

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 underprivileged.

Spotlighting artistic talent in the Vail Valley.

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

www.vailvalleyartguild.com

To all our members, friends, and supporters:

Best wishes for a Happy New Year 2021!

Even though we are unable have a First Friday or Second Friday in January 2021 we are looking forward to the summer months when restrictions will likely be relaxed. In the meantime, thanks to a social media world, artists are discovering new paths of sharing creativity, (see inside this issue!).

While guild members' art is on display, Colorado Mountain College is currently closed for on-campus learning and viewing the art through January 2021. When that changes we will get the word out. VVAG gallery shows are cancelled through January as well – but hey, continue to work your medium and we'll have a HUGE show to celebrate the end-of-shutdown!

– Andrew Pranger, Vail Valley Art Guild President



VAIL VALLEY ART GUILD

ENRICHING LIVES THROUGH THE VISUAL ARTS



Artist: Dana Dunbar

2020-in-Review

In spite of COVID challenges, Vail Valley Art Guild had a very good year!

Beside, and in conjunction with **First Friday** and **Second Friday** events, don't forget the **Murder Mystery Art Walk** last February, the **Food Drive** for the Community Market in March, **Poster Giveaways** this past fall, the **CMC Show** (for what its worth this year, still a great show!!!).



Food Drive



Greg Barnes



Greg Barnes workshop



Photographers weren't deterred from capturing what life was like in isolation.

Outdoor painters still schlepped easels and paints outside to create outstanding plein air art.

Three plein air workshops were held, with great participation, by **Greg Barnes**, **Leigh Ann Van Fossan**, and **Cheryl St. John**.

An in-studio workshop in Munturn, albeit with required social distancing was conducted by **Peggy McGivern**.

There is interest by both artists and teachers to have some more workshops in 2021, we will announce as plans are solidified.



Tara Novak



Melissa Nelson



The 3 paintings Melissa sold: Upper left in photo, *Singletree Single Tree*, *Enjoying the Sunshine* (flower) and her favorite shown below, *Zoom Call with Fred the Dog*



Leigh Ann Van Fossan



Peggy McGivern



Leigh Ann Van Fossan workshop



Cheryl St. John



Tents on Broadway in Eagle



Rosi and Melissa in the Eagle gallery

www.artspaceworkshop.com

Click on the above link. A world of opportunity awaits! **Tara Novak**, of Eagle's ArtSpace is offering wonderful exposure to local artists. She is offering a program, that for a nominal fee (\$50), provides artists to showcase their work in her gallery (5 pieces) in addition to having website exposure. It has been very successful.

"After the town of Eagle shut down the outdoor ArtWalk program, we had to do something..."

Normal gallery hours in **Eagle** at **120 Broadway** run 5-6 days a week, 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., but give a call before you head out: 970/445-2766 or 970/376-4772 to be sure they are open.

The above-mentioned gallery/online exposure program is slated to run through April, 2021, with plans afoot to create a similar program for summer/fall.

DUES R Due

If you need to renew your Vail Valley Art Guild membership, mail a \$50 check to: Vail Valley Art Guild P.O. Box 9733 Avon, CO 81620 or go online to charge: vailvalleyartguild.com

PhotographyNews

For news about upcoming photography "special assignments" or events, please contact Rick Spitzer at spitzerr@comcast.net.



opportunities abound!

Thought about doing an online demo for guild members?

VVAG has Zoom.

Let's discuss it and make it happen!

Andrew Pranger, Vail Valley Art Guild pranger.artist@gmail.com

[YES]

Town of Avon Call for Artists | Storm Drain Art Installtions

The Town of Avon, Colorado invites all qualified artists to submit a Statement of Qualifications to provide professional artistic designs for printed decals to educate the public about storm drains and promote the health of our valuable natural waterways.

The selected artists will be commissioned to create an original and specific work depicting one of the five Colorado wildlife species that live in or

near our natural waterways, such as Cutthroat Trout, Boreal Toad, Bald Eagle, American Dipper, Stoneflies, American Beaver or

other species at artists' suggestion. The images will be digitally transferred to a slip resistant decal which will be adhered in proximity to selected storm drains throughout the Town of Avon.

Selected artists will receive a \$500 stipend.



CLICK HERE
for
APPLICATION

Featured Artist: Margaret Thomas

“There’s a whole world out there for us;
let’s drop into it and see where it goes!”

– Margaret



Margaret joined the Vail Valley Art Guild this past year, looking to involve herself with the community and share art beyond her online presence. She has been creating paintings for the past 20 years and works primarily in acrylics and alcohol ink.

“9/11 was the impetus for me. At the time I was living in Denver and felt a need to pursue my creative side. I went through the whole [Art Students League of Denver](#) program, learning from top regional artists. This is not a degree program, however the level of instruction is incredible.”

Margaret’s business trips took her to Chicago where she honed her human figure drawing skills at the [Palette & Chisel Academy of Fine Arts](#).



Grand Traverse Skinny Dip

Brrr. When I look at that glacial lake, I think “would I jump in?”

Size (h w d): 20 x 30 x 2 in | Medium: Acrylic on Ampersand Gessobord
CMC Show | \$800 | Creation Date: 2020

With Margaret’s extensive background in information technology, she has a vision for local art and artists. Covid shutdowns have not kept her back and have challenged and inspired her to find ways to connect the Vail area art community with the broader community-at-large. By using Zoom to brainstorm with guild members and the public, she is communicating options to share members’ creativity through social media. Local art needs to be seen, appreciated, and opportunities for our art to be sold is always welcome.

“This past March, at the beginning of the shutdown, Beaver Creek Ski School implemented a greater online communication approach to the local community.

I thought I could build on this model for local artists.”

Ski school puts Margaret in touch with second home owners and tourists. She also has a couple of daughters in their 30s.

“The new generation of buyers has a different mindset. They are increasingly relying on social media and the internet to make art purchases. In the Valley if you search for area artists, you come up with galleries in town and not offerings from the local art scene.

How do we reach these buyers in our online world?”

You can find Margaret Thomas’ art at: www.pinterest.com/veritedesigns/
www.facebook.com/veritedesigns/ www.artnet.com/artists/margaret-thomas/

VVAG Learning Loft

Virtual / Zoom

Margaret Thomas is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

WHEN: January 13, 2021

TIME: 5:30 p.m. Mountain Time (US and Canada)

JOIN ZOOM MEETING LINK:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87970262883?pwd=NzNnbEFkQ3FksZnQl3Vla29tVCtHdz09> (Click)

MEETING ID: 879 7026 2883

PASSCODE: HAPPY

JANUARY TOPIC: *Instagram for Artists*

Join us every 2nd Wednesday of the month for a Zoom powwow.

Topics for Zoom sessions are interest-driven and participants are free to suggest subjects for future discussions.

Guild members are encouraged to participate; the general public is invited to join.

Grand Traverse in Muted Colors
Muted colors remind me of the stillness that can be found while hiking alone.

Size (h w d): 8 x 10 x 1 in
Medium: Acrylic On Ampersand Gessobord
At the Art Guild | \$120 | Creation Date: 2020



Gold Mountains #2 | Wood burning + acrylics | Great indoors and outdoors.

Size (h w d): 12 x 48 x 1 in | Acrylic on Wood | CMC Show | \$200 | Creation Date: 2020

VAIL VALLEY ART GUILD PHOTOGRAPHS

have been busy!



Snow Globe | Rick Spitzer



Co-worker's Water Bottle
Raj Manickam



Penguin Ice Sculptures | Carol Schragen

Kitties at VMC | Ellen Stone



Off to the Dog Park | Kit Cammermeyer



Jupiter - Saturn Conjunction | Melissa Lipton



Inside a Car | Ledia Carlsen



Squash Bug | Rick Spitzer



Archaeology Museum Mexico | Chris Sena



Mind's Eye Stone Work
Raymond Blesz



Mule Deer | Melissa Nelson



Bobcat | Allan Finney



Alive Or Dead | Raymond Blesz



Cute Cat | Gail Baker



Red-tailed Hawk
Ken Pollock

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