

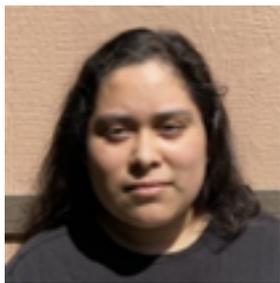


Newsletter

June 2021

Verdugo Hills Art Association, P.O. Box 8059, La Crescenta, CA 91224
verdugoarts.org Jeanne Windoffer, Editor, VHArt_News@yahoo.com

June 4: Meet our Scholarship Winner as well as some New Members!



Meet Karina Padilla, our 2021 scholarship winner. She grew up in East Los Angeles, and is a Studio Arts major at Pasadena City College. In high school she became interested in art. When she finally got into classes she was exposed to works by Picasso, Kandinsky, Kahlo, Rivera and Van Gogh. She studied Warhol, Dali, Rembrandt, Orozco and many others, and saw that she was interested in their style. She realized she wanted to create her own style.



Karina will share some of her creative journey with us, as she talks about the mediums she has explored (so far), what she's currently interested in and share some of her paintings with us.



Later in the meeting, we'll hear from six of our new members. Arlene Anderson, Eric White, Fran Papa, Jessica Perry-Martin, Judy Score and Jean Woo will each share a couple of their artworks, and we'll have some "face time" with them.

Meetings when we have the opportunity to hear from a young art student, and learn more about members of our association are always fun. You won't want to miss hearing about what's going on in "our" art world!

Coffee with the Prez...

The seascape submissions were delightful! It goes to show that even though we are not meeting in person, people have found ways to stay inspired and motivated. We are physically distanced through virtual space but there is no dearth of idea sharing and skill exchange. This year, our multi-talented demonstrators have given us an impressive show on zoom. Our members have learned to become part of this online community and stay productive.

As we transition into the coming year and continue the same format, I hope that the camaraderie we have shared with people afar who may never have been able to attend in person, will continue. We can do our part to support the organization's meaningfulness and relevancy by paying our dues and continuing to donate time and talent! I'm grateful for each one of you. Please let me know if you are willing to serve on the board. Au revoir. Stay safe, stay healthy.



Dilmit Singh
President

Review of Joe Cibere Demo

by Angela Alvarenga

Joe Cibere gave a breathtaking demonstration on how he paints abstract realism scenes with impeccable balance and design. Prior to his demonstration, Joe shared some of his knowledge and tips on creating a good composition. These included a suggestion to flip your composition over or look at it in a mirror to see if it's still pleasing to the eye; and do not fully complete a painting—leave room for the viewer to finish it.



1 and 2 color sketches

To begin, Joe used regular masking tape to grid off 6 squares on his paper to paint small compositions. He likes squares because they can be easily rotated to review the composition. He follows the Rule of Thirds: $\frac{2}{3}$ of the composition is one main part of the painting and $\frac{1}{3}$ is the other main part of the painting, such as, $\frac{2}{3}$ sky and $\frac{1}{3}$ land. This technique helps create balance.

Joe trusts the paint to work together and bring the painting to life. “The painting paints itself.” He positions his painting on a slight angle, wets the top $\frac{2}{3}$ of the paper, and lets the paint wash through to give an atmospheric feel. He mostly works with a flat brush, the largest that will work for the painting size. He sometimes uses a palette knife or dagger brush for trees and a dry brush for texture. Joe believes the fewer the strokes the better. He will paint with this in mind regardless of the size of the painting. Once the watercolor is complete, he may use white paint or a white prisma color pencil to bring out more whites.



Joe painted first with one color. He quickly painted mood, atmosphere and emotion in the skies and landscapes by the use of one color and tonal values. Next he completed two more demonstrations with a cool blue and burnt sienna. He kept his cools in the background and his warms in the foreground. In the last part of his demonstration, Joe grid off 4 squares on his paper and painted with a full palette. His process and technique remained the same even with additional colors. He used the Rule of Thirds, a flat brush and minimal brush strokes. Joe gave a rewarding and fulfilling demonstration on his technique and a refreshing glimpse into his creative thought process.



Pradeepa Thirumulu Floral Watercolor Workshop

by Arda Derian

Pradeepa Thirumulu conducted an interesting and challenging workshop for us on April 17. This is a brief summary of the class. To create her composition she drew a vertical line off center to the left, and a horizontal line $\frac{2}{3}$ of the way down the paper. Then she drew the image of the teal vase, establishing that as her focal point. She drew simple circle shapes to represent the flowers, carefully placing them to create a pleasing, flowing movement. With a few more lines for leaves, stems, and the flowers on the table, the drawing was ready.

Before painting, she showed some sample paintings to illustrate how she applied the colors on the paper to create the flowers. For example for a red zinnia she used a pyrrole red wash on the flower shape, and then darkened the red pigment with a bit of cobalt blue, applying details of the flower when the wash was dry. She also demonstrated a simple way to do leaves: she mixed yellow with a bit of cobalt blue for the lighter green value, loaded up her brush with the paint and put the brush on the paper, gently pressing down, then released it off the paper. This first stroke was the highlight. For the shadow she added ultramarine blue to the previously mixed green, and painted one stroke next to, and slightly overlapping the previous shape, creating depth as well as shape.



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VHAA at ALHAMBRA CITY HALL Exhibition

by Nikki Thomas

The Open Theme Spring Art show is now installed at the Alhambra City Hall, 111 S. First Street. The photos are the winners for the Best of Show, First, Second and Third Places, and two Honorable Mentions. Congratulations to the winners! One of our well sought-after local instructors, Pradeepa Thirumulu was the juror. As you can see we had abstracts as well as representational art.

The show is up until May 27, M-F 8am to 5pm. You can also see the paintings, including winners, on our website: verdugoarts.org by clicking on "Open Theme Spring Show" on the home page.

Thanks to everyone who helped hang the show - I could not have done it without you.

Enjoy the exhibition everyone!



BEST OF SHOW
Elana Goldheimer
Happy Days Are Here



FIRST PLACE
Jeanne Windoffer
Go with the Flow



SECOND PLACE
Arda Derian
Melodic Chaos



THIRD PLACE
Lee Johnson
Morning Friends



HONORABLE MENTION
Jean Essa
Lake Superior Sunset

HONORABLE MENTION
Sara Griggs
Garden Party



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For this still life the flowers started with wet-on-wet washes. When dry she used wet-on-dry with more pigment to create details. To finish the painting she concentrated on painting the negative space behind the arrangement, with darker hues to create the illusion of depth. Painting the white lily is hard - leaving it white while making it look real. She showed how to paint in shadows to show depth, or a fold that looks correct by mixing a bit of cobalt blue with a bit of red, and putting a light wash along the edges or middle of the petals. She also painted the outside of the edges of petals with darker shadows, and darker shapes behind it.

Then it was our turn to follow along and create our own lovely bouquets!



Art of the Month by Sue Peacock

May's theme of Seascapes was open to all media. We had 19 entries with Cherrie O'Hagan's oil *Venice Beach Sunset* taking first place, followed very closely by Jennifer Zapp's watercolor *Crashing Waves*. Third place went to Dilmit Singh for *Gull Symphony*. What a wonderful way to close out the monthly themes with a great variety of entries in Seascapes. Next to the paintings you'll find the artists' comments about them.

Venice Beach Sunset. During last year's wildfires, the sunsets and sunrises at the beaches in LA were particularly stunning and spectacular. Venice Beach sky was so unbelievably red, I just had to paint it. You need the right type of clouds for some of the best sunrises and sunsets. Mid to high-level clouds, like cirrus and altostratus, help reflect the warm colors best. Smoke and dust can enhance the colors of a sunset even further. I added myself and my husband in the scene to show scale. This painting was originally done in acrylic but it was too bright and rough looking so I decided to add glazes of oil paint to tone down the colors a bit and refine the painting further.



Crashing Waves is a watercolor, based on a photo a friend of mine shared with me. I believe it's the Oregon coast. I think this painting was successful for two reasons. One, it uses a very limited palette and two, I did multiple studies trying out different ways to paint the dynamics of the waves. I'm pleased with the airiness of the waves as spray. Based on my memory, the palette was primarily burnt sienna, cobalt blue, cobalt teal, and indigo. I did use a bit of frisket to leave some of the white dots and painted around the bigger white areas.

Gull Symphony. After watching Pete Morris demonstrate on mineral paper, I was intrigued to try something on the slick surface. Though Kingdom Animalia is not a usual subject for me, a picture of the gulls flying over the ocean seemed appropriate for the new paper at hand. Unlike cold press watercolor paper that dulls colors on drying, the colors on mineral paper seemed to sit vibrantly. Lifting off whites was also easier. The squawking of gulls is hardly pleasant and symphonic but the title stuck in my head determined by the gliding motion of the birds rather than the aural. The piece fit right into the theme of seascapes!



Dave Crandon will be sending a link for selecting our Art of the Year. We will be voting for our favorite piece of art from the winners of our monthly contests. Be sure to vote for your favorite! Winner will be announced at our June meeting.

When we began this year of on-line meetings I announced that the ribbons would be given out when we returned to in person meetings, which I expected to happen within a few months. Since we are winding up the year still on Zoom, I will be mailing out the ribbons in June.

Art of the Month Needs a “Chair”

We need a new chairperson for Art of the Month. While we're still on Zoom, Dave Crandon has offered to continue to post entries and set up the voting (with emailed reminders). The new chair will report on the winners at our meetings, and for our newsletter, including a few lines provided by the artists about their winning paintings. It's easy, fun and is a great way to get acquainted with members. This currently is a board position with a Zoom meeting every other month. Please volunteer to help out the club!

Membership Reminders *Charlotte Briner*

As VHAA embarks on a new year filled with fantastic Zoom demonstrations, exhibits, workshops, and the popular “Art of the Month” submissions, we look forward to your continued participation and support.

Membership dues for the 2021/2022 year are payable as of July 1. Your check can be sent anytime in June.

Dues are \$35 for one, \$50 for family, payable to Verdugo Hills Art Association. Mail your checks to:

VHAA
P. O. Box 8059
La Crescenta, CA 91224

All members automatically receive the link for our Zoom meetings the day prior to the meeting (no rsvp required). So look for the June meeting email on June 3!

Don't forget to vote for your favorite Art of the Month before the June 4 meeting!

Upcoming Events

June 4 - Scholarship Winner
New Members Share
Artwork of the Year

July and August - Opportunity to Create!

Like us on FACEBOOK!
Verdugo Hills Art Association

www.verdugoarts.org

Info for the VHAA Newsletter? send to VHArt_News@yahoo.com by 12th of the month prior to the next issue.

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Next Meeting
June 4 - ZOOM

Next Board Meeting
June 7 - ZOOM

We look forward to seeing you June 4, 2021
at 7:00pm
for our next meeting on ZOOM!