



## Bedford Arts and Crafts Society Newsletter May 2023

Dear BACS friends,

How can it be that we're nearing the conclusion of another year of BACS? What a great institution for our town! New members might enjoy checking out the "About" link on our website for a look at the founders and history of BACS: <http://www.bacsmma.org/about/>

We celebrate our 67<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, as robust as ever with our growing membership, community service projects, Wednesday crafting, artist support group, and a steady stream of artist demos, crafter workshops, and co-sponsored classes. And it's indisputable that our continuing vitality is due to our wonderful members individually and collectively.

Let's have a glorious summer and meanwhile look ahead to beginning our next chapter (shall we call it Chapter 68?) soon after. Be safe, be happy, and enjoy!

*Sylvia*



*May Moonrise; photo by Sylvia Mallory*

### Voting for Elected Officers

This notice is from Nominating Committee chair **Laura Wallace** on behalf of the committee. BACS members will soon have the opportunity to vote for the elected officers for 2023-2024. There are two ways to vote, either in person (by secret ballot) at the June 3 spring luncheon or by absentee ballot.

The absentee ballot process will be similar to the procedure used by the Town of Bedford. To request an absentee ballot, send an e-mail to [vote@bacsmma.org](mailto:vote@bacsmma.org) and a hard-copy ballot with



instructions will be mailed to you. You simply mark the ballot, seal it in the supplied envelope, and mail it in by the designated date. The return address on the mailed envelope will allow us to keep track of who has cast an absentee ballot but will not be associated with your vote. All instructions will be enclosed with the ballot.

A further announcement about the election, including the slate of candidates, will be sent to members within the month.

## **Renew Your BACS Membership Today!**

**Taline Saatjian**, co-president and membership chair, reminds us that it's time for BACS membership renewals. Dues are due by May 31, just a few weeks away. Keep in mind that your support of our mission, programs, annual scholarship, and community service is crucially important.

**BACS makes friendships bloom.**



What you should know:

- Dues are \$30 for an individual membership and \$35 for a family membership (two people from the same immediate family).
- The fiscal year begins on June 1. Membership initiated after April 1 will automatically renew in June for the following fiscal year.
- Please submit your check (made out to BACS) along with the renewal form attached to this e-mail. The form is also available under "Forms to download" on the BACS website.
- Mail your payment to BACS, c/o Membership Chair, P.O. Box 604, Bedford, MA 01730.

To continue enjoying your BACS activities and friendships, receiving the newsletter, and having your name in the yearbook, please renew by May 31. A huge thank-you from Taline!

## **BACS Scholarship Update**

BACS gives an annual scholarship to a graduating Bedford High student who will pursue a degree in art or an art-related field. This year's scholarship award will be presented at the Citizens' Scholarship Foundation ceremony on May 30. Watch for info on this year's recipient in the June newsletter.



## **BACS Spring Luncheon**

We will be celebrating our annual luncheon from noon to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 3, at **Judi Babcock's** home, 16 Sweeney Ridge Road, Bedford. Join us to reconnect with friends, meet new members, and enjoy the great outdoors Bedford-style! You should have received your invitation in the mail. Please remember to RSVP at [luncheon@bacsma.org](mailto:luncheon@bacsma.org).

The main course will be provided. Members may bring an appetizer or a dessert of their choice. All contributions will be graciously accepted. (Yum.)

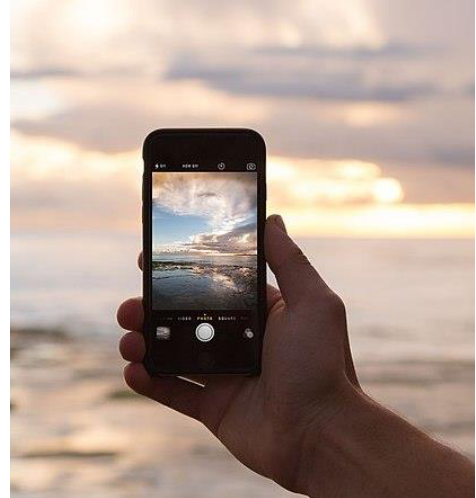
If you have questions about the luncheon or want to help with set-up, contact social chair **Eileen Larsen** at [egavinlarsen@gmail.com](mailto:egavinlarsen@gmail.com).

## **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 Vestry Room at the First Church of Christ, Congregational, with some time spent outdoors as well.

**Note:** One place remains open for the workshop. Send an e-mail to [RSVP@bacsma.org](mailto:RSVP@bacsma.org) to attend. 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.



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

Participants had a happily wild and woolly time at our April felting workshop led by artist **Elizabeth Stubbs**. The smiling faces in the photos say it all. This program was sponsored in part by a grant from the Bedford Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.



Left to right: Gail, Kathy, and Kati felted joyfully at our April workshop.

## Spring Card Swap

The spring card swap was tons of fun! Members showed inspiration and creativity in completing their cards. See the next page for a look at some of the beauties that were exchanged. Big thanks to **Kathy Morse**, organizer-in-chief for the event.



Left to right: Alyce's card to Doris; Kelly's card to Sylvia; Judi's card to Yvonne; Taline's card to Laura

## Kudos for Kathy

Congratulations to **Kathy Morse** for the recognition given at this year's Jacob Wren Throckmorton Art Show for her whimsical birthday greeting card. The card is for sale at the Bedford COA. Way to go, Kathy. Next stop Hallmark?

**Kathy's prize-winning card**



## First Parish Plant and Craft Fair on Saturday, May 20, 10-3



The First Parish Church, Unitarian Universalist, will hold a plant and craft fair on Saturday, May 20, 10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. Volunteers will provide advice about your plants or garden upon request. The event will also feature a craft fair with local artists and crafters selling their work. Proceeds will support the church's programs. Additional info: <https://www.uubedford.org/plantfair/>

## Bedford Cultural District Music & Arts Festival, 2023, on June 17, 11-3



Let the music play! The Bedford Cultural District Partnership (BCDP) will be holding its Music & Arts Festival, 2023, on Saturday, June 17, on the Bedford Common in front of First Parish Church. The hours will be 11:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

In anticipation of launching a coffeehouse series in town in the near future, there will be several musical acts, including a performance by BACS member **Mark Zelermyer** and his band, Mark Zelermyer & Friends. Come on down, kick back, and find your groove on the beautiful Town Common.



BACS will have tables at the fair, with salable items plus hands-on activities for kids and adults led by BACS co-president **Taline Saatjian**.

What's more, BACS members are invited to set up a table or tent on the common and sell their own work. There will be no charge for the space. If interested, please send your name, the item(s) you will sell, and your contact information (e-mail and phone) to **Sylvia Mallory** at [smlal@hotmail.com](mailto:smlal@hotmail.com) at your soonest convenience.

In addition, there will be open houses, balloons for the kids, and even more fun! For additional information, and/or to volunteer to work the BACS tables, please contact Sylvia.



### **BACS Service Projects**

**Jean Hammond** recently wrote an informative article for *The Bedford Citizen* highlighting BACS members' service projects benefiting the community. We thank Jean and the many other members who have contributed to the success of our service projects initiative. To read the article, go to this link:

<https://thebedfordcitizen.org/2023/04/bedford-arts-and-crafts-society-reaching-out-to-the-bedford-community-2/>

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

Crafters, going forward, please remember to send an RSVP to [crafts@bacsm.org](mailto:crafts@bacsm.org) for all Wednesday sessions you wish to attend. Otherwise, it's impossible to ensure sufficient materials for everyone. So, please don't forget to sign up. Thank you.

Also keep in mind that Wednesday crafting is now taking 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.

Here's the Wednesday crafting schedule for May. Watch for updates in Gail's e-mail blasts.

- **May 10:** Create greeting cards with **Marita Hartshorn**. Reservations at [crafts@bacsm.org](mailto:crafts@bacsm.org)

- **May 17:** Make gift boxes from card stock with **Sandi Rosenfeld**. Reservations at [crafts@bacsma.org](mailto:crafts@bacsma.org)
- **May 24:** Make butterfly suncatchers with **Sandi Rosenfeld**. Reservations at [crafts@bacsma.org](mailto:crafts@bacsma.org)
- **May 31:** Learn quilling with **Kwi Young Choi**. Reservations at [crafts@bacsma.org](mailto:crafts@bacsma.org)

## **BACS Members' Work on Exhibit**

**Laura Wallace** has some of her beautiful batiks on display in "Lasting Impressions," the current show at Lexington's Gallery Twist. The exhibit, which runs until May 21, highlights original printmaking of all kinds but includes work in other media too. Gallery Twist, 1963 Massachusetts Avenue, Lexington; <https://www.gallerytwist.com/>

BACS members **Dana Holley, Sylvia Mallory, Yvonne Sandell, Laura Wallace,** and **Margo Zelermyer** have artwork on display in the current show, "Slice of Life," at the Grace Chapel Art Gallery. The exhibit runs until June 17. For more info: <https://www.grace.org/artgallery/>.



***Studio Stuff* by Dana Holley from the Grace Chapel show**

**Gloria Tsai** has paintings on display in the Chinese Painting



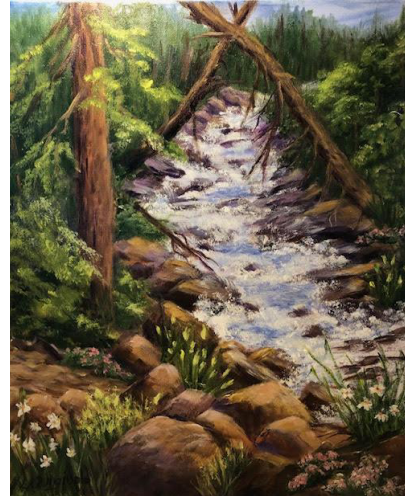
Guild's member show, "Spirit of the East." The exhibit location is the Betty Meyer Gallery, United Parish Church of Auburndale, 64 Hancock St., Newton. The show dates are May 7–May 31. Gallery hours are Monday–Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Sundays, 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. Congratulations, Gloria!

***Serenity* by Gloria Tsai from the Chinese Painting Guild show**

Linda Cargiuolo has two paintings on display in the Brush Gallery's exhibit of associate artists. The show continues until May 28. You can find more information here:

<https://www.thebrush.org/>

*Cascading Stream* by Linda Cargiuolo from the Brush Gallery's Associate Artists Exhibit



## **Classes and Workshops**

Here are some classes and workshops to consider.

***Gelli Plate Monoprinting and Collage with Taline: Sunday, June 11, 10:00 a.m.– 5:00 p.m.***

BACS co-president **Taline Saatjian** will be leading this full-day gelli printing and collage workshop. Students will spend the morning learning how to make colorful prints. Taline will explain what paper and paint work best for the method and will show how to use stencils to create layered prints. In the afternoon students will use their prints to assemble two unique collage creations they will take home, framed and ready to hang.

Included in the workshop are:

- Use of all supplies
- Gelli Arts printing plate and brayer to keep
- Lunch, snacks, and beverages throughout the day
- 2 frames

The cost is \$155 for an individual; \$145 each if purchased with a friend. For more info contact Taline at [talineks70@gmail.com](mailto:talineks70@gmail.com).

### ***Classes with Namrata Siviya***



**Namrata Siviya**, also a BACS member, teaches painting and drawing classes at her Bedford studio, The Purple Pencil. In addition, she gives private lessons.

Namrata has a one-day Art Journaling workshop coming up on May 27. You can register for the workshop and any of her other classes at this link: <https://www.purplepencil.art/workshops-and-classes>

**Art journaling by Fran Bechtold from a Purple Pencil workshop**



## ***Pastel Society of New Hampshire Two-Day Workshop: Saturday and Sunday, June 10-11***

The Pastel Society of New Hampshire (PSNH) is offering a two-day workshop with **Alexia Rosoff Wilbur**. You can see her work at <https://alexiarosoffwilber.weebly.com>. The workshop will be held on June 10–11 in the artist’s home studio in Pepperell, MA. Details and sign-up on the PSNH website: <https://www.pastelsocietynh.com/>

## ***Classes at Chez Claire Art School in Lowell***

**Claire Gagnon’s** Chez Claire Art School, located at Lowell’s Brush Art Gallery & Studios, will offer weekly painting and drawing classes in June and July/August. To see the offerings for June and to register, visit <https://www.chezclaireartschool.com/page/39132/june-weekly-classes>. To see the course options for July/August and to register, visit <https://www.chezclaireartschool.com/page/39133/july-august-weekly-classes>. Claire also offers specialty classes that you can read about on her website. Chez Claire Art School, Brush Art Gallery & Studios, 256 Market St., Lowell; <https://www.chezclaireartschool.com/>

## **Calls for Art**

### ***Cover for the Greater Merrimack Valley Visitors’ Guide***

Artists are invited to submit cover artwork for the Merrimack Valley Convention and Visitors Bureau’s *Visitors’ Guide 2023–2024*. The winner will be compensated for the work and will gain exposure as 25,000 full-color guides will be available throughout the region. To learn more, call [\(978\) 459-6150](tel:9784596150). Thanks to **Linda Cargiuolo** for this tip.



### ***“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



11th biennial juried show for Massachusetts clay artists  
May 15 - June 13, 2021

Virtual Artist Reception with Julia Galloway Juror Talk:  
Sunday, May 23, 5:30 - 6:30 pm



View online & in gallery. Reservations encouraged.

The Molly Harding Nye Gallery LexArt.org  
Wed-Fri 12-4, Sat & Sun 10-5 781-862-9696  
130 Waltham Street, Lexington, MA



### *“The State of Clay” at LexArt, opening May 13 and continuing through June 11*

This biennial juried show features sculptural and utilitarian ceramic work by Massachusetts clay artists. An artist reception will be held on Sunday, May 21, 12:00–5:00 p.m. Lexington Arts and Crafts Society, 130 Waltham Street, Lexington; for more info on the exhibit go to [www.stateofclay.com](http://www.stateofclay.com)

### *“Slice of Life” at the Grace Chapel Art Gallery through June 17*

The Grace Chapel Art Gallery’s current show, “Slice of Life,” will run until June 17. As noted previously, several BACS members have artwork in the show. Grace Chapel, 59 Worthen Rd., Lexington; <https://www.grace.org/artgallery/>.

### *“Frontiers of Impressionism” at the Worcester Art Museum through June 25*

This show explores the evolution and expansion of Impressionism, an artistic movement that changed the trajectory of art history. The exhibition highlights over 30 artists, including **Claude Monet, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Camille Pissarro, Mary Cassatt, Childe Hassam, and Max Slevogt.**

Approximately half of the works are on view for the first time in decades. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester;

<https://www.worcesterart.org/exhibitions/frontiers-of-impressionism/>



**Childe Hassam, *The Breakfast Room, Winter Morning*, New York, 1911, oil on canvas, from “Frontiers of Impressionism”**

***“Wild: Spring Awakening” at the Belmont Gallery of Art, opening May 13 and continuing through July 9***

The Belmont Gallery of Art’s upcoming show, “Wild: Spring Awakening,” captures plants, flowers, and humans’ wild neighbors emerging into spring. Both abstract and representational art is showcased in a wide variety of media. Belmont Gallery of Art, Homer Municipal Building, 19 Moore St, 3rd floor, Belmont, MA 02478: <https://www.belmontgallery.org/2023/05/wild/>

***“Points of Return” at the Umbrella Arts Center through June 25***



The Umbrella Visual Arts program presents the revolutionary multimedia exhibition “Points of Return.” Twenty-seven international artists explore wide-ranging aspects of the climate emergency, offering commentary and creative nature-based strategies.

Occupying two floors of gallery space, converted lobby space, and the Black Box Theater, “Points of Return” features themed “rooms” mapping out a journey from Eclipse to Return. The show is the first physical exhibition of the acclaimed online exhibition of the same name.

The gallery is open every day from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.; admission is free. Visitors are welcome to take a self-guided tour or to participate in various special events. Events are free, but registration is required. To register, visit the website following. The Umbrella Arts Center, 40 Stow Street, Concord; <https://theumbrellaarts.org/pointsofreturn>

***“The Art of the Automobile” at the Bedford Free Public Library; opening May 10 and continuing through July 12***

This photography series by **Steven Edson** captures the design and science applied by global car manufacturers from 1885 through 2020. The photographer’s work explores antique, vintage, classic, and modern cars through to current high-end performance models. Info forthcoming at <https://www.bedfordlibrary.net/>



Photo by Steven Edson from “The Art of the Automobile”

## Member News

**Jean Kates**, who recently moved to Plantsville, Connecticut, has let us know that she will not be renewing her BACS membership. In her note she mentions how much she misses BACS and in particular her friends in the artist support group. I'm sure Jean would enjoy hearing from you via e-mail at [kates.jean@gmail.com](mailto:kates.jean@gmail.com).

## 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, 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 artwork 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, May 17, at the home of **Sylvia Mallory**. Hope to see you there!

**Yvonne Sandell** shows her latest work at a recent artist support group meeting. (The painting, *Cat in a Bag*, is on exhibit at the current Grace Chapel Art Gallery show, "Slice of Life.")

## A Thought for May

"I don't think about art when I'm working. I try to think about life."

**Jean-Michel Basquiat (1960–1988)**

