



rochester art club

May/June 2024 newsletter

established 1877



a message from the president

Dear Rochester Art Club Members and Friends,

I hope you are enjoying this very colorful season. What a welcome sight it has been to see so many blossoms and fresh green leaves in our trees and gardens!

I am pleased to report that our program with Steve Bon Durant was a wonderful success. We had a full house with many members attending and enjoying his sketch booking workshop on March 23. Many thanks to Suzi Zefting-Kuhn for coordinating with Rochester Art Supply to offer art materials for purchase at the workshop. The event was a lot of fun! On April 27 we hosted a members' potluck along with *What's on Your Easel? Travel Edition* gathering. Our luncheon was delicious and our art sharing was delightful with many personal and fascinating stories. Many thanks go to our Social Chair Nancy Lane for her cheerful spring decorations and to Vice President Rosemary Pergolizzi for coordinating the event. Our Printmaking demo at Flower City Arts Center was another wonderful success with artist Hope Taylor showing us the steps involved in the painterly process of monoprinting. Thank you to our Web Chair Victoria Brzustowicz for coordinating the event with the Arts Center. We look forward to a late summer kick off picnic to start the 2024-25 Program Year! More details about that event will be available in the coming months. I am always amazed at the efforts by so many members who come together to make our events so enjoyable. Keep up the great work everyone!

RAC members, please make sure to pay your 2024-25 Membership Dues by June 1. New members are welcome to join now by completing the Associate Affiliate Members' application available on our web site.

As previously mentioned, we are searching for a Program Chair. We are also in need of volunteers to serve on our Workshop Committee. Please consider giving a bit of your time and talent to help our club thrive and grow. You can contact us at info@rochesterartclub.org. We look forward to hearing from you!

Enjoy the creative inspiration of warmer days and the lively colors of spring!

Take care,

Melanie

Melanie Rinn Martinek
President, Rochester Art Club





program news

What's On Your Easel? Travel Edition

On Saturday, April 27, RAC members enjoyed a delicious potluck luncheon and then shared paintings from travel. Many fascinating stories were shared with the group! Many thanks to Social Chair Nancy Lane for her cheerful spring decor and to Vice President Rosemary Pergolizzi for coordinating the event.



Monotype Demonstration

On May 10th, artist Hope Taylor gave an interesting and informative demonstration on monotypes to RAC members at Flower City Arts Center. A monoprint is an individual, one-of-a-kind print that can be made from many types of plates including metal, wood, cardboard, plexiglass, or other nontraditional surfaces and are known as the most painterly method among the printmaking techniques. Hope is a teaching artist staff member at Flower City Arts Center.



show news



Pittsford Fine Art 2024 Open Show

The co-op gallery is conducting its fourth annual art show and sale open to all artists. Registration at ShowSubmit.com opens June 2 and closes August 2 for the September show which will be held UPSTAIRS at 4 North Main Street in Pittsford. Cash prizes will be awarded; see Prospectus for details. All RAC members are encouraged to enter. Current member artists at Pittsford Fine Art are not eligible, and will act as the jury for the show. Two of last year's award-winners, Dan Caster and Ann McCracken, are now members of the North Gallery at Pittsford Fine Art, in part as a result of their entering the 2023 show.



Bill White

Bill White is having a solo show in Roanoke, VA in June at the Gallery 360 with Steven Francis Fine Art. The show is titled *Home and Away* with paintings from Florida, California, National Parks, Provence, Cuba and elsewhere.

GRPAP Exhibit & Sale

Barnes & Noble Pittsford
3349 Monroe Ave, Rochester, NY 14618
June 2 – June 30, 2024
Exhibit reception – Thursday, June 6,
6 – 8pm. Refreshments will be served.



Deadline: Please email the Pre-Registration form by May 24, 2024 to victoria@victoriabcreative.com.

To be eligible to show, you need to have hosted a GRPAP paint-out between June 2023 and June 2024. All work submitted must be painted en plein air. Paintings need to have been started on-site in an outdoor setting. Please do not submit work that is painted primarily in-studio. Entries should be created in the last three years. *Please read the prospectus for all the guidelines. We are looking for volunteers. Let me know if you have any questions!*

GENESEE VALLEY



PLEIN AIR PAINTERS

The Dove Block Project Gallery Art Show and Sale

July 6–28

Reception: First Friday, July 5, 5–7 pm

This plein air painting exhibit takes place in the newly renovated main gallery of The Dove Block Project in historic downtown Geneva.

The building was constructed in 1878 by William Dove, a brick manufacturer and father of the American modernist painter Arthur Dove (1880-1946). In the 1930s, Arthur Dove and his wife, the painter Helen Torr, lived and painted from their third floor studio in this building. This is where many of Dove's most critically acclaimed works were created. Join us to celebrate the history!

Gallery hours Wednesday through Sunday, 12–4 pm

The Dove Block Project
465 Exchange Street
Geneva, NY 14465
www.thedoveblockproject.org

member news



Gabriele Lodder



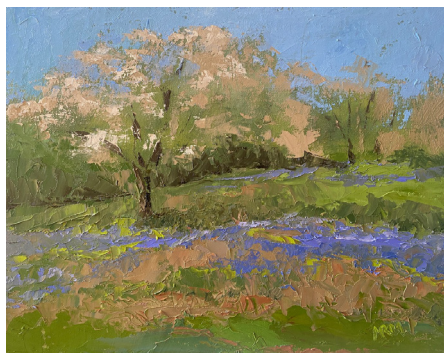
Rosemary Pergolizzi

Members of the co-op gallery **Pittsford Fine Art**, including **Gabriele Lodder** and **Rosemary Pergolizzi**, have a group show this month at The Little Theatre Cafe. Organized by RAC and Little Theatre member, Maureen Church, the show runs through May 27 at the theater downtown. Several RAC members have work in the show.



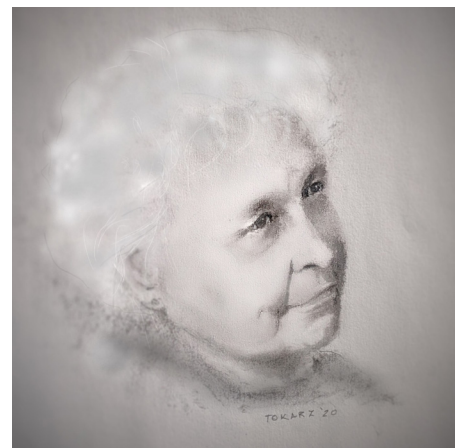
Karlene VanDeusen

Karlene VanDeusen was awarded Best of Show at the 2024 Pastel Society of Western New York Inc. Member's Exhibit for *Red Barn*. Karlene also received a Merit award at the Rochester Art Club Signature Member Exhibition for *June Garden*, a plein air Pastel. Her upcoming events include three pastels exhibited in Sackets Harbor Arts Center Art Show, May 11-June 9 and Art at the Carriage House, Morgan-Manning House, in Brockport, on June 14.



Melanie Rinn Martinek

Melanie Rinn Martinek will be participating in two plein air exhibits in June and July. The Greater Rochester Plein Air Painters Exhibit & Sale will be held at Barnes and Noble Pittsford for the month of June with the Artists Reception on Thursday, June 6, 6-8 p.m. For the month of July, the Genesee Valley Plein Air Painters will be exhibiting at The Dove Block Project in Geneva, NY. The Artists' Reception will be held on First Friday, July 5, 5-7 p.m.



Jeff Tokarz

Jeff Tokarz will be exhibiting at Fairport Canal Days-Booth VL24 on June 1-2. He also conducted a portrait demonstration on May 21 for Members of the Penfield Art Association.

new members

Welcome to new Signature Members **Scott Nost** and **Andrea Sands**.

member news



Nancy Lane

Nancy Lane was honored to receive first place in the Arts Center of Yates County's 2024 National Juried Show for her oil painting *The Earth Calls to Me*.



Jean Stephens

Jean Stephens and **Christy Vitale** were also juried into the Arts Center of Yates County National Show. The exhibition, is on display through June 1st at Arts Center of Yates County in Penn Yan, NY.



Christy Vitale



Victoria Brzustowicz

Victoria Brzustowicz's oil painting, *Bright Gully*, was accepted in the Arts Center of Yates County national juried show. Her painting *Casual Arrangement*, was accepted into the Pastel Society of Maine's juried online show, *Pastels Only*, April 27 – May 31.

In Search of Work by Spencer G. Easton

Spencer Easton was an active member and served as an officer of the RAC representing the Club through exhibits at the Memorial Art Gallery as early as 1917 and onwards. Spencer was born and trained in Philadelphia where he painted miniature portraits sometimes on ivory. Later in his career having moved to Rochester, his oeuvre's focus was on landscapes. His family through their genealogy research has newly found Spencer and is very eager to locate any of his original works or even images of these which they would cherish as a unique link to him. If you have any clue as to where an example of Spencer's work could be found, please contact his great-niece Camille Sailer at 609-226-2531 or sailerce@gmail.com. Thank you!

in memoriam



Dr. Leonard P. Muscarella, DDS

of Victor, New York, passed away peacefully on March 15, 2024. While many knew Doc, others knew Lennie, the artist. Lennie was the winner of the Norman Rockwell Scholarship for Art all four years of high school, offering a full-ride scholarship for art. He continued to create life-like portraits in pencil, pen and ink, and oils on canvas well into his seventies. Lennie's work followed the lead of the Flemish masters, depicting the lives of everyday people he encountered. His work garnered countless awards, numerous Best In Shows and can be seen gracing the walls of Rooney's Restaurant in Rochester and Shakespeare In Delaware Park, Buffalo. He was a proud member of the Rochester Art Club, the Toronto Arts and Letters Club and the Salmagundi Club in New York City.

Lennie had a studio in the Hungerford building across the hall from the Main Street Artists once he retired from his dental practice. He was a wonderful source of inspiration and was a dear friend to all of us. He lovingly called us 'the dust people'.

*Submitted by the Main Street Artists:
Suzi Zefting-Kuhn, Gabriele Lodder,
Diane Bellenger, Jackie Lippa, Rosemary Pergolizzi, Chris Norris, Andrea Nadel,
Kath Hess and Pat DeLuca*

artist spotlight: Victoria Brzustowicz

Victoria Brzustowicz knew from an early age that art was her calling. She has a BA in studio art from Wells College, where she studied with painter William Roberts. She also studied painting and printmaking at Rochester Institute of Technology. She has attended workshops with many nationally-recognized painters, including Lori Putnam, Aline Ordman, and Ken DeWaard. Brzustowicz is a signature member of the Rochester Art Club, and co-founder and current chair of Greater Rochester Plein Air Painters. She teaches at The Art Stop and Flower City Art Center. She has also taught plein air workshops for Cummings Nature Center (Rochester Museum & Science Center) and Main Street Arts, Clifton Springs, NY.

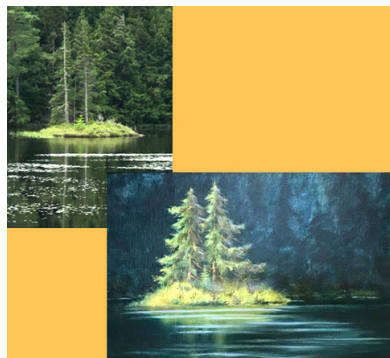
Brzustowicz focused on abstract painting for most of her career, but in 2015 she was introduced to painting *alla prima*, and since then much of her focus has been on painting outside the studio. Her work explores the line between abstraction and representation, with an emphasis on surface and mark-making.

“Painting is a combination of observation and exploration for me, not literal reporting. Whether outdoors or in the studio, each painting follows its own trajectory, and I discover what that is as the painting develops,” says Brzustowicz. ***“I want the viewer to feel the life and energy that attracted me to a subject matter in the first place.”***

She has actively exhibited from the early days of the Pyramid Gallery (now Rochester Contemporary); multiple times at the MAG Finger Lakes Exhibition; through Rochester Art Club, Pastel Society of Western New York, and Penfield Art Association; and at plein air festivals in the area. You can view more of her work on her website victoriabcreative.com.



learning opportunities



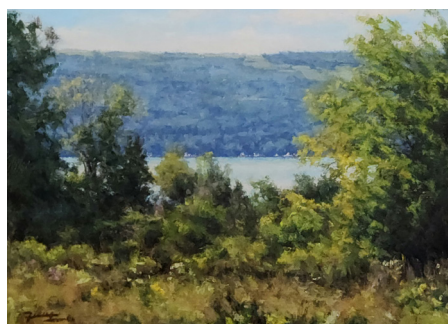
Tweaking Your Photos for Better Paintings with Nancy Lane

July 23 | 10:30 - 3 pm

Arts Center of Yates county, Penn Yan
We've all taken a photo to paint from later. But the photo didn't quite capture what we saw

or felt. In this workshop, you'll need your smart phone, tablet or laptop with photo library to access your photos. You'll learn how to adjust them to create better painting references that simulate how the human eye sees. Your photos are a starting point, not the final version of what your painting should look like. Register [here](#).

Victoria Brzustowicz teaches classes at Flower City Arts Center and the Art Stop. She will also be teaching workshops this summer for both Wood Library in Canandaigua and Cumming Nature Center. Topics include plein air painting, oil painting, gouache, pastels, and pen and ink illustration. For more information, visit: victoriabcreative.com/workshops-classes.



Kevin Feary

Summer Plein Air Workshop with Kevin Feary

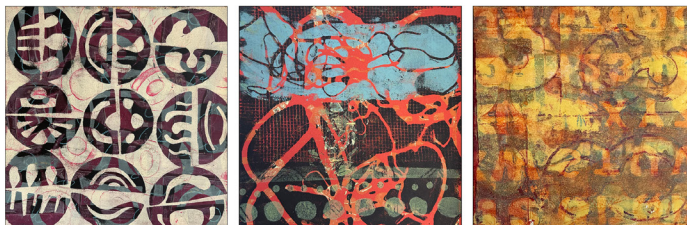
August 12-14

9:30 - 4:00pm

\$210 members,

\$285 not-yet-members

The Finger Lakes are in all their glory during the summer, with a special play of light on lakes, hills, farms and fields. It's an inspirational place for plein air painters and we'll make the most of it during this three day class! We will explore all aspects of plein air painting through demonstrations, hands on work and plenty of individual attention. Contact Kevin at 585 356-2821 or kfeary@rochester.rr.com. All registrations are handled through the Arts Center of Yates County. Register [here](#).



Gelli Plate Printmaking

Instructor: Jean Stephens

Gelli Plates are reusable printing plates that let you create monoprints without a press. In these two classes we will explore a variety of techniques unique to the Gelli plate to create decorative paper. We'll use stencils, create textures, explore wax resists and more. You'll be encouraged to consider the importance of color and value while printing. This medium is fun and invites experimentation, expect plenty of time to play!

Suitable for beginners and a refresher for those with some experience in Gelli printing.

You'll need to bring to the workshop:

- a soft rubber brayer (Speedball 2.5"-3")
- a Gelli Arts printing plate (8" x 10")
- any special papers you'd like to print on.
- an apron and something to drink.

The Mill Art Center provides paint, basic paper, newsprint, paper towel and baby wipes.

Monday June 10 & 24 from 9:30 am - 12:30 pm Cost is \$125.00

Please register in advance to reserve your place: millartcenter.com, [click on classes](#)



The Mill Art Center
at the Lower Mill

61 North Main Street Honeoye Falls, NY 14472

millartcenter@gmail.com millartcenter.com

Plein Air Painting



With Colette Savage & Victoria Brzustowicz

Explore the joys of painting outside while learning about plein air painting from two experienced plein air painters!

Session I: We'll meet in the upstairs classroom at the Art Stop and discuss gear, best practices, what to expect while painting outside, and answer any questions or concerns.

Session II: The group will set up easels at an outdoor location and paint under the guidance of your instructors.

All skill levels and all mediums are welcome.

(Please don't purchase equipment until after the first session!)

Call the Art Stop at (585) 872-5710 to register and for questions.

The Art Stop Studio, 2nd floor

585-872-5710 • artstopllc.com

1822 Penfield Road Penfield NY 14526

INSTRUCTORS VICTORIA BRZUSTOWICZ & COLETTE SAVAGE

TWO-SESSION CLASS • MONDAYS 5:00-7:00

June 3 & 10 (Rain date: June 17)