

SWA Has A New President!



Frederick Jones, President Society of Washington Artists

Let me introduce myself, I am Frederick Jones the new president of SWA. I have been a member of SWA for little over a year, having joined SWA a few weeks after unpacking in Vancouver.

I am just a little apprehensive at having to fill some pretty big shoes; Janice was the quintessential president and did an outstanding job during the four years she presided over the operations of SWA. There are not enough good things to be said about Janice and about the extraordinary members of The Society of Washington Artists. In the short time I have been a board member of SWA I have seen how dedicated and active our members are, and the amount of time and effort they put into the shows and the day-to-day function of SWA. With the dedicated Officers and Committee Chairs the future of SWA is secure.

As are most members of SWA I am retired, as is my wife Deborah and with the luxury of time we are now artists with little regard for the clock. I work in oil paints focusing on landscapes and figurative works. I started with oils and acrylics in my years in school and continued off and on for the next thirty years but with a full work load, raising a family and resettling periodically very few pieces were produced. I have lived in the Mid-South, Mountain West, and the Northwest and much of what I paint is from those regions. I like landscapes and figurative works capturing interesting scenes and folk going about their everyday lives.

After retirement I enrolled in the adult arts program through Portland Community College and started taking classes at the Multnomah Center then at the Lakewood Center. These classes introduced me to several regional artists and instructors and over several years I developed my craft and style. I started showing my works at the Lake Oswego Festival of the Arts, both juried and open show. Then the Lavender Paint Out in Newberg, the Cannon Beach Gallery, the Trails End Arts Association gallery in Gearhart and at a the monthly art show at R Blooms of lake Oswego and of course the Spring and Fall shows at SWA.

2020 has certainly brought with it some challenges and disappointments but it has done one thing which, hopefully, we look back on and realize was a blessing in disguise namely; that SWA had to step back and take a long look at where it had been and where it wanted to be in the future. One of the challenges was finding someone to fill the position of President of SWA. It was during a ZOOM video conference meeting early this month that, like Claudius, the Pretorian Guard found me cowering in the corner of the screen and selected me to be voted in as President. I accepted and now, as Cincinnatus, I look, in anticipation, to that day when I will turn the screen off and set aside the keyboard and return to my easel and palette. In the meantime SWA has work to do.

In early spring, the SWA board began to make plans to address the issues of leadership and other issues within the group and what could be done about it. It was decided to send a survey to the general membership and work from those answers to make the hard choices for the future of SWA. At that time they also decided to form a leadership team to look at the responses from the survey and make some decisions based on those results.

This leadership team was made up of current board members, a few committee chairs, and several current members of SWA. There are twelve members of this team and it is currently in place and making good progress toward reaching the goal of sustaining SWA as a contributing member of the Vancouver art scene. The Steering Committee members, Katy Sandy, Earlene Holmstrom, Linda Whittingham, Wanda Brewster and I are looking at how to determine the best means to attract younger members, and to ascertain how SWA might "think outside of the box" to continue as a viable organization in a changing environment (never as simple as it sounds). As we work through these challenges the Leadership Committee will report back to the membership on its progress and how the restructured SWA will look like down the road.

Thank you for all you do for SWA and the art you create. Without you there is no SWA.

Wanda Brewster - Leadership Team Chair

As Rick has mentioned and most of you know the Executive Board brought together a group of members to assess the results of the survey that was sent to the membership to try to make a plan for the future.

There are 12 members on this team and they are committed to working together to make some good things happen. We have some forward thinking people who will help us move toward changes that needed to happen in different and exciting ways. We have had three Zoom meetings so far and we are seeing progress.

One consistent request from the members was to see a stronger web presence particularly in the current climate. A sub-committee was formed with Linda Whittingham, and Elaine Pawski and we have contracted with Kelsey Birsa as Webmaster to assist us in updating the website. Kelsey is an accomplished artist and has designed and updated websites for other galleries including "The Loft" and "Blackfish" in Portland. You should have received a request from Kelsey to send in a picture of one of your art pieces to include in the member gallery with your contact information. This is a benefit of your membership so please take advantage of this opportunity. There is also a plan to have members sign up and pay for an added web presence that would include more paintings and information about them.

Linda (treasurere@swavancouver.com) and Elaine (epawski@comcast.net) have agreed to help you if you have questions or trouble with this process.

A Steering Committee of Katey Sandy, Earlene Holmstrom and Rick (Fredrick) Jones was also formed to look at filling board positions and the general structure of SWA. We also decided that our by-laws needed to be revised to reflect any changes. Rick (Fredrick) Jones graciously agreed to be appointed to the board as our new president to help us as we determine next steps. Ed Martin agreed to compile the suggestions for our new by-laws and hopefully come up with a simplified plan. Ed has also offered to submit his name for nomination for vice president once the restructuring has been done.

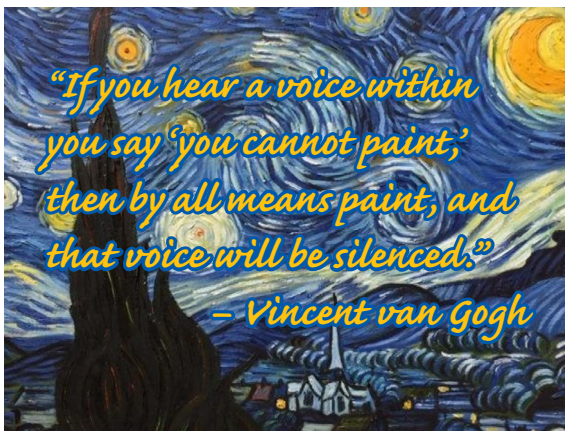
If you remember the survey asked how you would feel about merging with another group in order to continue or if you think we should just dissolve. Most preferred a merger of some sort as opposed to dissolving the group. We started by reaching out to Mosaic and Artstra to get feedback from them. Through these meetings we discussed the idea of forming a coalition to address problems all visual artists in our area have been dealing with. We started getting some good information from this process and will be having more meetings with those groups and others to see how we might help each other.

SWA is still the focus of the Leadership team. We are looking at ways to continue benefiting our members while making changes that will enhance what we can offer and help grow our membership. It will probably be a while before we can comfortably and safely congregate so we are finding ways to work around that. One idea is to have our Fall Show on our website. Some of our group including Sue Tellock, Lesley Faulds and Joan Turley will be working with the web team to find a way to make that happen. You can look for more on that in the next couple of months.

As we move forward we will be looking at more teamwork to get the jobs filled and projects implemented. We know we have untapped talent in our membership and as we come up with these tasks we will no doubt be asking for your help.

I would like to give a shout-out to Kathryn Murdock who assisted the web team when they were preparing the contract for our webmaster.

Your Leadership team will continue to work toward accomplishing our goals and we will keep you informed of our progress. "Teamwork makes the Dream work"!!



Got News for the Newsletter?

Please send us news about galleries and art shows or any upcoming events you may be involved in, or that might be of interest to our membership.

email: epawski@comcast.net

Who'd like to help with the newsletter?

If you are interested in helping with content, or taking a larger role with planning and developing the newsletter, please let me know. I'd be happy to help you!

SWA Member Page

Have you sent in your info for the SWA Member Page? By now, you should have received an email requesting the following info for our new members page. We hope every member will take advantage of this great opportunity.

2nd Chance

If you haven't already sent in your info, we're offering a 2nd chance, until July 15! If you have questions or need help with feel free to email the Web committee, Linda Whittingham: lwizen@gmail.com or Elaine Pawski: epawski@comcast.net

To the right of this column, is an example of what the page will look like. when you click on your box, you will see your artwork in it's entirety, as well as a link to your website, facebook page, or whatever link you have provided.

COMING SOON!

One of the goals of the Website Committee is to provide a member artists web page where the artist will have their artist statement, and up to ten pieces of their art work showcased. The web page can be used as the artist's personal online portfolio with links to their social media sites or any time the artist is asked for a portfolio of their work. If the artist choses to participate there would be an additional fee added to usual annual membership dues. Please let us know if you are interested. email: info@swavancouver.com

For the group members page, please send these two (2) items to info@swavancouver.com by Tuesday, June 30, 2020:

One (1) image that is representative of your work. If you do not wish to have an image of your art, you are welcome to submit a profile picture in its place.

Image requirements: jpg/jpeg, 500px long on the shortest side, max 500kb,

Here is a link to an online file resizing tool. <https://resizeimage.net> To resize your image:

- 1) Upload your image
- 2) In section 4 replace the smallest number with 500, making sure the "keep aspect ratio" is checked.
- 3) Click "resize image" at the bottom
- 4) Select "download image" and attach the file in your email.

If you have questions on how to resize your images, contact Elaine at eeartist@gmail.com or Linda Whittingham: lwizen@gmail.com

PREVIEW THE PAGE HERE:

<https://www.swavancouver.com/members-gallery>

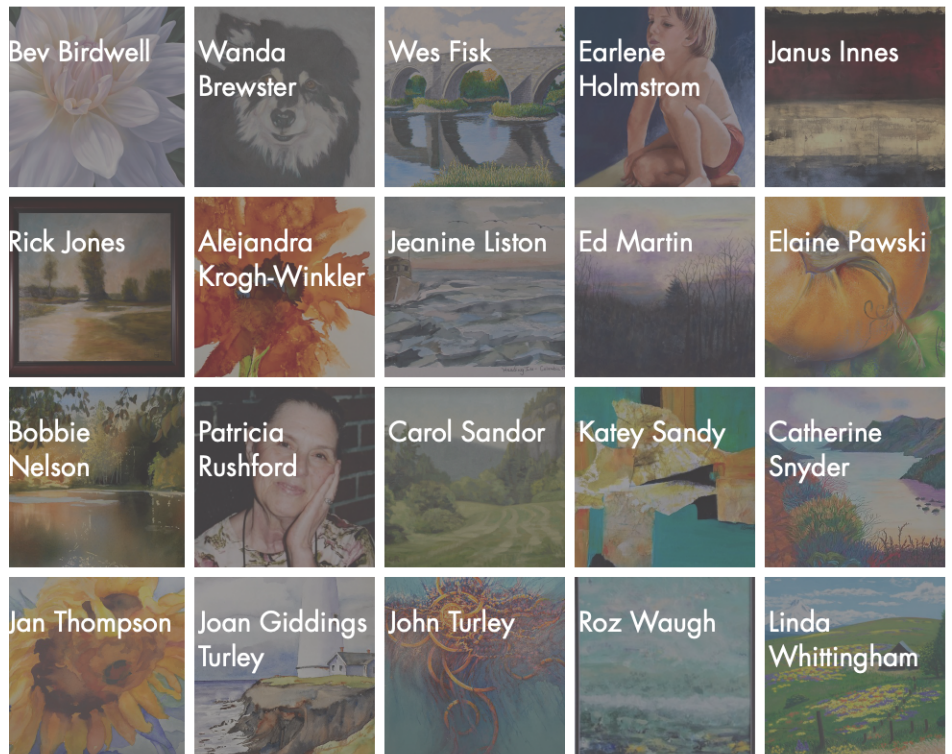
Society of Washington
ARTISTS



Home Exhibitions About Blog Artists

SWA Member Artists

To learn more about becoming a member, click [here](#).



More members...

AMIESAnn
ANDERSONShirley Ann
BARCOSKathleen
BIRDWELLBev
BRASHIERRae Del
BRFWSTERWanda

KENWORTHYMalee
KIDD PLAMONDONKathy
KIPPSusan Marmolejo
KOCHJulie
KOEGLERGerda
KROGH-WINKIERAleandra

RUSHFORDPatricia
SALTERMarilyn
SANDORCarol
SANDYKatey
SAVANNAHTerri
SHFIINFTamra

Art Show and Competition News!

Blackfish Gallery

www.blackfish.com

420 NW 9th St, Portland OR

Black Power is a Color. July 2020 exhibit, now to Aug 1, 2020, in the gallery and 3D online tour.

Art On The Boulevard

www.artontheboulevard.org

210 W Evergreen Blvd. #300
Vancouver WA

Mitch Baird Solo Show,
June-24 thru Aug 29th

OSA Current Exhibits

www.osagallery.org

Portland Plein Air And Alla
Prima Art Show July 2 - 28
Online and In The OSA Gallery

The Art of Sheltering in Place
A benefit for Portland Area
Artists Emergency Relief Fund
thru July 2020. Online

CALL FOR ENTRIES



CALL FOR ENTRIES THE ANNUAL BETTY BOWEN AWARD

This annual award honors a Northwest artist for their original, exceptional and compelling work.

Deadline: Saturday, August 1, 2020 | 11 pm (PST)

Who is eligible?

Visual artists working in Washington, Oregon, or Idaho

How to apply:

The application is available at callforentry.org

All entries must be submitted online

There is a \$10 application fee

What is the Betty Bowen Award?

This juried award was established to honor Betty Bowen (1918-1977) who was an enthusiastic supporter of Northwest contemporary art. The winner receives an unrestricted prize of \$15,000 to further their career. A selection of works by the winner will be exhibited at the Seattle Art Museum.

For more information about the application process and to see a list of previous winners, visit visitsam.org/betty-bowen or email bettybowen@seattleartmuseum.org.

Image: Lynne Siefert, 2019 Betty Bowen Award Winner

Film still from *Ark*, Lynne Siefert, 2016, digital video, Courtesy of the artist, ©Lynne Siefert

Mobile Digital Art & Creativity Summit 2020

www.mdacsummit.org/mdac-2020-winners.html

2020 Top 100 Winners includes work by former Member, Kathryn Delany. 2020 Honorable Mention includes work by member Elaine Pawski

Art of the Quarantine

www.artatthecave.com

Online July 3rd, Beginning July 14 you can view the works in person at 108 E. Evergreen Blvd Tues - Sat 10-4. Submissions still be accepted thru July 31st. Works by members, Malee Kenworthy and Katey Sandy are included

CALL FOR ENTRIES

Art at the Cave

www.artatthecave.com

is looking for submissions to "Art of the Quarantine." The call for art created during quarantine is non-juried and open to all artists and to all ages - kids too! Art does not need to have a covid-related theme. Submit art by emailing a photo of your piece, dimensions, title and a brief statement to gallery@artatthecave.com. Initial deadline is July 31st, with an expectation that this may be extended depending on the circumstances.

bettybowen@seattleartmuseum.org
visitsam.org/betty-bowen

SAM SEATTLE
ART
MUSEUM