

## ■ Art calendar

### June 3

**Plein Air Painting in Historic Newbern Wilderness Road Regional Museum, Newbern** • 10:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

This painting opportunity offers inspiring scenes including historic structures along the Great Wagon Road. This is a free event and artists will receive a guided tour of the village at 10 a.m. For more information, email [wrrm5240@gmail.com](mailto:wrrm5240@gmail.com).

### June 5–6

**Plein Air Journaling**  
**Historic Smithfield Plantation, Blacksburg** • 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Participants will work with local artists Gerri Young and Matt Gentry to learn how to journal with watercolor (or the medium of choice) onsite at Historic Smithfield. The workshop is suitable for beginner to intermediate painters, ages 15 and up. Fee is \$15 and the class is limited to 15 students. For more information or registration, visit [historicsmithfield.org/classes](http://historicsmithfield.org/classes) or email [younggerri@gmail.com](mailto:younggerri@gmail.com).

### June 8 – July 31

**PLACE — A Juried Invitational Exhibit**  
**Perspective Gallery, Squires Center, Virginia Tech Campus**

This annual theme show will feature an array of work by BRAA members. Call 540-231-6040 for gallery hours. Visit [www.blacksburgart.org/2021-themeshow](http://www.blacksburgart.org/2021-themeshow) for more information.

### June 11

**Reception –Ninth Annual National Juried Exhibition**  
**Bower Center for the Arts, 305 N. Bridge St., Bedford** • 5–7 p.m.

Come view the show and meet the juror and judge, Ron Boehmer. The exhibit runs through June 30.

### June 11, July 9

**BRAA Monthly Lunch**  
**Moose Lodge, 115 Farmview Road, NE, Christiansburg** • 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

In June, Toni Bowman will talk about teaching opportunities at the Fine Arts Center in Pulaski and there will also be a show and tell from the Tracy Budd workshop. July's

## A virtual chat with Paula Golden

As told to Gerri Young

**Home town:** I was born in Los Angeles, the City of Angels, and took a long, circuitous route to retire in Blacksburg.

**A little bit about your family:** I have been married to Terry for 45 years. We met at a small county hospital in Maryland. We have two adult kids — Kate in Oklahoma City, with one grand kitty, Dexter; and Jeff in Rockville with two grand kitties, Milo and Oscar.

**Do you have a pet?** We lost our beloved dog, Mia, at the beginning of COVID-19 and 23-year-old Scout Cat this winter. In November, we adopted a four-month-old Heinz 57 puppy. Seriously, the DNA test showed not more than 10% of any of 14 different breeds. We named him Tucker Jamison and he is now a lively nine months old. Tucker joins sibling farm cat rescues Sophia Ann and Guster. Last month we rescued a one-eyed kitten. So far, sibling rivalry reigns, but we are confident they will all adjust to one another.

**Why do you belong to BRAA and how long have you been a member?** I joined the BRAA one year after we relocated from northern Virginia in 2010. I am very grateful for the acceptance, friendship, workshops and opportunities BRAA has provided.



Fabric Artist Paula Golden



Dancing Flowers by Paula Golden

**What media do you work in and which is your favorite?** I work in fabric but want to get back into print making and encaustic. Those work-spaces are set up and it is only a few more weeks of fiber work until I can begin. I have several quilts not completed and my COVID-19 goal is to get them made into finished quilts before I start something new.

**How long have you been actively pursuing artistic endeavors?** As a child, I loved to take photographs with my mother's Brownie camera. I only took one year of art in high school, but I was intrigued. I wanted to be an interior designer but practicality won out and I went into medical technology and blood banking instead. However, handwork was always in the background as my mother taught me how to cross stitch when I was seven years old. That did not end well as I learned

■ **Calendar** *continued from page 1*

speaker is Diane Goff who will share the fun of assemblage art.

**August 6–7**

*Steppin' Out*  
*Downtown Blacksburg*

Music, arts, crafts, food and more fill the streets of downtown Blacksburg for this two-day event.

**August 14**

*Reception — Floyd Center for the Arts*  
*2021 Juried Exhibition*  
*2020 Parkway Lane S., Floyd • 5–7 p.m.*

View the works and art and congratulate the award winners in the Hayloft Gallery of the arts center. Works will be exhibited until October 2.



*The Art Space @ The Artful Lawyer features work by BRAA members. Located at 318 N. Main St., the gallery currently is open from 12–4 p.m. on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. For more information about how you can participate, visit <https://www.blacksburgart.org/artspace>.*

■ **Golden** *continued from page 1*

the back was to look as good as the front! My mom prevailed and taught me how to sew garments and use her sewing machine. In 1973, I attempted my first quilt alone with no knowledge except of sewing garments. It went in the trash when it started out as 20"x 20" and ended up 20"x 36." In 1980, I took a Hawaiian Quilting class and I was hooked by the history, design and technique of this art form. The instructor insisted our life should be part of our original pattern. At 28, I simply did not comprehend how our life events impact each piece of art we create. I love every aspect of quilt making from technology, pattern and surface design, cultural differences and similarities, history, exhibit proposals — you name it.

**Do you have work in a current show?** I am currently part of a group exhibit (TAVA, Textile Artists of Virginia), Word Play and Puns at the Virginia Quilt Museum in Harrisonburg, Va., until July 12. I am curating an exhibit at VQM as part of the main exhibit complementing the annual American Quilt Study Group's Annual Meeting which will, hopefully, take place in Harrisonburg this August. Additionally, I will be the juror and judge for the Bower Center for the Arts Fiber Exhibit this summer.

**Do you have a favorite art/other media instructor? If so, who and where does she/he teach?** My favorite quilt instructor (and mentor) is Jinny Beyer. She continues to teach via YouTube now. I worked for Jinny for 15 years as part of her annual seminar staff and was impressed by how she would research each year's seminar topic from the ground up, never taking anyone's work for granted. Her understanding of color, geometry, symmetry and design is outstanding. Jinny's teaching manner takes all learning styles into consideration and has greatly influenced how I teach. Warren Corrado, a VCU teacher, is another favorite instructor and print maker who challenges students to produce their best.

**How has COVID impacted your usual creative practice? Creating more? Less? Differently?** I believe we were lucky in that we only had to shelter in place, being "retired." Zoom keeps us in contact with family, friends and the quilting communities. The danger and consequences to the world suffering through an epidemic hit me hard due to my medical background. It took three weeks before I could tear myself away from almost 18 hours of daily news. At that time, I learned about the New River Mask Making group, provided my extra fabric and became an N95 mask maker for the local rescue squads. That gave me a purpose for months. I worked on completing old quilts so the quilt pieces would not be found later in thrift or antique shops. Finally, I am ready to be creative but it has taken a year to get here. I have also recently taken advantage of three online workshops.



*Women's Lives by Paula Golden*

**If you weren't doing art, what would you be doing?** I would be gardening or watching the birds visiting our garden, moving plants around, and enjoying the Zen of weeding. I do this when the weather permits even though I should be creating art.

**Do you have a studio? How frequently do you create?** I remember sewing on the kitchen table and progressing to a hall closet, an extra bedroom to a designated studio with sewing, storage and work spaces as well as a view of the valley. It is indeed, heaven.

## Disks of encouragement: an interactive art sculpture

A Dave Angle and Diane Relf Project

Spring is here and it is time to cautiously emerge from our Covid cocoons.

The Blacksburg Museum and Cultural Foundation (BM&CF) on Draper Road in Blacksburg will be opening when deemed safe. In the meantime, the community is invited to visit the many outdoor art features and to study the exterior architectural features of the historic house. A new feature in the outdoor art at the front of the house is an interactive art sculpture designed to involve everyone in the community. Over 200 CD's have been prepared for painting to create hanging art for sharing. Based on a "Take One – Leave One" idea, it gives people an opportunity to share their joy in spring and the new year with others or to take home a disk which makes them happy and gives encouragement as things gradually get better.

In other words, take a finished disk if it makes you feel happy or leave a decorated one to bring happiness to others.

Prepared CD's and instructions are available at the BM&CF (affectionately known as the Black House), as well as Gillie's and Bollo's restaurants, for painting and hanging. If you have CD's you no longer want and would like to donate them to be decorated, you can drop them off at the Black House to be prepared with drilling and a base coat of paint. The community is welcome to share good wishes, encouragement, and spring thoughts through words and art on the 5" CD's. Watch for other locations over the next few weeks.

The new BRAA co-op gallery, The Art Space@The Artful Lawyer (between Hokie House and Chipotle), will also have prepared blanks so visitors and artists can decorate one while there and leave them to be picked up weekly by the Black House staff. Interested people can also take a disk home to work on and drop at the Black House. Check the BRAA website (<https://www.blacksburgart.org/artspace>) for co-op gallery hours. It is currently open Friday – Sunday noon to 4 p.m.

**Dave Angle**, BRAA member, built a rebar "pergola" as the base of the sculpture in front of the Black House, to hold several hundred decorated disks. BRAA members **Sue Hossack**, **Diamond Gabriel**, **Mary Ratcliff**, and **Trenia Bell** painted lovely disks to get the exchange started. Many disks are already hanging and will stay on the pergola at least through the planned re-opening of the museum in early June.

For CD-to-paint pick-up information, contact Sherry Kurtz, director of marketing and community engagement at the Alexander Black House at [skurtz@blacksburghistory.org](mailto:skurtz@blacksburghistory.org).

*Sherry Kurtz, director of marketing and community engagement for the Alexander Black House, adjusts the hanger for one of the disks on the interactive art.*



*Of course, there had to be a happy face on the Alexander Black House pergola.*

photos by Gerri Young



## Now showing

**April 15 – July 15**  
(unless noted otherwise)

**David Angle**, Long and Foster Realty, Blacksburg

**Raf Bedia**, See Mark Optical, Blacksburg

**Trenia Bell**, The Art Space @ The Artful Lawyer, Blacksburg (thru June)

**Patricia Bolton**, Blue Ridge Cancer Care, Blacksburg

**Riley Chan**, Brown Insurance, Blacksburg

**Marie Collier**, Pointe West Management, Blacksburg

**Alisa Colpitts**, Warm Hearth Village Center, Blacksburg

**Judy Crowgey**, Glade Church, Blacksburg

**Diamond Gabriel**, The Art Space @ The Artful Lawyer, Blacksburg (thru June)

**Paula Golden** and **Textiles Artists of Virginia**, Blacksburg Transit

**Teri Hoover**, Bluefield College, Bluefield, Va. (thru August 27)

**Sue Hossack**, The Art Space @ The Artful Lawyer, Blacksburg (thru June)

**Tom Jensen**, The Art Space @ The Artful Lawyer, Blacksburg (thru June)

**Susan Lockwood**, Zeppolis, Blacksburg

**Sally Mook**, Main Street Inn, Blacksburg and Art Pannonia, Blacksburg (thru May)

**David Pearce**, First Bank & Trust, Christiansburg

**Mary Ratliff**, The Art Space @ The Artful Lawyer, Blacksburg (thru June)

**Walter Shroyer**, Shaheen Law Firm, Blacksburg

**Samarth Swarup**, Brown Insurance, Blacksburg

## New members

A hearty welcome to new BRAA members **A.D. Herzel**, **Selena McColley**, **Jen Nelson** and **Carol Josefiak**.

## Kudos

Congratulations to **Donald** and **Joanna Sunshine**, who both had work accepted in the Bower Center for the Arts' Ninth Annual Juried Exhibition in Bedford.

*"Art only begins where imitation ends." ~ Oscar Wilde*

## ■ Exhibit and other opportunities

### **Floyd Center for the Arts 2021 Juried Exhibition**

**August 14 – October 2 • Floyd Center for the Arts, 220 Parkway Lane South**  
Entry deadline: **June 3**

The Floyd Center for the Arts invites visual media artists to submit work for exhibition in this juried show. The top cash prize is \$500, and other cash prizes and honorable mentions will be awarded. Artwork will be selected by watercolorist Z.L.Feng. The entry fee is \$35 for up to three works. All artists 18 years of age or older are eligible. Work must be original and executed within the past two years. Entry is open to fine arts and fine craft media including painting, sculpture, graphics, ceramics, textiles, mixed media, photography, time-based/new media, and installation.

Visit [www.callforentry.org](http://www.callforentry.org) to submit images. For more information, email: [programming@floydartcenter.org](mailto:programming@floydartcenter.org)

### **Call for Plein Air Artists**

**July 10, 2021 • New River Valley Garden Tour • 9–5 p.m.**

The Annual New River Valley Garden Tour showcases innovative, specialty and beautiful private gardens in the New River Valley each July. Artists are invited to paint at one of the five homes included on the tour. The event is sponsored by the Friends of the Library with the cooperation of the New River Valley Master Gardeners' Association and is a fundraiser to benefit the Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library. For more information, contact Teri Hoover at [crystalirisphotos@gmail.com](mailto:crystalirisphotos@gmail.com).

### **Bath County Art Show**

**July 17–25, 2021 • Valley Elementary School, Hot Springs, Virginia**

The Bath County Arts Association invites



painters, photographers, sculptors and mixed media artists to participate in its 56<sup>th</sup> annual art show in Hot Springs. This event offers the area's only opportunity to view and purchase art work from more than 200 regional artists. Proceeds from this annual event support scholarships, grants, arts education, music and much more in Bath County. This is the largest non-juried art show in the Alleghany Highlands with many categories of cash awards. Artists (18 years and older) may enter up to three works and the entry fee is \$15 per item. The BCAA will retain 30% of sales.

To register for this year's show and for more information, visit [www.bathcountyarts.org](http://www.bathcountyarts.org) or email [artshow.bathcountyarts@gmail.com](mailto:artshow.bathcountyarts@gmail.com).

### **Sunflower Festival**

**Mid-July through August 2021 • Sinkland Farms, Riner, Virginia**

Sinkland Farms is looking for artists to display and sell artwork at their Sunflower Festival. This new event will feature eight acres of sunflower fields, with over 175,000 blooms, and 20 different varieties of flowers! There will be three weekends jam-packed with activities, music, food, and fun! If interested, contact the Sinkland Farms team at [sinklandfarms@gmail.com](mailto:sinklandfarms@gmail.com).

## ■ Golden *continued from page 2*

**What tip or trick do you wish you had known about when you began making art?** I wish I had not been so afraid of making mistakes. It has only been this year I realized and finally understood whenever we try something new, there is no failure involved.

**What movie/book can you watch over and over without ever getting tired of?** I love mysteries and the first one I read (after all of the Nancy Drew series) was Agatha Christie's "Ten Little Indians" also known as "And Then There Were None." I was fascinated by the story and then how an author could create so many twists and turns. My favorite movie to watch while machine quilting all day long is A&E's *Pride and Prejudice*. For creating? Music by Yanni and Mstislav Rostropovich. ■

*The art featured in this month's nameplate is "Leaves" (left, photography) by Riley Chan. This and more of his work is on display at Brown Insurance in Blacksburg through June.*



## Making BRAA Work —

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