



# Highlights

www.grandvalleyartists.com

November 2019

## Shout Out to the Winners!

Submitted by Doug Klemm

The Opening Reception at the Box Factory for the Arts was absolutely wonderful, and the work of our artists looked magnificent! I have not been in touch with the Box Factory since our opening. I have spent a lot of time in Wisconsin on family matters and on vacation in England. I hope there have been many sales for our members! I was very delighted to see such a fine October Newsletter in my email this past week and the wonderful coverage of all our recent GVA events. Thank you to Randy Nyhof for the photos at the Box and all who contributed. Turn to page eight to read Kristin Holbein's remarks.



1st place: Jim Johnson, "Happily Married Man" (watercolor)

Congratulations to all!

Editor's Note: Thank you to Doug Klemm, GVA's Outreach Chairperson, whose hard work made this show possible!



2nd: Joel Goeldel, "Sometimes I See Things" (Pencil)



3rd: Marty Klar, "Pathway" (oil)



4th: Steve Scarborough, "Circle of Fear" (Photography)

# A Letter from Our President

Dear Grand Valley Artists,

The holidays are fast approaching. This is the time when we somehow manage to get the turkey made and the tree decorated. This is also a time when our charities and nonprofit organizations ask for donations. These donations are what help to keep their doors open and their operations functioning.

Grand Valley Artists is a 501[c][3] nonprofit organization. We solicit donations to help manage/pay for various activities at our beautiful studio. Everything from building rental and maintenance to the purchase of supplies such as paper products, coffee and easel repairs/replacement for our sketch sessions throughout the week all contribute to the cost of running our organization. We love our yearly catered picnic because it gives us time to be with our “artist family.” These are only a few examples of costs. Because we have members who willingly give freely of their time to manage everything from building care to weekly programs and special events, we don’t have the expense of employees.

I love our building on Service Road. It is a wonderful place to make art. I hope you feel the same. The camaraderie and hard work of our member volunteers helped to make this space so inviting. When I drive up to our building at night, I love to see the well-lit GVA sign donated by Larry and Nancy Goff welcoming me. While I look around our interior space, I start to see the normal wear and tear due to consistent utilization of our space.

This organization has enriched my life. In fact, I cannot imagine having such a wonderful life without it! If you feel the same way, please consider making a contribution.

Should you be willing to give a donation, please send it to:

**Nonprofit Director  
Grand Valley Artists  
1695 Service Road NE, Suite 106  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503**

You will receive notification of your donation for tax purposes.

Best wishes to all,  
Carol Lurn



# POSTER CONTEST ENTRIES DUE DECEMBER 5!

Once again, Grand Valley Artists will be choosing the design for the Reeds Lake Art Festival from members' original artwork submissions. Winning posters will be chosen based on how well they capture the viewer's attention and motivate them to participate in or attend the Reeds Lake Art Festival. Artwork will be judged on creativity, originality, vibrancy of images, and a strong marketing message that promotes both GVA and the Reeds Lake Festival.

The entries can be printed and ready for display or submitted as a digital file, in either a JPEG, PDF or PNG format. The file is recommended to be 1080 pixels to show the judges, but must be at least 3900 x 5700 to print as a 13"x19" poster.

Send your digital images to danabdonnell@gmail.com or drop original artwork off at GVA by December 5th, 2019. Voting will be done by GVA members at our holiday party in December.

The poster must include the following words (or space for the words):

**Grand Valley Artists presents the  
55th Annual Reeds Lake Art Festival  
Gaslight Village, East Grand Rapids  
June 20, 2020**

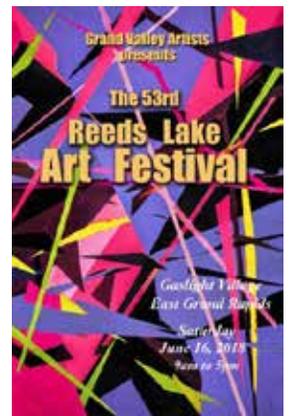
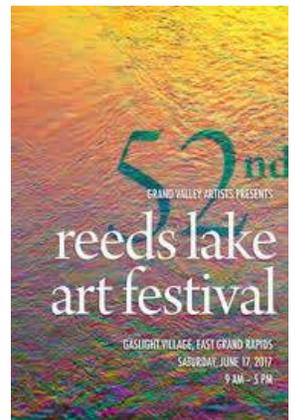
**9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. (rain or shine)**

**For more information about our organization, go to [grandvalleyartists.com](http://grandvalleyartists.com)**

Only original artwork will be considered.

Questions?

Contact Linda Scarborough (616) 570-8796 or [lindaascarborough@yahoo.com](mailto:lindaascarborough@yahoo.com).



## ART HOP and ART CHAT!

For November's gathering we plan to take advantage of Grand Valley State University's extensive collection of works by former Grand Rapids artist Mathias Alten. We plan to meet at 1 p.m. Friday, November 1 at GVA and carpool to the downtown exhibit. After that, we will head to a local coffee shop for a chat. Come join us!

## GVA Gallery in November

Submitted by Jim Johnson

We are excited to be filling our own studio with the entries that were previously included in the Box Factory exhibit for the month of November. No additional works will be accepted. If you weren't able to make it to the Box Factory, you will be able to see the work right here at GVA. No additional works will be hung.

**ASAP**

**Reeds Lake Festival Signs...Please return them if you have them so we can figure out how many more we need to purchase.**

**Thanks!**

## A Chair Affair

Submitted by Emily Green

Don't miss "A Chair Affair" at LaFontsee Galleries on Saturday, November 2, from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Their annual fundraising event, A Chair Affair, centers around a live auction for one-of-a-kind painted chairs. Local artists and AIM students transform these chairs into beautiful and functional works of art. There is also a silent auction of items and packages, donated by artists and businesses. Highlighted by student performances, the event is paramount in keeping the studio going all year; it is the largest annual fundraiser for Arts in Motion Studio. Proceeds provide funds for supplies, performance spaces, teaching, and student scholarships.



## October Program with Nora Faber Overvoorde



A few photos of the event.



## LowellArts Holiday Artists Market

November 14–December 23

The annual LowellArts Holiday Artists Market features artwork by over 50 area artists. Artwork and other hand-made items by Michigan artists are available for purchase during the gift-giving season. Gift items include pottery, paintings, photography, jewelry, textiles, glasswork, handbags, woodwork, metalwork, basketry, ornaments, soaps, and more. Market hours are Tues–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sunday & Monday 12–5 p.m. [LowellArtsMi.org](http://LowellArtsMi.org)  
LowellArts, 223 W Main St, Lowell, MI 49331



## Photo Group

Submitted by Randy Nyhof

The Photo Group met for their regular meeting on October 1 with their usual critique and announcements.

The GVA Photo Group did not meet for a second meeting in October. Our next meeting will be on November 5.

## Program Night

Submitted by Randy Nyhof

Our October Program on Thursday the 10th was presented by Nora Faber Overvoorde. Nora showed a couple of short You Tube videos and then gave demonstrations on her etching, rubbing alcohol removal, and oil rubbing stage techniques. There was a good turnout and people seemed to enjoy it.

For the November program on the 14th Randy will present a power point program titled "Some Tips on Improving Your Landscapes". Some of the tips deal with lifeless skies, flat lighting, lack of depth and point of interest. Also Photo compositing using multiple images to create interesting landscapes will be shown.

## Think 3-D

Submitted by John Knight

Someone once accused Pablo Picasso that his paintings were not real. His critic then pulled out a photo of his wife to exclaim, "This is what real looks like" and handed it to the artist. Picasso took one look and exclaimed, "She's awfully small and so-o-o flat!"

GVA members who attended Larry Blovits' critique session on Oct. 3 were treated to lessons in avoiding flat art, whether it be receding planes in a landscape, painting trees whose branches only seem to go sideways, elements in a still life that protrude toward us, underlying skeletal structures that make portraits come alive, and the play of light and shadow on any object we try to capture. Thanks, Larry, for sharing those helpful insights. You continue to be our ultimate teacher!

## Art Is Like Rabbits

One painting becomes two ... two become four ... four become eight, and the next thing you know, you've got a house full of art.

—Michael Corbin, author, The Art of Everyday Joe: A Collector's Journal

## Officers, Board, and Committee Chairs of GVA

### President

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

### Vice President

Emily Green  
ww.emilyg@gmail.com

### Secretary

Dana Donnell  
danaBdonnell@gmail.com

### Treasurer

Evie Carrier  
evie.carrier@gmail.com

### Membership

Mary Baine  
marymbaine@gmail.com

### Photography

Randy Nyhof  
r.nyhof@comcast.net

### Program

Randy Nyhof  
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### Reeds Lake Art Festival

Linda Scarborough  
lindaascorborough@yahoo.com  
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### Newsletter and Website

Mary Marin  
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### Publicity

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### GVA Gallery Shows

Jim Johnson  
johnsonheartist@hotmail.com

### Sketch/Model Coordinators

Kathy Bechtel  
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Mary Marin  
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### Hospitality

Peg McKeown  
mcperritt@me.com

### GVA Library

Jim Johnson  
johnsonheartist@hotmail.com

### Facilities Coordinator

Dave Bazen  
dbazen@bazenelectric.com

### 501(c)(3) Coordinator

Position Open

### Legacy Liaison

Robert Kraai  
rkraai@ameritech.net

### Outreach

Doug Klemm  
dougklemm@hotmail.com

### Social Media

Emily Green  
ww.emilyg@gmail.com

### Newsletter Distribution

Sallie Zigterman  
sallie.zigterman@yahoo.com



## What Does a Home Feel Like?

The Holland Area Arts Council, The Lakeshore Housing Alliance & the United Way team up to support National Homelessness Awareness Month with an art exhibition and reception November 7th. We invite you to create a sculpture to express what a home feels like. This can be a current, past or imagined home. You may use any material such as a simple shoe box and found objects or as elaborate as a wooden or clay structure. It can be any size. Make it simple or complex but definitely expressive. There is no submission fee to participate. Open to all ages. Have questions? [www.mary@hollandarts.org](mailto:www.mary@hollandarts.org) or call 616-638-4468 or look on [www.hollandarts.org/](http://www.hollandarts.org/) for artists

**Who:** Creative people. Need NOT be in Ottawa County to participate!!! All are welcome.

**What:** A call for artists of all ages and skill levels to exhibit sculpture in our gallery

**Where:** Holland Area Arts Council 150 E. 8th St. Holland, MI 49423

**When:** Reception November 7th 5:00–7:00 p.m. The exhibit runs November 7–14th

**Why:** To showcase art created and bring awareness to homelessness and what home means

### HOW TO BE PART OF THE SHOW:

Drop off labeled artwork between November 1st & November 5th during business hours.

Artwork can be created as a group, made by child or an adult. This exhibition is open to all people and there is no fee to participate. Artwork can be for sale at a 40% commission. The show will last until November 14th and art pick up is from November 19th to 22nd. Please include your name and contact info on the work. [www.hollandarts.org](http://www.hollandarts.org)

## Wes DeVries' Abstract Expressionism Workshop

Wes DeVries is offering another Abstract Expressionism Workshop at GVA Studios. The focus is for artists to loosen up their drawing skills and work on composition using shapes and color. Wear old clothes and be prepared to have fun.

Please email Joanne Swann at [joswann@sbcglobal.net](mailto:joswann@sbcglobal.net) to sign up for the workshop.

When: Saturday, November 9, 2019 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Cost: \$20.00. Please bring cash or a check for that amount made out to Wes. No credit cards. The class is limited to 18 to 20 people.

### Supplies:

- You will need to provide your own medium. Wes works in acrylic but you can work in watercolor or oils (oils will take much longer to dry)
- Paper and/or canvas of any size
- Charcoal
- Photos to work with or he will set up a still-life
- Pallet knife, brushes, etc. will all work
- Containers to clean your brushes
- And, of course, old credit cards

Ever consider running  
for President  
...of GVA?

How about Treasurer?

In 2020, the  
positions of  
President & Treasurer  
of Grand Valley Artists  
will be available,  
both for  
two-year terms:  
Jan. 1, 2020– Dec. 31, 2022.

If interested,  
please contact  
a board member.

Board member contact info can be  
found on page 5.



## GVA Welcomes New Members

Kathy Sligh, Deb Steenwyk,  
Laury Baker, Ben Perrin,  
Salim Muhammad, Jessi  
Son, Tony Schwingham-  
er, Tom Casaletto, Cynthia  
Lang-Coleman

## Returning Members

Jurgen & Christine Nitzsche,  
Diane Hasso, Rebecca Stafford,  
Marilyn Hazard, Jean Boot,  
Ted Carlson

## Holiday Competition!

Yes, it is that time of year once again, and we will be having a  
juried show in December. More details coming soon.

# The Box Factory: The Juror's Comments

Submitted by Kristin Hosbein

First of all, I'd like to thank Doug Klemm and the Grand Valley Artists for allowing me to jury this show. It's a great honor for me to be allowed to judge these fine artist's work, and not one I take lightly. Each work is unique and shows the vision and skill of the hand of the artist. One can see that there is a mix of many mediums and varying levels of experience in the work shown here in the Williams Gallery, from portraits to still life, landscapes to abstract in a variety of mediums, including digital. In jurying what was to be included, I had to determine that we had enough wall space to show them all, and was a tight fit!

Judging the awards was a fun and interesting process... After spending time soaking up these works of art, I decided that there were several parameters that might be a good way to judge the choices:

1. Judging art is subjective: there is no one way to say one work is better than another, because there are SO many ways to look at art. I spent plenty of time looking at each piece, and seriously found that they all deserve an award, because it takes a bit of courage to put the work of your hands and mind on a wall for others to judge.
2. I simplified the parameters for the awards that will be handed out. I chose to judge the art based upon the following:
  - a. The artist's vision: what does the title say about what they wanted to communicate with the viewer? Does it all seem to align?
  - b. Was the final work a clean and concise way to illustrate that vision? Sometimes we see that artists labor for days and weeks over their work. Sometimes this labor doesn't make the work any better than if it had been done quickly. I didn't want to make an award simply because a work was bigger, or clearly took a lot of time, even though I really love those works as well.
  - c. Technical skill. Is the artist proficient in the medium that they used? Is the composition good? Does the work invite you in to look at it more?

So with those parameters in mind, I chose the following:

1st place: Jim Johnson's "Happily Married Man": For one thing, Jim is a technically amazing artist. We haven't met before, but one can tell he is confident in his art by the gestural style and easy color of his watercolors. He highlighted the figure with a lighter wash of color behind him, and yet maintained the wallpaper patterned background in a fluid way. I had to laugh when I read the title, because the beer can on the floor stands out in a noticeable way. Beer in this case makes for a happily married man! It's a well-done portrait executed delightfully.

2nd: Joel Goedel: "Sometimes I See Things": This work combines the artist's imagination with an ordinary object, a lion's profile popping out of a piece of driftwood. Very simply done, and clearly and precisely executed. Again, it makes us smile, and is done very simply and clearly. Well done.

3: Marty Klar: "Pathway": Of all of the oil paintings in this show, all of which are done well, this one caught my eye because of the simplicity. Our eye is led down the path, and the oil paint is juicy thick, some is glossy, some is matt, and I'm presuming it is painted on paper because it is also matted and behind glass. I found it intriguing, because we can feel the cloudy day and the wind in the trees just by the application of color and texture. Nice.

4. Steve Scarborough: "Circle of Fear": This is a small photograph in the back corner of the room. The design intrigued me from the beginning. The star in the middle, which resembles an early American pinwheel. But on closer inspection, it is a ride at a fair, with dozens of feet hanging off the edges. Once we look closer we realize what we are looking at, and all at once the title makes perfect sense! Well done! I'd love to see this printed very large, so that it makes a bigger impact, but it's a powerful image even in this small size.

Congratulations to all of you award winners and to all of the artists exhibiting tonight. It's a great show, and I hope that you continue to create your art!

# Area Art News

## Dominican Center at Marywood

November/December: Kathleen Kalinowski's students of pastels and oils and Kathleen herself will be displaying their work. Reception is December 8, 1-4 p.m. The gallery is located at 2025 E. Fulton Street, Grand Rapids, MI 49503, and is open Monday-Thurs- day: 8:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m., Friday: 8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m., Saturday and Sunday: 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

## Forest Hills Fine Arts Center

Exhibit Hours: 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri. All exhibits are free to the public. Learn more here: <https://www.fhfineartscenter.com>

## Frauenthal Reception Gallery in Muskegon

Open Monday-Friday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. with extended hours on show nights. Art exhibits are open to the public with free admission.  
425 West Western Ave., Suite 200  
Muskegon, MI 49440

## Guardian Gallery Grand Rapids

Essan Sommersell's work will be shown until January 28. Hours: Monday-Thurs- day 12 noon-6 p.m. at 654 Davis St., Grand Rapids, MI 49504.

## Guardian Gallery Lowell

Holly Sturgis' paintings will be exhibited from October 28 through January 26. The Guardian Gallery is located at the Franciscan Life Process Center, 11650 Downes St., Lowell, MI 49331, (616) 897-7842. Open during regular business hours.

## Lowell Arts

Gallery Hours: Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

## TerryBerry Gallery at St. Cecilia's

The paintings of Valentina Gregorieva will be shown from October 29 to November 29. The reception for this show is Friday, November 15, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Gallery is open during regular business hours. Parking is free next to St. Cecilia. Learn more at <http://scmc-online.org/visit-terryberry-gallery>



## Bliss & Vinegar

Stop in to see GVA member **Dennis O'Mara's** work. If you want to show your work at B&V, 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.



## Englehardt Public Library in Lowell

GVA member **Colin Plank's** work is currently showing. If you are interested in displaying your work at the library, contact Sandi Brogger at [rsbrogger@gmail.com](mailto:rsbrogger@gmail.com).

# GRAND VALLEY ARTISTS PRESENTS

The 55th Annual

Reeds Lake Art Festival

June 20, 2020

It is already time to start the planning process for our next Reeds Lake Art Festival, and we need your support and whatever help you can contribute! Please see the various coordinator positions and consider leading one of them. Linda Scarborough has courageously offered to be our event coordinator, and she is counting on the membership to step up and help out.

You can offer your help directly to Linda via email: [lindaascarborough@yahoo.com](mailto:lindaascarborough@yahoo.com).

**EVENT COORDINATOR**— Linda Scarborough

**PARKING**—Dave Bazen

**GVA TENT**—Dani Ehlenfeldt

**FOOD AND BEVERAGE OFFERINGS**—Carol Lurn and Steve Scarborough

**CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES**—Mary Baine

**PRINT MARKETING**— Dana Donnell

**NONPRINT MARKETING AND PROMOTION**—Steve Scarborough

**VENDORS**—**YOUR NAME HERE?**

Will solicit strong vendors through personal invitation and on websites, assist in jurying vendors and selecting 130 applicants, sending out vendor participation packets with instructions on how to market the event, make sure vendors receive booth tags and maps, and recruit GVA volunteers to help vendors be successful.

**MUSIC**—**YOUR NAME HERE?**

Will identify and invite promising street musicians to participate in the event and secure GVA volunteers as needed to assist the musicians.

**SILENT AUCTION OF GVA ARTWORK**—**YOUR NAME HERE?**

Will use all outlets to solicit donations from GVA artists for silent auction, set up the silent auction area and make sure visitors are aware of its presence, coordinate the procedures for auctioning off work and deliver work to the winners of each bid.

**WRAP UP**—**YOUR NAME HERE?**

Will make sure the physical space is returned to its post-event appearance, return cones and other dividers, collect banners and posters, make sure vendors receive and complete an evaluation, tally evaluation responses for the board to review and secure GVA volunteers to help take down any shelters or equipment used in the event.

**Additional volunteers are needed to assist each of the committees and to help with vendor relief, setup and cleanup, and other miscellaneous tidbits. Please let committee heads or Linda Scarborough know how you can help: [lindaascarborough@yahoo.com](mailto:lindaascarborough@yahoo.com)**

# NOVEMBER CALENDAR

Board Meeting November 7 at 6:00 p.m.

## EVERY WEEK

**Sundays** Closed

**Mondays** 10:00 a.m. until noon

Portrait Sketch\*

**Tuesdays** Every Tuesday 7:00 p.m. until 9:30 p.m.  
1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month 7:30 p.m.

Figure Sketch\*  
Photo Group

**Wednesdays** 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

Open Studio or Plein Air  
(check the weather! and the website)

**Thursdays** First Thursday of this month at 7:30 p.m.  
Every Thursday 10:00 a.m. until 2 or later  
Second Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

Critique  
Long Pose\*\*  
Program Night

**Fridays** 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.  
First Friday of the month at 1 p.m.

Still Life  
Art Chat

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

Figure Sketch\*

\*Member Model fee \$5, Non-Member \$10 , \*\*Members \$10, Non-Members \$15



## Show Your Work at Trinity United Methodist Church

Be sure to stop by any Monday through Thursday during regular business hours. You'll enjoy seeing works by **Sara Youngman** on display until the end of November.

If you want to show your work at Trinity, located at 1100 Lake Drive SE, please let Sara Youngman know. You can email her at [sycre8@gmail.com](mailto:sycre8@gmail.com).



# Grand Valley Artists

1695 Service Road NE, Suite 106

Grand Rapids, MI 49503