



Happy Holidays

from the Wickford Art Association

Please Welcome our new President ...

First, may I start by saying what an honor it is to have been elected as the latest President of the Wickford Art Association. Since I first joined the Association, I have been impressed with the quality of artwork displayed at the gallery, the education programs that are offered, and the active volunteer participation of so many of the members to help ensure the success of the organization. Now that I have the opportunity to serve as the president of the board, I am absolutely thrilled to help play a part in the future success of the gallery and the Association! I am sure that I echo the sentiments of the other newly elected board members as I express our gratitude to the departing board as well as those who will continue to serve with us in the coming year. There is much to be done and I believe we have an outstanding group of individuals who are up to the task!

The past few months have been a blur of activity starting in September with our fantastic fundraising events. Four unique and stimulating events were designed to provide attendees with one-of-a-kind experiences sure to delight! The final event, a waterfront gala and jazz concert, took place on a perfect fall evening and was a magical experience for all who attended. A sincere 'thank you' to all of the artists who donated pieces for the "Inspired Moments" silent auction. Your generosity truly made the event a success. The auction winners were completely ecstatic with their treasures of fine artwork! We have already



started planning for next year's events and intend to make the gala an annual celebration!

In October, we hosted the awards ceremony for the Rhode Island Art Education Association's (RIAEA) Art Educators the Year award. The evening was an opportunity to recognize outstanding art educators in the state and celebrate all that they do to teach and inspire students to have a passion for art. It is truly moving to hear about all the work that these folks do to help encourage creativity in young minds.

Most recently we held our opening reception for the annual photography show at the Association. We had a record-breaking number of entries for the exhibit at 174, with 69 pieces currently on display. Our juror, Lindsay Elgin, had quite the challenge in selecting the pieces to include; there were so many incredible images to choose from! It just goes to show we need to get that gallery expansion underway so we can have additional room to display more of the fantastic artwork submitted to our shows!

In closing, I am very much looking forward to the opportunity to meet and interact with as many of our members as possible at future events throughout the coming year. If you see me at an event, please do introduce yourself, and I will do the same!

Wishing you and your families a safe and joyous holiday season.

Erin Walsh – WAA President

The purpose of the Association shall be to educate, encourage and inspire its membership, the local arts community and the general public and to promote fine arts in the community.



Gallery Hours: Tuesday – Saturday 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. • Sunday 12 p.m. – 3 p.m.
36 Beach Street • Wickford, RI 02852 • 401.294.6840 • www.wickfordart.org • gallery@wickfordart.org



UPDATE from the Festival Director

Member NEWS

Dennis DiMauro won 3rd place in the Abstract/Avant Garde show at the Wickford Art Association. He was also selected by The Audubon Society of Rhode Island to be their featured artist May-June 2015 – his nature and wildlife photographs will be hanging in their Bristol gallery. The Audubon Society also continues to publish his pictures in some of their other promotional materials as well. Dennis also won entry into the Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor 2015 Calendar Photo Contest.

Cynthia DiDonato was recently named a signature artist of the RI Watercolor Society.

Congratulations... TO OUR NEW Juried Artist Members

To qualify as a Juried Artist Member, the artist must prove acceptance into four Wickford Art Association juried shows within any twenty-four month period.

- Congratulations to our Newest JAMs
- Dennis DiMauro** – Photography
- Anthony DeAngelis** – Painting
- Don Brown** – Photography
- Pamela Sherer** – Photography

Technology UPDATE

The Wickford Art Association is excited to announce that we are transforming the way we operate internally. Microsoft offers a powerful suite of technology tools free to non-profits designed to help us work smarter and more collaboratively. Moving to this software will help make us more efficient, more effective and streamline our processes to enable us to better promote fine arts to our members and the community. This suite of technology tools has professional technology support and world-class data security, so feel at ease; your data will be safe.

As winter falls on Wickford, we are busy planning the 53rd Wickford Art Festival on July 11–12, 2015. Applications and Instructions may be downloaded from our website in January. The *Call for Artists* will open on February 1st, and applications must be postmarked by April 1st.

The Wickford Art Festival is a juried fine art festival with a rich history and diverse collection of artists. We are heading into our second year of no sales tax on fine art, a governor-elect who plans to grow our economy and a vibrant arts community in Rhode Island – consider applying and making your mark in history! If you know artists, give them this newsletter and urge them to apply to the Wickford Art Festival, take an art class or enter one of our gallery exhibits.

Businesses that would like to support the arts through program advertising or sponsorship should contact me at wickfordartfestival@gmail.com for more information. Tens of thousands of people attend this festival – let's work together to promote your business and the arts. We have a wide variety of options to suit your needs and your generosity supports the scholarship fund, art programs, exhibits and more.

Follow festival news at our official Facebook page Wickford Art Festival RI or on Twitter @wickfordartfest.

See you at the festival...Judy Salvadore – Festival Director

REMEMBER to designate the “Wickford Art Association” when you make your workplace giving pledge to United Way of Rhode Island. Write in “Wickford Art Association, 36 Beach St., Wickford, RI” on the United Way pledge form in the area where it asks for Agency amount and information. Thank you for your support of the arts!

Welcome ... to our newest members

- Denise Boisvert
- Diane Brown
- Laura White Carpenter
- Kathleen Caswell
- Lee Chabot
- Melissa Comerford
- Joanne Costanza
- Janet Dassau
- Josh Edenbaum
- Susan Escherich
- Debbie Filkins

- Steph France
- Steven France
- Angelo Giacchi
- Carol Giliberto
- Jacob Jordan
- Karen Kelleher
- Lucas Kolasa
- Helen Lambiase
- Becky Mansolillo
- Christine Mathieu
- Shelley Parness

- Arlene Petit
- Marie Pamental
- Doreen Picone
- Marshall Poole
- Beth Ann Ryden
- Louise St. Pierre
- Patricia Sylvia
- Christine Webb
- David Zapatka

OPEN JURIED Show Awards

ABSTRACT/AVANT GARDE

- 1ST PLACE – Sharon D. Eisman
- 2ND PLACE – Joyce A. Neville
- 3RD PLACE – Dennis DiMauro
- HONORABLE MENTION – Elinor Thompson
- HONORABLE MENTION – Bev Silva
- JUDGES AWARD – Kerstin Zettmar
- JUDGES AWARD – Noreen Berthiaume
- JUDGES AWARD – Lucas James Xavier Kolasa

PHOTOGRAPHY SHOW

- 1ST PLACE – Dianne E. Miller
- 2ND PLACE – John Pitocco
- 3RD PLACE – Jillian Barber
- HONORABLE MENTION – Shane Gutierrez
- HONORABLE MENTION – Alyson McCann
- JUDGES AWARD – Karin Forde Whittemore
- JUDGES AWARD – Lewis Keen
- JUDGES AWARD – Avis O'Neill



Gallery NEWS

To my favorite group of artists,

“I saw the angel in the marble and carved until I set him free” - Michelangelo

Are you carving away at your soul? Is your art moving you? Good. Or are you dry and lost and wondering where your inspiration has gone, and are you grappling with the harsh realities of life? If so, may you cease to strive, and may you be guided by your intuition instead.

“Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.”

- Ralph Waldo Emerson, Poet

Friends, this has been a very full time for us as we strive to commit ourselves to a fulfilling future. It takes great energy and great people to make a great future.

I often say to new emerging artists when they are in doubt, why not you? So often the world of competition creeps into artists' minds and causes anxiety. We all want to make our mark in this world, we all long to express ourselves in one way or another. And the truth is there is a place for everyone, there is always room for one more.

Looking back at the fall we started with a bang! Our 1st Annual Fundraising Gala and Events were fundraising exciting and have left a remarkable impression in the community who participated. There are many people to thank for all their hard work. First and foremost, Paula James, Rebecca Escobar, Leslie Felker, and Judith Anderson who assisted me in pulling everything together in all the fine details. This would not have been possible without all of you. Many more folks are to thank: The “Up Close” event was put on by the generosity of Theresa Girard, Anthony Tomaselli and Judy Chaves – people were enthralled by the experience! The Auction had 33 works of arts generously donated; we are so thankful for all the artists who gave to this! Kim Baker, our house poet produced another “Poetry on Vermeer.” It was amazing to see the image of a work of Vermeer with an original poem written and read for it!

And finally the Gala took place on the most beautiful night of the year! The floral arrangements were done by Jeannine Anderson and were truly spectacular! Many thanks to Cataylsis and our main line act of Tish Adams and her jazz ensemble for the great music.

This event was made possible by the generous donations from our main sponsor, South County Hospital Cardiac Unit, our table sponsor, Centreville Bank, and our 2 program sponsors, Bank RI and Pawtucket Credit Union.

Also thanks to Mike Dooley, Alice Babcock, Gerry Grabowski, Richard Kelley, Felicia Whiting, Victoria Torey, Bonnie Eisman, Beth Johnston, Tracy Taylor and many more who volunteered of their time to make these events possible.

As this year comes to a close and we look forward to the new year to come, let us keep in mind the importance of what art means to our lives and take steps to ensure we continue to live and encourage and create fully, while carving out our own trails.

Creatively yours,

Sarah Tallarico – WAA Executive Director

Photographic Arts Group

I hope that everyone was able to stop by the gallery and view the Annual Photography Show. There were a record number of entries (over 170) making the selection extremely challenging for our juror, Lindsay Elgin. We really appreciated Lindsay's process and were especially thrilled to have her at the opening where she spoke about each piece she selected. Visit our website www.wickfordart.org for an indepth explanation of her comments.

We have had several special presentations this fall. Shane Gutierrez's presentation on “10 Deadly Sins of Composition”, William Deveney's “History of Photography Part 1” and Babs Bourgette and Gerry Grabowski's “The Wise Photographer” were all well received and attended. If you have any suggestions for presentations in 2015 please let me know.

Happy shooting...John Pitocco

NOTE worthy

Community Events

2nd Tuesday of each month – FREE and opened to the public

TUESDAY – JANUARY 13

Lindsay Elgin will be speaking on the topic of photography.

TUESDAY – FEBRUARY 10

Tim Cranston will discuss the History of Art in Wickford.

Congratulations to all!

Recently the Wickford Art Association hosted the Rhode Island State Awards Ceremony for Art Teacher of the Year. Each year, the RIAEA (Rhode Island Art Education Association) honors the top educators in our state and for the 3rd year now the Wickford Art Association has sponsored this event.

High School Art Educator of the Year – Kurt VanDexter

Middle School Art Educator of the Year – Caroline Law

Elementary Art Educator of the Year – Paul Carpenter

Distinguished Friend of RIAEA – Dr. Paul Sproll

A special *Thank You* to **Tavern by the Sea** who generously donated the fabulous food!

Juried Artist Member OF THE MONTH

The Wickford Art Association recognizes these accomplished Juried Artist Members for their lifetime work as artists:

JANUARY 2015: Robin Beckwith

FEBRUARY 2015: Cynthia DiDonato

MARCH 2015: Nancy Paull

APRIL 2015: Susan Klas Wright

Happy Holidays ... Happy Holidays ... Happy Holidays ... Happy Holidays ...



Wickford Art Association
36 Beach Street Wickford, Rhode Island 02852

WINTER NEWSLETTER
2014

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