Pg.1 October 2021





Newsletter

A WORD FROM AAG PRESIDENT, DAVID L. BRADLEY



Hello Artists!

Throughout the month of September, signs of life at AAG glimmered and sparkled among the heat and storms. Open Studio, the heartbeat of AAG has been meeting in person for a few months now thanks to Alicia Plogman. I first met Alicia Plogman when she was my student

in Drawing 1 class at Paradise Valley Community College. She impressed me with the vitality expressed in her artwork. Since I joined AAG in 2011, Alicia Plogman has been the most consistent, reliable and passionate team member an organization could ask for. Throughout the pandemic Alicia has kept her eye on the building and everything that goes on there. She and Alice Pelchat met people individually to allow them to shop at the Art Supply Exchange. The ASE brought in much needed revenue which helped keep the lights on.

September 21, 2021 marked the first face to face general meeting since February 18, 2020. 25 people attended in person, while 27 attended via zoom. Presenting the meetings, workshops, exhibitions and community outreach programs in a hybrid format is quite the technical challenge for this guy who doesn't know his AC from his DC. Nevertheless, with Tess' help, support and guidance we were able to hit the ground running with the new hybrid format.

The new slate of officers was approved unanimously. Volunteers all, these men and women are giving their time and energy so you and I can talk about, dissect and revel in beauty by hand. We are all members of the same group: Creatives. More about that later in the newsletter.

With a video camera connected to the TV monitor, I was on the big screen and on the home screens of those watching from afar. A wireless microphone allowed me to roam the audience giving it to those who wished to comment on the critique. The critique was a media circus,

both Ann and I conducted a lively critique of 10 works in the room and two submitted on the AAG website. Never before in the history of AAG has an event been presented in such a way. It was quite the moment. The crowd was engaged in the artworks presented, especially regarding Velvet Tetrault's oil painting marking the beginning of a five painting series depicting scenes from a story involving muscular, nude Satyrs attacking a winged female bird goddess. Much discussion focused on the scene depicted, the figures' anatomy, development of the background and drama in the figures' stances. Velvet has my admiration for the ambition and scope of her artworks and I look forward to seeing the other parts of this series.

A plea was made for volunteers to assist in AAG activities. The meetings, open studio, life drawing, workshops, exhibitions community outreach, art supply exchange, artstravaganza, and the myriad of events at AAG can't happen without the contributions by many, many volunteers. From setting up tables, editing the newsletter, organizing helpers to install an art show, donating food for the Veterans art program lunches, overseeing the landscaping, keeping the books, updating the website, holding the raffle, managing the artist of the month program and the list goes on. Each of these activities is important. Every member is important whether participating in person or virtually. This is why a lot of time, energy, and expense was spent on the audio/video equipment now at the front of the room and which controls the sound and images shown on the big screen and at home.

I look forward to your feedback. I am constantly learning and trying to take advantage of every moment I have, so I look to all of you to help me make a difference. AAG is making a difference in the world. AAG is very important to me as a family. I have made many friends at AAG and also fallen in love. You may or may not find the love of your life at AAG, but if you participate in events at AAG your life will be positively impacted.

I hope all of you find joy and happiness this year. David

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ART SUPPLY EXCHANGE SALE

Frames, paint, paper, brushes, easels and more!

The Art Supply Exchange is one of AAG's most popular programs. Donated gently used art supplies are available at very reasonable prices.

If interested in donating or purchasing supplies Alicia Plogman: aplogman@icloud.net or call 602-944-9713.

AAG - LIFE DRAWING

TUESDAYS 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM
MEMBERS \$10.00 | NON MEMBERS \$15.00
NO INSTRUCTION

Easels and tables provided. Bring supplies.

Pre-registration is required - via arizonaartistsguild.net

For more information, contact

John Hickman | johnfheckman@gmail.com

AAG - OPEN STUDIO

Mondays 8 AM - 12 PM | Wednesday 2:30-5:30 PM MEMBERS FREE | NON MEMBERS \$10.00

Easels and tables provided. Bring supplies. contact Alicia Plogman: aplogman@icloud.com



COVID POLICIES 2021

GENERAL MEETING OUTLINE

5pm-5:30 pm Social time

5:30-6:30 Critique

6:30-6:40 Break / Purchase Raffle tickets

6:40-7:15 Business meeting

7:15-7:25 Break

7:25-8:15 Presentation

8:15 Meeting Adjourned

2021/2022 General Meetings will all be in a Hybrid format. Members and guests will be able to attend either in person (limited to 40) or via zoom.

Everyone must RSVP on the AAG website indicating which way they will attend. If attending via zoom once you RSVP you will receive a zoom link. It's easy, simply click "Click here to RSVP for the September meeting". Fill in the form and click submit. Zoom allows more people to attend than can safely fit into the meeting room. Now you don't have to even get dressed, much less drive to attend the meetings, and you can participate in the Critique and discussions just as if you were in person.

The pot-luck has been suspended due to Covid. We will have bottles of water and some cookies. Please do not bring refreshments.

Please see page 11 for important information about applying to the **Artist of the Month Virtual Competition.**

Images for Critique may be submitted online through the website as well as brought to the monthly meeting. To submit online, simply fill out the submission form and upload your image. Contact David Bradley if you need assistance.

The Critique will continue to be led by David Bradley, Ann Osgood and Art Smith, pictured below.



The board of AAG takes the health and safety of its members very seriously. That is why those attending the General Meetings, Life Drawing and Open Studio and other events at AAG are required to wear masks, maintain 3 feet distance with others, and allow a temperature check upon entering the building. These measures will help stop the spread of Covid and the flu. Maximum capacity during the pandemic is 40. If you prefer, you are invited to attend most activities via zoom instead.

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CREATIVITY BY DAVID L. BRADLEY

In my September General Meeting presentation I shared with you the results of ongoing research I am doing with my students funded through a research grant I received from PVCC. The research findings have impacted my approach to artmaking. Additionally I have revised my curriculum to spark even more creativity in my students. You will be hearing more about this throughout the year. Please let me know if this impacts your creativity in any way.

In the meeting I took advantage of the opportunity as the new/old president, to grab/hog the spotlight and give a presentation on Creativity. The topic is of great personal interest and has been a focus of attention for the past few years. For the coming year I plan to share my views on creativity and as many tips for boosting your own creativity as I can fit into the meetings and this newsletter. Some of the tips may not work for you, that's ok because creativity is unique to each of us and what works for one may not work for another. It's such a special ability, we should try

to exercise it as much as possible. This is very difficult when our electronic leashes are yanking us to attention more and more. Creativity is what will save our lives, and will solve our problems. You might say it's the cause of many of our problems today, but creativity beats the alternative, which is to deny our potential to use our big brains for good. I know, I know, call me Pollyanna, but it's proven that a positive attitude is better physiologically than a depressive one.

There are 15 Indicators of Creativity as determined by the Abbreviated Torrance Test for Adults. I believe that an artist can use these indicators as part of the creative process to examine an artwork to see if it contains these indicators. A work that seems incomplete, or lacking impact can be examined on the basis of these indicators and modified accordingly.

The Indicators of Creativity:

Richness and Colorfulness of Imagery-strength, variety and vividness of imagery.

Fluency-The number of possible solutions to a problem, not settling for the obvious solution.

Future Orientation-When future consequences are projected, such as changes in an industry, or situation depicted

Humor: Conceptual Incongruity-It may make you laugh, or be considered funny.

Provocative Questions- An image might make you think of an object, or concept from a different point of view. Openness: Resistance to Premature Closure- Less creative persons tend to leap to conclusions prematurely and tend to close incomplete figures quickly. The creative person delays closure long enough to make the mental leap that makes original ideas possible.

Unusual Visualization, Different Perspective-This can be defined as any visual perspective other than the static, upright, straight on view which is the usual common perspective given by a majority of people. Movement and/or Sound-This may be evidenced by titles or speech and/or posture of figures in artwork. Richness and/or colorfulness of Imagery-This is evidenced by responses that appeal to the senses of touch, smell, and sight. They show variety, vividness, liveliness, and intensity.

Abstractness of Titles- While most titles simply give the name of an object, or perhaps add a simple descriptor, others go beyond this by adding interpretations including abstract interpretations.

Context: Environment for Object, Articulateness in Telling Story- The creative person is able to communicate clearly and powerfully through responses which provide sufficient details and become part of some system which tells a story.

Combination/Synthesis of Two or More Figures-The creative person sees possibilities beyond the commonplace, synthesizing multiple stimuli into single designs. This is evidenced by combining figures into a

designs. This is evidenced by combining figures into a single entity.

Internal Visual Perspective-This involves going beyond exteriors and paying attention to internal dynamics.

beyond exteriors and paying attention to internal, dynamic workings of things, e.g., showing the internal workings of a machine.

Expressions of Feelings and Emotions-Examples of this indicator are feelings such as sadness, happiness, love, anger, disgust, and similar emotions evoked by the artwork in the viewer.

Fantasy-This frequently includes drawings involving cartoon characters, fairy tales, characters in fables and myths, science fiction, etc. Original fantasy is also sometimes evident, such as dancing triangles, talking raindrops, etc.

How might you work with this list in order to increase your creativity? Pick one or two areas and work on that. Perhaps you have very straight forward titles, can you allow yourself to be more expressive with your titles? I challenge you to look at this list and find your own ways to use them in your artistic practice. Don't hesitate to reach out if you have questions or you want to discuss it further.

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2021-2022 Exhibition Update

AAG is excited to announce that we will be hosting hybrid exhibitions for the 2021-2022 season. Be sure to visit the website for updated information. In the meantime, get into your studio to make work for the upcoming shows!

AAG WINTER EXHIBITION

OPEN TO ASSOCIATE MEMBERS OF AAG

Exhibition dates: December 5, 2021-February 6, 2022 Opening Reception: December 5, 2021, 12-4 pm Entries: Friday, October 15-Monday, November 15, 2021

https://arizonaartistsguild.net/2021-exhibits/

Online entries ONLY.

Applicants are required to include a 200 word maximum biographical or artists statement with their submission. If you need help with this, email admin@arizonaaristsguild.net. We will schedule a writing session if needed.

Jurors:

Laura Cohen Hogan | Joan McGue | Kris Kollasch

Prizes

A total of \$900 in prize money will be awarded!

\$500 - Best in Show

\$250 - Award of Excellence

\$150 - Award of Merit

Jurying Accepted works will be chosen based on quality and the individual artist's mastery of the medium and expression, without preference toward any particular school, style or technique.



2021 Best of Show award recipient, David Bradley

UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

Associates Body of Work

Exhibition dates: TBA Opening Reception: TBA

Entries: TBA

11TH ANNUAL STATEWIDE EXHIBITION

Exhibition dates: TBA Opening Reception: TBA

2021-2020 Guild School of Art Workshop Schedule

Workshops will be produced hybrid. Participants can attend via zoom or in-person. Schedule is currently underway, please visit the website for updates.



John Erwin Snow Capped Mountains, Leaves and Florals October 22 | 10 am to 1 pm members: \$35 | non-members: \$40

Stan Kurth
Intuitive Painting with Ink, Watercolor
and Gouache on Paper
November 6 | 10:00 am - 3:00 pm
members: \$70 | non-members: \$80



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AAG Membership UPDATE

For nearly 100 years AAG boasts a vibrant community of artists working in a wide array of mediums. AAG members tend to be open-minded and generally encouraging to one another. This diversity inspires and ignites creativity.

Membership Levels:

There are three classifications of membership: Associate, Juried, and Life Member.

Associate Member: must be at least 18 years of age. Upon joining AAG one is an Associate Member. Associate Membership benefits include but not limited to: attending AAG meetings, social activities, Open Studio, Life Drawing, and workshops, receive a discount on AAG Workshops and exhibition fees and are eligible to enter AAG sponsored art exhibitions designated by the Board.

Juried Member: once the Associate member's artwork has been accepted in three (3) AAG juried exhibitions they are eligible to apply for Juried Member Status. In addition to the benefits of the Associate Member, Juried Members may participate in special events and opportunities designated for Juried Members only.

Life Members shall be approved by a quorum vote of the Board and shall have the same privileges as Juried Members.

Yearly dues are \$45 which provides online access to the newsletter and the membership directory. Although we offer a \$55 option whereby you can have the newsletter and directory mailed to you we are encouraging all members to join online and take advantage of the online directory.

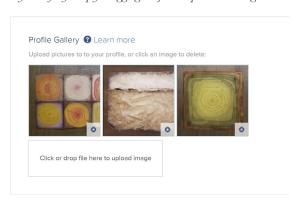
CHANGES TO THE APPLICATION PROCESS

AAG is using **MembershipWorks** to manage our membership database. The automated process is easy to use and offers so much more flexibility. Once you have completed the online form, be sure to request a password. After you enter your password you can edit your profile which will be included in the membership directory. You can add a photo of yourself, images of your artwork, a brief bio, links to your social media accounts and website. This is a to convenient way to share your information with all AAG members. It is one more way AAG is working to bridge the gap formed during isolation during the pandemic.

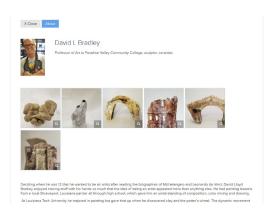


The login box on the membership page of the AAG website. Once you join or renew your membership you will need to request a password.

Once you have logged in you can easily upload images and information about yourself by simply dragging the file to upload the image.



A sample of a completed profile.



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OUTREACH EXHIBITIONS

An art exhibition in partnership with The Beattudes Assisted Living Community, a senior care facility in central Phoenix. Juried Members of AAG are invited to a one or two-person three-month-long exhibit. Rotating quarterly, residents of the Beattudes and their families enjoy the changing exhibitions and the opportunity to enjoy art when often they cannot get out to experience it at museums or galleries.



BEATITUDES: VISION OF POSSIBILITIES

1610 W. Glendale Ave, Phoenix.

Carole Matthews and Maria Karlosak

through November 20, 2021



AAG juried members are eligible to exhibit at The Beatitudes for a three-month long exhibition.

Contact: Hank Keneally | hank.keneally@gmail.com

AAG's exhibition gracing the walls of the Beatitudes brings enjoyment and inspiration to the residents and guests. pictured above: artwork by Carole Matthews at left and Maria Karlosak at right.

Many AAG members are participating in the Fall **Studio Tours.**



October 23 & 24 Sunnyslope Studio Tour facebook.com/ SunnyslopeStudioTour



November 19, 20, 21 + 26, 27, 28 Hidden in the Hills Studio Tour

sonoranartsleague.org

Studio tours are a fun way to get to visit with local artists, see an abundance of their work and perhaps even get a glimpse into their working environments. Visit the websites and map out where you want to go to make it a positive and fun experience.

DIGITAL MEDIA LABS WITH TESS MOSKO SCHERER



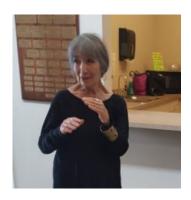
This fundraiser for Arizona Art Alliance is open to all members of the Arizona Art Alliance - that means all members of AAG.

If you are new to social media or just want to learn more about how to leverage your message on social media, this lab is for you. Topics covered: posting, creating events, sharing, business tips, marketing strategies. photo editing, and more. Each session is driven by the needs of the attendees. In addition to skill building together we define your goal for using social media and build a strategy for success.

Monthly, on the 2nd and 4th Thursday pre-registration is required.
4327 E, Lewis Ave. Phoenix, Az 85008
928-300-7185 | info@AzArtAlliance.com
Alternate locations are available by request.

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Honoring Josie Taglienti (d) September 28, 2021



In 2016 I was privileged to honor Josie Taglienti with a Distinguished Member Award for Outstanding Leadership as Chair of Life Drawing. Josie, an AAG icon, had been around longer than she or I could remember. Josie was the first person I spoke with at the first AAG meeting I attended. We squirreled ourselves away in the back studio and talked art, AAG and shared one another's stories. We have been connected ever since. I attended life drawing for a long time, chaired the figurative group, and then continued to work closely with Josie while I was treasurer and in my presidency.

Josie set her mind to create a warm environment for life drawing. She wanted attendees to feel at home. Her Italian heritage dictates that she feed people. Josie succeeded in nourishing us in body, mind, and spirit. From the morning spread in the kitchen, to

the encouragement she provided, Josie not only succeeded but surpassed her vision. The artistic growth and expression of 'the regulars' is testament to her achievements.

The years went by in the blink of an eye. On September 28, 2021, Josie passed away.



Josie Taglienti was a well established artist whose artworks were selected for exhibitions and awards the world over. Her work was selected by the prestigious London Art Biennale, UK, and the Chianciano Art Museum in Italy for international exhibits of contemporary art. An institutional success closely followed by personal and corporate collections all around



the world. Taglienti is regarded as a talented and experimental artist with a wonderful gift of perception and intense creative energy.

Taglienti is a descendant of the 16th century scribe and master calligrapher, Giovanni Antonio Taglienti, and therefore is born from a family rich in tradition. Seeing the initial signs of artistic creativity, Taglienti's parents immediately understood their daughter's inclination and always sustained and encouraged her to follow her passion.

Josie completed her studies at the Minneapolis College of Art And Design, where she acquired the training in drawing and painting. In those years she was first inspired by Oskar Kokoschka who was directing students to use more color - an influence that had a great impact on Josie's art. Later, Marcus Orellius Renzetti in Arden, Delaware, who through long conversations and quick charcoal interpretations allowed Taglienti to find her path. Her impact as an artist has been felt at AAG and at Paradise Valley Community College where she taught drawing for many years and influenced many fledgling artists.

A celebration of life for her on Sunday November 7th from 9 am-11am.

VALLEY GARDEN CENTER | 1809 NORTH 15TH AVENUE | PHOENIX, ARIZONA 8500 Please email or text her son Troy if you are planning on attending:

Troy Taglienti | 602-332-8028 | troytaglienti@gmail.com

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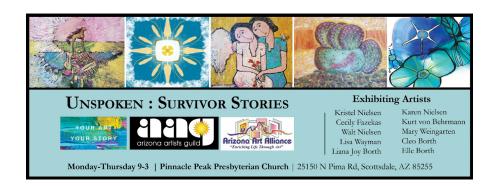
SUPPORT THE 2021 EMPTY BOWLS

For two decades, members and friends of the Sonoran Arts League have been creating ceramic, glass and wooden bowls in support of the Foothills Food Bank Empty Bowls Project held in awareness of World Hunger Day. **Harold's Corral** in Cave Creek is sponsoring the 2021 Foothills Empty Bowls Project, which will be held in a hybrid format, both online and in-person on Friday October 15.

The online auction is now open. Start bidding now on beautiful work made by local artists. The art auction can be found on the Foothills Food Bank's website, **foothillsfoodbank.com/auction**. And you can **purchase bowls** donated to the Empty Bowls Project in advance online at **foothillsfoodbank.com** or at Harold's Corral on October 15.

Foothills Food Bank provides emergency food, financial assistance and other life necessities and resources to individuals and families in the desert foothills, which encompasses a 180-square mile area that includes Black Canyon City, Cave Creek, Carefree, Anthem, Desert Hills, New River, north Scottsdale, Rio Verde, North Phoenix, Mayer, Spring Valley and Cordes Lakes.

Questions? contact Carole Perry, Empty Bowls Chair, (480) 488-6070 | Pam DiPietro, Foothills Food Bank, (480) 488-1145



Unspoken: Survivors Stories | August 22-November 14, 2021 | Pinnacle Peak Presbyterian Church virtually: https://azartalliance.com/2021-unspoken-survivors-stories-virtual-exhibition

UNSPOKEN: Survivor Stories is an exhibition of artwork made by artists who have been affected by suicide. For over two years the exhibiting artists have been meeting monthly creating art together. This exhibition of their art celebrates the hope, growth and the strength of survivors. Mounting this exhibit is a way to promote a greater understanding of the survivor experience.

September is National Suicide Prevention Month. Suicide is a global phenomenon that knows no geographic or racial boundary. It is one of the leading causes of death not only here in the United States but throughout the world.

Unspoken: Survivor Stories humanizes this highly stigmatized topic and the organizers hope to raise local awareness about suicide and mental health and reach more people who may need resources for themselves or loved ones.

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AAG's Community Outreach Hybrid Art Programs Classes are held on the Fourth Saturday of each month in person and via zoom Be sure to visit the website for detailed information

Since its inception in 1928, Arizona Artists Guild has promoted the arts through education, exhibition and outreach.

Community outreach is the cornerstone of the Arizona Artists Guild's activities and is the main focus of our organization. We recognize the impact that art has on people's lives and it's potential for facilitating healing which is immeasurable. Guild members and Outreach Program participants alike relate stories about how their lives were changed through their own exposure to Fine Art, be it at an early age or later in life when they could pursue a life long urge that had been repressed due to family and career obligations.

AAG provides free monthly art classes to Veterans and Survivors of Suicide who find an improved quality of life through making art. These classes are made possible through grants from the Arizona Art Alliance and Your Art Your Story and donations from people like you. Please consider contributing today to ensure the continuation of these important programs.

Program Directors, David Bradley davlbradly@gmail.com | Tess Mosko Scherer admin@arizonaartistsguild.net.

Musings on the September Classes by David Lloyd Bradley



My participation in the program is one of the highlights of my month. The September Art Program's activity was to make a self-portrait collage. Cicely Fazekas gave a presentation from her home in Sedona via zoom about her collages on 3d mannequins. Following a PowerPoint presentation on self-portrait collages, participants set to work sorting through magazines and colored papers, cutting and gluing them onto a board. Many artists today are using collage as a medium for expression on a level with painting and sculpture. Keep an eye on the AAG website (Thanks Vivian!) for images of the Veterans' artworks.

Attending in person: Veterans 12, Survivors of Suicide 6; via zoom: Veterans 3; Survivors of Suicide 10. People attending via zoom joined in from Washington DC; Seattle, WA, and Miami, Florida. It was a momentous occasion, and I became emotional, as always.

The Veterans and Survivors of Suicide attending the monthly classes receive great benefits from the instruction provided, but also the good will and love given freely. The AAG volunteers might be the true recipients of the love and good feelings of all. Thanks to Tom, Scott, Carole, Alice, Alicia and Dy for all you do to make the experience the best it can be.



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The Gratitude Project organized by The Arizona Art Alliance



The Gratitude Project is an exhibition of 6-inch x 6-inch floral-themed paintings by members of the Arizona Art Alliance. The theme of gratitude is represented by flowers as a way to acknowledge and thank Healthcare Workers during the time of Covid. It is customary to say thank you with flowers – what better way than with art!

The paintings will be on permanent display at the Phoenix Veterans Administration Medical Center; and on temporary exhibition at the Mayo Clinic.

How to participate:

Canvases are available through the Arizona Art Alliance, the Arizona Artists Guild, and the participating arts organizations. You are welcome to use your own 6-inch x 6-inch canvas board. Any two-dimensional medium may be used to create a floral themed work of art.



Guidelines:

Each artist may donate multiple floral works of art on 6-inch x 6-inch canvas boards. Floral themed work only.

Be sure to print legibly on the label on the back, providing as much information as possible. Canvases may be picked up and dropped off at the participating arts organizations, the Arizona Artists Guild or the Arizona Art Alliance.

AAG – Mondays 8-12 | Wednesdays 2:30-5:30 or by appointment APlogman@icloud.com AzAA – by appointment info@AzArtAlliance.com

Time line:

December 15, 2021: last day to donate works of art.

February 1, 2022: Arizona Art Alliance Virtual Exhibition of the Gratitude Project opens. There is no end date for this exhibition

Installation of the Gratitude Project at Phoenix Veterans Administration Medical Center: TBA

Mayo Clinic temporary exhibition: TBA Other area hospitals participation: TBA

Virtual Exhibition:

Each 6-inch x 6-inch floral work of art will be photographed and included in the Arizona Art Alliance virtual exhibition along with the information you provide on the label. This is intended to allow people to contact you directly with inquiries.

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September Artist of the Month Winners



Alan J. Vaughn | First Place



Shannon O'Donnell | Second Place

Artist of the Month Virtual Competition

This monthly friendly-competition is open to all AAG members. Due to Covid-19, the competition will continue to be held virtually.

New Rules Here's how it woks:

Submit your entry through the online form by the 10th of the Month.

Members vote via the form on the AAG website. Each member is invited to vote for one piece of art by the Sunday prior to the General Meeting. Winners will be announced at the monthly meeting. Winning artwork will be posted on the AAG website and social media.

Each Artist of the Month winner receives a ribbon, a cash prize of \$25, and the opportunity to compete for Artist of the Year. Once an artist receives the Artist of the Month distinction they are ineligible to enter for the remainder of the year.

ARTIST OF THE YEAR:

This annual competition is open to the year's winners of the Artist of the Month. Members vote for the Artist of the Year in May. The Artist of the Year wins a cash prize of \$100. The Winner is ineligible to enter the competition the following year.

A few more words from AAG President, David L. Bradley.....

When you attend the opening reception of the Winter Exhibition and are looking at all the beauty made by members you will see work by people trying to make the world see something beautiful.

There are two parts to the equation of being an art maker. Making the work, and having the work experienced by another. While you are at the show, look at the faces of the exhibiting artist. Remind yourself that it is not enough to make the work, but also to have the work witnessed, appreciated and seen.

During this past year, many of us have not had our work seen in person. I hope you will plan to come out to see the show in person and celebrate our exhibiting members.

Because of the pandemic, we have updated the website to fulfill our growing digital need. In addition to the many changes and updates to the website, we have a new tech support company. Thanks to Steve, Alex and Carly at Tech4Life for ushering us into this next phase of high-tech existence. If you can't attend the exhibits in person, then be sure to experience them on the website.

AmazonSmile

If you shop on Amazon, consider choosing AmazonSmile , which works exactly like Amazon, with a percentage of each purchase contributed to the charity of your choice. Be sure to select Arizona Artists Guild as your charity. At no additional cost to you, this is a great way to support the Outreach, Scholarships and programming at Arizona Artists Guild.



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ARIZONA ARTISTS GUILD'S FINANCIAL CORNER



There are many ways you can financially contribute to AAG. Over the next few months we will be exploring opportunities. Please be sure to consult with your financial advisor or accountant. This month we will look at the Above the Line deduction allowable through the CARES Act and talk briefly about IRA Qualified Charitable Distributions.

On December 27, 2020, another stimulus package was signed into law to help combat the far-reaching impacts of COVID-19. In many ways, this bill extends the charitable tax incentives enacted by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act back in March 2020, but it also provides some additional provisions.

As you look for ways to support AAG be sure to understand how the following provisions may impact your charitable contributions in the 2021 tax year.

Are you itemizing deductions?

The adjusted gross income (AGI) limit for cash contributions to qualifying public charities remains increased for individual donors. For cash contributions made in 2021, you can elect to deduct up to 100 percent of your AGI (formerly 60 percent prior to the CARES Act).

Not itemizing?

The CARES Act allowed for an additional, "above-the-line" deduction for charitable gifts made in cash of up to \$300. This provision is extended into 2021 for taxpayers filing single/separately.

New in 2021 is an additional "above-the-line" deduction for those married filing jointly. Joint filers (who aren't itemizing) will be allowed to take an above-the-line deduction of up to \$600 in cash contributions to charity this year.

These incentives apply only to cash contributions to public charities, which makes AAG eligible.

What about IRA Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD)?

The CARES Act did not change the rules around the QCD, which allows individuals over 70½ years old to donate up to \$100,000 in IRA assets directly to a charity annually, without taking the distribution into taxable income.

However, remember that under the CARES Act an individual can elect to deduct 100 percent of their AGI for cash charitable contributions. This effectively affords individuals over 59½ years old the benefits similar to a QCD; they can take a cash distribution from their IRA, contribute the cash to charity, and may completely offset tax attributable to the distribution by taking a charitable deduction in an amount up to 100 percent of their AGI for the tax year.

If you're planning a large donation in 2021, this may be a smart strategy as long as you are between the ages of $59\frac{1}{2}$ and $70\frac{1}{2}$ and are not dependent on existing retirement funds.

Please be sure to consult with your tax and legal advisors when considering a substantial donation to AAG.

Adapted from: https://www.fidelitycharitable.org/articles/what-the-cares-act-means-for-charitable-giving.html

Tess Mosko Scherer | admin@arizonaartistsguild.net | 928-300-7185

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AAG LEADERSHIP TEAM

AAG 2021-2022 Board of Directors:

President: David Bradley | info@ArizonaArtistsGuild.net Past President: Ivan Halvorson|portraitsbyivan@gmail.com

Director: Alica Pelchat | chato2589@cox.net Director: Alicia Plogman | aplogman@icloud.com Director: Rae Getz | raegetzart@gmail.com Director: Carole Matthews | clm1117@aol.com

Director: Tess Mosko Scherer | admin@ArizonaArtistsGuild.net

President's Team

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Tess Mosko Scherer, David Bradley & Bruce Sink

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Mascot Oliver John Scherer Oliver.Scherer@aol.com

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AAG General Meetings Schedule

Join us on the third Tuesday of each month from September through May, except for December, for an evening of socializing with artists of all media, informative and entertaining presentations by experts in their fields, critiques of member artworks, and competition for Artist of the Month. Be sure to vote online for the Artists of the Month. See page 11 for details.



THANK YOU



Thank you **Arizona Art Supply** for your continued support and generosity to AAG. Monthly donations support the raffle which in turn supports Outreach and Scholarship Programs. Be sue to visit Arizona Art Supply when you need art supplies and ask about AAG membership discounts.

Thank you **Scottsdale Printing** for the beautiful work on the newsletter and tending to our other printing projects. We appreciate your excellent service and attention to detail. Be sure to visit Scottsdale Printing for your printing needs.



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