

■ Art Calendar

January 19 – March 7

Why We Can't Wait

Perspective Gallery, Squires Student Center, Virginia Tech

Gallery hours: Noon – 8 p.m., Tues.–Fri.; Noon – 5 p.m., Sat.; and 1–5 p.m., Sun.

This annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. student exhibition celebrates his 1964 publication, "Why We Can't Wait," about the non-violent movement against racial segregation. This multimedia exhibit of artwork by Virginia Tech students and staff gives voice to the statement, "Why We Can't Wait" for racial justice.

March 12, April 9

BRAA Monthly Lunch (Virtual)

Via Zoom • 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Meetings are held online via Zoom. Watch for email notification on how to join or logon from the website at <https://www.blacksburgart.org/meetings>. For the March Art Spot, Ava Howard will be sharing her ideas for a collaborative post-card art project. April's speaker will be Ellen Morris who will talk about her experiences of painting the Live Fully mural in downtown Blacksburg.

May 21-23

Fluid Acrylic on Yupo

Christiansburg Moose Lodge • 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Tracy Budd will teach this three-day workshop in acrylic on Yupo, a synthetic plastic watercolor paper. Different techniques will be explored for controlling and not controlling the paint to build a beautiful, exciting surface. Stencils, rollers and markers, along with fluid paint will be used to layer and build intriguing surfaces and integrate representational subject matter into the paintings. More information to follow, or visit <https://www.blacksburgart.org/> for updates.

June 5–6

Sidewalk Art Show

Downtown Roanoke • 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

This annual art show infuses downtown Roanoke with energy, excitement, and creativity. Check out works of painting, sculpture, fine art photography, fine crafts, jewelry, watercolor and much more.

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A virtual chat with Walter Shroyer

As told to Gerri Young

Home town: I live in Springville, Va., about 10 miles from Bluefield, Va. I was born and raised in Atlanta, Ga., which to me was an asphalt city with speed and noise. When I was 15, I remember going hiking in the North Georgia mountains and I thought "you mean there is a quiet place on earth without all the concrete and traffic?" It was then I decided I wanted to live in the mountains. Thirty years ago, I moved to Southwest Virginia and fell in love with the mountains.

A little bit about your family: Some of you know my wife, Linda Weatherly Shroyer, who is also an artist. We have been married for 42 years. We met in the art department at the University of Georgia where we were both art majors. We have two sons, Michael and Forrest. Michael is a freelance photographer who works for the Roanoke Times, Getty Images, and USA Today Sports. Forrest is an engineer working in Boston. He has one child who is seven months old named Donnacha. His wife is from Ireland and they met in Haiti while working at a hospital.

Do you have a pet? We currently have a dog named Sophie and a barn cat named Cindy. They are both up in age but a joy to be around.

Why do you belong to BRAA and how long have you been a member? Linda joined BRAA several years ago to connect more with fellow artists. One year she did a family membership which included me. I am glad she did! Last year I had work at the Artful Lawyer, Blacksburg Transit, and Pointe West Management.

What media do you work in? Which is your favorite?

I work in several mediums. My college background was primarily in the ceramic arts but I have always enjoyed pastels, oil painting, printmaking, and watercolor. The last few years I have been working on several collage series using old postage stamps. Most of the stamps were collected by my father. He passed away 20 years ago and had collected thousands of stamps both cancelled and uncanceled. I couldn't seem to throw them away and after several years of calling my name to do something with them I started using them as a design element. So far, I have completed about 60 works using these stamps. I have a Chinese series, a WWII Series, and a Flag Series. I still do make lots and lots of utilitarian pots I have for sale at various places.



Walter Shroyer's art was displayed last year at the Artful Lawyer in Blacksburg.

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

June 5–6

Chaos to Order — with Kathleen Conover
Studio School, Roanoke • Monday, June 14 – Friday, June 18

Award-winning Michigan artist Kathleen Conover presents her exciting workshop experimenting with materials, design, and watermedia. For examples of her work, additional description of this workshop and a supply list, visit her website at <https://kathleenconover.com/>.

The class fee is \$450 and there is a limit of 20 students. The registration deposit is \$200 and the \$250 balance is due **April 10**. For more information, call 540-206-2209.

■ **Shroyer** *continued from page 1*

How long have you been actively pursuing artistic endeavors? I took my first art class my senior year of high school. I remember really enjoying working in clay. When I first started college, I was a forestry major (wanted to live in the mountains) but after taking several electives in clay I changed my major to art. I often tell people, if you had told me when I was 18 I would be teaching art in college, I would have just laughed at you.

Do you have work in a current show? If so, where and when does it end? I have work for sale at the Appalachian Arts Center in Claypool Hill, Va., at the Southwest Virginia Cultural Center and Marketplace in Abingdon, Va., and at the Lost Pearl Gallery in Tazewell, Va.

Do you have a favorite art/other media instructor? The person who means the most to me is my professor/mentor from the University of Georgia, Ron Meyers. He is 85 now and retired from teaching ceramics but still makes pots. He always encouraged me and pushed me to do my best.

How has COVID impacted your usual creative practice? Creating more? Less? Differently?

I don't think COVID has impacted my creative practice. I have still been working in the studio when I am not teaching in the classroom.

If you weren't doing art, what would you be doing? I would be gardening and taking long walks in the woods.

Do you have a studio? Linda and I built a 1200-square-foot studio on our property eight years ago. The first floor is a 3-D studio where we mostly do ceramics and the second floor is our 2-D studio where we do pastels, watercolors, and collages.

How frequently do you create? I am usually the most creative when I am not teaching. I have summers off and a long break for Christmas.



What movie/book can you watch over and over without ever getting tired of? I love science fiction movies and reading science fiction books. I remember watching the original War of the Worlds movie and being fascinated by the imagination of H.G. Wells. I also grew up in the space age. When I was 11, the U.S. first put a man on the moon and my friends and I used to build rockets and play with cardboard Lunar landers. Back then I wanted to go to Mars!

Is there anything else you would like to say about yourself/your art? I have been teaching art in college for over 35 years and have been at Bluefield College for 30 years. I love the act of creating and letting my intuition get the best of me. ■

Keeping Track of Your Art Inventory

by Teri H Hoover

As artists we often create a lot of art. More than we can or want to keep track of. What to do?

As I prepared for my current solo show at the Montgomery Museum, my quandary intensified. The sad sight of a boring Excel sheet with teeny thumbnail images was too much. I dreaded trying to add images to an Excel document and the unappealing results. There had to be a program that highlighted the artwork and showed relevant data in an attractive way. A quick google search brought up pages of solutions for art inventory management. I was overwhelmed. Enter Gerri Young; she said she had tried a program called Artwork Archive in the past but had not kept up with it. Not a rousing endorsement but I whipped over to the website. They show you an example — right on the opening page. No wordy descriptions. Artwork Archive showed me. Boom.

So I'm sharing my experience with the Artwork Archive program.

Here is the description from their website: *Artwork Archive is an art inventory platform that artists use to track their artwork, showcase their portfolio and grow their business.*

Is there a free trial option? Yes, for 30 days.

What does it cost? \$6/\$12/\$19 per month.

Which one do I have? \$6 per month — but I'm ready to upgrade.

- Includes 50 art pieces — ALL chosen data linked to each piece.
- Includes choice of data, such as Name, Artist, Price, Media, Size (framed/unframed), Date Created, Individual/Specific inventory Number, Location, Status (available/sold)
- 5 locations (current locations of your art)
- Single user
- Shareable profile, portfolio and news/blog
- Beautiful invoicing
- Contacts list — clients and galleries
- EASY art tag making
- EASY PDF of your portfolio
- Linkable to your website

PROS

Ease of use: Strong beginners can navigate this very intuitive set up. There are minor quirks in the invoicing system.

CONS

Pricy if you have more than 50 pieces of art to inventory. The main drawback is you must upgrade from the basic plan (50 pieces of art) to 500 pieces — at \$12.99 per month!

I love the program a lot. It makes me a bit crazy that they only allow for 50 pieces on their basic plan. I also would like a few ways to personalize the look of the program. But for the most part the professional look and ease of use outweigh any drawbacks.

Learn more about Artwork Archive at www.artworkarchive.com/

You can find my art profile on Art Archive at www.artworkarchive.com/profile/t-hoover.



Simply Elemental — Going Live 2021!

Coming out of the doldrums of this strange winter, allow your creative spirits to kindle and soar. Consider submitting your art to the annual Simply Elemental Show in the Hahn Horticulture Gardens at Virginia Tech. This outdoor, multi-media art installation will be going live again this year after 2020's virtual production.

Once again we can stroll through the beauty of nature and enjoy the inspired pieces of local artists.

Important dates:

Hahn Horticulture Gardens hosts SE 2021 **August through September 2021**

Submission open date **February 15**

Submission due date **April 15**

Notification to artists **May 1**

Installations scheduled **July 26-30**

Show ends **September 30**



Groovin' in the Hahn, gourd art by Terry Warthen



Painted posts were a collaborative project by BRAA members for the 2019 Simply Elemental exhibit.

To find our more information and the link to apply, visit the Simply Elemental website at <https://hahngarden.vt.edu/elemental/index.html>. The Simply Elemental page has information and photos from the past and also the virtual 2020 show.

Call for Mushrooms and Fairies

by Diane Relf

You are invited to share in the fun. The end of March 2021, Beth's Garden at the Montgomery Museum of Art and History will welcome a garden full of mushrooms with a flight of fairies to enchant visiting children of all ages. How many mushrooms and fairies visit the garden for the months of April, May and June will be up to the artists and crafters of the New River Valley. Mushrooms and fairies can be made of cement, fiber, gourds, wood, metal, plastic, or any material that will last for a minimum of three months outdoors. The additions to the garden can be cast, carved, painted, mosaic, 3-D printed, sewn, glass, or any other way you express yourself creatively. A half-dozen recycled CD discs painted with fairies and hung as a mobile would be charming. Photos printed on metal for outdoor shows, paintings on a window, and just about anything else can be accommodated, although you may have to help figure out how to display it. If you still have mushrooms or fairies that you made for Simply Elemental, they are welcome at Beth's Garden. At the end of the show you may have your art work back, but we would really appreciate you donating it to the museum for a fundraiser auction.



If you would like to be a contributing artist to this fun community event, please send a note with some facts about your contribution and your contact information to dianerelf@icloud.com. You will be informed of the time and dates of the Covid-compliant installation schedule.

"Art is the stored honey of the human soul."

~ Theodore Dreiser

Now showing

January 15 – April 15
(unless noted otherwise)

Dave Angle, Warm Hearth Village Center, Blacksburg

Charlotte Chan, Pointe West Management, Blacksburg

Pam Goff, Shaheen Law Firm, Blacksburg

Teri Hoover, Zeppolis, Blacksburg and Montgomery Museum, Christiansburg (thru February)

Delbert Jones, See Mark Optical, Blacksburg

Ruth Lefko, Main Street Inn, Blacksburg

Cheryl Mackian, Glade Church, Blacksburg

Diane Relf, Long and Foster Realty, Blacksburg, and Warm Hearth Village Center, Blacksburg

Robi Sallee, Bluefield College, Bluefield, Va. (until April)

Karen Sewell, First Bank & Trust, Christiansburg

Lois Stephens, Blue Ridge Cancer Care, Blacksburg

Michele Walter, Blacksburg Transit

Gerri Young, Brown Insurance, Blacksburg

Warm hellos, sad goodbyes

A hearty welcome to new BRAA members **Catherine Buyrn, Diane Goff, Kim Kirk, Pippi Miller, David Wender** and **Joanne Weyerhaeuser**.

Carl Pfeiffer, a BRAA Club 80 member, died on February 15. Long-time member and beloved artist teacher, **Danie Janov**, passed away on February 17.



Danie Janov, an outstanding teacher whose generous spirit and friendship will be greatly missed.

■ Exhibit and other opportunities

63rd Annual Sidewalk Art Show

Now Accepting Applications!

June 5–6, 2021 • 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. •

Downtown Roanoke

Entry deadline: **March 5**

The annual Sidewalk Art Show infuses downtown Roanoke with energy, excitement, and creativity. Don't miss your opportunity to exhibit in this premier destination for fine art shopping.

Submission categories include painting, mixed media, sculpture, drawing and original printmaking, fine art photography, fine craft (clay, fiber, glass, wood & metal), and jewelry.

A newly added feature, the Taubman Museum is also offering the opportunity for artists to list their artwork in their Online Art Sale from May through June. This unique opportunity affords high exposure to the museum's patron base through digital marketing efforts. Artists can select to exhibit in both the physical show June 5-6 and the Online Art Sale or choose one over the other. Artists for either presentation will be subject to the jurying process.

For more information, visit

www.taubmanmuseum.org/happenings/sidewalk-art-show

42nd Annual Virginia Watercolor Society Exhibition and Show

June 9 – September 14, 2021 • Portsmouth

Entry deadline: **March 15**

This juried exhibition features watercolor and other water media works. Applicants must be VWS members. For more information, visit <https://viriniawatercolorssociety.org/>.

BRAA Theme Show

June 8 – July 31, 2021 • Perspective Gallery, Virginia Tech

Entry deadline: **April 30 and May 1**



This juried exhibition for current BRAA members invites works with a theme of "Place." The concept for the title has to do with being in a 'place' and reflecting on that through the creative process of the visual arts. The theme may be interpreted by each artist through his or her medium of choice.

There will be no physical opening reception due to COVID restrictions.

Members may enter up to two pieces per artist. The actual work must be submitted to Perspective Gallery for jurying on Friday, April 30, from 12–7 p.m. or Saturday, May 1, from 12–5 p.m. Early or late entries cannot be processed. The pick-up date for art not selected is May 17 or May 18 between 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Artwork must have been created between 2019 – 2021 and not have been previously exhibited at Virginia Tech.

For more information, visit

<https://www.blacksburgart.org/2021-theme-show>

Water Quilt Project

Deadline for completed work: **May 1**

ARTivism Virginia is pleased to invite you to participate in the Water Quilt Project to honor and protect the waterways of Virginia, West Virginia and North Carolina threatened by the Mountain Valley Pipeline.

This community art project is focused on building community and telling the story of neighbors and water bodies impacted by the MVP. Quilters, artists, storytellers, and water protectors from these directly impacted regions as well as anyone from around the globe are invited. There are many ways to participate.

The Water Quilt squares will be assembled by ARTivism Virginia and completed squares should be delivered by May 1.

How and when the fully finished Water Quilt is brought to our communities is pandemic safety dependent and to be determined.

To learn more and participate in the project, visit www.tinyurl.com/WaterQuiltProject, or email waterquiltproject@gmail.com. Follow the project at ARTivism Virginia Facebook and ARTivism Virginia YouTube.

The art featured in this month's nameplate is "Should I Stay or Should I Go" (left, oil on gallery deep panel, 16x16") by Cheryl Mackian. This and more of her work is on display at Glade Church in Blacksburg until mid-April.



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

Vacant,

community gallery committee

Teri Hoover, marketing chair

Ruth Lefko, member 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) 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, Pat Bevan, newsletter editorial board