



# SEACOAST ARTIST

The official Newsletter of the Seacoast Artist Association

## MAY / JUNE 2026

### THE GALLERY IS OPEN

Weds–Sat: 10 am–5 pm  
Sun: 10 am–2 pm

### FOR UPDATES VISIT

SeacoastArtist.org

130 Water Street  
Exeter, NH 03833

(603) 778-8856

### GALLERY

gallery@SeacoastArtist.org

### MEMBERSHIP

membership@SeacoastArtist.org

Seacoast Artist Association

instagram.com/  
seacoartist\_assoc

### EXHIBITING MEMBERS

Skip Berrien,  
Christine Blomquist,  
Dave Blomquist,  
Angela Branon,  
Ann Brown,  
Denise Brown,  
Barbara Cowan,  
Jane Davis Copp,  
Natasha Dikareva,  
Jim Faist,  
Wendy Haslam,  
Sandy Hazelton,  
Sue Hennigan,  
Laura Cassinari King,  
Lynn Krumholz,  
Gail Kushner,  
Barbara London,  
Bill Mensching,  
Sarah Oppenheimer,  
Carol Poitras,  
Doris Rice,  
Cheryl Sager,  
Dave Saums,  
Michael Saunders,  
Dennis Skillman,  
Noel Soucy,  
Kevin Talbot,  
Dave Turbide,  
Marlene Zychowski

## BODY OF WORK ARTISTS

### MAY 2026 PAM GROTENHUIS



*Cerulean Dream*

### MAY 2026 JANIS LEAHY



*The Quiet Ascension*

### JUNE 2026 ANN BROWN



*Breaking Tides*

### JUNE 2026 JANE COPP



*Flemish Birthday Flowers*

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- **May 2 & 3, Exeter Spring Art Walk, 10am to 4pm**  
14 participants around town!
- **May 2, 3, 10 am to 4 pm** - Town Hall and **May 9,10,16 & 17, noon to 4 pm** - Town Hall  
**Members Show - "Primavera - The Art of Spring,"**
- **May 8, 4-6pm, Primavera Reception** - Town Hall, recognizing the scholarship winners.  
Musician: Jennifer Reed, harpist
- **May 4, 12:30-2:30, 8 weeks** - SAA Gallery  
**Learn to Paint Acrylics II**, Classes with Revelle Taillon. Mondays, see back page for details
- **May 7, 14, 21, 28, 5:30-7:30pm** - SAA Gallery  
**Watercolor classes** with Doris Rice. Thursdays, see back page for details.
- **May 8 - Body of Work & Theme Show Reception** - SAA Gallery  
Artists: Pam Grotenhuis and Janis Leahy  
Musician: Jerry Short  
Theme Show: "In Plein Air"
- **May 12, 10am-2pm** - SAA Gallery - **Watercolor Spring Florals #1** class with Margaret Dwyer.  
Tuesday, see back page for details.
- **May 19, 10am-2pm** - SAA Gallery - **Watercolor Spring Florals #2** class with Margaret Dwyer.  
Tuesday, see back page for details.
- **June 4, 11, 18, July 2, 9, 5:30-7:30pm** - SAA Gallery  
**Watercolor classes** with Doris Rice. Thursdays, see back page for details.
- **June 12 - Body of Work & Theme Show Reception** - SAA Gallery  
Artists: Ann Brown and Jane Copp  
Musician: Betsy Green  
Theme Show: "In Bloom, Flowers"
- **June 14 - Sunday Art Demo 2-3:30** - SAA Gallery  
Artist: Don Demers
- **June 16, 10am-2pm** - SAA Gallery - **Watercolor The Ways of Water #1** class with Margaret Dwyer.  
Tuesday, see back page for details.
- **June 23, 10am-2pm** - SAA Gallery - **Watercolor The Ways of Water #2** class with Margaret Dwyer.  
Tuesday, see back page for details.

### PRIMAVERA: The Art of Spring. Members Art Show 2026



*Kevin Talbot*

### Spring Art Walk

14 locations with a number of new participants. Find your favorite piece of artwork on either

**Sat., May 2nd or Sun., May 3rd**  
**10am to 4pm**



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND VOLUNTEER STAFF:

### OFFICERS:

Dave Turbide: President, Offsite Exhibits

Ann Brown: Secretary

### BOARD MEMBERS:

Jane Davis Copp: Gallery Operations, Gallery Coordinator

Carol Poitras: Plein Air Group, Scholarship Committee

Doris Rice: Education

Dave Blomquist: Publicity

Noel Soucy: Theme Show Coordinator

### STAFF MEMBERS:

Lynn Krumholz:

Gallery Operations, Exhibits

Sandy Hazelton: Membership

Richard Page/Cheryl Sager: Second Sundays Coordinators

Sarah Oppenheimer: Scholarship

Marlene Zychowski: Body of Work Program

Dave Thompson: Webmaster

Kevin Talbot: Facebook/Instagram

Dennis Skillman: Tech Advisor

Denise Brown: Newsletter

**Thanks to all our members!** The SAA runs on volunteer support, and we're grateful to everyone who helps make it a welcoming space for artists and art lovers. Renew or join at [SeacoastArtist.org](http://SeacoastArtist.org) Questions? Email us at [membership@seacoastartist.org](mailto:membership@seacoastartist.org)

## MISSION STATEMENT

**The Seacoast Artist Association Mission** 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.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Ah, Spring. Always delightful to see the crocuses, tulips, daffodils, and hyacinths emerge from their slumber and brighten the days with pastel colors and pleasant fragrances, and the promise of warmer weather to come. Even in a year like this one, when winter seems so reluctant to step aside, spring blooms bring hope and delight. At SAA, we celebrate the coming of Spring with our May member show at the old town hall which coincides with the Spring Exeter art walk, and appropriately themed monthly shows in the gallery. While you are out and about, you might keep an eye out for small groups of Plein Air painters capturing the beauty of the season. Enjoy the beauty of Spring on the seacoast.

— Dave Turbide, SAA president

## THEME SHOWS 2026:

**Theme shows** are open to members and non-members alike, but since member entry fees are discounted

**THIS IS THE PERFECT TIME TO BECOME A MEMBER! Go to [seacoastartist.org](http://seacoastartist.org) and join today!**

All 2026 themes for the year have been announced, so you have time to create and submit every month!

- Please visit the **SAA gallery** or [seacoastartist.org](http://seacoastartist.org) for a full list of the 2026 Theme Shows and brochure.
- Your submission needs to be emailed no later than the **THURSDAY PRIOR to drop off** so that the labels and paperwork can be done ahead of time and in doing so this will help our receiving team.
- Members receive monthly emails with all the rules, but here is some general info:
- Please send your information to: [themeshowsubmissions@seacoastartist.org](mailto:themeshowsubmissions@seacoastartist.org)
- What we need : TITLE, MEDIUM, PRICE, ARTIST NAME, PHONE NUMBER.
- Also, if you have a good jpeg of your entry, please include, as we may use for publication.
- We do not need you to email a copy of the entry form.

We will acknowledge all submissions, so if you don't get an email back you must resubmit this information.

- Bring your work along with completed entry form available at the gallery and at [www.seacoastartist.org](http://www.seacoastartist.org) to the gallery on the specified drop-off day, 10-2. (See below)

**Entry fees: Members:** \$10.00 per piece up to two pieces, **Non-members:** \$20.00 per piece up to two pieces.

Pieces OVER 16"x20" up to 22"x26" INCLUDING FRAME \$20.00/\$40.00. You may enter one oversize and one 16"x20" or smaller. More about hanging requirements at [seacoastartist.org](http://seacoastartist.org)

**Receptions are held the Second Fridays of the month from 5-7 pm.**

We appreciate food/beverage donations from participants

### May: In Plein Air

"Everything that is painted directly and on the spot always has strength, a power, and a vivacity of touch one cannot recover in the studio... Three strokes of the brush in front of nature are worth more than two days of work at the easel!" - Eugène Boudin. Bring us what you have been working on as the weather warms or even something you created last year!

**Drop Off: April 25th, 10-2pm Pick up: May 30th Reception: Friday May 8th, 5-7pm**

### June: In Bloom, Flowers

"I must have flowers, always, and always." - Claude Monet. Because these fragile masterpieces of nature evoke such profound emotion, they have provided infinite inspirations for artists for centuries.

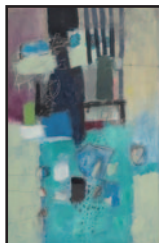
**Drop Off: May 30th, 10-2pm Pick up: June 27th Reception: June 12th, 5-7pm**

- **Awards:** Many theme shows offer Best in Show and People's Choice Awards.

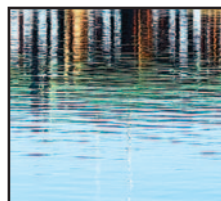
The Best in Show winner, chosen by committee, will be awarded a free entry in the next Theme Show of the winner's choosing! The People's Choice Award is voted on by attendees of our Second Friday reception.

## SAA THEME SHOW WINNERS

March 2026



Best in Show  
Robert Dumas  
"Fragmented Harbor"



People's Choice Award  
Su Bailey  
"Reflecting on Newburyport"

April 2026



Best In show  
Brita Nordin  
"Little Finch"



People's Choice  
Marcia Trahan  
"All is Possible"

**SAA NEWSLETTER:** Submit stories & announcements to [denise@adceteragraphics.com](mailto:denise@adceteragraphics.com) by **June 15th**, prior to publication. Thank you!

## BODY OF WORK SHOWS MAY/JUNE 2026:



"Wild Flowers Compass,"  
mixed media by Pam Grotenhuis



"The Still Vessel" acrylic by Janice Leahy



"Moon Glade," acrylic by Ann Brown



"Flemish Flowers with Marble,"  
acrylic by Jane Copp

### PAM GROTEHUIS - MAY "BEYOND THE BRANCHES"

Empty nests are not only found in tree branches but also in unexpected places — canoes, under eaves, gardens, and in overturned flowerpots. Each nest, meticulously assembled, serves as a spectacular vessel and a symbol of life's possibilities. It represents new beginnings, nurturing, growth, eventual flight and when empty, is replaced by silence and emptiness. "Beyond the Branches," examines the intricate emotional landscape surrounding the empty nest experience, inviting viewers to consider themes of beauty, solitude, and yearning, while highlighting the importance of the nest as a symbol of change, memories and significant life transitions. My creative process started with photographing bird nests, which I referred to or transferred into wax using encaustic techniques. The medium's sculptural qualities, glossy finish, and translucency offered versatility and often produced unique, unpredictable outcomes. Incorporating mixed media into the work reflected how birds instinctively select materials for their nests finalizing the concept. It is through my artistic process that I share my view of the nest as a symbol of change and emotion.

### JANIS LEAHY - MAY: "THE QUIET AT WATERS EDGE"

The Quiet at Waters Edge presents a cohesive meditation on presence, memory, and the emotional terrains we carry. The exhibition invites viewers to slow down, reflect, and reconnect with the quiet spaces that exist within the world. Working primarily in acrylic, Leahy captures moments that feel both familiar and just beyond reach—shorelines at rest, water reflecting shifting light, and environments shaped as much by memory as by geography. Her paintings are less about specific locations and more about the quiet imprint those places leave behind. "This body of work is about what lingers," says Leahy. "The feeling a place leaves behind—the way light stays with you, even after you've gone."

### ANN BROWN - JUNE: "TAKE ME TO THE SEA"

One of my favorite places is out at sea. We are lucky enough to have a boat and whether I'm heading out to the Isles of Shoals or beyond, I'm always filled with anticipation of what treasures we will discover. With my camera always at the ready, one can find endless images to spark creativity, both in photography and painting. The warm sun, the smell of the salted air and the sound of the ever moving water, it is an artist's treasure chest of possibilities. This BOW collection is an extension of moments out at sea, embracing wildlife, seascapes, lighthouses and some waves in between. I'm always taking notice of changing light, color, shadows or the constant movement that is surrounding me and my lens. From there, I let my imagination run free. This sampling is a glimpse of time spent out at sea...my happiest place to be!

### JANE COPP - JUNE: "FLEMISH FLOWERS & MORE"

Flemish flower painting flourished in 17th century Netherlands where it combined botanical detail with dramatic compositions and symbolic meaning. "Impossible" bouquets were often created with flowers that bloomed at different times of the year, hence many of these historical paintings were not completed on sight but were inventive. Two of the compositions I have here were painted on sight with flowers, sent to me by my oldest son, from a florist in Portsmouth, "Flowers by Leslie". My fascination with this genre of painting stems from an interest in the fragile beauty of flowers and the joy they represent. Primarily a painter of boats, landscapes and flowers, Jane works in both acrylic and oil paints, capturing the shapes, compositions and light that define her visions. Jane has a degree in art education from the University of New Hampshire and is the author of "Visual Arts for Middle Schools". She maintains a studio in North Hampton, NH and exhibits her work here in Exeter and at Ceres Gallery and the NHAA in Portsmouth, NH.

**2026 Body of Work:** shows are now full through 2026. To be added to the waiting list or the 2027 Calendar, leave your name and contact info at the gallery or email Marlene at [mmzychowski@gmail.com](mailto:mmzychowski@gmail.com). We do ask that you participate in 2-3 theme shows so we see your work. Members receive a discounted rate, so now is a good time to join/renew!

## Second SUNDAY Demos:

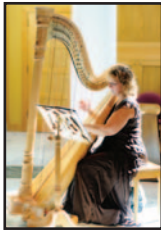


"The Coming Light"  
Art Demo by Don Demers  
June Second Sunday

## 2nd FRIDAY Music:



Jerry Short



Jennifer Reed



Betsy Green



Doris Rice watercolor class



"Landscape"  
Acrylic by Revelle Taillon



"Garden Party"  
watercolor by Margaret Dwyer

## SAA NEWS:

**Membership News** Thank you to our members for being part of the SAA, an all-volunteer, non-profit organization. It is one of New Hampshire's much-loved destinations for artists to display their work and art lovers to enjoy! Whether an artist, art enthusiast, or a friend of SAA, please continue your membership or become a new member. Visit [www.seacoartist.org](http://www.seacoartist.org) for more info. Questions: [membership@seacoartist.org](mailto:membership@seacoartist.org). Thank you!

**SAA Scholarship Committee** communicates with schools and raises money. We send Scholarship application forms to 13 Area High Schools: Exeter H.S., Dover H.S., Raymond H.S., Portsmouth H.S., Spaulding H.S., Oyster River H.S., Somersworth H.S., Sanborn H.S. Winnacunnet H.S., Epping H.S., Newmarket H.S. Timberlane H.S. and York H.S. We work on ways to fund the scholarships given in December.

## SAA Members Show - "Primavera - The Art of Spring" at the TOWN HALL.

The Exhibit is open weekend dates: **May 2 & 3, 10 am-4 pm; and May 9,10,16 & 17, noon-4 pm.**

**Drop Off Art:** April 29, 2-7pm. **Pick Up Art:** May 17, 4-6pm.

This show is to benefit the SAA Scholarship Fund. Exhibit features art by the 2026 High School SAA Scholarship Winners. **Friday, May 8, 4-6 pm, Reception** recognizing the scholarship winners. Harp music by Jennifer Reed. The Exhibit is also part of the **2026 Spring Art Walk** that will be on **May 2 and 3.**

## Second Sunday Art Demos 2-3:30pm

**NO SECOND SUNDAY DEMO IN MAY** - May is a busy month at SAA with our Primavera all-member art show, and with Mother's Day coinciding with our 2nd Sound Demonstration, we will take a break. Please visit us on June 14 and don't miss local artist Don Demers.

**JUNE 14, 2026, 2:00 -3:30 - Don Demers** - Please join SAA as we welcome Don Demers with a Second Sunday Demonstration titled "Sea and Shore: How water breaks on a shoreline." Don will paint an oil demo while sharing his expertise. In addition, on June 19, Don will present a full-day plein air workshop at the Sandy Point Discovery Center located at 89 Depot Rd. Greenland from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. Please see the Second Sunday SAA door flyer and the SAA website for further details. All are welcome.

## SAA Second Friday Music at the Gallery Series 5-7pm

Enjoy some of the NH's finest musicians and light refreshments. Admission is free; donations appreciated!

**MAY 8 Jerry Short at SAA** - Singer-songwriter returns to the SAA gallery performing on guitar, harmonica, dobro and vocals. As a mainstay on the New England folk music scene for over thirty years, he will perform covers, originals and a few new tunes.

**MAY 8 Jennifer Reed in the Town Hall** - Harpist, Jennifer Reed says, "Harp music has brought me so much joy. It opens doors to people who enjoy the sounds a harp brings to the soul. My hope is to provide music that soothes and brings the listener closer to the beauty of the art that is being displayed at this event.

**JUNE 12 Betsy Green at SAA** - Betsy Green has been playing music in the Seacoast area for the past ten years; she'll serenade you with fiddle tunes and old-timey songs. Betsy is also a Seacoast Artist Association member and her work can be found at [betsygreenart.com](http://betsygreenart.com). Come on out and tap your feet!

## ART CLASSES AT THE GALLERY

**Doris Rice Watercolor Classes** Thurs. Eves 5:30-7:30+ Cost for evening class is: \$25/class or \$150 for a 6-class card. Relaxed setting, we share the joy of painting. Each week features a new subject designed to teach both technique and topic - open to all levels. Visit [DorisRice.com](http://DorisRice.com), where you can also sign up for her newsletter for updates on classes and workshops. Registration via email. Bring your watercolor supplies. See class details at: [www.dorisrice.com](http://www.dorisrice.com), sign up for weekly e-newsletter to find out subject for the week. Call 603-724-7779. Email [doris.watercolor@gmail.com](mailto:doris.watercolor@gmail.com)

**Revelle Taillon Drawing Classes at SAA Gallery : Acrylics II - Mon.** Starting May 4, for 8 weeks, 12:30-2:30, \$190.00, no refunds. You must have some acrylic painting experience. Home schooled students accepted with teacher approval. Min three students, max seven students. To hold your spot please mail check directly to: Revelle Taillon, 26 West Pine Street, Plaistow, NH 03865. For more info. and if room in this class, call 603-548-6694 or email [rtailon@comcast.net](mailto:rtailon@comcast.net). Revelle's blog has samples of her artwork and techniques and details on this class and past classes. <http://revelleimagemaker.blogspot.com>

### Margaret Dwyer Watercolor Workshops:

• **2 Watercolor Classes, Spring Florals: Tues. May 12 & 19, 10-2.** \$100 per class. Let's paint flowers! Their organic forms and vivid colors lend themselves to techniques of watercolor. Bring in seasonal blooms and flowering branches to paint. Learn to simplify your drawing and let paint work its magic. Learn to keep colors clean for luminous results, and add depth with textures, glazing, and techniques. Come to either class or both to finish your paintings.

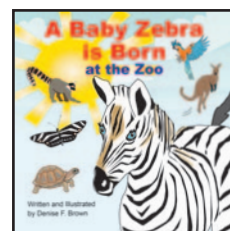
• **Watercolor Series: The Ways of Water-#1 June 16, 10-2.** \$100. Water in landscape is everchanging in form, color, and relationships with light. Still water offers reflections. Rivers provide moving water that breaks against what is in its path. The ocean has patterns, crashing waves, and dramatic shorelines. This workshop focuses on still water and reflections and has references to work from or bring your own.

• **Watercolor Series: The Ways of Water-#2 June 23, 10-2.** \$100. This will feature reflections in marshes and ponds in dramatic lighting. Moody skies add to glowing effects. Taking the previous workshop is not a requirement for taking this one. If you took the previous workshop, you can work on paintings you started and add new elements.

Contact Margaret to register: [dwyerdavis@gmail.com](mailto:dwyerdavis@gmail.com) or visit [MargaretDwyerArtist.com](http://MargaretDwyerArtist.com) (discount given if you sign up for both workshops)

## MEMBER NEWS

**Denise F. Brown** has both written and illustrated fifteen children's books. Her newest book is "**A Baby Zebra is Born at the Zoo!**" - in York, Maine. You'll love how the other animals reacted to the news and what the baby was named! Denise will be doing a book signing at the zoo, TBD. For info, visit [www.raccoonstudios.com](http://www.raccoonstudios.com).



New Book:  
"A Baby Zebra  
is Born at  
the Zoo," by  
Denise F. Brown