



Highlights

www.grandvalleyartists.com

January 2018

Holiday Party Success!

by Steve Scarborough

On December fourteenth, our annual holiday party made the perfect unveiling of our new building on 1695 Service Rd. Everyone was excited as they entered, looking around in wonder at how much space we have and how well it was laid out. And clean, too! Everything about our new place was an improvement, from the large windows along the front, to the beautiful sign overhead gifted to GVA by Larry and Nancy Goff that you can see from the highway. No longer will our models wander around wondering where the entrance to our studio is.



I could tell from the conversations around me that everyone's imagination was in full swing, from wondering what it would be like to attend critique, to thinking how well the new studio space would work come Monday. Our new gallery extended into two rooms, and the lighting was bright, yet not glaring, allowing the work of our members to really shine.

When Linda and I wandered into the new boardroom, I thought for a minute that we must have bought a new smaller table, because there was so much room around it, but no, the room is just that much bigger.

"Space" was the word of the night, no question about it! Surprisingly, our new space is actually a tad smaller, but because it was designed so well (thanks, Todd) the rooms have better functionality.

The table in the center of the studio overflowed with goodies. Who made the pumpkin pie with real whipped cream topping? Wow. So many wonderful treats. Linda and I baked a recipe Mary Marin posted on Facebook – Mexican wedding cookies. They were gone in no time. Many thanks to all the great cooks and bakers we have at GVA.

Jim Johnson announced the winners of our holiday competition, and the judge, Matt Schenk, said he'd had difficulty choosing just three winners due to the quality of each piece on display. Third place went to Larry Goff, second place went to Candice Chovanec, and first place went to Larry Blovits. Be sure to stop in and see everyone's work, which will be up until January 6th.

On a side note, I went to sketch Monday, December 18th, and our studio worked as well as it looks, thanks to the volunteers who gave hours of their time so we could all have this wonderful space in which to create and display.



GVA Member Takes First!

Candice Chovanec's painting "Teresita" was recognized by the Portrait Society of America and received 1st Place in the Non-Commissioned Portrait Category in their 2017 Members Only Competition! Her award is free entry into their annual conference in DC.

Congratulations, Candice! We are very proud of you and glad you have found GVA. Thank you for all that you do for the organization.

Workshop with Candice at Franciscan Life Process Center

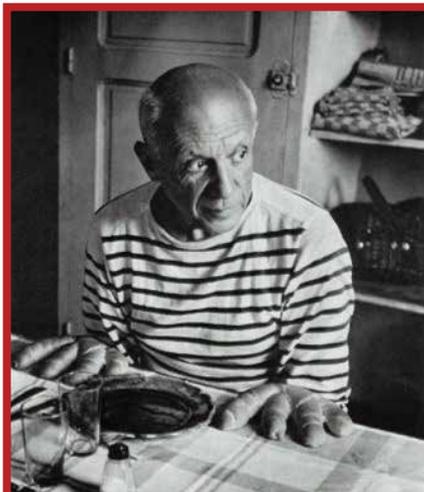
Long pose figure painting

March 22, 23, 24, 9-3 p.m. \$325

This workshop will instruct students on painting the figure with dynamic color with a focus on creating vibrant paintings utilizing a colorful palette to create work. On the first day, students will be given an extended demonstration by Candice showing a painting from start to finish. On the second day, students will begin with a single-color underpainting where they can concentrate on proportion and value. From there, they will begin to paint in full color utilizing a painting technique that concentrates on warm and cool relationships and minimizes the use of white paint to create a vibrant and life-like figure painting.



Candice Chovanec's Long Pose Figure Painting



"Every child is an artist.
The problem is how to
remain an artist
once we grow up"
- Pablo Picasso



Photo Group

Submitted by Randy Nyhof

The GVA Photo Group met with our usual

critique on the first Tuesday this month on December 5. Because of the Holiday busyness this month it was our only meeting this month. In January, we will meet on the 2nd with our usual critique meeting, but we are not yet sure at this point about a second meeting in January. Keep an eye on the website for more info.

GVA Gallery in January: Figurative Exhibit

The theme of our first GVA exhibit of the year is the human figure. Figures can be nude or clothed. They can be presented against a neutral background or figures can be engaged in a narrative of some kind. All 2D and 3D art is eligible, including drawings, paintings, prints, sculpture, photography, digital works, mixed media, etc. This exhibit is not juried and the works do not have to be framed, only hangable. (2D art must have a wire in back.)

Strike Holiday Member Show: Saturday January 6

Hang Figurative Work: Monday, January 8

Strike Figurative Work: February 3

Workshop: Promoting Your Art With Social Media

Are you interested in attending a workshop into social media art marketing? The workshop will teach you how to use Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook to promote your work and reach out to potential clients. We will review setting up accounts, linking them for easier use, and discussing when you should be using them to gain the most benefit. The workshop will be held January 27 from 3 until 5 p.m. You will need a smart phone to participate in this workshop. It would be helpful if you have Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram downloaded to your phone already. The cost is \$20, due at the start of the workshop. Please email Candice Chovanec directly to sign up, and include 3 to 5 questions that you have about using social media. NO question is too introductory.

Email: candicechovanec@yahoo.com

January Program

For January, Larry Blovits will present a slide program on his recent ten day trip to Moscow and St. Petersburg, Russia, covering the highlights from museums, art galleries, palaces, churches, art schools, and private art studios. You'll not want to miss this opportunity to experience the incredible quality of the 19th and early 20th century artwork.

"Creativity takes courage"
- Henri Matisse





We Decked the Halls!

The Christmas party was a wonderful way to begin the next GVA adventure at our beautiful new studio on Service Road.

Nothing to see here.



Somebody apparently needed lots of supervision.



Beautiful art graced the pristine walls, and the food and fellowship made the evening a night to remember. Happy Holidays and Happy New Year, everyone!



Our president paid tribute to all who have made 2017 one of the best years yet. We then learned the winners of the Christmas competition. Jim Johnson presented Larry Blovits with First Place. Candice Chovanec and Larry Goff were awarded Second and Third Place respectively. Thank you to Matthew Schenk (far left) for judging our competition and to those who submitted work, and congratulations to the winners!



Ready for action! Take a good look, artists, at what a clean studio looks like. What are the chances it will ever look this nice again? Thanks to all who helped to make our new home functional and beautiful.

Area Art News

Lowell Arts

Grand Valley Artists: In View at LowellArts will be featured through February 10 at LowellArts, 223 W Main St, Lowell, MI. Founded in 1957, GVA is one of the oldest art groups in the Midwest and the oldest in Michigan. On display at LowellArts this winter is an all-media juried exhibition of Grand Valley Artist members. The exhibition, juried by Fred Bivins, highlights the exceptional talent and professionalism of the Grand Valley Artists. Gallery hours: Tuesday–Friday 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Details at www.lowellartsmi.org.

Forest Hills Fine Arts Center

Anne Berends is the featured artist from January 10 until February 2, 2018. Reception: Thursday, January 18, 2018, from 6 p.m.–7 p.m. in the lobby.

Guardian Gallery Lowell

Through February you will see the beautiful watercolor paintings and watercolor batik paintings of Carole Nielsen. Carole has taught workshops for the Franciscan Life Process Center on Watercolor Batik methods. Her beautiful, colorful paintings are something that you don't want to miss. Treat yourself to a visual delight at the Franciscan Life Process Center, 11650 Downes St., Lowell, MI 49331. The Gallery is open during regular business hours.

Guardian Gallery Grand Rapids

November through February: The beautiful paintings of Sharon Snoeyink and Carol Cole. Guardian Gallery is open regular business hours. It's located on the third floor at St. Adalberts: 654 Davis Avenue NW, Grand Rapids, 49504.

Terryberry Gallery at St. Cecilia's

Through January 31: Pastoral Landscapes by Marianna Heule and Lynn Anderson.

ICCF

Holly Sturges is the featured artist at ICCF through January. ICCF is located at 920 Cherry St. SE, Grand Rapids, MI.

Dominican Center at Marywood

January 1 – February 28 we will display the work of Alan Norberg Compo in our exhibit. The artist reception will be Sunday, Feb. 11 from 1:00–4:00 p.m. Alan Norberg Compo is an artist from the Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians. He was born and raised in Grand Rapids, MI. He uses his Native American traditional beliefs and Catholic upbringing to tell his stories through art. He has shown pieces in the University of Michigan's Prisoner Art Exhibition for many years. He was picked to show a piece in the 2017 Spring Collectors Show, and exhibited work at the Standing

Rock-Solid exhibit at the Ziibiwing Center in Mt. Pleasant, MI. He is a self-taught artist for the most part, who does give much credit to growing up surrounded by many great Anishinaabek Artists along with Ms. T., who showed him the beauty in acrylic paints in her prison art class. Alan's work is recently done in acrylic paint on canvas. He also works in a wide selection of mediums and styles, with many of his older works being painted on kitchen aprons scavenged from the prison kitchen. 16 years in prison was a true defining period in his life as an artist. There he found how to place his emotions and thoughts into creative ways of expression. Now home, he continues to work at his craft and let others know the power of art and the ability to put a voice into the unspoken.

Frauenthal Gallery

View the collection of Christi Dreese's vibrant oil paintings, "Visual Perception," depicting her love for our natural surroundings along with her nonobjective, energetic abstracts on paper and canvas that express the artist's feelings and thoughts on life. This show runs through the end of January.

Cascade Library

Currently you can see the work of Steve and Linda Scarborough and Sandi Brogger at the Cascade Library. If you want to share your work at the library, contact Candice Chovanec at candicechovanec@yahoo.com.

Franciscan Life Process Center Workshops

To see the workshops that will be taking place in 2018, go to this link on our GVA website: <http://grandvalleyartists.com/sites/default/files/FLPC%20Workshop%20Lineup%202018.pdf>.

Bliss & Vinegar

Stop in to B&V to see the works of Kristen Thornton in early January and Judy Maggini later in the month. If you want to show your work at B&V, make sure to load some images to our website, as that is where the owners go to find artists whose work they would like to display. Marty Klar coordinates this opportunity for us. Please do not contact the restaurant directly. Questions? Call Marty at 616-813-7921.



GVA WELCOMES

Ryan Macdonald

WELCOME BACK

John Kemler

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Cascade Library

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CALENDAR



Board Meeting January 4 at 6:15 p.m.

EVERY WEEK

Sundays Closed

Mondays 10:00 a.m. until noon; **no sketch on New Year's Day** Model Sketch

Tuesdays 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month 7:30 p.m. Photo Group

Wednesdays 2:00 until 5:00 p.m. Plein Air or
(check website for location) Still Life

Thursdays* First Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Critique
Second Thursday Program
Remaining Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. Model Sketch

Fridays* 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Still Life

Saturdays 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Model Sketch

*Keep an eye on the newsletter and website for info on special long-pose sessions which will sometimes be offered on Thursdays and afternoon figure sketch on some Fridays.

Grand Valley Artists

1695 Service Road NE, Suite 106

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