnership is also planning a holiday artisans' fair in December. Stay tuned for more information!



*Affirmation of Life
Art From Today's Ukraine*

Art Exhibit & Sale

The Gallery@First Parish on Bedford Common

September 23 to October 7

Fall Classes with Bedford Recreation

Registration is ongoing for fall Bedford Recreation Department courses. Browsing through the brochure reveals a tempting menu of art and craft courses that BACS is co-sponsoring with Bedford Recreation. Two of the workshops are being led by BACS members. You can sign up for these co-sponsored offerings:

- Watercolor Painting without a Brush with **Nan Rumpf**
- Leather Earring Workshop with **Sarah Scoville**
- Birthday Blends: A New Technique for Essential Oils with **Heidi Trockman** (BACS member)
- Polymer Clay: The Basics with **Eileen Larsen** (BACS member)



Sarah Scoville

Of course, beyond the co-sponsored opportunities, many other options are available for learning something new or revisiting an old favorite.

Sign up at https://issuu.com/bedfordrecreation/docs/fall_adult_brochure_2023_final or by calling (781) 275-1392 Monday through Friday during business hours. If you register for any of the co-sponsored classes or workshops, BACS will benefit by receiving a portion of the enrollment fee.

Thanks to BACS classes chair **Heidi Trockman** for working with **Raeann Gembis** at Bedford Rec to set up the exciting co-sponsored classes and workshops.

Other Opportunities

Gel Printing & Collage Workshop at the Purple Pencil on September 13, 20, 27



BACS member **Namrata Siviya** is pleased to announce a workshop, Gel Printing and Collage Making, to be taught by BACS member **Taline Saatjian** at Namrata's studio, The Purple Pencil, 99 Great Road, Bedford. Taline is well known for her beautifully designed gel prints (see examples, *left*) with which she creates stunning collages.

Taline will lead students through her process during this workshop, which will be held on three consecutive Wednesdays—September 13, 20, and 27—from 6:15 to 8:15 p.m. The cost is \$180 and includes materials. For more information go to <https://www.purplepencil.art/event-details-registration/gel-printing-and-collage-making>

Members' Plein Air Art Day with Concord Art on September 21

Concord Art is inviting members to join painter **Charles Shurcliff** on Thursday, September 21, for a day of creating artwork en plein air. This event is for members looking to enjoy camaraderie in the outdoors. No instruction will be provided—it's just a day to paint and drink in the fall air. All media are welcome.

The group will meet outside the Buttrick House (*right*) at 231 Liberty Street in Concord at 10:00 a.m. on the 21st. Participants should bring their own easel and supplies.



Please register in advance by clicking on the “Tickets” box here: <https://concordart.org/event-pods/free-member-event-plein-air-art-day-2/>

Artist Demos at Concord Art

Concord Art members and nonmembers are welcome to attend one or more of a series of artist demos on select Wednesday mornings this fall. The demos include “Woodprints on the Waterfront,” “Imagining My Gardens,” “Process, Practice, and Non-Silver Photographic Thinking,” and more. Members attend at no charge; nonmembers pay a small fee. For further information, check out the offerings tagged “Artist Demos” here: <https://concordart.org/events/>



Art by Tony Andrade, presenter for “Imagining My Gardens”

Cape Ann “Quick Draw” Plein Air on October 9

Cape Ann Plein Air is sponsoring a “Quick Draw” opportunity on Monday, October 9, 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. The location will be Maritime Gloucester, 23 Harbor Loop, Gloucester. At this rain-or-shine plein air event,



painters will have two hours to complete their work, after which it will be hung on easels for visitors to enjoy and to purchase. All art created will be judged and then made available for sale.

\$2,000 in prizes will be awarded to the top painters. Juried and nonjuried artists will be judged separately.

Thanks to **Namrata Siviya** for the heads-up about this event. Namrata will be participating and hopes to have company from other BACS members! You will find additional information at this link: <https://www.capeannpleinair.org/events/quickdraw2023>

BACS Members' Art on Exhibit

“Four Artists Present” at the Parish Center for the Arts in Westford Opening October 8

BACS members **Dana Holley, Sylvia Mallory, Laura Wallace, and Margo Zelermyer** are looking forward to their group show, “Four Artists Present,” coming this

Four Artists Present
An Exhibition of Paintings/Collage/Batik



Dana Holley, Painting
Laura Wallace, Batik
Margo Zelermyer, Painting
Sylvia Mallory, Painting/Collage

Oct. 8 – Oct. 29, 2023

Parish Center for the Arts
10 Lincoln St., Westford, MA
Gallery open Sundays, noon-2pm
Opening Reception Sunday Oct. 8, noon-3pm
4.friends.art@gmail.com

October. The exhibit will run from October 8 through October 29 at the Parish Center for the Arts on 10 Lincoln St., Westford, MA.



Sylvia, Laura, Margo, & Dana

A reception will take place at the gallery on Sunday, October 8, noon–3:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served. Additional information is forthcoming at the Parish Center website, <https://parisharts.square.site/>

“Pairings” at Gallery Twist September 22–October 15

Batiks by BACS member **Laura Wallace** will be included in Gallery Twist’s upcoming exhibit and sale, “Pairings,” which will open on September 22. There will be a gallery celebration on Saturday, September 23, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. All are welcome to get an early look at what promises to be another great Twist show! Gallery Twist, 1963 Mass. Avenue, Lexington; <https://www.gallerytwist.com/>



Two Sisters, batik by Laura Wallace from the Gallery Twist show

Current & Upcoming Exhibits to See

“Along the Way (A Journey)” at the Grace Chapel Art Gallery Opening September 16

The first show of the Grace Chapel Art Gallery’s new season opens on September 16. “Along the Way (A Journey)” will run until October 28. The show will feature works touching on themes of travel, journeys, experience, thought, reflection, occurrences, encounters, and vistas. The gallery will be open for viewing on Sundays from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and at other occasional times. Grace Chapel, 59 Worthen Rd., Lexington; <https://www.grace.org/artgallery/>

“Dialogue with Nature” at the Bedford Free Public Library through November 8



Works by Lexington-based artist **Sirarpi Heghinian Walzer** are the focus of the exciting new show at the Bedford library. Walzer’s works are poetic abstractions that spring from meditations on nature and from memories that are distilled into single dramatic moments. Her artwork has received multiple awards and has been exhibited in galleries throughout Europe and the United States. “Dialogue with Nature” will run until November 8. Bedford Free Public Library, Mudge Way, Bedford; details are forthcoming at <https://www.bedfordlibrary.net/events/art-exhibits/>

Dialogue with Nature 6 by Sirarpi Walzer from the Bedford library show

“Mindscapes: Paintings and Sculptures” at the Gleason Public Library opening September 23 and continuing through January 6

Join Art at the Gleason for an evening reception on Friday, September 29, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in celebration of a new show: “Mindscapes: Paintings by **Katherine Downey Miller** and Sculptures by **Anna Kristina Goransson.**” The two artists’ works will be on display throughout the library from September 23 to January 6, 2024. Wine, refreshments, and live music will complement the gallery viewing on the evening of the reception. Admission fee will be \$10; RSVP requested by September 25, but walk-ins are welcome. Gleason Public Library, 22 Bedford Road, Carlisle; <https://gleasonlibrary.org/what-we-offer/art-at-the-gleason/>

“Edvard Munch: Trembling Earth” at the Clark Art Institute through October 15

“Edvard Munch: Trembling Earth” is the first exhibition in the United States to consider how the noted Norwegian artist **Edvard Munch** (1863–1944) employed nature to convey meaning in his art. The exhibit features over 80 works from international collections. The Clark Art Institute, 225 South St., Williamstown, MA; <https://www.clarkart.edu/microsites/munch/exhibition-overview/about-the-exhibition>

“Edward Hopper and Cape Ann: Illuminating an American Landscape” at the Cape Ann Museum through October 16

Edward Hopper’s early works were painted during a number of visits to Cape Ann at the start of his fame. This exhibition is the first dedicated to Hopper’s formative development on the cape as an artist and marks a century since he and his future wife, Josephine “Jo” Nivison, visited Gloucester. Cape Ann Museum, 13 Poplar St. Gloucester, MA;

<https://home.capeannmuseum.org/edward-hopper/>



***The Mansard Roof by Edward Hopper
from the Cape Ann Museum show***

Upcoming Exhibit: 24th Annual Roddy Exhibition at Concord Art, opening September 14 and continuing through October 22

The Frances N. Roddy Open Competition is an annual exhibition and is one of Concord Art’s most exciting and competitive shows. This year’s Roddy will be on view at Concord Art beginning September 14. A reception and award ceremony will take place on Thursday, September 14, 5:30 p.m. Concord Center for the Visual Arts, 37 Lexington Rd., Concord, MA; <https://concordart.org/exhibition/24th-annual-frances-n-roddy-exhibition/>

Upcoming Exhibit: “Affirmation of Life: Art from Today’s Ukraine” at the Gallery@First Parish, opening September 23 and continuing through October 7

The First Parish Church will host “Affirmation of Life: Art from Today’s Ukraine,” which will be on view at the Gallery@First Parish from September 23 through October 7. This very special exhibit offers a **rare chance** to see contemporary art from Ukraine. The impulse driving this

show is to share the beauty, life, and hope of the Ukrainian people and to raise money to send to Ukraine for humanitarian purposes, as well as to support the country's arts community.



The exhibition has the support of the Bedford Cultural District Partnership, the First Parish Church, and the Ukrainian Cultural Initiative.

All proceeds will go to Mriya (<https://mriya-ua.org>), a nonprofit organization created by local Ukrainians to provide aid to Ukraine and its artists. More info at <https://ukrainian-cultural-initiative.com/en>

Painting by Nadija Martinenko, oil on canvas, coming to the Gallery@First Parish show

New BACS Yearbook Is Published

We thank BACS yearbook chair **Barb Purchia** for the timely publication of the 2023–2024 BACS yearbook, which you will receive soon (if it hasn't already landed in your mailbox). In addition to the print version, a handy digital version will be available. Watch for info on the latter in an upcoming BACS blast. Thanks as well to **Mary Jane St. Amour**, who mailed the hard copies with speed and efficiency.

New BACS Membership Chair

We are thrilled that **Annemarie Creason** has agreed to serve as our membership chair. Annemarie has taken the helm from **Gloria Tsai**, who did a wonderful job of managing the membership renewals and the new member applications over the past few months, setting up some smart new systems along the way. Serving alongside Annemarie is **Mary Jane St. Amour**, who has been our rock for membership responsibilities over many terms. Best wishes and congratulations to all!

In Gratitude

We are tremendously grateful to **Bill Miller** for his generous donation of art and craft supplies that had belonged to his wife **Maria**. Bill and Maria were active BACS members. Bill worked mainly in photography, and Maria enjoyed everything from pastels to watercolors to sewing.

Congratulations to the many BACS members who are now enjoying these materials. Bill is delighted that Maria's supplies are keeping the BACS creativity vibe alive and well.



We also warmly thank the family of our late member **Evelyn Rice** for donating three watercolor paintings Evelyn owned. These works are by **Margrit Mason**, **Bea Falabella**, and **Ruth Wynn**. They will be offered to bidders in a silent auction to be held at our Regional Art Show on Bedford Day. Evelyn loved art and craft of all kinds and served as BACS president and on the board for many years. We remember her fondly.

Sunflowers by Margrit Mason will be part of our silent auction.

In Memoriam

We were saddened to hear of the passing of **Harold Ward**, a former BACS member and the spouse of the late **Bobbi Ward**, also a BACS member, who predeceased Harold. Harold enjoyed photography, and Bobbi was an expert quiltmaker. They are missed by their many BACS friends.



BACS Facebook Page



Our Facebook page provides a forum for showcasing members' work and highlighting opportunities of all kinds. Above all, the objective is to foster a sense of community as we encourage and support one another in our artistic and crafting projects. Check out our page (Bedford Arts and Crafts Society) here:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/5120028704785100>

Artist Support Group

The artist support group is an informal meeting of BACS members. We show our artwork-in-progress, ask for suggestions, and share information about resources, materials, and opportunities. And sometimes we do art together in real time!



See photo for the refreshments phase of a recent artist support group gathering during which we painted en plein air. Thanks to **Taline Saatjian** for hosting us and treating us to a delicious Lebanese breakfast!

Yvonne, Taline, Karen, Sylvia, Judi, and Doris; photo by Laura

The next meeting of the artist support group will take place on Wednesday, September 20, at the home of **Sylvia Mallory**. All are welcome. For questions, e-mail **Judi Babcock** anytime at judibabcock@gmail.com.

