



Bedford Arts and Crafts Society Newsletter February 2023



Dear BACS friends,

Our relatively mild winter (except for this weekend's polar blast!) has made it comfortable to walk, bike, and take photos outdoors—and also to visit some of the gallery shows and museum exhibits that abound in our area. I hope the suggestions in this newsletter fuel your curiosity and creative energies. Have a great month, and Happy Valentine's Day.

Sylvia

BACS Demo on Wednesday, February 15: Pysanky with Gretjen Helene

Join us via Zoom on Wednesday, February 15, 6:45 p.m., for a demo that's sure to give you a yearning for springtime. Artist and pysanky aficionado **Gretjen Helene** will present "Pysanky: Craft and Tradition of Ukrainian Easter Egg Writing via Lost-Wax Dyes"—a brief talk plus a demo of her process. To sign up, send an e-mail to RSVP@bacsmma.org by Wednesday, February 8.



That is this Wednesday! 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. For additional details please see the flyer sent with this weekend's e-mail blast.



And from Our January Demo



Here's **Emily Passman's** finished painting from our January Zoom demo. It's 15" x 15" and done in oil on Arches oil paper. Notice the strong value structure, the rich paint application, and the lost edges, along with other arresting features.

If you watched the demo, we hope you enjoyed it. It was our best-attended Zoom presentation in recent memory. It was sponsored in

part by a grant from the Bedford Cultural



Council/Mass Cultural Council.

BACS Art Show at First Parish Church on the Common

The First Parish Church, Unitarian Universalist, in Bedford is running a BACS members' art show in the Gallery @ First Parish, <https://www.uubedford.org/community-life/gallery-exhibit/>, through March 29. The well-attended opening celebration took place on Sunday, January 22, as snow fell gently outside the antique windows.

For weekday viewing, the church office is open from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., and visitors to the gallery should check in with the office. **NOTE:** Please call the office at 781-275-7994 before visiting, to be sure the gallery is accessible that day.

Included in the exhibit are works by **Judi Babcock, Linda Cargiuolo, Annemarie Creason, Stephanie Davidson, Kathy DeFlice-Secor, Anita Feld, Kelly Flook, Maria Green, Sylvia Mallory, Kathy Morse, Kati Oates, Taline Saatjian, Yvonne Sandell, Namrata Siviya, Doris Smith, Gloria Tsai, and Chris Wojnar.**

The photos that follow show various moments from the art hanging to the reception. We thank the gallery's art show committee for opening up their beautiful space to us.



Judi and gallery staff hanging the art.



Namrata Siviya's painting *Merriment* from the show.



Visitors relax and view the art.



Gloria Tsai's Chinese brush painting *Wisteria and Two Chatting* from the show.



Members of the fabulous band Business Goose provided tunes.

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

BACS crafters meet at the Bedford COA on Wednesdays, 2:00–4:00 p.m., in the Flint Room at Town Center (COA building). Contact **Sandi Rosenfeld** at rxsandi@hotmail.com with your suggestions and feedback on our crafting program. Here’s the crafting schedule for February and most of March. Check your e-mail for updates via **Gail Terrell’s** weekly blasts.

February 8: Decoupage clay pot with **Sandi and Marita**

February 15: Cardz for Kidz with **Sandi**

February 22: Zentangle with various members

March 1: Painted rocks with **Marita**

March 8: Bring your unfinished project

March 15: Decorate candy dishes using oil paint markers with **Judi Babcock**

March 22: Cards from **Marita's** artwork



BACS Members' Work on Exhibit

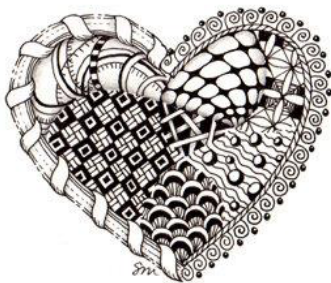
Florence Como (acrylic painting), **Sylvia Mallory** (photography), **Yvonne Sandell** (watercolor painting), **Doris Smith** (acrylic painting), **Laura Wallace** (batik and acrylic painting), and **Margo Zelermyer** (collage) have work hanging in the Grace Chapel Art Gallery's current juried show, "Cityscape." Check out the show in person—or online (scroll to the page bottom) at <https://www.grace.org/artgallery/>. The work is quite varied (as you can see from our members' submissions) and imaginative. The show will run until February 25. Grace Chapel, 59 Worthen Rd., Lexington; see link above for website.



City Lights, collage by Margo Zelermyer

Classes

Zentangle with Bedford Recreation



It's not too late to sign up for Bedford Recreation Department's upcoming Zentangle class with **Susan McFarlane**. Break out of the winter blahs and get creative. The class will run on Zoom on Wednesdays, 7:00-8:00 p.m., for 3 weeks: 3/1/23- 3/15/23. It's a steal at just \$35.

Compassion, Zentangle by Susan McFarlane

You can register at <https://www.bedfordma.gov/231/Recreation> or call (781) 275-1392 to enroll. Support BACS by taking this co-sponsored class!

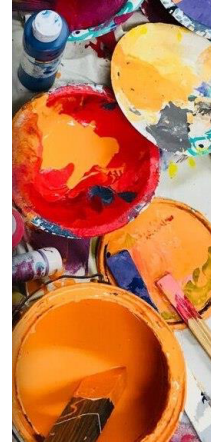
Painting Opportunities with Namrata

BACS member **Namrata Siviya** is launching an advanced painting group for practicing artists. It begins on March 9 and will run on Thursday mornings. You can find details at this link:

<https://www.purplepencil.art/event-details-registration/advanced-painting-group-6-sessions?lang=en>

Namrata is also offering a three-week painting series at the **Suzan Baldoumas** Studio in Carlisle. The classes run on Tuesdays from February 28 to March 14, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Students use their choice of water-based paint. Details at <https://www.suzanbaldoumas.com/3weekpainting>

If you have questions, please contact Namrata by e-mail at namrata@purplepencil.art



Opportunities to Create Art through the Bedford Council on Aging (COA)

(See "Calls for Art" section for details on the Jacob Wren Throckmorton Art Show.)

Greeting Card Competition

Each month the COA sends birthday wishes, thank-you cards, and get well cards. The COA staff would like to celebrate local artists by inviting them to submit art for a greeting card



competition. Winners will be chosen in the categories noted above. Art will be reproduced on a 5X7 card, and submissions should be no larger than 8½ x 11.

Entries may be dropped off at the COA between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The deadline is Friday, February 24. Winners will be announced in April at the Jacob Wren Throckmorton Art Show.

Consider entering artwork that would look great reproduced as a card! Questions? Call 781-275-6825 or send an e-mail to acservenschi@bedfordma.gov.

COA Mural Project

Local artist **Sarah Scoville** has proposed the creation of a mural for the COA's Town Center space. She is looking for 5 or 6 seasoned artists who are interested in brainstorming ideas, creating a design, and then painting the mural. Please let COA director **Alison Cservenschi** know if you would be interested in participating. You can reach her at 781-275-6825 or by e-mail at acservenschi@bedfordma.gov.

Calls for Art

Bedford Utility Box Project

While walking, biking, or driving around town, you probably have noticed a number of colorful utility boxes scattering joy across the landscape. Local artist **Sarah Scoville** is the force behind the Bedford Utility Box Project.

Sarah has received a grant from the Bedford Cultural Council to paint two additional utility boxes around Bedford. Her Utility Box Project has issued a call for artists to create the artwork for the boxes. Individuals and groups interested in designing and painting a box can fill out an application before March 1 with images of the design proposal. For further information, e-mail Sarah at sscoville11@gmail.com.



“Heart of Machines: Ratchets, Reels, and Rivets” at the Arts League of Lowell, March 10–May 14

Machinery and machines have impacted our lives and the history of our country. They provide convenience, lessen our workload, keep the country moving, manufacture the products we need, and keep us connected. All art submitted for

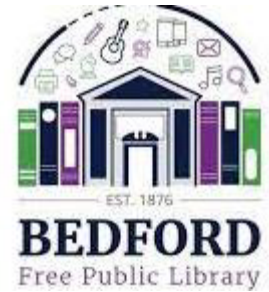
this exhibit must reference machines or machinery—either 2D or 3D, real or imaginary. The show is open to artists working in any technique or medium. The deadline to apply is February 25. Additional information may be found at [https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ALL-Gallery--Call-for-Entry---Heart-of-Machines--Ratchets--Reels-and-Rivets.html?soid=1134065119322&aid=6sPT- aNrg8](https://myemail.constantcontact.com/ALL-Gallery--Call-for-Entry---Heart-of-Machines--Ratchets--Reels-and-Rivets.html?soid=1134065119322&aid=6sPT-aNrg8)

Biennial Community Art Show at the Bedford Library, March 6–May 9

The Biennial Community Art Show at the Bedford Free Public Library is a juried exhibit of art by people who live or work in the Bedford area. Art and craft in all media are eligible. Work must be original, created in the last three years, and not shown before in the library. 2-D work must be framed and ready for hanging with wire. Two entries per artist are allowed.

Notification of acceptance will be on Sunday, March 5, at 5:00 p.m. A reception is planned on Sunday, March 19, 5:00–6:00 p.m.

Dropoff will be at the library on Friday, March 3, and Saturday, March 4. The show will open on March 6 and end on May 9. For a handy flyer with full details, see the attachment sent with this newsletter.



“Close Up: It’s a Small World” at the Grace Chapel Art Gallery, March 11–April 22

The Grace Chapel Art Gallery’s next show opens in March and will feature the theme “Close Up.” Drop-off times are Thursday, March 2, and Saturday, March 4. Details are forthcoming at <https://www.grace.org/artgallery/>.

Awwwwww!

Jacob Wren Throckmorton Annual Art Show at the Bedford Council on Aging (COA), April 8, 10 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

This year’s **Jacob Wren Throckmorton** Art Show will take place at the Bedford COA on Saturday, April 8. The exhibit showcases senior artists’ work and honors the memory of Jacob, a teen COA volunteer who passed away at a young age. The COA will collect art and craft entries the week before the show. Details at Bedford COA, 12 Mudge Way, Bedford, MA 01730; 781-275-6825.

Exhibits to See

These are in order of the date of closing. Happy explorations!

“Flora and Fauna” at the Brush Art Gallery and Studios through February 18

Visit the Brush Gallery to view “Flora and Fauna.” The show features works by a small group of artists who have come together to interpret plants and animals in unique ways. For more info: Brush Art Gallery & Studios, 256 Market St, Lowell, MA; GPS: 304 Dutton St.; <https://www.thebrush.org/>



“Putting Black Women on the Map: Then and Now” at the Lexington Arts and Crafts Society (LexArt) through February 26

In collaboration with LexSeeHer, whose mission is to make women visible, “Putting Black Women on the Map” pays tribute to the contributions made by black women across 300+ years of Lexington history. The exhibition examines the legacies of **Margaret Tulip**, a freed but then re-enslaved slave, who went to court to win back her freedom; **Phebe Banister Burdoo**, a free woman of color whose son fought in the Battle of Lexington; and **Mary Elizabeth Miles Bibb**, an abolitionist, educator, and journalist who was the first African American woman to graduate from the Lexington Normal School. A multimedia installation includes textiles and student art. Lexington Arts and Crafts Society, 130 Waltham Street, Lexington; <https://www.lexart.org/exhibit-information/putting-black-women-on-the-map%3A-then-%26-now>



“Impermanence: Embracing the Beauty of the Impermanent Nature of Man” at the Bedford Free Public Library through March 9

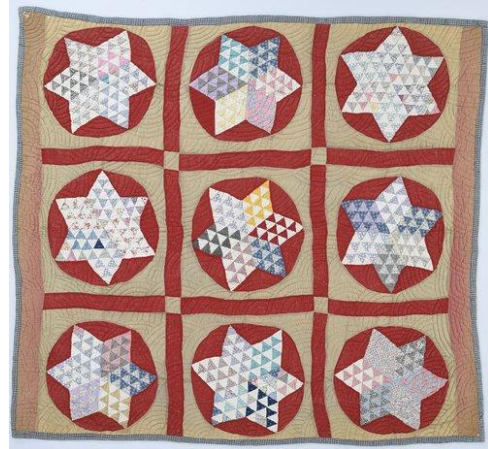
“Impermanence: Embracing the Beauty of the Impermanent Nature of Man” features works by **Bonita LeFlore**. From the artist’s statement: “Through my paintings I take to heart a quote from the photographer Henri Cartier Bresson ‘make visible what perhaps might never be seen.’” My work embraces the impermanence of manmade structures and the opalescence of nature using unexpected colors and technique.” Visit the Bedford Library Gallery to view the show. Find further information at <https://www.bedfordlibrary.net/events/art-exhibits/>.



Art by Bonita LeFlore

“The Best of Quilting in Canada” and “Southern Quilts: Celebrating Traditions, History, and Designs” at the New England Quilt Museum, continuing through April/May

The New England Quilt Museum in nearby Lowell has launched its new year with two exciting regional exhibits. “The Best of Quilting in Canada” runs through May 6, and “Southern Quilts” will be showing until April 15. New England Quilt Museum, 18 Shattuck Street, Lowell, MA; <https://www.neqm.org/on-view-index>



Quilt from the collection of Mary Kerr



New Chair for Communications

We’re super-pleased that **Gail Terrell** has taken on the role of Communications Chair for BACS. As such, Gail will send out the weekly e-mail blast and will transmit other information of interest to our membership as a whole. We thank **Dawn Warrington** for her years of dedicated service in this capacity.

Please **note** that any content for the weekly blast can be e-mailed to Gail at gaila.terrell@gmail.com, but for urgent messages (such as a cancellation), Gail prefers to receive a text message. Her mobile number is 251-459-5868.

BACS Has a Facebook Page!

Did you know? There is yet another way for of us creative people to connect: The Bedford Arts and Crafts Society Facebook page!

Created last year by **Taline Saatjian**, our Facebook page provides a forum for showcasing members' work and highlighting opportunities of possible interest to members. Above all, the objective is to foster a sense of community as we encourage and support one another in our artistic and crafting projects.



So, check out our Facebook page (Bedford Arts and Crafts Society) at this link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/5120028704785100>. Share, comment, like, and so on. The more participation we have, the more informative and more inspiring this space will be.

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. We meet every other week from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. Any kind of art is fair game—paintings, drawings, collage, batiks, 3D art, and more. Those who can't make it can arrange to participate via Zoom.



The next meeting will take place at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 8, at the home of **Kathy Morse**. The February 22 meeting will be at the home of **Sylvia Mallory**. If you wish to attend via Zoom, please let **Judi Babcock** know a day in advance: judibabcock@gmail.com.

You can sign onto the support group with this Zoom link:

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

Celebrating Valentine's Day

Jim Dine (b. 1935) is a versatile American artist whose oeuvre extends over sixty years. His work includes painting, drawing, printmaking, sculpture, and photography.

Four Hearts is a Pop Art screen print. At the core of Dine's art, regardless of the medium of the specific work, lies an autobiographical exploration and a criticism of self through

Four Hearts, 1969, by Jim Dine; screen print on paper



various personal motifs. These images include the heart (as in this featured work), the bathrobe, tools, antique sculpture, and even the character of Pinocchio! One commentator described the artist's approach as all-encompassing and noted, "Dine's art has a stream of consciousness quality to its evolution and is based on all aspects of his life—what he is reading, objects he comes upon in souvenir shops around the world, a serious study of art from every time and place that he understands as being useful to his own practice." **Happy Valentine's Day!**