

# Perspectives



grandvalleyartists.com

April 2021

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Grand Valley Artists  
at  
The Van Singel Fine Arts Center  
8500 Burlingame Avenue SW  
Byron Center, MI 49315  
3/24/21–6/13/21

(Due to Covid-19 there is no Opening Reception, **but see below for better news.**)

## Awards

See the winning artwork on GVA's Facebook page and on our GVA website. The Artists' Viewing, Wednesday, 3/24/21, 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The doors will be open to the artists, family, friends, and members of GVA. Masks and social distancing are required. This is not a reception, just an opportunity to view the exhibit.

## Viewing by Appointment Only

Due to Covid-19 this exhibit may be viewed by appointment. Schedule your appointment by email: Contact sbower@bcpsk12.net. If policy changes due to progress in controlling the virus, we will inform all GVA members of the change.

## View the Virtual Exhibit

We will provide a virtual version of our Exhibit on the GVA Facebook page and on our website.

**"Off-The-Wall" Reception**, Sunday, 6/13/21, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. We are optimistic that we will be in a better position to have this dessert reception, enjoying a nice, long overdue get-together. Stephen Duren, our Juror, is looking forward to meeting you and sharing his thoughts and feelings about this fine show. His wit and wisdom you won't want to miss! At 2:30 p.m. you can pull your work "off-the-wall."

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions!

Doug Klemm  
dougklemm@hotmail.com  
GVA Outreach  
(616) 481-6121

# GVA on the Move Again

Submitted by Joanne Swann

As most of you know, GVA has been asked to vacate our space on Service Road by the 1st of August. This news comes on top of having to reduce our revenue streams due to the pandemic, so we're also having to confront the reality that we have been running a deficit against our expenses for the last year. This deficit will continue for the next year or until we can once again hold Reeds Lake or another major fundraiser.

Several members and I have begun the search for a new home. First, I want to thank the members who stepped forward to help with the search: Marty Klar, Todd Darling, Mary Baine, Emily Green, Doug Klemm, and Steve and Linda Scarborough.

Our group has been working with a realtor, and Todd and Mary B. have laid out the demographics of our members so we can get a feel for where most of our members live to find an area that will best serve our members. The thing is, we're all over the map! What we're also discovering is that the central downtown Grand Rapids locations that have served us well in the past are now out of our price range due to the skyrocketing rental prices of commercial real estate. This means we'll need to find smaller space and/or move farther out. There are many considerations: location, price per square foot, utilities, upkeep, moving and renovation expenses, parking, and accessibility for and safety of our members.

So far we've looked at ten locations and are doing our best to find a location that will serve the majority of our members while remaining within our budget so we can provide our members the services we've offered in the past. If you have any ideas or know of locations we should consider, please let us know!

Updates will be forthcoming.

Joanne Swann

## An Unsolicited Suggestion

Submitted by Mary Marin

There are advantages to "holding the keys" to our various means of communication, and one of those means is this newsletter. I'm using my POWER to encourage our members to consider sending a chunk of that recent stimulus check to GVA. We need more money, friends, and if we all chip in a decent amount, we will be able to afford a nicer new home. [Act now](#) before the board and search party settle on a less than awesome new location, as they must be prudent with our rapidly depleting reserves. I'm off to make my contribution this very minute! It is easy to either send a check to GVA at 1695 Service Road NE, Suite 106 Grand Rapids, MI 49503 or use PayPal: [Act now!](#)

NOTE: This article has not been endorsed or approved by anybody and I apologize if I have overstepped my bounds. (It's not the first time, as some of you already know.) If anybody wants to take over my role, let me know. ;-)

## An Additional Observation

"Alone we are one drop, and together we are an ocean."

In her book, *The Soul of Money*, Lynne Twist talks about how "money is like water." It is a conduit for our intention, a way for our love to flow. Money can flow like a rushing river or sometimes in a trickle. She writes, "When it is flowing, it can purify, cleanse, create growth, and nourish. But when it is blocked or held too long, it can grow stagnant and toxic to those withholding or hoarding it."

GVA friends, Let's **BE THE OCEAN**.

NOTE: This article has not been endorsed or approved by anybody and I apologize if I have overstepped my bounds. (It's not the first time, as some of you already know.) If anybody wants to take over my role, let me know. ;-)

**And here's a Go Fund Me Link.**

## Bliss & Vinegar

We have enjoyed a wonderful relationship with B&V for a few years already, which has been a great opportunity for our artists to share their work. The work of Annemarie Biernacki is currently on display. Be sure to swing by, grab a fantastic salad, and check it out!

If you want to show your work at Bliss & Vinegar, you will need to share some of it in the gallery on our website, [www.grandvalleyartists.com](http://www.grandvalleyartists.com), so the owners of B&V can see what you do. They decide whose work they want to feature. Please don't contact them directly.

Marty Klar coordinates this opportunity for us. Have questions? Call Marty at 616-813-7921.



Annemarie Biernacki's work is currently being shown at Bliss & Vinegar.

## "Beginner Series" Workshops Ahead at Franciscan Life Process Center

Submitted by Kathleen Bechtel

Have you ever thought about changing mediums? Would you like to study further into your medium? The final two classes in the Beginner Series are being taught by Grand Valley Artists' Kathleen Kalinowski for Pastel and Larry Blovits for Acrylic and Oil. Each workshop runs two days and costs \$209. Here is your chance to start off the new year in a different medium, and there is still a little time to sign up:

March 25 & 26: Larry Blovits instructs "Introduction To Acrylics": <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/larry-blovits-introduction-to-acrylics-tickets-129619097209>

March 25 & 26: Kathleen Kalinowski instructs "Beginner Series Workshop with Soft Pastel": <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/kathleen-kalinowski-beginner-series-workshop-with-soft-pastel-tickets-130614701087>

**Did you miss it? Here's a Go Fund Me Link.**

### GVA Welcomes New Members

**James Bevenour, Dell Paielli, Melinda Wright, Tina McLouth**



### Submitted by Randy Nyhof

We had our regular Critique meeting online with Zoom on March 2 at 7:30 p.m. Our next meeting is scheduled for April 6. Again this will be a Zoom meeting. Any member wishing to show photography should email it to Randy (r.nyhof@comcast.net) no later than the day before. No other events are planned at this time.

As for members showing their work, Anne Crans has been showing her photographs at the Lowell Library during February and March. Russ Barneveld's photographs will be on display during April and May.

In the 35th Annual LowellArts West Michigan Art Competition I have one work showing, I do not know of any others from the photo group as I have not been able to see a list of those selected. Check it out anyway. Larry Blovits and Mary Reusch were award winners.

Also, Henri Droski won an award in the WINTER ARTS FESTIVAL 2021 at the Grand Haven Gallery Uptown. I do not know of any others who participated in that show.

Finally, Evie Carrier took a third place award in the GVA show at the Van Singel Gallery. Congratulations, Evie!

## Program Night

### Submitted by Randy Nyhof

No program is planned for this month. Any ideas about doing online programs would be greatly appreciated. Send your suggestions to Randy at r.nyhof@comcast.net.

## Critique Night

### Submitted by Randy Nyhof

Our monthly Critique will be held Thursday, April 1, via Zoom. If you have one or two pieces to share, please send photos of them to Randy at r.nyhof@comcast.net.

As usual, we will send a link via Mailchimp so you can log in and join the fun. Hope you can make it.



## Lowell Library

The Englehardt Library in Lowell is open once again, and they are filling their walls with the work of GVA artists! Sara Youngman is our representative, and she is keeping a list of artists who would like to show their work at some point. She thanks all the artists who have already signed up to show their work. Our schedule is full through February 2022! Let Sara know if you would like to be added after next February. You can contact her at sycr8@gmail.com.

# Membership Update

Submitted by Mary Baine

As GVA members might have noticed while joining or renewing, donations may be made to the Kubiak Fund as well as to GVA itself. Because some of you might not be familiar with the purpose of this fund, how it is used, or even how it got its name, Membership is pleased to provide details!

The history can be found on our website: “The William (Bill) Kubiak Fund was established to help those experiencing financial hardship to pay for their membership. Bill Kubiak was one of the original founders and served as the first president of Grand Valley Artists (GVA) in 1957, and again in 1979 and 1986. Bill was very sensitive to those experiencing hardship and each year would personally donate to help those in need, right up until his passing in 2010. After Bill’s death, the board at that time suggested that we establish a fund to carry on what Bill and many other founders and other members were freely giving to support those in need.”

Fast-forward to 2021, and the Kubiak Fund is still available to pay dues for members who could not otherwise afford to join or renew. Thanks to the generosity of members who can afford to contribute, there is enough to support several deserving artists suffering from pandemic-related setbacks. Abiding by a previous board decision, the Membership Chair is instructed to accept the assertions made by applicants in good faith, use her best judgement, and keep awards confidential. A letter describing the financial difficulties in question is required so the Membership Chair may determine if the applicant’s situation seems understandable as described. The GVA Board recently made the decision to limit Kubiak assistance to two consecutive years for any member.

The takeaway? If you know someone who has not yet joined or renewed this year because GVA membership has become unaffordable, please encourage that person to contact [marybaine@gmail.com](mailto:marybaine@gmail.com)!

# Special Request for Courtesy

Please leave the studio in order for the next group. Easels, benches, sinks...everything should be returned to an orderly state so the incoming group doesn't have to clean up after the previous group. If we all pitch in, we will all be able to better enjoy the wonderful space that we are very fortunate to have.

# Is your artwork in need of a home?

Submitted by Ricardo Tavárez

New City Neighbors is hosting a fundraiser on May 7th & 8th to fund the renovation of its newly purchased farmhouse at 1115 Leonard NE. The organization's mission is to empower youth to reach their full potential. It does this by creating youth employment and leadership opportunities through urban farming. The new home will be used as office and program space and include a new urban garden.

The theme of the upcoming fundraiser is "A Place Called Home." New City Neighbors is looking for local artists to donate quality work that can be auctioned as part of the fundraiser. Artwork does not need to be tied to the theme of the event, but would be most welcomed if it does.

To get connected, please contact GVA member Ricardo Tavárez via email at [ricardo@newcityneighbors.org](mailto:ricardo@newcityneighbors.org). To learn more about New City Neighbors visit [www.newcityneighbors.org](http://www.newcityneighbors.org).

# The End of Objecthood

From a Newsletter Article called *The Painter's Keys*

by Robert & Sara Genn

When discussing presenting art online, I mentioned that one might have more success attracting collectors by photographing something deemed precious in real life, as opposed to, say, a digital-only experience which could be difficult, in these times, to find a backer for. According to the *New York Times*, I'm totally wrong. In 2021, it seems, some artists are having the greatest success selling completely digital art. This only-on-the-internet art is embedded with code that authenticates it, tracks its whereabouts and value, is transacted in cryptocurrency on the blockchain and can even be broken up into tiny pieces to be fractionally owned by multiple buyers. If you're still with me, this new kind of art is called a "nonfungible token," or NFT.

Yesterday, Mike Winkelman, the digital artist known as Beeple, with the help of Christie's, sold a JPG for \$69.3 million. In doing so, he beat Turner, Seurat and Goya's auction records. He started off his one lot at \$100 two weeks ago and watched it climb to \$30 million. Then, with seconds remaining, his JPG surged to over \$60 million in a frenzy. The newspapers, as part of their regular reporting on the cliquey, market-shaping investment habits of billionaires, noted that it was the third-highest auction result achieved by a living artist after Koons and Hockney. Apparently, in the highest-brow circles of art speculation...



An "NFT" by Beeple

[Click here to read more.](#)

## Officers, Board, and Committee Chairs of GVA

### President

Joanne Swann  
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### Photography

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### GVA Gallery Shows

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### Legacy Liaison

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### Vice President

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### Secretary

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### 501(c)(3) Coordinator

Open Position

### Wednesday and Friday

#### Sketch Facilitator

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### Treasurer

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### Reeds Lake Art Festival

Open Position

### Hospitality

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### Instagram

Open Position

### Membership

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### Newsletter and Website

Mary Marin and Mary Helmic  
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### Facilities Coordinator

Edd Kloote  
edwardkloote@gmail.com

### GVA Library

Position Open

**Note from the editor:** Until we are back in full swing, we will only be distributing the newsletter online. If you have any news or interesting info to share, please always feel free to send it to Mary Marin (marymarin1285@gmail.com) for inclusion.

# Hollister Place Gallery

Randy Nyhof and Charles Allen LaRue have a show going on at the Hollister Place at the "gallery y o."\*

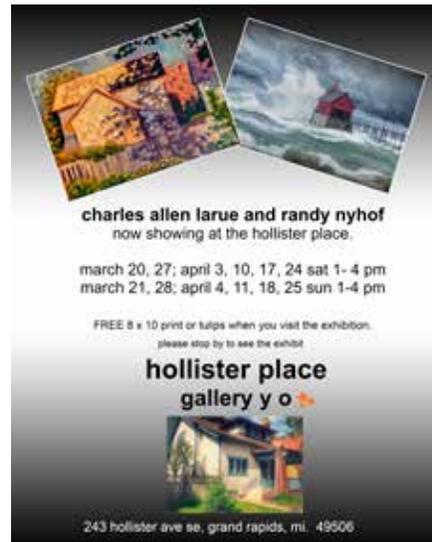
March 20, 27; April 3, 10, 17, 24 Sat 1–4 p.m.

March 21, 28; April 4, 11, 18, 25 Sun 1–4 p.m.

FREE 8"x10" print of tulips when you visit the exhibition, which is located at 243 Hollister Ave SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506.

The Hollister Place is a member of Grand Valley Artists.

\*I didn't know what the "y o" meant, so I checked with Randy. He told me that "y o" refers to Yo Altena. He likes to refer to his gallery as 'gallery y o' all in lower case and with a space between the y & o."



## Grand Valley Artists

1695 Service Road NE, Suite 106  
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