



Bedford Arts and Crafts Society Newsletter August 2021

Hi BACS members,

As the summer rolls along, we look forward to the annual celebration of our town on Bedford Day, especially after the absence of the big event last year. BACS artists and crafters are hard at work, getting ready for the art show and craft sale. We hope you can pitch in in some way. See below for various ways to lend a hand.



Artwork by Jessica Porter

Also check out the highlights of other coming attractions and opportunities, including a potpourri of BACS-sponsored artist demos and workshops, as well as several enticing Recreation Department classes. Work, play, explore, and be well!

Sylvia

Volunteers Needed for Bedford Day Fair, Saturday, September 18

We are reaching out to see how you might help with our Bedford Day effort. The hours of operation for the festivities are 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 18. If you can spare an hour or so of your time that day (or the evening before at the art drop-off), we would be grateful! Remember that our profits fold into our fund for an annual scholarship. Bedford Day is a great opportunity for us to tell the community about all our good work.

We need volunteers to assist with:

- Art show drop-off (evening of Friday, September 17, 4:30-6:00 p.m.)
- Art show hosting (time slot of choice between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 18)

- Art-show pickup (afternoon of Saturday, September 18, 2:00-3:00 p.m.)
- Craft booth set-up (8:00-9:00 a.m. on the 18th)
- Customer service at craft booth: welcoming customers, showing our art and crafts, conducting sales transactions, and spreading the word about BACS to encourage membership (time slot of choice between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. on the 18th)
- Craft booth teardown (2:00-2:30 p.m. on the 18th)

If you can help, contact **Judi Babcock** for art show-related volunteering at judibabcock@gmail.com or **Taline Saatjian** for craft table service at talineks70@gmail.com.

Transport Help Needed for Bedford Day



We are in need of one or two members to return the tents and the tables to their owners at the conclusion of Bedford Day. Contact **Taline Saatjian** if you have a van or a pick-up truck and can help: talineks70@gmail.com. The items will be ready for return to their Bedford owners around 3:00 p.m.

BACS Regional Art Show on Bedford Day

The BACS annual regional art show will take place on Bedford Day.

This year's event will be an unjuried show and sale. There will be no judging and no prizes—just a wonderful chance to display and sell your work. BACS members may submit up to three pieces of artwork or craftwork in a variety of categories at no charge; nonmembers will pay a small entry fee. The exhibit categories are (1) watercolor painting; (2) oil/acrylic painting; (3) drawing and pastel painting; (4) three-dimensional; (5) photography; (6) other media (collage, batik, mixed media, printmaking).



The Connoisseur by Norman Rockwell

Look for the entry form that we have e-mailed to you along with this newsletter. It is also available on the BACS website at this link: <http://www.bacsm.org/bedford-day/>

We look forward to seeing members' diverse talents on display! If you are interested in volunteering at the art show on the 18th, let **Judi Babcock** know at judibabcock@gmail.com.

Paint a 4 x 4 Mini-Canvas for Bedford Day

We have a small number of mini-canvases available for members to paint. The finished paintings will be one of our key saleable items on Bedford Day. They come with adorable little stands, and we will price the finished artwork at \$15 apiece.

The 4" x 4" canvases are suitable for painting in acrylic or oil or for collage. If you're feeling creative and would like to adopt a mini to help the cause, contact **Sylvia Mallory** at smlal@hotmail.com.



Wednesday Crafting

BACS Wednesday crafting is going strong! Members are gathering, socializing, and learning new skills weekly under the big tent at the COA. Each event is free to BACS members; others pay \$5 per meet-up. The sessions run from 2:00 to 4:00 pm.



At a recent gathering, an inspired group of members applied cool techniques provided by **Eileen Larsen** to create wonderful mini-abstract paintings (*right*). And at the most recent session, led by **Mary Jane St. Amour**, members fabricated stunning lattice necklaces (*left*).



The crafting schedule for August and September is:

August 18: Decoupage Flower Pots

August 25: Cards for Kids

- September 1:** Garden Art
- September 8:** Bring Your Own Project
- September 15:** Bedford Day Preparation
- September 22:** Polymer Clay
- September 29:** Cards for Seniors

If you have ideas for future Wednesday crafting projects, please send them to **Marita Hartshorn** at crafts@bacsma.org.

Programs—Our Upcoming Artist Demos and Workshops



Sylvia Mallory and **Laura Wallace**, programs co-chairs, are putting the finishing touches on the plans for our artist demos and craft workshops for our new season. You can look forward to interesting demos on **pastel painting, encaustic painting, and acrylic painting**, along with hands-on workshops featuring **gelli plate printing and collage, introductory stained glass, and felting**. Wow! We will announce the details and schedules in the September newsletter.

Reservoir, mixed media encaustic, by Tracy Spadafora

Classes

Heidi Trockman and **Kathy Morse**, classes co-chairs, have shared news of upcoming classes and workshops that BACS will be co-sponsoring with Bedford Recreation. The topics include **acrylic drip resist with watercolor, introductory modern block printing, and punch needle rug making**. What a great mix! Sign me up! Watch for the forthcoming publication of the Recreation Department brochure, visit the



Punch needle rug by Marcy Young

Recreation Department's website at www.bedfordma.gov/recreation/pages/brochures, or call (781) 275-1392. BACS receives a small percentage of the income from the co-sponsored classes, so, if you enroll, you will support BACS as you learn a new skill.

Town Center Art Gallery

BACS members' art is once again brightening the walls in the Town Center's Flint Room and the COA computer room. Drop by and see a fresh new exhibit of work by BACS artists. The photo gives you a preview. Thanks to all artists who brought in work, and a shout-out to **Laura Wallace, Eileen Larsen, and Sylvia Mallory** for receiving and hanging the art.



BACS Art Show at the Bedford Public Library



A reminder that "Local Talent," the BACS art and craft show at the Bedford library, is available for viewing until September 8.

Here is **Doris Smith's** dynamic print from the exhibit. Make it a point to drop in and see members' work before the exhibit closes down!

Untitled by Doris Smith

Peace Pole Project Update

Congratulations to **Chris Wojnar** for conceptualizing and successfully running the competition for the creation of decorative peace poles. The selection committee—Chris, along with **Penny Leslie, Sylvia Mallory, and Doris Smith**—chose four finalists from a colorful array of entries. The poles will be set up at key locations in the newly established Bedford Cultural District. The photo shows the pole Chris created last year for her own yard.

Peace Pole by Chris Wojnar



Artist Exhibiting Opportunities

Roddy Juried Exhibition at Concord Center for the Visual Arts

Concord Art has announced the 22nd Annual Roddy Juried Exhibition. The online submission dates continue through September 12. For details and the prospectus, visit <https://concordart.org/exhibition2/22nd-annual-roddy-juried-exhibition/>

Concord Center for the Visual Arts 2022 Centennial Calendar

All Concord Art members are welcome to submit an image to the annual calendar contest for jurying; no fees are required. This year's theme is "Figure/s in the Landscape." The submission deadline is September 30. For more info visit <https://concordart.org/>.



Figures on the Sand (Annisquam), by Elizabeth Wentworth Roberts

“Community” Show at the Grace Chapel Art Gallery

The Grace Chapel Art Gallery in Lexington will soon be reopening. The first exhibit will take place in the early fall, and the theme is "Community." The drop-off will be Wednesday, September 22. For details and a submission form, visit <https://www.grace.org/artgallery/>.

Newport Biennial 2022

For over 30 years, the Newport Art Museum has sponsored a show featuring exciting works of art in all media. Now called the Newport Biennial, this exhibition showcases the work of New England artists applying fresh approaches to art making. The submission period ends on September 5. For details, visit <https://newportartmuseum.org/exhibitions/biennial-2022/>.

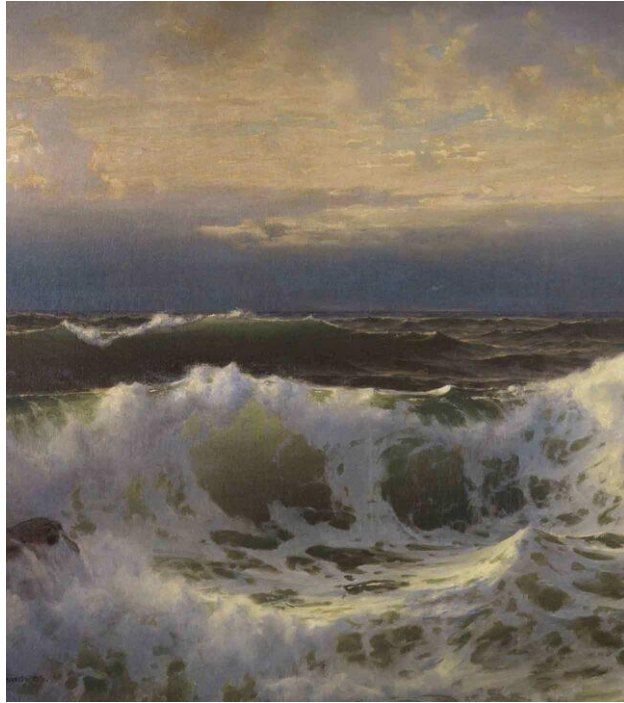
A Must-See: “In American Waters” at the Peabody Essex Museum

Don't miss the current featured show at the Peabody Essex Museum, "In American Waters." From the PEM website:

For over 200 years, artists have been inspired to capture the beauty, violence, poetry, and transformative power of the sea in American life. Oceans play a key role in American society no matter where we live, and the sea continues to inspire painters today to capture its mystery and power.

“In American Waters” reveals that marine painting is much more than ship portraits. . . [V]isitors will . . . discover the sea as an expansive way to reflect on American culture and environment, learn how coastal and maritime symbols moved inland across the United States, and question what it means to be “in American waters.”

Among the diverse range of modern and historical artists whose work may be viewed are **Georgia O’Keeffe, Amy Sherald, Kay WalkingStick, Norman Rockwell, Hale Woodruff, Paul Cadmus, Thomas Hart Benton, Jacob Lawrence, Valerie Hegarty, and Stuart Davis.** The show runs to October 3. For details, visit <https://www.pem.org/exhibitions/in-american-waters>



If You Love Quilting: “Setting Sail” Exhibit at the Brush Art Gallery

Setting Sail



Lowell’s Brush Art Gallery is currently showing “Setting Sail,” a juried art quilt exhibit showcasing quilts inspired by the idea of setting sail—meaning to start a journey physically and/or creatively, to interpret a trip taken or planned, or just to enjoy the sea and sailboats. The exhibit dates are August 7 through September 18.

The Brush Art Gallery and Studios is part of Lowell National Historical Park. To visit, head to 256 Market St, Lowell. For details, see the gallery’s website at <https://www.thebrush.org/>

New Members

We are delighted to introduce our newest members: **Ekaterina Klevtsova**, **Irene Rausen**, and **Karen Willson**. You can reach them as follows. We very much look forward to seeing them at our various events. Welcome to all!

Ekaterina: katklevtsova@gmail.com

Irene: irausen@comcast.net

Karen: kwillson@comcast.net

In Memoriam



We are deeply saddened to announce the sudden passing of **Maria Miller**. She was an enthusiastic and dedicated BACS member whose talent for painting was evident in the lovely artwork she took pride in exhibiting in our Town Center gallery and shows. We send her husband, **Bill**, our sincere condolences.

Artist Support Group

The BACS artist support group is holding hybrid meetings every other Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. Come in person or attend via Zoom. The next meeting is August 25, 10:00 a.m., and will be held at the home of **Sylvia Mallory**. Those interested should contact **Judi Babcock** for additional details: judibabcock@gmail.com.

For members interested in attending via Zoom, the meeting link is:



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

Meeting ID: 816 7820 1720

Passcode: 571744