



# rochester art club

January/February 2024 newsletter

established 1877



## a message from the president

Dear RAC members and friends,

Happy New Year 2024 Everyone! My heartiest thanks go to the many members who came together to make our Members' Holiday Party a wonderful event! I was incredibly impressed by the teamwork of so many who helped set up and tear down the tables, chairs and decorations. The Eastman School jazz trio provided us with just the right atmosphere for friendly conversation and catching up with friends. The musicians wholeheartedly offered to play for us again next year! How nice it was to support and connect with the broader Arts Community in Rochester!

Many members and friends also enjoyed Cynthia Howk's presentation "*Rochester Architecture: the Art We Live In*" on November 11. Cynthia is a wealth of knowledge about Rochester architecture. Her slides were fascinating and the vast knowledge she shared was very generous!

I am looking forward to our Art Marketing online workshop on January 20th. Our guest presenter is Amy Brnger. She has a successful self-sustaining art business in her gorgeous Eliot, Maine studio. This program is open to the public with special pricing for students. Please see the poster here in the newsletter for details. On February 24th we will host Maureen Church for an interactive workshop for members titled "*Simplifying the Landscape*". Workshop location and time details to follow. Steve BonDurant will present sketch booking program for members in the Fedder Building studio later in March. Details for these and other spring programs will be announced on our web site when details are finalized.

As previously mentioned, we are searching for a Program Chair. If you are interested, please contact me at [melanierinnmartinek@gmail.com](mailto:melanierinnmartinek@gmail.com). Communication is of utmost importance to me. I encourage you to reach out to me with your ideas for the betterment of RAC.

Here's to a creative and healthy 2024 for all Rochester Art Club Members and Friends!  
I am wishing you all the best for the New Year!

Take care,

Melanie

Melanie Martinek  
President, Rochester Art Club



## upcoming programs



### Balancing a Three-Legged Stool with Amy Brnger

January 20, 2024 | 2pm

via ZOOM, link will be provided

\$25 | Full-time students with ID \$10

Registration form can be found [HERE](#).

Join Amy as she discusses the development and growth of a three-tiered art business. Her talk will include strategies for building a business that feels right for YOU, how to develop an online presence, good customer service, and always prioritizing a formal art practice whilst running a business.

Amy Brnger is an oil painter from Eliot, Maine. She enjoys painting flowers from her garden, interior views of her home, and forgotten, overlooked landscape views. Her paintings are expressive, energetic, and attempt to capture the changing nature of living things.

Amy has been a painter for 37 years, has taught painting workshops since 2012 and is the owner of Amy Brnger Art and Paperworks, a notecard, giclee print and flower calendar company.



### Getting Social Media Engagement—Science or Magic? with Steve BonDurant

January 27, 2024 | 2- 4pm

via ZOOM, link will be provided

\$15 GVPAP members |

\$30 non-members

Registration form can be found [HERE](#).

This online workshop, sponsored by the Genesee Valley Plein Air Painters, will explore sound practices to gain reach with popular social media platforms (primarily Facebook and Instagram). We'll explore best practices for creating quality posts, hashtag strategy, engagement practices, delivering your message using free organic reach, and how to augment it with paid promotion. We'll identify the common pitfalls that prevent a post from gaining reach and how to use scheduling to minimize your screen time and maximize your time investment. This workshop is for newbie social media folks and those with an online social presence. The net result will be having the necessary knowledge to get results from the time you invest in creating quality posts.

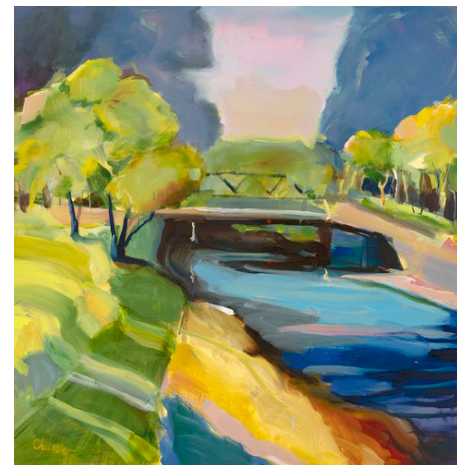


### Simplifying the Landscape

February 24, 2024

Time and Place: *info coming soon*

Maureen Church is an accomplished plein-air and encaustic painter who finds inspiration in the beauty of nature. In this session Maureen will demonstrate the ways she simplifies the complexities of the landscape. Maureen exhibits at Pittsford Fine Arts and has an upcoming solo show at the Dove Project, opening January 7th in Geneva, NY. More information at [thedoveblockproject.org](http://thedoveblockproject.org). To see more of Maureen's work, visit [maureenchurch.art](http://maureenchurch.art).



Maureen Church



## member news



Karlene VanDeusen

The 19th Annual Art Show of the Genesee Valley Plein Air Painters includes *Harriet's Honeoye* by **Karlene VanDeusen**. This pastel work was done en plein air at Harriet Hollister Spencer State Recreation Area overlooking Honeoye Lake. The GVPAP show is up at the Barnes & Noble Community Gallery, 3349 Monroe Avenue, Rochester, NY from January 1 through February 1.



Melanie Martinek

**Melanie Martinek** has an abstract oil painting entitled *Garden Abstract* in the Rochester Contemporary Art Center 36th Annual Members Exhibition until February 10, 2024.

## new members

**Jay Costanza** and **Ted Wetherbee** were recently juried into RAC as a Signature Members. **Sarah Hunt** is a new Associate Member.



Joni Mack Monroe

**Joni Mack Monroe** has a piece in the sixth annual Self Portrait Show 2024 at Studio 402 Gallery in the Anderson Arts Building, 250 N. Goodman Street, Rochester, NY. The show runs from January 5 through February 10.



Bill White

**Bill White's** group of painters, Atelier 3096, had a show in the Cozy Kitchen restaurant in Caledonia in November through mid December. The Village Gallery's 7th Annual Community Show hosted work by 40 artists displaying 80 works. Twenty-two pieces were sold with 10% of sales donated to the Caledonia Library building fund.

**Teri Barlis** has a solo art show at RIT's Osher gallery from January through March, 2024.



David Gardner

**David Gardner** has a solo show entitled "A Different Point of View" at the 1570 Gallery at Valley Manor from January 8, through February 18th. Gallery hours are 10am- 8pm.



Barbara Jablonski

*The Campfire* was accepted into the Small Works Show at the Main Street Gallery in Clifton Springs. The 6"x8" oil painting by **Barbara Jablonski** was painted in Buck Ponds Campground in the high peaks of the Adirondacks.



Laurie Maddalina

**Laurie Maddalina's** piece, *Grizabella* was awarded a finalist in the out of the box category of the members only competition of the Portrait Society of America. 150 awards were given out of 1,290 entries in a total of 5 categories.



## show news



The Main Street Artists Gallery & Studio which includes RAC members Diane Bellenger, Pat DeLuca, Jackie Lippa, Gabriele Lodder, Andrea Nadel, Chris Norris, Rosemary Pergolizzi and Suzi Zefting-Kuhn, will have an exhibit at My Sister's Gallery, 505 Mt Hope in the Episcopal Home February 1 through March 31.



The Pittsford UPSTAIRS Gallery is accepting applications for exhibitors for 2024. The gallery specializes in showcasing fine craft work including ceramics, glass, jewelry, collage, leatherwork, wood and metal sculpture, block prints, furniture, fiber art, and more. Any fine craft medium is appropriate. For more information and an application to exhibit, contact RAC member Chris Manasari at [cbmanasari@gmail.com](mailto:cbmanasari@gmail.com).

*RAC members in the GRPAP 19th Annual Plein Air Show include: Steve BonDurant, Joan Dwyer, Kevin Feary, David Gardner, Kathleen Haney, Barbara Jablonski, Dick Kane, Nancy Lane, Melanie Martinek, Judy Soprano, Karlene VanDeusen, Bill White*

## 2024 SPRING SIGNATURE MEMBER SHOW

The Spring Show will be here before we know it and volunteers to chair the show are needed. The show will be held at Hart Gallery27, 27 Market Street in Brockport NY. Juror for selection and awards is Anna Rose Bain, OPA, PSS.

The prospectus will go out soon but, if you're interested, these are the important dates:

**Show Submit registration deadline:** 2/5/2024, midnight

**Show dates:** 3/1/24 - 3/31/24

**Drop off:** 2/24/24 10a- 12p

**First Friday opening of show:** 3/1/24

**Reception and Awards:** 3/9/24 2p- 4p

**Take Down of show:** 4/1/24 3p- 6p



If you are interested in chairing the show, please contact Christine Norris, *RAC Exhibitions Chairperson* at [cdnpaints@gmail.com](mailto:cdnpaints@gmail.com) or 585-281-6951. *Be an important part of a great show!*



## Genesee Valley Plein Air Painters, Inc.

### 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Plein Air Paintings Art Show and Sale

Opens January 1 through February 1, 2024

Awards and Reception Saturday, January 6<sup>th</sup> 2:00 pm –4:00 pm

Barnes & Noble Community Room, Pittsford Plaza,

3349 Monroe Avenue, Rochester, NY 14618

[www.GVPAP.com](http://www.GVPAP.com) <https://www.facebook.com/GVPAP>

## artist spotlight: Jeff Tokarz

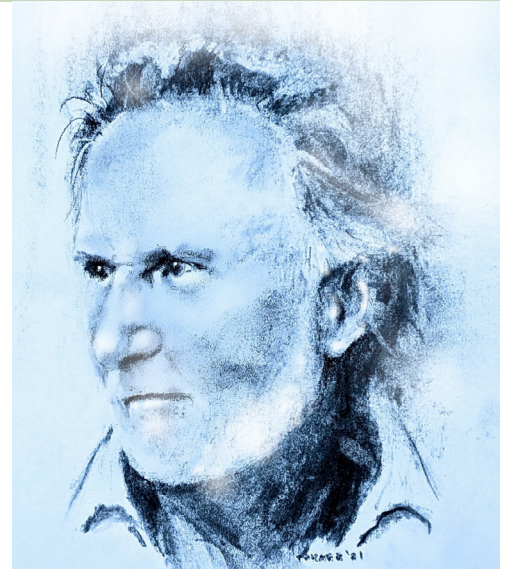
*“Capturing the light and shadow of a subject with charcoal is the essence of an emotional story – a narrative filled with depth and authenticity.”*

**Jeff Tokarz’** work can be described as impressionist realism. Specializing in charcoal, he began painting and selling commissions in 2020. Self-taught, Tokarz paints portraits and landscapes that depict compelling narratives. Charcoal, he finds, intensifies observers’ emotional connections with his paintings.

Inspired by Carl Bloch, Norman Rockwell, and John Singer Sargent, Tokarz initiates the painting process collaboratively with clients seeking to understand the story to be conveyed in the portrait, or landscape commission. Working exclusively from reference photos, Tokarz painting

process begins with a ‘blocking-in’ of shapes and values to develop a composition. Final details and refinements, in concert with the client’s wishes, continue until the narrative piece of art is approved.

Tokarz is a Signature Member of the Rochester Art Club, member of the Portrait Society of America, member of Mill Art Center and Gallery, and a member of the Rochester Contemporary Art Center.



*“Every new portrait, new landscape painted is a new friend!”*



**social media:** [instagram.com/jefftokarzstudio](https://www.instagram.com/jefftokarzstudio) [facebook.com/jefftokarzstudio](https://www.facebook.com/jefftokarzstudio)  
**website:** [jefftokarzstudio.com](https://jefftokarzstudio.com)





## learning opportunities



### Design Compelling Oil Paintings From Your Photos with Kevin Feary

March 9 & 16 | 10am - 4pm  
with 30 min. lunch break  
\$115 for one day workshop  
\$200 for two day workshop

Do you have a photo of a subject you've always wanted to paint, but aren't quite sure where to begin? During the winter months let's slow down, head to the studio and explore composition strategies using your photos. We will cover basic design to include, the initial simplification of abstract shapes, drawing, value structure and color; while painting the beautiful vistas from photos you've taken while on vacation. Or bring in any photos that you would like to paint from. I will demonstrate my methods and techniques for landscape painting to achieve a sense of reality, yet still see thick juicy paint on the surface. Individual instruction will be given as you work on your designs. Bring the oil supplies you're most comfortable using. As always, you can borrow any of mine. All skill levels welcome. *Maximum 8 attendees per workshop day!*

#### To register:

email [rinirohrer@rochester.twcbc.com](mailto:rinirohrer@rochester.twcbc.com)  
or call 585-394-0030.



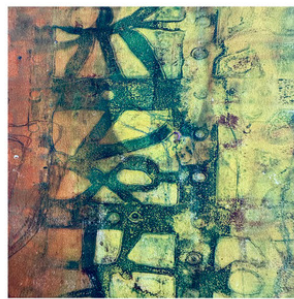
David Gardner

**David Gardner** will be teaching four classes at the Memorial Art Gallery starting January 16: Intermediate Drawing; Drawing into Watercolor; Color and Composition; and Watercolor Studio. For more information or registration, visit: [mag.rochester.edu](http://mag.rochester.edu).



Victoria Brzustowicz

**Victoria Brzustowicz** is teaching a number of classes this winter, through both The Art Stop (Penfield) and Flower City Arts Center (Rochester). A full list of class offerings is at [victoriabcreative.com/workshops-classes](http://victoriabcreative.com/workshops-classes).



## Gelli Plate Printmaking

Instructor: Jean Stephens

Gelli Plates are reusable printing plates that let you create monoprints without a press. In this **all day workshop** 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!

#### 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.

Please bring a lunch and beverage of your choice and an apron.

The Mill will provide paint, basic paper, newsprint, paper towel and baby wipes.

**Sunday, January 14 from 9:30 am - 3:30 pm**      **Cost is \$125.00**

To register go to : [millartcenter.com](http://millartcenter.com) and click on classes



**Mill Art Center**  
*at the Lower Mill*

61 North Main Street Honeoye Falls, NY 14472

[millartcenter@gmail.com](mailto:millartcenter@gmail.com) [millartcenter.com](http://millartcenter.com)