



Bedford Arts and Crafts Society Newsletter April 2023

Dear BACS friends,

Welcome, April, welcome spring! I love this quote by the late columnist Doug Larson: "Spring is when you feel like whistling even with a shoe full of slush." Wishing you many occasions to whistle as beautiful spring takes hold.

Given how April has begun, though, maybe we can plan more on sleek, strappy sandals than shoefuls of slush. . . .

Whatever the weather, here's the latest BACS news. Enjoy!

Sylvia



Request for April/May Expenses

Committee chairs: Please send treasurer **Dawn Warrington** your projected expenses for April/May as soon as possible. Also, for our next fiscal year, please send her your projected budget by May 1. Thanks from Dawn.

Slate of Elected Officers for 2023–2024

The slate of elected officers for the coming new fiscal year is:

- **Laura Wallace**, President
- **Gail Terrell**, Vice President
- **Yvonne Sandell**, Secretary
- **Annemarie Creason** or **Dawn Warrington**, Treasurer (see next page)

There are two candidates for treasurer: **Dawn Warrington** and **Annemarie Creason**. There will be an opportunity for attendees at the spring luncheon to cast a ballot vote for this position, and the complete slate of new officers will be announced by e-mail shortly thereafter.

We thank the hardworking Nominating Committee for their work on this slate: **Laura Wallace**, chair; **Heidi Trockman**; and **Eileen Larsen**.

New Committee Chairs

We have several new committee chairs who, as such, have become members of the BACS board. We're delighted to share news of the following appointments. Congrats to all!

- Bedford Day Craft Table chair: **Eileen Larsen**
- Historian: **Stephanie Davidson**
- Membership chair: **Gloria Tsai**
- Website adviser/co-chair: **Paula Gilarde**

Website Improvements in Progress

The BACS website—www.bacsm.org—will be undergoing changes in look, feel, and functionality, the aim being an updated and more streamlined presentation. Web co-chair **Paula Gilarde** is experimenting with different website themes. The gallery page will better display our members' art and crafts. The revamped website will help give BACS coordinated branding. We will keep you posted on the rollout of the upgraded site.

BACS Scholarship Update

Scholarship chair **Maureen Reyling** expects to receive word of our 2023 scholarship recipient soon. The \$1000 award will be presented at the Citizens' Scholarship Fund ceremony in late May. (For those new to BACS: We give an annual scholarship to a graduating Bedford High student who will pursue a degree in art or an art-related field.)

Maureen with 2022 scholarship recipient Elise Harfield, standing on Elise's asphalt art outside the library



BACS Spring Luncheon

Our spring luncheon is coming soon. Yes! We will be celebrating the conclusion of another successful and fun BACS year on Saturday, June 3, at Judi Babcock's home, 16 Sweeney Ridge Road, Bedford. Watch for a cool handcrafted invitation in your home mailbox by the end of this month.

Social chair **Eileen Larsen** is looking for members to help with planning. Contact Eileen at egavinlarsen@gmail.com if you can assist.



April BACS Workshop: Needle-Felted Wool Painting of a Spring Garden with Elizabeth Stubbs

One vacancy remains for **Elizabeth Stubbs'** workshop on needle-felting a spring garden scene. To get in under the wire, send an e-mail to RSVP@bacsma.org.



For those who have signed up, the location is the Vestry Room at the First Church of Christ, Congregational, 25 Great Road. The date/time is Saturday, April 15, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Felted Flowers (detail) by Elizabeth Stubbs (This is an example of Elizabeth's 3-D flowers—different from the workshop project but sooo springlike!)

This workshop is free for BACS members, and nonmembers' admission is \$10. All participants pay a \$25 materials fee (\$30 for those who wish to keep the felting tools) to Elizabeth. This program is sponsored in part by a grant from the Bedford Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.



May Preview: Smartphone Photography with Randi Freundlich

Mark your calendar for another fab BACS workshop next month: "Smartphone Photography: You Can Take Great Photos with Your Smartphone." Photographer Randi Freundlich will offer her tips on snapping engaging photos with your phone. The workshop will take place on Saturday, May 20, 2:00–4:00 p.m., in the



Randi Freundlich

Vestry Room at the First Church of Christ, Congregational, with some time spent outdoors as well. Details and registration information will follow via e-mail later this month. This program is



sponsored in part by a grant from the Bedford Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

Spring Card Swap

The spring card swap is back by popular demand! If you would like to participate by designing an original card to send to a designated BACS member, please e-mail project leader **Kathy Morse** at damorses@verizon.net by April 15. Kathy will send you the name of your card recipient by April 20, and you should plan to mail your card before or by May 1. It's fun and creative, so sign up!



Easels Needed

Namrata Siviya is looking for some compact easels for her studio, The Purple Pencil. Are you downsizing and wanting to give some old easels a new life? Please contact Namrata if you can help: namrata@purplepencil.art

Bedford Cultural District News

The Bedford Cultural District Partnership (BCDP) may be holding an early summer outdoor celebration in June. If the event moves forward, the BACS board voted for BACS to have tables there with salable items and hands-on activities for kids and adults. Other BCDP projects in the pipeline include the development of an art walk on the narrow-gauge rail trail and the introduction of a coffeehouse series. Stay tuned for updates.

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

Note Important Changes

Crafters, please note that going forward, you will be required to send an RSVP to crafts@bacsm.org for ALL Wednesday sessions you wish to attend. Otherwise, it's impossible to ensure that there are sufficient supplies for everyone. So, please make sure that you sign up,



or there may not be enough materials for you to take part. Avoid an epic bummer like that by taking a moment to register!

Also note that, effective immediately, Wednesday crafting will take place in the COA space on the first floor—either the general-purpose area near the front desk or the Computer Room. If you are presenting on a given Wednesday and need to set up, plan to do so in one of these locations, not in the Flint Room. That said, it's always good to check with the front desk.



THANKS for your attention to the foregoing important matters!!

Here's the Wednesday crafting schedule for April. Check your e-mail for updates via **Gail Terrell's** informative weekly blasts.

- **April 12:** Create greeting cards from April 5's multimedia painting. This activity is open only to those who participated on April 5 due to the nature of the process.
- **April 19:** Sea glass crafting with **Dawn Warrington**
- **April 26:** Silk scarf crafting with **Dawn Warrington**



Speaking of Crafting, Check Out the Graphics Fairy



The Graphics Fairy is a rich and fun website for crafters. The site offers nearly 7,000 free vintage images, digital graphics, and vintage-style craft clip art for a variety of arts and crafts. A bonus: The Graphics Fairy posts imaginative craft projects and DIY tutorials too. What's not to like?! For further information and to check out some of the unique images and projects available from this bountiful resource, visit <https://thegraphicsfairy.com/>.

Vintage birthday image from an antique greeting card from the Graphics Fairy website



BACS Members' Work on Exhibit

Biennial Art Show at the Bedford Free Public Library.

Kudos to the BACS members who have artwork on exhibit in the Bedford Library's Biennial Community Art Show: **Judy Babcock, Florence Como, Maria Green, Brian Guay, Ellen Hurley, Kati Oates, Taline Saatjian, Namrate Siviya, Doris Smith, Gail Terrell, and Laura Wallace.** The exhibit continues until May 10. For further information, go to

[https://www.bedfordlibrary.net/events/art-exhibits/.](https://www.bedfordlibrary.net/events/art-exhibits/)

Summer Tanager Family; art quilt by Gail Terrell from the library show

"Close Up" at the Grace Chapel Art Gallery. The following BACS members have artwork hanging in the current "Close Up" show at Grace Chapel, which runs until April 22: **Judi Babcock, Florence Como, Sylvia Mallory, Yvonne Sandell, Laura Wallace, Margo Zelermyer, and Mark Zelermyer.** For more information, visit [https://www.grace.org/artgallery/.](https://www.grace.org/artgallery/)



Facets by Yvonne Sandell from the Grace Chapel show

"Stillness—A Still Life" at the Lyme [CT] Art Association. *Cherry Blossoms and Ginger Jar*, a painting by **Ellen Hurley**, was juried into the "Stillness—A Still Life" exhibition at the Lyme Art Association in Old Lyme, CT. The still life show is part of An Exhibition in Four Acts . . . one of the "acts" being still life. The exhibition continues through April 27. More info may be found at <https://lymeartassociation.org/four-acts-2023/>



Cherry Blossoms and Ginger Jar by Ellen Hurley from the Lyme show

Brush Associates Artists' Exhibit at the Brush Art Gallery and Studios. Linda Cargiuolo has artwork on display in the Brush Gallery's exhibit of associate artists. The show continues until May 28. Find more information here: <https://www.thebrush.org/>

Classes at Bedford Recreation

The Bedford Recreation Department is co-sponsoring four spring classes with BACS. The Gel Print Collage Workshop offered by **Taline Saatjian** is full, but openings remain for the other classes, which all occur in May and are as follows. All three of these teachers have conducted classes and/or demos and workshops for BACS previously, and we know they are all terrific!

Tissue Paper & Watercolor Texture with Nan Rumpf

Monday 5/8, 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m., & Tuesday 5/9, 9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Cost: \$70

Watercolor Journeys: Organic and Plants with Susan McFarlane

Thursdays 5/11–5/25 (3 weeks), 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Cost: \$90

Floral Workshop with Cindy Mattson

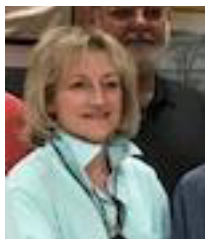
Saturday 5/13, 6:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m.

Cost: \$50

You can register online at this link: <https://www.bedfordma.gov/231/Recreation>. Or you may call (781) 275-1392 during business hours to enroll. Support BACS by taking one or more of these fun co-sponsored classes!

Other Classes

Here are some other classes to consider.



BACS member **Kathy DeFlice-Secor** will be teaching an all-levels class at Concord Art called the Unique Image: Drawing and Painting with Acrylics. This six-week class meets on Thursday afternoons, April 13–May 1. The class encourages students to explore their imagination and strengthen their mark making. Whether the student's work is abstract or representational, using an intuitive hand while responding to materials will bring out spontaneity and a different way to approach the work. This class will include working on a combination of surfaces to widen and enhance the variety of each student's work. More info: <https://concordart.org/class/in-person-the-unique-image-drawing-painting-with-acrylics/>

Namata Siviya, also a BACS member, teaches a variety of painting and drawing classes and workshops at her Bedford studio, the Purple Pencil. In addition, Namrata gives private lessons. You can check out her current offerings at <https://www.purplepencil.art/workshops-and-classes>.



Taline Saatjian also leads workshops. Our May newsletter will list updated offerings by our talented friend.

Calls for Art



“Wild: A Spring Awakening” at the Belmont Gallery of Art; submission deadline: April 10

Shake off winter’s slumber and celebrate spring by entering work in the Belmont Gallery of Art’s next show, “Wild: A Spring Awakening.” The gallery is seeking art that captures plants, flowers, and humans’ wild neighbors emerging into spring. Both abstract and representational art are welcome in a wide

variety of media. Up to three submissions per artist are allowed. The show will run from May 11 to June 25. The submission deadline is April 10. For additional information:

<https://virtualbga.org/call-for-art>

Newburyport Art Association 2023 NAA Regional Juried Show; submission deadline: April 27

Consider entering your work in NAA's largest annual juried exhibition, accepting all media from both NAA members and nonmembers. Exhibition dates: May 26 through June 25. The submission deadline is April 27. You can find additional information at this link:

https://naaregionaljuriedshow2023.artcall.org/?utm_medium=email&hsmi=252641097&hse_nc=p2ANqtz--UNWmj2kRfkHrEEIQLrPjb1-xArkG7GFBMkvpfA_0XdqnDqxG4mbOhFFn_aZcz0k7QzLzB3ofOWiD8RSAagrOwn5LtA&utm_content=252641097&utm_source=hs_email

The Danforth Annual Juried Exhibition; submission deadline: April 30

Emerging and established artists working in all media are invited to submit work to the highly anticipated Danforth Annual Juried Exhibition. This show will feature some of the best artistic talent in New England in a showcase of diverse media. The show dates are June 24–September

17. The last day to submit is April 30. You will find additional details at this link:
<https://framingham.slideroom.com/#/login/program/71077/onTHlmGMBD>

***“Expressions of Culture and Identity” at the Brush Art Gallery & Studios:
submission deadline: May 5***

Every cultural group has its own collection of symbols, traditions, clothing, food, and activities. This show invites artists to explore their culture and their self-identity and to use these as a jumping-off point for artistic expression. This is a national call for art, and individuals may submit up to three images. The show dates are June 10–July 30, and the submission deadline (via digital images) is May 5. For details go to
<https://form.jotform.com/230925722127150>



“Flower Power” at the Brush Art Gallery & Studios: submission deadline: June 15



Lowell’s Brush Art Gallery seeks entries for “Flower Power,” a juried quilt exhibit guest-curated by **Mary Walter**. The show will run August 5–September 16. The entry deadline is June 15. More info:
<https://form.jotform.com/230735534491154>

Bella Rosa, art quilt by Karen Pulaski

Current Exhibits to See: A Sampling

“Ties That Bind: Threaded Narratives” at the Griffin Museum of Photography through April 16

“Ties That Bind” at Winchester’s Griffin Museum of Photography stitches together three unique visions looking at the idea of family and the rewriting of history, myth, and personal

narratives. The three exhibiting artists include Bedford resident **Astrid Reischwitz**. These artists work with images and objects made from various materials, adding stitching on found images and personal family photos. Each artist finds ways to rewrite what has been lost and gain clarity of vision. Griffin Museum of Photography, 67 Shore Rd, Winchester; <https://griffinmuseum.org>

“Close Up: It’s a Small World” at the Grace Chapel Art Gallery through April 22

Grace Chapel Art Gallery’s current show, “Close Up: It’s a Small World,” will run until April 22. As noted above, several BACS members have work in the show. Grace Chapel, 59 Worthen Rd., Lexington; <https://www.grace.org/artgallery/>.



Day Is Done,
photograph by Mark Zelermyer from “Close Up” at the Grace Chapel Gallery



“Shared Habitat Earth (SHE)” at the Belmont Gallery of Art through April 30

In this call for action at a time when life on earth is in imminent danger, over 40 artists have come together to raise their voices for the home we inhabit with all living things. Through paintings, photography, sculpture, and fiber art, their work dramatizes the tension between what humanity has enjoyed for millennia and what will remain if we don’t act now.

From April 15 to June 30, Shared Habitat Earth will also be shown at three other locations in greater Boston. Check the SHE website for details on the dates of showing at each. The Belmont Gallery of Art exhibit runs through April 30. Belmont Gallery of Art, Homer Municipal Building, 19 Moore St, 3rd floor, Belmont Center, MA 02478: www.sharedhabitatearth.org

(Above) Brave the Storm to Come by Becky K. Gibbs from the SHE show at the Belmont Gallery of Art

“Seeing Is Not Believing: Ambiguity in Photography” at the Currier Museum of Art; end date unknown

Many photographers play with ambiguities—creating images that question what is real. Perspective, lighting, and close-up details can radically distort the look of objects. These

distortions can be both bewildering and delightful. This exhibition, spanning the history of photography from its birth to the present, explores photographs that make us question what we are looking at. Still life photography, abstract images, and manipulated photographs heighten our sense of wonder. Can we ever trust what we see in a photograph? Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash Street, Manchester, NH; <https://currier.org/exhibition/ambiguity-in-photography/>



New Member

We're thrilled to welcome another new member to BACS. **Karen Sun** joined in late March and is already in the thick of participating in both Wednesday crafting and the artist support group (see photo)! Her interests are photography, painting, stained glass, decorative arts, and needle arts. You may reach Karen at this address: sunkaren44@gmail.com.

Karen Sun and Taline Saatjian at the April 5 artist support group

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.

When you have a minute, do check out our page (Bedford Arts and Crafts Society) at this link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/5120028704785100>





Artist Support Group

The artist support group is an informal meeting of BACS members. We show what we are working on, ask for suggestions, and share information about resources, materials, and opportunities.

The next meeting will take place at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, April 19, at the home of **Annemarie Creason**. Note that we have discontinued providing Zoom access due to low demand and technical complications.

Gloria Tsai explaining her Chinese brush painting technique at the April 5 artist support group

About Those April Showers (If They Come) . . .



Ducks in the Rain, 1918, etching by Frank Weston Benson

Duck the April showers and watch for the May flowers! See you next month!