



ArtPrize!

Submitted by Joann Swann

If you haven't checked out our GVA venue profile on the ArtPrize site as written by Marty Klar, this is what it says:

Lots of artists think big for ArtPrize®, so Grand Valley Artists (GVA) has decided to go big by “Thinking Small”! Imagine the impact and media buzz a huge assemblage of small artworks will generate. We'll be filling our 1600 sq. ft. gallery with artworks that each fit into a 16"x20" black frame. What's more, the working studio of GVA will be in full swing during ArtPrize with ongoing live portrait sessions and still life sessions for our members. The opportunity to see artists at work in one room and finished art in our gallery makes the GVA venue a truly unique 'art infused' experience for visitors. To attract even more art lovers, GVA will expand their hours beyond those required by ArtPrize. Consider too that because GVA is the lone sponsor of the annual Reeds Lake Art Festival thousands of art enthusiasts will be learning about our Art Prize venue this June. Among our over 200 members are many locally and nationally lauded artists. Join us as we celebrate our 60th year of creating and sharing art in the community. GVA's professionally lit studio is well suited to feature small scale 3D art works as well. Come hang with us. You'll be in great company as we make 'small' news!



Carol Lurn and I met with some of the ArtPrize® committee people and we discussed how GVA could successfully compete with the big installation venues. They indicated that it would be fun if we did a smaller works exhibit since it would be different than most of the other venues and would suit our space. In our first ArtPrize meeting at GVA, we spent a good deal of time discussing a size most of our members would be comfortable working in as well as allowing us to enable as many artworks as possible to be displayed in our gallery without overcrowding. It was decided that an image that fits within a standard 16" x 20" frame (or smaller) would be a good size. We're also asking that the frames be black so we can present a cohesive viewing experience in the gallery.

Another way we are looking to build enthusiasm and to bring attention to our organization is hold our regular sketch sessions; model, still life, plein air and portrait groups during the hours we're open during ArtPrize. (cont.)

ArtPrize! (Continued from page 1)

And we're considering repainting the interior of the studio in a lighter color. We'll be hosting a paint-the-studio weekend in the near future. We hope you will get out your paint clothes and join us. Date to be decided. As of May 1st we will have 143 days before the official ArtPrize opening and 156 before Preview week so we have a lot to accomplish before those dates. Various committees will be needed so please sign up to help us look our best for the ArtPrize public. I look forward to seeing the wonderful work I know that you all create.

Oh, one last thing. We have a juror for our venue, his name is Scott Dickson. Scott is an illustration professor at Kendall.



JUNE 24 & JUNE 25, 2017

GRAND HAVEN, MICHIGAN

The Grand Haven Art Festival is held the last full weekend in June and transforms Washington Avenue into a chic outdoor art gallery. The goal of the Grand Haven Art Festival is to provide the communities and visitors

with a unique opportunity to purchase one-of-a-kind art directly from the artist while upholding the community valued tradition of the Grand Haven Art Festival. Learn more here: <http://grandhavenchamber.org/grand-haven-art-festival>.



JULY 1 & 2

10 a.m.-5 p.m.

LUDINGTON, MICHIGAN

The 2017 West Shore Art Fair takes place July 1st and 2nd at Rotary Park (formerly known as City Park) in the beautiful Lake Michigan resort community of Ludington, Michigan. Features 110+ jury-selected fine artists across a variety of media, including clay, fiber, glass, jewelry, painting, photography, sculpture, and much more!

2017 Krasl Art Fair on the Bluff

Call for Artists! The 56th annual Krasl Art Fair on the Bluff in St. Joseph, MI, takes place on July 8 and 9. With an estimated 50,000 attendees, the Krasl Art Fair on the Bluff is one of the most prestigious and well-attended events in Southwest Michigan. A source of pride for the community, the Krasl Art Fair provides attendees with tremendous exposure to high-quality art. The Art Fair is consistently ranked as one of the top art fairs in the country and has specifically been chosen as one of the Top 20 Art Fairs by Sunshine Artist Magazine for 5 years running. Applications are now being taken via their website: <http://www.krasl.org>.

The 43rd Annual



SATURDAY, AUGUST 5, 2017

9 a.m.-4 p.m.

LAKE ODESSA, MICHIGAN

Sign up today for the best chance at your preferred booth location! The Lake Odessa Area Arts Commission invites you to apply to our annual one-day fine arts and crafts festival.

Now in its 43rd year, Art in the Park takes place on the grounds of Lake Odessa's shady and picturesque Village Park. Our show features 70+ unique fine art and craft booths, food booths, a children's craft area, community art exhibit, door prize drawings, live musical entertainment, and the annual ParkPrize! Competition. Attendance is FREE. We promote our event on all regional and many state and national festival and visitor websites, advertise in local print publications, by direct mail, and social media. Learn more at <http://www.lakeodessaarts.com>.

In the Gallery

MAY / GVA GALLERY / The theme for May will be artwork that depicts our SUMMERTIME OUTDOOR VENUES. These outdoor venues might include fairs, carnivals, circuses, parades, farmers markets, flea markets, yard sales, outdoor concerts, food vendors, and the humble lemonade stand. Just about any outdoor summer activity that attracts a crowd will be welcomed. All 2D and 3D art is eligible, including drawings, paintings, prints, sculpture, photography, digital works, mixed media, fiber art, mosaic tiles, etc. All work must be original. No prints or reproductions please. This exhibit is not juried and the works do not have to be framed, only hangable.

Hang: May 1 / Monday

Strike: May 29 / Monday

Heads UP! Coming in July: SELF PORTRAITS!

Your Work at Reeds Lake?

Reeds Lake Art Festival is scheduled for Saturday, June 17, 2017, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. We are particularly excited about this year's event. We will have our GVA display area for members to show their work. We hope you are busy working on your masterpieces. The cost of \$15 will get you a 3'x5.5' wire mesh panel upon which you can hang 2 dimensional artwork, which should be framed and ready for hanging. Please make certain your frames and matting show good craftsmanship.

If you have questions or wish to reserve a panel, contact Mary Myszka, who will be managing our Reeds Lake GVA display. Her phone is 616-822-4074. Her email is mysz312@comcast.net.



Photo

Group

Submitted by
Randy Nyhof

The Photo Group met for their regular meeting on April 4 with

their usual critique. We also met again on Tuesday April 18, where Jim Henningsen demonstrated Macro Photography Techniques. Many participated using their own cameras and Jim's equipment including his microscope. The Photo Group will meet on the first and third Tuesday of the month (May 2 and May 16) at 7:30 p.m. Photographers are all welcome, regardless of experience or expertise. For additional information, you can always check our website. We try to keep the membership informed regarding the topics that will be discussed, etc., so you can know what to expect.

Upcoming Program Night

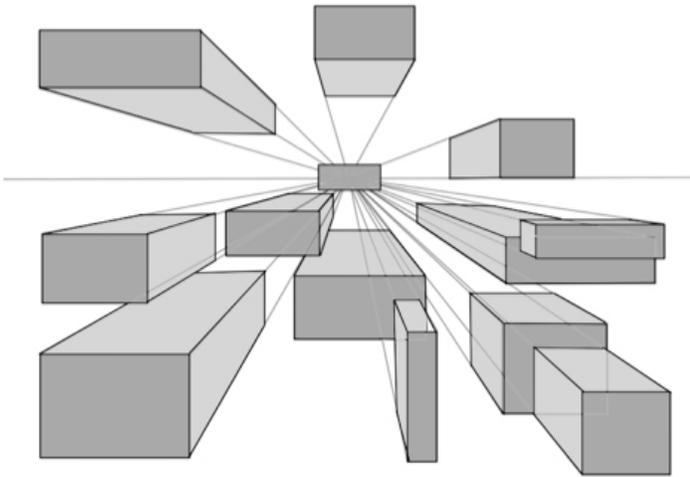
Submitted by **Randy Nyhof**

The Program for March was presented by Pamela DeTuncq. She addressed her multi-layered sculptural installations with disparate themes such as teen alienation, gender stereotypes, vicissitudes of faith, the subject of aging, and the ephemeral nature of existence. It was a very good presentation and was enjoyed by all that attended.

For May I have scheduled fellow GVA member Jim Connelly. His program is titled: "My Adventures as an Artist," covering Jim's entire career from custom painting vans to fine art painting and illustrating book covers. The presentation includes over 300 slides of his work, influences and milestones.

bliss & vinegar
We're full of it!

Please stop in for a great salad at Bliss & Vinegar, where you will see Todd Darling's work in May. 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 art they would like to display. Marty Klar coordinates this opportunity for us. Thanks, Marty!



Perspective Workshop with Jim Markle

Join us for our second GVA workshop for art fundamentals on Perspective with Jim Markle. This is a great opportunity for any one struggling to overcome perspective problems with their artwork. Jim breaks it down in a concise way that is easy to understand.

Join us by signing up: jimcmarkle@earthlink.net.



Teresita by Candice Chovanec, 18 x 24, oil, 2017

Jim Connelly Workshop

Mastering Light & Color is for beginner to intermediate level painters. The all inclusive (workshop, meals & lodging) price is \$375 on May 19 and 20. Pine Trail Camp and Retreat Center will host. The camp sits on the banks of the Kalamazoo River between Downtown Saugatuck and the shores of Lake Michigan and Saugatuck Dunes State Park. To sign up contact info@pinetrailcamp.org. For info on the workshop contact jim@jimconnellystudio.com or 616-457-1284.



Three Session Long-Pose Workshop

Learn how to paint the model and surrounding scene in oil in a 12-hour pose from life. (Same model, same pose, three separate 4-hour sessions.) The cost is \$200 plus model's fee*.

*Model fee depends on the number of people who sign up

Three Thursdays from 10–2 p.m., May 25th, June 1st, and June 8th.

There will be a materials review Monday, May 15th at 12:15 p.m. A materials list will also be emailed a week before the workshop starts.

Where: Grand Valley Artists: 1345 Monroe Ave NW, Suite 140 Grand Rapids, MI, 49505

Instructor: candicechovanec@yahoo.com

Candice Chovanec is a professional painter from Los Angeles, California. Her portraiture has been nationally recognized by the Portrait Society of America and the Art Renewal Center.

View all her work at www.candicechovanec.com.

More Area Art News

Forest Hills Fine Arts Center

Forest Hills Public Schools K-12 Student Exhibit
April 14-May 11, 2017.

Franciscan Life Process Center Guardian Gallery

The Bible story of the Prodigal's Son is a story of forgiveness and redemption. Please visit this beautiful collection of work done by different artists commissioned by Larry Gerbens who was truly moved by the Prodigal's Son story. This show is up through the end of June and is at the Franciscan Life Process Center in Lowell.

Terryberry Gallery at St. Cecilia's

Westside Stories No. IV

A collection of artists all with passions for life and community. Styles include oil and acrylic painting, copper embossing, wood sculpture and photography. Artists are Cheri McClain-Beatty, Don Thoms, Shawn Melton, Ben Beltman, Jodi Schmalz, Michael Veltd and Kaeleigh Gjeltrema. This show is up through the end of May. Terryberry is open during regular business hours.

Guardian Gallery at St. Adalbert's

The featured artist is our own David Thinger. Come and see a beautiful collection of David's multi-media pieces. Guardian Gallery is at 671 Davis Avenue NW, Grand Rapids. It's the second brick building from the basilica. Go to the doorway with the arched covering over the top and you will find a box with three buttons on it. Push the button that has on it "Franciscan Life Process Center" and you will be buzzed in. This show will be up through May. The Guardian Gallery is open Tuesday-Friday, noon to 7:30 p.m.

ICCF

Treat yourself with the beautiful work of Connie Kuhnle and Jim Johnson at ICCF. The name of the show is "Home Sweet Home". The show is a beautiful collection of homes done in pastel, oil and watercolor. This show is up through the end of June. ICCF is open during regular business hours.

Dominican Center

Heartside Ministries Artists are sharing their works in a variety of mediums. Work will be available through May.

Frauenthal Center

Our own Jim Johnson's outstanding work will be at the Frauenthal Center in Muskegon during the month of May. Come and see this beautiful collection of watercolors by one of GVA's favorite artists. This show will be up through the end of May. Frauenthal Center is open during regular business hours.

Lowell Arts

Who's Who? LowellArts Members Exhibition

April 25 - June 3

In celebration of the recent move to Main Street in downtown Lowell, LowellArts Members are invited to display their art in a Members Exhibition! LowellArts would like to thank its dedicated members and supporters with an opportunity to showcase their talents by being part of this gallery exhibition. Just for fun, the names of the artists will be hidden, and viewers will be invited to guess "Who's Who" in the exhibition. Open to all artist members age 14+ in any media.

Janet Y. Johnson: A Tribute Exhibition

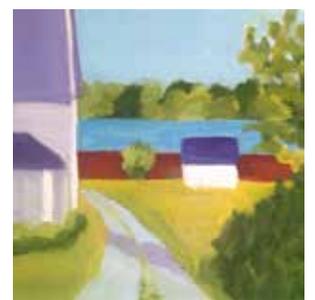
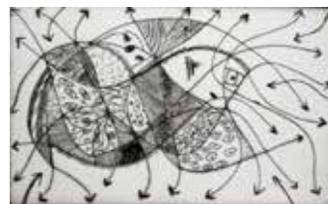
April 25 - June 3

LowellArts presents a celebration of the life and art of Janet Y. Johnson, who passed away on February 20. Jan will be remembered as an accomplished artist, and her legacy includes evidence of her helping to achieve the goal of creating a vibrant hub for the arts in our community. Jan's artwork is currently available for sale at Flat River Gallery & Framing, 219 W. Main Street, right next door to LowellArts. 70% of the proceeds from the sale of her artwork will go to support the LowellArts Moving to Main Campaign. All are welcome to an Open House Event on Sunday, May 21, 2-4 p.m.

Gallery Hours: Tues-Fri 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sat 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

LowellArts, 223 W Main St, Lowell, MI 49331

Website: www.lowellartsmi.org



How Well Do You Know Your Fellow Artists?

How many of these works you can identify by their maker! Don't see anything here by you? Put some of *your* work on the website gallery! Go to www.grandvalleyartists.com to see more works by GVA members and test your accuracy, too.



Pamela DeTuncq=Venturesome, Fearless, Bold, Dauntless, Brave...

Submitted by Carol Lourn

There is a country song titled "I Have A Girl Crush" sung by a female vocalist. I too have a "Girl Crush" after listening to Pamela De Tuncq's presentation at Grand Valley Artist's Program night, April 13, 2017. Actually presentation is the wrong noun to use here. A more appropriate noun is conversation. The atmosphere she created was of one of girls [with Randy and Joe] sitting around a table sharing private life experiences as we move through this crazy unpredictable world. As Pamela's range of slides featured her early ceramic works and progressed to her installations, we learned about her private thoughts as well as her artistic journey throughout the years.



Pamela begins with a theme. Universal themes such as teen alienation, gender stereotypes, aging, and the ephemeral nature of existence have been issues she has explored. When she has selected a theme she will consider any and all mediums to develop that theme.

Now, this is when we learned Pamela is a risk taker. When she decided to talk about teen alienation, she chose wool to build her figures. As she had no experience with any wool-related medium, she traveled to meet sheep farmers and learned about wool. The humorous stories Pamela shared as she learned about a new medium and the struggles inherent in exploring a new medium were at times interesting as well as humorous.



Another universal theme was the unbelievable amount of pills her mother had to take following heart surgery. She visited a manufacturer who worked with plastic substances and learned about the use of plastic. She made a life size mold of an elderly woman and took this mold to a manufacturer to build a plastic figure. Pamela filled this life-sized clear plastic figure with pills. One of our members asked Pamela the cost of this undertaking. She stated an enormous amount but said she *had* to make this sculpture and paid for it with her own money. This cost was the reason she was driving a car with 200,000 miles on it.

As an aside, Joanne Swann asked Pamela to talk to our artists. Joanne met Pamela when she worked in graphic design in Long Beach California. They have maintained a 35 year friendship. A large thank you to Joanne for asking Pamela to share with us. What a great experience!!!



Classified Ads

Richeson aluminum pastel carrier. Holds 4 trays. \$25 or best offer. Contact Sarabeth Carr at 607-5588 or sarabethcarr@gmail.com



Gorilla Pochade Box, 9"x12" (large size), used only once or twice. This beautifully constructed box attaches to tripod, carries paint, brushes and medium beneath sliding palette. Holds panel for plein air painting. Paid \$200 new. Will sell for \$100 firm. Contact marymarin@comcast.net or call 616-443-0362.



French Easel. Full size and almost new. \$100. Contact Jim Markle at jimcmarkle@earthlink.net.



French Easel, full size, used but in decent shape. Contact marymarin@comcast.net or call 616-443-0362. \$30.

New **Dulce Lyptus Wood H Frame Easel** by Jack Richeson. Bought in January 2017 and it is in new condition only used once or twice. \$100. It's sturdy. Contact Susan at susanpragaspathy@gmail.com.



White easy up **tent** (used about five times) and **art racks** (8 sections with the hardware) for sale. All of it for \$50. Contact Wilma Knoll, 337-6347.

French Easel \$50. Not worn Contact Patrick at 616-717-1711.

Roll of unprimed canvas 5'x20'. Contact Patrick at 616-717-1711.

Do you have items to sell? Send an email to marymarin@comcast.net so we can publish your item/s here. Photos are helpful but not necessary.

Cascade Library

The Cascade Library is a beautiful venue that provides a great deal of exposure to GVA artists. Don't miss the beautiful work of Bonnie Lindke, Carol Lurn, Kristen Thornton, Sri Oetjoen Soekarmoen, and Gene Sampson, showing from May through July. In addition, library personnel are promoting GVA on their Facebook page.

Special thanks to our new GVA member, Candace Chovanec, for stepping up to the task of managing this venue. If you want to share your work at the library, contact Candice at candicechovanec@yahoo.com.



instagram!

We now have an instagram account!)Yup. It's spelled with a lower case "i." You can find our account here: <https://www.instagram.com/grandvalleyartists/>. We can use instagram to promote events and artwork. If you want to share something on our social media accounts, either instagram or Facebook, you can email that info or photo to candicechovanec@yahoo.com or tag the account on instagram.

Island Time II!

WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP on beautiful Mackinac Island for beginner to intermediate students, with Victoria Marnich-Reynolds being held on May 15-18, 2017. Questions: Contact Vickie, (616) 784-9142, vickierey11@gmail.com.

Workshop Ideas?

Do you have ideas for Saturday afternoon workshops you'd like GVA to sponsor? Or do you have a workshop you'd like to put on? If so, contact Joanne Swann at joswann@sbcglobal.net.

Longer Pose Opportunity Coming to GVA on Thursdays

Have you wished you had more time to work on a painting? That the same model was available 3 sessions in a row? (This is not to be confused with the long pose workshop mentioned on page 4.)

GVA will now be offering long pose sessions featuring the same model 3 weeks in a row in the same pose, same outfit (or nude), for 4 hours/three sessions.

The first series will take place on these dates: Thursdays, June 29, July 6, and July 13, from 10 until 2 p.m.

This opportunity is open to members and non-members. The cost will be the model fee, which will depend on the number of artists present each day. Anyone is welcome to come to all or one day.

Note: Artists who come to multiple days will have priority in seating. If you do not come to the first day, please allow other artists to set up first.

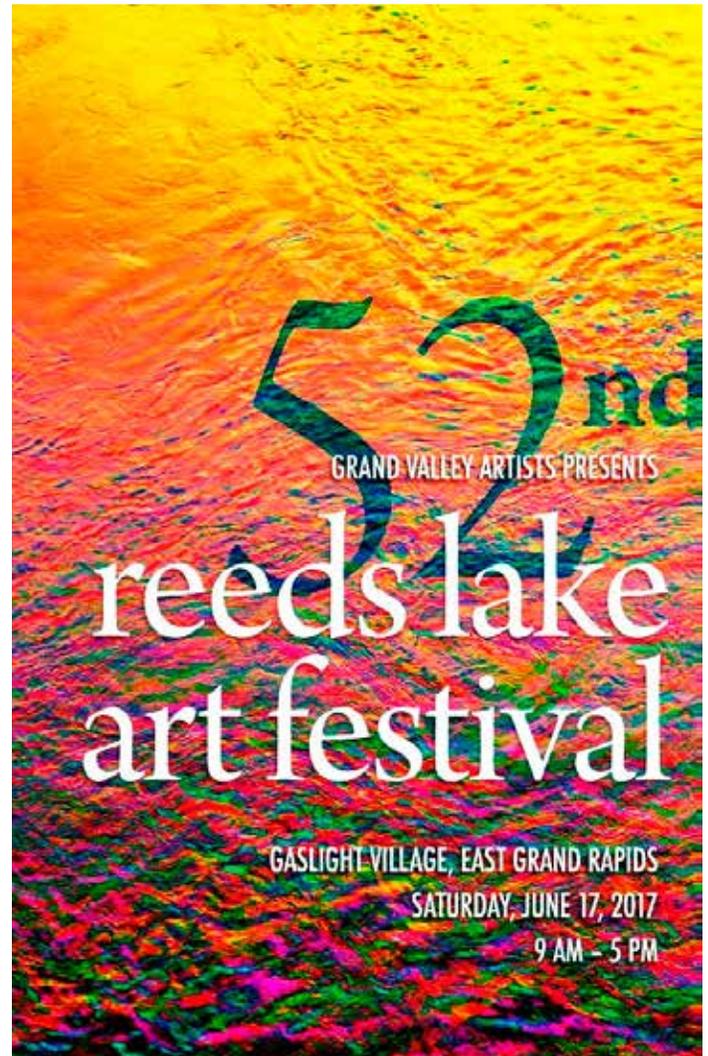
Contact Candice Chovanec through telephone or via email for additional information or to reserve a spot. (949)228-4220 / candicechovanec@yahoo.com.

Promotional Materials Now Available...Your Help Needed!

We would appreciate member assistance to get the word out about Reeds Lake Art Festival. Signs and postcards are available at GVA, and lawn signs will be available shortly.

Please pick up some signs and display them at your neighborhood retail locations (e.g., the grocery store bulletin board) and businesses as you are able.

Your efforts will save us the expense of extra media advertising.





**GVA welcomes
Deborah Smith and
Hannah Apps**

Contact Listings for Grand Valley Artists

President
Carol Lourn
616-437-9365
carollourn@yahoo.com

Vice President
Emily Green
616-617-1548
ww.emilyg@gmail.com

Secretary
Dana Donnell
danaBdonnell@gmail.com

Treasurer
Evie Carrier
616-648-6858
evie.carrier@gmail.com

Membership
Dave Bechtel
616-818-9618
davidbechtel@sbcglobal.net

Photography
Lora Cecola
loracecola@mac.com

Program
Randy Nyhof
616-745-1486
r.nyhof@comcast.net

Reeds Lake Art Festival
Bob Kraai
616-956-7734
rkraai@ameritech.net

Newsletter and Website
Mary Marin
616-443-0362
marymarin@comcast.net

Publicity
Steve Scarborough
stevescarb1@yahoo.com

GVA Gallery Shows
Jim Johnson
616-451-2211
johntheartist@hotmail.com

Sketch Coordinators
Kathy Bechtel
616-540-5744
kathleen.bechteltel@yahoo.com
Dave Bazen
dbazen@bazenelectric.com
Mary Marin
616-443-0362
marymarin@comcast.net
Candice Chavonec
candicechavonec@yahoo.com
Hospitality
Peg McKeown
616-656-9210
mcperfitt@me.com

GVA Library
Jim Johnson
616-451-2211
johntheartist@hotmail.com

Facilities Coordinator
Dave Bazen
616-453-6706
dbazen@bazenelectric.com

Cascade Library
Candice Chavonec
candicechavonec@yahoo.com



CALENDAR

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

EVERY WEEK

Sundays Closed

Mondays 10:00 a.m. until noon

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

Wednesdays 2:00 until 5:00 p.m. (check website for location)

Thursdays* First Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

Second Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

(Note: Program in December is replaced by the Holiday Party from 6 till 8)

Remaining Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.

Fridays 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

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

Model Sketch

Photo Group
Plein Air or
Still Life

Critique
Program
Model Sketch

Still Life

Model Sketch

*See newsletter and website for info on new long-pose sessions on Thursdays

Newsletter Deadline Reminder

The 20th of the month is the cut off for any article, notice, calendar items, etc., you would like to see in the next newsletter. Submit information to Mary Marin at marymarin@comcast.net.

Grand Valley Artists

1345 Monroe Ave. NW, Suite 140

Grand Rapids, MI 49505