



President's Message

*"Life is a great big canvas
and you should throw all the paint on it you can."*
- Danny Kaye

Happy New Year!

As a child, I loved watching movies starring Danny Kaye. He always seemed to bring such joy and silliness to his roles along with a bit of hopeful sadness through his heart. It meant a lot to me that he could be so very funny and yet portray a sense of love for everyone he came in contact with. This was evidenced by his real-life humanitarian efforts with UNICEF.

I'm looking forward to a wonderful year together, sharing our art dreams and goals. It's exciting that we have more new members who will bring new ideas with them. Each year I set out several goals for the Guild as a whole. However, this year I have simplified them. We will discuss these during our January meeting:

- Explore new ways to raise operating funds for the Guild and to increase membership.
- Continue to promote creative expression in various arts and foster artistic development.
- Encourage new ideas and contributions from members.
- Increase exhibit opportunities and sharing of art.
- Explore opportunities to learn more about the history and appreciation of art.

As your Guild President, I have my own specific goals for 2025. These are also personal artistic goals which I would like to share with you:

1. Several of you have participated in my workshop: *Accessing your Abstract Artist Soul*. I'm making significant changes to its content and will be offering it to all members free of charge through Zoom sessions so that you can actively participate with the exercises. My goal is to start these sessions in the Spring.
2. I've always wanted to put together an art exhibit relating to the challenges women artists (and women in general) experienced during their lives. My preliminary title is *Growing Up Woman*, and I'll be looking into obtaining grant funding and will be researching exhibit locations. If any of you are interested in participating, please contact me.
3. Continue the weekly *Painting Share* Zoom meeting for members.
4. I'm considering the return of the *Small Abstract Group*. Personal energy and time management on my part are critical considerations.

Since we don't have a demonstrator for our January membership meeting, we'll view an art lecture entitled *How to Look at and Understand Great Art* (see Page 3 for details).

Let's have a productive year and throw all the paint on our canvases that we can!

Diann Klink • President

Artist-of-the-Month Competition

Thank you to our talented artists who participated in the December competitions for Artist of the Month and Blue Ribbon Gallery. The first place ribbon recipient in Artist of the Month is now eligible to enter into the Blue Ribbon Gallery in February 2025.



First Place

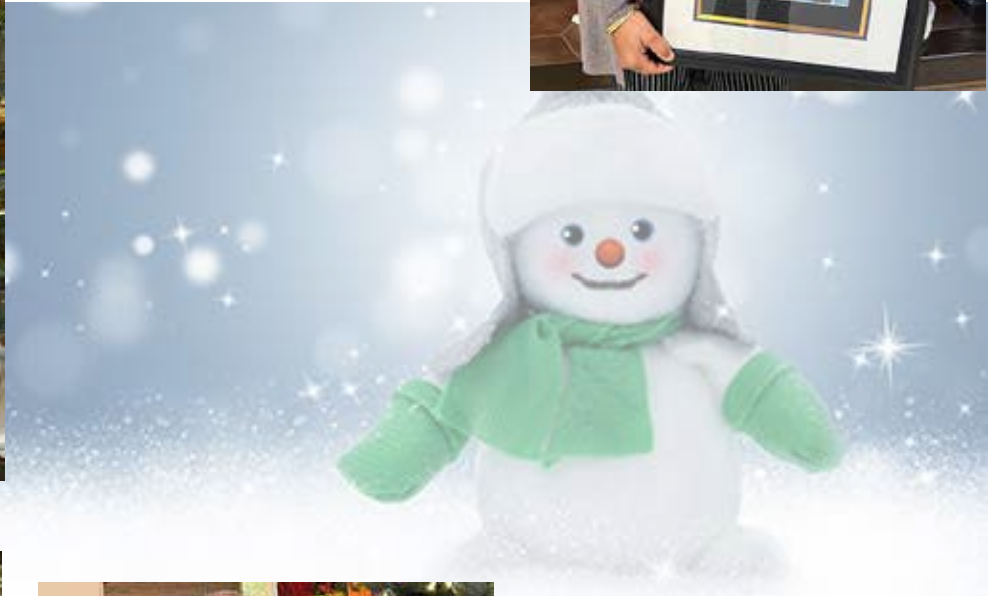
Elton Glover

Tsunami • Acrylic

Second Place

Archana Jain

Red Turban • Acrylic



Third Place

Kris Miller

Garland • Acrylic



Third Place

Dave Eisbach

Orange and Vase • Acrylic



Third Place

Cathy Down

My Favorite • Oil

Blue Ribbon Gallery



Smruti Kurse
Rhuta • Graphite

Re-elected Officers for 2025

**Thank you to the following artists
for continuing to volunteer
their time in serving the Guild:**

Board Members:

President Diann Klink
Vice President Smruti Kurse
Treasurer Sharon La Bouff
Secretary Denise Hall

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Annual Art Show Barb Overholt
Awards Elton Glover, Dave Eisbach
Exhibits Diann Klink, Lynn Rogers
Hospitality Serena Murray, Smruti Kurse
Membership, Barb Overholt
Newsletter Editor
Photographers Michael Rodrigues
Barb Overholt
Programs Jennifer Glover
Publicity Archana Jain, Barb Overholt
Outreach Laura Sternberg
Website Lynna Jirpongopas

Calendar of Events



Meeting Facility Opens at 12:30 p.m.

Submit art for competitions: **12:30–12:45 p.m.** Register your art directly with Awards Chairs Elton Glover and Dave Eisbach at the speaker's podium.

January 25, 2025

- 2024 Artist of the Year Competition
- BEGIN Artist of the Month Competition for 2025
- **Video Presentation:** *How to Look at and Understand Great Art* – presented by Professor Sharon Latchaw Hirsh, an internationally recognized scholar in Western European Art. Her honors include: the Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching, and Dickinson College's Ganoë Award for Inspirational Teaching. The lecture will include discussions about focal point, color, and composition.

Paint Group Welcomes the New Year!

Come join this lively and fun group on Zoom where we share our art almost every Saturday afternoon and glean advice and support from each other. Life happens and sometimes we have no art to share but we always end up having a great time in conversation on a variety of topics.

Whatever medium you create in, whether you draw or paint, is always of interest. Seeing our Guild members grow as artists is what is important.

Contact **Diann Klink** to be added to her Zoom invitation.

Paint Share Group • Saturday, December 14, 2024



Need to Contact a Board Member or Officer?

Look to the last page of every
newsletter for contact information.

Festive Annual Holiday Potluck Meeting

What a fabulous turnout! Twenty-seven members and two guests enjoyed our year-end meeting on Saturday, December 7. We held our final monthly competitions for 2024, re-elected officers for 2025, exchanged Artist Trading Cards, enjoyed a poetry reading by Dave Eisbach, and feasted on delicious potluck dishes while listening to holiday music. Thank you to Hospitality Chairs Serena Murray and Smruti Kurse for once again adorning the tables with such flair, style, and whimsy! A fun time was had by all.





Artists Trading Cards



The Emerging Artists Gallery

Calling All Art Newbies!

Guild members new to creating art are invited to display their creations gleaned from their workshops and online courses, including those learning on their own through books and practice.

By providing this outlet, the Guild hopes that after a calendar year of this activity, these artists will develop the confidence and desire to create art on their own and move into the Guild's monthly competitions, and to qualify for the chance to win a ribbon in the 2026 28th Annual Art Show.

The Emerging Artists Gallery

1. The purpose of this gallery is to encourage beginning artists to participate and share their art.
2. The Emerging Artists Gallery is **not** a competition.
3. Art created in workshops, classes and through books is the focus.
4. Artists sharing their works in this gallery are encouraged to provide information on the workshop/class, their instructor, and the medium involved in their ongoing art journey.

27th Annual Art Show

Emerging Artists will be eligible to participate in the Guild's 27th Annual Art Show. Although no ribbons will be awarded, they will have the opportunity to exhibit to the public with a special exhibit space on the gallery walls.



Denise Hall (left) discusses the art she created from participating in an online workshop with Jeff Braumschreiber.
Jennifer Glover discusses her recent art created from inspiration of her favorite muse "Jasmine."

How to Avoid Shaky Hands While Painting

If you're working on a painting with fine details, a steady hand is extremely important. The last thing you want is for an errant brush stroke to ruin an area you've worked on for the past hour. While shaky hands can occasionally be a sign of more serious health problems, most of the time there are easy solutions that anyone can use. The six following suggestions are methods that may help you.

Paint with Less Detail

Although this suggestion doesn't exactly improve steadiness, many times artists dive into small intricate sections and get frustrated when the tiniest movements of their hand create problems. See if you can "suggest" the object you're depicting instead of trying to replicate it exactly. Also consider switching to a larger brush size; it will force you to work on a bigger scale and avoid obsessing over the inconsequential stuff.

Eat Something

The longer you go without eating, the lower your blood sugar level becomes which can often cause tremors as well as overall tiredness. Raising your blood sugar level can be as simple as eating an apple, banana or a granola bar – anything with simple sugars and carbohydrates. For a longer fix, grab something with more protein in it like yogurt or mixed nuts.

Take a Break

If you've been painting for a long stretch, it may be that you're just too tired to keep your hands steady. At that point, a short rest is really what you need. And, if you're working until your hands actually begin to shake or ache, you might want to seriously consider calling it a day because at that point, your muscles are fatigued and only rest will help them recover.

Support Your Hand and Arm

Placing a wooden dowel or any other kind of support underneath your forearm will greatly reduce the strain of holding a brush steady. Since a lot of tremors come from the shoulders and upper arm, removing some of the constant strain from those muscles will definitely help reduce the problem.

Open a Window

It's important to have good ventilation especially when painting with oils. If the fumes are getting to you, not only will your hands be shaking, but you'll probably also feel light headed and dizzy. Open a window or two if you can and close containers of paint thinner until needed. Fans are great, too, so if you've got one handy, use it.

Warm Up and Stay Loose

Tight muscles are more likely to quiver when you least want them to so stretch out and get the blood flowing to your hands before you start painting. Remember, by trying too hard to hold still you're probably just making any tremors worse. Don't hold your breath; allow your shoulders and neck muscles to loosen. Keep tabs on your body to see if you're tensing up.

– Editor





Executive Board Meeting Minutes

January 9

The meeting was held over Zoom and called to order at 2:05 p.m. In attendance were President Diann Klink, Treasurer Sharon La Bouff, Secretary Denise Hall, Programs Chair Jennifer Glover, and Membership Chair Barb Overholt.

27th Annual Art Show

The Rose Shenson Pavilion at the Triton Museum of Art is no longer available for our annual art shows. The Triton needs auxiliary storage and will be using the pavilion for this purpose going forward. The Board discussed other possible venues including:

- Sunnyvale Library (used by Sunnyvale Art Club)
- Campbell Library & San José Library (multiple locations)
- Campbell Community Center
- Los Gatos City Council Meeting Room
- San José Works
- First Congregational Church of San José (Fellowship Hall)
- Visual Philosophy Studio
- The Citadel (may be too expensive /no parking)
- Exhibit Boards may be available through FALC.
- As Exhibit Chairs, Diann will recruit Lynn Rogers' involvement to help research locations.
- Barb will assemble a list of parameters for contacting these locations.
- Holding our 27th Annual Art Show online was also discussed.

Website Update

- Lynna updated the website including Forms, 2024 Newsletters and Demonstrators, Bylaws, 26th Annual Art Show Winners.
- Barb proposed updating the website's Home page with an updated montage of artwork.

Website's Artists' Gallery

- The Artists' Gallery and its main page need to be updated by removing reference to artists no longer members and their artwork.
- Barb proposed renaming *Artists' Gallery* to *Member Gallery* going forward and the Board agreed.

- An announcement will be made at January's Membership Meeting inviting members to submit no more than eight photos of their most recent art and their titles to Barb by April. Date: TBD at this writing.
- Emerging Artists may also elect to have their artwork posted if they are an Active member.
- Barb will email the formal invite with instructions to members on February 01.

Membership

- **New Member:** Sandra Murphy
- Diann discussed her yearly goals for the Guild and her personal goals (read her President's Message, Page 1 of this newsletter).
- A reminder of the upcoming Spring Group Art Project will be announced at our January 25 Membership Meeting (see Page 11).

Hospitality

In Smruti Kurse's absence, Barb updated the 2025 Hospitality Roster, but an updated file will need to be sent before January 25.

Programs/Demonstrations

- January: a video presentation entitled *How to Look at and Understand Great Art*.
- Jennifer will be emailing inquiries for 2025 demonstrators
- Diann to email George Rivera to invite him back for another art critique and inquire of art show venues.

Treasurer Report

- 32 out of 37 members have renewed their membership for 2025.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Denise Hall • Secretary

Your Board Members working for you on January 09.



Group Art Projects



The **Spring Group Project** will start **February 22** wherein artists will have three months to create one of three randomly selected themes from the list below to be presented at the May 24 Membership Meeting.

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. People and Figures | 15. Expressing Power |
| 2. Still Life | 16. Light and Dark |
| 3. Wildlife | (palette or feeling?) |
| 4. Landscapes | 17. Insects |
| 5. Waterscapes | 18. Climate Change |
| 6. Florals and Gardens | 19. Seasons/Weather |
| 7. Domestic Animals | 20. Impressionism |
| 8. Abstract | 21. Pop Art |
| 9. Cosmic | 22. Cubism |
| 10. Fantasy | 23. Surrealism |
| 11. Skyscapes | 24. Graphics |
| 12. Self Portraits | 25. Collage |
| 13. Expressing Joy | |
| 14. Expressing Love | |

How to Participate

- Participation is not mandatory.
- Artists may use any medium to interpret the selected theme on any substrate.
- Art will not be judged but if it's entered into a monthly competition, will adhere to the competition rules.
- No ribbons or awards will be presented.
- No framing is necessary but your art must be dry to handle by the specified deadline.
- If creations are made using dry media or water media on paper, the art should be under a matt for protection and, if available, a plastic sleeve.
- Artwork is presented to membership three (3) months from the date announced.
- Artists will share their finished art to membership; how they approached the project, medium used, etc.
- The use of copyrighted photos from any source is prohibited.
- Art created in workshops or online courses is prohibited.

