



## Bedford Arts and Crafts Society Newsletter December 2023

Dear BACS friends,

I hope you are experiencing good health and a feeling of calm as the year draws to a close. It was delightful to see the twirling snowflakes and frosting of snow yesterday morning, bringing us peace and holiday spirit.

If you're looking for shopping and/or recreational opportunities for the holidays and beyond, I hope this newsletter will point the way to some things that appeal. All good wishes for a maximally fun and festive season!

*Sylvia*



*"What holidays? Is it dinnertime yet?"*



### **BACS Holiday Luncheon, December 9, 12:00-2:00**

The annual BACS holiday luncheon and gift swap will be celebrated this Saturday, December 9. The location will be the Upper Fellowship Hall at the First Church of Christ, Congregational, 25 Great Road, Bedford. Parking is on-street or in the large town lot behind the church. Plan to arrive at 11:45 a.m. to grab a seat and socialize. Looking forward to a cheer-filled gathering!

If you haven't done so already, hurry and send an RSVP to [rsvp@bacsm.org](mailto:rsvp@bacsm.org) if you wish to attend. Bring a **wrapped gift**—something handmade or a purchased item of about \$15 in value—if you wish to take part in the Yankee Swap.

## January BACS Zoom Demo: White Line Woodcuts with Kate Hanlon



On January 16 at 6:45 p.m., **Kate Hanlon** will present an overview of printmaking approaches via Zoom. The heart of her talk will feature a demonstration of white line woodcut techniques. Rather than creating separate woodblocks for each color, white line printers make and paint one block only. Small groves between the elements of the design create the white line. Kate is an experienced teacher and multifaceted artist, and her demo is sure to inform and please! Again, this presentation will take place via Zoom. Details on how to sign up for the link will follow soon.



**Kate Hanlon, *Roof Shovelers*, white line woodcut**

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



Here's the Wednesday crafting schedule for December:

- December 6: Loop snowmen with **Sandi Rosenfeld**
- December 13: Honeycomb ornaments with **Sandi Rosenfeld**
- December 20: Clear rings with **Sandi Rosenfeld**
- December 27: Pine cone owls with **Sandi Rosenfeld**

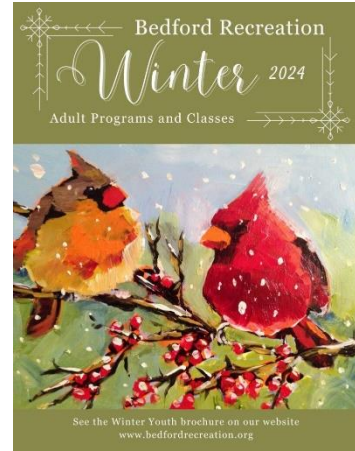
Watch for updates in **Gail Terrell's** weekly e-mail blasts. Please remember to reserve your place at [crafts@bacsmma.org](mailto:crafts@bacsmma.org) for every crafting session you plan to attend. Thank you!

## Winter Classes at Bedford Recreation

**Registration is open** for wonderful winter 2024 workshops and classes being co-sponsored by Bedford Recreation and BACS. Thanks go to our BACS chair for Classes, **Heidi Trockman**, for working with the Recreation Department to put together an appealing menu of options.

The co-sponsored offerings for art and crafts are:

- *Slow Stitch Workshop* with **Lisa Magnuson**
- *Introduction to Watercolor: Painting Flowers* with **Laurie Engdahl**
- *Watercolor: Open Studio* with **Laurie Engdahl**
- *Exploring Watercolor Pencils and Beyond* (virtual) with **Anastasia Semash**



Look for specifics on these classes and many others by visiting the Rec Department's website at <https://www.bedfordma.gov/231/Recreation>. You can sign up online, or you can stop by the department's office at 12 Mudge Way to register in person.

## Bedford Cultural District News



The Bedford Cultural District Partnership, along with First Parish on the Common, co-sponsored a Holiday Artisans Market on Saturday, December 2. Capped by the town tree lighting, the holiday market and the accompanying Children's Fair were great fun. BACS had two tables at the market and brought in almost \$500 in sales of beautiful bracelets, earrings, pendants, mini-paintings, ornaments, and cards. The profits will help to support our annual scholarship. A **huge** thank-you to the many members who generously donated gorgeous handcrafted items and table

furnishings, to say nothing of their time.

In addition, several BACS members had their own tables at the market or were representing other organizations of which they are members. Included in this group are **Holly Carton, Anita Feld, Kelly Flook, Maria Green, Marita Hartshorn, Lisa Himelman, Eileen Larsen, Barb Purchia,**



and **Doris Smith**. BACS members **Chris Wojnar** and **Kati Oates** traveled the halls taking photos and assisting shoppers. A great turnout by BACS in support of the Bedford Cultural District Partnership and First Parish!

## Other Holiday Events

### ***Youth Art Holiday Market and Other Events at the Munroe Center for the Arts on December 9***

**Holiday Market.** Over 30 young artists are registered for this Saturday's Youth Art Holiday Market at the Munroe Center for the Arts (MCA) in Lexington. Featured are ceramics, origami, felted ornaments, tote bags, polymer bracelets, and more.



Mark your calendar to stop by from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. to celebrate these young art entrepreneurs. Parking is available on-street and behind the Munroe Center.

**Open Studios.** While you are there, Munroe studio artists **Amantha Tsaros** and **Nancy Mimno** will have their studios open and full of art for gift giving and/or personal enjoyment.

**Free Crafting.** Room 104 is hosting a free art-making activity using a braiding wheel to create bracelets and bookmarks. Room 103 is hosting a free creative project to paint ornaments for the trees in the front yard.

**Coat Drive Through Early Jan.** If you missed the John Dodge memorial coat drive in Bedford, bring your coats to the Munroe Center. Each year Anton's Cleaners collects, cleans, and distributes over 60,000 coats for kids and adults. Then they are distributed by Coats for Kids. You can help by leaving a coat in the box just inside the back door at MCA. These are then collected by the Lexington Lions Club. Help to share the warmth this season. The collection box will be up through early January.



**Marty Lehman, *Waiting for Santa* (2023), watercolor**

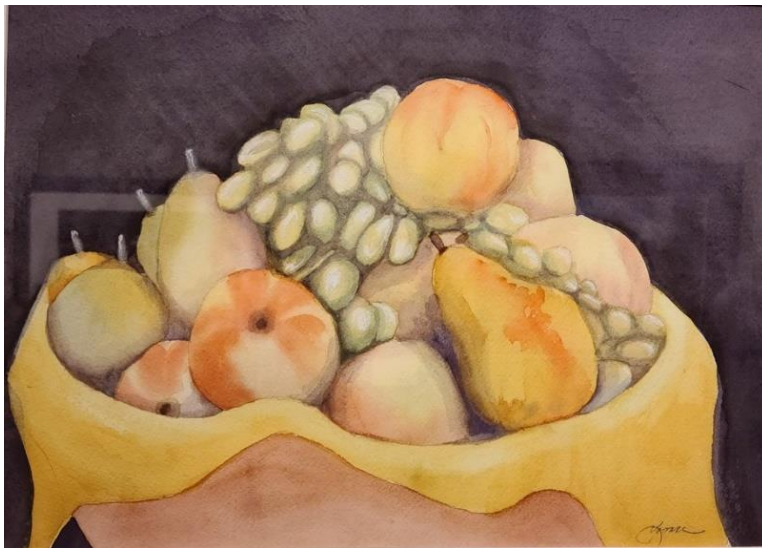
***Concord Art's Holiday Sale through December 17*** Concord Art is sponsoring an onsite holiday art sale through December 17. Concord Center for the Visual Arts, 37 Lexington Rd., Concord;  
[https://concordart.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Prospectus\\_Holiday-Art-Sale-2023.pdf](https://concordart.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Prospectus_Holiday-Art-Sale-2023.pdf)

## ***LexArt's Annual Holiday Marketplace through December 24***

This art and crafts sale is the culmination of a year of work by the talented artisan members of LexArt. Unique handmade holiday gifts include fine silver jewelry, woven items, functional and decorative ceramics, handknits, wooden toys, paintings, seasonal ornaments, and more.

Lexington Arts and Crafts Society, 130 Waltham Street, Lexington; [info@lexart.org](mailto:info@lexart.org)

## **BACS Members' Art and Crafts on Exhibit**



**Judi Babcock, Florence Como, Sylvia Mallory, Yvonne Sandell, and Laura Wallace** have artwork on display at the Grace Chapel Art Gallery's current show, "Abundance (Profusion)." The exhibit will run until December 30 and is available for viewing online. Grace Chapel, 55 Worthen Rd., Lexington:

<https://www.grace.org/artgallery/>

***Bowl of Plenty, watercolor by Yvonne Sandell from the Grace Chapel show***

Batiks by **Laura Wallace** are featured in Gallery Twist's annual holiday show and sale, "Illumination." The exhibit is open for viewing until December 31. Gallery Twist, 1963 Mass. Ave. Lexington; <https://www.gallerytwist.com/upcoming-exhibition>

**Ellen Hurley** and **Sylvia Mallory** each have two paintings on display at the annual Members' Winter Show sponsored by the Chelmsford Art Society. The exhibit runs through January 26 at the Chelmsford Public Library. Reception on Thursday, December 14, 7:00–8:30 p.m.; come for wine, food, and fun! Chelmsford Public Library, 25 Boston Rd., Chelmsford.

***Perfection of Summer, acrylic painting by Sylvia Mallory from the Chelmsford show***



Artwork by **Linda Cargiuolo** is featured in the Annual Members' Exhibition at Lowell's Brush Art Gallery and Studios. The show runs until December 23 and is a great place to find holiday gifts. There are many artworks and crafts, large and small, to choose from. Brush Art Gallery & Studios, 256 Market Street, Lowell; [www.thebrush.org](http://www.thebrush.org)

**Ellen Hurley** has had two paintings accepted in the annual "Deck the Walls" show at the Lyme Art Association, running through January 1. An online gallery will be available soon. Lyme Art Association, 90 Lyme St., Old Lyme, CT; <https://lymeartassociation.org/previous-exhibitions/current-exhibition/>

*Mandarin and Saki*, oil painting by Ellen Hurley from the Lyme show



Along with other members of the First Parish art gallery committee, BACS members **Maria Green, Kati Oates, Doris Smith, and Chris Wojnar** are participating in a new show at the Gallery@First Parish. A reception is planned for January 14, featuring observations from some of the artists about their artwork and creative process. The work will be on display until January 28. Gallery@First Parish, 75 Great Rd., Bedford;

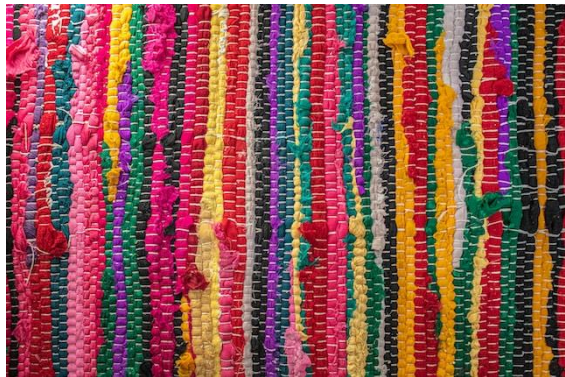


<https://www.uubedford.org/community-life/gallery-exhibit/>

**Kati Oates, *Large Whimsy 31*, wet felting with wooden beads from the show at the Gallery@First Parish.**



## Current and Upcoming Exhibits to See

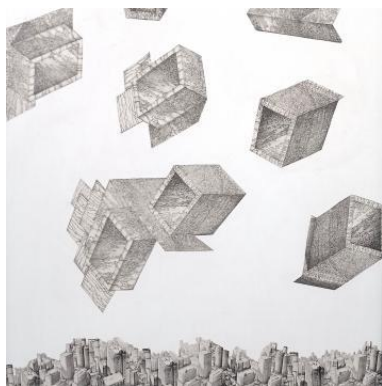


### ***“When Fiber Speaks” at the Belmont Gallery of Art through December 24***

The Belmont Gallery of Art is pleased to announce its new show, “When Fiber Speaks: Six Conversations.” Featuring the work of six artists, the show was expertly curated by world-renowned tapestry artist **Minna Rothman**. Belmont Gallery of Art, 19 Moore Street, Belmont;

<https://www.belmontgallery.org/2023/10/when-fiber-speaks-six-conversations/><https://www.belmontgallery.org/2023/10/when-fiber-speaks-six-conversations/>

### ***“Fresh Ink” at the Umbrella Arts Center through January 4***



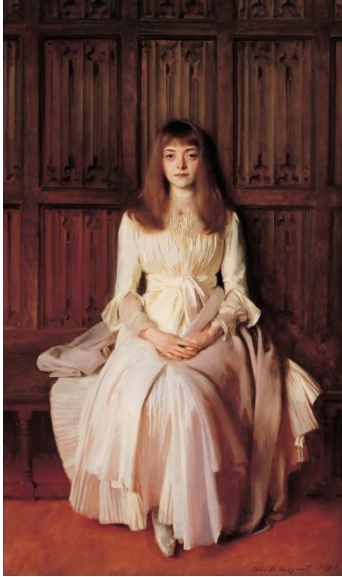
The Umbrella Arts Center is presenting “Fresh Ink: Contemporary Explorations in Printmaking,” showcasing the work of printmakers from across New England. The featured artists use a variety of techniques in unexpected ways that push the boundaries of printmaking. Umbrella Arts Center, 40 Stow Street, Concord; more info at <https://theumbrellaarts.org/fresh-ink>

***Go-Figure by Robert Tomolillo from “Fresh Ink” at the Umbrella Arts Center***

### ***“The Photographer’s Eye” at the Bedford Public Library continuing through January 10***

The Bedford Free Public Library is hosting an exhibit of the work of 25 members of the Bedford Center for the Arts Photo Group. Entitled “The Photographer’s Eye,” the display showcases the range of photographic styles represented in the photo group. The show will run through January 10 of the new year. A reception was held at the library on Sunday, November 19, during which the juror, **Gillian Ross** of Gallery Twist, reflected on the exhibit. Bedford Free Public Library, Mudge Way, Bedford; details at <https://www.bedfordlibrary.net/events/art-exhibits/>





### ***“Fashioned by Sargent” at the MFA through January 15***

“Fashioned by Sargent” explores **John Singer Sargent’s** complex relationship with his often-affluent clients and their clothes. The exhibition reveals the liberties Sargent took with their attire to express distinctive personalities, social positions, professions, gender identities, and nationalities. Alongside about 50 paintings by Sargent, over a dozen period garments and accessories shed light on the relationship between fashion and this beloved artist’s creative practice. Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave, Boston; <https://www.mfa.org/exhibition/fashioned-by-sargent>

**John Singer Sargent, *Elsie Palmer (1889–1890)*, oil on canvas**

### ***“Strong Women in Renaissance Italy” at the MFA through January 7, 2024***

While at the MFA, also take in “Strong Women in Renaissance Italy,” continuing through January 7. Through more than 100 works, this exhibition explores the lives and experiences of women in Renaissance Italy and offers fresh perspectives on female creativity, power, and agency. More information at <https://www.mfa.org/exhibition/strong-women-in-renaissance-italy>



**Lorenzo Costa, *Portrait of a Woman with a Pearl Necklace (c. 1485–95)*, oil on panel, from the MFA show**

### ***“Rembrandt: Etchings from the Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen” at the Worcester Art Museum through February 19, 2024***

This exhibit illuminates the life and skill of the Dutch artist **Rembrandt van Rijn** (1606–1669) through his etchings. It features over 80 works, including 70 etchings by the artist, alongside works by those who were inspired by him. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury Street, Worcester, MA; <https://www.worcesterart.org/exhibitions/rembrandt-etchings/>



**Rembrandt van Rijn, *Man with a Broad Hat and a Ruff, 1630*, etching on paper**



***“Every Leaf & Twig: Andrew Wyeth’s Botanical Imagination” at the Farnsworth Art Museum through March 24, 2024***

This exhibit presents over twenty never-before-shown watercolors and sketches of plant life that **Andrew Wyeth** found on walks and wanders throughout midcoastal Maine, a landscape he knew well. Farnsworth Art Museum, 16 Museum St., Rockland, ME; <https://www.farnsworthmuseum.org/exhibition/every-leaf-and-twig-andrew-wyeths-botanical-imagination/>



**Andrew Wyeth, *Untitled*, watercolor on paper, 1956**

***“Toward the New: A Journey into Abstraction” at the Currier Museum of Art through March 31, 2024***

The Currier Museum of Art presents this exhibition looking at the long journey toward abstraction that encompasses its varied manifestations. Many of the Currier’s all-time favorites are included in the show, such as **Pablo Picasso’s** *Woman Seated in a Chair* (1941), **Josef Albers’s** *Homage to the Square: Early Rising I* (1961), **Alexander Calder’s** *Petit Disque Jaune* (1967), and **Joan Mitchell’s** *Cous-cous* (1961–1962). Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash Street, Manchester, NH; <https://currier.org/exhibition/toward-the-new-a-journey-into-abstraction/>



**Pablo Picasso, *Woman Seated in a Chair* (1941), oil on canvas**

## ***“Threads: Artists Weave Their Worlds” at the Bowdoin College Museum of Art through October 13, 2024***

This new exhibit brings together work by contemporary artists who incorporate weaving, sewing, quilting, and fabric to explore ideas about gender, identity, memory, and cross-cultural encounters. Bowdoin College Museum of Art, 9400 College Station, Brunswick, ME; [www.bowdoin.edu](http://www.bowdoin.edu)



**Mini knitting basket, c. 1950–1960, ash and sweetgrass, by an unidentified Penobscot artist, Bowdoin College Museum of Art, Anonymous Gift, 2018.13.35**

### **BACS Facebook Page**

Do you know that BACS has a Facebook page? This handy resource 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. Grab a cup of coffee and check out our page (Bedford Arts and Crafts Society) here:



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

### **BACS Website**

If you haven't yet done so, please contribute photo images of your 2-D and 3-D art and/or your craftwork to the BACS Gallery on the redesigned BACS website, [www.bacsma.org](http://www.bacsma.org). It's easy, and you get to showcase your work to the community.

To see the gallery pages, go to <https://www.bacsma.org/members-gallery/>. When you are ready to submit your bio and one or more photos of your work, e-mail [website@bacsma.org](mailto:website@bacsma.org). Please indicate which photo you would like on your front page. You can e-mail the bio with photos as an attachment; medium size for the photos would be best. Contact **Paula Gilarde** at [paula.gilarde@gmail.com](mailto:paula.gilarde@gmail.com) with your questions.

## 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. The group's next meeting will take place on Wednesday, December 13, at the home of **Annemarie Creason**. For questions, e-mail **Judi Babcock** at [judibabcock@gmail.com](mailto:judibabcock@gmail.com).

**Alyce McLaughlin** shows the group a work-in-progress at a recent meeting of the artist support group.

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**Happiest Holidays!**