



Newsletter

September 2017

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

Welcome Back! Our Sept 1 meeting will feature Pete Morris

7:00pm at the La Canada Community Center, 4469 Chevy Chase Dr.

We are so pleased to welcome Pete Morris as our demonstrator for our first meeting of the year. Pete has been supporting himself and his family through graphic design, illustration work and production art since the early 1980's. He has always drawn and painted, and can remember being attracted to watercolor even as a teenager. A few years ago, he discovered that he could do plein air sketches and paintings on the way to and from work, and on lunch breaks, thereby producing a lot more work. He feels that by taking advantage of the opportunity to paint wherever he goes, whenever he can, he has been evolving in style and quality as an artist. He believes that being prolific is important to development of artistic skill, style and vision.

Pete currently teaches adult watercolor classes for the City of Monterey Park, for Creative Arts Group in Sierra Madre, and for private students. He also does demos and workshops and has a few exhibits of his work every year. He has developed a six-step approach to painting scenic watercolors from photos, a flexible process based on things he has learned from other artists and from his own experiences.

He has self-published a number of books containing collections of his painting, including *Curbside LA*, *Riding the Metro*, *Pete Morris: An Artist in the O.R.*, and *Rte. 66: Scenes along the Mother Road*. He currently serves as president of Mid-Valley Arts League. You won't want to miss his demonstration!



President's Letter *by Bob Thomas*



I hope you have all had a restful and, yet, productive summer (sounds sort of like an oxymoron, doesn't it) and are ready to dive back into many Verdugo Hills Art Association activities this fall. We have some exciting general meetings and workshops being planned for the fall and I hope you will all mark your calendars, beginning Sept. 1 when Pete Morris will be our demonstrator.

Your Board of Directors has already met once this summer and is hard at work not only planning activities but also contemplating changes for our club during the coming year. If you haven't paid your dues for this coming season, please send a check—made out to

Verdugo Hills Art Association—to Suzanne Bitterman or give it to her at the first meeting, which as usual will be held at the La Cañada Community Center.

I also encourage you to come with one of your latest artworks and enter it in the first "Artist of the Month" competition. This is a chance to show off your work to your fellow members, and everyone who comes to the meeting gets to vote on the winner for September. Don't forget that our first juried show will be in November!

I look forward to seeing all of you at the meeting. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to call or email me.

Bob Thomas, VHAA President
818/209-4635; bobtatfore@aol.com

Photos from June Meeting



In June the new and returning board members take up their “jobs”. These volunteers organize meetings, get demonstrators or workshop instructors, and arrange exhibitions (including venues, hanging artwork and taking it down). They communicate to members, organizations, schools, and others in the community about our activities and programs through articles in newsletters, the website, and social media. They write letters and cards, make phone calls, pay our bills, file non-profit tax information, arrange for the scholarship recipient, take photos, keep the video library, arrange for snacks, and see to a myriad of other “little details.” All this allows VHAA to share our appreciation of art and encourage artists at all levels to keep their creativity thriving!. Next spring we’ll be looking for new board members. Please consider where you could serve and say “Yes, I’d love to!” when asked. As always, let us know if you have ideas for activities, a demonstrator to recommend, an upcoming art exhibit of your work, or other info to share with the group. And THANK YOU for being part of this organization!

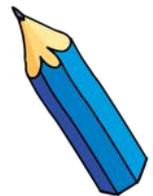
President: Bob Thomas
1st Vice-President, Programs: Sue Peacock, Sandy Rooney
2nd Vice-President, Ways & Means: David McCully
Recording *and*
Corresponding Secretary: Kimberly-Ann Talbert
Treasurer: Sara Griggs
Auditor: Linda Tindell
Parliamentarian: Esther Sullivan
Artist-of-the-Month: Judie Apablaza
Exhibitions: Nikki Thomas

Hospitality: Mary Talwar
Historian: Joan Whitmore
Member-at-Large: Anita Colvin
Membership: Suzanne Bitterman
Newsletter: Jeanne Windoffer
Publicity: Jennifer Swain
Scholarship: Gloria Clark
Video Librarian: Anna Seu
Workshops: Arda Derian
Webmaster: David Crandon

Please note these dates for your calendar:

General meeting dates, the first Friday of the month:

September 1	January 5	April 6
October 6	February 2	May 4
November 3	March 2	June 1
December 1		



Member shows:

November 6 - 27 at La Cañada Library.

We are still confirming dates and venues for the January non-juried show, Small Image juried show and the Spring juried show. Watch your newsletter for updates.

Workshops

November 18 plein air workshop with Richard Gallegos, more info and sign-ups will be available at the meeting, on the website and included with the October newsletter.

Artist of the Year *by Judie Apablaza*

Congratulations to Judie Apablaza, this year's winner of the Artist of the Year Award!



Our Verdugo Hills Art Association meeting in June marked the end of meetings, demonstrations, workshops and events, for a couple months as our members generally head off to vacations, painting excursions and other activities heralded by the start of summer. At our June meeting, we always look forward to the winner of the "Artist of the Month" exhibits. This year because of a trial change in format, we gave 11 first place awards during the monthly competitions. Those 11 monthly winners were: Nikki Thomas, Jeanne Windoffer, Judie Apablaza, Pepe Apablaza, Angela Alvarenga, Jay Ewing, Devorah Friedman, Sara Griggs, Carol Hendrickson, Jennifer Swain and Barbara Thorn-Otto. All of them are excellent artists and have won various awards and ribbons from local and national organizations. These artists brought back their winning paintings to the June meeting for members and guests to decide on their "favorite." I would call the Artist of the Month the "People's Choice Award" for it is an emotional and purely subjective choice.

The voting results were tabulated by members who did not have paintings submitted for this event. I (Judie) was so surprised! Thank you for your support, encouragement and votes.

All that said, I would like to see more members share and exhibit their work each month, and not be concerned about judgment, but be encouraged and supported for their own individual creative expression in this casual setting. Remember too, that the Artist of the Month doesn't affect an individual's standing in juried shows. I was amused to hear many members say that Artist of the Month is a jury of your fellow artists and not just the opinion of one person. We are a community of artists and many friendships have been formed by workshops, classes and other events. I am very pleased to be part of this wonderful group of artists who have encouraged me in my watercolor journey.

Please bring your paintings to share in the Artist of the Month Competition!



Members & guests reviewing the artwork

2017 Scholarship Winner - Jamie Park



Jamie Park, a senior at La Cañada High School, received the Verdugo Hills Art Association 2017 scholarship at our meeting June 2 at the La Cañada Community Center. She works in a wide range of media, including oil, watercolor, charcoal, pencil and others, and brought samples of her portfolio to the meeting on Friday. Most of her work is abstract — "I love creating work that I visualize in my mind," she says.

Jamie will attend the School of Visual Arts in New York City beginning in August. The school's mission includes: "undergraduate degree programs in art and design that prepare students for entry into an array of professional fields in or related to the visual arts, while also equipping students with the skills necessary to become productive and thoughtful members of society ..."

She hopes to teach art to early elementary school students and to illustrate children's books. One of her recent projects was to create a book for her younger brother, illustrated in the style that a child might use.

Jamie was born in Korea and came to the U.S. a decade ago for a better education. She lives in La Cañada with her mother and brother; her father remains in Korea where he works in the computer chip industry.

REMINDERS and NOTES

Membership Renewal—It's not too late! Please send your dues, \$35 (\$50 for family) to: Suzanne Bitterman, 1400 Beaudry, Glendale, CA 91208; or to PO Box 8059, La Crescenta, CA 91224 Must be received by Oct 1 to be included in directory.

Members with current exhibitions:

Arda Derian has watercolor and pottery at DIGGS realty gallery on Ocean View, in Montrose, through Sept 27. Call to check gallery hours: 818-396-7588.

Kimberly-Ann Talbert has a solo show "The World Through My Eyes" at Buenaventura Art Gallery/Clophine Dooley Gallery in Ventura (805) 648-1235. Through September 2



Make a Note:

Upcoming Meetings
September 1 - Pete Morris
October 6 - Richard Martinez

November 18 - Workshop with Rich Gallegos

Like us on FACEBOOK!
Verdugo Hills Art Association

2017 - 2018 Key Contacts

President - Bob Thomas
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Exhibitions - Nikki Thomas
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Workshops - Arda Derian
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Artist of the Month - Judith Apablaza
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Next Meeting
September 1

Next Board Meeting
September 4