

Seacoast Artist

The official newsletter of the Seacoast Artists Association

March / April 2021

SAA Gallery Body of Work:



"Oh, Peonies" oil Maryclare Heffernan

SAA Gallery Body of Work:



"Landscape" watercolor, Kathy Flygare

In this Issue:

Seacoast Artist Association
130 Water Street
Exeter, NH 03833

Call 778-8856 • For directions, visit www.seacoastartist.org

Please visit website for updates
www.seacoastartist.org

Facebook link:

www.facebook.com/pg/Seacoast-Artist-Association-458673557524972

The gallery is open

March Friday and Saturday 10 to 5, Sundays 1 to 4

April: Wednesday through Saturday 10 to 5,

Sunday 1 to 4..

Due to the pandemic, those hours could change at any time so please call the Gallery to confirm.

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SAA OFFICERS:

Gallery@SEACOASTARTIST.org

Officers:

SAA President:
Dennis Skillman

Vice President:
Dave Turbide

Treasurer:
Darlene Zahn

Secretary:
Patricia Berger

Board Members:

Doris Rice
Annick Bouvron-Gromek
Debra Woodward

Positions:

Gallery Manager:
Annick Bouvron-Gromek

Assistant Gallery Manager: Open

Newsletter:
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Membership:
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Marketing: Open

Scholarship:
Maryclare Heffernan, Co-Chair
Stephanie Williams, Co-Chair
Gwen Morgan
Carol Poiras
Doris Rice
Jean Swanson
Darlene Zahn
Debra Woodward

2nd Sunday Program Coordinator:
Dave Turbide

Body of Work Coordinator:
Debra Woodward

Webmaster:
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SAA MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of Seacoast Artists

Association is to enhance knowledge of, and stimulate interest and appreciation in, the variety of creative arts available throughout Seacoast New Hampshire, by hosting exhibits for established and emerging artists; providing a gallery to house works of art, collaborating with other arts organizations, and by providing art education, mentor and scholarship opportunities for students pursuing a degree in the arts.

SAA WEBSITES

www.seacoastartist.org

"Meet Up" sites:

www.meetup.com/Seacoast-Art-Connection
www.meetup.com/SeacoastPhotographers

PRESIDENT/GALLERY MANAGER'S MESSAGE:

Here we go! The gallery is re-opening with the safety of our customers and our members foremost in our minds. Here is what we have decided for the Gallery schedule at this time. Of course, we have to stay on top of the changing dynamics of the coronavirus pandemic. That means our plans are subject to change, but we are hopeful that conditions in our community will continue to improve.

We plan to use the month of March as a transitional period while many of our most vulnerable groups get vaccinated and then get back to a more normal schedule for April, including Theme Show and Body of Works as well as a full Gallery. We will still be requiring masks and social distancing in the gallery, so we have not yet made plans to resume receptions.

Starting in March, we will be open Friday and Saturday 10 to 5, Sundays 1 to 4. In April, Wednesday through Saturday 10 to 5, Sunday 1 to 4. Having several days closed allows pickups and drop-offs and exhibit hanging to proceed more orderly and with fewer members in the gallery at the same time.

We will work to restart outside exhibits (Members Award Show, Exeter Inn, and 100 Domain Drive) as those locations reopen for indoor activities.

The results for our Valentine's Day opening were very encouraging with more than expected sales. We have had a few sales from appointments and "walk-ins" when members were in the gallery working on exhibits.

We would like to welcome Debra Woodward to the SAA Board! Debra has been leading the Scholarship Committee for the past several years and is now transitioning out of that role to get involved with other SAA planning and activities.

Please consider joining or renewing your membership for 2021 if you have not yet done so. This can be done from the comfort of home by following these directions:

- We have established a **secure online payment website** using a feature provided by Square. Square is the provider of our Gallery credit card reader.
- **Membership and Virtual Gallery payments** can now be made securely by credit card from your home by going to: Home | Seacoast Artists Association (square.site)
- **For renewals**, after payment, if there are NO changes to your contact information or interests, there is nothing more to do! Your membership is renewed!
- **For new members or renewals** where information has changed, please submit a membership form by mail, email (Lynn Krumholz at lmkrumholz@gmail.com), or drop off at the gallery. The form can be found at: SAA-Membership-Application-2018.pdf (seacoastartist.org)

— Dennis Skillman. President, SAA

— Annick Bouvron-Gromek – Gallery Manager

THEME SHOW CHALLENGES FOR 2021:

Theme shows are open to members and non-members alike. All work must be framed in a professional manner complete with a wire hanger, and properly labeled on the back with artist, title, medium, and price. For a more consistent appearance on the wall, we recommend frames of brown, black, gold, or silver.

All judged shows take into consideration many different factors when awarding Best in Show. These factors include, but are not limited to: originality, technique in the specific medium of the piece, presentation, subject matter, design, relevance to the stated theme and whether the piece is an original piece of art. Keep in mind that, for non-photography entries, reproductions such as giclée prints, prints that are not numbered (and are not hand pulled) and other reproductions are not considered for Best in Show. However, all art hanging in the show is eligible for the People's Choice award.

Fee for SAA members: \$10.00 per piece up to two pieces, **non-members:** \$20.00 per piece up to two pieces. Pieces 16"x20" up to 22"x26" INCLUDING FRAME will count as two for \$20.00/\$40.00. You may enter one oversize and one 16X20 or smaller

April - The Colors of Spring

- We awaken slowly to spring in New England. In April, each tiny shoot of pale green, any sign of a bulb poking through the garden soil, is a sign of our survival. Paint and share all the colors of spring!

Drop Off, Saturday, March 27th, Pick Up, Saturday, May 1st.

May – Reflections

- If we look carefully at the world around us, we'll see beauty reflected in the simplest unturned stone along our path. This has been a year of profound change and uncertainty and yet in our days we still find wonder in our reflections. Share your reflections with us to help us see what you see.

Drop Off, Saturday May 1st, Pick up, Saturday, May 29th.



"Just for You" by Maryclare Heffernan



"Come Spring" by Maryclare Heffernan



Watercolor by Kathy Flygare

SAA FACEBOOK GROUP:

Connect with members and share your art based Facebook and Instagram pages. New members can also receive positive feedback (if they want it!) or ask questions. For submission opportunities and general information beyond what gets covered in our newsletter visit: www.facebook.com/groups/SAAmembers/

MARYCLARE HEFFERNAN APRIL 2021

BODY OF WORK:

Maryclare Heffernan works with a range of mediums and subjects. Influenced by her years in New England her art often depicts coastal scenes, mountain ranges, fields of flowers, foliage and birds. Her discovery later in life of the ability to capture the emotion associated with an image has given her a life altering understanding of our human potential to learn new skills, expand, evolve and see the world through fresh eyes and feelings. She talked about her experience in realizing that she could paint in a March 2017 TEDx Talk.

Maryclare has studied art with several New Hampshire based artists, but her main inspiration has come from traveling and painting with her two sisters Michele and Karen. Her art has been included in many juried exhibits and venues in New England and in private collections throughout the US. She is a regularly exhibiting member of the Seacoast Artist Association in Exeter, NH and a juried member of the New Hampshire Art Association.

Artists Statement: Art and Soul — In Maryclare's words:

I arrived late to the creation of art; a surprise discovery that has offered me the most treasured exploration of my life.

Art is how we bear witness to the moments we live and share the visual stories we need to tell. Several years ago, after undergoing surgeries, one of my two artist sister's came to visit. She brought with her little square canvases and paints, brushes, mediums. She picked peonies from the garden along the driveway and we sat on the front porch and painted. The rush of joy I felt in that first moment of painting pink, white, and green-stemmed flowers on those inexpensive canvases was heart stopping.

My art, like everything, is ever evolving. I work in oils, watercolors, pencil, and ink. I paint what I love to look at or feel compelled to capture from seascapes to pears to bird nests to tiny violets in the grass. There is no theme to my work other than what I find beautiful and moving.

Art fills my heart and soul with joy and possibility. What matters is that we contribute to our world and offer whatever we have to share so that as a community of human beings we become stronger, kinder, knit together in a more compassionate and generous way than we were before. I am eternally grateful to my sisters and my other artist mentors for guiding my artistic journey and for my own willingness to learn and fail and fail and learn. My life is changed forever, or until I die. Which very likely will come first.

maryclareheffernan@gmail.com Website: maryclareheffernan.com

KATHY FLYGARE (KALAWRENCE) APRIL 2021

BODY OF WORK:

Kathy Flygare (KALawrence) began watercolor classes at the Currier Art Gallery in Manchester NH in 1993. After relocating to the Seacoast, she continued taking watercolor classes and traveling with SAA member/teacher Doris Rice. These travel workshops have taken her to many beautiful countries such as Italy, Spain, Portugal, France and Greece. She also enjoys painting locally with other artists.

Kathy retired from her Human Resources position at Exeter Hospital to follow her passion for travel and art. With this year of COVID, she has still enjoyed painting through Zoom classes and painting in the quiet of her home. Being at home has given her the time to paint where she might have otherwise been busy doing other outside things. She is grateful for that. A positive spin to this challenging year.

Artists Statement: In Kathy's words:

Painting in watercolor is like painting with a partner who sometimes knows better than you. I discover this when I work on a piece and the paint and water do what they want. This can be because I have not controlled them enough or I just want to see what happens. So the moral of the story is sometimes you have to let go and let the paint and water flow and see the result. As my skill has developed I have noticed that the elements of design, color combinations and strokes are becoming natural enough that I don't have to think about them as much. I have internalized these rules and I give thanks to my teachers and inheritance for this.

It is a wonderful experience to finally say, "It is done." You put your signature on your painting and you start another. But... is it ever really finished. As I look at paintings I have framed I can usually find something I left out or should have added. Torture...if you don't let go.

Painting a subject is so personal. If I try to copy what someone else is painting and I compare mine to theirs, I might like theirs better but when I look back at mine, I must appreciate it for it is my interpretation and skill which make it very personal...another moment requiring me to let go.

It takes me awhile to start a painting. I have to find the location or subject and think about it awhile before putting paint to paper. Once I do begin, I am transported to an inner part of me that is in the moment and devoted to the process. If I worry too much about the end result, I miss the development process and the partnership. It takes steps to develop a good painting so staying in the moment helps each step progress easier. This is like living in the moment and not worrying about yesterday or tomorrow. Letting it flow and letting go...

COMING IN SPRING:

May Body of Work shows: Watercolors by Lorraine Makhoul and Oils by Jim Ryan

June Body of Work shows: Photographs by Dave Saums and Acrylics by Janice Leahy
(More soon on our website.)

SAA NEWSLETTER: Submit stories & announcements to denise@adceteragraphics.com by **April 15th**, prior to publication. Thank you!



Wallets, by Stephanie Williams



Maryclare Heffernan at Monhegan



"Hummingbird Hanger" by Jeff Whittum

**VISIT THE GALLERY,
SHOP ONLINE
OR MAKE
A PRIVATE
APPOINTMENT**

*Please Stay Safe,
Keep Painting,
& Creating.*

Volunteer on the SAA Marketing Committee!

Our Board of Directors is committed to moving our marketing efforts forward in 2021.

We are looking for volunteers for the marketing committee, and get the word out about the SAA., email seacoartist.marketing@gmail.com.

SAA SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

The **SAA Scholarship Committee** is pleased to announce their new co-chairs! Gallery members Stephanie Williams and Maryclare Heffernan will be taking the reins from Debra Woodward after her two years of service.

"These are two wonderfully creative and energetic artists who both have educational backgrounds and will give the program new life," says Debra who will remain on the committee along with Doris Rice, Carol Poitras, Gwen Morgan, Darlene Zahn, and Jean Swanson.

The members are currently working with their select public high school art teachers to gather the list of 2021 recipients who will be announced in May.

Y'Art Sale Our annual Y'Art Sale is the biggest fundraiser for the scholarship fund. We do not have a date yet, but the first **drop off for salable art-related items is at the gallery on Sunday, March 7th from 11-7.** (Art items only.) Donations to the scholarship fund are always much appreciated. Please send a check to the gallery or call with a credit card during open hours.

Please email Stephanie at srwilliams1@hotmail.com with any questions.

2021 MYSTERY KITS

It's that time of year to start pulling together items for this year's **Mystery Kits** that help support scholarships. Carol Poitras and Gwen Morgan will again run this spectacularly popular and fun program this year! The kits will go out in June so everyone can create this summer. The exhibit will be in October. The kits sold out in a matter of weeks last year, so be sure to buy your kit early! All for a great cause. Items must be identical and are subject to approval by the co-chairs. **Please contact Carol Poitras: spoitras2@comcast.net or Gwen Morgan: morgiegwen@comcast.net.**

MEMBER NEWS:

Denise Brown Being self-employed for over 30-years, Denise has many irons in the fire: graphic art, writing and illustrating her own and other author's books, and doing commission paintings to capture special equines, dogs, and cats and architecture for their owners. She is also a wild horse advocate.

In February, Denise was interviewed and featured in "Northeast Equestrian Life" Magazine as an equine artist and author/illustrator of "Wind, Wild Horse Rescue" book. The magazines are at Agway, saddle, and tack shops around New England. "It's fun to see my artwork published. It takes years to be recognized. In 2016, my horse paintings were featured in TruCowboy Magazine," said Brown.

See the article at <https://www.facebook.com/PortsmouthChamber/posts/5690596440966466>

For more of Denise's artwork and books, visit www.raccoonstudios.com and www.windwildhorse.com to read her wild horse and burro blog. denise@adceteragraphics.com



"Northeast Equestrian Life" magazine article about Denise F. Brown

The Association needs some help with writing and ideas. Can you help?

Specifically: Taking excellent photos of gallery events, gallery art, posting on our Instagram and FB pages and help with other marketing tasks. Sign up to help on the Marketing Committee.

You can reply to seacoartist.marketing@gmail.com