



Bedford Arts and Crafts Society Newsletter December 2022

Hi BACS friends,



As always, I hope you will find some items of interest in this newsletter, much of which has a holiday and winter focus. Here's to a happy and healthy holiday season! Enjoy your precious time with family and friends.

Sylvia

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

Please come to the annual BACS holiday party. It's the "most wonderful time of year" again when we gather to celebrate the winter holidays and our friendships. **Please note the RSVP date of December 3;** e-mail RSVP@bacsm.org to save your place. Hope to see you there.



The festivities take place from 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m. 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. Members will enjoy a light luncheon, warm and cold drinks, festive desserts, fun activities, and an old-fashioned Yankee Swap.

The main course will be finger sandwiches from a local restaurant. **Please consider bringing an appetizer or a dessert.** See your revised invitation, e-mailed on November 27, for additional details. If you have any questions, contact Eileen Larsen 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 (including some BACS members) will be selling their unique creations. Make this special event your one-stop shopping venue for all your holiday needs—stocking stuffers and other great original gifts! BACS will be among the exhibitors, and we will be selling an array of jewelry, mini-paintings, cards, and other one-of-a-kind items crafted by our members. This event is cosponsored by the Bedford Cultural District and the Gallery Committee @ 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.



32nd Annual Gingerbread House Exhibition at the Discover Portsmouth Center through December 22

Visit Discover Portsmouth for this year’s sparkling gingerbread house competition and exhibition, sponsored by the Portsmouth Historical Society. The show runs through December 22. The theme for 2022 is fictional places and characters. Check out how the gingerbreadologists of Portsmouth and beyond have crafted their favorite fictional places and characters using sweet, edible materials. Discover Portsmouth Center, 10 Middle Street, Portsmouth, NH; <https://portsmouthhistory.org/exhibitions/gingerbread2022/>

LexArt’s Annual Holiday Marketplace through December 24



Visit this yearly event at LexArt’s galleries. Find one-of-a-kind gifts from 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>

Holiday Marketplace at Brush Art Gallery through end of December

The Brush offers an intimate place to shop and find hidden gems created by local artists. Talk to the artists in their studios while shopping, and browse the associate artist displays for great ideas for cool holidays gifts. Regular hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., and Sunday, noon-4 p.m. **The Holiday Marketplace will feature two special events:**

Soup & Shop, Friday December 9, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

During Soup & Shop, all visitors are invited to have complimentary homemade soups while shopping. These are made by the Brush Studio Artists and members of the board.



Sugar and Spice, Saturday, December 17, and Sunday, December 18, noon to 4:00 p.m.

During Sugar and Spice, all visitors are invited to have complimentary home-baked cookies while shopping. These treats are baked by the Brush Studio artists and members of the board. For more info: Brush Art Gallery & Studios, 256 Market St, Lowell, MA; GPS: 304 Dutton St.;

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

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 December:

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

- December 7: Candle crafting with **Laura Wallace**
- December 14: Lace bow making with **Phyllis Maddox**
- December 21: Bring your own unfinished project
- December 28: Pinecone people



A close-up look at the December 7 event:

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 late December.

Bedford Recreation Winter Classes: Sign up Soon!

The brochure for Bedford Recreation's winter programs is now online, and the print brochure has been mailed to town residents. 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

Again, you can register starting on December 5 at the Recreation Department's website, <https://www.bedfordma.gov/231/Recreation>, or call (781) 275-1392 to enroll. Support BACS by taking a co-sponsored class!



Compassion, Zentangle by Susan McFarlane

Other Class Opportunities



Claire Gagnon

Chez Claire Art School, run by artist **Claire Gagnon**, is offering some art classes that may be of interest as a creative escape from the holiday madness. Check out these classes beginning in early December:

Paint Like a Master: John Wolcott. Saturdays, December 3 through 17, 1:00–3:00 p.m., \$115, all supplies provided, at the Brush Art Gallery and Studios, 256 Market Street, Lowell.

Watercolor Painting (all levels). Fridays, December 2–February 10 with a break for three weeks at Christmas, 4:30–6:30 p.m., \$264, at the Brush Art Gallery and Studios, 256 Market Street, Lowell.

For additional class opportunities and more information on the above, visit Claire's website at <https://www.chezclaireartschool.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. We will send further details via e-mail as soon as they become available.



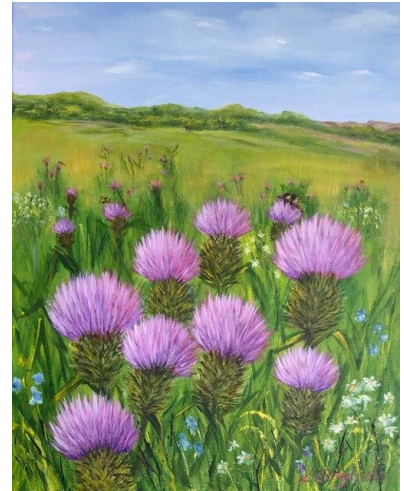
BACS Members' Art on View



BACS members **Florence Como, Sylvia Mallory, Kathy Morse, Yvonne Sandell, Laura Wallace, and Margo Zelermyer** have art on exhibit at Grace Chapel's current show, "Holidays." The show will run until January 2. More info at <https://www.grace.org/artgallery/>

Watercolor painting by Yvonne Sandell from Grace Chapel show

Work by **Linda Cargiuolo** is featured in the Annual Members' Exhibition at the Brush Art Gallery and Studios. Brush Art Gallery, 256 Market Street, Lowell, MA; www.thebrush.org.



***Thistle*, acrylic painting by Linda Cargiuolo from the Brush Art Gallery and Studios show**

Ellen Hurley has four paintings in the Lyme Art Association's juried "Deck the Walls" show, which runs until January 1. <https://lymeartassociation.org/deck-the-walls-2022/>

***Sunflower Season*, oil painting by Ellen Hurley from the Lyme Art show**

Call for Art

"Cityscape" at the Grace Chapel Art Gallery

The first show of the new year at the Grace Chapel Art Gallery will feature the theme "Cityscape." Drop-off times are



Thursday, January 5, and Saturday, January 7. Details are forthcoming at <https://www.grace.org/artgallery/>.

Art in the Area

“The Conceptual Stitch” at Concord Art through December 18

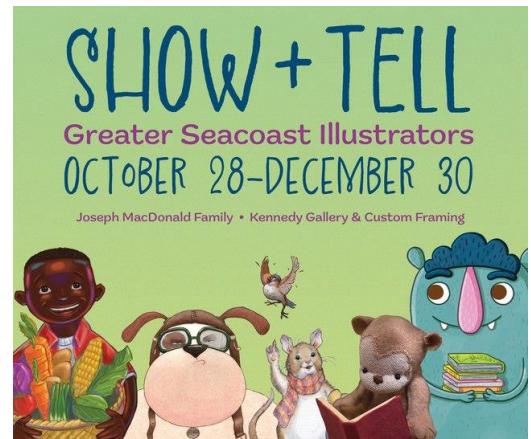
Fabric art by 16 artists is featured in this exciting show. The diverse works illuminate current approaches to fiber in its many forms: from traditional fibers such as wool and thread and cloth to nontraditional fibers such as synthetics, paper, and plant materials. Concord Center for the Visual Arts,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



Lethe Jumper, wool, by Bridget Harvey from “The Conceptual Stitch”

“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 selling many of the illustrators’ publications, some of which are signed by the artist. Discover Portsmouth Center, 10 Middle Street, Portsmouth, NH; for more info: <https://portsmouthhistory.org/exhibitions/showandtell/>.



“Various and Sundry” at the Bedford Free Public Library through January 11

Visit the Bedford Library Gallery to view " Various and Sundry," featuring linoleum prints by artist **Coco Berkman**. Berkman uses sharp, Japanese tools to carve whimsical images into sheets of linoleum and then prints them one color at a time over several months to complete an edition. Further info at <https://www.bedfordlibrary.net/events/art-exhibits/>.

See next page for a look at two pieces from this delightful show.



Dog Dog Dog and Blue Stockings;
prints by Coco Berman from the Bedford Free Public Library show



“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>

New Members

A shout-out to our newest BACS members, **Karen Daniels** and **Gail Terrell**. You can welcome Karen and Gail at these addresses (and please remember to add them to your yearbook):

Karen: kardaniels@gmail.com

Gail: gaila.terrell@gmail.com

Karen enjoys watercolor painting and loves doing paper art. A particular current interest for Karen is pop-up cardmaking; see photo at right showing a clever (and killer-cute) Thanksgiving card she made.



Pop-up card by Karen Daniels

Gail likes to draw and create collages and also enjoys fabric crafts. Look at her beautiful quilt below.



Pictorial quilt by Gail Terrell

Welcome, Karen and Gail!

Artist Support Group

The next meeting of the BACS artist support group will take place at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, December 14, with the location to be announced. If you wish to attend any sessions via Zoom, please let **Judi Babcock** know a day in advance: judibabcock@gmail.com

To Zoom in, you can sign on to the support group with this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81678201720?pwd=a28rZ0k5eVZKakxSRTNxQWR1NkRBZz09>



The Warm Glow of Winter

With winter arriving in just a few weeks, it seems appropriate to celebrate the season in this month's newsletter.

Early in his career, Russian painter **Wassily Kandinsky** developed a theory of colors that ascribed nearly mystical powers to certain combinations of tones. The painting on the next page (done on cardboard!) of a snow-blanketed country landscape is one of Kandinsky's last figurative compositions before turning entirely to abstraction. Notice how the yellow sky hums with green and white, the path to the small house in the center glows pink, and the hillside shimmers with improvised colored patches. Kandinsky sought to convey various light effects in the snow lit by the setting sun, and he emphasized the spatial depth of the landscape through

the composition. This imaginative work is a far cry from the New England winter landscapes with which we are all too familiar—unless we are perhaps factoring in climate change?



Wassily Kandinsky, *Winter Landscape*, 1909, oil on cardboard, Hermitage Museum