

Southern Saratoga Art Society

A SOCIETY FOR THE APPRECIATION OF THE VISUAL ARTS

January 2024 News and Updates

President's message

Happy New Year!

New beginnings, fresh creativity, a year to start fresh and renew!

Staying motivated and getting inspired is essential and sometimes so hard. I found a few tips online to stay inspired: nature, life experience, interacting with other artists, learning a new type of art, and try sketching as often as possible.

Our Board met recently and we have so many things planned and to look forward to this year that I think we will all get motivated! Lots of great demo's coming, yearly art show, and great venues to show our artwork, etc.

In 2024, stay well, make the best of what we have, stay creative and stay tuned for more creativity and inspiration. See you in March!

Rita Helie

2024 Schedule

Keep your calendars open for the 4th Monday of each month (except May, which will be a Tuesday). All meetings are held at the Clifton Park Senior Community Center at 6:30 pm.

Our first meeting will be held on March 25 and will be our popular annual "Show and Tell" meeting. Members bring in a piece of artwork - a new creation, an old favorite, a work-in-progress, or even something you are struggling with and need advice about - to share with other members. This is always a very social meeting - people share ideas and tips, new mediums or supplies they have tried, and give each other support. Please plan to attend!

[Click here](#) for the 2024 Schedule (still a work in progress!).

Be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#) for up-to-date info on demos and other news.



Membership - Don't forget to send in your 2024 dues!

SSAS Membership is \$30 per year and includes meetings, discounted entry to our annual Autumn Jewels Judged Art Show, social events, artist's demos, the ability to show your artwork at local venues, and a clickable link to your artwork on our website Gallery page.

Current SSAS members, unless you joined either in the last quarter of 2023 or at the same time as entering 2023 Autumn Jewels Show, your 2024 membership fee is due on January 1st. [Click here for a Member Renewal form.](#)

Not a SSAS member yet? [Click here](#) for a SSAS Membership Form.

Save the Date!!

There will be a reception at the **Mechanicville Library** for SSAS member Lynne Kaiser on January 20 from 12 to 2pm. Lynne's artwork will be on display until the end of January. Please plan to attend!

The reception for the SSAS-sponsored **Shenendehowa High School** student art show will take place on March 13 at the Clifton Park Senior Community Center. The artwork - which is always amazing - will be on display during the month of March. We are looking for volunteers to help with the set-up and bring baked goods and/or beverages. Reply to this email if you are available. More details to come!

Artist of the Month - Mechelle Roskiewicz

Visit the SSAS webpage to see more of Mechelle's artwork and her artist's statement:

<http://www.southernsaratogaartist.com/featured-member-of-the-month.html>



Interested in being the Artist of the Month? Email electronic copies (photos) of your paintings you want displayed, along with titles, medium, sizes and prices (optional) to Val Wolf at info@southernsaratogaartist.com. Val will frame, resize and crop your artwork as needed.

Note: Starting this month, this section of our website will be called the **Featured Member of the Month** page. We want people to know that any SSAS member can participate, there is no selection process - you can just sign up!

SSAS Board Elections

At the SSAS November meeting, we elected our 2024 Board of Directors and Officers with a unanimous vote. We welcomed two new board members - Kristine Kelly and Denise Kornak. [Click here](#) for the full list of Officers and Board Members.

Member Shows

Please support your fellow members by visiting these exciting shows! SSAS members - have an upcoming show? Email info@southernsaratogaartist.com and we will list it here.

Are you interested in displaying your work at any of the venues listed below? Contact info@southernsaratogaartist.com and we will direct your email to the venue coordinators.

SSAS Sponsored Venues

Clifton Park Senior Community Center (large space - books quickly)

January and February: Carol Winterton

Clifton Park Town Hall (4 pieces of art - great venue for large works)

January: Rita Helie

February: Anup Sood

Mechanicville Library (large space - beautiful room)

December/January: Lynn Kaiser

Note: There will be a reception at the Library for Lynne on January 20 from 12 to 2pm.

Please plan to attend!

February/March: Carol Winterton

Cupola Coffee in Burnt Hills

January: Bill Daisack, Rita Helie, Margo Janek, Cheryl Jenks, Maureen Kelly, Denise Kornack, David Mayack, Mary Mochrie, Anup Sood, Denise Stewart, Joan Van Alphen, Tracy Pagano, Carol Winterton

Bella Lucia's, 1218 Route 146, Clifton Park (there is room for about 10 paintings)

December/January: Rita Helie, Maureen Kelly, Denise Kornak, David Mayack, Tracy Pagano, Denise Stewart, Joan Van Alphen, Carol Winterton, Karen Zimmers

Artist's Corner

Saratoga Arts has many classes available this winter! New this year, they are offering a weekly Critique Night - an open dialogue among artist peers. You can bring your work of any medium to get feedback, discuss your ideas, and techniques. Each session is \$10 for members, or \$15 for non-members. Check out their website for more information: <https://www.saratoga-arts.org/education>

Do you want to better connect with your art and yourself? Artist Iain Stewart shares his therapeutic process of recording his days in sketchbooks.

<https://www.artistsnetwork.com/art-mediums/watercolor/memories-etched-in-simple-sketches/>

Some of his timely advice:

"In the rush of social networking and the 24-hour news cycle, I find the most peaceful way to approach the start of the day is to stay away from screens for as long as possible. Try it. Take 30 minutes with your coffee and draw. Choose anything on your table, look out the window or, better yet, go outside and give yourself some sketchbook time. A minute or two with your sketchbook will calm you in ways that might surprise you."

Feedback

We welcome your feedback on any of the above topics. Please reply to this email with your comments.

Visit our website for more information about upcoming demos and other news.

Questions? Email: info@southernsaratogaartist.com

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