



Bedford Arts and Crafts Society Newsletter March 2021

Dear BACS members,



The world seems brighter these days given the increased availability of the Covid vaccines and the coming of Daylight Saving Time and spring. As we emerge from what seemed like the longest winter ever, it seems fitting to acknowledge the unflagging energy, creativity, camaraderie, and support we have shared over the past year. Let's keep the good vibes going as we make a fresh start and take advantage of the wealth of opportunities for fun and learning that are described below. Enjoy and be well!

Sylvia

Zoom Workshop for April: Dash, a Mindful Painting Pattern, with Amy Maricle

We have a special workshop coming up in April. Nationally known artist **Amy Maricle** (see bio on the next page) will lead us in exploring what happens when we make a simple watercolor dash mark in colors we love. She will then guide us as we experience what happens when we layer that mark with simple dash marks drawn in pen. As we create, we will relax with simple, mindful art movements.



Participants will need a drawing pen that won't bleed with water, 10–20 pieces of watercolor paper cut to 3 x 4 in., watercolor paints, and a small, pointed brush.



Attendance is free to BACS members, \$10 for nonmembers. To receive the Zoom link for the workshop, you will need to RSVP by Monday, March 29, to workshop@bacsm.org. Don't delay, because participation will be limited to 20. And do pass on our flyer (sent in an attachment to the March 7 weekly blast and also available at www.bacsm.org) to friends who may not be members. They are welcome to join us.

Amy Maricle

Amy Maricle is an artist, a board-certified art therapist, and the founder of Mindful Art Studio. Amy helps artists to embrace the creative process with playfulness and curiosity and to make art a consistent part of their lives. Her writing and art have been featured in *The New York Times.com*, *The Washington Post.com*, *Psych Central.com*, *Spirituality & Health Online*, and *Art Journaling Magazine*. Visit Amy's blog at <https://mindfulartstudio.com/blog/>

BACS Saturday Socials

A small and upbeat group of BACS members, led by **Susan Schwartz**, convened for coffee and conversation this past Saturday. As we celebrated International Women's Day, we shared memories of our experiences as BACS members and touched on some milestones in women's history. Our next Saturday social will take place on April 10. **Anita Feld** will be our host. Please join us!



BACS Crafting

Here's the latest crafting news from **Jane Franklin**. Remember, if you have questions or suggestions regarding BACS crafting, e-mail Jane at crafts@bacsm.org.

BACS Food Bank Service Project News

The Wednesday crafters have decided not to purchase any more yarn, as the weather seems to be changing for the better. Jane has put all the yarn she has on her front porch. If you have any use for yarn, drop by and take all that you want. Jane also sends a reminder to drop off your completed projects, including cards for seniors, hats, scarves, mittens, and so on.

Zoom Crafting Wednesdays

At the March 10 meeting, crafters will work on their own project. Bring yours or just grab a cup of tea and come for a social visit. You will still need to RSVP to the weekly e-mail to receive the Zoom link.

Good Cheer

We extend our warm thoughts and best wishes to **Art Ellis**, who has been ill. We are thinking fondly of **Marietta**, too. We have missed seeing this delightful couple.



Thanking Jacqui Garabedian



We are donating two beautiful paintings by our friend **Jacqui Garabedian** to the Bedford Neighbor Brigade’s April fundraising auction. The six remaining acrylic paintings—mostly large, some complete, some in process—are available to BACS members to hang or to repurpose. To view the art, go to www.bacsm.org/art. See the painting to the left for an example. If you are interested in taking one of the works, please contact **Laura Wallace** by Thursday, April 1.

Woman by Jacqui Garabedian

Easel Donation

The BACS board recently voted to donate our two antique easels to worthy local institutions or groups. We thank **Laura Wallace** for orchestrating the donation of easel #1 to **Julie Schaeffer-Santarelli**, the new owner of Great Road Gallery and Framing. Drop by and introduce yourself to Julie and admire this generous contribution by BACS. We are working on finding a good home for easel #2.

Members’ News

Laura Wallace’s beautiful batiks drew enthusiastic attention and brisk sales in the recent “Room with a View” show at Gallery Twist. You can watch a video of Laura demonstrating her very cool process by visiting this link and scrolling down to #5, “Artist Talks and Studio Visits”: <https://www.gallerytwist.com/current-exhibition> Be sure to take in the other artists’ informative videos, too.

Sylvia Mallory’s painting *Salsa!* has been chosen for inclusion in the 5th Annual Colors (March 2021) Online Juried Art Exhibition sponsored by Fusion Art. The exhibition will continue through April 4. To see the show, go to <https://www.fusionartps.com/5th-annual-colors-art-exhibition-march-2021/>. Selected entries are displayed alphabetically by the artist’s first name.



Crafty members **Marita Hartshorn** and **Mary Jane St. Amour** have been plying their sewing skills throughout the pandemic. Marita continues to design and stitch her wonderful wonky house quilts, now creating them in smaller sizes for children and infants, and she has made some 1,400 (!!) masks. Mary Jane has been devoting herself to sewing heart-shaped pillows and teddy bears for donation to Emerson Hospital patients.

Heart pillow by Mary Jane

Meanwhile, **Nancy Allen** has enjoyed creating elaborate and amazing felted figures, and **Sandi Rosenfeld** has been churning out sensational greeting cards at a seemingly nonstop pace.



Nancy's felted figures



Sandi's "Dog Hug" card

Local Exhibit Opportunities

Nashua Area Artists Association (NAAA)

The Nashua Area Artists Association (NAAA) has opened registration for the group's third annual spring juried exhibit at the ArtHub Gallery, 107 West Pearl Street, Nashua, NH. The theme is "Portals." Think windows and doors, but also think outside the box about ways in and ways out, how we can get from here to there. How about the portals that open up in our mind when we delve into our imagination and tap into new ways of seeing and expressing ourselves? The application and prospectus are available online at <http://www.nashuaarts.org/display/>. The show runs from May 1 to June 19. The juror is Monadnock-area artist **Sue Callihan**. For questions, contact **Maddy LaRose** at mplarose@comcast.net.

Brush Art Gallery

The Brush Gallery, in partnership with Lowell National Historical Park, is sponsoring a juried exhibit on the theme of “What Does Community Look Like to You?” According to the exhibit organizers, “Community connections can be place-based (neighborhoods, businesses), practice-centered (sports, social clubs, virtual), and goal- or belief-centered (religion, politics). Share what ‘community’ looks like to you and show us how you represent it.” The exhibition is a national competition and will run from May 1 to June 12. The submission deadline is March 26. For further information, visit <http://www.lowellartshows.com/NPS/>

Arts League of Lowell (ALL)

The Arts League of Lowell (ALL) is sponsoring an exhibit on the theme of “Collage for All.” The show will run from April 30 through June 27. Unique 2D or 3D collage or assemblage is eligible. Artists are encouraged to use photographs and/or “found” photographic images; however, all media are welcome. Work may be entirely pasted paper pieces or even totally photographic images, as long as there are individual parts resulting in a unique “whole.”



Henri Matisse, *The Sorrows of the King*, collage, 1952

Entry is open to ALL members and the general public. Artists may enter up to three works in any 2D or 3D medium. Applications will be online only, and the application deadline is April 17. For the prospectus:

http://www.artsleagueoflowell.org/gallerydocs/2021/Prospectus_Collage.pdf

Demos to View Online

Jean Hammond attended what she says was a fascinating talk—“Taking Imagination Seriously”—by artist **Janet Echelman**. Jean has provided the link to a TED talk where you can view Janet’s presentation:



Installation by Janet Echelman

https://www.ted.com/talks/janet_echelman_taking_imagination_seriously?utm_campaign=ln%20the%20Making&utm_medium=email&hsmi=114358718&hsenc=p2ANqtz-8LlxYs78gF2i7Nc83_wzD1OhKhtuVRSJc5yyR-3Fv41E-ACqZvuJ4cTnCozJxy3UwBdXUSHpoUAvK8tK0y2KbUF7BOSA&utm_content=114358718&utm_source=hs_email



Paper pendant by Pat Viera

In poking around on YouTube, **Sylvia Mallory** came across an intriguing demo by local artist **Pat Viera** on making jewelry from paper. Pat shows some really great ideas for using decorative and hand-painted papers to make unique pendants, earrings, and bracelets that are both beautiful and durable. This is a very different type of jewelry than the paper beads we've made in the past. Check out the video here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CH2ew-TqsX4>

The Chelmsford Art Society (CAS) has posted videos on YouTube featuring recent artist demos sponsored by CAS. Here are some links to explore.

- **Claire Gagnon**, seascape in acrylic: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=844a_k3HKsc
- **Don Ouellette**, watercolor painting of a winter scene: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZpzCgL4MOpE>

Calling for *Your* Art and Craft Work!

The BACS website's Gallery page is an ideal place to display examples of your artwork and/or crafts. Visit the site at bacsma.org/gallery/ to take a tour. **NOTE:** For members who are interested in selling their work, we plan to add the price of each piece and to advertise the page to the Bedford community and beyond.

Contact **Laura Wallace** at laura.b.wallace@gmail.com if you would like to showcase your work on our site. And if you have had the same pieces on view on the Gallery page for a while, it might be time to freshen them with new work!

Artist Support Group

The artist support group meets via Zoom. The group's next get-together will begin at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 10. For questions, contact **Judi Babcock** at judibabcock@gmail.com.

Sign on via the same link as is used for all regularly occurring BACS Zoom sessions:

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

Meeting ID: 816 7820 1720

Passcode: 571744



A Thought for Spring

With spring the world is reborn. For artists, spring has been a source of inspiration since the Renaissance. Here's a look at how **Vincent Van Gogh** interpreted spring and celebrated the beauty of the season in one of his paintings.



Vincent Van Gogh, *The Pink Peach Tree*, oil on canvas, 1888