

■ Upcoming

February 16 and 17

h'Arts on Main

100 W. Main Street, Christiansburg

You won't want to miss these two days of art, music and wine. For more information, visit www.MontgomeryMuseum.org.

February 25 and March 11

Figure Drawing

The Artful Lawyer, A Fine Gallery, Inc., 318 N. Main Street, Blacksburg • 6–8 p.m.

After a brief hiatus, figure drawing resumes every other Sunday. \$10 fee with registration due on Friday before each session. If you are interested in being added to the figure drawing mailing list, please contact Diana Francis at 540-589-1431 or visit <http://artfullawyergallery.org/events>.

March 1

Patricia Bevan Reception

Holtzman Alumni Center Gallery, Virginia Tech Campus • 5:30–7 p.m.

This show, Equine Journey, features pastels by Pat Bevan. Works will be displayed until May 13.

March 7–9

All about Watercolor Pencils

Christiansburg Presbyterian Church, 107 W. Main Street

Robin Poteet will be instructing this fun class and will demonstrate multiple ways to use watercolor pencils. The course is geared for all skill levels and is \$175 per person. For registration and more information, email director@montgomerymuseum.org or call 540-382-5644.

March 9 and April 13

BRAA Monthly Lunch and Art Spot

Bull and Bones, First and Main, Blacksburg • 11:30 a.m.

Join your fellow members for lunch, hear the featured speaker's Art Spot, and share news about the latest art happenings. In March, Larry Bechtel will talk about the sculpting process. Martha Olsen will talk about creating paper art in April.

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Opportunities abound for artistic growth in 2018

by Lois Stephens

"I'm still learning." These words, supposedly uttered by Michelangelo before his death more than 450 years ago, still inspire artists today. If you're looking for something beyond self-discovery, maybe one of the following opportunities will be just what you need this year!

Nearby workshops include your very own BRAA offerings. Thinking about creating a series of pieces around a theme? On May 25-27, member and professional instructor Danie Janov will be leading students who want to explore **Working in a Series**. On Sept. 5-9, well-known artist Sandy Maudlin will travel to Blacksburg to teach **The Best of Yupo**, a class focusing on using watercolor or fluid acrylics on synthetic paper. Both classes will be held at the Warm Hearth Village Center. For more information, visit the BRAA website at www.blacksburgart.org.

The Montgomery Museum and Lewis Miller Regional Art Center in Christiansburg is offering two art workshops this year. Popular Roanoke artist Robin Poteet will be leading a **watercolor pencil class** on March 7-9. Studio School founder Vera Dickerson will be teaching a July 12-14 **water media class**. For more information, visit <https://montgomerymuseum.org>, email director@montgomerymuseum.org, or call 540-382-5644.

Figure Drawing is a great way to get back to the basics and sharpen your skills. The **Artful Lawyer, A Fine Gallery Inc.**, in Blacksburg provides this opportunity every other Sunday from 6-8 p.m. during most months. The cost to cover the model's fee is \$10 and registration is due the Friday before each class. For more information, visit <http://artfullawyergallery.org/events>.

Virginia Tech's Lifelong Learning Institute (for adults 50 years of age and older) usually offers two or three art courses each fall and winter semester. Classes are typically two hours a week for six weeks. The fall term is underway, but you can view course listings and sign up to receive a catalog for the fall semester at www.cpe.vt.edu/lifelonglearning.

The Moss Arts Center at Virginia Tech offers learning opportunities through workshops with visiting artists, lectures and symposia, master classes, hands-on experiences, and more. For more information, visit <https://artscenter.vt.edu/>.

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A wide selection of watermedia classes are available throughout our area and beyond.

photo by Gerri Young

■ Upcoming *continued from page 1*

April 6

Christy Mackie Reception

Alexander Black House, Blacksburg • 5-7 p.m.

Stop by this opening reception during Art Walk night in downtown Blacksburg. Christy Mackie's exhibit, Explorations, will be on display through May 5.

May 9

Whet Your Palette: Drawing and Sculpture Opening Exhibit

The Artful Lawyer, A Fine Gallery, Inc., 318 N. Main Street, Blacksburg • 5:30-8:30 p.m.

This dual show will feature drawings (dry medium such as pen and ink, pen, charcoal, etc.) and sculpture.

May 25-27

Working in a Series

Warm Hearth Village Center, Blacksburg

Popular instructor Danie Janov will be sharing her expertise of creating works in series in this three-day workshop. For more information, contact Charlotte Chan at charlotttechan@gmail.com.

June 2-3

Sidewalk Art Show

Taubman Museum of Art, Roanoke

This annual show attracts thousands to the downtown streets of Roanoke near the Taubman, and has featured original fine art since 1958.

June 12

Opening Reception, Mary Draper Ingles Exhibit

Glencoe Museum, 600 Unruh Dr., Radford

As part of the Mary Draper Ingles festival, this exhibit features work by plein air artists who painted at the Ingles farm, the Ingles tavery and ferry, or the Ingles statue. The exhibit will run through August 3.

July 12-14

Vera Dickerson Workshop

Christiansburg Presbyterian Church, 107 W. Main Street

Mark this date on your calendar to attend this workshop with this ever-popular instructor. For more information, email director@montgomerymuseum.org or call 540-382-5644.

August 5

Opening Reception, Simply Elemental

Hahn Horticulture Garden, Virginia Tech • 2-4 p.m.

Stroll around the garden and be among the first to admire this year's art installation. Works will be displayed through September.

Opportunities *continued from page 1*

Other offerings in the Blacksburg area may be found through the **YMCA Open University** (www.vtymca.org/) or **Art Pannonia** (www.artpannonia.org/ART_CLASSES.htm).

The Fine Arts Center for the New River Valley is located in downtown Pulaski and occasionally offers workshops. To keep abreast of their activities, visit their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/pg/facnrv.

The Floyd Center for the Arts offers classes throughout the year in most any medium imaginable. Local artists teach many of the courses, but nationally known artists from other regions are also enlisted. View their offerings by medium or month at www.floydartcenter.org/.

The Studio School in Roanoke has been providing art education and exploration to thousands of art enthusiasts for 26 years. Classes are taught at all levels by the area's leading artists and small classes ensure that everyone receives individual attention. The winter session has begun, but bookmark www.thestudioschool.biz and check back later for workshops and the fall class schedule.

The **Bower Center for the Arts** is located in Bedford and offers classes throughout the year. An introductory class on mosaics is scheduled for February 22 from 6-8:30 p.m. Students will learn the basics of mosaic design, materials used, several methods of construction, how to cut glass and porcelain tiles, and more. Registration information and a full listing of classes can be found at www.bowercenter.org/allclasses.

For those who desire distraction-free time away from home, there are many opportunities within a few hours' drive.

Penland School of Crafts (www.penland.org)

in Bakersville, N.C.

offers classes in drawing and painting, clay, photography, and more.

Activities begin in spring and continue

through fall. Water media classes are available April 7-13 at **Kanuga** (www.kanugawatermediaworkshops.com) in Hendersonville, N.C. Students may choose from 12 instructors or study independently. **Nimrod Hall** (www.nimrodhallart.com) is located less than two hours from Blacksburg in Bath County and offers both weekend and weeklong workshops from June through July.

Don't want to leave the comforts of home or studio? While they may not hone your skills, there's much to be learned from podcasts. **Artists Helping Artists** (www.blogtalkradio.com/artistshelpingartists) is hosted by Leslie Saeta, who brings guests on the show to give specific art practice tips and share advice about what has worked for them. **Plein Air** podcasts provide an in depth look at the experiences of outdoor painters (www.outdoorpainter.com/podcast/). **Bad at Sports** (www.badatsports.com) offers a weekly dose of anything and everything relevant to the life of a working artist. Simply search your browser for "art podcasts" to find more.

Strathmore paper company offers free online educational offerings. Classes begin March 5; for more information visit www.strathmoreartist.com/artist-studio/. **Craftsy** (www.craftsy.com/art) offers classes in pen and ink, colored pencil, and acrylics, most ranging from \$20-40. Online, "byte-sized" art tutorials can be found at **Daily Paintworks** (www.dailypaintworks.com/ArtTutorials/ArtByteStore). Some are free of charge, most are \$10. For more information about free **art history classes**, visit www.artsy.net/article/artsy-editorial-10-art-history-classes-online-free.

So challenge yourself! With vast learning opportunities nearby, afar, and online, you can make this a year of exploration and artistic growth. ■



Robi Sallee shares one of her creations during a 2017 BRAA-sponsored workshop.

photo by Gerri Young

photo by Teri Hoover Photography



Jewelry artist Charity Hall provided an informative and entertaining Art Spot at the February BRAA luncheon.

■ Exhibit and other opportunities

60th Annual Sidewalk Art Show June 2-3, 2018 Downtown Roanoke

This annual show is sponsored by the Taubman Museum and is the premier destination for fine art shopping. Submission categories include: original paintings, prints, watercolors, etchings, mixed media, photography, fine craft, and sculpture. Application deadline is **March 9**. For more information and prospectus, visit <http://www.taubmanmuseum.org/happenings/sidewalk-art-show>.

Plein Air Event: Mary Draper Ingles Exhibit April 2018 Various Sites in Radford

The Long Way Home, Inc., The Mary Draper Ingles Festival, and the Radford Heritage Foundation are sponsoring a plein air exhibit from June 12 – August 3 at the Glencoe Mansion, Museum and Gallery. During the month of April, participating artists will visit and paint at the Ingles farm, the Ingles tavern and ferry, or the Ingles statue. Finished works will be displayed at the Glencoe Mansion in conjunction with the Mary Draper Ingles Festival.

The exhibit opening reception is June 12 and works will be displayed through August 3. Applications will be accepted beginning February 18 on a first come, first served basis until all spots are filled. The entry fee is \$20 and the deadline is **March 23**. Drop off of finished works will be June 5 and 6 at the Glencoe Mansion.

A 30% commission will be charged for sales of paintings.

For more information, contact Ruth Lefko at rlefk02@gmail.com or 540-449-1328.



Simply Elemental Hahn Horticulture Garden, Virginia Tech

Proposals are now being accepted for this annual outdoor art exhibit that is integrated along the paths, plantings and trees of the horticulture garden. Deadline for proposals is **April 2**. The opening reception will be August 5 and works will be on display August 1 – September 30, 2018. For more information, visit www.hort.vt.edu/hhg/elemental/index.html.

Art Across Generations Various Community Venues

This event is a AARP Blacksburg initiative that will take place June 1 in conjunction with the downtown art walk. The theme for this inaugural program is "The Joy of Life." The program's aim is to solicit, jury, display and celebrate artworks created by multi-generational artists (such as a student and grandparent). There will be

■ Now Showing

January 15 – April 15

(except where indicated otherwise)

Raf Bedia, Long and Foster, Blacksburg

Pat Bevan, Holtzman Alumni Center, Virginia Tech Campus (thru May 13)

Jeanette Bowker, Mill Mountain Coffee and Tea, Blacksburg

Diana Dougherty, Shaheen Law Firm, Blacksburg

Paula Golden, Main Street Inn, Blacksburg

Leslie Roberts Gregg, Montgomery Museum, Christiansburg (thru February)

Johanna Jones, Shaheen Law Firm, Blacksburg

Sidra Kaluszka, Brown Insurance, Blacksburg

Cheryl Mackian, Zeppoli's dining room, Blacksburg

Christy Mackie, Alexander Black House, Blacksburg (April 6 thru May 5)

Elina McCartney, See Mark Optical, Blacksburg

Larry Mitchell, Community Arts Information Office, Blacksburg (Feb. - Mar.)

Martha Olson, Community Arts Information Office, Blacksburg (Feb. - Mar.)

David Pearce, Blue Ridge Cancer Care, Blacksburg

Joy Rosenthal, Blacksburg Transit

Robi Sallee, Virginia Tech Library System (VTLS), Blacksburg

Linda Weatherly Shroyer (and Walter Shroyer), "Imaginations," Rotunda Art Gallery, Chuck Mathena Center, Princeton, West Va. (thru Mar. 4)

Michele Walter, First Bank and Trust, Christiansburg

Shaun Whiteside, Glade Church Gallery, Blacksburg

Norma Woodward, Virginia Tech Women's Center

Gerri Young, Point West Management, Blacksburg

featured member

Get to know

Lisabeth Weisband at

www.lisabethweisband.com

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■ **Exhibit and other opportunities** *continued from page 3*

a cash prize of \$150 for first place and lesser amounts for second and third place. Submissions are due **April 15** and will be juried prior to the June 1 Art Walk. For more information, contact Peter Magolda at magoldpm@me.com or Wendy Baldwin at wendybburg@gmail.com.

The Artful Lawyer, A Fine Gallery Inc.
318 N. Main Street, Blacksburg

Applications are now being accepted for participation in the following 2018 shows.

- Drawing and Sculpture, May 9 – July 25
Application deadline: **April 18**
- Social Commentary, August 1 – Oct. 10
Application deadline: **July 11**
- Black and White, Oct. 17 – Dec. 19
Application deadline: **Sept. 26**

For more information or application form, visit artfullawyergallery.org/gallery-shows or contact Diana Francis at Diana@creekmorelaw.com, or call 540-443-9350, ext. 707.

6th Annual Bower Center National Juried Exhibition

May 22 – June 30, 2018
Bower Center for the Arts, Bedford

All artists over the age of 18 are invited to enter up to three works for this show. The

■ **Kudos**

Several BRAA members are currently exhibiting at the Artful Lawyer, A Fine Gallery Inc. The transportation themed show features **Kirk Carter, Marie Collier, Susan Lockwood,** and **Michele Walter** along with Alex Crookshanks, Zoe Katz, and L.S. King. Works will be displayed until May 2.

"I feel there is nothing more truly artistic than to love people."



Vincent Van Gogh

The art featured in this month's nameplate is "By Hand" (found object assembly, 10.5 x 4") by Diana Dougherty. This and more of her work can be viewed at the Shaheen Law Firm in Blacksburg through mid-April.

event offers more than \$1500 in awards to be presented at the reception on June 8. Entry fee is \$30 and the deadline is **April 4**. For more information, visit <https://www.bowercenter.org/>.

Art at the Market

July 21
Downtown Blacksburg

This annual juried art show and sidewalk sale is in conjunction with Breakfast at the Market. Live music contributes to this festive occasion. Artists are responsible for providing their own display materials and booths. Check the website at downtown-blacksburg.com/art-at-market-blacksburg.aspx for future posting of details.

Call to Artists: Gobble d'Art Installations in Blacksburg

Interested in painting a whimsical Hokie Bird? The Gobble de Art project is sponsored by The Blacksburg Partnership and entails working on a commissioned Hokie Bird project. The birds are five feet tall and weigh approximately 60 pounds. A \$1000 honorarium is paid to selected artists upon completion of the project. For more information, contact Diane Akers, president of The Blacksburg Partnership at 540-443-2008.



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- Vacant**, co-vice president
- Jeanette Bowker**, treasurer
- Pat Bevan**, secretary
- Rafael Bedia**, membership
- Robi Sallee**, past president

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<http://www.blacksburgart.org/>



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Send news of receptions, exhibits, awards, photos, comments, or newsletter suggestions to **Lois Stephens** (loisstephens56@gmail.com)

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