



Bedford Arts and Crafts Society Newsletter November 2022

Hi BACS friends,



The holidays are upon us! Check out the array of delightful seasonal events below. From the BACS holiday party to the Holiday Artisans Fair at First Parish Church to holiday-themed projects at BACS Wednesday crafting, there's no escaping that it's a holly, jolly time of the year.

Enjoy and all the best,

Sylvia

BACS Holiday Party, December 10, 12:00-2:00 p.m.

Don't be a grinch—come to our annual holiday party next month. The festivities begin at 12:00 noon on Saturday, December 10, in the Upper Fellowship Hall at the First Church of Christ, Congregational, 25 Great Road, Bedford. Park on Great Road or behind the church by taking a left on Mudge Way. Watch for the final details in the December newsletter. Social chair **Eileen Larsen** is heading the party planning committee. If you can lend a hand and/or your creative ideas, Eileen wants to hear from you at egavinlarsen@gmail.com.



Holiday Fair at First Parish Church on December 3, 3:00–6:00 p.m.

Come to the Holiday Artisans Fair at First Parish Church on Saturday, December 3, 3:00 -6:00 p.m. More than 20 local artists and crafters will be selling their unique creations. Make this special event one-stop shopping for all your holiday needs, stocking stuffers and other! BACS will be among the exhibitors, and we will be selling an array of jewelry, mini-paintings, cards,

and other original items lovingly crafted by our members. This event is cosponsored by the Bedford Cultural District and the Gallery Committee at First Parish in Bedford.

Holiday Book Sale at the Bedford Public Library, December 3 and 4

The Friends of the Bedford Public Library have announced a holiday book sale on Saturday, December 3, 1:00–4:00 p.m., and Sunday, December 4, 1:00–4:00 p.m. The sale features a wide selection of gift-ready fiction, nonfiction, holiday books, and children’s books, as well as CDs and DVDs. Shop local and support our fabulous library.



LexArt’s Annual Holiday Marketplace, November 27–December 24



Visit this yearly event at LexArt’s galleries. Find a one-of-a-kind gift from the local artists’ and crafters’ beautiful handcrafted creations in many mediums. Lexington Arts and Crafts Society, 130 Waltham Street, Lexington; <https://www.lexart.org/lexart-holiday-marketplace-2>

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

Crafters continue to 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 creative and fun crafting program.

Crafting schedule for November and December

Here are the activities for the coming weeks. Check the weekly BACS e-mail blast for updates.

- November 9: Ladybug stones



- November 16: Bring your unfinished project
- November 23: No session; COA closes at noon for Thanksgiving break
- November 30: Wreath making with **Eileen Larsen**
- December 7: Candle crafting with **Laura Wallace**
- December 14: Winter cards: service project for delivery with food pantry items, with **Sandi Rosenfeld** and **Sally Rubin** (see photo, right)
- December 21: Bring your own unfinished project
- December 28: Pinecone people



One of our featured activities for the holiday season

On December 7 **Laura Wallace** will do a repeat of her ever-popular workshop on making an elegant holiday candle. The finished, simple block candle measures about 5". Each crafter will use one box of Gulf canning wax and will cut a groove for the wick, then stick the blocks together with melted wax and finally "frost" the candle with cooling wax, adding glitter if desired. See the photo and feel the winter holiday vibe.



Next BACS Demo on January 17: "Making a Dynamic Oil Painting from an Ordinary Photo" with Emily Passman



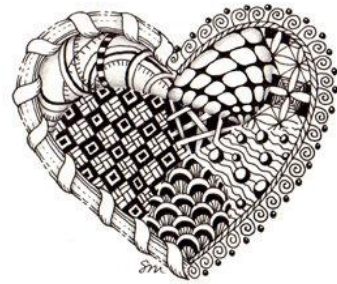
Our next artist demo will take place on Tuesday, January 17, via Zoom. Artist **Emily Passman** will present an approach to creating a dynamic oil painting from an ordinary photo. Emily, who is now bicoastal (with studios in Lexington and California), is a painter of oils and acrylics, known for her expressive, loose style. This online demo is free and open to the public. Share the information with your friends and contacts! Details for registering to receive the Zoom link will be provided in December.

A Sneak Peek at a Bedford Recreation Winter Class

The brochure for Bedford Recreation’s winter programs will be online the week of Thanksgiving and mailed out to the town right after. Online sign up will begin December 5. **Susan McFarlane**—our fabulous demo artist for October—will be offering two classes that BACS is co-sponsoring:

- Watercolor Journeys Workshop, Fridays, 10:00 am—12:30 pm, 5 weeks, 1/20/23—2/17/23, \$125
- Zentangle on Zoom, Wednesdays, 7:00-8:00 pm, 3 weeks, 3/1/23- 3/15/23, \$30

When the time comes, you can register at the Rec Department’s website, www.bedfordma.gov/recreation/pages/brochures, or call (781) 275-1392 to enroll. Support BACS by taking a co-sponsored class!



Compassion, Zentangle by Susan McFarlane



Art Changeover at Town Center, November 15

Heads up, BACS artists. We will be replacing the art currently hanging in the Town Center’s Flint Room and the COA Computer Room on Tuesday, November 15. Plan to drop off your new two-dimensional pieces from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. that day. Art must be properly wired for hanging; no sawtooth hangers allowed. Questions? Contact **Judi Babcock** at judibabcock@gmail.com or **Laura Wallace** at laura.b.wallace@gmail.com.

BACS Art Show Coming to First Parish Church in January

The First Parish Church, Unitarian Universalist, in Bedford will hold a BACS members’ art show in the church art gallery from January to March 2023. Further details will follow as they become available.



Call for Art

Concord Art's Holiday Art Sale, December 1–18

Concord Art's Holiday Art Sale opens on Thursday, December 1, at 5:30 p.m. and runs through December 18. A reception will be held at the opening. Drop by, browse, and give the gift of art!

If you would like to submit your own work for the show, registration is at <https://concordart.org/exhibition2/holiday-art-sale/>. Drop-off times are November 15–18, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Art in the Area

"It's Pastel" at the Discover Portsmouth Center through November 18



Winter Path, pastel painting by Laurinda O'Connor

The 14th National Juried Show "It's Pastel," sponsored by the Pastel Society of New Hampshire, will run at Discover Portsmouth through November 18. Original works in soft pastel are featured. The gallery is elegantly situated on the ground floor of a historic building that once was the main city library. Discover Portsmouth Center, 10 Middle Street, Portsmouth, NH; for more info go to www.pastelsocietynh.com/20-its-pastel-juried-exhibit

"Dwellings" at Concord Art through November 27

Concord Art will host "Dwellings" from November 3 through 27. Featured are paintings by **Emily Passman** (our guest demo artist in January; see page 3) and ceramics by **John Brickels**. Concord Center for the Visual Arts, 37 Lexington Road, Concord; details forthcoming at <https://concordart.org/current-exhibitions/>



Artwork by Emily Passman and John Brickels

Lexington’s Artwalk 2022 through November 28

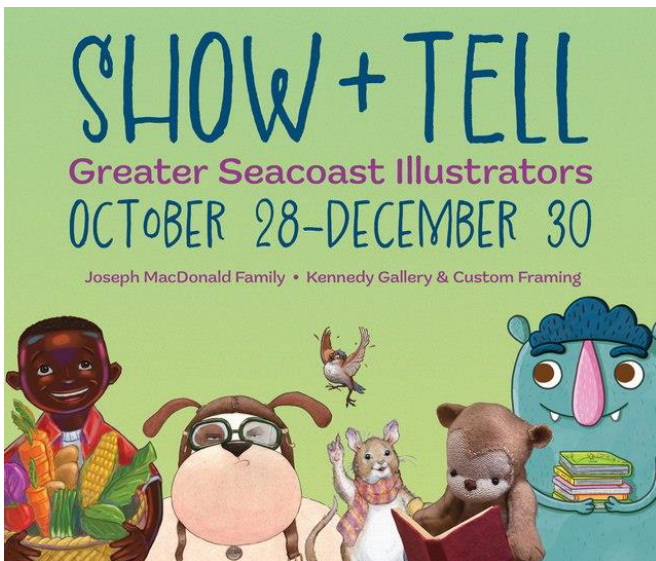
Stroll through historic Lexington Center and take in this year’s Artwalk, displaying the work of over 50 artists. The artwork—much of which is for sale—is colorfully displayed in Lexington Center shop windows.

This annual event is sponsored by the Munroe Center for the Arts. Munroe’s website has more information and features both an interactive map and a scavenger hunt you can print out; go to <https://www.munroecenter.org/artwalk22.html>



“The Conceptual Stitch” at Concord Art through December 18

Fabric art by 16 artists is featured in this exciting show opening on November 3. The diverse works illuminate current approaches to fiber in its many forms: from traditional fibers such as wool and thread and cloth to nontraditional fibers such as synthetics, paper, and plant materials. Concord Center for the Visual Arts, 37 Lexington Road, Concord, MA; details are forthcoming at <https://concordart.org/current-exhibitions/>



“Show and Tell” at the Discover Portsmouth Center through December 30

This fanciful exhibit showcases contemporary children’s picture book illustrators of the New Hampshire Seacoast region. The gift shop is featuring many of the illustrators’ publications for sale, some of which are signed by the artist. Discover Portsmouth Center, 10 Middle Street, Portsmouth, NH; <https://portsmouthhistory.org/exhibitions/>

“Rosamond Purcell: Nature Stands Aside” at the Addison Gallery of American Art through December 31

Over some fifty years, **Rosamond Purcell** has collaborated with paleontologists, anthropologists, historians, museum curators, termite experts, and even a scholar-magician to explore the boundaries between art and science. This exhibition reflects the breadth of the artist’s career and includes over 150 of her photographs, assemblages, collages, and more. Addison Gallery, Phillips Academy Andover, 180 Main St., Andover, MA; <https://addison.andover.edu/Exhibitions/Purcell/Pages/default.aspx>

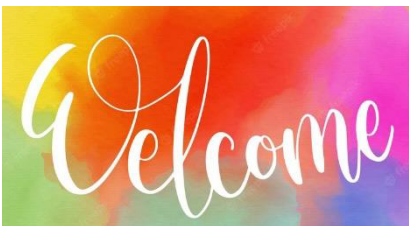


“The Stillness of Things—Photographs from the Lane Collection” at the Museum of Fine Arts through February 27, 2023

This exhibit showcases nearly 60 photographs—all departures from the traditional still life. The works on view span the entire history of photography. Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston, MA; <https://www.mfa.org/exhibition/the-stillness-of-things>

“Stitching Stories: Textiles in Conversation” at Buckman Tavern through September 4, 2023

“Stitching Stories” marks the first time the Lexington (MA) Historical Society is integrating contemporary art into the period rooms of historic Buckman Tavern. The exhibition features a wide range of textiles, including clothing ranging from the mid-18th century to the 1960s, plus selected works from contemporary textile artists. Buckman Tavern, 1 Bedford St., Lexington; <https://www.lexingtonhistory.org/stitching-stories-exhibition>



New Member

Welcome to our newest BACS member, **Namrata Siviya**. You can welcome her by e-mail at namrata@purplepencil.art, and remember to add her to your yearbook.

Artist Support Group

The next meeting of the BACS artist support group will take place at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, November 16, at the home of **Judi Babcock**. Then, the November 30 get-together will be at the home of **Laura Wallace**. If you wish to attend any sessions via Zoom, please let Judi know a day in advance: judibabcock@gmail.com

If you will be Zooming, you can sign on to the support group with this link:

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



November Nostalgia

This bustling scene of women preparing a Thanksgiving feast, by American artist **Doris Lee**, became the object of national headlines when it was first exhibited at the Art Institute of Chicago in 1935 and won the prestigious Logan Purchase Prize. The themes of Thanksgiving, rural customs, and family life, which Lee painted in a deliberately folksy manner, would have had great appeal to a country still in the midst of the Great Depression. Yet Josephine Logan, the donor of the prize, condemned the work's broad, exaggerated style, founding the conservative "Sanity in Art" movement in response. This controversy only brought Lee fame, and her painting *Thanksgiving* has been recognized as one of the most popular nostalgic views of this American ritual since that time. (Text courtesy of the Art Institute of Chicago)



Doris Lee, *Thanksgiving*, c. 1935, oil on canvas, Art Institute of Chicago

