



Goleta Valley Art Association

Bringing Art to the Community

January/February 2024

TheGoletaValleyArtAssociation.org

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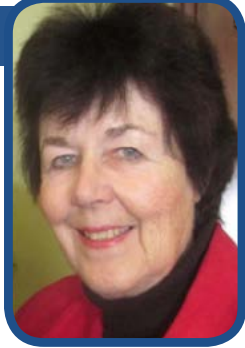
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The GVAA President's Message



Happy 2024 to all GVAA Artists! Here's to good health, good cheer, and abundant creativity for all GVAA members in this new year.

Congratulations to members Anne Anderson, Chris Star Morgenstern, Yvonne Scolari and Jo Anne Sharpe whose pieces sold from our library P4P show! They are shown on page 6. We'll have more exhibits at the Goleta Valley Library in **February, March, and April** to get our year going (see page 2).

GVAA Board member, Lynn Altschul and GVAA artist Karen Schroeder are continuing to develop the **Art After School Program** with Goleta Union School District (GUSD). In this program, starting in February 2024, GVAA artists will present art lessons for the kids after school. GUSD is thrilled that GVAA is offering this once again. For more information please contact Lynn: altschullynn@yahoo.com

At our December 1st Picassos 4 Peanuts Ingathering, for a small donation the board made available to our members many of the watercolor paintings bequeathed to us by longtime member Florence Russell. Florence, whose 100th birthday was celebrated last year, was a prolific plein air artist. She also studied with top landscape teachers, travelling and painting all over the world.

Our sale that day netted over \$1,000. There were further sales from some of her house furnishings also bequeathed to GVAA which netted an additional \$1,000. All these funds are being deposited into **the Florence Russell Legacy Fund** and the money **will be used to buy art supplies for the Art After School Program** with GUSD. We feel this is a **most fitting legacy for Florence who was a teacher, as well as first class artist and wonderful human being.**

A major thank you to our VP, Terre Sanitate, and her team for their efforts at sorting through the hundreds of pieces Florence left to GVAA to find the best for the sale. **Thank you to Karen Schroeder who set up and monitored the sale on the library's patio. Thank you also to all our members and friends who bought the art and made generous contributions towards the Florence Russell Legacy Fund.**

Be sure to stop by the Goleta Valley Library in January to see the show by Rosalie Bier, Rick Drake and Janet Hart. This is a pilot project from **the Goleta Valley Library; they offered the Community Room to three of our artists for free.** Rosalie, Rick and Janet were chosen by the GVAA Board to honor their long term volunteering to GVAA. The show goes up January 2nd and comes down January 30th.

Our featured artist for January 2024 is GVAA's Bruce Birkland (see page 6). Bruce is a longtime member whose pieces are always colorful and fun. His unique style is somewhere between abstract and surrealistic. I love the fairytale like stories in his paintings, as flying objects hover over a variety of brightly hued landscapes. **Bruce has won many Juror's choice awards** over the years and we love to see his paintings grace our walls. **Thank you, Bruce, for contributing to our shows over these many years.**

As always, please keep well and stay safe,
Elizabeth Flanagan
euflanagan@gmail.com



Maxine Apke makes a sale at 2023 Picassos for Peanuts reception; see our page 5 report.



above: Bruce Birkland's "Mediterranean Magritte"

Membership Messages

January GVAA Art Event

Christina Ramos will present an **Abstract Landscape Workshop** using Golden Acrylics on **Friday, January 19th, 11 A.M. - 4 P.M. at Rancho Santa Barbara.**
Fee is \$65 to attend.

Limited Seating.

Paint and canvas will be supplied; **attendees bring their own brushes.** Snacks and drinks will be provided.

To register contact Jan Smith

jansmith.sb@gmail.com

and Jan will provide the method for directly paying Christina Ramos >.



GVAA CALENDAR

SAVE THE DATES • 2024

January 19th • Abstract Landscape Art Workshop
11 A.M. - 4 P.M. at Rancho Santa Barbara.
Led by Christina Ramos, using Golden Acrylics
Limited seating. RSVP to jansmith.sb@gmail.com

Goleta Valley Library Exhibits

February Art Exhibit up February 2nd - 29th
Art Intake February 2nd (Friday) 10:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.
Juror: Laura Denny; Critique & Take Down:
Thursday, Feb. 29th, 5 - 6:30 P.M.

March Art Exhibit up March 2nd - 27th
Art Intake March 1st (Friday) 10:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.
Juror: To be announced; Critique & Take Down:
Wednesday, March 27th, 5 - 6:30 P.M.

April Art Exhibit up April 5th - 30th
Art Intake April 5th (Friday) 10:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.
Juror: Libby Smith; Critique & Take Down:
Tuesday, April 30th, 5 - 6:30 P.M.



2024 Membership Renewal

January is "Renew Your GVAA Membership" month. Our 2024 membership fee is \$35. Deadline is Feb. 28th.

Please fill out the membership form on page 8, marking how you might offer further support to our member run organization.

Payment can be made by check or credit card.

Credit card payments are possible on our PayPal link at the bottom of our website page:

www.thegoletavalleyartassociation.org/how-to-join.html

Checks & printed forms should be sent to:

GVAA

P.O. Box 435

Goleta, CA 93116



What GVAA Membership Offers You...

We are an active membership of artists and continue to offer many ways to participate. **Some of our activities are:**

- **Art Workshops & Critiques**
- **Annual Picnic & art fun**
- **Outdoor Art Shows & Sales** at Camino Real Marketplace
- **GVAA website links to your personal art website**
- **West Wall Member showings** at Goleta Valley Library
- **Juried shows** at **Goleta Valley Library (GVL)** and **Santa Barbara Public Library, Faulkner Gallery.**
- **Newsletter & notices of exhibition opportunities,** local workshops, shows, events, and more

These many events provide us with with the joy of growing friendships and camaraderie, especially when we work together to make them happen. **It takes a village!** Our reward is the good feeling which comes from teamwork and effective service. **If you can help set up, or otherwise facilitate any upcoming events, please send a note to Elizabeth Flanagan: eufanagan@gmail.com.**

Your offer will be most gratefully appreciated. **Those who serve in this way find among the many benefits, it results in self-satisfaction.**



Meet Laura Denny

GVAA February Juror for GVL Intake

Laura Denny received her BFA in painting from UC Davis in 1988, and her MFA in sculpture from the Art Center College of Design in 1990.

Art has been a lifelong passion and daily practice. Laura has created numerous bodies of mixed media artwork from the serious to whimsical. Creating and teaching are inextricably intertwined and inform the other.

The collaborative process of creating art with others resulted in the creation of five public murals with local schools and *Explore Ecology*. Her largest mural "Flows to the Ocean" involved over 300 local school children and took a year to create.

Laura has been teaching Abstract and Mixed Media Painting through Adult Education since 2019. Her lesson content can be viewed on her YouTube channel through the QR code on her business card. Come collaborate and create!

Mixed Media Sculpture and Tapestry:

<http://dennydesign.net/gaia/>

Flows to the Ocean watershed mural

<http://dennydesign.net/ocean/>

Pandemic Postcards

<http://dennydesign.net/postcard/>





LAURA DENNY
ART

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(805) 284-2123

YouTube:
[@lauradenny](https://www.youtube.com/@lauradenny)



center: "Sculpted Characters"
others: "Postcards;"
"Bogart," and "Garbo";
below: Laura Denny



**Goleta Valley Library • November Exhibit
People's Choice Awards**



**First Choice
Yumi Narita-Martinez
"Sunflowers of the Sea"
Woodblock**

Two tied for 2nd Choice



**Cena Kregel
"Cactus Flower"
Photograph**

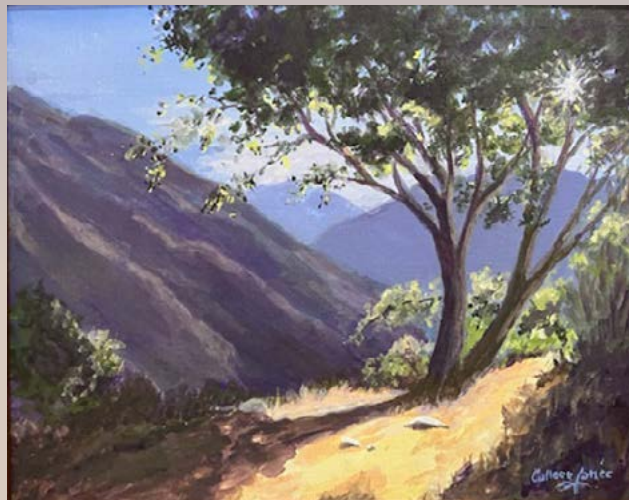


**Vandana Khare
"Franceschi Park, Santa Barbara"
Oil**

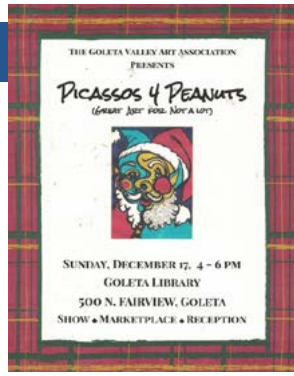
Two tied for 3rd Choice



**Louise Komp
"Playing the Blues"
Watercolor**



**Colleen Janeé
"Big Sur Pathway"
Watercolor**



Carol Dixon & Elizabeth Flanagan



Patricia Heller and her sister Kristine Covey

A Jolly Good Time at Picassos4Peanuts Reception

by Patricia Heller; photos by Kristine Covey

Seventeen GVAA artists participated in a whirlwind setup of the Goleta Valley Library Community Room on Sunday, December 17—in a record 40 minutes for the first Picassos4Peanuts reception held at the library since 2019. To all of you who came early to get the tables and chairs in place ahead of time, **THANK YOU!** It was just amazing to see the beautiful tables and assortment of creative wares come together in a matter of minutes.

Although we didn't have an official count, this year **we estimated that 125+ people visited the reception**, partook of the wonderful snacks/hot apple cider/coffee/tea, and shopped! **Thanks to Terre Sanitate and Jan Smith for the refreshments, to Heidi Bratt for serving as cashier, and thanks to those of you who stayed after the reception to put away tables and chairs...a big job after a long afternoon. Special kudos to the husbands of Yvonne Scolari (Stan), Terre Sanitate (Frank) and Kelly Hildner (Mark)...our "honorary" members who are ALWAYS there for us.**

A special addition this year for me was the presence of my sister, Kristine, who served as our photographer for the day. She loved meeting so many of you!

Wishing you all the happiest of holidays and a wonderful 2024!

Pat Heller, Special Events Coordinator



Andie Adler & Kelly Hildner



Jodi Miles & Carol Schmidt



Paula Gregoire Jones & Rosemary



Chris Flannery



P4P Cashier, Heidi Bratt



Dawn King & Patricia Heller



at left Gloria Peyrat & seated behind her Lynn Dow in red



"Arrival in Paradise"



Bruce Birkland



"Butterfly Buddha"

Always actively drawing or painting, I descend from artists on both sides of my family. On my mother's side my great grandfather Aurelio, grand uncle Charlie, and grand aunt Doris were all painters. On father's side grandfather Tom was a painter and muralist, and my cousin Jennifer graduated from Pasadena College of Design.

There was always a great deal of support for expressing myself visually. As a child I was indulged with countless boxes of crayons and tablets of drawing paper. My mother tells me that at one year of age I could draw a lolly pop.

In the sixth grade I won an art contest put on by the Santa Barbara Fire Dept. Throughout junior high and high school, I took art classes. Between eighth and ninth grades (August 1973), I began painting consistently for the following fifty years. At first I used oils, then quickly switched to acrylics.

In twelfth grade I painted an image of a cowboy, a baseball player, a standing tiger in human clothes with a derby on it's head, and a similar bear with a top hat. These characters were pictured by a lake with mountains in the background. Someone liked it so much they stole it. The theft was covered in *The Santa Barbara News Press*. I kid you not; the title of the painting was "Who Done It?"

At Santa Barbara City College and U.C.S.B.'s College of Creative Studies I learned the formal elements of painting and was exposed to various viewpoints of art theory. I graduated from UCSB in 1984 with a Bachelor's Degree in Art.

One unforgettable inspiration for me came during a slide presentation in high school. It was Rene Magritte's "Castle of The Pyranees". This painting

features an immense rock with a castle atop it, all floating in the air over a coastline. The slide was accompanied with a soundtrack of Judy Collins singing "I've looked at clouds from both sides now". This painting and song are forever linked in my memory.

This experience caused me to fathom the potential of using surreal imagery. Another visual inspiration came from Steven Spielberg's movie "Close Encounters of The Third Kind" where the grand finale shows a colossal and ornate spacecraft descending from the skies in luminous grandeur.

I've also been inspired by my travels to places of scenic beauty with my mother Norma and grandmother Hortencia, as well as those with my wife Veronica. I've been throughout the mountains and deserts of the American west, up and down the Pacific Coast from San Diego to the Canadian border, and to New England in autumn. I also ventured to the tropical rainforests and coral reefs of North Queensland, Australia and of Puerto Rico.

Another component to my art is my metaphysical/spiritual view of nature. I view the natural world as having a divine, archetypal underlying essence. Spiritually, I'm most drawn to the Taoism of Chinese philosopher Lao Tzu, and the Lebanese poet Kahlil Gibran, who wrote "The Prophet".

In summation, I'm honored to be this month's featured artist. I thank the GVAA for this opportunity to tell about my fifty years in painting!



"Floral Kaleidoscope Jubilee"



"Double Howdy"



"Condor Bloom"

Sold at "Picassos For Peanuts" Goleta Valley Library

Anne Anderson's oil had won Honorable Mention (Music Academy 2023 SCAPE show)..



Anne Anderson
"Botanic Garden", 9 x 12, oil



Chris Star Morgenstern
"Arcade Night", photograph



Jo Anne Sharpe
"Bouquet", collage



Yvonne Scolari
"Atascadero Creek Near Puente", mixed



Ken Waxman: "Mother Coyote"
24 x 20" acrylic on paper

My paintings of Coyotes have been exhibited on the library West Wall this December. I have received some really nice feedback, and even a sale. This is my first exhibition, and so far it has been a nice experience.

Kelly Hildner's painting "Santa Barbara Reflections" 8 x 10", shown at right, sold at the opening of the Sullivan Goss 100 Grand Show before it was even hung on the wall. "Surf's Up", "Snowy Egret", and "Sunflower" sold at the SBCC arts and crafts fair, along with many giclées, fine art print ornaments, and cards.

"Butterfly Beach Vista" sold from the Ready to Hang pop-up art show, and "Overcast Beach Walk" sold from a craft fair at Storke Ranch. Kelly also has work available in many of the local shows this month: Sullivan Goss, Faulkner Museum, Gallery 113, 1919 State St., and the Wildling Museum of Art and Nature. She will have a solo show on the west wall of the Goleta Library in January. Happy Holidays!



Carol Talley is teaching pastel classes at the Illuminations Gallery, 121 S. Hope Ave, Santa Barbara. Suitable for beginners or more experienced pastellists, the materials will be provided. If you are interested, contact Carol at caroltalley@gmail.com or 805-895-9659. Her first series of classes is full, but dates for an additional series of classes in 2024 will be determined soon.



Carol Talley, "Pink Poinsettia", pastel

Goleta Valley Library Member Exhibits

JANUARY

West Wall: Kelly Hildner

Community Room (1 wall to each):

Rick Drake, Janet Hart & Rosalie Bier

FEBRUARY

West Wall: Frances Reighley



Elizabeth U. Flanagan sold her painting "Voyage" (shown at right) from SB Art Association's 1919 State St. show. She also had multiple sales at the Wake Center arts and crafts fair.

Elizabeth is honored to have two pieces juried into the "Wings" show at the Santa Barbara Tennis Club, 2375 Foothill Blvd. and thrilled that her mixed media painting, "Peace Angel for Ukraine" received an Honorable Mention award there. The "Wings" show is up through January 3rd.

Elizabeth has two pieces showing through the end of December with SB Visual Arts at the Legacy Arts Gallery, 1230 State St. She has one mixed media painting, (above left) "Lit From Within" at the Goleta Valley Library.

"Paris Dad", acrylic, 27 x 41" >

Ruth Ellen Hoag's painting, Paris Dad, (acrylic, 27 x 41 inches,) was juried into Los Angeles Art Association's 2023's Open Show, juried by Andi Campognione, Director of MOAH, Lancaster, CA. The show runs Dec. 9 through Jan 12, 2024 at Gallery 825, 825 N. La Cienega Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Ruth will be doing a watercolor demonstration for Verdugo Hills Art Association Jan 5, 2024 via Zoom. For info on how to attend, email Elana Goldheimer: ngoldheimer@yahoo.com



Opportunities

**ARTISTS:
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Goleta Valley Art Association

Membership Renewal

The Goleta Valley Art Association is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization, which depends upon the willing participation of all our members.

Please check off your interests and skills below to show ways in which you can help GVAA. Feel free to write in any relevant skills not listed below. Thank you!

Ingatherings/Shows

- Ingathering
- Hanging
- Membership
- Cashiering
- Outdoor shows
- Juror Selection

Publicity

- Graphic Design
- Brochures/Flyers
- Photography
- Marketing
- Press contacts

Technology

- Website
- Database/e-lists
- Newsletter

Education

- Workshops
- Field trips
- Receptions

Please share any comments and suggestions.

Please provide a brief biographical sketch. (Continue on reverse as needed.)

Please renew my membership. A check for my dues is attached ____
I'm attaching cash ____ (only in person) I have paid by credit card on PayPal: ____

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Phone(s) _____

Email _____ Website _____

Dues are \$35/year, payable by Feb. 28 to retain membership and to be included in our directory. Dues are pro-rated to \$20 for new members joining after Aug. 1.

Make check payable to "GVAA" and mail to : GVAA, P.O. Box 435, Goleta, CA 93116 or pay by credit card at

www.thegoletavalleyartassociation.org/how-to-join.html