



Fine Art and Specialty Classes Begin Soon

Start this year off right - Reach your creative goals with the help of our talented instructors. We offer classes for all interests and skill levels in a variety of media. New Classes Begin the weeks of February 4, February 28 and March 4 in Fine Arts, Jewelry, Pottery, Sculpture, Photography and more.

February 4 4-Week Classes Begin | **February 18** 6-Week Classes Begin

March 4 4-Week Classes Begin

ART & SUPPLY STORE UPDATE

Thanks to the many of you that donated to make our Art & Supply Store come to life. We received more than 95 generous donations, including the close-out funding from Rachel Keesling's election campaign. We raised slightly more than \$50,000. which was matched by the Patterson Foundation through its Margin & Mission Ignition Initiative giving us slightly more than \$100,000 toward our \$125,000 goal. The VAC was closed during the last two weeks of December while a transformation occurred, including a new Library, space for an Art & Supply Store, and a restructuring of our Administrative Space. We are putting the final touches in place for the store. Art supply inventory is beginning to arrive and we hope to have class kits, art supplies and VAC logo items on display and available for sale by February 15th. If you haven't had a chance to see our changes, please stop by so we can give you a tour.



Constance Robison, Michael Oxman, Donna Peterman, Stacy Calvino, Rachel Keesling, Alexia Martin, Janet Watermeier

So what's next? As additional donations are received during this season, we will complete a \$1 per item Snack Bar, add rental lockers for members, and create a permanent new classroom within Goff Gallery. So far we have raised 80% of what is needed, with only \$25,000 to go.



First class supplies for Karolyn Camara

If you would like to help us reach our goal, donations in any amount are appreciated. Please watch for my email announcing a special meeting in February to provide a progress update, a look at future improvements and to receive a copy of our business plan,

Janet
Janet Watermeier
Executive Director

NOW SHOWING

Mon - Fri, 9am - 4pm

Saturday, 10am - 2pm

The Visual Arts Center is a non-profit art center open for the entire community. Exhibits are always free to view! The public is welcome to explore during regular business hours.



*Beach Chairs Before the Storm
by Debra Peterson*

ACSWF WINNER'S CIRCLE

February 2 - 28, 2019

In The Main Gallery

Reception: Friday

February 8, 5:00pm

VAC PAST MEMBER WINNERS

February 2 - 28, 2019

In Goff Gallery

Reception: Friday

February 8, 5:00pm

KATHLEEN PRENDERGAST

February 2 - 28, 2019

In Rebecca Hall

FOLLOWED BY

Annual Call to Artists, hanging requirements and receiving dates are online at visualartcenter.org.

PRIMAVERA

March 2 - 28, 2019

In The Main Gallery

Receiving: March 1, 9am - 12pm

VIEWPOINTS

March 2 - 28, 2019

In Goff Gallery

Welcome New Members

December New Members:

Diane Simone
Cheri Boland
Betty Sleight
Elizabeth Hancock
William Melyan
Sarah Cutrone
Baila Miller
Ed Hoeglund
Therese Zeman
Danna Krukowsky
Edie Schwenck
Susie Raske
Kurt Lauckner

January New Members:

Melissa Barnes
Bob&Cathy Barr
Faith Beaupre
Joan Bellucci
Laura Billy
Mary Boylan
Mary Brewster
Michael Brockhues
Carla Buchanan
Anne Buckman
Janet Camel
David Carnes
Mary Cassidy-Anger
Matthew Chase
Kathy Cheeseman
Audrey Chiaradio
Margaret Eittreim
Lorraine Fehr
Charlie& Foster
Debbie& Frey
Paula Golato
Betty Graham
Sumiko Hamilton
Annie Hart
Marilyn Herider
Janet Holm
Nancy Kanienberg
Jack Klein
Carole LaFountain
Peggy Larrabee
Nancy Little
Tanya Logan
Kay MacLeod
Stan McKnight
Susan McLellan
Hugh & McShane
Denise Moretti
Annette Murray
Baebara O'Brieio
Dawn Olson
Judi Pennock
Janet Plenge
Wendy Purnell
Judith Rennert
Monica & Robinson
Deby Sage
Richard Salls
Cynthia Santaniello
Judy Scolaro
Sharon Shaver
Julianna Smith
Michale Sondrol
Ann St Clair
Donna Sullivan
Kathy&Jeff Sweetland
Gail& Talbert
Sharon Tubay
Pat Veldhouse
Nancy Voss
Gerry Wargo
Joyce Weiser
Diane Williams



used to match 100% of the funds raised for the evening for purchase of the equipment.

When: February 9, 5-9pm

Where: Visual Arts Center's Main Gallery

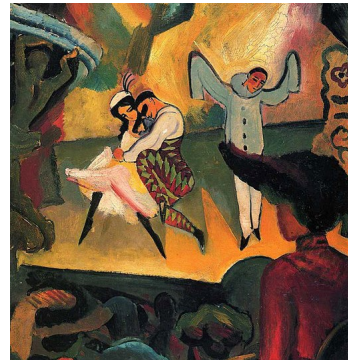
Tickets: \$25 each or \$45/Couple

CALL FOR WATERCOLOR ENTRIES

Florida Suncoast Watercolor Society invites artists to participate in their Transparent Exhibition to be held in Anna Maria, FL. Show dates are March 6 - April 6. FSWS will receive entries at S. Gulf & Pine: 10101 Gulf Drive, Anna Maria, FL 34216 on Monday, March 4th, from 10:00 - 11:30am. Please check suncoastwatercolorssociety.com for a prospectus.

LUNCH & Lecture

Join us for Lunch and a Fun Art and History Lecture! Explore paintings, sculpture, photography and other areas of art with Baila Miller. Tickets for our FINAL Lunch and Lecture of the season are on sale NOW and at visualartcenter.org The Ballets Russes: Diaghilev, Nijinsky, Stravinsky, etc. 12:00 Noon on March 15th at Noon on The Ballets Russes: Diaghilev, Nijinsky, Stravinsky, etc.



Ballet Russes by August Macke, 1912



Peace River National Art Festival

Will be held March 16 & 17 from 9am to 4pm in beautiful Laishley Park, 100 Nesbit Street on the waterfront of Punta Gorda.

- The ONLY juried outdoor fine arts festival in Charlotte County
- Over 60 booths of fine arts and fine crafts by nationally prominent artists
- Music, food, wine & beer

Come to the PRNAF Planning Meeting

The first PRNAF planning meeting will be **Wednesday, February 6th at 3:00pm**. Everyone interested in helping with planning and promoting the event is welcome.

NOW ON DISPLAY: ART COUNCIL OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA & VAC PAST MEMBER WINNERS

The ACSWF Winner's Circle is a prestigious showcase, featuring the work of artists who have won awards at ACSWF member organizations' art exhibits during the two-year period preceding the show. Thus, it is the "Best of Southwest Florida," from all of the Art Council's Member Organizations. View *The ACSWF Winner's Circle* on display in the Main Gallery **February 2 - 28**.

The VAC Past Member Winners exhibit in Goff Gallery features Member award winners from 2017-18, on display **February 2 - 28**. The public is invited to an Opening Reception for both exhibits Friday, February 8 at 5:00pm.



AHEAD FOR ARTISTS: PRIMAVERA

Primavera means spring: Fresh, exciting and inspired by a world in bloom all around us. This exhibit will accept all 2D and 3D art including: painting, sculpture, jewelry, textiles, metal, wood, basketry, glass, photography, and digital graphic art. Receiving is **March 1, from 9am - 12pm** open to entry from members and non-members.

PARADISE A 2-PART PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT

Calling All Photographers . . . **March 17 to April 24**

• Part 1: Photographic Exhibit

Submit your photographic masterpiece and compete for prizes in a "Photo Only" Exhibit at the VAC 3/31 to 4/24. Pictures in Paradise will feature photography (including enhanced or digital multimedia) shot in "Paradise" on display in the Main Gallery March 31 – April 24. Both members and non-members are welcome to enter. Receiving will be March 29, 9am - 12pm in the Main Gallery. Download a prospectus from visualartcenter.org.

• Part 2: Digital Photography Event

Participate in a National Online Digital Event . . . Digitally submit your best 3 photos taken 3/17 to 3/23, from anywhere, depicting your Paradise. One photo will be selected for a digital photo display in the Paradise Photography Exhibit March 21 to April 24, on the VAC Website, and printed in a hard cover Photo Book. Registration online.

FIND IT IN THE LIBRARY

Have you heard the news? We have moved! You can now visit us in our new home located next to Classroom 5. In December a group of our volunteer librarians packed up 100 boxes of books so the shelves could be relocated. The following week our volunteer librarians came back to empty all 100 boxes into their new home. We are all very excited to have our members, teachers, students, and guests come visit us in our new home. We may have a new location but you will still find all the best the library has to offer; a wide variety of art books, DVDs and current art magazines nestled into a cozy corner of the VAC. Your volunteer librarians are there to give you a tour and help you make your selections. Please stop by to say hello and enjoy our new space. See you soon.

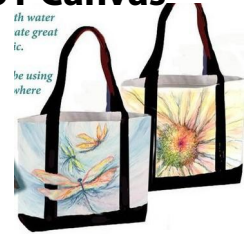
New! CRITIQUE NIGHT FOR MEMBERS

"Critique Night" will be open to all VAC Members the first Tuesday of each month from 6:00 - 8:00pm. The group critique will be led by Beverly Yankwitt and Jill Lindsay; the goal is to share constructive criticism, have your questions answered and gain a fresh point of view on our work. \$5 donation.

WINE & Painting

Anything BUT Canvas February 13

Paint cute
Tote Bags!



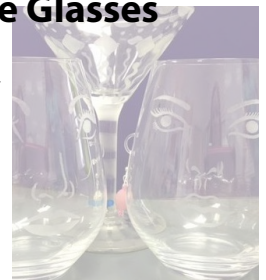
Let's Get Splashed! February 20

Each month is a
fun new painting!



Etched Wine Glasses February 27

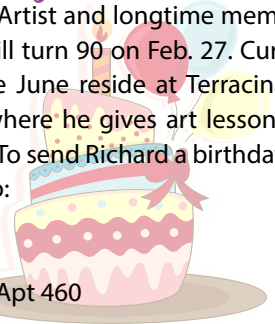
We will create a set
of playfully etched
dishwasher safe
wine glasses.



Birthday Wishes

Richard Gillespie, Artist and longtime member of the Guild will turn 90 on Feb. 27. Currently, he and wife June reside at Terracina Grand in Naples where he gives art lessons to other residents. To send Richard a birthday card, please mail to:

Richard Gillespie
Terracina Grand
6825 Davis Blvd Apt 460
Naples FL 34104



AFFILIATE NEWS

Affiliate groups are organized by VAC members, for members - one of membership benefits. For a detailed list of groups, meeting times and contact information visit visualartcenter.org.

Artists in Action meet Saturdays, 10am - 12pm. Join an eclectic group of artists who come together to paint and share constructive advice. All VAC members at all levels and media are welcome (\$2 per week donation).

Common Threads meets 2/1, 1pm: bring circular hoops, crochet equipment and we will make hoops for the Turf Wars installation Rosie Young and Marci Mills are making. 2/15, 1pm: Fancy Hats with Priscilla Michaud. If you have questions, contact Linda Wein at lindafw4@gmail.com.

Life Drawing for VAC members is in session. Studio time includes live work with a nude figure model, bring your supplies and medium of choice (\$10/session).

Peace River Painters meets Feb 4, 9am: Spanish Point, 337 N Tamiami Trail, Osprey. Feb 11: History Park, 501 Shreve St, Punta Gorda. For more info visit our website at peaceriverpainters.com. To be included on our mailing list, send your contact information to peaceriverpainters@gmail.com.

Portrait Studio meets every Thursday from 9:00am to 12:30pm. Join other VAC Member Artists and work on your portrait skills, in any medium, with a live model (\$5/session).

Attn Group Coordinators: Please send updates and meeting dates/times to communications@visualartcenter.org.

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

We offer variety of workshops from intensive, week-long training with Master Artists to fun one-day workshops where you will learn something new! Register at visualartcenter.org

Master Workshop "BRINGING NATIONAL TALENT TO SOUTHWEST FLORIDA"

Mixed Media with Jan Sitts: Feb 18 - 21, 9am - 3pm

Journey into Mixed Media with painting, mixing, layering, texturing and shaping with positive and negative space.

Watercolor with Tony Couch: Feb 25 - 28, 9am - 4pm

Learn the 8 principles of design and create several paintings.

Watercolor with Tom Lynch: March 5 - 8, 9am - 4pm

Color mixing, value studies, spray bottle techniques and more.



"Portraits in Pastel Pencils"

Portraits in Pastel Pencils with Robert Pavon:

Feb. 15, 9am - 3pm

Create life like skin tones, comparative measurements, surfaces and techniques.

Creating with Alcohol Inks with Jill Lindsay: March 21 - 23, 9am - 3pm

Learn how to create abstract and realistic pieces with a unique and versatile medium.

Find Details and Register for Upcoming Workshops at visualartcenter.org!

Welcome! **NIX & ASSOCIATES REALTY**

2019 Corporate Partners - Find them at nixandassociates.com

For more information on partnership contact Stacy Calvino, busdev@visualartcenter.org

WE APPRECIATE OUR CORPORATE PARTNERS!



Share YOUR STORY

The Newsletter is here to Inspire & Promote Creativity. We want to hear about...

- **Winning an award or participating in a significant exhibit - Congrats!**
- **Call to artists/prospectus of particular interest to VAC members**
- **Local events helping to promote the arts or benefiting artists**

Submit news to communications@visualartcenter.org. Please note: we are not able to promote Art Classes or Workshops not hosted by the VAC.