

■ Art calendar

October 30–31

Blue Ridge Potters Guild Show

Carter Athletic Center, North Cross School, 4254 Colonial Ave., Roanoke • 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., Saturday and 11 a.m. – 5 p.m., Sunday

Don't miss the largest all-pottery show in Virginia, featuring functional and decorative works of art. This year over 80 potters will display and sell their unique and spectacular works. For more information, visit www.blueridgepotters.com.

November 3

Artist's Talk — Matt Gentry

Hahn Horticulture Garden Pavilion, Virginia Tech campus • Noon

Join Matt Gentry on the pavilion patio as he talks about his exhibit, "Virginia Rivers," and discusses his approach to plein air painting. Works will be displayed in the pavilion through November.

November 3

Opening Reception, Textile Artists of Virginia

The Artful Lawyer, 318 N. Main Street, Blacksburg • 4:30 p.m.

Come view the works and celebrate the 18 textile artists who created them. Masks are required.

November 6

BRAA Art Tag Play Date

The Artful Lawyer, 318 N. Main Street, Blacksburg • 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Get in the holiday spirit with a day of fun making art tags. Bring your own supplies. The finished products will be donated to the Montgomery County Christmas Store. Space is limited to 10 people. Make your reservation by emailing younggerri@gmail.com.

November 12

BRAA Monthly Lunch/Annual Meeting

Moose Lodge, 115 Farmview Rd. NE, Christiansburg (entrance beside Virginia Furniture Market) • 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Food, facts and fun are the order of the day. Lunch is \$10 and will be followed by the annual meeting. Then stick around for some painting! RSVP will be required, so watch your email for more information.

continued on page 2

A virtual chat with Linda Hinson

As told to Gerri Young

Home town: My family moved to Blacksburg in 1963. My father was a professor at Virginia Tech. I currently live in Riner, Va.

A little bit about your family: My husband and I have been married 30 years. He is also a retired teacher and does excellent watercolor landscapes. My son is a former U.S. Marine currently working for BAE at Radford Arsenal. He is an illustrator who can literally draw anything. It's like he has an encyclopedia in his head. My daughter is studying to be a midwife and is one of those people who can draw, sew, build, and, most importantly, be an amazing parent to my grandson, Salem.

Do you have a pet? I have a 93-pound greyhound rescued from a race track. He was too big to race so we call him Brando —

"coulda been a contender." I also have two cats. We had chickens until the gate was accidentally left open. I couldn't take another massacre so we gave that up.

Why do you belong to BRAA and how long have you been a member? I joined BRAA this year. I just didn't have time before. I like to be busy. My definition of relaxing is

continued on page 2



Linda Hinson

Teri H Hoover Photography

BRAA holiday market in full swing

by Gerri Young



Coordinator Ava Howard arranges the large selection of items available at BRAA's Holiday Market.

If you love buying local for holiday gifts, we have just what you are looking for.

The market officially opened Friday, Oct. 15 and is located at 318 N. Main Street, Blacksburg, inside The Art Space at The Artful Lawyer, between Chipotle and the Hokie House. It will be open Fridays through Sundays, select hours until Jan. 9. The Art Space began this year and was managed by member **Sue**

continued on page 3



Lois Stephens

Members share their work at luncheon

About a dozen BRAA members ventured out in the rain for lunch and a show-and-tell at Heritage Park in Blacksburg on September 10. Those who shared their work included (left to right) **Betty Moore, Jen Nelson, and Alisa Colpitts.**

■ Linda Hinson *continued from page 1*

thinking about what I can do next. Several events led to allowing me the time to think about my own work. I retired after teaching art at Blacksburg Middle School for 33 years. Also, both my parents I was helping to care for, left the planet after long illnesses. I now have the time and energy to concentrate on artwork.

What media do you work in? Which is your favorite? My favorite is charcoal. I love how forgiving it can be. I also like that charcoal can be bold, gestural, and expressive yet at the same time, I can get really fine details. When I work with charcoal I try to find ways to use light to my advantage as it is perfect for finding areas of high contrast.

How long have you been actively pursuing artistic endeavors? I have always loved to draw. I changed my major four times in college and finally landed in art after realizing passion was more important to me than practicality. After graduation, I got a job in foodservice. A few years later, I returned to school to get my teaching certificate because I knew I was meant to be a teacher. But, I had to set aside one passion for another.



Hinson's 2019 trip to Zambia provided inspiration for a series of charcoal drawings including "Make No Mistake" (above).

Do you have a favorite art/other media instructor? Although she is not technically my teacher, Jane Lillian Vance has generously shared her knowledge, experience, and wisdom on more occasions than I can count. She is the reason I traveled to Zambia in 2019. She saw something in me that needed to do this trip. I volunteered with Orphans Medical Network International. OMNI has worked in the Northern Copper Belt region of Zambia since 2001. They serve orphans and vulnerable children and their communities through education and community development. Up until Covid, an OMNI medical team provided care in rural tribal regions of Zambia. For most, this annual mobile clinic was the only access to medical care all year. In Zambia, I witnessed absolute poverty, malnutrition, and fatal diseases considered treatable or

non-existent in my own culture. I also witnessed pure love, devotion, selflessness, and the realization of doing something outside of my own self-interest. It was life-changing.

Since returning from Zambia, I began a series of drawings based on some of the people I saw there. Even though I enjoy commission work, drawing people's children and pets, this is different. When I draw for someone else, I feel joy in seeing their reaction and witnessing the love they feel for that person or animal. But when I draw from my own experience, that kind of success isn't based solely on my skill but on my ability to show deep and sometimes provocative emotion. Malnutrition and sickness can show on

continued on page 4

■ Calendar *continued from page 1*

November 12-14

YMCA Craft and Book Fair
Christiansburg Recreation Center, 1600 N. Franklin St., Christiansburg

In person shopping is back! And new this year is the addition of books. Visit <https://vtymca.org/y-craft-fair/> for the hours and list of vendors.

December 4-5

Holiday Market at The Artful Lawyer
318 N. Main St., Blacksburg • Noon - 7 p.m.

Shop local from arts and crafts vendors throughout the building. And while there, step over to the BRAA Holiday Market for works by fellow members!

BRAA member awarded grand prize at the New River Art Juried Biennial

The opening reception of the 2021 New River Art Juried Biennial was held Oct. 23 at Radford University's Art Museum on Tyler. The event was hosted by Pulaski's Fine Arts Center for the New River Valley. Of the 335 entries, 60 works by 38 artists were selected for the show.

The \$500 grand prize of the show, The Nadine Allen Memorial Award, went to **Aileen Fletcher** for "Sinkland Summer Sunrise." New to the awards this year was the Love, Mason, Preston Founder's Award presented in honor of the founders of the Fine Arts Center for the NRV. This \$300 award was presented to **David Rehor** of Roanoke for "Atlantic Storm."

Additional honors included: The 1st Award of Excellence, a \$200 prize sponsored by the Fine Arts Center for the New River Valley for "Feather Collage," by **Mary Hogan** of Falls Mill, Va.; The 2nd Award of Excellence, a \$200 prize sponsored by the Floyd Center for the Arts for "Latency," by **Langley Anderson** of Radford, Va.; and the 3rd Award of Excellence, a \$200 prize sponsored by the Blacksburg Regional Art Association for "Window in Flames," by **Ron Fondaw** of Johnson City, Tn. The exhibit will be open through December 3.



Aileen Fletcher was named winner of the Nadine Allen Award for her photograph, Sinkland Summer Sunrise.

Gerri Young

■ Holiday Market *continued from page 1*

Hossack, who also set up the behind-the-scenes technology.

Twenty-five artists belonging to this 71-year-old local art organization are featured in the market. **Ava Howard**, artist and coordinator of the temporary market, is pleased with how the market is shaping up. "We have a nice selection of original paintings in watercolor, acrylic, oils and more. Additionally, we have handmade jewelry, ceramics, woven shawls, wood-turned pens, notecards, and many other unique items made by our artist members. This is a happy place for me, surrounded by all these beautiful creations."

The participating artists are working together to make shopping at the Holiday Market a unique experience and will periodically offer demonstrations of their trade or just enjoy painting on the front porch. Check out Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/BlacksburgArt>) or Instagram to see when your favorite artist is working and watch them play in a way only artists can. More info on the organization can be found at www.blacksburgart.org.

Art lovers will enjoy a double helping of local art December 4 and 5 when The Artful Lawyer hosts their own holiday market on their side of the house. Their market will feature more local artists personally in house to sell their creations for both days from noon to 7 p.m.

Look for the most colorful entrance on North Main Street, Blacksburg, to find this unique holiday market. Due to COVID restrictions, masks are required. ■

■ Now showing

October 15 – January 15
(unless noted otherwise)

Lisa Acciai, Warm Hearth Village Center, Blacksburg

Raf Bedia, Glade Church, Blacksburg

Pat Bevan, See Mark Optical, Blacksburg

Charlotte Chan, LewisGale Montgomery Hospital, Blacksburg (Nov. – Jan. 15)

Marie Collier, Zeppolis, Blacksburg

Alisa Colpitts, Main Street Inn, Blacksburg

Linda Correll, First Bank & Trust, Christiansburg

Carole Davis, Shaheen Law Firm, Blacksburg

Matt Gentry, Hahn Horticulture Garden Pavilion, Virginia Tech campus (thru November)

Dianne Gillis-Robinson, Brown Insurance, Blacksburg

Teri Hoover, Lyric Theatre, Blacksburg (Nov. 5 thru Dec. 31)

Larry Mitchell, LewisGale Montgomery Hospital, Blacksburg

Betty Moore, Blacksburg Transit, Blacksburg

Martha Olson, Montgomery Museum of Art and History, Christiansburg (thru Oct. 29)

David Pearce, Pointe West Management, Blacksburg

Robi Sallee, Blue Ridge Cancer Care, Blacksburg

Karen Sewell, Long and Foster Realty, Blacksburg

Gerri Young, LewisGale Montgomery Hospital, Blacksburg (thru Oct.)

■ New members

A hearty welcome to new BRAA members **Corie Bryant**, **Barry Foti**, **Joan Jones**, **Marguerite Martin**, and **Brianna Wright**.

■ **Linda Hinson** *continued from page 2*

the subject's face at the same time as honor, pride, and even beauty. Jane taught me this. She gave me insight, courage, and helped me realize my own artistic power. I admire her greatly.

How has COVID impacted your usual creative practice? Creating more/less/differently?

I feel COVID opened yet another wound in our society. At first, I was watching and learning all I could from news reports. But after a while I got angry. Angry with ignorance, greed, and racism. Yes, it is all tied together and I had to turn off the media and head to my studio. I am not putting my head in the sand. But, like many, I have had to find a balance.

If you weren't doing art, what would you be doing? I currently teach three classes at Radford University and play with my 18-month-old grandson which is just about the most fun anyone can have!

Do you have a studio? Kitchen table? How frequently do you create? I have a very small studio at home. I don't think I am very prolific. Maybe that is because I don't settle for an idea or subject unless I feel it is important. Important in that it will matter to me or to the person who commissioned it. I am so happy with my medium and my subjects now, I don't feel the need to experiment. Maybe after I have exhausted my Zambia series, I will start to feel that urge and need a new challenge.

Is there anything else you would like to say about yourself/your art? I recently had a piece of work at the Floyd Center for the Arts. It was the first time I have ever entered anything in a juried show. I also have two pieces accepted and now showing in the New River Art Biennial at Radford University's Tyler Gallery.

The just for fun question: If magic was real, what spell would you try to learn first? My first spell would be one that prevented people from saying unkind things to other people and forced them to listen. Everyone has a story worth hearing. ■



"Zambian Fab Four" by Linda Hinson



We must always be on the lookout for the presence of wonder

~ E.B. White

The art featured in this month's nameplate is "Virginia Valley" (left, acrylic, 24x24") by Robi Sallee. This and more of her work is on display at Blue Ridge Cancer Center in Blacksburg until mid January.



Making BRAA Work —

- Charlotte Chan**, president
- Alisa Colpitts**, vice president and workshop chair
- Marvi Stine**, treasurer
- Sue Hossack**, secretary and web administrator
- Gerri Young**, past president
- Ava Howard**, membership chair
- Charlotte Chan**, community gallery chair
- Teri Hoover**, marketing chair
- Ruth Lefko**, member meeting chair
- Lois Stephens**, newsletter chair
- Linda Correll**, public art chair
- Betty Moore**, education/outreach chair



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Send news of receptions, exhibits, awards, photos, comments, or newsletter suggestions to (newsletter@blacksburgart.org) by the 15th of each month or July 1 for June/July and Dec. 1 for Nov./Dec. issues.

Lois Stephens, Gerri Young, Teri Hoover, Lisa Acciai, Pat Bevan, newsletter editorial board