

# Big little Art Show

November 5 – December 23, 2023  
at Peninsula School of Art & Gallery

Artist Information

# Exhibiting Artists

Jordan Acker Anderson

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Alexis Arnold

Nimrod Astarhan

Jeanne Aurelius

Johanna Axelrod

Lisa Baratta

April Behnke

Dianne Binger

Linda Birmingham

Beki Borman

Brian Bosworth

Mary K Braza

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Paul Burmeister

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Gray Finch

Pam Flanders

Kris Franzke

Joseph Frey

Katharine Frey

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Felipe Gacharna

Joan Gundersen

Bethany Habegger

Dean Habegger

Penelope Hansen

Rachel Hausmann-Schall

Gail Hefti

Kim "Kimski" Heier

Gail Heneghan

Katie Horner

Jane Hostetler

Phoebe Howard

Sarah Howard

Virginia Janssen



Jamie Jorndt

Diane O'Connor

Janet Toonen

Michael Karcz

Libby Ozog

Stephanie Trenchard

Ronna Katz

Fred Perryman

Joslyn Villalpando

Sarah Jane Keiser

Lynn Peters

Kathleen Warren

Anne Kelly

Aaron Pickens

Barbara Weber

Christy Kelly-Bentgen

Cibele Plouff

Alison Whitney

Ausrine Kerr

Kyle Poff

John Whitney

Dan Kirchen

Susan Pruss

Keven Wilder

Alexandria Knapik

Sara Qualey

Lynn Wilson

Mel Kolstad

Julia Redwine

Chai Wolfman

Kurt Kreissl

David Robinson

Barbara Zellmer

Kathleen Kvern

Karen Sako

Nan Zimdars

Nancy Laliberte

Robin Samiljan

Taryn Zust

Chelsea Littman

Dianne Saron

Huaqi Liu

Todd Schabel

Stephanie Lord

Carol Schalla

Gabriel Magliaro

Barb Schriener-Schmitt

Liz Maltman

Taylor Schwinn DeCarmine

Abigail Marquardt

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Nicci Martin

Mary Ellen Sisulak

Elena Masrour

Eric Smith

Bonita McComb

Arlene Stanger

Mary Beth Mead

Steven Stanger

Maureen Mercier

Madison Sternig

Brad Miller

Kim Struve

Lauren Nitka

Samantha Surowiec

Debra O'Connell

Stephanie Thwaites

# Jordan Acker Anderson

Wauwatosa, WI

 [JordanAckerAnderson.com](http://JordanAckerAnderson.com)

 [jordan\\_acker\\_anderson](https://www.instagram.com/jordan_acker_anderson)

## Bio

Jordan Acker Anderson received her MFA in 2007 from the University of Iowa and BFA in 2002 from the University of Nebraska at Omaha. She is a director and professor of art for Mount Mary University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She has an established exhibit record, and has been published in numerous Studio Visit magazines and the Mid America Print Journal. Her works are included in the Field Museum and University of Iowa public collections.

## Statement

In my practice, I respond to our interconnectedness through the act of painting. My compositions are a call and response between states of disruption and integration. I layer and detach from previous studio sessions to create a mindful aesthetic that reflects our impermanence. My imagery develops through intuitive actions and interpretations of observations drawn from daily life. I use compositions as a way to mark time and create symbolic calendars. I structure compositions on bilateral order and relieved symmetry as these connect to embodiment and nature. My works become visual prayers that hold my concern. The process is a meditation in its act, and the result is an accumulation of mark, memory, and symbolism.

# Jennifer Anne

Manitowoc, WI

 [ArtOut-There.com](http://ArtOut-There.com)

 [jenannetastic\\_outthere](https://www.instagram.com/jenannetastic_outthere)

## Bio

Jen Anne is a multimedia artist with a 20-year background in marketing, design, and writing. She manages marketing and the Wood Shop at the Hamilton Wood Type & Printing Museum. Jen received her MFA in welding and glassblowing from the UW-Madison.

## Statement

My fascination with the natural world is nurtured by lots of looking, while outside and in, as I travel through neighborhoods, cities, parks, greenways and waterways. Organic patterns—branches, leaves, stems, blooms waves, bubbles, ripples clouds and grasses shaped by wind—these are the vocabulary and color palette for making my art. My artwork is evocative of atmosphere, land, and water—connection and movement—without necessarily using representational imagery. Shapes and lines are informed by their neighboring shapes and lines, illustrating interconnection and evolution: what has come before inevitably shapes that which comes afterward.

# Alexis Arnold

Green Bay, WI

 ScorpioEncaustics.com

 scorpioencaustics

## Bio

Alexis Arnold was born in Milwaukee, WI, and grew up in Sturgeon Bay, WI. After graduating from UW Stout in Menomonie, WI with a Fine Art Degree and concentration in art metals, she moved to St. Paul, MN. There she worked in a commercial photography lab and later at Art Resources Gallery.

After a few years in Minnesota, she relocated to Portland, Oregon, and spent fifteen years living there. Alexis started and grew a successful photography business & did that for ten years in Portland. She now resides in Green Bay, WI and runs the non-profit Art Connective.

## Statement

I am inspired by the unique and versatile medium of encaustic which allows me to work with it in multiple layers, similar to how I use depth of field in my photography. This technique is hands-on and created by laying down layers and layers of hot wax.

My work often incorporates vintage found materials from local antique stores. The mix of old and new has always been something I have been drawn to. There is something extraordinary about vintage textures, patterns, and design.

# Nimrod Astarhan

Chicago, IL

 NimrodAstarhan.com

 nimrodastarhan

## Bio

Nimrod Astarhan is an artist, technologist, and educator. They exhibited and initiated group projects in Europe, the US, and the International Space Station. Recent showings include the Gwangju Biennale and Ars Electronica. In the past year, they received grants and awards from the Israeli Ministry of Culture and the Municipal Art League of Chicago. Nimrod is a lecturer for Net-Art && Cultures at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, where they got their MFA under the New Artist Society fellowship.

## Statement

I work through a post-conceptual approach to sculpture, installation, and media art. My works are vehicles by which the energy of exploratory research in history and philosophy drives concrete circumstances, materials, and available technology. Exhibiting this work is a model on a 1:1 scale of a way of thinking, knowing, or being. This manifests through activating the exhibition space in a way that is never constricted to a human sense. I refer to my studio work as action-thinking, a merging of research and praxis into a simultaneous lesson and application. The works created through this process are emblematic of acting while being beside knowledge rather than immersed in it, enjoying the artistic privilege of doing without knowing. Working with or about media technology, my work is an act of revealing: creating devices and techniques for deepening relationships with unseen hierarchies and structures. Whether these are facts from the history of science, retelling of origin stories, or electromagnetic energies, there is always a quasi-material way in which my work is entangled with something missing from its sensory appearance.

# Jeanne Aurelius

Ellison Bay, WI

 ClayBayPottery.com

 Clay Bay Pottery

 claybaypottery

## Bio

At eleven years old, while recovering from a spinal fusion, I realized how much pleasure, drawing, painting, and crafts gave me. Later, I studied Art Education at Luther college in Decorah Iowa. I took my first pottery class and found much joy and experienced many challenges. For several summers, I was a student of Bauhaus trained Marguerite Wildenhain learning, form, function, and beauty. Making pottery keeps me “centered” in this ever changing life.

## Statement

I create a variety of functional and sculptural work using stoneware clay and decorating with colorful underglazes. I strive to make pieces that enhance and compliment daily living.

My work and decorations incorporates nature and the world around me. Creating well made and beautifully alive pieces requires skill, knowledge and artistic discrimination. I create women vases and faces in celebration of the strength and contributions that women give to society throughout the world.

Many amazing artist have influenced me. Bjorn Winblad, Flora Lanlois, George Shipperly, Shelby Keefe, David Stewart, and Marguerite Wildenhain, to name a few.

Whether it is perfecting throwing vases, bowls, or platters... I love the challenge and I feel I'm learning all the time.

As and artist, I have used my work to bring joy into peoples lives. Thank you Peninsula School of Art for this opportunity to show my work.

# Johanna Axelrod

Lakewood, WI

 JAxelrod.com

## Bio

Winslow Lake and the National Forest surround my home in Lakewood, WI. They are a constant source of inspiration. I am 76 years old. I have been involved with art most of my life, and now I see the advantage these years. I have had a lot of time to learn so many techniques and enjoy continuing to do so.

## Statement

Experiment, explore, investigate. This has been a common thread in my career as an artist. I have enjoyed learning various media, and I often combine them in my work. Having spent time on watercolor, oil, sculpture, collage and cold wax, I am able to pick the one that is the best ‘tool for the job’.

This is an advantage, as I envision pieces in various ways. The media influences the work and, in turn I use it to express my ‘big idea’.

# Lisa Baratta

Brookfield, WI

## Bio

I came to art late in life when I signed up for an art workshop at PSA in 2015 following an early retirement. After five decades of considering myself the least artistic person I knew, it came as quite a shock to discover that one could learn to make art. Now my joy in exploring the artistic process has become a passionate hobby. My art education has been a combination of being self-taught and taking workshops, many in Door Co. as well as online.

## Statement

What started as an interest in drawing has evolved into working in watercolor, primarily because of a desire to incorporate color and capture beauty in my work. I then was drawn to the somewhat unpredictable nature of watercolor even as I grapple with that. Landscapes and architecture are my most common subjects. I enjoy depicting architecture for the balance of precision and expressiveness. My artwork is the result of a push-pull of balancing realism and impressionistic interpretation.

These works are part of a series depicting Door Co. barns I started this year. I think the suburban girl in me was drawn to them as subjects because there can be an air of romanticism over these iconic barns. Perhaps people imagine a “quieter, more simple life” that belies the very hard work behind farming. Made more timely by the decline in the number of family farms, these barns symbolize a disappearing rural lifestyle.

# April Behnke

Chicago, IL

 [AprilBehnke.com](http://AprilBehnke.com)

 [aprilbehnke](https://www.instagram.com/aprilbehnke)

## Bio

Chicago-based painter April Behnke received her MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 2011 and has completed residencies at the Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts in Omaha and the Slak Foundation in the Netherlands. She has exhibited nationally and internationally, including in Mexico City, Seoul, New York City, Berlin, Chicago, London, and Basel.

## Statement

My work is composed of paintings and drawings that explore themes of order, disorder, and visual play through abstract patterns.

To form a new piece, I create a grid or multiple grids constructed from basic geometric shapes. On the grids, I implement a set of rules - some are strict, while others are open to interpretation and intuition. Some are limited to certain areas, while others extend across each piece.

Making the work is a process of discovery, as I never quite know what to expect from the union of planned and improvised elements. Working this way requires intense focus and looking at the pieces invites a similar experience. The viewer finds in them something playful, accessible, consuming, and even puzzling. Their eyes travel and continue to discover as they look, never quite fully grasping the image before them.

# Dianne Binger

Oconomowoc, WI

## Bio

I graduated from Carroll University with a double major - elementary education and art education. I spent the early part of my professional life as an elementary school teacher. The last several years I have taught art to kindergarten through 8th grade students. I just retired at the end of the last school year. I decided to use my retirement as a time to redevelop my own art. I have always enjoyed flowers and gardening and often use that as the subject matter of my art. This summer I have been experimenting with alcohol ink painting.

## Statement

My paintings are created using alcohol inks. I then use markers to add some details and define some shapes. I used nature themes from my garden in my work and have experimented with layering colors to create dimension.

# Linda Birmingham

Fish Creek, WI

 Linda Birmaingham

## Bio

I am a ceramic arts hobbyist. I enjoy playing with clay on the wheel and hand building. Texture and form, taking the wet clay through all the steps is my focus. It is a challenge and a pleasure.

## Statement

I have tried different media over the years. As a child I loved to draw. As an adult, playing with threads in weaving and quilting were interests, but nothing compares to playing with clay. My first try was in college, taking a class with potter Bruce Grimes. It was challenging, sometimes frustrating, learning to center a piece of wet clay on the wheel, but once successful, it was hard to stop. I liked it and enjoyed a few semesters of classes. After college my life was busy with family and work, but then I had a chance to try clay again. A friend mentioned that Community Clay, an evening gathering of clay enthusiasts with a leader to answer questions was starting up at PAS. I went out on a limb and tried it. Having to relearn many things after a 30-year hiatus was a challenge, but a wonderful experience. I've been fortunate to learn more from local potters, Renee Schwaller, Chad Luburger, Roger Bergan and Jeanne Aurelius to name a few. I enjoy the process, the many stages from kneading the wet clay, to forming it by throwing on the wheel or by hand, adding textures, or handles, choosing glazes and sing the results after a firing. Making many decisions throughout the process is a challenge and a pleasure that playing with clay has given me.



# Beki Borman

Milwaukee, WI



BekiBorman.com



bekibormanart



bekipaintland

## Bio

Beki Borman was born and raised in the Milwaukee area of Wisconsin. She attended the Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design where she received her BFA in painting in 2004. Since graduating, Beki has exhibited her work both locally and nationally. For Beki's studio work she paints colorful and textural abstract landscapes in oil and acrylics using a combination of painting knife and brush techniques. Some of her influences include Vincent Van Gogh, Wolf Kahn, and Wayne Thiebaud. Beki works out of her studio in Waukesha, WI.

## Statement

For me the landscape is the most accessible subject of the natural world. It has shaped our understanding of visual order. When I look at a landscape my mind instantly begins to evaluate its design. I lay out the big shapes, patterns of color, and areas of contrast. My interest is not in recreating the scene, but rather in learning from its aesthetic. I use a painting knife as my primary tool to create a textured surface that describes the vast color experience of a landscape from afar but up close supports the objective nature of paint. Through layering I seek out a nuanced variety in mark making which speaks to the subtle experiences of space and light.

# Brian Bosworth

Brooklyn, NY

## Bio

I am retired from a 50-year career in regional economic development, working internationally in the Foreign Service of U.S. Agency for International Development as well as throughout the U.S, running state economic development programs in the Midwest and consulting with many other regions. Although my wife and I have for many years spent much of our summers in Door County Wisconsin, our permanent residence in Brooklyn, NY.

## Statement

I paint mostly in an abstract style, usually incorporating a wide mix of media that includes acrylics, hot wax (encaustics), cold wax, oil, alcohol inks, and such textural substances such as sand or plaster. Since the buildup of these materials can be heavy, I usually paint on cradled wood panels or on microfiber cloth or similar materials which can be adhered to wood panels. I usually apply these materials with bowl scrapers or knives or with my hands. I am primarily concerned with colors, shapes, and textures.

# Mary K Braza

Egg Harbor, WI

 [ArtbyMKB.com](http://ArtbyMKB.com)

## Bio

For thirty years, I practiced law - litigating cases and doing sports deals across the country. I loved my work, but in 2019, I happily retired to Egg Harbor, Wisconsin. Now, I am immersed in the practice of art - painting, sketching, planning new work, visiting galleries, taking classes to hone skills, and exploring new techniques, subject matter and media. What a joy to have discovered this new way of looking at the world!

## Statement

I am hard at work learning to paint. Since retirement in 2019, I have painted well over 350 paintings, taking to heart the adage that practice makes perfect—or at least leads to betterment. I explore a range of subject matter—landscapes, still life, people. While I spend as much time planning as I do putting paint on a surface, when I paint I fight my leanings toward precision (a remnant from years of practicing law) and strive to paint broadly, freely and expressively.

I love to create in different media. I started painting in watercolor, then moved to acrylics. Within the past 18 months I have bravely waded into oil painting, oil and cold wax, and, most recently, encaustics. I enjoy the freedom of moving from one material to another - cross-pollinating each with lessons learned from successes, and failures, missteps and happy accidents working with a different material.

No matter what the media or subject matter, I am continually drawn to the challenge of presenting, in two dimensions, the interplay between light and color. And to use that interplay as a means of conveying emotion. I employ color boldly, but deliberately, using my palette to convey varying degrees of warmth and coldness, brightness and darkness, I hope that my work, in turn, evokes an emotion or sparks the memory of a feeling.

# William Buchanan

Riverdale, GA

 [WilliamBuchananArt.com](http://WilliamBuchananArt.com)

## Bio

William Buchanan received his BA from LeMoyne-Owen College. In addition, he attended Jackson State University and studied painting, drawing, and design at the Peninsula School of Arts in Door County WI. (University of Wisconsin at Green Bay Ext.) William's work has been shown in selected group exhibitions throughout the nation. William's nature-inspired art work has earned him multiple awards including a Hambridge Center Fellowship and first place painting in the 10th Annual National Competition and Exhibition of African-American Artist at Atlanta Life Insurance Company, Atlanta, GA.

## Statement

My work is inspired by human interaction with the natural Southern Landscape. By blurring the lines between humanity and nature, I create a holistic view of nature that speaks to our urgent need to heal the rift between ourselves and the biosphere.

# Lynn Budzak

Luxemburg, WI

 @ParkRangerWinnie

## Bio

Lynn retired from health care and originally sought art as a way to escape the day to day stress of medicine. Based in Dyckesville WI, her art reflects her passion for hiking Wisconsin trails, gardening and her time spent living in Alaska.

## Statement

What started as a sip and paint experience has evolved into a passion for exploring various art media. A brain trained in science and math has opened to a new adventure in form, value and color. Joyfulness is found while getting lost in the process of creation.

# Paul Burmeister

West Bend, WI

 [adumbrations.net](http://adumbrations.net)

## Bio

Regionally-exhibited artist from Waukesha WI. Small-scale acrylic paintings of naturalistic subject matter that explore aspects of color and time.

## Statement

My paintings of vernacular subject matter take controlled liberties with aspects of naturalism. Color relationships and proportional relationships are especially important to my construction of finished images. I do not intend the work to be sentimental, and I am most pleased when attentive viewers notice the care I've devoted to composition and drawing. I also aim to express some thing about time and tempo.

# Carol Byron

Naperville, IL

 [CarolByronPhotography.com](http://CarolByronPhotography.com)

 [carolbyronphotography](https://www.instagram.com/carolbyronphotography)

## Bio

I received a Certificate in Photography Technology from the College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn, Illinois in 2014. I primarily work in analog and alternative process photography and have been creating orotones for the last several years. I am a founding member of the Fleeting Moments Artists collaborative and am represented by Woodwalk Gallery in Egg Harbor, Wisconsin.

## Statement

Orotones (sometimes called gold-tones or Curt-Tones) are a photographic process made popular in the late 1800's by Edward Curtis. Silver gelatin positive images on clear glass are backed with a gold substance to give the image a glistening, almost 3D quality. I use liquid emulsion to hand coat watercolor paper and expose each print in the darkroom, like an ordinary silver gelatin print. After the development process, I do an emulsion transfer, similar to a Polaroid emulsion lift, onto clear glass. After it has dried, the emulsion side of the glass is coated with gilder's wax. Because of the finicky nature the process, no two prints are ever the same and no one is ever perfect. The images I am submitting for this show are photograms of flowers, printed as orotones.

# Maggie Capettini

Downers Grove, IL

 [MaggieCapettini.com](http://MaggieCapettini.com)

 [maggielapaints](https://www.instagram.com/maggielapaints)

 [maggielapaints](https://www.facebook.com/maggielapaints)

## Bio

Raised and currently residing in the Chicagoland area, Maggie Capettini holds a BA in Studio Art and a Master of Arts in Teaching. Her works are held in museum/gallery collections in Batavia, Warrenville, and West Chicago, Illinois, as well as private collections in the United States and internationally. A giant fiberglass duck she painted with a Tuscan landscape makes its home in the media center at Lockport Township High School East Campus in Lockport, Illinois.

## Statement

I am primarily an oil painter who loves to paint with knives and to paint outdoors. In recent years, I have begun to explore other mediums, tools, and processes in my painting, including working more abstractly and taking on challenges to grow as an artist. This January, I participated in a daily painting challenge to create a painting from life each day of the month. I deepened the challenge by setting myself a limit of 40 brush strokes for each painting: lay the brush down, move it around (as much as I wanted/needed to) and lift it up – that is “one stroke”. For the most part, I stuck to this count for each painting I did for the challenge. Sometimes, additional strokes were needed to bring a painting to a finished state. This way of painting requires a lot of looking and thinking between each stroke, as well as a good amount of color-mixing strategizing. Though the process is slow, the paintings maintain a fresh and spontaneous feeling.

# Ginnie Cappaert

Egg Harbor, WI

 GCappaert.com

 ginniecappaert

## Bio

Ginnie Cappaert is a full-time visual artist with a studio/gallery in Egg Harbor, WI. Her surroundings of nature and travels inspire and influence the oil, mixed media paintings that she has become known for. She feels compelled to interpret the landscape in an abstracted, intuitive and playful manner. When not painting or running her gallery she enjoys hiking, horse back riding, yoga and traveling. She spends extended time in Santa Fe, New Mexico in the winter where she is also represented by a gallery. Locally she is represented at Edgewood Orchard Galleries and Cappaert Contemporary.

## Statement

It is the landscape imagery and its deep space that I explore in my work by building up 30-40 layers of oil paints and mixed mediums. I apply very thin layers of oil paint to the wood board adding texture, scraping the paint, dissolving areas and then rebuilding them as I construct the painting. The removing process is as important as the layering. This 'surface tension' eventually is transformed into a peaceful, subtle mix of texture and natural colors. I strive to accomplish a feeling of serenity not only as I paint, but for the viewer as well. Always continuing to find that balance between landscape and abstraction.

Skies, vast lands, colors and light also inspire me and I am thankful for the beauty around me and the ability to transform it into my art.

# Rex Cassidy

Chicago, IL

 morsrex

## Bio

Rex Cassidy is a nonbinary artist based in Chicago whose work reflects on themes of belonging, self, and personal journey. They hold an MA in Art Education from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Cassidy is dedicated to exploring and expressing the complexities of identity and experience through their art. Whether in the classroom or the studio, they strive to inspire and empower others to embrace their true selves and to celebrate the diversity of the human experience. Rex's preferred mediums include glass, metal, and paint, which they employ to create emotionally charged artworks.

## Statement

The works of the *Lost to History* series are inspired by ancient artifacts that are often (modernly) called venus figurines, some of which date back 35,000 years. They have acted as keepers of history with many meanings perscribed to them. These relics were thought to be personal, intimate, and valuable due to their small size. These artworks would like to serve a symbol of importance for the trans people who that have been left out or removed from the historical record

# Patrice Champeau

Sister Bay, WI

## Bio

Patrice is a fifth generation Wisconsin Artist. She works in watercolor, acrylic & pastels. She studied art at UW Stevens Point & with her professional artist mother Joan Champeau. She is a Wisconsin blue ribbon winner. Patrice strives to capture the whimsical charm & rich history of the Door Peninsula. The greatest accomplishment of her art work is when it makes people smile.

# Roberta Champeau

Sister Bay, WI

 Great Northern By Design

## Bio

I was born in beautiful Door County and have been here all my life. My mom, an early Door County artist, encouraged me to draw and paint but it never took much persuasion. My first formal art teacher was Gerhard Miller in the summer of 1964. We sketched outside. What a fabulous introduction to the art world! I went on to study art at St. Norbert College. While I was there I developed a love of calligraphy. I joined several calligraphy guilds and traveled to workshops throughout the U.S. and Canada. I am a librarian and worked at Gibraltar Schools for forty years.

## Statement

I love working in calligraphy, watercolor, and acrylic. I try to capture the light in different seasonal landscapes. The way I work it is like putting together a puzzle. I lay something out on the canvas or paper and let it dry. Then I go back and study it. What does it need? What is wrong? Then add another layer or paint over something I don't like. This process is repeated several times until it looks ok. It really is quite fun.

# Karen Cooper

Grinnell, IA



[KarenCooperPaintings.com](http://KarenCooperPaintings.com)



[Karen Cooper Studio](#)



[karencooperstudio](#)

## Bio

My painter's eye has a tendency to gravitate toward the street scene, a cafe scene, a weird little architectural structure, and every now and then a vehicle. As my work matures, I find it important and necessary to not paint safe - but rather to see the challenge, accept it, and give it my best shot.

Oil is my medium of choice, whether it be on stretched canvas for studio work, or on panel for plein air painting.

For me, the bottom line, and always the focus: that the painting must be a thing of substance and solidity and interest and beauty.

Karen Cooper

# Cathleen Cramer

Chicago, IL



[CathleenCramer.com](http://CathleenCramer.com)



[cmcramer.art](#)

## Bio

I am an artist, teacher, and mother based in Chicago, Illinois. After completing my undergrad in Fine Art from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, I went on to earn a Masters in Teaching from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. I have taught everything from art history to printmaking to textiles to painting local schools and institutions. My artistic practice is rooted in play. Through collage, I am able to achieve that sense of spontaneity and flexibility while being fully immersed in the process of making.

## Statement

My collage work draws inspiration from remnants of daily domestic life to confront what is recorded and valued in the realm of the maternal.

# Howard Crystal

Plover, WI



HLawrenceArts.com



howard.lawrence.fine.art

## Bio

I have lived long enough to come back to art. Years ago, major university, art course for non-majors. Years later, it worked. Love it.

## Statement

This is the world according to me. It's a great pleasure to be here with you.

# Rosemarie Dagostino

Oak Park, IL



dagostino\_rose

## Bio

Rosemarie Dagostino has seriously painted with watercolor and oil paints for 15 years. Previously she received a degree in Art Education at Northern Illinois University and taught Art for 25 years. During that time she participated in classes and workshops offered by The Art Institute of Chicago, The University of Wisconsin, The Peninsula School of Art and various Art Leagues. She is a member of the Illinois Watercolor Society, The Transparent Watercolor Society and a member of the Museum for Women in the Arts.

## Statement

My art-making is usually focused on the experimental. A new view of a common landscape, an unusual street scene noticed while walking, a request from a friend to recapture a memory, are all challenges I try to master. I love exploring the woods and snapping a photo of a sunlit flower I've not noticed before. Nature is always a great source for my ideas. Great color is a goal on which I focus in my work. If that which I capture in my painting pleases the viewer I'm glad but will rework a subject numerous times until it also pleases me.

I've enjoyed observing the methods of various watercolorists over the past 15 years and implementing those techniques in my style. If I'm not watercolor painting, I attend oil painting studio time with a group on a weekly basis. Lately I've discovered cold wax and Oil paint as a medium and thus, another opportunity arose from which I can learn and then, use in my paintings.

Learning from those with whom I paint, or continuing taking workshops to spark my motivation to try something again or just differently, is where I find my interest now.



# Robert Dunevant

Lake Forest, IL

## Bio

Robert Russell Dunevant was born in Valparaiso, Indiana. He holds an undergraduate degree in philosophy and a master's degree in clinical counseling. He currently works as a psychodynamic therapist in Lake Forest, Illinois. He has shown artwork in Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin and New Mexico.

## Statement

In my work, I use a process the surrealists called psychic automatism. This means I try to be spontaneous and not plan much ahead. I enjoy letting unexpected developments occur up until the work is done. I also work in single-hour increments, which I track, finding it interesting to see how the total number of hours effects the quality of the finished work.

# Pamela Ek

Algoma, WI

 [PamEkArtworks.wixsite.com/artist](https://PamEkArtworks.wixsite.com/artist)

## Bio

I received my BFA in Painting from the University of Illinois in 1963. I have been in galleries and juried art shows across the country since that time. For the last ten years I have shown in the Cinema Gallery, Urbana, IL and Clay Bay Gallery in Ellison Bay, WI. I also was selected for juried shows at Parkland College, Champaign, IL; Bloomington Normal College, Bloomington, IL; and Cinema Gallery, Urbana, IL.

## Statement

I strive to share the joy of my painting with those who view it. Through 60 years of doing art work I have managed to develop my own style and technique. Beginning with 30" by 40" oil canvases and progressing to 6" x 6" watercolor on clayboards has been quite a process. I had some acrylics, collages, and printmaking work along the way. Each subject matter and media enhanced the next painting. I am always and still learning.

# Gray Finch

Defiance, MO

 [GrayFinchStudios.com](http://GrayFinchStudios.com)  [Gray Finch Studios](#)  [grayfinchstudios](#)

## Bio

Art is my mantra for interconnection; encouraging my exploration of concepts such as reincarnation and a reverence for the animal kingdom. Since I began my journey as an artist, my work has evolved into interpretation and expression of my exploration of Buddhism, philosophy and meditation.

My body of work is a manifestation of an Alchemy process that is nuanced, poetic and mystical.

## Statement

My work is influenced by my grandmother, the artist Blanche Fischel Claggett. She died in 1979 before I was born, and I believe my innate love for art was no mistake: I was born to continue what she started. Through her paintings, I've always felt a sense of peace and stillness within myself - a sense of mutual understanding between us where time and space are irrelevant - and I continue to feel her presence and her wisdom through the subjects, shapes and shadows of her work.

As an artist in recovery, I encountered some life-changing experiences that caused me to reassess my life and my purpose. Art has been the life-line of my recovery through tangled feelings of fear and excitement. It has allowed me the space and freedom of honest and cathartic self expression, and willed the purpose of continued growth.

Art has also been my mantra for interconnection; encouraging my exploration of concepts such as reincarnation and a reverence for the animal kingdom. Since I began my journey as an artist, my work has evolved into interpretation and exploration of Buddhism, philosophy and meditation.

My body of work is a manifestation of an Alchemy process that is nuanced, poetic and mystical.

\*Mission Statement: To convey the artists' spiritual quest.

# Pam Flanders

Sturgeon Bay, WI

 [PamFlanders.com](http://PamFlanders.com)

## Bio

I love working with the oil medium. It's luscious to play with contrasting colors and the feel of a brush on canvas. I love painting in a realistic style both indoors and out. I enjoy capturing the color and light of my subject and the feel of the bounce of the brushes and oil on canvas. Another plus is traveling with other artists to new locations and experience how we each interpret a scene, the light, shadows, and colors.

## Statement

Drawing and coloring was my interest as a child. My father loved to draw at the table before dinner and encouraged me to draw along with him. I chose simple subjects like trees, cartoon characters, and animals. I soon began asking for my own "drawing paper" and colored pencils. I entered any art competition at school.

I heard that the local art museum provided oil painting classes taught by professional artists in the area. I took one class and was hooked. I took every class that was offered. They were taught by great educators at the West Bend Art Museum who have become some of my greatest mentors and colleagues.

I have been refining my oil painting skills and style over the past 30 years. I am a native of Wisconsin and have been juried into local and national art shows. Working with contemporary professional artists throughout the country has sharpened my technical skills while adding a variety of on location painting experiences. A move to the West Coast introduced me to a wider range of color and atmospheric perspective.

# Kris Franzke

Sister Bay, WI

## Bio

I was a high school art teacher in the Milwaukee area for 30 years. So I seem to know a little about many different mediums. I moved to Door County 4 years ago. It seems to be the perfect place to be artistically inspired daily.

## Statement

As a high school teacher I shared my passion of making things with thousands of students, teaching them techniques, providing inspiration, and helping them find their own artistic voice. Now it is time for me to focus on my work. Focusing is the hard part since I love working with many different mediums. However, clay seems to be the one I consistently return to. I began working at Clay Bay Pottery in Ellison Bay last year. Watching David and Jeanne Aurelius create their work with such joy was inspiring. Then being around everything Door County, the goat idea came to me. Goats make me laugh. Their playful energy is infectious. As I build each goat their personality seems to develop. Each one is named and numbered. Goats are mischievous when they are alone so keeping them with a herd is important. I hope my creation awakens something playful and spirited in you.

# Joseph Frey

Northfield, IL

 [Josephfreywatercolors](#)

## Bio

Joseph Frey has been painting in watercolor since 2018, and metalpoint since 2022. He has participated in several local painting events and shows, including the Evanston Plein Air Festival, Barrington Plein Air Festival, and several local exhibitions.

## Statement

I have primarily worked in watercolor. Last year I discovered metalpoint drawing. I am taking after one of my art heroes, Albrecht Durer, who worked in metalpoint and watercolor. I am attracted to the special properties of metalpoint, such as its delicate lines and surfaces, oxidation colors, and special support preparations. I tend to work in a methodical and meticulous way, which is ideal for metalpoint. The medium also demands patience and courage, as mistakes cannot be erased. I am often drawn to architectural subjects, lighthouses in particular this year. I have not seen any metalpoint works in any other local shows so I am excited to share this old and unusual medium with everyone.

# Katharine Frey

Northfield, IL

 Katharinefreyart

## Bio

Katharine Frey is a Chicago-based artist and photographer who works with watercolor, cyanotype, glass, acrylic, and other media. Katharine also is an early childhood teacher who loves to create art with her students. Her greatest joy is sparking inspiration in her students to be as creative as they can be.

## Statement

Being creative unleashes magic and imagination which I aim to convey in my work. I'm deeply inspired by landscapes, nature, and places I have been. I have been going to Door County since I was a child and it has been such a creative outlet. Growing up, I admired my art teacher in school. She inspired and encouraged me to be creative and taught me anything is possible in art. My current passion is creating cyanotypes, which is a photographic process using UV light.

# Tom Friese

Green Bay, WI

 tomfrieseart

## Bio

My art lessons started when I was 4 with a Canadian artist. We worked in pastel and oils. Acrylics were developed in the mid 30s and were not widely used until the late 50s and 60s. In college was an art major in ceramics. At the University of Michigan I received an MFA in printmaking with a concentration in Lithography and taught at Mankato State University in Minnesota. After 7 years we moved to Green Bay and entered the 3 dimensional world of Interior design. The last 10 or so years have been spent painting in Oil and Cold Wax and Acrylic.

## Statement

Viewing my work you may wonder, "What are these paintings? Why the orange, yellow, green and blue shapes? Bright colors washed behind or over and dripped or squiggled." Welcome to my world of Geometric Abstraction.

Geometric Abstraction is not representational. It is often minimal in content—geometric forms held together by a pattern of lines and colors. My palette is bold, often primary colors. There are no recognizable objects, no horizon lines, no still life or figures.

So, why do I do this? I love the structure and color. I am challenged to finish the puzzle.. I begin with one dominant color and shape. During the process I constantly rotate the painting. If it works in all directions, it's finished.

I encourage you to look deeply at something that is minimal and seemingly simple and find the complexities. What do you see?

# Felipe Gacharna

Madison, WI

## Bio

Felipe Gacharna is a Colombian-born artist living in Madison, WI. When he's not taking photos of dye under a black light, he and his wife are doing their best to raise two children under two years of age.

## Statement

Artists and scientists share similar positions on the edge of human understanding. While scientists aim to enlighten by deciphering quantitative data, artists delve into the ephemera of the human conscience in the hopes of inspiring others. But what if enlightenment and inspiration share more than it appears?

Explore this very question with in this photography triptych. With the use of high powered black lights and special fluorescent dyes, this work aims to capture the material nature of energy itself. That eternal, ever-changing force that controls and composes the universe might have something to teach us about the fundamental human experience. What if society learned to embrace change and transformation, even in times of loss? This work poses the hypothesis that if we accept the transient nature of life, like energy itself, we might be better able to appreciate the beauty of a single moment. Enjoy these works as opportunities for quiet reflection - on the universe, and yourselves.

# Joan Gundersen

La Crosse, WI

 [JoanAlexandra.weebly.com](http://JoanAlexandra.weebly.com)

## Bio

I am an expressive oil painter focusing in subjects in the natural world.

## Statement

I am an expressive painter using oils and tones to create a painting. Although, I mostly paint landscapes... I deviate to subjects in the natural world.

# Bethany Habegger

Bloomington, IN

 [BethanyHabegger.com](http://BethanyHabegger.com)

 [bethanyhabegger](https://www.instagram.com/bethanyhabegger)

## Bio

Bethany Habegger recently completed their BFA in painting at Indiana University Bloomington. They were born in Indianapolis, Indiana in 1999 to a family of artists. Raised by two painters, Bethany has been creating work from a very young age.

They are currently working as an artist and arts administrator in Bloomington, Indiana.

## Statement

These recent artworks have been an exploration of childhood creations. As a child, I created many fantastical paper dolls and figures. These works are a reflection of those instincts towards magic. I have found a lot of inspiration from fantasy artists such as Harry Clarke and others from the mid to late 19th century. These influences have broadened my creative endeavors into illustration.

# Dean Habegger

Kenosha, WI

 [DeanHabegger.com](http://DeanHabegger.com)

 [deanhabegger](https://www.instagram.com/deanhabegger)

## Bio

I grew up in Northeastern Indiana and studied art education and painting at Indiana University in Bloomington. I earned an MFA in Painting and Drawing from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. I currently reside in Kenosha, WI where I work in my backyard studio. I am a member and part-time gallery associate at Lemon Street Gallery in Kenosha and have been represented by Woodwalk Gallery in Egg Harbor, WI for the past three seasons. I exhibit my work regular in a variety of venues in Chicago, Northern Illinois and Southeast Wisconsin.

## Statement

I have worked in a variety of media for the past four decades, creating several ongoing bodies of work including, paintings, drawings and mixed media collage/assemblage. I have always been fascinated with the tradition of still life painting and often have elements of still life along with elements of landscape in much of my work. Since I do not create from direct observation, I have a range of work that sometimes appears to be more representational and other times more abstract. In my collage and assemblage work, I use a number of dried organic materials.

I always have many unfinished works in my studio, some decades old. Much of my work involves sanding, scraping, cutting up and rearranging and repainting these older works. Through these processes, I am often reconnecting to past ideas and seeing things in new ways. This gives me the ability to make a variety of work that keeps me rooted in my personal art history while exploring new directions.

# Penelope Hansen

Glendale, WI

 ColoursbyPenelope.com

 Colours by Penelope Hansen  colours\_by\_penelope

## Bio

I am a water color artist, based out of Milwaukee Wisconsin. I studied art at UWM, CSU, a member of the League of Milwaukee Artist (LMA), and have attended many studio workshops. I've had a passion for art since I was just a little girl playing with my moms brushes and observing my mother painting. I am still pursuing my passion for art by continuing to paint and attending art shows and galleries.

## Statement

I love watercolors

# Rachel Hausmann-Schall

Mosinee, WI

 RHausmannSchall.com

 hoorachel

## Bio

Rachel Hausmann Schall is a born and raised Midwestern artist, writer, and educator living and working in central Wisconsin. She received her BFA from the Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design (MIAD) in 2015 and has shown nationally at a variety of museums, galleries, and artist-run spaces. Her work takes shape in many forms, although currently, she is interested in exploring text, language, and mark-making through written and visual mediums like collage and printmaking. Rachel Hausmann Schall works as Artist Residency & Adult Program Manager at the Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum in Wausau, WI.

## Statement

My collage practice incorporates aspects of printmaking, drawing, painting, and digital media. I generate my own collage material by first making monotype prints or paintings which are destroyed later in the creative process after being ripped or cut apart. These initial compositions are inspired by intuitive mark making, experimentation, and play. Prints, drawings, and paintings are repurposed as raw material and treated like building blocks for larger collages as they are torn and cut apart into new puzzle-like pieces. Once I have substance to work with, I arrange pieces of collage papers by continuously moving and organizing elements until a composition feels complete. I try multiple combinations and reposition materials to discover relationships between layers, shapes, textures, lines and negative and positive space. I sometimes include found imagery from magazines, books, or old photographs to create variety in my mark and image making. I embrace the immediacy of collage processes and value that they can produce results quickly. My subject matter is often influenced by simple shapes, patterns, marks, and text. Similar to Surrealism and Dadaism, I am interested in exploring the unconscious by creating intuitively and without limitations or expectations.

# Gail Hefti

Rubicon, WI

 [etsy.com/shop/gailheftimetalsmith](https://www.etsy.com/shop/gailheftimetalsmith)

## Bio

Gail Hefti was born in Milwaukee, WI and now resides 30 miles outside of the city in an old Victorian farmhouse just below Hartford. She received her BFA and MA in Metalsmithing, both from UW-Milwaukee and has been a working metalsmith for almost forty years. Working primarily in silver and semi-precious stones, she has had her work in many shops, galleries and art shows primarily throughout the state.

## Statement

Nature has been a quiet underlying theme in my work since the beginning, specifically sea forms with their tactile qualities. Materials and techniques that I use tend to be traditional and I hand fabricate in what I hope to be a unique final product. I love texture and the processes of texturing metal using etching, chasing and roller printing. Ideas can develop using a stone but my aim is to incorporate them as a working part of the entire piece. My aesthetic choices are intuitive rather than premeditated. Some pieces more than not, seem to develop spontaneously on their own. I prefer results that are not excessively 'designed'.

# Kim “Kimski” Heier

Wausau, WI

## Bio

Kim “Kimski” Heier is an abstract painter in Wausau, WI who also spends much of her time in Door County, WI where she’s inspired by the active art scene there. During the pandemic Kim started exploring abstract painting. Her painting style is best recognized by her signature use of elements of random shapes and sizes in a variety of bright colors with lots of visible texture. She uses acrylic paints on wood panels, canvas or Yupo synthetic paper.

## Statement

Vivid colors? - Yes.

Movement? - Yes.

Texture? - Yes.

Mission accomplished.

When I paint my abstract paintings, like this piece for the Peninsula School of Art 2023 BIG Little Art Show, my goal is for every square inch of the surface to look vibrant, to feel lively, and to have lots of texture. To achieve this I use vivid acrylic paint colors. I create movement in the composition through the use of various elements of random shapes and sizes. I use acrylic mediums to build up texture, then I create more texture by painting layer upon layer of paint, and scraping and scratching into the wet paint.

There’s nothing serious about my abstract style. It’s spontaneous and unplanned, and it lets me be mindlessly creative. Oh, and I often remind myself... “If you don’t like something, just paint over it!”



# Gail Heneghan

Palatine, IL

 gwheneghanart

## Bio

Throughout my life, while art and music are my true vocations, my university career and family were always first in line for my time and focus. Every Summer, we would vacation in Door County. From camping trips as a young girl, to long leisurely walks through woods of Door County as an adult, nature, and especially the trees of the area, have always held a magnetic attraction for me, prompting me to begin a new journey painting the beautiful sites of the area.

## Statement

Recently retired, and living a more relaxed life in Fish Creek, I work with acrylic paint, experimenting with ways to re-create the beautiful Door County landscape found in upper Wisconsin. In these paintings, pallet knives, modeling paste and acrylic paint are used to create a textured look in the pictures; modeling paste adds depth and character to the painting, and the vibrant colors add to the overall charm of the picture.

# Katie Horner

Overland Park, KS

 [cdn.me-qr.com/pdf/13222050.pdf](https://cdn.me-qr.com/pdf/13222050.pdf)

 k.h.ceramics

## Bio

I am Katie Horner! I am a Senior at Kansas State University from Overland Park, Kansas. I am dual majoring with a BFA in Ceramics and BS in Psychology. I have always had a passion for ceramics. Since getting to K-State, I have explored my identity in art, especially in ceramics. I have been able to learn a variety of new techniques that have only added to my passion for the art of clay.

## Statement

My current work focuses on fluidity and the concept space. My work lets the viewer see through and leads their eyes around the piece with the built-in focal point. The hole that is seen in most of my work is a symbol of absence but also the addition to complete the pieces. These visual points are complemented by glazes and surface treatment to create another visual piece.

Clay has been my primary material. I typically hand-build my work using the coil building method. I enhance my work with different combinations of glazes to create visual intrigue as the glazes interact with each other.

# Jane Hostetler

De Pere, WI

 [BlueDoorArtworks.com](http://BlueDoorArtworks.com)

 [JaneConstableHostetler](https://www.instagram.com/JaneConstableHostetler)

## Bio

Jane's professional history is rooted in design. Beginning with a BFA in Design, she spent the first part of her career in Graphic Design. Later, she chose to teach while developing her studio work, which led to a decision to earn a Master of Arts Degree in Visual Studies. At present, she teaches various Studio Art courses in the Green Bay/Fox Valley area. She is very active with Wisconsin Visual Artists organization, having chaired the WI Artists Biennial 2022 and currently as board president. Her studio is based in Green Bay WI, producing an ongoing variety of contemporary works.

## Statement

As a visual artist, a compelling visual experience is a key goal, though the thought it engages is equally valuable. The work I produce uses transparent layers of color and design, incised lines, and textural components to produce abstract works that have underlying influences from the world around us.

Ongoing influence in my work have been the study of primitive and ancient art & architecture, juxtaposed with a long standing immersion in the world of contemporary design and typography! Most recently, my work has been influenced by an intense observation of the environment, its decomposition and renewal. These influences are a continual thread in producing an ongoing collection of abstract works. Works intended to draw the viewer in and allow for personal interaction and interpretation.

# Phoebe Howard

Sturgeon Bay, WI

## Bio

Phoebe Howard is a Door County, Wisconsin, artist whose lifelong interest in art has taken many forms, including painting, printmaking, and textile arts. Oil painting, in her studio and in plein air, occupies most of her current time and energy, followed by watercolor, assemblage, and tapestry weaving.

## Statement

I have always been attracted to color and shape, particularly the geometric shapes of buildings, unique objects, and land forms. The shadows contained within and cast by solid forms are endlessly fascinating. Human beings rarely appear in my paintings directly, but are evident in the materials, objects, and constructions they have created. Nature is also an important element in my work, as I enjoy painting landscapes and open spaces. My plein air painting excursions have included coastal California, the Colorado Rockies, New Mexico, South Carolina, southern Indiana, and the farms, orchards, lakes, and grassy fields of Wisconsin.

# Sarah Howard

Lula, GA

 bugs2797

## Bio

I am a ceramic ware artist who recently graduated from the University of North Georgia. I tend to try to pull inspiration from the world around me due to my love of nature, and tend to be found outside with my dogs and knitting. I believe in being creative for the sake of being creative, and try to balance out making pieces that tell a story with pieces that exist for the sake of bring joy to people.

## Statement

I focus on bringing together both utilitarian and non-utilitarian, wheel thrown and hand-built pieces together through different variations of surface treatments in my art. I continuously experiment with the various methods of creating unique surfaces on my pieces through the use of different techniques, though I tend primarily focus on carving and using hand made ceramic stamps to get the different surface effects on my pieces. I find my inspirations through common concepts that we as humans all can relate to and understand but present them in different ways with the hopes of invoking a conversation amongst the different people.

# Virginia Janssen

Green Bay, WI

 virginia.janssen.artist

## Bio

I am a Green Bay artist working in a variety of mediums. I am inspired by the materials themselves, which might explain why I can't seem to choose just one way to make art. I am partial to odd shapes and every kind of texture. Themes that run through my work include natural elements like birds, flora and fauna, and the female human condition.

I have been teaching art to someone for most of my life, and I currently teach children age 4-14. I love watching them discover the joy that I know is found in making things. I am also an adjunct professor in Art/Education at St. Norbert College.

## Statement

My work is a constant cycle of experimentation and discovery. Each piece is a new start. I work in a variety of mediums, and I believe that versatility in art is a great gift. The work seen here is small, intimate, and very personal. These are moments from my everyday.

For years, I specialized in portraiture and figurative work. There is nothing more expressive than a portrait done well, it is something to which we can all relate.

In recent years, however, I have been attracted to the relationship between people and the natural world. What is my place in this relationship? I am interested in places and animals that are familiar to me, yet seem to be vanishing before my eyes. Many of these places and creatures reoccur in more recent work.

# Jamie Jorndt

Lake Geneva, WI

 JamieJArt.com

 Jamie Jorndt Abstract Artist  jorndt

## Bio

Jamie has always had an intense love for art. She was born and raised in Lake Geneva, WI, and studied Art at the University of Wisconsin at Whitewater. While studying under the internationally acclaimed artist, Terrance Coffman, She discovered her passion for abstract painting. Today, Jamie is well known for her unique designs and has been featured in Studio Visit Magazine . in addition to gallery showings, Jamie's art has been featured in private collections throughout the country.

## Statement

My artwork is a representation of what I am feeling at that particular moment. Each piece represents who I am in the rawest and intimate form.

I choose to paint with acrylic paints and use unconventional tools and objects, such as taping knives and large brushes. I feel this technique give my paintings a life of their own. My use of the material is both intuitive and true.

When painting, I enjoy using color as a way of creating excitement for my viewers. I want them to feel some sort of emotion, through my use of gestural brushstrokes, that evolve with no preconceived idea of what the end result will be.

One thing I can guarantee is there will be a feeling invoked by a particular color or shape. This process runs a fine line of success and creates an unpredictable tension between the conscious and subconscious that can only be resolved by its conclusion.

When I completely let go, the image will become alive and real. The inception of the idea comes from deep inside of me.

Painting is like dreaming for me. The process of creating allows me to resolve life's challenges, yet others can interpret their own meaning of my work.

# Michael Karcz

Oneida, WI

 MikeKarcz.com

## Bio

For 34 years, I was a Ford Automotive Dealer. Since then, I developed my own automotive consulting business. I also have an Brokers license in real estate with Resource 1 Realty as a associate broker for years. I have volunteered my time on a number of boards and fund raising campaigns for GB Botanical Garden, The Meyer Theatre, Aspiro, Civic Symphony of Green Bay and others. I am currently on the executive committee of the Meyer theatre board of Directors.

## Statement

Nature and animals. I have always been intrigued by nature and how to create it in my mind to a actual piece that reflects my view; working in clay and then transforming it to bronze is an amazing journey. I try to replicate the colors using patina to show the colors of the image in a lot of my work. That is what inspires me. I have enjoyed art all of my life. My family is also active in different art forms. My Mother painted beautiful watercolors well into her 90's. I have a brother and sister who excel in photography. Another brother is a woodcarver of ducks and birds. I have traveled and visited most of the important art museums of the world; not all, that is still my goal, but many.

# Ronna Katz

Marquette, MI

 [RonnaKatzFineArt.com](http://RonnaKatzFineArt.com)

 [Ronna Katz Fine Art](#)

## Bio

I'm second-generation artist selling art at juried art festivals throughout the US. I've taught a workshop at The Mendocino Art Center and private lessons. I focus on printmaking and oil-based mixed media paintings and recently added pastel.

## Statement

My work is predominantly oil-based either abstract or landscape.

# Sarah Jane Keiser

Ellison Bay, WI

 [SJKoilpaints.com](http://SJKoilpaints.com)

 [sjkoilpaints](#)

## Bio

Sarah Jane Keiser is an oil painter who grew up in Wisconsin and has also lived along the east coast. Her art is inspired by nature, color, and light. She is a member of the Seabrook Island Art Guild and an associate member of the Oil Painters of America. She won Plein Air Salon Best in Beginner Category December 2022, Second Place North Charleston Arts Fest 2023 along with the City Purchase Award, Best in Show Animal North Charleston Arts Fest 2022, 3 Meritorious Awards Richeson75 Small Works 2022. She was the featured SIAG artist in October 2022. Find some of her work at Plum Bottom Gallery.

## Statement

Nature inspires my art. Growing up, I explored a life outdoors. The unique landscape where I was raised -- the stark shift from glacial flattened land to moraine hills and valleys -- filled my outdoor escapades, and in turn, my imagination. I love being outside. If I'm not painting, you will find me at the beach, hiking, gardening, or biking. My intent with oil painting is to encourage curiosity, and inspire joy and appreciation for our natural world.

I mostly work in oil paints, and enjoy painting "en plein air" or what I call "out in the wild." I also paint in the studio from still life, and enjoy painting animals. Most of my paintings are done alla prima (wet-on-wet) and utilize layers of different brushstrokes and use of palette knife. To control color saturation, hue and value, I avoid pre-mixed oil paint colors and use single pigments whenever possible. My paintings are a range of sizes from tiny pictures painted inside mint tins to large wall canvases.

# Anne Kelly

Chicago, IL

 AnneKellyPrints.com

 annekellyprints

## Bio

I am a fine art printmaker, active in the Chicago Loop and in Door County where I am represented by Woodwalk Gallery. The many confinements of these past three plus years pushed me to expand my boundaries. I am delighted to exhibit a relief print in the Awagami International Miniature Print Exhibition fall 2023. All prints in this exhibition are presented on Japanese washi paper, recently designated a UNESCO intangible cultural heritage craft. I have studied a wide variety of printmaking and encaustic techniques with many artists in an effort to hone my own painterly style.

## Statement

My prints experiment with overlapping organic and linear layers that inform one another and explore the dynamic beauty of relationship. I enjoy playing with texture, shape and pattern by adding and lifting materials from one inked plate as I press on. Working with leaves, grasses, flowers, and vines from our meadow and woods has been a meditative way to pass many days during this complicated time, an unexpected gift. Abstracting my surrounding landscape is a primary focus. I am inspired by sense of place and the endless possibilities of pulling prints and eco printing with meadow and dye plants, woodland finds, and whatever turns up. When creating these monotypes I enjoyed printing with shapes cut from 45 records and was inspired by Edouard Manet's chrysanthemum paintings.

# Christy Kelly-Bentgen

Dexter, MI

 WoodwalkGallery.com

## Bio

Christy Kelly-Bentgen received a BFA in Painting from St. Mary's Notre Dame, followed by graduate work at the University of Notre Dame, as well as University of Minnesota, Split Rock and a BA in Art Education from the University of Detroit, Mercy. A life long learner, she has continued her studies through many diverse courses and workshops in fine arts, art history and education. Over the years, she has worked as an artist and educator in both public and private schools in Michigan, New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Wisconsin where she and her husband raised their two children.

## Statement

I've enjoyed the process of Making Things as far back as I can remember. Whether repurposing cereal boxes as doll furniture or arranging wildflowers in a jar, playing with color, shape, texture and image always brought me joy. My curiosity draws me into all sorts of media (whatever works!). Currently I move between oil pastel, collage and painting, sometimes taking a detour into sculpture. Subjects range from "found" abstracts to family stories to cryptic memories. What interests me most NOW is always my favorite thing.

# Ausrine Kerr

Evanston, IL

 b\_a\_b\_a\_a\_r\_t

## Bio

I am a studio was born and educated in Lithuania, emigrated to US in 1995 and since live, work ,create and teach in Evanston, IL. Since 1989 I participated in numerous Art Fairs from NY, to AZ, had group and solo shows in US, Canada, Europe . 2013 to 2018 curated shows in my Art Gallery Ausrine's Arts Room in Evanston. For more than 26 years I worked with Fiber ( including leather, felt ) later transferred my attention to printmaking ( relief as well as intaglio and mixed media on paper) oil painting .Clay got in to my repertoire just 6 years ago. Traveling between medium I applied knowledge

## Statement

My art begins and lives with and in the NATURE. Every vision start from my garden, tree, stone... I reflect on calmly shivering in the water, steadiness of the stone, abundance of color in flowers and shades of grey in the sky. Art medium comes along with the specific idea: fiber/felt allows me to express softness, clay/porcelain holds 3D forms and shape, relief comes from my appreciation to printmaking technique. The end result is combination of all experiences I was able to get from using my knowledge in art forms and the way I can best express myself.

# Dan Kirchen

Wauwatosa, WI

 ArtbyDanKirchen.weebly.com

 danjkirchen

## Bio

Dan Kirchen is a visual artist & life-long resident of Milwaukee. He received his Associates Degree in Applied Arts, Commercial Art from the MATC.

After spending several years as a production artist for screen & digital print he returned to his love for creating works of art using a combination of ink & spray paint applied directly on glass.

Recently his work has shifted to the use of wood construction such as Little Free Libraries, Benches, Camper themed bird houses and the Still Life 69/Saints and Sinners installations. All have served as a canvas for his creative illustrations & graphics.

## Statement

The work I do is in reverse and imaged directly applied to the glass. A combination of spray paint and ink gives a semi-photographic appearance with just enough interpretation to make it interesting. The pieces are both technical and creative. A sometimes complex process, the results are unique.

My work is often custom per a client's request.

# Alexandria Knapik

Yorkville, IL

 [AlexKnapik.com/art](http://AlexKnapik.com/art)

## Bio

Alexandria Knapik is a Chicago-based emerging artist who works in the art world as a laborer. While not academically trained in fine art, Alex has worked on the business side of the visual arts industry in Chicago for several years, only recently creating pieces. She has spoken at the Death to Museums conference, co-facilitated the 17th Chicago Food Justice Summit, hosted the “Honest Museum Labels” activist project, and more. Artistically, Alex has exhibited collage pieces at Women Made Gallery, through the Chicago Collage Community, and is excited to further her work.

## Statement

My practice is “anti-focus” meaning that instead of looking through a microscope to define meaning, my work centers on emphases at will. This approach adds a more impactful and moment-relevant take to different dialogs and allows me to sustain my work in visual storytelling. I am interested in defining the connections that are gained from fleeting moments and initial impressions. This method is difficult to market and fit into professional applications and landscapes where I’m expected to define the unknown. As an artist exhibitions are away for me to explore the use of visual impact through flow, combinations, emphasis, and space. This method unifies artworks with the experience of looking at them in a story as opposed to singled out. Supported by other “unfocused” aspects such as ADHD and other neurodivergent experiences, the internet and short form experiences, and unrelated research, my exhibitions are accessible and interesting to more people than traditional arts audiences.

“Things I Think About” is an ongoing collection of art made from scratched and unplayable vinyl records. The ongoing aspect of the collection is related to the ever fleeting subject matter; my thoughts. By nature, there is no narrative outside of the moments where I am hyper fixated on something and paint a lot of the same thing consecutively. Otherwise this deeply personal collection reflects my method of creative reuse and expression.

# Mel Kolstad

Fond du Lac, WI

 [MelKolstad.com](http://MelKolstad.com)

 [Mel Kolstad Art Happenings](#)  [melkolstadart](#)

## Bio

Mel Kolstad is an artist, speaker, instructor and arts advocate who makes her home in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. She is a printmaker and collagist, specializing in large series of tiny art.

She is also delighted to be a member of ArtSpace Collective in Oshkosh; Free Range Art in Grafton; Open Door Artists in Fond du Lac; Wisconsin Craft; and volunteer curator for the Langdon Divers Gallery.

She is represented by Cappaert Contemporary Gallery in Egg Harbor, WI and Two Fish Gallery in Elkhart Lake, WI.

## Statement

In 2018, I was honored to present a TEDx talk about my art at TEDxFondduLac. It was entitled, “Channeling your Inner Kid for your Career”, and I spoke about how the things we loved when we were kids many times find a way into our lives when we’re adults.

It’s an axiom I live every day. In my art practice, which has narrowed considerably in the last six years or so, I create tiny drypoint prints, usually in large series of 25 or more. When I realized that I’m only truly happy with my work when working small, my art world opened up tremendously. I believe that when we follow our intuition, our enthusiasm for doing the art we love is palpable!

In creating these works, I am fortunate enough to be able to relive the magic I initially felt when experiencing my love of tiny things more than 45 years ago, and feeling the joy and wonder of surrounding myself in my interests makes going to work every day a sheer pleasure. I never run out of ideas.



# Kurt Kreissl

Egg Harbor, WI



KurtKreissl.com



kurtkreissl

## Bio

Kurt Kreissl is a painter whose work focuses on organic form and fluid movement often incorporating figurative elements and portraiture. He was raised across the United States, finally settling in Chicago, IL where he earned a BFA from DePaul University specializing in graphic design. During this time, Kurt honed his artistic talent discerning his passion for painting, both in acrylic and oil. Since graduation, he has been doing primarily commission works for private clients and collectors. In addition, he has been a part of various group and juried exhibitions.

## Statement

Organic change is erratic in a fluid way. The variations of nature are continuous. While the whole of transformation is an unstoppable force, points in its continuum are able to be marked; observed; impressed; apprehended. These points are forms, perceivable and definable. Defining forms; naming them, calling them- opens the great occurrence of transformation. Our definitions abstract from the assembly of things moving together in time and space. It can be said that we stop what we articulate.

I call out and stop pieces of transformation. I look at the space between emergence and drift and choose moments to seize, develop, and relay. I reflect senses from the whole world of change and refract them into our own. I explore the properties of sensate life in mixed media: oil & acrylic paint, graphite, and digital. I celebrate the realm where what is moves to what may be.

# Kathleen Kvern

Minneapolis, MN



KathleenKvern.com



km\_kvern

## Bio

I am an abstract painter based in Minneapolis. I work in encaustic and mixed media creating multi-layered paintings inspired by the beauty of the natural world. My work has been juried into exhibitions at The Phipps Center for the Arts, Nicolet College Art Gallery, Tubac Center of the Arts, Northfield Art Gallery, Inez Greenberg Gallery, Gallery 360, and at the Minnesota State Fair Fine Art Exhibition among others. I've been commissioned to create public art for private homes as well as public art installations at the Minneapolis Airport. I also teach the art of encaustic painting.

## Statement

My paintings, often done in series, are an exploration of navigating my internal geography and mapping meaningful connections with others and the world. I work in encaustic for its translucency, luminosity, malleability, and durability. Altered by fire, both in form and texture, encaustic is the perfect medium to explore the layered meanings of personal narrative, the concept of transformation, and to convey the complexity of the natural world. The process of encaustic painting is meditative. Layering and scraping away, revealing what has come before and building back in a repetitive manner. Altered by bearing traces of its earlier form, the finished paintings are palimpsests of my successive creation.

# Nancy Laliberte

Wausau, WI



NancyLaliberte.com



Nancy Laliberte Fine Art



nancylaliberteart

## Bio

Hello, my name is Nancy Laliberte. I am an artist living in Wausau, Wisconsin. My artwork reflects my life-long love for the color and light found in nature, and everyday scenes and objects. While the physical act of painting fills my soul and keeps me in the present moment, capturing the splendor of a flower or garden with paint makes my heart sing.

## Statement

As an avid gardener and traveler, much of my painting inspiration comes from my own yard or my travels. I often say, "Flowers are my people." Painting from life as much as possible allows me to capture the essence and personality of the subject. My technique involves using layers of transparent and opaque colors, working from abstract shapes to more refined details. The joy in the journey is reflected in each colorful brushstroke and painting. It is my wish that my paintings inspire you and lift your spirit.

# Chelsea Littman

Sturgeon Bay, WI



ChelsKicksGlass.com



chelsealittman

## Bio

Chelsea Littman has been exploring the beauty of hot glass as a means of expression for fourteen years, since first discovering it at Alfred University where she completed her Bachelor of Fine Arts in 2011. She has worked in many hotshops, making production items for gallery and lighting designs as well as taught numerous workshops for first timers, in her hometown of Cleveland, Ohio. Six years ago she was invited to work with renowned glass artists Stephanie Trenchard and Jeremy Popelka, where she has been assisting them since as well as working on developing her own voice in glass.

## Statement

Littman's glass work explores texture in a variety of ways, most recently with the application of enamels fired onto glass she has blown or sculpted. Her series of lovely lady lumps, inspired by Venus sculptures of old where only the torso remains, have been a delight to sculpt and then 'dress' in various fashions. She investigates beauty and the divine feminine in a playful way.

# Huaqi Liu

Baltimore, MD

 [HuaqiLiu.com](http://HuaqiLiu.com)

## Bio

Chinese-born, Maryland-based painter Huaqi Liu uses images of clouds—depicting their diversity, variability, and naturalness—to explore the concept of destiny from a Chinese perspective. His artworks showcase a deep understanding of nature and philosophy, as well as an emotional and aesthetic pursuit of clouds.

He received his B.F.A. in Painting and Drawing from SUNY New Paltz University, and later obtained his M.F.A.

## Statement

Surprisingly and poetically, the Chinese character for “destiny” contains the character for “cloud” within it. This curious association between two things that at first appear utterly different suggests a beautiful analogy. “Cloud” becomes a metonym for “destiny,” encoding the abstract, philosophical notion in a concrete, experiential image. As destiny is determined by multiple unseen forces, the lives of clouds are guided by the wind and all the vast, invisible phenomena of climate and weather.

Liu’s oil paintings depict the dynamics, textures, and spaces of clouds through different movements, media, and sizes. The manner and existence of abstract cloud formations are determined by the combination of surrounding atmospheric elements. Clouds do not have fixed shapes or colors; their mutability reflects the different meanings assigned to them by people with different individual histories and cultures. Having grown up with a Chinese cultural background, Liu views clouds as the best explanation for destiny, representing a spiritual aura within the universe and nature.

# Stephanie Lord

Sturgeon bay, WI

 [StephanieLord.com](http://StephanieLord.com)

 [stephanie\\_lord](https://www.instagram.com/stephanie_lord)

## Bio

I am a full time resident of Door County and a plein air and studio oil painter. I am a member of the Peninsula School of Art, American Impressionist Society and represented by Plum Bottom Gallery in Door County.

## Statement

These small works that I’m submitting are all still life’s that I did in my art studio. I have a farm and a big apple orchard so two of the paintings show honeycrisp apples from my orchard. I went to an antique shop recently and found the little silver teapot and the three china tea cups to use as a fun still life.

# Gabriel Magliaro

Winnetka, IL

 one\_road\_in

## Bio

Raised among artists, I began making as a way into education and identity. I attended the School Of The Art Institute of Chicago where I earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts. In 2006 I founded Half Acre Beer Co, one of Chicago's oldest and largest brewing companies. I've spent the last 18 years overseeing overall brand aesthetic and business direction. I recently began a painting and word work practice to further my own creative well-being.

## Statement

Gabriel Magliaro's work explores uninhibited spaces, natural force, pastoral practices and forgotten land. Rudimentary shapes suggest a primal, suggestive connection to the far-away. By painting warm, rough-hewn woods and shaping sculptural frames using hand-tools, vibrant color treatments meld with the comforts of folk and craft tradition. A time-honored sensibility aims to restrict a modern aesthetic, landing calm, soft and familiar.

# Liz Maltman

Fish Creek, WI

 LizMaltman13@gmail.com

## Bio

I began Plein air painting in 2005 after running a boutique for almost 30 years in Fish Creek. I started my fine art career in pastels but now include paint mediums depending on whim. I also enjoy teaching, especially beginners and children.

I have been honored to participate in the Peninsula art School Plein Air Festival ten times. Besides painting I enjoy silent sports, friends, and grandchildren.

## Statement

I consider all of my work to be an experiment in color and relationships, kind of like life. I am particularly drawn to Plein air painting because I love nature and the ever-changing relationships due to light, wind, precipitation, etc. I like the challenge. I also really enjoy portraiture. While I work inside of course during the winter, I'm usually looking out the window.

# Abigail Marquardt

Green Bay, WI

 [AbigailMarquardt.weebly.com/](http://AbigailMarquardt.weebly.com/)

 [abigailmarquardtart](https://www.instagram.com/abigailmarquardtart)

## Bio

Abigail Marquardt was raised in Coleman Wisconsin and currently lives in Green Bay Wisconsin. She attends college at the University of Wisconsin Green Bay and is working towards her BA in Art Education and Studio Arts. She has worked primarily in crochet and sculpture and her color palette usually includes natural colors.

She has participated in two student shows at the University of Wisconsin Green Bay and also worked as a summer art teacher at the Peninsula School of Art. She will be participating in the Senior Show this upcoming April at the Lawton Gallery located at the University

## Statement

I primarily work with crochet due to its accessibility and how easy it is to move. I am able to crochet wherever and whenever I want and this allows me to crochet what I observe in nature. There are also many ways to use natural materials and intertwine them into my crochet. Working with nature and natural materials has allowed me to be fluid with my medium and make the shapes organic, similar to how nature constantly changes.

I have spent lots of time around nature due to my family living in the country, and therefore I have learned to incorporate it into my art. I want the viewer to experience nature as I have throughout my life and envision it as I would. By seeing my crochet works they see what I imagine whenever I step foot outside in Northeastern Wisconsin. I see nature with crocheting, so the two get combined and my thoughts are brought into my pieces. My intent is to crochet nature and allow others to experience what I have throughout my life. I looked at nature and thought to myself that I could crochet that, and I did.

# Nicci Martin

Omro, WI

 Nicci Martin- FUNctional Art

 martinnicci

## Bio

I love making art, playing piano rather poorly, feeding birds and squirrels, swimming in large and small bodies of water, planting things and praying that they'll grow, and totally absurd movies.

## Statement

I paint every single day, if possible. It feels familiar to me, like an old friend with whom I'm comfortable. I like to be accessible, as I'm very flattered that people enjoy living with my artwork in their homes. My first love is painted furniture. I've been doing some form of painted furniture since I was just a child. But I also love making a mess with collage and painting on solid surfaces. The more color, the better!

# Elena Masrour

Birmingham, AL

 ElenaMasrour.com

 elenamasrour

## Bio

Elena is an Iranian artist based in the US who works as a Visiting Assistant Professor at Birmingham Southern College. She received a Master of Fine Arts in Painting from Kansas State University in 2022, and a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Fabric & Textile Design from the Tehran University of Art in 2013.

Elena's paintings and Prints have been shown in Kansas, Missouri, Texas, Philadelphia, Ohio, Florida, Iran, and France. Elena's work has been featured in publications such as SuboArt magazine, Artsin Square, and Hand Magazine, solidifying her place among contemporary art's emerging talents.

## Statement

My works are inspired by the proliferation of religious propaganda over the last 40 years in my home country, Iran, and the social changes that have occurred, following the Revolution, I represent a generation of Iranian people who aspire to be modern at a time when religious leaders continue to weaponize the rules of God to maintain. As an Iranian woman whose life has been heavily touched by the political events of the half-century in Iran, I have focused on modern Iranian women's issues. The Iranian revolution in 1978 had an impact on Iranian women's daily lives dramatically as well as reshaped their identities and their role in society. The core of my concern is the injustices that impose themselves on Iranian life, the hardships, and the torments that innocent people are suffering. I attempt to highlight women's experiences from a woman's point of view. I critique Islamic fundamentalist beliefs that control people's life and limit their freedom.

Art can be an impactful way to expose the lack of power that women have in their lives, but it can also be dangerous to the maker. I have drawn inspiration from American comic books to soften the viewer's entry into my critique. I have found comic books very popular in the US. They are not produced in Iran; we have no comic heroes or Painting comical figures lets me imagine the fun of these men and offers my wish for Contemporary Iran to become a peaceful, safe place where people can thrive.

# Bonita McComb

Cedarburg, WI

 bonitamccombart

## Bio

Bonita McComb is currently painting with fluid acrylics although she is trained in water color, oils and acrylic. I have taken many art classes over the last 30 years at Peninsula School of Art, The Cedarburg Cultural Center and various painting retreats.

## Statement

Currently, my work is a process of floating paints of different viscosities over each other which creates different reactions. Anything from creating new colors as they blend, to blossoms and cells. The finish is smooth because I don't use a brush but plastic cards, spatulas and thin strips of plastic. Landscapes are most conducive to this process or florals that can be worked this way.

# Mary Beth Mead

Ellison Bay, WI

## Bio

I am a Door County jewelry artist. I've been living in Door County for over 40 years and coming up here since I was a child. I have always been a treasure hunter, hunting for vintage jewelry, antique buttons, keys, interesting and natural objects that I can deconstruct, reassemble and redesign into one of a kind jewelry with a vintage feel. I was inspired one day after taking a beading class to deconstruct one of my vintage necklaces from my collection, and that was the beginning of my Jewelry business, "Lotus Jewel."

## Statement

I would call my work "Jewelry assemblage pieces." I have a passion for resurrecting abandoned treasure into something new. I collect, then deconstruct the old pieces, then assemble and repurpose old beads with new, old bead caps, chains, keys, shells, stones, feathers, buttons, found objects, nuts and bolts anything I think is beautiful and can be repurposed, embellished, altered and refashioned. I love to incorporate vintage and antique components into my designs that whisper of a time gone by, adding character and charm. Sometimes the design of an old necklace inspires me to use new beads to recreate that design and style. I also get inspiration from pieces that people bring to me to repurpose for them. I had a woman bring me her husband's jewelry and asked that I make it into something for her daughters. Reimagining cuff links into bracelets and earrings. I have a passion for antique buttons and think of them like beads and incorporate them into necklaces and bracelets and earrings when ever I can. I love the old Lucite, Bakelite and glass beads. I have even come across old Vaseline glass beads that are lovely. Nothing more magical than the old crystal bead necklaces to be repurposed into a new design to bring sparkle and magic.

I have a studio at my home and create my designs sometimes by using what is on the side cloth on my work table. Little bits from other designs that get set aside until I look over and see a pattern.

# Maureen Mercier

Ellison Bay, WI

 [MaureenMercierArt.com](http://MaureenMercierArt.com)

 [maureenmercier\\_art](https://www.instagram.com/maureenmercier_art)

## Bio

Maureen received her B.A. in Studio Arts with a minor in Women's and Gender Studies from the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay. This formal education strengthened her commitment to develop a creative practice celebrating the strength, beauty, joy, and resilience of women. She lives in Northern Door County year round with her husband, two sons, a very loyal dog and two mischievous cats.

## Statement

Maureen Mercier is an artist whose work is centered on themes of womanhood and motherhood. She evokes strength, confidence, and empathy through her work in sculpture and mixed media, utilizing materials ranging from fibers to cast metal. Her use of these contrasting materials symbolizes the diverse pressures we balance in our lives. Maureen draws artistic inspiration from her own lived experience as a woman and mother and from nature and her community. She also has more than two decades of experience as a licensed massage therapist. This work has further influenced her artistic endeavors celebrating the power of the female body.

# Brad Miller

Chicago, IL

 BradMillerArt.com

 bradmillerpainter

## Bio

I am an oil painter living and working in Chicago.

## Statement

My work is about human expression and the human experience. I've painted a lot of faces cropped close up. Generally, don't know the person I am painting, but rather, I am working from a photo I have taken in a crowd. The subject is captured in a private moment with a true expression, and not a staged portrait. Through the oil painting process, that human moment is presented. The experience is the subject of the painting.

The paintings I create of my simplified "skinny guys" are also about the human experience. Their uniformity and generic appearance reveals an individuality of each figure upon a further look. Even though they are cold, mysterious, and separated, they have some level of humanity.

My work are objects obviously made by a human hand. I love the physical process of applying paint to the canvas. I prefer that the passion and excitement is visible in the paintings. Slathering paint on with a palette knife, creating washes, putting glazes over sections, and painting quickly allows me to keep the process engaged and active. The act of painting through various techniques, styles, and materials provides me the possibility of creating an art object beyond my initial conception. I want my painting instincts to take over, allowing a painting to take its own direction. Being surprised by the art is the ultimate experience as a painter.

# Lauren Nitka

Franklin, WI

 LaurenMarieNitka.com

 ILauren Marie Nitka  laurenmarienitka

## Bio

Lauren Marie Nitka is a Milwaukee-based artist, pop up curator, and art educator. She is a mentee in the 2023-2024 Milwaukee Artist Resource Network's mentorship program, under the mentorship of Frank Juarez. As a professional artist and art educator, Lauren has not only enjoyed participating in the Milwaukee area art scene, she has collaborated with and led a number of community art projects with organizations, teaching young and emerging artists with a focus on art history and entrepreneurship.

## Statement

Working primarily in oil and watercolor paints, Lauren's art reflects on her experiences and memories while engaged in the creative process. This ranges from the vivid colors and abstract blossoms found in her Flora Folk Collection, taking inspiration from the Polish folk art, Wycinanki, as a nod to her Polish heritage to her architectural renderings of the Americana-style facades in her Greendale Collection, inspired by the 1930's Greendale Originals located in her hometown.

Expanding on her minimalist design work from 2018, "Evergreen Greendale Original" and "Two Greendale Originals at Sunset" combine a frontal elevation view of the Original homes with lighting and shadows of three dimensions. Colors are further enhanced for whimsy. Much like a child draws a schematic of a house-- often a square with a triangle on top -- as a symbol for home, Lauren's simplistic elevation views from the 1930's blueprints of Greendale are a symbol of home for her, and her community.



# Debra O'Connell

Brussels, WI

 ammasinspiredart

## Bio

I am a self taught artist. I have dabbled over the years but finally have the time to develop my skills. This is the first time trying to enter my work in a show. It will be a learning opportunity either way. I have been truly inspired over the past year and look forward to trying all mediums and styles that interest me.

## Statement

I started out painting using watercolors. I really enjoy the way the colors blend on the paper. I moved on to acrylics to be able to get more depth and texture on the canvas. I enjoy landscapes more than portrait art. I am very detailed, so I am trying to loosen up my painting. I have started doing acrylic pour art also, which feeds my abstract interests. Recently I painted some mid century modern mixed media pieces and can't wait to do more of that as well.

# Diane O'Connor

Wisconsin Rapids, WI

 DianeOC.com

## Bio

A designer at heart, Diane loves creating warm, inviting environments, communicating vision through graphic design, and capturing a moment in time with color and texture on canvas. She earned her Bachelor of Fine Arts from UW-Milwaukee, and began her career by teaching art. Diane has lived in beautiful Wisconsin Rapids with her husband, Bob since 1976. They have four married children who have blessed them with fourteen delightful grandchildren.

## Statement

I love capturing a moment in time with color and texture on canvas using acrylics or mixed media. The natural beauty of our community on the Wisconsin River inspires me, as well as our time on the ocean each winter. Through my art I hope to share with others the delight, and peace, and joy that fill my soul!

# Libby Ozog

Wilmot, WI



LibbyOzogArt.com



Libby Ozog Art



libbyozogart

## Bio

I am an artist from southeast Wisconsin. Art has been an important part of my life as long as I can remember. Portraits and landscapes are some of my favorites to create and I also do some commercial illustration. I love traveling and have found that the beautiful world we live in has greatly influenced my art.

## Statement

My work focuses on capturing moments in time, locking them forever in paint. I primarily paint in watercolor, often incorporating pen and ink and I also paint with acrylic. It is my goal to capture a simple moment to memorialize beauty and emotion felt at the time. Many of my paintings are done in the field and because of fast changing light and motion of live painting, the initial scene is drawn quickly and many of the colors are chosen not only from what is visibly there but are also chosen to portray the mood of the landscape felt in the moment with the goal of creating a memory.

# Fred Perryman

Fish Creek, WI



EdgewoodOrchard.com

## Bio

I grew up in southern Illinois. Childhood was simple, met my wife when we were thirteen years old, and considered myself lucky. Later, after medical training, Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin became our home. Here I was a family physician for thirty-six years and raised our two children. After retiring in 2017, Fish Creek eventually became our home. Here, painting has become a passion. I still consider myself lucky.

## Statement

Painting and drawing drive me. Artistically my background is as simple as my biography. Sketching in ink was my medium before my medical career, because it was available and affordable. Those early efforts were resumed later in my medical career with a new medium, oil pastels. Any future success would be attributed to an acclaimed artist and teacher, George Shipperley. He has been a friend and a mentor. Through color, blending and simplicity I try for an unseen spiritual power in my works. Nature and landscapes are what I love.

I would like to thank Edgewood Orchard Gallery for the opportunity to share my work with you. Van Gogh said “to do good work we must eat well, be well housed, have one’s fling from time to time, smoke one’s pipe, and drink one’s coffee in peace.” Other than pipe smoke being replaced by wood stove smoke, I have all the promise to do good work. Many thanks to my wife for seeing to that.

# Lynn Peters

Green Bay, WI

 lynnrpeters

## Bio

Lynn Peters grew up with parents who were an engineer and an art teacher. It was a family that made things. She always pattered with art supplies, but it wasn't until after retirement that she started painting. The dark days of the pandemic prompted her to take a few online art classes, and she discovered the combination of ink and watercolor, which fast became her favorite medium.

Peters lives in Green Bay. Her work has appeared in juried shows at the Art Garage, the Rahr-West Museum, and the Cedarburg Cultural Center. Her notecards are sold in several Wisconsin galleries and shops.

## Statement

It took me a long time to realize how much I love to draw. Watercolor gives me the opportunity to bring color and light to my drawings. I aspire to a subtle touch with my paintbrush, and I'm ecstatic when I actually achieve it!

# Aaron Pickens

Grand Rapids, OH

 AaronPickens.com

 aaronjpickens

## Bio

Aaron Pickens was born and raised in Toledo, Ohio. He attended Toledo School for the Arts between 2001 – 2007. In December of 2011, Aaron completed his BFA in Digital Arts at Bowling Green State University and completed his MFA in painting at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania in 2015. After graduate school, Aaron worked as a digital technical assistant for internationally recognized digital installation artist, Erwin Redl. Aaron currently resides in Greentown, Indiana and is an Assistant Professor of Fine Arts and New Media, at Indiana University Kokomo.

## Statement

The practice of alla prima plein air painting forces me to work with a sense of urgency. Each small field study is a depiction of a specific time and place, and how I perceived those passing moments both visually and emotionally. Every painting is an adventure in battling the elements, simplifying the complexity of nature, and faithfully recording color relationships to describe an accurate sense of light. These compositions evolve organically, without premeditation or any conceptual agenda. Consequently, working this way yields to a sincerity in the paintings that is difficult to achieve otherwise. Although this process is in stark contrast to my studio practice focused on toys, it is critical in energizing my practice as a realist painter by honing my eye and allowing me to play with the application of paint.

# Cibele Plouff

Green Bay, WI

 CibelePlouff.com

 doorcountyblue

## Bio

Cibele Plouff loves to be connected with nature and to paint it. Spring to Winter, inspiration always comes. As an emergent artist, her second home in Door County has been a special place full of landscaping perspectives. Her paintings' subjects have been from the gardening experiences, park hikes and bay views.

## Statement

Plein air studies and to paint in studio. In the impressionistic style, usually, Cibele starts the paintings with thin layers, going to straight from the tube, pure pigments on linen.

# Kyle Poff

Winnetka, IL

 VolcanoInn.co

 volcano.home

## Bio

Artist and Designer originally from Lubbock, Texas, now living in Winnetka, IL and Fish Creek. I meditate through painting.

## Statement

I try to pass the time with folk-art inspired renditions that remind me of the most peaceful times I can remember. Whether it's sitting and staring at a lake, a loon, a bowl of fruit, or my daughter. The memories you make within these quiet times are the ones that I cherish most.

# Susan Pruss

Appleton, WI



SueGlassStudio.com

## Bio

Trained and inspired by local Door County glass artists, Sue's passion was hidden for 60 years. It wasn't until retirement when she dabbled a bit in different art mediums that she found her true passion, transforming glass into art. Sue continues to be fascinated every time she opens her kiln to see if her most recent 'experiment' was a success or simply a learning session.

## Statement

I've always loved and appreciated so many kinds of art! Watching artists sculpt, paint, draw or transform everyday objects into unique and captivating art always intrigues me.

I started making garden stakes in my friends Door County art studio about 7 years ago and was devastated when the pandemic closed their studio but the silver lining is I started to slowly build my own studio purchasing my first small kiln and experimenting with different types of glass and techniques.

Since that time I have purchased a larger kiln and found that my inspiration typically comes from nature and what I call "Naturescapes". But I also enjoy pushing myself and trying new and creative elements. Many times I simply go into my studio and allow my newest creation to take form organically. Those pieces typically turn out to be my favorites as they surprise me each time I open my kiln.

I hope that you too enjoy my latest creations!

# Sara Qualey

Cable, WI



SaraQualey.blogspot.com

## Bio

I love to paint - it has always been an important part of my life. I studied at Butler University, taking art classes at John Herron School of Art in Indianapolis, Indiana, and received a BA in studio art from the University of Minnesota. Throughout my artistic journey, I have always been drawn to the still life genre. Twenty-eight years ago, I left my career in graphic design and moved with my musician husband to the woods of northern Wisconsin.

## Statement

I like the functional forms of the bowls, cups, bottles and plates that we use everyday. In my studio, I have the opportunity to compose arrangements of these items. I enjoy the challenge of looking at the familiar in a fresh way and creating paintings that challenge the viewer to do the same. My paintings celebrate the simple joys of everyday life.

# Julia Redwine

Sturgeon Bay, WI

 [studio3sevens.com](http://studio3sevens.com)

## Bio

In 2014, Julia decided to return to her roots in art and take a class at Peninsula School of Art in Fish Creek, Wisconsin. It was there that she learned the techniques of Oil and Cold Wax and began to find her voice. She now has a Studio in Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin, Two Bridges Studio & Gallery, where she paints and conducts workshops to teach others about the techniques of Oil and Cold Wax.

## Statement

I am inspired by the beauty that surrounds me in Door County, Wisconsin. The shapes and textures of nature allow me to explore this imagery and transform it utilizing Oil and Cold Wax. By building up and removing layers of color, I work with the paint until it transforms itself into a feeling of nature- both serene and harsh. As the landscape continuously changes, so do the colors and textures I use to express my surroundings.

As an avid scuba diver, many of my abstract pieces are reminiscent of my time underwater. This unique underwater world is full of shapes and textures I find spiritual and full of wonderment.

Through abstract designs, I seek to awaken the spirit of nature.

# David Robinson

Denver, CO

 [WoodenDresses.com](http://WoodenDresses.com)

## Bio

I was born in Kenosha Wisconsin and have been visiting Door County my whole life. I absolutely love it! Although I moved to Denver in 1977, I am lucky enough to own a second home here and spend four months every summer and fall in my "Happy Place".

## Statement

I started working with reclaimed wood in 2000, during COVID. I was inspired by my wife, Barbara and by all of the wonderful art in Door County. I love working with the large variety of old wood, with its grain patterns, colors, and interesting shapes.

# Karen Sako

Wheeling, IL

 [SakoStudios.com](http://SakoStudios.com)

 [Sako Studios](#)  [Sako Studios](#)

## Bio

Karen Sako lives in Arlington Heights, Illinois and works out of her studio located in the nearby town of Wheeling. She is an award winning fine artist, graphic designer and art instructor with a BFA in Visual Communications from the Illinois Institute of Art. Fusing all of these disciplines together compliments her career as a full time painter, aiding her in her color choices and with strong compositions. Working from direct observation and through abstraction, Karen examines the elusive qualities of light and the complexity of nature in an emotional and intimate manner.

## Statement

Karen Sako's paintings fuse traditional art principles with exploratory techniques and materials. Working from direct observation and through abstraction she uses soulful marks combined with energetic colors to create an immersive connection to light and form that directs her imagination into existence.

I create plein air sketches on location in my sketchbook with casein paint. Back in the studio, I will crop my sketch determining the best composition and begin to experiment with color. Using the color studies as a reference, I create complex transparent layers with oil, cold wax and other mediums to begin to achieve depth in my work. This allows elements to push and pull the viewer blurring the lines between representation and abstraction. I keep applying layers until I am satisfied but many times I find myself obliterating layers through scratching or dissolving to show the remnants and history of those previous layers. My final layer may be a glaze or thick brushwork to be sure that the painting tell the story I intended.

My inspiration comes from emotional responses to my own life situations, adventures, observing nature, being around other creatives, powerful music and a symbolic allegory.

# Robin Samiljan

Chicago, IL

 [RobinSamiljan.com](http://RobinSamiljan.com)

 [Robin B Samiljan](#)  [robinsamiljan](#)

## Bio

Robin Samiljan graduated Vanderbilt University then moved to New England. The regional beauty of the landscape inspired her creativity. She explores multiple art mediums using saturated pigments on papers and boards, often combining with wax or gesso to create luminous, dimensional textures. Her home has just transitioned to Green Bay, Wisconsin where she is busy establishing her local professional presence.

## Statement

Nature's palette offers a range of wild intensity to subdued tranquility. I am attentive to the environment and landscape, finding artistic inspiration, meditation, and structure in the impressionistic patterns that exist in the natural world. I am currently focused on painting expressive landscapes. Encaustic, soft pastel, and watercolor are my primary mediums of choice. I also love experimenting with new combinations using traditional and non-traditional materials. Pure, lush color meshed with organic shapes and form allows me to create visual energy on a flat surface.

# Dianne Saron

Egg Harbor, WI

 [InkDropGallery.com/dianne-saron](https://InkDropGallery.com/dianne-saron)

## Bio

While attending art classes, I discovered a new love for pastels to augment my efforts to capture the beauty of Door County settings. I have studied with artists Franne Dickinson, Bonita Budysz, Colette Ody Smith, Ken Deward, Bonnie Paruch and Bill Hosner as well as many others learning from each to create my own work.

## Statement

After moving to Door County, I immediately became impressed by the vivid landscapes and stunning natural scenes surrounding me. The breathtaking winter skies that seem to be on fire, or the light as it reflects on water and rocks just beg to be painted.

# Todd Schabel

Horicon, WI

 [SchabelFineArt.com](https://SchabelFineArt.com)

 [schabelfineart](https://www.instagram.com/schabelfineart)

## Bio

Todd Schabel is a contemporary realist oil painter who lives in Central Wisconsin with his wife Marcia, son Theo and two mini-goldendoodles. He attended the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, where he was fortunate to study with the late Li Hu, who emphasized the need to learn strong drawing skills and the importance of working from life. Todd's training focused on traditional portraiture, but due to his love of the outdoors and interest in travel, it wasn't long before he fell in love with the landscape and plein air painting.

## Statement

The subject matter of my paintings continues to evolve with the landscape being my primary focus, but an underlying theme remains constant – a sense of harmony. Where there is harmony, joy isn't too far behind. My hope is to encourage others to pause and see the endless possibilities of joy around us; and even more importantly to nurture them to be cherished once again.



# Carol Schalla

Ephraim, WI

 Carol Schalla

## Bio

Have been a pastel artist since I retired from being the Home Design Editor of Midwest Living magazine 10 years ago. My work is currently featured at Blue Dolphin House/BDH Gallery and the Hardy Gallery, where I am on the Board of Directors, am a docent, and help with art show installations.

## Statement

I favor pastel as my medium, as it allows me an immediacy that blends seamlessly with the usually fast way I like to work on paintings of this small size. I was inspired in these 3 paintings by the waterscapes and rural landscapes of Door County. In particular, how colors were affected by the rising and setting sun. The luminous colors of pure pigment pastel sticks allow me to quickly interpret the feelings inspired in me at such fleeting moments in time, with a loose painterly technique and an intensity of color.

# Barb Schriener-Schmitt

Sturgeon Bay, WI

## Bio

I am an artist/teacher who works with a variety of media interests and creations. I taught for 37½ years starting in Tunisia North Africa with the Peace Corps, to Oostburg WI, to Door County's Gibraltar and just now retired from Southern Door. I have also volunteered in the creation of Southern Door Schools' musicals (when ALL of the Arts work together!) since 1992. I find great joy and creative energy working with other artists of all ages...both in sharing knowledge and building confidences or collaborating on a bigger artistic message.

## Statement

I like to create images that help viewers see different details or a point of view. My pyrogravure works began when I wanted to find an artform for wood pieces passed on to me by my late father. I have always loved the strong contrast created with pen and ink drawing, so it fit my needs to use fire to build a range of dark vs. light shades on a piece of wood. I also enjoy partnering with other artists. My most recent collaboration was with Door County artist Rob Soukup in the creation of two "Artist in Residence" sculpture projects at Southern Door County School District. Along with student, staff and community volunteers, we created an outdoor cor-ten steel sculpture and an indoor mobile sculpture showing "learning" at the school and titled: "Learn to Soar" and "Learn to Soar II". Helping others find a path to create and share their own creative ideas will always be one of my passions!

# Taylor Schwinn DeCarmine

Walworth, WI

 [LittledDovePrints.com](http://LittledDovePrints.com)

 [littledoveprints](https://www.instagram.com/littledoveprints)

## Bio

I am a Wisconsin based watercolor artist and gardener inspired by the shapes, light, and life in the garden. I was born in Chicago, raised there and Lake Geneva, WI, and lived in Austin, TX before settling my family in Walworth, WI. I work out of my bright home studio, surrounded by busy perennial flower gardens. I own and operate a small garden design business, as well as being a working artist, and the two passions feed one another.

## Statement

My botanical paintings pull from observation and detail, and my abstract work springs from changing colors, seasons, and natural patterns.

The illustrative pieces in my portfolio inspire the abstract work, which is a newer side of my artistic personality that I am now happily exploring. I am attracted to the belief that scientific details and emotive abstract elements are deeply connected. The delightful sight of a Goldfinch flashing yellow from flower to flower permeates both sides of my work ~ the beauty of the bird itself, and the shapes, sounds, and colors that set the scene.

# Barbara Simonson

Darien, CT

 [BarbaraSimonson.com](http://BarbaraSimonson.com)

 [barbarasimonsonart](https://www.instagram.com/barbarasimonsonart)

## Bio

Born in Neenah Wisconsin, Barbara pursued a career in dance with Robert Joffrey and later enjoyed traveling as an international tax attorney before returning to her first love, dance, as a visual artist. Her work is in collections throughout the US and she is a life time exhibiting member at the National Arts Club, NYC. She recently was invited to exhibit her work honoring Alvin Ailey at the Harlem Fine Arts Show.

## Statement

Barbara's love of the human figure and its beauty inspires her work, done primarily in water media.

# Mary Ellen Sisulak

Ellison Bay, WI

 [MaryEllenSisulak.com](http://MaryEllenSisulak.com)

 [maryellensisulak](https://www.instagram.com/maryellensisulak)

## Bio

After receiving her BFA from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in 1974, Mary Ellen Sisulak moved to rural Door County, WI. She established her studio/gallery in 1986, which is open to the public. Her work has incorporated many mediums and has changed and grown throughout her long career. She is represented by Edgewood Orchard Gallery, her gallery, Turtle Ridge Gallery, and she is in numerous private and public collections.

## Statement

Door County has an often forgotten side that resides in the northern peninsula and Mink River Estuary. My work is inspired by this lack of exposure and seeks to illustrate the beauty of the area.

My rambles take me deep into the forest, along the quiet shores and bluffs. I am awed by the gift of nature and feel there are unseen forces under the surface. My paintings deepen my relationship to the magic that is inherent in nature.

I am primarily focused on two mediums, mixed media and encaustic, because they allow to me express my subjects in a more dimensional way. My mixed media pieces incorporate leather stretched over a wood panel as opposed to a traditional canvas. This allows me to manipulate the surface by forming, carving and embedding stones or other elements. The natural properties of leather give a unique appearance when painted. My encaustic pieces use hot wax and water-soluble encaustic paints to create a textured surface with fine details. Both mediums pay homage to the sensory experience of nature.

# Eric Smith

Sister Bay, WI

 [EricSmithFineArt.com](http://EricSmithFineArt.com)

## Bio

Sister Bay artist Eric Smith has won many Regional & National awards for his art. He focuses on landscapes, seascapes & woodland scenes. As an avid outdoors man & professional Landscaper & Gardner, he has a keen eye for details found in the Door County outdoors. Eric paints primarily in watercolor, acrylic & oil. His work represents the natural history of the Door Peninsula & Americana.

# Arlene Stanger

Baileys Harbor, WI

 [StangerImage.com](http://StangerImage.com)

## Bio

I'm a retired microbiologist living in Baileys Harbor. My interest in photography began many years ago when I took a darkroom class developing black and white photos while living in Monterey, California. Subsequently, I set up my own black and white darkroom in my home and took independent photography classes at a local community college in Illinois. I have taken various photography classes at the Peninsula School of Art in Fish Creek and well as a photographic workshop in Ireland.

## Statement

Many of my images have a "pictorialist" style. Typically a pictorial photograph has a soft focus and dramatic lighting and shading that conveys an atmosphere of suggestion and mystery. It emphasizes photography's ability to create visual beauty rather than simply record facts. I am continually searching for interesting shapes, textures and light qualities to convey this.

# Steven Stanger

Baileys Harbor, WI

 [StangerImage.com](http://StangerImage.com)

## Bio

Since retiring in 2009 after 25 years as a Township Assessor in Lake County, Illinois, I have been a resident of Baileys Harbor, Wisconsin.

Other than a few adult continuing education courses in photography, I am essentially a self-taught photographer. My interest in the medium began when I studied Russian at the U.S. Army Defense Language Institute in Monterey, California at a time when master photographers Brett Weston and Ansel Adams were living and working in the area. I have spent time in the darkroom but have now fully embraced the digitization of photography.

## Statement

The point of my abstract photography is not what the subject is, but what you, the observer, see in it, how it affects you, perhaps alters your impressions and appreciation of a common scene. My hope is that everyone will have a different connection with the piece, which is of course, is its purpose.

The beauty of abstracts, is that they can be viewed this way or that, right side up or upside down, from whatever direction. The piece loses nothing of its impact, beauty, harmony, and order for there is no conventional or optimal angle of observation that would enhance the viewing experience.

# Madison Sternig

Milwaukee, WI



MadisonSternig.com



madison.pdf

## Bio

Madison is an artist, designer, and printmaker based in Milwaukee, WI. She received her BFA from the University of Minnesota Twin Cities where she worked closely with the Katherine E Nash Gallery and Highpoint Center for Printmaking. In 2015, Madison curated, organized, and installed an exhibition titled “third.wav” about the rise of feminism in the digital age. Since then, she has exhibited work in cities across the US including Minneapolis, Houston, Atlanta, and Milwaukee.

## Statement

I use graphic forms and unconventional printmaking techniques to contemplate themes of human behaviors, decision-making, and my personal identity. My artmaking process incorporates elements of chance and spontaneity as a primary driver of the work. Often times, I purposely work against best practices in screenprinting as a way to disconnect the medium from it’s common use as a mode of premeditated image-making or commercial product production. Thus, my prints become artifacts of mindfulness and intuitive thinking. This process invites the medium of printmaking into a context it is not often found: as a tool of abstract expressionism.

The artwork submitted for this show includes a series of prints created using found objects exposed directly onto silkscreens. The prints represent the ambiguity that lives between serendipitous human decisions and physical forces such as light and texture.

# Kim Struve

Schertz, TX



KimStruve.org



ArtWabiSabi

## Bio

Love, math and nature influence my designs and passion demands sharing the FUNctional, unique and novel. I developed “Fold Lock” techniques by a determination to create strong joinery, components, jewelry and art by folding fine silver Also created the complementary product, fine silver “Metal Leather” kits to make it simple and waste-free.

## Statement

I enjoy developing new methods, products and standards, and my art reflects that FUNctional, unique and novel.

# Samantha Surowiec

Green Bay, WI

## Bio

I come from a long line of not just artists but creators. Creating is more than what we do, it is who we are. I can't say that I've had an artistic journey because art is part of my life journey. I was raised in rural Wisconsin; my mother is primarily a woodworker, but she also did textiles, painting, and folk arts. My grandmother was a watercolorist for her entire life. I followed in her footsteps and do primarily watercolor, although I have dabbled in nearly everything else.

## Statement

My work in general is watercolor, but I like to do nontraditional work and see what else can be done with this wonderful flexible medium. Lately I've been exploring adding dimensionality to watercolor through the use of paper sculpture and tableaux. I also love to use it in abstracts which are a wonderful way to explore emotions and express the inexpressible. As someone on the spectrum, it is often difficult for me to put things into words, so I try to put things into pictures and hope people understand.

# Stephanie Thwaites

Novato, CA



StephanieThwaites.com



StephanieThwaitesArt

## Bio

Stephanie is a graduate of the Yale University Fine Arts program, studying painting, graphic design, and photography. Here she developed a strong understanding of composition and an eye for color and harmony. Upon graduating, she continued her design studies with graduate courses in Switzerland. After a 20-year career as a creative director and brand manager in Connecticut, she returned to her fine arts background in 2009. She moved to the Bay Area in 2014.

## Statement

I love making art and looking at the world with an artist's eyes. I especially find inspiration in nature — the freedom of its organic shapes, the endless variation of colors, the ever-changing light. But I am also drawn to architectural and geometric forms — their order, structure, and alignment. My work is often about seeking balance and harmony between these two influences.

I like to start with a strong concept or intention, but not a fixed vision of the finished piece. Instead, I leave room for experimentation and play. When I am painting, I almost never use brushes in my work, instead favoring putty knives, squeegees, brayers, and other found tools. Using more unpredictable materials and techniques can lead to unexpected results and “happy accidents.” But the process is not random. I rely on my strong art background and understanding of design, color, and composition as I make decisions about my next step, responding to what occurs on the canvas with each layer. Color and texture are common elements in my work, across all mediums. Whether working in paint or collage, I am laying down pieces of color and building texture to create rich layers and detailed surfaces.

From representational to abstract, I strive to create dynamic space that is intricate, but also grounded. But I do not want to overwhelm. I still want the painting to offer a resting place. For me, it is important to find moments of stillness within a world of complexity and activity.

# Janet Toonen

Luxemburg, WI

 Stay Toon'd Fused Glass

## Bio

A lifelong artist/illustrator and writer, in 2018, I added kiln formed glass to my portfolio of mediums and fell in love with the art form. I use glass-line ink to add details to the glass which becomes permanent within the glass once fired. It was the perfect way to marry my love of illustration with the medium. Though some pieces stand on their own without the added detail.

## Statement

My pieces range from realistic wildlife and floral to whimsical, colorful kaleidoscope style designs. Getting the glass to truly sing and delight the eyes is my passion. The vibrant piece create almost an impressionist brush style, which is both intricate and challenging, when coupled with the science of the glass medium.

# Stephanie Trenchard

Sturgeon Bay, WI

 PopelkaGlass.com

 Istephanietrenchard

## Bio

Stephanie Trenchard is an artist working in glass and oil paintings. Her studio is in Sturgeon Bay.

## Statement

My cast glass work reflects my interest in material culture, particularly with the objects that surround us daily and their inherent poetic meaning.

# Joslyn Villalpando

Egg Harbor, WI

 woodwalkgallery

## Bio

My background is in Fine Art and Art Education and after 13 years in art education in Chicago Public Schools, we are the new, proud keepers of Woodwalk Gallery.

## Statement

My love lies with the fiber arts. After a semester long weaving class during my graduate school time at the Art Institute of Chicago, I fell in love with weaving and bought a floor loom. I still weave on these mini looms because they're quick and portable and great for teaching new weavers.

# Kathleen Warren

Deerfield, IL

 KathleenWarrenStudio.com

 kathleenwarrenstudio

## Bio

Kathleen Warren started as a self taught quilter in the 1990s. She was drawn to the colors and the fabrics. Overtime she started making her own designs rather than following traditional quilt patterns. She currently paints discarded clothes to make her nature-based abstract textile collages. She has always been inspired by blue sky, lakes and forests. She spends time in both Baileys Harbor in Door County and the Chicago area.

## Statement

I make nature-inspired abstract textile collages that remind us of being in nature. The beauty of nature gives us a sense of calm. I recreate those memories of my favorite places in nature through my art depicting sunrises over lakes, open expanses of water and sky, floating clouds, and trees in the woods. I help people bring the outdoors inside through my art.

To create this art I take apart discarded clothes like old shirts and jeans then paint these materials to invoke the colors and textures of nature. Next, I cut the painted fabric into smaller pieces and then sew the pieces back together. The last step is to add thread embellishment by hand and sewing machine.



# Barbara Weber

Hershey, PA

 BarbWeberArt.com

## Bio

I grew up in Wisconsin on the shores of Lake Michigan, and was endlessly fascinated by the beauty of the Wisconsin landscape. I have been painting my entire life, and enjoy the process of creating, delighted every step of the way.

## Statement

My mother was an artist and I watched her create art over decades. I lived in a house with many art supplies, available to me to use and explore. I watched the painting process countless times. These experiences planted the seeds for my own creative journey.

The language of art is universal and timeless. Each of my pieces is a discovery of a new creation, a composition resulting from the process, the colors, and the myriad movements across layers. Curiosity, creativity, and the necessary grit and determination combine to create a unique work of art.

# Alison Whitney

Ephraim, WI

 ajwhitney@mac.com

## Bio

I am UK born, ex-pat since 1996, retired RN/Midwife, I currently reside in Ephraim, WI.

I am enjoying painting and taking photos in my retirement. My favorite medium so far has been watercolor, though I painted a mural in early 2023 at Newport State Park using acrylic latex wall paint.

I am inspired by nature and the “big outdoors,” plenty of which are to be found in Door County.

## Statement

My medium of choice is normally watercolor. I love color in art, and love watching the watercolors flow into each other, finding their own paths. Watercolor is crafty, and versatile, and always goes for a surprising finish!

I am detail orientated in my painting, and like to layer the colors, sometimes several times over. And then I'll lift them off again if it doesn't look right!

These paintings are made using acrylic paint, which is a break away from my normal painting medium. It was done using pourable acrylic paint, and is abstract and free, not detailed and organized! It is a lot of fun to do, and I have enjoyed doing something different with painting.

# John Whitney

Baileys Harbor, WI

## Bio

I grew up on a hog farm in north central Illinois, matured on the mid-Iowa prairie, studied in the Finger Lakes region of New York, settled among the Baraboo Bluffs of southern Wisconsin, and now enjoy the horizon of Lake Michigan in Door County.

## Statement

My influences are:

The Midwestern Prairie

The Boy Scout Art Merit Badge

DeKooning, the Bauhaus, and DuChamp

and the wonderful metal casting workshops of Teresa Lind

# Keven Wilder

Chicago, IL

 KWilderArt.com

 kwilderart

## Bio

Born in Chicago, I have lived and worked on the East Coast and in the Midwest as a lawyer, retail entrepreneur and now fine artist. Despite these other careers, I have made art all my life. In the 90's, I was fortunate to study with Wolf Kahn and Lois Dodd. I received my BFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 2003.

## Statement

My work often evolves from images found in nature. My current work is characterized by abstract compositions, brilliant color and fluid, gestural mark making. I work primarily in oils and mixed media in the studio and in pastel for plein air paintings. I enjoy continually experimenting with different media through workshops with other artists. These classes fuel my art practice and keep my paintings 'fresh'.

# Lynn Wilson

Egg Harbor, WI

## Bio

Born and raised on a farm in Jacksonport, Wisconsin, I have since childhood been fascinated by textiles. This began with learning to knit at my grandmother's side and then to sew at my mother's side.

This fascination and love of textiles continued into a career in the apparel industry but always with fiber art, and hand stitching, as the leveling influence.

Upon retiring and moving back to Jacksonport I am again delving into textile art.

## Statement

My creative work is embroidered textiles not just because I love the repetition of stitch, but because stitching is meditation. Working with fabrics, colors, patterns and stitch is immersive and focusing for me.

Much of what I stitch is inspired by nature. I see patterns of our landscapes in each piece. Whether using found and repurposed fabrics and threads, or through the process of dyeing, piecing and stitching I interpret nature through the stitches of my hand.

# Chai Wolfman

Chicago, IL

 ChaiWolfman.com

 chaiwolfman

## Bio

Chai Wolfman studied art at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and has developed her painting style and creative practice in the decades since. Growing up, she was fortunate to attend classes with her grandparents at the Peninsula Art School. She now sells her work at several locations in the Chicago area and in her online shop. Chai lives with her wife and twin daughters in Chicago, IL.

## Statement

I am passionate about making paintings that imagine more colorful, connected, and peaceful worlds.

My imagined landscapes draw inspiration from my growing up in Wisconsin and my current life in Chicago, Illinois. Architectural shapes, elements of the forest preserve, and the waves of Lake Michigan often find their way into my work.

I love the process of making images with watercolor, acrylic, and thread. The process of cutting and tearing paintings and stitching them back together is inspired by crazy quilting and the symbolic idea that something beautiful and new can come from the scraps. Other motifs such as cityscapes, light strings, roots, and trees all add layers of meaning.

Collectors often say that my work makes them feel inspired, hopeful, and at peace. My creative practice is dedicated to bringing more of these feelings and images into the world.

# Barbara Zellmer

Madison, WI

## Bio

I've been painting since retiring from a long career with the Department of Natural Resources. I've studied with the Peninsula School of Arts, focusing primarily on natural landscapes here in Wisconsin and across the world while traveling. I paint with the Dane County Plein Air Painters, and have participated in the Wisconsin Regional Arts Program - receiving honorable mentions and statewide awards for my work. I live in Madison, Wisconsin - and spend significant time in Baileys Harbor.

## Statement

I work primarily in oils, gouache and occasionally oil and soft pastels. My style is impressionistic - following the work of the impressionists and colorists. I struggle with an inclination to lay down a nearly abstract impression of what I see, with the need to focus on the principles that guide the creation of effective art.

# Nan Zimdars

Madison, WI

 [NanZimdars.com](http://NanZimdars.com)

 [nanzimdars](https://www.instagram.com/nanzimdars)

## Bio

Nan Zimdars grew up in Wisconsin and since the late 1950's has spent a portion of every summer in Door County. She believes the beauty of our state helped create who she is as a person. As a painter she is interested in realism, color, light, and painting techniques. Her greatest joy in painting is derived from choosing and observing her subject matter and then translating what she sees into a pleasing illusion.

## Statement

Nan Zimdars looks at each painting as an adventure whether it is painting en plein air or in the studio. Her goal is to capture a moment in time. She is always striving to portray the beauty all around, both in special situations and in everyday life. Her work represents a simultaneous delight in her subject, light and color and the art of painting. Door County offers an amazing variety of subjects to paint.

It's a great day to go painting!

# Taryn Zust

Cincinnati, OH



TarynZust.com



tarynzustart

## Bio

Taryn Zust is a multi-media artist working out of Cincinnati, OH. She received her BFA from the school of Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning (DAAP) at the University of Cincinnati in 2020. Her focus has shifted from drawing and painting to sculpture and back again, constantly exploring new media to best capture her ideas as they form.

She is endlessly enamored by cats, cryptids, coffee, and creepy-crawlies.

## Statement

Taryn Zust's body of work consists of introspective musings on her surroundings, as well as exploring oddities that exist between the lines of the everyday. The primary thread through all of her work is empathy, inviting the viewer to engage with the Other and to provoke further introspection.