N E W S L E T T

Vol. 10 Issue 5, November/December 2023

MISSION STATEMENT

The Vail Valley Art Guild is dedicated to enriching lives by promoting and fostering artistic growth by building awareness of the visual arts in Eagle County. We do this by:

Connecting local visual artists to an artistic community through exhibitions, gallery opportunities, local projects, membership meetings and workshops.

Supporting visual arts education for our youth, seniors and underserved.

Spotlighting artistic talent in the Vail Valley.

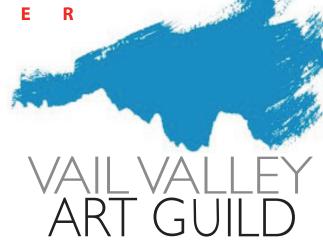
Vail Valley Art Guild is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit charitable organization.

www.vvagco.org



The VVAG gallery is located at 108 W. 2nd Street in Eagle, across the street from Roam restaurant.
The gallery is open every Thursday and Friday from 1-5 p.m. with most Second Fridays open from 2-8 p.m.





ENRICHING LIVES THROUGH VISUAL ARTS



n September 22, 2023, The Vail Valley Art Guild and Colorado Mountain College in Edwards held their 10th well attended and highly successful Art and Jazz Reception. It was a wonderful evening with great food, wine and beer, beautiful music by Kathy Morrow and Three for All, and a spectacular exhibit of local work from VVAG members and CMC faculty and staff. Below are the Juror's Choice awards and the one work voted for by the public: the People's Choice award.... congratulations!

(See more about the show and submissions inside)



Juror's Choice Ginko Jar, by Willow Murphy



Juror's Choice Harvest, by Julie Graham

Juror's Choice Love is Always Visible, by Patti Dixon





People's Choice | Piney Lake | by Mio Cirkovic

VVAG meetings & activities

SECOND FRIDAY EXHIBITS: EAGLE GALLERY

5:00 — 8:00 p.m. • Vail Valley Art Guild Gallery, 108 W. 2nd St, Eagle

To exhibit please complete submission form Rick Spitzer sends every month or stop by the gallery on Thursday/Friday afternoons to obtain additional info.

November 10 | Theme: "Around the World" | Color theme: Blue

December 8 | Theme: "Winter Solstice" | Color theme: White | Wassail Fest

ARTIST MEMBER MEETINGS

Social: 5 p.m. Meetings start at 5:30 p.m. Bring a dish to share.

Please check: vvagco.org/events for up-to-date information on all activities as locations/dates are subject to change.

Nov 20	Annual member ornament creation event Note: Time 3 - 6 p.m. Location: Eagle Gallery	'

Dec 11 All member Christmas potluck at Lynn's and Woody's in Minturn

PHOTOGRAPHY MEETINGS

Photography meetings are held the last Thursday of every month at CMC: Room 249 • 6:30 pm fellowship / 7:00 pm meeting

Outtakes from Summer Workshops...

Cliff Austin Workshop

August 9-10 | Catch the Color









Cheryl St. John Workshop September 7-8 | Exploring Plein Air



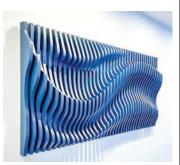


Pam O'Hara capturing the beauty at a VVAG Plein Air Paint Out in October



10th Annual Vail Valley Fine Art Show

The jurors for this year's show were, left to right, Sean Boggs (photographer and photography instructor at CMC), Joyce Bradley (manager of Zuger Gallery and Gib Singleton Gallery in Vail), and Bill Rey (owner of Claggett-Rey Gallery in Edwards). Categories for this show were: 3-D, Abstract, Figure/Portrait, Landscape, Still Life, and Wildlife/Animals. Each category was further divided into Art and Photography. Thank you to the 2023 jurors for your considerable time and effort to determine the best works in the show. Abundant thanks to all the folks at CMC and the Vail Valley Art Guild for their tireless efforts in presenting another outstanding show! Congratulations to our winners! The show hangs at CMC until November 3.



1st Place, 3-D Sculpture Cascade, by Neil Stewart



1st Place, 3-D Functional Self-Checkout, by Raj Manickam



1st Place, 3-D Ceramics Ginko Jar, by Willow Murphy



First Place Abstract I was Afraid I was Going to Die and Then I was Afraid Painting by Andrew Pranger



First Place Abstract
Peony Detail
Photograph by Ken Neubecker



First Place Figure/Portrait Ready to Win Painting by Soodi Kick



First Place Figure/Portrait Code Talker Navajo #1 Photograph by Raymond Bleesz



First Place Landscape Cordillera Winter Painting by Mio Cirkovic



First Place Landscape Church — Iceland Photograph by Norm Vogel



First Place Still Life Harvest Painting by Julie Graham



First Place Still Life Shape and Shades Photograph by Raj Manickam



First Place Wildlife/Animals *Living His Best Life*Painting by Julie Adriansen

First Place Wildlife/Animals

Those Eyes
Photograph by Rick Spitzer

Not pictured: 1st Place, 3-D | Functional Ceramics White Crackle Vase, by David Shapiro

CMC 10th Annual Vail Valley Fine Art Show Honorable Mentions



Rarnsdall Shoe Store by Heather Barrie



Doesn't Measure Up by Heather Barrie



Water Buffalo by Scott Brundage



An Italian Door by Carol Cirkovic



Lady Loves Red by Patti Dixon



by Lynn Feiger



Mountain Gorilla by Allan Finney



Bursting Bubbles by Julie Graham



Go As A River by Beth Levine and Ellen Stone



Self Portrait by Renata Marshall



Tailinas by Tara Novak

Morning Reflection

by Traci O'Conner



by Christine Sena



Net Maker by Norm Vogel



Koi in Rice Take Out Box by Elke Kaiser Wells



Windows to Another World by Elke Kaiser Wells



by Bob Will

Not pictured: Untitled #1, Vida Kijauskas; Bird Bath, Linda Osterberg; Aspen, Amanda Quinton

The VVAG would like to thank **Rosalind Reed** for generously underwriting this year's show.

Thank you to CMC for the space and effots involved in hosting the event.

Thank you to all of the volunteers that came out to support the CMC show, volunteers on the Monday before the show worked tirelessly to hang 240 works of art in one day. The volunteers at the reception greeted people at the door, directed people to various works of art and the reception buffet and stayed late to clean up.

Thank you to Melissa Nelson, Beth Levine-Rosen, Carol Calinoff, Joann Carhart Levy, Elke Wells, Christine Sena, Julie Adriansen, Janet Burmeister, Soodi Kick, Tara Novak, Henry Makina, Laura Moore, Lynn **Feiger**, **Woody Woodruff** and **Margo Thomas**. Your help was so appreciated.

Thank you to Liz Napier and Bibiana Rivero for signing up to capture the evening for us!



Battle Mountain High School Senior, Ryan Barrie, submitted two drone photos to the CMC show and posed beside the award winning portrait painted of him by Christine Sena.

PhotoOps from the CMC 10th Annual Vail Valley Fine Art Show



September Side by Side Show | Eagle Gallery



produce similar images of the same subject.

Painting Partners

Laura Moore and **Joann Carhart** Levy's exhibit at the Avon Library in September.









This strong show was a reflection of Laura and Joann's travels together to paint plein air, taking workshops, classes, and participating in VVAG exhibits.

ART + FUN = Eagle Piano!

The new "Eagle Piano" was unveiled to a group of bystanders during September's Second Friday at a reception held at ARTSPaCE workshop + gallery. The piano project was sponsored by EagleARTS Nonprofit, the Town of Eagle, and The Lieff Family.

VVAG member Elke Wells was awarded with the painting of the piano, as she has been a great asset to the arts activities between EagleARTS and VVAG in Eagle.

The piano will be located at 318 Broadway, Eagle, in front of the business and available to the public 24/7 until the snow flies and an indoor space for it found for the winter.

Elke Wells putting the finishing touches on the piano and enjoying the completed work











Public Library Exhibits

Space is available for exhibiting artists at the public libraries in Gypsum, Avon, and Vail throughout the year. Individual members (or teamed up with a second member) are encouraged to present their works in the community rooms of the respective libraries. **Available** spots are filling up fast! Please contact Chris Sena if you are

interested: cgsena5@gmail.com

Become a VVAG Member

Become a member now, or renew your membership, to be eligible for entering your works into shows! Check out membership and donor levels. www.vvagco.org

crowd during the reception THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE



VVAG
All-Member's
Meeting and
Pot Luck,
August 20, at
Patti Dixon's
home...

...with "Intro to Plein Air" demo

VVAG members who attend monthly meetings are always in for a treat! If you haven't attended in the past, please come. Always educational as well as social.





<u> IBRARY</u>



At a recent meeting of the Vail Valley Art Guild Photography Group (VVAGP), **Raymond Bleesz** demonstrated how to change film and glass plates in an early 1800s era camera. The blindfold was used to simulate working in a darkroom.

The photography group meets the last Thursday of every month at CMC.





Cindy Kelleher and Christine Sena paired up during the month of October to exhibit their paintings at the Vail Library. Both are

accomplished artists and displayed works in pastels, oils and watercolor.











Taylor and Jacob from TJ Studios are showing their works in the Gypsum Public Library

> during October and November.







The Great Annular Eclipse of 2023



Photographer, naturalist, and guild member **Rick Spitzer** made a presentation at the Avon Public Library about the "Great American

Annular Eclipse of 2023."

Rick spoke about his experience and showed his photographs taken in Driggs, Idaho, of a total eclipse that happened in 2017. This year's eclipse passed over the Western U.S. – with Eagle County being

in a path of 80% visibility – on October 14th. Rick demonstrated how to plan and be ready for optimal viewing and photographing of this event.









Vail Valley Art Guild member **Raymond Bleesz** announced that the above two images were accepted into the Lands & Lifestyles "Art of the West" show, October 20-22, in Broomfield, CO. "David" (above left) was also in the CMC 10th Annual Vail Valley Fine Art Show. "Wolcott, No Trespassing" is on the right.

Life in the West Art Gallery showed 185 artworks, created by 55 artists, from 12 states. The jury-selected artworks were very impressive and the subject matter included both western landscapes and the activities of people who live in the West, both now and in the past.

MEMBERS HAVE BEEN BUSY...

Several of the Vail Valley Art Guild members (Lynn Feiger, Chris Sena, Melissa Nelson, Willow Murphy, Becky Kiser) who have traveled to VVAG-organized workshops in France and Spain during the past 12 months will host a show in **November at the Vail Library**. The show features works created in Europe under the patient guidance of Mike Snow (Snow White Workshop), an expat U.S. artist whose work features strong figurative renderings. The weeklong workshops were hosted in Mike's home with food, wine, and fun prepared by Mike's partner, Timothy White. VVAG plans to offer more destination workshops as well as host a workshop by Mike locally in the Don't Look Back | Melissa Nelson

















The Traveler | Christine Sena









Overwhelmed | Lynn Feiger



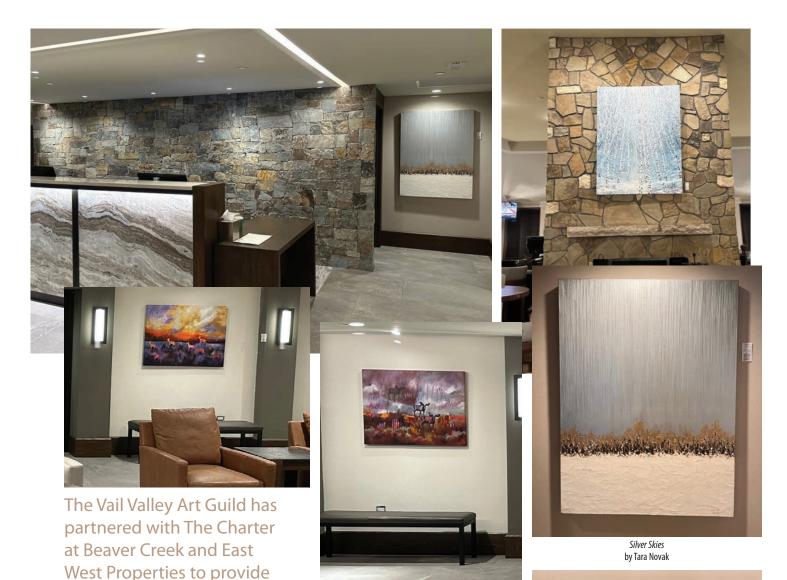
Corgi | Willow Murphy







VVAG has recently received funding from Vail Valley Cares Thrifty Stores and Colorado Creative Industries to commence therapeutic arts projects in Eagle County. Initially, we have been hosting Open Studios on alternating **Tuesdays at our Eagle Gallery.** These studios, hosted by Lynn Feiger and **Soodi Kick**, welcome anyone who is needing art, and companionship along with it, as therapy for any reason. This is a drop-in style studio day. Please bring your own art supplies. We will be able to provide easels and tarps as needed.



original artwork for their newly renovated lobby, steakhouse, and ceremony

lobby. Part of the renovation project's mission was to create opportunities for local and emerging artists to create a true Colorado mountain feel. Stop by for drinks or dinner and take a look at the stunning works!

Vail Valley Art Guild members whose artwork was purchased outright by The Charter are:

Amy Dose Tara Novak Neil and Caroline Stewart Raj Manickam Soodi Kick Josh Stevenson Todd Pierce Jessica Wright

Additional artwork from several other guild members has been placed on consignment at The Charter.



Snow Covered Butterscotch by Raj Manickam