



■ Upcoming

September 21

Simply Elemental Garden Walk
Hahn Horticulture Garden • Noon – 1 p.m.
Paula Golden leads this walk through the delightful outdoor art exhibition.

Sept. 25 and Oct. 9

Figure Drawing
The Artful Lawyer, Blacksburg • 6–8 p.m.
The model, easels and drawing boards are provided and the cost is \$10. Reserve your spot online by the Friday before each session at <http://artfullawyergallery.org/events>.

Sept. 28 and Oct. 13

Paint Parties
The Artful Place, A Fine Art Studio, 106 Faculty Street, Blacksburg • 7 – 9:30 p.m.
Join in the fun — \$30 covers all supplies. Upcoming themes are: Boats on Sept. 28 and Pumpkins on Oct. 13. To register, visit <http://artfullawyergallery.org/events>

Sept. 29, Oct. 13, and Oct. 27

Women Influencing the Arts Speaker Series
Virginia Tech Women's Center, 206 Washington St., Blacksburg • 5:30 p.m.
This series explores the accomplishments and challenges facing women in the arts. For more about the speakers and to make reservations, visit womeninfluencingthearts.wordpress.com/speakerseries/.

October 2

Plein Air in Blacksburg
2095 Plank Dr., Blacksburg • 3–5 p.m.
Paula Golden welcomes members to paint the scenes around her home. Register at rlfko2@gmail.com.

October 7

Art Walk
Downtown Blacksburg • 5–7 p.m.
Spend the evening visiting downtown galleries and join the art scavenger hunt. Make your first stop the Community Arts Information Office on College Avenue for all the details.

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Responding to life with creativity

By Gerri Young

Every artist dreams of an idyllic location in which to find a muse, a guiding spirit, a source of inspiration. Many never find it, but learn how to make do.

Linda Weatherly, a new member with BRAA, may have found that idyllic location, but perhaps has had the guiding spirit all along.

Originally from Atlanta, Ga., she and her artist husband, Walter Shroyer, now live in the Springville area of Bluefield, Va., about an hour and a half from Blacksburg. Her driveway leads you to beautiful rock walls and steps which lead you past a lush arbor (watch out for the snake), a garden exploding with yellow flowers, a row of apple trees heavy with fruit, a charming red barn (complete with chickens) and straight to the door of the two-story shared studio space built by the couple when they moved to Tazewell in 2010.

Walter is a potter downstairs where the air is touched with the smell of clay. Linda is mostly a 2D artist upstairs. They both invade the other's space with Linda creating clay earrings and lovely "mommy" vases downstairs, perfect for that single blossom picked by a youngster's little hands and presented to their adoring mother.

Walter is an art professor at Bluefield College, a job that brought them from the University of Georgia in Athens where they met and connected over clay-covered hands. The nearly three foot tall head Linda created in clay impressed him. It now sits in the home's garden spaces.

Linda earned a bachelor of fine arts degree and graduated Magna Cum Laude in 1978. She later attended three semesters of drawing at Radford University in 2010.

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Linda Weatherly often creates series of works such as these watercolors with butterflies and thrones.

Terri H. Hoover Photography

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October 8–9

Plein Air and Art Show at South Peak

South Peak, Roanoke • Sat. 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Saturday offers plein air painting, an art show, and painting demos. On Sunday there will be a “wet paint” sale and people’s choice award. Participation is free and there is no commission. To register, email name, address, and phone no. to bhooper@southpeak.net or call 540-904-2403.

October 9

Plein Air at Poplar Hill Alpacas

2621 Mt. Tabor Road., Blacksburg • 4–6 p.m.

Alpacas will be in the field ... maybe they’ll pose. Register at rlefk02@gmail.com.

Oct. 14 and Nov. 11

BRAA Monthly Lunch and Art Spot

Famous Anthony’s, Blacksburg • 11:30 a.m.

Join your fellow members over lunch to discuss the latest art happenings and hear the featured speaker of the month.

October 15–17

Collage Workshop with Danie Janov

Warm Hearth Village Center • 2387 Warm Hearth Drive, Blacksburg

Popular instructor Danie Janov leads this three-day workshop exploring collage art. Enrollment is now full for this class.

November 2

Golden Product Demonstration

Warm Hearth Village Center, 2387 Warm Hearth Drive, Blacksburg • 6–8 p.m.

Amy Shawley, representative of Golden Artist Colors, Inc., and author of the book, “Acrylic Texture Techniques—Rock, Metal and Wood” will demonstrate how to use the company’s many products. Golden A to Z will focus on acrylic gels, paints and more, but will also touch on the world of oil and watercolor painting products. Mark your calendar and watch for further information on this free event.

November 3

Name Tag Play Date

Blacksburg Library, Draper Road • 9–12 p.m.

Ever puzzled trying to remember the name of a fellow member? Paula Golden will lead this activity where you’ll design your own BRAA nametag.

November 13

Annual BRAA Meeting

Blacksburg Rec Center, Patrick Henry Drive • 1:30–3 p.m.

Attend the annual meeting and learn more about the Center for the Arts from guest speaker Ruth Waalkes. A short meeting will follow with election of officers.

■ President’s Report

The end of the year might be just around the corner, but we have lots of exciting things on the calendar before we call it done.

Oct. 2, 3–5 p.m. — Plein air at the home of BRAA member **Paula Golden**, 2095 Plank Drive, Blacksburg. A different time frame will give us different light!

Oct. 9, 4–6 p.m. — Plein air with the alpacas at Poplar Hill Alpacas, 2621 Mt. Tabor Road, Blacksburg. This is an exciting first time for an alpaca adventure, which will include some presentation by the owner to help us understand the alpaca business. How cute will this day be?

Oct. 15–17 — Our member **Danie Janov** is once again conducting a workshop for us at Warm Hearth Village on the subject of collage. This workshop filled quickly with about 20 artists and has a wait list. Danie is an excellent artist and professional art instructor. Students will enjoy her calm and thorough teaching methods and are sure to come away with new skills and ideas. Thanks to **Charlotte Chan** for her usual excellent coordinating of this workshop and to Danie for agreeing to teach us again. The Warm Heart Village location is hard to top for a workshop setting.

Nov. 2, 6–8 p.m., Warm Hearth Village — Golden A to Z. This two-hour presentation on paint covers a broad range of acrylic products and gives a brief introduction to Williamsburg Oils and QoR Watercolors. Various acrylic materials and techniques will be demonstrated and basic tips given regarding mixing paints with gels and pastes. Amy Shawley is a member of Golden Artist Colors working artist program and has lectured on this subject extensively throughout southern California, Virginia, Maryland and Delaware. Mark your calendar for this event and be sure to register when the registration process goes live soon. Attendance will be limited to 50 artists with BRAA members getting preference.

Nov. 13, 1:30–3 p.m. — 2016 annual meeting and election. Our speaker will be Ruth Waalkes, Associate Provost for the Arts and Executive Director, Moss Arts Center, who will speak to us about the Moss Center and the important role it now plays in our community. Find out what it is like to head this beautiful and vital organization.

December — Last but not least, our annual Christmas Market planning is underway! Every year, our space in the CAIO (Community Arts Information Office) on College Avenue in Blacksburg is transformed into a Christmas Market for the month of December. Chairman of the CAIO BRAA Gallery, **Carole Davis**, will work with me to get all the ornaments in a row to make this happen. All BRAA artists are eligible to participate. We will be looking for selling prices under \$100 to make good holiday gifts. In 2015, we had over 20 artists who provided a nice variety of merchandise from ornaments to hand-turned wooden bowls, notecards, prints, jewelry, fused glass and 2D painting or photographs. We will soon come out with full information and registration for artists interested in participating this year. Keep in mind that the 2015 sales were the biggest ever, topping \$2000!




○ Sign up for events@downtownblacksburg.com to keep up with the many events in town, including art exhibitions.

○ Hahn Horticulture Garden welcomes plein air artists. After 5 p.m. and weekends, no parking permit needed. Restroom available during open hours only. Benches and chairs available in many locations throughout the garden.

○ Want an easy way to share your art? If you have an iPad, check out <http://www.adobe.com/go/page-home>. This is so easy to use, you can learn it quickly ... it is called Spark Page.

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"I was a city girl," recalls Linda. "All this country took some getting used to, but I really like it now."

Upstairs, Linda is clearly the artist in residence until you see the table covered in thousands of postmarked stamps sorted into baggies, providing her husband with the media with which he creates intriguing, stamp-filled 2D artworks.



Small clay vases are among Weatherly's many art adventures.

Linda covers the walls of this light-filled space in beautiful pieces featuring mostly watercolor and ink with impressive colors and details. An occasional 2D work by Walter is a reminder of the crossover this artist team enjoys.

Her current work is bright and instantly brings to mind intricate hand woven carpets or hand stitched quilts. "I go through a brain storming period for a new piece," said Linda. "Once my layout is done, the painting process becomes almost meditative for me."

The process for these detailed pieces requires a steady hand, which was not a problem until 2006 when she was diagnosed with breast cancer. "The side effects of chemotherapy challenged me to find new ways to express the physical and emotional upheaval a cancer patient must deal with," recalls Linda.

Linda's hands did not work as well for the detailed pieces during that time, so she began chronicling her journey through cancer treatments and the loss of a breast by painting larger, flowing pieces featuring the changes in her body. "I worked in various media to create a body of work titled *Exposure, A Creative Response to Breast Cancer*," said Linda. "This series travelled to galleries in Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Georgia and New York."

Linda recently presented much of this artwork at a BRAA luncheon and spoke about her personal journey through the experience.

Was cancer her muse, her guiding spirit? Obviously, this body of work would not have happened without it.

By 2009, she enrolled in Radford University's MFA program for three semesters and used watercolor and pastels to explore "becoming" (her new self?). She tried to answer the questions of "Who are we? Where is the rhythmic cycle of life leading us?"

Today, in 2016, Linda feels the distance between those difficult years and her new start in the Tazewell area where she continues to enjoy watercolor, pastel and ink as well as working the clay. She currently has giant butterflies hanging in the Simply Elemental outdoor installation at the Hahn Horticultural Garden through September and a piece in the BRAA exhibition at The Alexander Black House in Blacksburg.

She has shown extensively in Virginia, West Virginia and New York. Her solo shows have taken her from Virginia Tech to West Virginia, New York, Tennessee and Georgia. She has won a nice list of awards including second place in BRAA's recent "Portraits: Let's Face It" annual member theme show which displays until mid-October at the VTLB Building at 1701 Kraft Drive in the Corporate Research Center of Blacksburg.

Her penchant for detailed work serves her well in a long-term illustration contract she holds with the Alfred Hitchcock Mystery Magazine published in New York, as well as with eight other publications.

Linda and her husband have two sons; one is a photographer living in Blacksburg and one works for Partners in Health in Malawi, Africa.

You can find out more about this creative couple on Facebook at Twin Creek Studios. ■

■ Now Showing

July 15 – October 15

(except where indicated otherwise)

Lisa Acciai, Brown Insurance, Blacksburg

Patricia Bolton, Haga Law, Christiansburg (thru Sept.)

Judy Crowgey, Christiansburg Library (thru Sept.)

Vera Dickerson, Holtzman Alumni Center, Virginia Tech (thru Dec.)

Susan Hensley, Pointe West Management, Blacksburg

Ruth Lefko, Route 8 Donuts, Christiansburg (thru Sept.)

Rita Montross, Virginia Tech Women's Center

Betty Moore, Main Street Inn, Blacksburg

Nancy Norton, Zeppoli's, Blacksburg

David Pearce, Mill Mountain Coffee and Tea, Blacksburg; and New River Bank, Christiansburg (thru Sept.)

Suzanne Ross, Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Blacksburg (thru Oct.)

Robi Sallee, Blue Ridge Cancer Care, Blacksburg

Karen Sewell, Blue Ridge Cancer Care, Blacksburg and Hahn Garden Pavilion, Virginia Tech (thru Oct.)

Jane Thorp, New River Bank, Christiansburg (thru Sept.)

Nancy Trump, Chateau Morrisette, Floyd County (thru Nov.)

Michele Walter, Virginia Tech Women's Center

Lisabeth Weisband, Montgomery Museum, Christiansburg (thru Oct.)

Shaun Whiteside, Fleda A. Ring Gallery, Roanoke (thru Sept.)

Norma Woodward, See Mark Optical, Blacksburg

Gerri Young, Zeppoli's, Blacksburg

"Don't think about making art, just get it done. Let everyone else decide if it's good or bad, whether they love it or hate it. While they are deciding, make even more art." ~ Andy Warhol

■ Exhibit Opportunities

Carilion Patient Art Show

Roanoke Memorial Hospital, Roanoke • Nov. 4 – Dec. 15

Anyone who has received care at a Carilion facility in the past two years is eligible to submit a painting for this show. Application deadline is **Sept. 30**. For more information and registration, visit www.nationalartsprogram.org/venues/carilion-clinic-patient-exhibit.

Sinkland Farms

3020 Riner Road, Christiansburg

Artisans and crafts people are invited to show and sell every Saturday and Sunday throughout October. The entry fee is \$25 and the deadline to register is **Sept. 25**. For more information, email sinklandfarms@gmail.com.

2017 Biennial Juried Exhibition

Olin Hall Galleries, Roanoke College

This show is Jan. 27 – Feb. 26 and is open to all artists within a 180 mile radius of Roanoke College. Work must be original and executed within the past two years. The deadline (receipt, rather than postmark) is **Nov. 7**; for more information contact Talia Logan at mlogan@roanoke.edu or 540-375-2332.

■ Welcome New Members

BRAA welcomes all new members, most recently —

- Laura Kropat
- Sharon Naglic
- Sharon Vander Meulen

You could win a pet portrait!

Be sure to visit Brown Insurance by mid-October. Those who view Lisa Acciai's art and sign her guest book will automatically be entered in a drawing for a free pet portrait. How wonderful is that?

The art featured in this month's nameplate is "I'm Just Dog Tired" (right, acrylic, 11 x 14") by Lisa Acciai. This and more of her work can be viewed at Brown Insurance in Blacksburg through October 15.

Applications open for VMFA Fellowship program

The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Fellowship program was established in 1940 through a generous contribution by the late John Lee Pratt of Fredericksburg. Offered through VMFA Statewide, Fellowships are still largely funded through the Pratt endowment, and supplemented by annual gifts from the Lettie Pate Whitehead Foundation and the J. Warwick McClintic, Jr. Scholarship Fund.

The Fellowship program has a long and established history of supporting Virginia's artistic talent and has helped to further the careers and studies of many distinguished individuals, including recent recipients Charlie Brouwer of Willis, Cynthia Henebry of Richmond, and Leigh Anne Chambers of Courtland.

VMFA offers \$8,000 awards to professional artists, \$6,000 awards to graduate students, and \$4,000 awards to undergraduate students. All applicants must be legal residents of Virginia and student applicants must be enrolled full-time in degree-seeking programs.

Applicants' works are reviewed anonymously by distinguished jurors and awards are made based on artistic merit. The deadline for Fellowship applications is 5 p.m. on Friday, **November 4**.

Full eligibility criteria can be found at www.VMFA.museum/fellowships.

■ Kudos

Congratulations to **Shaun Whiteside** who won first place in the acrylic category for his painting, Nocturne II, at the Sept. 6 reception of the League of Roanoke Artist's 31st Annual Showcase of the Arts.



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