



## Bedford Arts and Crafts Society Newsletter May 2021

Dear BACS members,

It seems amazing that another BACS season is about to end. Looking at the big picture, we can say that crafting is going strong, that we've spread joy each month at our Saturday socials, and that we've offered a fantastic slate of programs. From painting demos to a jewelry-crafting course to a collage-making workshop to an afternoon of meditative drawing, our programs have been a hit. We've attracted an impressive audience not only from BACS membership but also from far beyond.

*Photo from our January Zoom demo:  
Peter Bain painting in the  
background using his reference photo*



Thanks to all the BACS members who contributed ideas for this year's programs. We'd like to reach out now to ask for your best suggestions for workshops and demos for NEXT year. Provide as many specifics as you can, including tips on qualified presenters. If you have a particular talent or skill you would love to share, maybe those presenters would include you!

**So, by June 1, please e-mail your ideas for next year's demos and workshops to me at [slmal@hotmail.com](mailto:slmal@hotmail.com).** Let's do our part to keep arts and crafts alive and well in Bedford!

Sylvia

### **Executive Officers for 2021–2022: Your Vote Needed**

We're pleased to announce the following slate of executive officers for next year:

- **Co-presidents: Judi Babcock and Taline Saatjian**
- **Vice president: Heidi Trockman**
- **Secretary: Susan Schwartz**
- **Treasurer: Dawn Warrington**

Your vote is important, and we ask that you take part. Watch for information about the ways you can cast your vote. We expect to share the details in an upcoming weekly e-mail blast. Thank you!

## **Board Meeting News and Requests**

The BACS board will meet one more time before taking a summer break. We'll gather at 8:45 a.m. on Thursday, June 3, to tie up a few remaining loose ends for the year.

Board members are requested to submit their final expense reports to **Dawn Warrington** before June 1 and to send her their estimated budgetary needs for 2021–2022 by that same date. Thank you.

## **Renew Your BACS Membership by May 31!**



We hope you will renew your BACS membership without delay. Now more than ever, your support of our mission, programs, annual scholarship, and community service is crucially important.

Please mail your check (made out to BACS) and your renewal application to Membership chair **Taline Saatjian** at BACS, P.O. Box 604, Bedford, MA 01730. Dues are \$30 for an individual; \$35 for a family (two members of an immediate family).

Please submit a membership renewal form with your check; one is attached to the e-mail delivering this newsletter. The form is also available under “Forms for download” in the Member Page link of our website, [bacsma.org/member-page/](https://bacsma.org/member-page/). The password you'll need for the latter is “Bedford.” On the form, be sure that your contact information and your artistic and volunteer interests are up-to-date.

To continue enjoying your BACS activities and friendships, receiving the newsletter, and having your name published in the yearbook, please renew by **May 31**. Thank you!



## Annual Spring Luncheon on June 5: Save the Date

On Saturday, June 5, starting at 12:00 noon, we will be celebrating another year of the fun and friendships we've enjoyed as BACS members. **Taline Saatjian** has graciously offered us the use of her backyard, 16 Bertha Circle, Billerica. The luncheon will be a bring-your-own/brown-bag event. So, grab a folding chair, pack your sandwiches and cookies, include something to drink, and let's party! Note: The rain date for this event is Sunday, June 6.

## Zoom Workshop for May: Finding Shape and Color: Collage with Nancy Gruskin

Time is running out to sign up for the paper collage workshop on May 18, 1:00–3:00 p.m., with **Nancy Gruskin**. Simple materials and basic shapes will be the ingredients for building a unique scene. Participants will provide their own materials: scissors, glue, materials to collage with, and a substrate (backing material) onto which to glue the pieces. The workshop is free to everyone—BACS members and nonmembers alike—and will be presented via Zoom.



*Say Hello, Wave Goodbye by Nancy Gruskin*

To receive the Zoom link for Nancy's workshop, you will need to RSVP by Tuesday, May 11, to [workshop@bacsma.org](mailto:workshop@bacsma.org).

## Wednesday Crafting

Wednesday afternoon crafting continues each week, 2:00-4:00 p.m., via Zoom. Join us for a fab project or just for company, convo, and a cuppa. Here's the agenda for the coming weeks:



- May 12 - Cards for Seniors - **Sandi Rosenfeld** and **Sally Rubin**
- May 19 - Decoupage Rocks - **Marita Hartshorn** and **Nancy Allen**
- May 26 - Quilting and Zentangle Patterns - **Phyllis Maddox**
- June 2 - Collage Self-Portrait – **Sylvia Mallory**

If you have questions or suggestions regarding crafting, simply send an e-mail to [crafts@bacsma.org](mailto:crafts@bacsma.org). New project ideas are always welcome.

## Call for Artists: The Bedford Peace Poles Project

The Bedford Select Board has approved **Chris Wojnar**'s public art proposal for four peace poles to be designed and painted by local artists. Traditional peace poles were placed in locations worldwide to promote peace. Now the peace pole has evolved to become an artistic expression of inspiration, hope, and beauty. Dovetailing with the impending designation of a cultural district in the heart of town, the Bedford peace poles will uplift, inspire, and provide hope and encouragement as we emerge from a difficult year.

To get a visual sense of a peace pole, see the photo below, which shows the peace pole Chris designed and painted last year.

Chris is inviting artists to submit a design proposal and hoping that many BACS members will rise to the occasion! From the submitted proposals, a selection committee will choose the four finalists. The town will provide a 4.5' 4x4 cedar post, a copper cap, and installation services. Each pole will have a sign naming the artist and describing the vision that inspired the piece. Artists will supply their own acrylic paint, and the finished posts will be sealed with a spray acrylic sealer. The poles will stand at the designated locations for as long as they remain in good condition, perhaps 2–3 years.



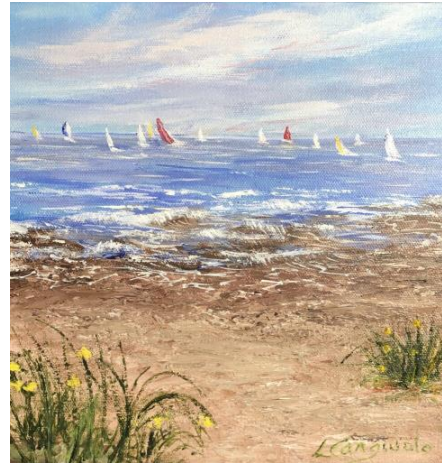
Artists should submit their design proposal, including a short description of their vision and a sketch of their design, by June 7 and should commit to completing their project by July 12. A peace pole planting ceremony will take place in the mid- to late summer.

Contact Chris if you have any questions:  
[chris@christinewojnar.com](mailto:chris@christinewojnar.com) or 781-275-0698.

*Peace Pole designed and constructed by Chris Wojnar.  
[Chris Wojnar (c) 2020, all rights reserved.]*

## Members' Artwork on Exhibit

Linda Cargiuolo and Sylvia Mallory had paintings in Fusion Art's "Artist's Choice" juried exhibition in April, and Linda had two paintings accepted in the current show, "Waterscapes." A batik by Laura Wallace will be featured in Gallery Twist's upcoming show "Looking Up," which will be opening soon.



*Regatta Day by Linda Cargiuolo*

## Local Exhibit Opportunity

The town's Youth and Family Services Department is looking for original artwork to enliven its wall space and would like the display to be a rotating exhibit. BACS members who wish to exhibit should e-mail **Judi Babcock** at [judibabcock@gmail.com](mailto:judibabcock@gmail.com). Judi will keep a running list of interested members and will let folks know when they can bring their pieces in.

## Class Opportunities

### *Crinkled Paper Workshop for Watercolorists at Bedford Rec*



*Wall Flowers by Nan Rumpf*

Bedford Recreation's workshop on "Crinkled Paper Technique for Watercolorists" is approaching fast. In this virtual (Zoom) class, join **Nan Rumpf** in exploring the use of watercolors on a special Asian paper with sizing. The technique is excellent for painting rocks, trees, flowers, landscapes, and more. This workshop will take place on Thursday, May 13, 12:30-4:30 p.m., and is co-sponsored by BACS. The cost is \$65. To sign up, you can phone 781-275-1392 or go to [bedfordrecreation.org](http://bedfordrecreation.org).

### *Drawing and Painting at Chez Claire Art School*

Artist **Claire Gagnon** is offering a plein air drawing class on Fridays, 5/7 to 6/18, 5:00–7:30 p.m. After being indoors for the winter, this class may be just what you need. Students will draw Lowell cityscapes, parks, and canals using different techniques. Claire is also teaching an-

studio painting atelier from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. on Wednesdays, 6/2 to 6/23, for adult intermediate and advanced students. For details visit [www.chezclaireartschool.com](http://www.chezclaireartschool.com).

### **Life Drawing at the Newburyport Art Association**



This spring, you might consider spending those lingering hours of Wednesday evening light with a pencil (or a pastel or pen and ink) and fantastic live models. Facilitated by **Peter Kimmins**, the Newburyport Art Association's spring edition life-drawing class gathers on Zoom every Wednesday from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. This class is open to NAA members and nonmembers aged 18+, with discounts for monthly bundles and students/seniors. For additional information, go to this link:

[https://form.jotform.com/203625596180155?fbclid=IwAR0rA0UwHhOEJ9nrUa3QJ5Cx7zFZU\\_8odfw32hY\\_hGEsdY\\_NKIVgNVUjsMY](https://form.jotform.com/203625596180155?fbclid=IwAR0rA0UwHhOEJ9nrUa3QJ5Cx7zFZU_8odfw32hY_hGEsdY_NKIVgNVUjsMY)

## **Local Exhibit Opportunities**

### **Arts League of Lowell (ALL): "Fabric of the Imagination 2021"**

ALL is sponsoring a juried exhibition of 3D fiber-based work (or work referencing fiber), either wall-hung (relief) or self-standing. Entry is open to artists working in any 3D medium, ALL members as well as nonmembers. Artists may enter up to three works in any 3D medium.



The show will run from July 2 through August 29. The application deadline is Saturday, June 19, 2021.

The online application for "Fabric of the Imagination 2021" is available now. For more information, go to:

[https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ALL-Gallery---Call-for-Entry---Fabrication-of-the-Imagination-2021.html?soid=1134065119322&aid=ljqW\\_asvKsg](https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ALL-Gallery---Call-for-Entry---Fabrication-of-the-Imagination-2021.html?soid=1134065119322&aid=ljqW_asvKsg)

***Nancy Lessard Downing, Colorful Steps; rope, yarn, weaving***

## **Rockport Art Association & Museum's Paint-Out Event, "Quick Creations"**

To kick off the Rockport Art Association & Museum's 100th anniversary year, RAA&M is holding "Quick Creations," its first-ever paint-out event. Prizes and the opportunity to display and sell one's work are all included in this event.



The show seeks to celebrate the relationship between Cape Ann and the arts by inviting artists of every skill set, technique, and approach to capture the scenic splendors of Cape Ann on the painted canvas. Some details:

- Exhibit dates: May 29–June 2, 2021, Hibbard and Maddocks Galleries
- Entry fee: \$15 per person / Under 21 years of age: Free sponsorship
- Drop off artwork at the RAA&M on Saturday, May 29, 2021, before 2:30 p.m.

For more information, go to <https://www.rockportartasn.org/quick-creations>.

## **Stained Glass Studio Space for Rent in Bedford**

Are you a stained glass artist who needs studio space and wants to join a collaborative group of like-minded glass artists? If so, there's room for you in The Glass Cooperative, a stained glass studio conveniently located on Loomis Street at Depot Park in Bedford. The community of artists who gather there expand their craft through shared knowledge, resources, expertise, and support. The studio is a place to have fun and to celebrate being an artist.



*A Day at the Beach by Barb Purchia*

Yearly rental includes membership in the 501 c (7) organization, shared bench/workspace, glass storage, and grinder space, as well as shared light table. The studio is secure and well ventilated; has a private bathroom, AC, and heat; and is accessible 7 days a week. Parking is available at the front entrance. Members follow Massachusetts and CDC COVID-19 guidelines.

If you are interested in taking lessons, the group also provides one-on-one instruction.

For details on membership and classes, visit [www.glasscoop.com](http://www.glasscoop.com).

If you are interested in renting space or taking classes, please contact **Barbara Purchia** at [bsrpurchia@aol.com](mailto:bsrpurchia@aol.com) or 781-275-2464.



*Pandora's Box by Priti Lathia*

## **A Cool Video for Journal Practitioners**

The Chelmsford Art Society recently hosted **Priti Lathia** in a demo of her wonderful art journaling. To enjoy this informative and delightful presentation—"Techniques to Start a Daily Journal Practice to Generate New Ideas for Your Art"—visit

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IPSI1uwvbMc&ab\\_channel=ChelmsfordArts](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IPSI1uwvbMc&ab_channel=ChelmsfordArts)

## **Sell Your Artwork and Crafts on the BACS Website**

The BACS website's Gallery page is the go-to place to display examples of your artwork and/or crafts. Visit the site at [bacsma.org/gallery/](http://bacsma.org/gallery/) to take a tour. **NOTE:** For members who are interested in selling their work, we are adding the price of each piece, and we plan to advertise the page to the larger community. Contact **Laura Wallace** at [laura.b.wallace@gmail.com](mailto:laura.b.wallace@gmail.com) if you would like to showcase your work on our site. For paintings sold via the website, members will pay the usual 20% commission to BACS.

Also keep in mind that if you have had the same pieces on view on the Gallery page for a while, it might be time to freshen them with new work!



*Cards by KwiYoung Choi as shown in the online BACS Gallery*

## **Artist Support Group**

The artist support group meets via Zoom every other Wednesday. For questions, contact **Judi Babcock** at [judibabcock@gmail.com](mailto:judibabcock@gmail.com).



Sign on via the same link as is used for all regularly occurring BACS Zoom sessions:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81678201720?pwd=a28rZ0k5eVZKakxSRTNxQWR1NkRBZz09>

Meeting ID: 816 7820 1720

Passcode: 571744

At the May 5 meeting at Judi's house, **Taline Saatjian** demonstrated her expert techniques for printmaking with her gel printing plate. Four BACS members watched in person, and two more joined via Zoom. The demo was enjoyed by all. Check out the photos!



Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, May 19, at Taline's house, 16 Bertha Circle, Billerica. We plan to begin a little earlier than usual, at 9:30 a.m. All BACS members are welcome.

## In Memoriam



We were saddened to hear news of the passing of our dear friend **Eleanor Stanley** on April 27. As recollected in *The Bedford Citizen*, “Eleanor had a passion for painting, actively participating in the Bedford Arts and Crafts program while serving as treasurer. Building on this passion, she and her husband started a small business selling handcrafted woodworking items at various craft fairs throughout the area.” This lovely lady will be missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing her.

## Color Magic for May

“If one says ‘red’—the name of a color—and there are 50 people listening, it can be expected that there will be 50 reds in their minds. And one can be sure that all these reds will be very different.”

*--Josef Albers, from his book **Interaction of Color***

Red is the color with the longest wavelength in the visible light spectrum. Red is for ambulances and fire trucks, strawberries and radishes. It’s the traditional color of barns and of the old English phone booths. And much more.

This past winter, the artists of Washington (D.C.) Printmakers Gallery explored this extraordinary color in a special exhibit by members.

You can still see this fantastic show at this link:

<https://www.washingtonprintmakers.com/exhibits-list/red-winter-2021>

Enjoy!

