



# Newsletter

April 2024

Verdugo Hills Art Association, P.O. Box 8059, La Crescenta, CA 91224  
[verdugoarts.org](http://verdugoarts.org) Jeanne Windoffer, Editor, [VHArt\\_News@yahoo.com](mailto:VHArt_News@yahoo.com)

## April 5 Demonstration by Dawn Buckingham



Dawn Buckingham is an award winning artist currently living in Southern California. She follows the tradition of American Impressionism by immersing herself in the natural landscape-painting from life-in order to capture the light, color and mood of the area. The need to work quickly is reflected in the energy of her mark making and subtle layers of pigment. The landscape is usually the focus of her work but the inclusion of structures, vehicles, and figures provide the context for how we live within our environments. On location paintings and travel journaling inform her studio practice in oil, soft pastel, watercolor and mosaic.

Dawn became a professional artist after retiring from a career in education and is passionate about sharing her love of art by teaching others. She feels that becoming an artist has given her the gift of seeing and experiencing the world in a new and enhanced way. Travel provides opportunities to capture sights, sounds, cultures and memories. She is a Signature Member of the Pastel Society of Colorado and is actively involved with many national art organizations. Her work has been recognized with awards in both local and juried national shows, plein air competitions and quick draw events. Her students and collectors include both US and International patrons. She traveled to Sorrento, Italy in the fall of 2023 where her work was on display at the Cloisters of San Francesco in the first exhibit at that location. She is represented by Studio 7 Gallery in Laguna Beach and is a participating artist at the historic Festival of Arts Show at the Pageant of the Masters in Laguna Beach.

Dawn will provide a demonstration of her painting process from plein air to studio. She works in both oil and soft pastel, and her process is similar for both media. For this demonstration, she will be using soft pastels and will show you how she begins with a three value notan, a watercolor or pastel wash underpainting, and finally adding layers of pastel to build the painting. You can visit her website at:  
<https://www.dawnbuckinghamfineart.com>



## Musings of the Prez....

Charlotte Briner

As an abundance of wildflowers and spring foliage grace the landscape around us, many of us are inspired to be outdoors taking in the beautiful colors and fragrances. What better opportunity than joining VHAA acquaintances, both new and long time artist friends, at Descanso Gardens on Saturday, March 23rd, from 10 a.m. to Noon. Come and visit with other members, have lunch if you desire, and later do some sketching, painting, or photography with others throughout the gardens. If you wish to share your art, bring a couple of pieces or a sketchbook. We look forward to seeing you at the picnic tables outside to the right of the main entrance.



Don't forget we urgently need members to volunteer for the three openings on the Board for the upcoming year starting in July. We are still looking for members to fill the following positions: President, Art of the Month, and Scholarships. The Board typically meets on the 1st Monday of every other month via Zoom starting in August. You are also welcome to join our next Board meeting on April 1st to meet everyone and see the Board in action. If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to reach out to me or any of the other Board members.

**Remember** our next VHAA meet and greet will be at Descanso Gardens  
Saturday, March 23, from 10 - noon

**Meet at the picnic tables outside to the right of the main entrance.**

Bring snacks, lunch, whatever, and if you'd like to share what you've been doing lately,  
bring a couple pieces of your artwork, or sketchbooks, etc.

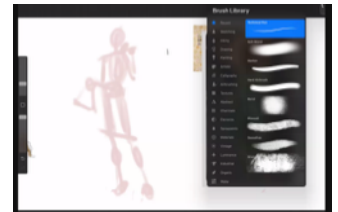
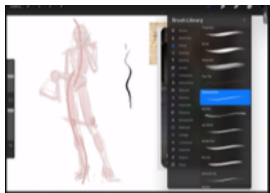
Afterwards you may want go inside to sketch, paint or just wander around throughout the gardens.  
Come join your fellow VHAA artists! (friends welcome too!)

## Review of Demo by Justine Parish

by Angela Alvarenga

Last month's demonstrator, Justine Limpus Parish showcased her advanced talents and skill of how she transitioned her artistic skills of traditional fashion design and illustration to digital fashion design and illustration. Justine is a full time faculty member at ArtCenter College of Design and the founder of The Sewing Lab.

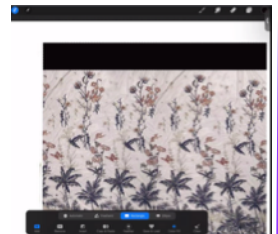
Justine began her demonstration using the app Procreate. She shared her reference photo of her model and explained how an artist should pay attention to certain details. When studying a model, artists should keep in mind the angles of the hips, shoulders, legs, gestures, the weight bearing leg and draw the head and hands last so they can refer to a reference if needed. These details help capture "the S-curve" of the gesture and the attitude of the model. Justine gracefully drew her model and shared fun and helpful tips on the necessity to exaggerate the gesture or make adjustments because "fashion is fiction," and "nothing is symmetrical." After completing her gesture, Justine added a new layer to refine and simplify the drawing and add clothing.



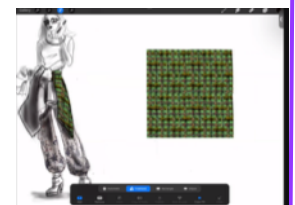
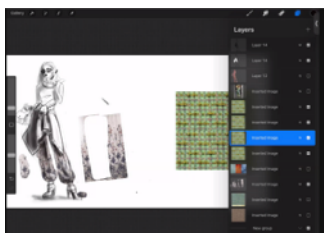
In fashion illustration, clothing may cover the body but the artist still needs to know where major body parts are such as the knees, waistline, shoulders and more. Lastly, Justine drew the head which may sometimes need to be tilted to enhance the S-curve. The hair is usually a block shape, later to be improved upon with delicate wispy lines. In the end, keep in mind the main focus of the overall drawing is selling fashion.



Justine's advanced knowledge in Procreate helps her use various brushes to create different types of texture for various materials. For example, she can use an Ink Bleed brush to give a fur effect which dramatically shortens the task of rendering furs. She uses a technical pen to create a specific line to determine the types of materials and a soft air brush for blending and shading to give clothing and figure more definition. Adjusting the brush size helps as well. Justine also uses various patterns or reference photos to add color and design to the models clothing.



Procreate gives her the ability to copy, cut and warp materials to fit onto model rather than painstakingly hand duplicate intricate textures as in the past. Throughout the process she can merge various layers to achieve the desired look. As a final touch booties are added to enhance the fashionable statement. Justine's demonstration was an enjoyable insight on how modern technology has helped give her a positive alternative on how to create fashion illustration.



## Art of the Month

by Fran Papa

Congratulations to this month's Art of the Month winner:



1st place goes to [Gail Poulson](#) for *Focused Kitty*. I am drawn to watercolor because I almost go into a trance watching it flow out on the paper. I am experimenting with this medium and don't actually have much of a plan when I start. I like to see what happens when I sit down and pick up a brush spontaneously and then enhance whatever develops.



Tie for 2nd place: [Arda Derian](#) for *Vivid Experiences*: My inspiration for painting this kicked in after the first layer of torn scraps of a map, tissue papers, newspaper ads and designs pasted on the canvas and dried completely. I proceeded to randomly paint the second layer with pastel colored acrylic paint to represent sky, streets, and land. The third layer, I created an aerial view of a cityscape with various tools, stamps and molds to represent buildings, high rises, stairways and windows with black paint and/or black markers outlining all the pieces together to make a cohesive, balanced composition."

and *The Light Within* by [Jean Essa](#). Although this painting is an abstract without much plan to it, when the paint started moving on the paper it reminded me of a walk I took through the woods where there was light at the end of the road.



### Art of the Month Guidelines and 2023-24 Themes.

For entries VHAA will accept original artwork completed within the last two years. Original artwork implies the composition should be your own; not prompted in a workshop or a class. Themes for the rest of the year are:

April: Florals

May: Still Life

Artists may use any medium to draw and paint, and photography (unless otherwise stated). Members may submit one piece of art appropriate to the theme by emailing [dave\\_vhaa@yahoo.com](mailto:dave_vhaa@yahoo.com) by Tuesday before the general meeting. The photos will be posted on our website ([verdugoarts.org](http://verdugoarts.org)). David will email when voting is open and the cut-off for voting will be noon Friday, the day of the general meeting. Fran will announce the winners during the Zoom meeting and they will be featured in the following Newsletter.

### \*\*\*UPCOMING VHAA ART EVENT\*\*\*

**Here are the details for our art exhibition at Alhambra City Hall for the month of April 2024.  
The theme is "The Beauty of California."**

Two-dimensional art and photography is accepted. Minimum size 12" x 16" framed.

All art must have a wire hanger appropriately attached on the back.

Work must be made within the last two years. No class work may be submitted.

Take in at Alhambra City Hall is Monday April 1, between 10-11am.

**The first 27 pieces of art brought to Alhambra City Hall will be included in the exhibition.**

Please take a photo of your artwork (preferably before framing). After it is accepted at Alhambra City Hall send the photo to [vhaa\\_exhibitions@yahoo.com](mailto:vhaa_exhibitions@yahoo.com). This way Dave can post images of the exhibition on our website as well.

Art will be judged and ribbons awarded.

Pick up will be April 30, 10-11am.

## Member News and Updates

*Joan Gamberg*

If you're interested in joining VHAA (or renewing your membership), dues are \$35 for one, and \$50 for a family, payable to Verdugo Hills Art Association. Mail your checks for membership to:

Joan Gamberg  
P. O. Box 80218  
San Marino, CA 91118

VHAA members are welcome to participate in the **Rockhaven Women's Art Fair** on April 27, 2024 to be held at St. Luke's of the Mountains in La Crescenta. For information on reserving a space contact Joanna Linkchorst <[friendsofrockhaven@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofrockhaven@gmail.com)>

**Your April Art of the Month "Floral" artwork  
is due to [dave\\_vhaa@yahoo.com](mailto:dave_vhaa@yahoo.com) by 5:00pm Tuesday April 2.**

Info for the VHAA Newsletter? Send to [VHArt\\_news@yahoo.com](mailto:VHArt_news@yahoo.com)  
by 10th of the month prior to the next issue.

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Next Meeting  
April 5 - Zoom

Next Board Meeting  
April 1 - Zoom

### Upcoming Events

April - Dawn Buckingham

May - Joe Cibere

VHAA Meet-Up March 23. 10-12  
Descanso Gardens, picnic tables

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Verdugo Hills Art Association  
[www.verdugoarts.org](http://www.verdugoarts.org)