



blacksburg regional  
art association

# NEWS

1950-2020 ■ Celebrating 70 years of connecting people through art August 2020

## ■ Art Calendar

*NOTE: Some of the following events may be postponed or cancelled due to the pandemic.*

### August 14

**BRAA Monthly Lunch**  
Glade Church Pavilion, 1600 Glade Road,  
Blacksburg • 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Bring your lunch and beverage and join fellow members (at a social distance) under the picnic shelter. This month's Art Spot will be a show and tell, so come and share what you've been doing this past month. Feel free to bring your art supplies for plein air painting afterwards!

### August 15-16

**62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Sidewalk Art Show —  
Now Virtual**  
Saturday, 6-7:30 p.m.; Sunday, 1-4 p.m.

The Taubman Museum of Art has made the tough decision to cancel the on-site, physical show. The event will now be a YouTube livestream where visitors can chat with artists for Q&As, demonstrations, studio tours, and more. For more information, visit [www.taubmanmuseum.org](http://www.taubmanmuseum.org). Or shop today at [shop.taubmanmuseum.org](http://shop.taubmanmuseum.org)!

### August 29

**BRAA Playdate**  
Moose Lodge, 115 Farmview Rd. NW,  
Christiansburg • 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Join in the fun and make collage papers from deli paper, paint, stamps, and stencils. Bring your own lunch and paints. Free to members (registration required). Sign up at [www.blacksburgart.org/workshops](http://www.blacksburgart.org/workshops).

### September 23

**Opening Reception, More Leaves of the Tree**  
Radford University Art Museum on Tyler,  
214 Tyler Avenue, Radford • 6-8 p.m.

This all-media exhibit features works made of leaves, depicting leaves, referring to leaves, or metaphorically about leaves.

### October 17-21

**Keiko Tanabe Workshop**  
Moose Lodge, 115 Farmview Rd. NW,  
Christiansburg

This BRAA-sponsored workshop will be taught by internationally-known watercolor

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## Upcoming workshop features internationally-known watercolorist

Ready to get out of the house and expand your water media skills? BRAA is sponsoring a Keiko Tanabe watercolor workshop on October 17-21.

The workshop is designed for those who would like to make a watercolor painting that is strong in composition and full of light and atmosphere. Tanabe demonstrates how she interprets and simplifies the scene to capture the essence of the subject that conveys a certain mood. Through complete, step-by-step demonstrations, she will explain her methods and techniques to reveal her philosophy behind it. Subject matters may include landscapes, cityscapes, waterscapes, interiors and figures. The introduction focuses on the fundamentals including getting to know materials and seeing things with an artist's eye. Other areas covered include: preliminary drawing and composition, watercolor techniques in paint application and brush handling, what makes a good design, understanding of relationship of dark and light values, planning vs. intuition, and how to edit complex visual information.

There will be demonstrations, plenty of one-on-one guidance and a question-and-answer session each day. A class critique may be conducted at the end. Weather permitting, there will be plein air painting time.

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*Instructor Keiko Tanabe*

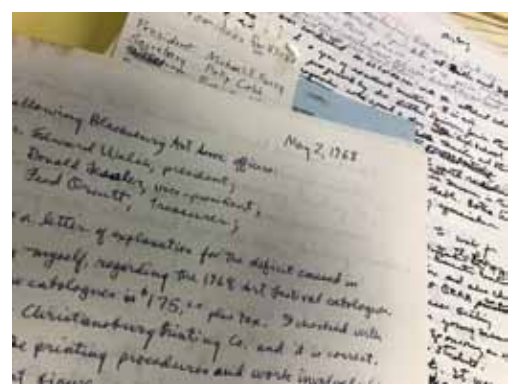


## Delving into BRAA history

by Gerri Young

Newsletter editor Lois Stephens and I recently jumped, or sort of crawled, into the task of researching the history of BRAA which began in 1950 and is, therefore, 70 years old this year. All the records are stored downstairs at (temporarily closed) Artful Lawyer in downtown Blacksburg. We wind our way from the back into the parking lot, unlock two doors, turn on the air conditioning and settle into portable tables (borrowed without permission) from the Downtown Blacksburg storage room.

We sit in white plastic lawn chairs I brought from home and attack file after file of records created by many different people in many different styles. We throw away obvious junk and create big piles by subject: finance, events, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts (we used to have a very formal arrangement with them), VT (another very formal arrangement), board meetings, member listings, etc. My favorite pile is called "color." This is a treasure of obviously old things —



*Gerri Young*

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**Calendar** *continued from page 1*

artist, Keiko Tanabe. It is designed for those who would like to make a watercolor painting that is strong in composition and full of light and atmosphere. Cost is \$475 for members and \$525 for non-members. See more information elsewhere in this newsletter and register at [www.blacksburgart.org/tanabe](http://www.blacksburgart.org/tanabe).

**October 24–25**

*Botetourt Open Studios*

**Botetourt County • Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Sunday, 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.**

Visit scenic Botetourt County in this self-guided driving tour of artists who will be offering their work and sharing their creativity in their unique studios. For more information, visit <https://openstudiosbotetourt.com/>.

**November 20**

*Artists Sunday*

**Online Event, #ShopArt**

Consider shopping with local artists and galleries for your unique gifts this year. Artists and arts organizations may sign up online as a supporter and receive toolkits this September. For more information, visit [www.artistssunday.com](http://www.artistssunday.com).

**Art offers solace during pandemic**

While Covid-19 affects people in many different ways, making art is a constant in the way our members are coping. Some have shared their work and thoughts about the cathartic effect of creating during this challenging time.

**Vera Dickerson** “Art saves our sanity ... I have painted my surroundings this spring. My corner of the fenced-in vegetable garden has been so glorious to visit early every morning, watch the morning sun strike the flowers, take photos and then go to the studio and paint. When I needed to see something else, i drove the back roads of Botetourt and took photos when the view and pull-off place happened to occur together. I’m not usually a landscape painter, but Spring 2020 has been superb. My online class focused on spring green mixtures and they were all around me, changing every week. As things have opened up, I was able to take photos and work on a portrait and deliver art to galleries. Let’s hope others also need to fill their souls with beauty, color and the emotional expressions we have painted.”



Vera Dickerson

**Danie Janov** “I am at my daughter’s home during this time while I am receiving chemo treatments. (My own version of the pandemic! Double reasons for isolation!) I have been making small collages with papers that I have made over time.”



Danie Janov

**WANTED:  
Holiday items  
for the  
Museum  
Market on Main!**

The Montgomery Museum will offer a Christmas Market this year and hope you and your work will be there! They are looking for new items of all kinds, but especially relative to Christmas! The market officially opens on Friday, **November 20**, so items must be in the shop by the **November 16**. If interested in participating, please contact Sue Farrar at 540-382-5644.

**Patricia Bolton** “In the beginning, I found time to play a little with my alcohol inks, ever so colorful! While sitting watching the birds and drinking my morning coffee, I was inspired by a pot of pansies on our back deck. Now I have a new puppy, so my medium is photography.

Whether you have lots of time or just a little, it’s fun to take the time to express yourself! Virtual hugs to all you wonderful artists.”



Patricia Bolton

photos by Riley Chan



*Matt Gentry, accompanied by his dog, Toby, discussed his adventures in plein air painting at the July 10 BRAA luncheon at Heritage Park. The August 14 luncheon will be held at Glade Church pavilion beginning at 11 a.m. Bring your lunch and beverage and share your art adventures!*

## ■ Kudos

BRAA member **Vera Dickerson** received a bronze award in the annual exhibition of the Southern Watercolor Society for "Blue Gown Waltz." She was also accepted in the National Watercolor Association's International 2020 juried show for her work, "Life Behind a Mask."

**Martha Olson's** work, "Victoria" was accepted in the Virginia Mennonite Retirement Community's online exhibition. This highly-competitive national show is online for the first time due to the pandemic. Olson's entry was a 3D vessel made from a brown paper bag, paint, and waxed linen. To view the exhibition, visit [vmrc.org/juried-art-exhibitions](http://vmrc.org/juried-art-exhibitions).



*Blue Gown Waltz by Vera Dickerson*

The following BRAA artists have been accepted into the 2020 Artemis Journal: **Teri Hoover, Sally Mook, Robi Sallee, Karen Sewell, Linda Weatherly Shroyer, Tereza Srostikova, and Gerri Young.** This year's theme is "Season of Women." The journal was founded 42 years ago and is published annually by a charitable non-profit organization supported by the Roanoke Arts Commission and The Roanoke Taubman Museum of Art. 10% of its earnings are donated to the Women's Resource Center in southwest Virginia, a shelter for abused women. Copies of the journal are available through [www.artemisjournal.org/store](http://www.artemisjournal.org/store) and are often found for sale in several locations in Blacksburg such as The Alexander Black House and Sugar Magnolia.

## ■ Now showing

July 15 – October 15

**Patricia Bolton**, See Mark Optical, Blacksburg

**Charlotte Chan**, Montgomery Museum, Christiansburg (July 9 thru Aug.)

**Paula Golden**, Brown Insurance, Blacksburg

**Maxine Lyons**, Long and Foster, Blacksburg

**Betty Moore**, Zeppolis, Blacksburg

**Nancy Norton**, Shaheen Law Firm, Blacksburg

**Diane Relf**, Blacksburg Transit

**Diane Gillis-Robinson**, Blue Ridge Cancer Care, Blacksburg

**Karen Sewell**, Main Street Inn, Blacksburg

**Walter Shroyer**, Pointe West Management, Blacksburg

**Samarth Swarup**, First Bank & Trust, Christiansburg

*"Life beats down and crushes the soul and art reminds you that you have one."*

~ Stella Adler

## ■ workshop *continued from page 1*

Mostly self-taught, Keiko Tanabe began her professional art career in 2005 and has exhibited extensively in the U.S., Asia and Europe. Since 2011, she has completed over 230 workshops and numerous live demonstrations around the world. More information about her can be found on her website at [www.ktanabefineart.com/](http://www.ktanabefineart.com/).

The workshop will be held from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. each day at the Moose Lodge in Christianburg. There is a maximum of 20 students, one per table. Masks are required, and gloves if you handle anything belonging to other artists. The 5,500 square-foot room provides plenty of space for social distancing and is on one level with easy access. Parking is plentiful. Lunch is on your own.

The registration fee is \$475 for BRAA members and \$525 for non-members. For more information and registration, visit <https://www.blacksburgart.org/tanabe>. ■

## ■ Exhibit and other opportunities

### ■ **Art Appalachia: 2020**

**October 17 – December 3, 2020 • Floyd Center for the Arts, 220 Parkway Lane South, Floyd**

This juried exhibition will feature art produced by artists currently living and working in the geographical/cultural region of Appalachia.

Spanning from Mississippi to New York, Appalachia's geographic area is hosted by 13 states. Near the center of this region is The Floyd Center for the Arts.

Cash prizes will be awarded. The exhibit will be available virtually and for in-person viewing, and juror Wendy Earle will discuss her experience selecting the included works in a gallery talk in the Hayloft Gallery.

Entry is open to all artists 18 years of age or older and currently living or working in the geographic area defined as Appalachia. Work must be original and executed within the past two years. Artists may submit up to three pieces for consideration. The entry fee is \$40 and the deadline for entry is **August 22, 2020**.

For more information, visit <https://www.floydartcenter.org/post/art-appalachia-2020-juried-exhibit>.

### ■ **Smithfield Artist Showcase**

**September 27, 2020 • Historic Smithfield Pavilion, Blacksburg**

Historic Smithfield is offering local artists the opportunity to display and sell their work under their covered pavilion and other areas on site. Participating artists may keep 100% of their sales. Smithfield will charge visitors a \$5 admission fee.

For more information, email Kenna Jewell at [kjewell@historicsmithfield.org](mailto:kjewell@historicsmithfield.org) or call 540-231-3947.

### ■ **We Are Art**

**Roanoke Arts Commission**

The Roanoke Arts Commission invites artists and performers to share images of their



creations and they will help promote the work by sharing with others via Facebook and Instagram. If interested, email [douglas.jackson@roanokeva.gov](mailto:douglas.jackson@roanokeva.gov) with high resolution images of your work. Include your name, a sentence or two describing the work or your process, and your medium. Like them on Facebook and Instagram (@artinroanoke #artinroanoke #weareart) to see what others are doing.

### ■ **Out There**

**Willis, Floyd County**

More than 30 of Charlie Brouwer's delightful wooden sculptures can be found throughout his 9-acre property on a 1-1/2 mile trail walk. To make an appointment to visit, call 540-250-2966, email [cbrouwer@swva.net](mailto:cbrouwer@swva.net) or visit <https://charliebrouwer.com/outhere.html>.

### ■ **history** *continued from page 1*



old handwriting, old pieces of paper, old (and very formal) letters, old programs, old listings of names of people responsible for everything from trip planning (yes, they did lots of trips!) to flowers, to refreshments, to mailings (yes, lots of postage, stationary and envelopes were bought for just about everything because the internet was not even a twinkle in anyone's eye at that point). This pile makes our labors worthwhile. It makes us happy to see names like Joni Pienkowski and her husband Robert, like Francis Frederick and Robert Miller (Miller off Main Frame Shop) who were very active in decades past and still involved in the Blacksburg art scene today. Years from now, with so many BRAA things online, the next researchers will never have as much fun as Lois and I are having. But we do hope to store our findings on the BRAA webpage so those researchers can appreciate our efforts in decades to come, and they can say "Oh yeah, I remember Gerri and Lois ... sort of."

*The art featured in this month's nameplate is "Butterfly on Lavendar" (left, canvas print, 11x14") by Samarth Swarup. This and more of his work is on display at First Bank & Trust in Christiansburg until mid-October.*



### **Making BRAA Work —**

**Charlotte Chan**, president  
**Alisa Colpitts**, vice president and workshop chair

**Jeanette Bowker**, treasurer  
**Sue Hossack**, secretary and web administrator

**Gerri Young**, past president  
**Ava Howard**, membership chair

**Jerri Nemiro**, community gallery committee

**Teri Hoover**, marketing chair  
**Robi Sallee**, meeting chair

**Lois Stephens**, newsletter chair  
**Linda Correll**, public art chair

**Betty Moore**, education/outreach chair  
**Jesse Burgardt**, New River Biennial chair



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

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