



Allen Bryan, *Weather Report*, PHOTOGRAPHY

art Ability

a celebration of art by artists with disabilities



Main Line Health®
Bryn Mawr Rehab Hospital

2022-2023

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Jim Braun

jbrown@csgrupp.com
484-356-6633

Darryl Cooper

dcooper@csgrupp.com
484-356-6634





Priscilla Bohlen, *Abstracted Floral*

2022 Art Ability Celebration: A benefit for Bryn Mawr Rehab and artists with disabilities

27TH ANNUAL ART EXHIBITION AND SALE

Saturday, November 5, 2022–Sunday, January 29, 2023*

Bryn Mawr Rehab Hospital | 414 Paoli Pike, Malvern, PA

** Guided and self-guided tours of the exhibit will be available by appointment only.
For more information email artability@mlhs.org. Masks are required.*

Art Preview and Self-Guided Tour Weekend

Saturday, November 5, 2022 | 3:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 5:00 pm

Sunday, November 6, 2022 | 2:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00 pm

Art Ability Dinner

Thursday, November 10, 2022 | 6:30 pm

Phoenixville Foundry, 2 North Main Street, Phoenixville, PA 19460

Art sales will begin on Saturday, November 5, 2022, at
12:00 pm EST

bidpal.net/artability22



Joyce Washington, *Melody*

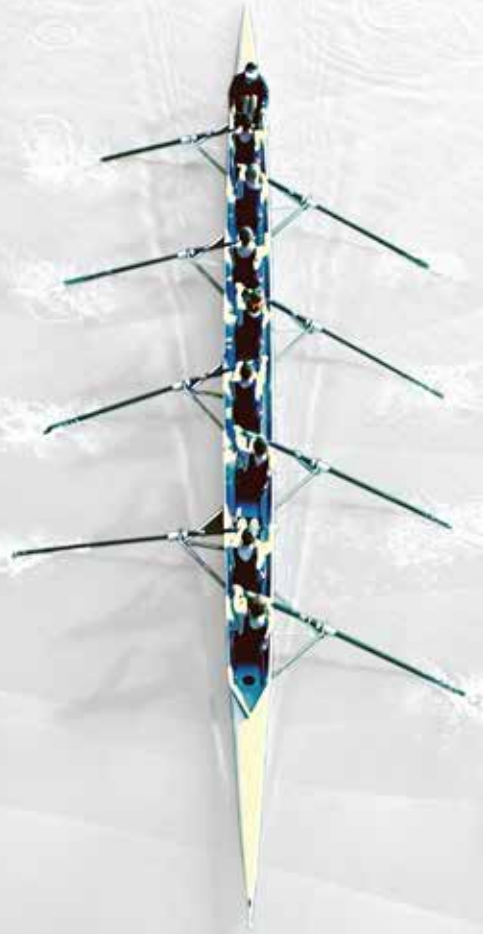
Creativity is a powerful catalyst in the healing process.

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Named 2022's 2nd largest healthcare consulting firm by Modern Healthcare, Guidehouse integrates strategy and policy expertise into consulting and outsourcing solutions that help hospitals and health systems, government agencies, employers, life sciences companies, and payers deliver innovative services to their communities.





Donna M. Phillips

President, Bryn Mawr
Rehab Hospital

Senior Executive, Ambulatory
and Professional Services

Dear Friends,

We are excited to celebrate the 27th annual Art Ability Exhibition and Sale. As the largest program of its kind, Art Ability provides a special opportunity for artists with disabilities from around the world to showcase and sell their art. Since the program's beginning in 1996, more than 1,000 artists have displayed their works and have personally benefitted from sales in excess of \$1.2 million.

Despite the need to adapt the preview event and visits during this year's exhibition, we hope you will share in our celebration and recognition of these extraordinary artists. Their courage to triumph over a disability or debilitating life event to harness their creative talent is a striking reminder of the beauty, power and resilience of the human spirit. I congratulate each of our artists exhibiting this year and thank them for sharing their work with us.

Art Ability is integral to Bryn Mawr Rehab's mission, and every day, clinical staff members incorporate Art Ability into their patient treatment plans. Through art, we inspire patients to reach beyond their limitations and achieve their goals.

Funds raised through art sales, sponsorships and outright donations during the exhibition benefit the livelihoods of our participating artists and the hospital's Art Ability program. They also support other hospital programs and services that enable us to continue to provide the highest quality patient care.

Please also join me in extending our deepest gratitude to the Art Ability Committee, Bryn Mawr Rehab Foundation Board, sponsors and volunteers for contributing to the program's success.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donna M. Phillips". The signature is fluid and cursive, matching the printed name above it.



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In addition to these leadership sponsors, we extend our special thanks to the many others who demonstrated their support through ads.

List current as of October 31, 2022.

With Sincere Gratitude

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List current as of September 30, 2022.



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and congratulates them
on their 27th year
of the exhibition!



ABOUT BRYN MAWR REHAB HOSPITAL

BRYN MAWR REHAB HOSPITAL, PART OF MAIN LINE HEALTH, IS A LEADER IN THE FIELD OF PHYSICAL MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION.

The 148-bed, not-for-profit hospital offers the full continuum of rehabilitation services, including acute inpatient care as well as outpatient services for adults and adolescents. The hospital received Magnet® designation, the nation's highest distinction for excellence in nursing care, and is accredited by the Joint Commission and the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF). Bryn Mawr Rehab Hospital treats patients with traumatic and nontraumatic brain injury, stroke and other neurological disorders, traumatic and nontraumatic spinal cord injury, amputations and orthopaedic injuries.

Bryn Mawr Rehab Outpatient Network treats individuals with a wide range of conditions and injuries from brain injury, spinal cord injury and Parkinson's disease to concussions, pelvic floor disorders, lymphedema and post-COVID recovery. Our outpatient rehabilitation services are conveniently located throughout the western suburbs of Philadelphia.

Bryn Mawr Rehab Hospital recently received a prestigious nationwide distinction from the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) for its inpatient Cancer Rehab Program, part of Main Line Health's comprehensive cancer care. The recognition focuses on quality and a patient-centered approach in a health care environment. The CARF accreditation



Allen Bryan, *Coffee And Dogs On Quarry Rd-Ver.B*

is a culmination of the continuing commitment and dedication our staff has made to ensure our programs and services offer only the highest level of care for our patients and our community.

For more information about Bryn Mawr Rehab Hospital, visit mainlinehealth.org/rehab.



Elizabeth Sullivan,
Slick



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We are proud to sponsor

The 2022 Art Ability Exhibition

Celebrating Artists with Disabilities

Chris N. Phillips, President
e-mail: c2corp1@verizon.net

Mission

Art Ability is dedicated to creating community awareness of cognitive and physical disabilities, encouraging people with disabilities to reach beyond their limitations and find fulfillment and inspiration through art. Art Ability is a showcase of artwork by artists with disabilities. The program successfully develops new markets for artists with disabilities where they can gain recognition for their technical skill and artistic vision.

Now celebrating 27 years, Art Ability continues to be an integral part of Bryn Mawr Rehab Hospital since its first exhibition and sale of work by artists with disabilities in 1996. It continues to be a year-round showcase and celebration of artists with disabilities and is the country's largest international, juried exhibition and sale of its kind.

Proceeds from sales of artwork help support Bryn Mawr Rehab Hospital's patient and community programs. The exhibit is free and open to the public and enjoyed by more than 3,500 people annually, including the hospital's patients, families, staff, friends and visitors.

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, tours of the exhibit will be available by appointment only. For more information, email artability@mlhs.org.

Program

SELECTION OF THE ART

A stringent, two-step process ensures that Art Ability presents highly professional artwork, demonstrating the strength of artistic talent within the disabled community. The first step is conducted by the Art Ability Committee jurors and the Art Ability curator who review the submitted images and choose the artwork for the exhibition. The second step involves esteemed judges who are selected based on their expertise and prominence in the greater Philadelphia fine arts community. They judge the work, selecting the pieces to receive awards in their respective categories.



Rebecca Scheuer, *Eggplants*



Bobby Edmon, *Paris At Night*

Participating artists express their creativity through many mediums including painting, photography, sculpture, fiber arts, jewelry and fine crafts. Through these creative modes of expression, artists are able to convey their talent and receive recognition for their work, and in many cases are able to further recover from a life-altering illness or injury.

SALES

Artists earn 80 percent of the sales of exhibited work and those commissioned during the 12-week show. Unsold works are returned after the exhibit closes. Artists may be invited to take part in Art Ability's ongoing sales and exhibition programs, receiving 60 percent of the sales for work sold during this time.

PROGRAM COMPONENTS

While the annual exhibition is the highlight of the program, Art Ability has many other components which include:

- **Satellite exhibitions** Traveling satellite exhibitions of Art Ability artwork are a key component of the program and have been successful in generating enhanced awareness of the talent and skill of our artists.
- **Online sales gallery** Our online sales gallery provides the opportunity to view works for sale from our consignment inventory. Each year, Art Ability retains a number of works from our annual exhibition

to allow for more exposure for our artists and their talents. To browse artwork available for purchase, visit bidpal.net/aa.

- **Corporate art acquisition program** Art Ability also serves as a resource for corporations to help meet their needs for artwork for their collections.
- **Permanent collection of work** Bryn Mawr Rehab Hospital actively collects art and maintains a permanent collection of over 500 works, which are on display throughout the year. The hospital clinical staff often incorporate utilization of Art Ability work into their daily treatment activities with patients. Staff motivates patients by using the collection as tangible evidence of their potential to return to meaningful, productive lives.

For more information about Art Ability programs, call **484.596.5607** or email artability@mlhs.org

Congratulations!

The Gross Family
is proud to support
Bryn Mawr Rehab Hospital
and Art Ability.



Tim Chiarolanza, pictured with his dog, Finn. Tim's story will be shared during this year's Art Ability Celebration.

Tim Chiarolanza

In November 2021, Tim Chiarolanza's life changed forever. Tim was walking his dog, Finn, when his collar broke. Finn ran, and as Tim chased him between two parked cars, Tim was struck by a vehicle travelling 40 mph. Finn escaped the ordeal without injury, yet Tim was not as lucky. His many life-threatening injuries included a ruptured aorta, dissected coronary artery and collapsed lung, as well as a separated pelvis and fractures of his tibia and fibula. Tim also had a diffuse axonal brain injury.

Two months prior to the accident, Tim had begun his dream job at his college alma mater. He was the head strength and conditioning coach at Lycoming College, a role he worked tirelessly toward for years. He was also enjoying the bliss from his recent wedding reception, previously postponed because of COVID-19 restrictions. Tim's accident changed the Chiarolanzas' plans and perspective immediately.

Tim and his wife, Sarah, believe reaching the hospital was the first of many miracles during Tim's journey to recovery. Some of the student athletes Tim trained witnessed

the accident and made the 911 call to save his life. He was initially transported to the closest hospital, where they prepared him to be airlifted to a trauma center. Tim spent three weeks in a trauma ICU in a coma, requiring a ventilator and tracheostomy. Because he had suffered from a brain injury, he transitioned to inpatient care at Bryn Mawr Rehab Hospital for about two months. When he arrived at BMRH, he was unresponsive to commands, unable to walk, and had severely diminished functional and cognitive function. "The therapists at Bryn Mawr Rehab were excellent in accelerating my recovery," Tim says.

While in Bryn Mawr Rehab, Tim had to learn how to walk and talk again. "Tim would not be where he is today without the help and guidance of the entire Bryn Mawr Rehab staff," says Sarah. Thanks to extensive rehab as an inpatient, then outpatient, today Tim can walk without any assistance and is learning to operate independently at home. His speech is improving daily and he was discharged from therapy this summer.

"My perspective on life has significantly changed since the accident. I enjoy each and every moment and celebrate all successes, no matter how small. I am here to make a positive impact on other people's lives," he says.



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We are honored to be a part of this remarkable program.

**Congratulations to all the artists
participating in the
2022 Art Ability Celebration!**



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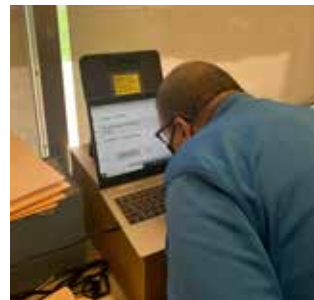
Creating opportunities for employment and independence

In 2021, the Art Ability Virtual Celebration Call to Give benefited Project SEARCH, raising more than \$130,000 to ensure that a full class of interns would benefit from the program this year. Project SEARCH at Bryn Mawr Rehab Hospital, an educational and work transition program for those with cognitive and/or physical disabilities, is customized to the needs of each participant to help them gain and sustain employment and greater independence.



PROGRAM SUCCESS

In 11 years at Main Line Health, Project SEARCH has touched the lives of 200 interns, 137 of whom were able to graduate from Project SEARCH after securing employment within the community. After a brief hiatus during the peak of COVID-19, Project SEARCH at Bryn Mawr Rehab began reoffering services and has since welcomed four cohorts of interns (21 total) back to the program. Of those 21, seven have successfully secured employment within the community, while 11 are still actively completing their Project SEARCH program. A new class of five interns began in September 2022.



Project SEARCH interns have included (left to right): Aneesah Rhodes, Angela Carr, Ashley Dero and John Nilan

ACCESSIBLE TECHNOLOGY

Donations have enabled us to diversify our technology inventory and provide a more accessible form of instruction to program participants. Through the purchasing of Zoom licenses and headphones, we have been able to integrate valuable technology training to our interns via video conferencing, which has increased our ability to safely deliver the Project SEARCH curriculum in a socially distant workspace. By integrating Zoom as a daily function of classroom instruction,

the program has also been able to successfully integrate guest speaking sessions by managers within Main Line Health and other community partners. Members of the Project SEARCH Steering Committee have also been actively hosting mock job interviews via Zoom to help the Project SEARCH interns prepare for the job search and interview process.

STAFFING CREDENTIALS

In 2021, Bryn Mawr Rehab's Project SEARCH program became a supported employment provider through Pennsylvania's Office of Vocational Rehabilitation. Through funds raised by Art Ability in 2021, the Project SEARCH staff has been able to enroll in and complete the state's required ACRE (Association of Community Rehabilitation Educators) training to improve the job coaching, training and support services being provided by our program. Successful completion of this training ultimately enables our staff to provide the highest quality of assistance and support services to participants of the Project SEARCH program.



Matthew Rink, Main Line Health IT (bottom, center) speaks with group via Zoom

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Lori Bartol

Bartol is the founder and director of the Center for Creative Works, a progressive art studio program with locations in Wynnewood and Philadelphia. In this role since 2010, she transformed a traditional vocational training workshop into a nationally recognized program, bringing visibility to neuro-diverse artists. From 2004–2010, she co-directed the Oasis Art Program in Philadelphia, also a supported studio organization. Bartol has organized and curated artwork for neuro-diverse artists for over 20 years, including local and national gallery, museum and art fair exhibitions, and is an advocate for inclusive communities. She's a board member of Benevolent Hound, a nonprofit that finds opportunities for artists to use their talent to help ensure humane treatment of animals. Bartol graduated from Tyler School of Art and held a studio practice in Berlin, Germany from 1991–2001 before returning to Philadelphia and landing in the nonprofit world.



Lauren McCardel

McCardel is the executive director of the Berman Museum of Art at Ursinus College, an academic museum dedicated to cultivating dialogue and understanding through innovative exhibitions and programs that are always free for all. Over the last decade, she has been committed to increasing

access to the arts and art education and to creating platforms for critical discourse and connection through visual art. McCardel has held positions at the Philadelphia Museum of Art and Tyler School of Art and Architecture, where she helped develop and launch the Creative Scholars Program, a full scholarship precollege program for students from Philadelphia public and charter schools. She is currently pursuing a PhD in art history at Tyler, with a focus on 19th-century art, design and material culture.



Laurie Moran

Moran transitioned her career to the arts in 2011, when she became the administrative lead for the Department of Art and Design at West Chester University, a role she held until mid-2022. During her time at the university, Moran worked closely with various department chairs and was exposed to many up-and-coming artists. This exposure led to a part-time position at the Chester County Art Association (CCAA) in late 2017, as the artist liaison, coordinating the ShopArt Gift Store. Recently, CCAA was pleased to welcome Moran on as a full-time employee, where she will continue as the artist liaison, with an enhanced role assisting in the daily operations of the shop and galleries.

Best In Show

Charles W. Hennessy Artist Award

*Presented by: The Charles
W. Hennessy Art Ability
Endowment Fund*

**Allen Bryan,
*Pietro and the Frisbee***



Judge's Choice

LORI BARTOL

The Kozicki Family Award

Presented by: Jean P. Kozicki

Allison Merriweather, *Dreaming of an Early Spring*

LAUREN MCCARDEL

Presented by: The Art Trust Gallery at Meridian Bank

Eddie Kil, *Vincent Van Gogh (Moon)*

Laurie Moran

The Doris B. Gorden Award

*Presented by: The Doris B. Gorden Art Ability
Endowment Fund*

Mark Kaufman, *Silver Dress*

Curator's Choice

The Myra Jean Burke Memorial Award

Presented by: Donna and Victor Hansen

Jameir Andrews, *Untitled*

People's Choice

The Lois Levy People's Choice Award

Presented by: Susan Christie and Lane Brown

Winner will be announced November 18, 2022.

Drawing and Fine Printmaking

1st Prize

The Stephen Panacsi

Memorial Award

Presented by:

Sal and Linda Panacsi

Afi Ese, *Sultan of Agadez*

2nd Prize

In Honor of Carol Chapman

Presented by:

Stephano Slack, LLC

Jace Laakso, *Jenner, CA*

3rd Prize

In Honor of Claire Larson

Presented by:

Brian and Peggy Jones

Cassandra Petruchyk,

Out of Egg

Honorable Mention

In Honor of Zora Groff

Presented by:

The Largoza Family

Billy Cogswell, *Red Robin*

Jewelry and Fine Craft

1st Prize

The Isle Wolf

Memorial Award

Presented by:

Sal and Linda Panacsi

Joy Raskin, *Canoe Pendant*

2nd Prize

The Evans Family Award

Presented by:

Scott and Lara Evans

Nancy Cook Smith, *Birds*

3rd Prize

The Art Ability

Committee Award

Presented by:

Brian and Peggy Jones

Martha Bird, *Creel Purse*

Honorable Mention

In Memory of

Shirley L. Gerard

Presented by:

The Largoza Family

Christine Severson,

The Sea



Allison Merriweather, *Dreaming of an Early Spring*



Joy Raskin, *Canoe Pendant*



Afi Ese, *Sultan of Agadez*

Eddie Kil,
Vincent Van Gogh (Moon)



Cheryl Kinderknecht, *Embedded*



Debra Hope Colligan,
Osterville, Cape Cod



Sal Panasci,
Three Yellow Roses

Mixed Media & Digital Art

1st Prize

The Elliott T. Settle Memorial Award

Presented by:
The Settle Family
Cheryl Kinderknecht,
Embedded

2nd Prize

The Evans Family Award

Presented by:
Scott and Lara Evans
Linnie Greenberg,
Gentrified

3rd Prize

The Janet Rotoli Memorial Award

Presented by: *Ruth Porritt*
Natasha Plaza, ***Tropical***

Honorable Mention

Presented by:
Stephano Slack, LLC
Kari Souders,
Fleur Number 6

Painting

1st Prize

Drs. A. Victor and Mary Hansen Award

Presented by:
Donna and Victor Hansen
Debra Hope Colligan,
Osterville, Cape Cod

2nd Prize

In Honor of Carol Chapman

Presented by:
Stephano Slack, LLC
Sal Panasci,
Three Yellow Roses

3rd Prize

In Memory of Barry and Graham Boose

Presented by:
Brian and Peggy Jones
Vinetta Miller, ***The Man and Woman Are On a Boat***

Honorable Mention

The David Chatburn Memorial Award

Presented by:
Katrina Van Alstyne
Jim Henry,
Pennsylvania Field

Watercolor and Wash

1st Prize

The Beatrice M. Heim Memorial Award
Presented by:
Sal and Linda Panasci
Jan Alice Keeling, High-Rise Dreaming

2nd Prize

In Memory of Ralph and Carmen Terrazas
Presented by:
Brian and Peggy Jones
Lawrence Meyers, High Rises

3rd Prize

In Honor of Lauren McGowan
Presented by:
Brian and Peggy Jones
Mark Kaufman, Diner

Honorable Mention

In Memory of Mildred P. Largoza, MD
Presented by:
The Largoza Family
Dave Aquilante, Abundance

Photography

1st Prize

In Memory of David E. Tordone
Presented by:
Tordone Family
Kurt Theodore Weston, Haleakala Sunset Clouds

2nd Prize

In Memory of Fred Stern
Presented by:
Brian and Peggy Jones
Jacque O. Young, Memoirs of Iconic The Dolles

3rd Prize

The Doris and Bill Gorden Memorial Award
Presented by: Ruth Porritt
Robert Winig, Maine Harbor

Honorable Mention

The James M. Hamm Memorial Award
Presented by:
The Hamm Family
Harry Spilker, Storm Over the Susquehanna

Sculpture

1st Prize

The Benny Panasci Award
Presented by:
Sal and Linda Panasci
Michael Angelo Gagliardi, Guardian of the Pine Tree Forest

2nd Prize

The Evans Family Award
Presented by:
Scott and Lara Evans
Ege Kolcu, The Ringing I/The Ear I

3rd Prize

In Appreciation of the BMRH Staff
Presented by:
Linda W. Heiberger
Cherie Lee, Community

Honorable Mention

Presented by:
Stephano Slack, LLC
Kaius Kirby, Orange Drip



Michael Angelo Gagliardi,
Guardian of the Pine Tree Forest



Kurt Theodore Weston,
Haleakala Sunset Clouds



Jan Alice Keeling,
High-Rise Dreaming



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Allen Bryan

Saugerties, NY

After setting up an easel at the age of 4 to paint next to his aunt, Allen Bryan has been a visual artist for his entire life. Bryan's career includes being a teacher of art and filmmaking in a public school system, a partner of a fine craft gallery, a jewelry designer/goldsmith and for the last 40 years, a photographer. For the past decade, he has been making connections between his early pictures of quickly taken street photographs or ironic juxtapositions and the slower, contemplative landscape work that followed when he learned that his eyesight was slowly diminishing. Having less than 10 degrees of visual field, he sees things in discrete sections, with no periphery on the sides or up and down. Things appear suddenly or not at all. His color perception is reduced as well. He says, "I became a better photographer after I learned that I was losing my eyesight."



In his work, the viewer is invited into unsettling places and precarious living situations to discover something of the lives of the phantom occupants. These are worlds that are not as real as they appear at first glance. They are figments constructed from film and digital images spanning many years. Planes and perspective often conflict and contradict. Exteriors intrude into interiors through windows and doors left carelessly ajar. People are mere ghostly blurs or fragmented presences at the picture's edge. Wandering through these unstable environments hoping to uncover their stories, time becomes an active element. His pictures reexamine and reorganize his photographic life through photo assemblages that question a comfortable reality. These narratives from his continuing series, *Comforts of Home: Figments of Domestic Tranquility*, ironically grew into a format much wider than Bryan can see in a single glance.



Allen Bryan, *Old Dog, New Tricks*

Painting and Drawing

Acrylic a fast-drying synthetic paint containing pigments suspended in an acrylic polymer emulsion. Acrylic paints can be diluted with water but become water-resistant when dry. Acrylic painting can resemble a watercolor or an oil painting, or have its own unique characteristics not attainable with the other media. Acrylic paint can be applied to paper as well as to canvas and other surfaces.

Alcohol Ink the counterpart to water in watercolor painting, alcohol ink is a fluid painting technique using isopropyl alcohol mixed with color pigments. The colors dry very quickly due to the evaporation of the alcohol.

Chinese/India Ink an opaque black ink that is commonly applied with a brush, rather than a pen, due to its density. This ink is also used for Chinese calligraphy. Rooted in centuries of scholarship and practice, Chinese calligraphy is executed with an aesthetic combination of speed, the pressure of a brush and the responsiveness of rice paper.

Collage an art form that began with the invention of paper in China around 200 BC. Today, the name collage (derived from a French verb “to glue”) refers to an assemblage of different media that may include newspaper clippings, ribbons, bits of colored paper or hand-made portions of other artwork, photographs, etc. glued to a piece of paper or canvas.

Gouache a form of watercolor paint where pigments are made opaque by adding zinc, in contrast to pure watercolor paint which is transparent.



Cathy Cobb, *Breath Of Fresh Air*

Mixed Media the use of different materials, methods or techniques to create a single work of art. When working in mixed media it is important to choose the layers carefully and allow enough drying time between the layers to ensure the final work will have integrity. Often, found objects are used in conjunction with traditional artist media, such as paint and graphite giving the artist more flexibility.

Oil a type of paint developed in the sixteenth century. Pigment is combined with oil as its binder. Oil can be applied to many different surfaces: linen, cotton canvas or board.

Oil Stick/Cray Pas/Artstix similar to crayons, a kind of oil pastel that is used for painting and drawing. Oil pastel sticks are made of pigment mixed with a non-drying oil and a wax binder.

Pastel/Conte Crayon a combination of dried pigment and a binder forming a colored chalk stick.

Scratchboard a two-dimensional, subtractive medium that involves the use of abrasive tools to directly remove a surface layer of one value (typically dark) to expose a secondary layer of a contrasting value (typically white).

Tempera a water-based opaque paint, with a water-soluble glutinous binder, usually applied on paper.

Watercolor any paint that uses water as a medium. Generally applied to paint formed of pigments mixed with a gum binder and diluted with water to form a transparent film, as opposed to gouache, which is opaque.

Printmaking

Original/Fine Print a work of art created by hand and printed from a plate, block, stone or stencil. In most print media, the image on the plate, block or stencil is a mirror image, or backward, from how the finished work will appear. Each print produced is technically a unique work, although produced as a multiple in a limited edition. Original prints are traditionally signed by the artist and are numbered to indicate how many prints there are in the edition and how to identify the individual print.

Chine Collé a special technique in intaglio printmaking where the image is printed on very thin paper or on a delicate surface and then bonded to a heavier backing surface.

Digital Print a method of printing from a digital-based or electronic image file, onto any surface. An inkjet printer is most commonly used.

Engraving a physical process using sharp, pointed tools called gravers, to carve lines directly into a surface, usually metal. The metal is then inked and pressed onto paper for

a reverse image. Some metal engravings are the artwork and are not used for printing.

Etching an intaglio process where an image is created by scratching, burning or cutting into a coated metal plate and then dipping the plate in acid. The exposed areas are eaten away by the acid, making depressed lines. Ink is pressed into the depressed lines, the surface of plate is wiped clean, and the plate is pressed onto paper. The resulting image is the reverse of the design as seen on the plate.

Intaglio Process a printing process where paper is pushed onto depressed or recessed lines made in a metal plate and filled with ink. The image can be made on the plate by acid or a sharp tool. There is often a visible imprint of the plate itself. Etching, aquatint, mezzotint and dry point all use the intaglio process.

Monoprint a single print created as a unique work. The plate is then destroyed.

Polygraveur a work made from several printing plates.

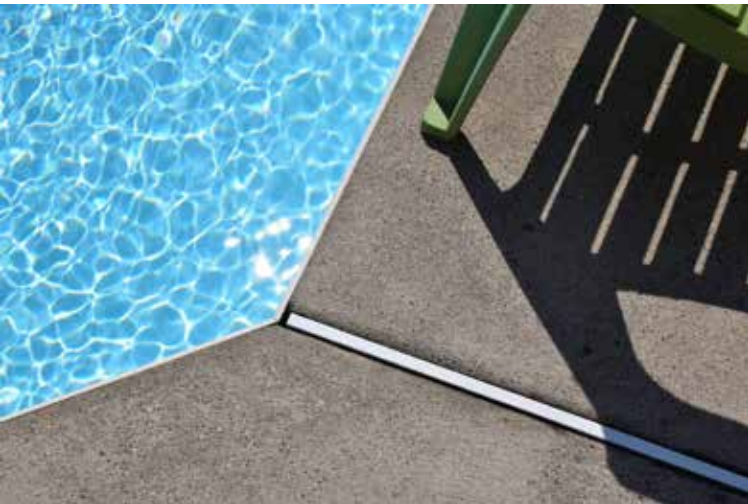
Relief Process/Woodcut/Linocut a printmaking technique where the image is printed from a surface of wood or linoleum, after nonimage areas are cut away.

Silk Screen/Serigraph a printmaking technique that creates a sharp-edged image using a stencil or screen usually made of silk. A separate stencil is cut for each color. The areas of the stencil that are cut out accept the color, and each color is applied as a separate layer.

Photography and New Media

Digital Illustration the use of digital tools to produce images under the direct manipulation of the artist, usually through a pointing device such as a tablet or a mouse.

Digital Photography a form of photography that utilizes digital technology to make digital images of subjects. Digital images can be displayed, printed, stored, manipulated, transmitted and archived using digital and computer techniques without chemical processing.



Lauren Nicholson, *Growth*

Film Photography any film photography relies on chemical processing of negatives and exposure for printing. Analog negatives can also be printed digitally. Polaroid, actually a brand name, is an example of film photography.

Gelatin Silver Print a photographic process that consists of suspending metallic silver salts embedded into a gelatin coating onto acetate film or fiber-based or resin-coated paper and allowed to dry. This photographic process is used with black and white films and printing papers.

Giclee Print a digital print produced on an Iris printer, or any inkjet process. The image has all the tonalities and hues of the original painting or photograph.

Photo/Digital Manipulation the application of image editing techniques to create an illusion or deception. Image-editing software is used to apply filters and effects, and warp an image until the desired result is achieved. The resulting image may have little or no resemblance to the photo from which it originated.

Wraparound an image is printed directly on canvas, then stretched over a wood frame.

Fine Crafts

Batik a method of dyeing cloth using wax to resist the dye on specific parts of the design.

Blown or Cast Glass two ways of forming glass. In one process, molten glass is handblown and shaped. In the other process, hot glass is poured into a mold and cooled.

Enamel a method of applying ground glass to metal and fusing it with heat for a shiny, colored surface.

Fiber Art art using any textiles, thread or yarn.

Fused Glass an ancient technique describing glass that has been fired in a kiln at various ranges of high temperatures.

Glaze a liquid suspension of finely ground materials applied by brushing, pouring or spraying on the surface of bisque-fired ceramic ware. After drying, the ware is fired to the temperature at which the glaze ingredients will melt together to form a glassy surface coating.

Iris Folding a form of origami or folded paper originated in Holland. The folded strips of paper are layered to create a pattern similar to the iris of a camera or an eye. The pattern is created on card stock; each section is numbered and cut out into individual sections to use as a pattern to indicate where to place each strip of paper.

Mosaic small pieces of colored stone, tile or glass (tesserae), arranged and affixed to a hard surface to create an image.

Polymer Clay a sculpture material made of polymer polyvinyl chloride (PVC).

Papier Maché French for “chewed-up paper,” this technique is constructed of material that consists of pieces of paper, sometimes reinforced with textiles, stuck together. The paper is cut into strips and soaked in a paste of water and flour until saturated. The saturated pieces are then placed onto a surface, or an armature or skeleton, and allowed to dry slowly until becoming solid. Once dried, the material can be cut, sanded and/or painted.

Stoneware a high-fire pottery with slight or no absorbency. It is usually gray in color but may be tan or slightly red. Stoneware is similar in many respects to porcelain; the chief difference is the color, because of iron and other impurities in the clay.

Terracotta clay that is fired. It tends to be more brittle and rough in texture.

Throwing forming pottery in clay by using a potter’s wheel.

Sculpture and 3D Work

3D Printing any of various processes in which material is joined or solidified under computer control to create a three-dimensional object, with material being added together (such as liquid molecules or powder grains being fused together).

Alabaster a fine-grained gypsum stone widely used for indoor sculpture.

Assemblage three-dimensional compositions of different media and/or selected materials, often of found objects.

Bas Relief a sculpture technique in which figures and/or other design elements are just barely more prominent than the overall flat background.

Dura Stone a product made of a limestone composite base.

Brandon Allebach

Albuquerque, NM

Allebach has been an Albuquerque artist for over 15 years. Inspired by Cubism, Catharsis and art of the southwest, he paints abstractions with acrylic on canvas. He uses sharp lines and contrast, focusing on creating depth that interweaves the foreground and background. Allebach also likes to paint birds and sunsets. He is a proud part of Art Lifting, an organization that promotes homeless and disabled artists. His work has been shown extensively throughout New Mexico as well as in various national exhibits.

Jo Ann Allebach *Phoenix, AZ*

Allebach says that art is her hobby, relaxation, fun, social interaction, work and ... art is her life! She feels very blessed to be an artist. "I have the distinct joy of painting what I love; then someone gets to have the joy of that art in their lives."

Dave Allen *Lancaster, PA*

Allen, a retired contract sales manager and pastor, has found inspiration to paint from God, who he believes is the greatest artist. Allen's hope is for his paint to capture a particular sense of place, peace and atmosphere. He first photographs his subject, then uses his photo as a point of reference



Jo Ann Allebach, Vacation In Destin

to compose the painting. In 2018, Allen was afflicted with a life-threatening strep infection in his right foot and calf, and almost lost his leg. He endured 18 days in the hospital, three major operations, and nine months of wound care. "As I healed, I decided to retire and devote my life to the things that mattered most to me: my God, my family and my art."

Jameir Andrews *Philadelphia, PA*

A lifelong resident of Philadelphia, Andrews has developed a diverse body of work that is utilized as a visual communication aid and explores his love of repetitive, iterative patterns and the number 12. Andrews' artwork is inspired by process. His practice involves the creation of intricate works using paint pens, markers, pencils, pastels, sticks; basically anything nearby. He meditates on dense systems of geometric shapes and

asymmetrical grids and populates the surface of his art with symbols, numbers and other decorative elements evocative of 8-bit, side-scroller adventure video games and word search puzzles—two of his life's greatest joys after drawing. These mixed media works are driven by a bold and vibrant use of color and intense, spontaneous layering.

Dave Aquilante *Downingtown, PA*

Aquilante is a stroke survivor who uses watercolor as a means of recovery. He works in both abstract and realism styles and his subject matter includes nature, animals and portraits. Aquilante's inspiration comes from his mother, his desire to fully recover from his stroke, and being in nature. "Art has been instrumental in my recovery, as it has given me a way to concentrate and focus on things other than my deficits." Aquilante

is grateful to have recovered so well and to share his talents with the world.

Kapono Asuncion

Minneapolis, MN

Asuncion is fascinated by the idea that other worlds may exist besides our own. Knowing he most likely won't be able to explore these worlds in his lifetime (although he always holds out hope), Asuncion explores their topography, flora and fauna through ink drawings and iPad paintings, illustrations and drawings. As a trans, queer, brown, Indigenous, autistic/ADHD, disabled artist, he experiences his own strangeness and disorientation. Asuncion translates the lack of belonging he feels in this world into the sense that he is returning, rather than visiting. "I try to create an ebb and flow of fantasy and familiarity in my work: documenting my escapes to dreamlike exoplanets and their inhabitants that feel as cozy as they are alien."

Constance Avery *Utica, NY*

As an artist with vision and hearing loss, Avery has faced many limitations for the last 30-plus years. Instead of seeing her disabilities in a negative light, Avery uses her restrictions to allow her to take a different and

interesting path in her artistic journey. Creating and selling her artwork, which consists of paintings, pottery and photography, has helped Avery to feel confident and free, despite her disabilities. The different mediums have also given Avery the chance to expand her artistic explorations, therefore reaching out to the different desires of the art communities. “As I travel into my images of art, my limitations disappear...letting me feel expressive, free and safe.”

Jessica Avery *Collegeville, PA*
Avery has been into art since she was 12 years old. She started with colored pencils, moved on to acrylic painting and spray paint, and also crafts jewelry. The source of Avery’s motivation and inspiration comes from her family and friends, as well as her high school art teacher. Because of her hearing disability, she relies on her visual sense to create art. She believes that art has benefited her thinking and creative skills. “Art gives me self-determination, self-efficacy, and helps me gain confidence.”

Renee Ballard *Philadelphia, PA*
Ballard says art has had a positive influence on her life. The major inspiration for her artwork comes

from nature. “Art has provided a valuable outlet to express my feelings and convey them to others.”

Richard Bauman *Philadelphia, PA*
Bauman says that art is a motivating factor in his life. He photographs, rain or shine, as it helps him deal with the pressures of the week. Bauman enjoys nature and finds that being able to create beautiful photographs is always rewarding. He especially loves taking photos of Philadelphia and gardens throughout the area.

Frances Bernhardt-Noll *Paoli, PA*
When Bernhardt-Noll is sketching and painting, she feels like she’s creating something beautiful. She prefers painting because it’s something she’s worked with since she was a child. Bernhardt-Noll often chooses to work with floral and natural themes because she likes to explore the different colors and shapes. She gets inspired by each step of the process. Living with a disability, making art is a way for Bernhardt-Noll to connect and share with others. When she was in the acute hospital, art and crafts helped her to remember who she was and the things she enjoyed doing pre-injury. She was then able to

refocus on her areas of interest and continue to develop her skills. “Today art is my coping skill.”

Carrie Bertschy *Cincinnati, OH*
Bertschy has been a mixed media artist for over 20 years. She says art is her therapy and helps her deal with problems that she experiences on a daily basis. She finds art very calming and relaxing for her mental state and enjoys how it allows her mind to create unique, one-of-a-kind works. Bertschy says art has been an outlet for her to release all the expression and imagination that is going on inside her head. She encourages others experiencing mental health challenges to explore creating art to help deal with life and its hardships.

Martha Bird *Minneapolis, MN*
Bird defines herself as an artist, a nurse and a truth teller. She believes her personal history with trauma and disability, coupled with expertise in the physiology of the body, informs her art practice. Bird’s back was injured while working as a nurse and living with PTSD. To begin moving off bed rest, she reconnected with her creative self. She identifies as an interdisciplinary artist who practices sculpture, weaving, painting and photography.

Committed to community, she has been involved in the arts as a presenter, curator, writer, organizer, teaching artist and advocate. Bird exhibits regionally and nationally and says her work



Thu Nguyen, *Why Me?*

expresses her life’s journey. “The merging of my dual careers values the healing aspects of working with one’s hands and body.”

Shawn Bittenbender *Philadelphia, PA*
Bittenbender says that art has always been a source of joy for him. Though he lost the passion for a long time, it has been brought back to new highs with support



Charles Blackwell, *Sweet Soft Sounding Drummer*

of family, friends and the Art Ability staff. They inspired him to go into passionate studies of all painting and drawing styles and techniques. Bittenbender believes the confidence he found to push past his breathing issues and pain he owes to these kind souls. Bittenbender loves all subjects but prefers the beauty of people and the natural world for inspiration. “Thanks to you all, who inspire the best in others.”

Charles Blackwell

San Francisco, CA

As a young man, Blackwell’s visual arts studies were cut short after he fell head first down a steep slope, damaging his eyesight. Blackwell thinks his blindness, in a sense, gives him originality. When painting, he’ll strain his eyes to see, until the reality of

being partially blind registers. Then he relies on instinct, sloshing colors between thick lines, serendipitously moving his art along the path to completion. In today’s society, Blackwell chooses to embrace the gift of life and create, create, create. He believes art is not to isolate but to build community, and that art is not for mere capitalist gain but to provide inspiration. “I create pieces in order to provoke inspiration and thus give life to the human spirit.”

Robert Bohle *Henrico, VA*

Painting is usually an act of discovery for Bohle; he often doesn’t know what he is going to end up with when he pulls out another blank canvas. His paintings that he likes best come as a “delightful surprise.”

Bohle paints mostly non-representationally because he wants the work to communicate viscerally to the viewer. Representational art can rely on responses to the familiar. Instead, he wants the paint itself to say something, sometimes in a whisper, sometimes with a shout. Bohle also tries to give each canvas something to observe up close. Being a bit of an introvert in life, Bohle likes his abstracts to be loud, pushy even. He has suffered with Parkinson’s disease for the past 22 years, which makes fine brush control difficult.

Priscilla Bohlen *Narberth, PA*

Bohlen is a professional visual artist who works on canvas using acrylic paint, resin and acrylic mediums. She received her BFA in 1974 and subsequently lived in New York City for 10 years. During this time, she designed patterns for sheets and towels for Fieldcrest Cannon and continued to study art at the graduate level. Bohlen moved back to the Philadelphia area and began creating landscapes. Recently, she has focused on large abstracts using acrylics. She shows her work extensively throughout the region and is an active member of multiple professional art groups. Bohlen believes in “bringing

the best to life and not holding back, always pressing on to new horizons and staying committed to serving the public through your practice.”

Dwayne Boone *Philadelphia, PA*

Boone is an emerging Philadelphia-based artist and entrepreneur. Born and raised in Germantown, he began to draw comic book characters at an early age. As a child, Boone would have a pencil in his hand as soon as he got home from school, and his mother would nag him to finish his homework before drawing. Boone’s passion for making art has been a common thread throughout his life. His work has been exhibited internationally in galleries including Arts Project Australia, Space 1026, Fleisher/Ollman, apexart and John Lucas Gallery.

Jane Bouchard

Saratoga Springs, NY

Bouchard suffers from depression, which has sometimes kept her from moving forward. While she always wanted to do artwork, an art teacher in junior high school told her that she had no talent because she could not draw figures. Of course, her teacher never suggested another art form. It wasn’t until 40 years later

when someone said that she was a natural for assemblage, that Bouchard could begin doing just that. It has not only been satisfying work, but helps her lose a depressive mood. “When I am engrossed in making assemblage, pottery or mosaics, I can relax and it changes me.”

Paul Bouchard

Saratoga Springs, NY

Bouchard was studying sculpture and working in a shipyard. He unfortunately had an industrial accident, which ended his welding career but, thankfully, not his art.



Hilda Volkin, *Scattered Sunlight 1*

Bouchard enjoys working in a wide variety of media and scale. Due to his injuries, he tries to keep his art at a weight his back can handle.

Ramanda Brockett

Kansas City, MO

As a medically disabled woman, Brockett stands for DEI advocacy and acceptance of all forms of disability in the professional and community art space. The inspiration behind her pieces draw from issues of intersectionality, advocacy and personal traumatic experiences through the lens of her unique vintage/pop style. Her motivation to create springs from the original use of the cut-and-paste collage form as a way to journal without words and personally process complex feelings about her conditions, how they affect her way of being in the world, and how the invisible parts of her conditions affect other social issues in her life. After the first three years of making art privately, Brockett felt that part of being faithful to this journey would be to share her art with the world.

Shelby Brown

Clarksville, IN
Brown's work reflects on her childhood as a young autistic girl and as someone who has experienced CPTSD due to childhood trauma. Her art

emulates the intensity of the world that she remembers around her through bright colors, patterns and various types of papers and media. This amplifies the senses of the viewer, showing the world through her lens, with snippets of the way she remembers seeing life through the imagination of her

“I am alive with ideas.

They are my life force.

They feed my energy
to create something
from whatever exists

inside me.” —Lynne Green

inner child. The art is created in an experimental way using different techniques and media created by collage and painting with the nondominant hand. The works are meant to show a different perspective on the comorbidity of autism and CPTSD and to create opportunities for healing for those who relate to her experience.

Allen Bryan

Saugerties, NY
After setting up an easel at the age of 4 to paint next to his aunt, Bryan has been a visual artist for his entire life. His pictures

reexamine and reorganize his photographic life through photoassemblages that question a comfortable reality. These narratives, and his continuing series *Comforts of Home: Fingments of Domestic Tranquility*, ironically grew into a format much wider than Bryan can see in a single glance. “I became a better photographer after I started losing my eyesight.”

Ronaldo Byrd

Burlington, NJ
Byrd is a contemporary “Hip Pop Artist.” He has been painting and drawing since the age of 3, and it was at 3 years old that Byrd began developing his now over 200 original characters, which are used in his original acrylic scenes on foam board. Byrd gets his inspiration from people. He believes there is beauty in everything he sees, and everyone has something to offer. “My art and I represent differences and my hope is that the world can see beauty and acceptance through my eyes.”

David Caron

Hyannis, MA
Caron is a differently-abled young man with autism. A native of Cape Cod, Caron has an innate affinity with the natural environment. He responds joyfully to the ocean, wind and thunderstorms. This

is the same enthusiasm that he shows when he expresses himself through art. Art is an act of pure self-expression without regard to the finished work. He loves how the materials feel, how paint is absorbed by the canvas, and how the paint spreads and is diluted by the water. Through painting, Caron expresses himself beyond the limitations of his disability. Edward Hopper best described Caron's passion for painting, "If you could say it in words then there would be no reason to paint."

Belinda Chlouber *San Mateo, CA*
Through a strong connection to nature, Chlouber seeks to explore our understanding of how humans interact with their natural surroundings. Constantly searching to understand and communicate the different ways we change and grow throughout our lives, her hearing loss made Chlouber realize how we can slowly lose things and not realize it. "By striving for a thoughtful, contemplative working process, art can help us envision a future where humanity lives in harmony with the Earth, while living fully and compassionately."

Cindy Clark *Eagleville, PA*
Clark uses acrylic painting to spark joy and provide happiness

and encouragement to others. Having encephalopathy and ongoing cognitive issues from undiagnosed Lyme disease for more than six years, she learned in cognitive therapy at Bryn Mawr Rehab Hospital to adapt to her brain limitations. Taking up painting as therapy, Clark enrolled in an adult education painting class where she learned to mix her own colors. This gives her control over the images she tries to convey. Painting provides a sense of accomplishment and helps her focus on the beauty of the outdoors. Clark especially loves beaches, skies and water, and is drawn to the endless colors in nature, crediting God as the ultimate painter.

Cathy Cobb *Shreveport, LA*
Cobb is an acrylic painter who uses paintbrushes, pallet knives and various paints and glazes to convey a subject from many different perspectives. "When viewed from different angles, everyday moments of life can become transfigured, revealing the depth of layers within." Her techniques reveal complexity and her colors show the delight she takes in momentary glimpses of beauty. Cobb takes inspiration from stained glass and how they transfigure their subject as light reflects



Cheryl Kinderknecht, *Ancestral Portrait*

through them. Like these sacred windows, her paintings attempt to reveal both the intended subject and also to open a window toward a deeper story contained within an inner joy. Cobb started painting when she was diagnosed with lupus in 2016. Creating has been her lifeline through flares and long periods of isolation.

Billy Cogswell *Louisville, KY*
Cogswell is an artist with autism spectrum disorder. He has been working with art for 15 years and it is something that brings him great happiness in his day-to-day life. It

is a great coping mechanism for Cogswell and helps him manage his anxiety. He typically likes to create art with various subject matter such as hot air balloons, nature, portraits, pop culture and pottery. Cogswell uses his unique perspective to show his point of view of the things we see in everyday life. He uses various forms of media including markers, ink pens, acrylic paint and clay.

Debra Hope Colligan *South Yarmouth, MA*
Colligan creates paintings in oils, using a variety of palette knives,

brushes and mediums, enhancing her artwork with a great deal of texture and color. Creating sea and landscapes on Cape Cod and Nantucket, along with portraits of animals and people, gives her a “soulful impression” to look past the obvious and see beyond the distraction of the conspicuous; to capture its unique self, to inspire folks to look more carefully at the beautiful world and people around them. Colligan sustained a traumatic brain injury (TBI) from a horseback riding accident that significantly changed her life. She believes that art has expanded her life, and healing is essentially a creative process. “Through my art I have created a new state of health for myself, pursuing an artist’s life.”

Maureen Collins *Wilmington, DE*
 “Inspiration is found everywhere, weaving through my photography, fabric designs, collages and paintings. Images spark new perspectives; well-turned phrases inspire new rounds of poetry; a bright color enlightens a textured tension of contrast. Creativity is a core part of my soul’s expression.” Guillain-Barré syndrome left Collins hospitalized for seven months as her body worked through the ravages of paralysis and chronic pain. It was ultimately a life-changing experience for her.

This challenged her to find new modalities of expression. Collins is grateful for the ability to share the beauty and uniqueness of each day. Her mantra now is “Do what you CAN’T!, believe that you CAN do the things that you once thought you couldn’t, and to see each day through the perspective of gratitude.”

Charles Connelly *Ardmore, PA*
 Connelly was born in Philadelphia, PA and had an early interest in drawing and sketching. Art fed his interest in analyzing how

Joy Raskin, Let’s Tango



things worked. Connelly became fascinated with Philadelphia’s art museums. This led to classes at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, watercolor classes and his pursuit to paint regularly in watercolor. In spite of Connelly’s sight and hearing challenges, art, drawing and painting provide him an oasis of contentment.

M R “Malcolm” Corley *Lancaster, PA*
 Corley’s favorite things to paint and draw are flowers and trees, because he loves nature. He

also explores other subjects like people and animals. If Corley had to choose, he would prefer drawing to painting. “Making art is work, but I’m happy when a piece is finished. I want the people who see my art to feel happy, too.”

Paula Crandell *Sioux City, IA*
 Crandell is an artist who has enjoyed creating and teaching art for over 50 years. An experimentalist who loves color, she creates in a variety of media including acrylic, alcohol ink and watercolor. Crandell is known by her students as a “treasure hunter” who looks for interesting shapes and textures on a canvas that is covered in an explosion of ink and paint. Using negative and reductive painting, she brings found images to representational life. Not sure if her hearing loss was due to working in a munitions factory during college, or working with middle school students for over four decades, Crandell is thankful for the progress audiology has made over the years, allowing her to better hear nature, people and music.

John Creagh *Bradenton, FL*
 After receiving extensive formal training, Creagh began his career as an artist in New York City. When an unfortunate experience

left him paralyzed, he left the city and moved north to the countryside. Years later, he moved to Florida. Creagh was captivated by the work of Edward Hopper. He solidified a strong foundation while developing a signature style and a love of painting directly from nature. Creagh's oil paintings include landscapes and architectural interests, which he often paints directly on-site and completes in his studio. He focuses on capturing the light and vista before him, ultimately producing a piece with a unique perspective and color value.

Creagh's vibrant watercolors of birds, buildings and panoramas are widely acclaimed for their composition and detail.

Richard Crumb *Stillwater, MN*
Crumb grew up on a family Century Farm in southern Minnesota. He was severely injured in a car accident over 40 years ago and has been propelling himself in a wheelchair ever since. Crumb loves to travel, and as part of his travel experiences he enjoys capturing some of the delightful scenes of God's wondrous creation through his camera lens. Crumb's rural upbringing often expresses itself in the pastoral scenes he captures with his trusty camera. Crumb's disability allows



Cathy Godek, *Before The Storm*

him to perhaps see things slightly differently through his camera lens, with an eye toward the freedom nature suggests, rather than the physical limitations that he deals with every day.

Jen Dakota *Conshohocken, PA*
When Dakota saw her MRI, and the “big black hole” where part of her brain used to be, her jaw dropped! She had just suffered a bilateral hemorrhagic occipital stroke. While home recovering with reduced vision and comprehension difficulties, she knew right away that life would be different. Having worked in physical therapy, a most useful idea sparked—why not try to

paint as a form of therapy? She had always been artistically inclined, but had never tried painting. Starting over with a disability, painting has put her in touch with her true self and feelings. She can express herself without using words. Dakota finds “the gift of creativity” to be a valuable gift received from her stroke, and she challenges herself with every painting she creates.

Tiffany Daniels *Philadelphia, PA*
Daniels was born in New York in 1983. She has multiple sclerosis, and lives at Inglis House. She is a member of a variety of groups at Inglis House, including being a member of the Exploring Art

group, and expresses that “her art is an extension of her heart.” She has a love of fashion, jewelry and people. Daniels is fun-loving, always has a smile on her face and loves meeting new people.

Jackson Deyerle *Fort Bragg, CA*
Deyerle likes flowers and nature because he feels like he's in a different place entirely. He experiments with layering the colors and seeing what effects it has. His inspiration comes from animated shows, movies, anime and a love of experimentation and creating. There are times Deyerle feels like a mad scientist, creating whatever abomination he can imagine. “It has always been fun drawing with friends, and art has been something of a means to escape.”

Thomas Dillon *Scotrun, PA*
Dillion started painting with his mother early in life, which established the foundation for his work. He went on to study the works and methods of famous artists such as Escher, da Vinci, Durer and van Gogh. Thomas shares, “I have no formal training other than my own personal studies and talent.” In 2007, Dillon was seriously injured in a motorcycle accident where he sustained many injuries including

a traumatic brain injury. After multiple hospitalizations and corrective surgeries, Dillon was later diagnosed with an illness directly related to the head trauma from the accident. “Art has gotten me through the darkest struggles in my life. It also gives me a sense of accomplishment and a way to communicate my emotions on canvas.”



Jenna Powers, *Flower Fairy*

Allison Doatch *Edison, NJ*
Doatch is a formally trained artist who uses a variety of media, including colored pencils and acrylics, and her favorite subject matter is flowers. Doatch likes

to create photorealistic artwork. When she looks at a photograph, she is able to create a composition that is very close to the original picture. Doatch also works at a local hospital as a medical information specialist, and is a member of the Edison Arts Society. Art has played a major role in her life, especially living with an autism spectrum disorder. “There are days when my disability can affect me, but when I draw or paint, I feel very confident in myself that I am doing something special.”

Ganga Duleep *Norwalk, CT*
Duleep has been making art for close to 35 years. Her primary focus is landscapes and cityscapes done in oil and acrylic paint. She deals with severe chronic pain, but her artwork and process drive her to soldier on in the face of adversity.

Bobby Edmon *Oklahoma City, OK*
Edmon is 77 years old, married and the father of three grown children. His favored medium is acrylic paint, which he applies to canvas after sketching the subject. Edmon’s subjects are often unconventional and whimsical. Art has given him a sense of accomplishment and has boosted his self-esteem; it is the one thing he can still do well

after having a stroke at the age of 58 and a second stroke at age 74. Edmon’s balance, speech and strength are affected, but not his art ability. “My disability allows me to have more time to paint as I am no longer able to work. I can spend hours at a time drawing and painting and I receive much joy and serenity in doing so.”

Ivy Egger *Coatesville, PA*
Egger is a daydreamer. Painting is her escape from the everyday, so the images she portrays have a dreamlike quality. Egger’s

“Art has me look at my disability, not as a disability, but as a friend, because it makes me see things differently.” —Cathy Godek

paintings portray the internal space of her wandering mind and memories from long car rides. “Painting represents freedom; I can make and do what I want.” She has a rare liver disorder called glycogen storage disease, type 1A. Egger has to monitor her blood sugar to prevent hypoglycemia

and is unable eat foods with a lot of sugar. Her current media of choice are gouache and watercolor. Painting provides an outlet to Egger to help her forget about her physical challenges. “I often take art supplies with me to my overnight doctors’ appointments. It helps me to not think about the tests I undergo.”

Aymon Eid *Philadelphia, PA*
Eid’s inspiration is the desert in Jordan, where he spent seven years living and soaking in its natural beauty. He is motivated by his desire for others to experience the beauty he observed in Jordan. Art plays an important part in Eid’s life, as it allows him to truly express to the world how he feels.

Herbert Eilertsen *Coatesville, PA*
Eilertsen paints in a realistic manner in oils, but often with a soft focus. He enjoys all things nature and paints a variety of subjects, but is especially fond of water and rivers. Coping with joint pain that fluctuates hinders Eilertsen’s walking, but he does his best to take photos at actual locations to paint in his studio. He enjoys light and color, and the contrasts and moods in nature. Eilertsen is constantly experimenting with paint and layers and techniques to capture scenes in all their



David Terrar, *Finally The Last Day Of Chemo*

subtleness. “Bearing the brunt of my limitations, I like to think enhances my interpretation to express life and joy.”

Mason Ellsworth
Shepherdstown, WV

For years, Ellsworth was an outstanding bassoonist, guitar player and vocalist. His musical pursuits were cut short as a result of a traumatic brain injury from a car accident weeks after graduating high school. He was hospitalized at Bryn Mawr Rehab Hospital for almost a year, six months of which he spent in a coma. Since then, Ellsworth has improved dramatically. Although he is wheelchair-bound, he is still able to express his creative self through art. He enjoys painting

with acrylics and hopes to eventually complete his college degree in music.

Afi Ese *Cypress, TX*

As a wheelchair-dependent person with deformed hands, Ese believes her abilities are underestimated or overlooked. As an African American, she feels she is a part of a marginalized group in the art world as well, with no less talent or ability. Unable to paint in most traditional ways such as standing at an easel or studio wall, Ese must sit to create. She incorporates plasters, stencils and stamps to add visual interests as well as the use of mediums that aid in texture. It is important to Ese to do her part in writing and controlling the Black narrative. She believes she has a

responsibility to record history. Ese’s way just happens to be through visual art. “Art is a means of expressing my physical abilities in visual form.”

Patrick Finucane *Phoenixville, PA*

Finucane’s art is born from efforts to share his views of his surroundings, trying to bring to light many sights which can easily and often be taken for granted. After filling photo albums and sketchbooks with pencil and ink drawings of his travels, Finucane moved to acrylic painting, which now adds life to what was previously a monochromatic translation of his journeys. Born with spina bifida myelomeningocele, and more recently undergoing related spinal surgery, Finucane has found creating art is a relaxing way to escape those painful days while expressing his creativity with minimal physical demands. “I find it most satisfying when I create a piece of art which then translates into happy memories for my viewers.”

Robert Flatt *Houston, TX*

Flatt started his crazy passion to become a photographer in 2004, when he left a successful career in the oil service industry due to the onset of Parkinson’s disease.

He and his wife love to travel to wild and beautiful places. He uses his camera and Photoshop to create highly saturated pictures, full of color, full of life, with vibrant and surreal backgrounds. Flatt’s photography is in the permanent collection of the Museum of Fine Arts Houston and in Rice University. He says, “Parkinson’s disease gave me the marvelous gift of time to master the art of photography. It has helped me ‘slow down’ to see this beauty and has given me the urgency to ‘hurry up’ and capture as much as I can photographically, while I still can.”

Gail Foley *Royersford, PA*

Foley injured her neck while working as a radiation therapist. Her days became filled with excruciating neck issues, fibromyalgia, chronic migraines and headaches. Her life took a turn for the better when Foley, along with her husband, purchased a farm in Royersford. This allowed her love for photography, an early passion of Foley’s, to return to her life. She now spends time capturing and sharing the growth of their crops, as well as the nature and wildlife around their property, with her camera. “Photography has given me purpose again. It has given me strength, control, peace and escape during my times of chronic pain.”

Tom Furey *Levittown, PA*

Furey is an award-winning artist from Bucks County, creating contemporary American oil paintings. He has been expressing his artistic ideas for over 40 years. His subjects range from landscapes, still lifes and florals, to heavy industrial. In addition to a career in the fine arts, Furey also worked as a professional jewelry designer in Bucks County and Philadelphia. After completing his formal training and education, he partnered with two other local artists and established an artist community cooperative named Mill Street Studio. The co-op served as a working studio for many local artists for over 20 years. Furey continues to create paintings for private collectors in North America and Europe and is a member of the Philadelphia Sketch Club and several Bucks County artists' organizations.

Dana Gabriel *Paoli, PA*

Gabriel has been drawn to painting and art-making since she was a child. At 24, she was in a motorcycle accident. It took years for her to heal and talk again. Gabriel moved to a ReMed home in 2018 and tries very hard to keep going and never stop. As an artist and musician, she enjoys painting and clay. Gabriel uses these as

strategies to express herself and stay engaged in meaningful activities. Her daughter is a large source of inspiration and motivation to always better herself and Gabriel's artwork is a way for her to express and connect with others. "It's not always as easy for me to express myself now as it was before my injury, and so artmaking is another way to do so."

Vimala Gade *Kendall Park, NJ*

Gade is a self-taught artist. As a child she was always drawn to the fine arts. Starting as a hobby, Gade soon realized that painting was her passion in life. She was inspired by other disabled artists, which gave her courage to continue her interest. Gade creates her art from her vivid imagination



Cassandra Petruchyk, *Out Of Egg*

and from photographs. Her work varies by medium and inspiration, and each piece holds different emotions visible through the style and hue. Gade believes painting can help people to overcome their difficulties and find peace within, which she puts to practice every day, dealing with her limited mobility. She has accepted her physical condition, and the enjoyment she receives from painting allows her to continue her work. "Art is a divine gift to me."

Michael Angelo Gagliardi

High Springs, FL

Gagliardi's artwork tells stories around characters in conflict within an environment rich with symbolic imagery and motifs. For him, the nature of the story determines the medium and technique. He works in both two- and three-dimensional materials, using oil and acrylic paints and crayons, as well as steel, cement and stone. Water and fire, love and hate, pain and joy, life and death, loneliness, and contentment—all these juxtapositions can be found within the characters and environments of Gagliardi's work. The physical nature of his art requires him to use everything he feels: love, hate, anger, pity and pain. "My art becomes real because I fight and dance with it, and it is this dance of

creation that brings my characters and stories to life."

Ginger Gehres *Chocowinity, NC*

Art is Gehres' passion. It was once her vocation in life and when her health changed dramatically, it became her therapy. Today, it is Gehres' joy to create visual stories and share them with others. Her favorite medium is scratchboard art, but she also enjoys painting as well as the photography she takes for art references. Gehres struggles with grand mal seizures, chronic migraines and interstitial cystitis, but she takes advantage of the days she feels well enough to work on her art. Her favorite life quote is "Keep your face to the sunshine and you will not see the shadows." —Helen Keller

Ann Marie Geiger *Ambler, PA*

Hobbies have been both Geiger's salvation and great passion in life. She was born with the rare bone condition, osteogenesis imperfecta, also known as brittle bones, resulting in her needing a wheelchair for mobility. While growing up, a birdfeeder that hung outside her window and having pets to nurture opened Geiger's eyes to a world of unbelievable beauty and brought her peace, no matter what she might be going through. Later

on, a camera motivated Geiger to show other people what she was seeing. Photography has become her creative way to capture the beauty of animals and nature. "It is a great challenge for me to get unique photographs that inspire the viewer!"

David Gerbstadt *Berwyn, PA*
Creating has been a part of Gerbstadt's life ever since he stood on a kitchen chair to reach the counter in order to help his mom make cakes and cookies from scratch. "She would always let me lick the mixer beaters." His inspiration comes from his mother, who showed him that he was able to make something with his hands. Gerbstadt says his motivation comes from knowing that each moment of life is a gift that he is given, and that making art is why he is here. Art has given Gerbstadt a means to cope with several disabilities and brings fulfillment in his life where he never thought possible. "Making art allows me to feel part of society and that I belong."

Bunky Givens *Essington, PA*
Givens always enjoyed expressing herself with a pen, pencil and paintbrush. She paints flowers and greenery around wedding invitations to give as gifts that

she letters and decorates. She enjoys painting animals, sea and landscapes. She has made her own Christmas cards for many years. In 1973, Givens was in a major automobile accident. At Riddle Memorial Hospital, she was treated for a broken femur, displaced hip, broken jaw, left-side paralysis and eye displacement with brain seepage, resulting in brain trauma. She was then treated at Bryn Mawr Rehab Hospital with physical therapy. It gives her much pleasure to show her artwork at Bryn Mawr Rehab Hospital. They have been there for her, both physically and mentally.

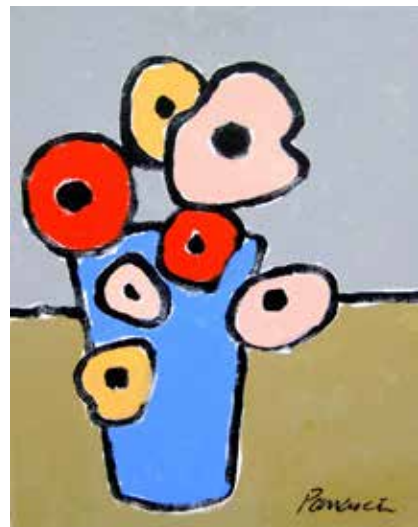
Cathy Godek *Philadelphia, PA*
Godek uses art as a way to express herself. Her children are the greatest inspiration in her work. "Art has me look at my disability, not as a disability, but as a friend, because it makes me see things differently." Making art brings Godek joy and happiness and gives her a distraction from the world.

Linda Goschke *Philadelphia, PA*
Goschke is interested in our sensual experience of the natural world, our expectations of what is common and uncommon, and the nature of beauty. Her work examines our relationship to the

environment and experiments with abstract interpretations of it. Goschke often looks for revealing, unexpected and often challenging views. A brush with death and resulting traumatic brain injury from an auto accident made her more aware of our physical fragility and our individualized interpretations of reality. Her physical and mental challenges pushed her into digital media to help her focus, expand creative possibilities and use fewer hazardous chemicals. "Art helps me to see and study the world. It allows me to share this with others, exchange shared experiences, investigate what may be uncommon and communicate visual ideas."

Ronald Gosses *Richmond, KY*
"The true mystery of the world is the visible not the invisible." This line by Oscar Wilde resonates strongly with Gosses, and he says that is why he does not intellectualize his artwork. He feels it is driven by his emotions, rather than by his mind. Art allows Gosses to express his visceral responses to everyday stimuli.

Lynne Green *Saint Louis, MO*
Green has severe, deforming rheumatoid arthritis, primarily affecting her knees. Because



Sal Panasci, *Blue Vase*

she cannot stand or walk, she uses a wheelchair for mobility. In addition, she has COPD and heart disease. In spite of Green's precarious health, she continues creative pursuits. From copywriter to stage director to video artist to photographer to whatever she can find to explore, she has spent a lifetime in the arts. Green has been honored with awards along the way, but she values the process above all. She is alive with ideas. They are her life force. They feed her energy to create something from whatever exists inside her. "The yearning to reach, to connect, to be visible, to pulsate, to impact, to mark, to be seen, heard, witnessed, exist."

Linnie Greenberg *Ardmore, PA*
Greenberg took her first art workshop in 2011, a short time after developing tinnitus—which resulted in 80% hearing loss. It opened up a wondrous world of sparkle, spin and creativity that brings her great joy and makes her forget the constant high-pitched



Cathy Cobb, *When Time Stood Still*

ringing in her ears. Greenberg is mainly self-taught and says she is still exploring and learning about art. Greenberg cuts imaginary creatures and organic shapes from handpainted paper, along with images from vintage books,

magazine advertisements and other ephemera. She then creates a story while making a picture with her cutouts. One of Greenberg's favorite quotes comes from Hans Christian Andersen: "Life itself is the most wonderful fairy tale."

Ina Greenstein *Philadelphia, PA*

It wasn't until her children were grown and she didn't have to work full time, that Greenstein was able to rekindle her passion for art. Originally focused on oil painting, she took a course in watercolor painting and was instantly smitten. The ability to capture light and have it shine through a painting has been a rewarding and engrossing pursuit of self-expression. Her eye disease necessitates some downtime in order to allow her vision to come back into focus.

Liz Griesser *Elverson, PA*

Griesser says that painting has saved her life. When it had seemed most bleak, painting gave her hope and purpose for another day. Using the familiar landscapes, animals and surrounding life, Griesser creates an earthy and emotive interpretation of her world. Oil paint is her main love. The visceral texture and colors make what she is trying to convey so much easier. She likes to say that animals paint themselves. "I just hold the brush

as they come to life. Their emotion is there on the surface and their story is all in their eyes." Griesser believes that en plein air painting is both a challenge and the best teacher ever. Competing in plein air events has taught her so much about patience, values, color mixing and capturing the moment.

"Art has made me so happy as I can truly express myself."

—Joyce Washington

Dick Grodt *Cedar Rapids, IA*

Grodt says he finds fulfillment and inspiration through art. It allows him to transport a viewer to a magical place, letting beauty and tranquility surround them. "What a magnificent world I study from." Confined to a wheelchair due to a hereditary neuromuscular disease, Grodt believes watercolor painting cocoons him from his disability. He dances with a brush instead of his feet.

Susan Gustafson *Vancouver, WA*

Gustafson was diagnosed with retinitis pigmentosa more than 30 years ago. Retiring from her career in dental hygiene 20 years

after her diagnosis, Gustafson's current visual capacity is about the size of a 3x5 card. With the aid of a guide dog she is able to travel independently. Gustafson says she sees the world through this "window" and captures the image on her iPhone. Later she sits and uses dark lines to delineate the space and adds subtle shading by using an underpainting and then layering transparent pigments. She loves the way watercolors move and mingle; the mystic mingling of pigments which she is then left to accept, and find a solution that is beautiful and representative of the image she wishes to preserve.

Gregory Harvey *Philadelphia, PA*

Harvey has been painting professionally since 1969. His favorite representational subjects are Black Moshannon State Park, Ricketts Glen State Park and the Cape May and Avalon beaches. When multiple sclerosis impaired his vision, Harvey realized that if he was to continue in the visual arts, he must find workarounds in many aspects of his representational painting. Fortunately, Harvey has been able to find these and continues to paint. "Having visual impairment has helped me to appreciate how fragile is the mechanism of discerning reality through the eyes."

Patrick Hatfield Philadelphia, PA

"The chance to be creative gives me a chance to go someplace else rather than what we perceive to be the real world." Hatfield feels that all of the encouragement from individuals involved with the art program at Inglis is one source of his inspiration. He takes those individual ideas and tailors them to his bizarre interests. It becomes a combination of what his art teacher wants and what he wants to bring to it for individualization and uniqueness. Hatfield is motivated by his desire to make his mark and to create something that others are going to see, whether they like it or not. He likes to create things that we don't normally see.

John Haus Hatboro, PA

Haus' art is whimsical, inventive and truly his own. His diverse collection of work utilizes multiple mediums. He uses life experiences and creates his own universe. Haus speaks to the viewer through his art. The conversation is fluid and captivating, with a splash of humor, whimsy and personality. In 2002 at the age of 18, Haus sustained a traumatic brain injury, paralyzing the right half of his body, and requiring him to relearn daily living skills with his left side after having been dominant with



Maxine Rosen, *Painter's Tools*

his right. Haus struggles with aphasia and pain daily, so art has been his saving grace and brought a true purpose to his life.

Theresa Heidig Penllyn, PA

Heidig's current work is about her journey with Lyme disease. Each piece depicts a different aspect of her experience with the disease. Heidig's aim is to start a conversation and shine a light on this misunderstood disease and convey that there is light and hope and healing.

Harrison Halker Heinks

Edina, MN

Heinks examines reflective surfaces in his photography. He builds an experience where viewers can simultaneously look through, at and in front of the

subject by capturing multiple planes with one image. Uniting a single photo from several layers evokes emotion with Heinks, who intends to express how it feels to live with autism. "In my artwork, the things behind the reflection are my representation of the ordinary world; I live in the glass, being caught in another plane that runs parallel to the world in which everyone else lives." By including self-portraits in some of his work, Heinks is motivated to show how he sometimes sees himself as in between reality and being overlooked by society.

Michael Heitler Melville, NY

Dr. Heitler works in gouache, pastel, oil pastel, acrylic and mixed media at his studio in Melville, New York. He has studied at the Brooklyn Museum School of Art, Colgate University and the New School. Dr. Heitler's work has been widely exhibited in the New York metropolitan area. A pediatrician, Dr. Heitler retired from working at the Child Neurology Service at Winthrop University Hospital. Diagnosed with primary progressive aphasia, it is difficult for him to communicate, but he expresses himself by writing, drawing and painting. Dr. Heitler enjoys spending time in his sun-drenched Long Island studio.

Paselle Helminski Erie, PA

Helminski finds great meaning in her sculptures and textile works. A visually impaired artist, Helminski capitalized on textiles because it is a medium that depends heavily on sense of touch. She uses tubular knitting to create energetic forms and says of her work, "Whether my art is free-standing, wall-hanging or suspended, it is the combination of my deep love of art history with my deep musical, spiritual side." Helminski graduated from Edinboro University with a master's degree in weaving and textiles and has since exhibited nationally and internationally. She has taught at the Neighborhood Art House, been an adjunct professor at Mercyhurst College and Gannon University, and has been Artist in Residence at the Cathedral Center in Erie, Pennsylvania. Helminski has received multiple artist residencies and grants, and her work has been published many times. Helminski says, "Please take the time to be still with my art and maybe you will be lucky enough to hear the beat of my art."

Pat Henriques Key West, FL

Henriques became an artist later in life, moving from a corporate office position to fabricating jewelry. Her primary focus is on

enameling and making pieces from fine or sterling silver. Henriques' specialty in enameling is cloisonné. Stones are used in her work as well. "Nature inspires me and I am amazed by the designs and hues that are found in various stones and flowers." Henriques has 11 herniated disks in her spine, causing sciatica. Fabricating jewelry has helped her realize that you can overcome obstacles. Henriques says when she is in pain, she tends to choose darker or more heightened colors in her work. Her personal quote is: "Experiment. You won't know if you can accomplish something if you don't try."

Jim Henry *Lawrenceville, VA*
Henry is a lung transplant recipient whose lungs have been gradually failing since early 2017, in a process called chronic rejection. In his paintings, he tries to evoke an emotional response to the mood of the image through layered color and texture. Henry is grateful to be able to continue working in his studio, even as he recognizes that the large canvasses are becoming too difficult to manage and he must scale down the paintings. The acrylic paints Henry uses are handmade, from pure dry pigments and various other materials. "I seek a luminosity that

defies the camera and must be seen in person, and that shifts with the changing light conditions."

Ed Hille *Media, PA*
Hille spent more than four decades as a working photojournalist striving to capture moments that have helped to shape our lives. He crisscrossed America and the globe, completing assignments on five continents while covering a spectrum of news, features and sporting events. In November 2016, Hille was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease; a year later he retired from the Philadelphia Inquirer, ending his 40-year career as a photojournalist. Inspired by a quote from Mohammed Ali, "Don't count the days, make the days count," Hille picked up his cameras

and immediately went to work shooting a book project as a way to pass on his inspiration to others.

Debbie Huff *Landenberg, PA*
Huff finds inspiration in the rolling hills of southeastern Pennsylvania for her alcohol ink and colored pencil paintings and drawings. Her favorite subjects are animals and flowers. In her youth, Huff did a lot of painting and drawing in school, but got away from art as an adult. Several years ago, after an ankle injury, she started to paint and draw again. Now art is a regular hobby of hers along with cycling. Born legally blind in one eye with reduced vision in the other, art helps Huff "see" details she normally wouldn't in real life. Using a computer, she is able to

enlarge photographs to the point where she can see the fine details in animals and bring them to life in her art.

Han Huisman *Saint Croix Falls, WI*
Huisman is a neuroscientist and an abstract material artist. He loves working with what he finds at garage sales and thrift stores. Huisman believes that in science today there is no longer much to actually see. It takes place on a subatomic level and the outcomes are expressed in numbers. Huisman says that in his head he follows the reaction steps and visualizes them into images. This is the same process he follows in his artwork. Huisman works primarily with objects, with the paint being secondary but still very important. Huisman says he is, but does not feel, disabled. He very much believes that even with his physical challenges he is still able to concentrate on his goals.

Alonzo Humphrey *Philadelphia, PA*
Humphrey is a visual artist who was born in Chattanooga, Tennessee. His mother, also an artist, shared her love of artmaking with her son at a young age. Alonzo says they used to sit beside each other at the kitchen table and draw. He moved to Philadelphia



Jacquie O. Young, *Memoirs Of Iconic The Dolles*



Mark Kaufman, *Diner*

in 1980 and there he continued producing his lyrical renderings of people and landscapes. Alonzo does not draw from visual sources, but from his imagination, people and places that he remembers, historical figures, and scenes from his memories. He says the images form as lines in his head, and putting them on paper is like putting them to sleep.

Jennifer Ingalls *Clarksville, TN*
Ingalls has been designing and creating jewelry professionally for over 25 years. She graduated from the Massachusetts College of Art in 1997 with a degree in metalsmithing, working mainly in silver. A customer was the first to describe her work as steampunk. “I had to look it up.” A whole new world of artists and community

welcomed her. A steampunk aesthetic and a love for texture now inform her production work as well as her work in precious metals. Officially diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 2003, Ingalls is thankful that the scale of her work does not require good balance or brute strength. As long as her vision and her hands hold out, she plans to keep making jewelry and art.

Jeffrey Iverson *Springfield, IL*
Iverson’s work is a synthesis of the intricate, chaotic and unpredictable. He works primarily in digital media, focusing on colorful abstracts, complex fractal manipulations, and digital photography. “I see the world as a struggle between the ‘thinking’ and ‘feeling’ parts of

the mind, each becoming more or less dominant over time, and I endeavor to appeal to both in my work.” Art allows Iverson to express himself in ways that he finds difficult to express otherwise.

John Johnson, Jr. *Raleigh, NC*
Johnson’s abstract paintings are filled with bright colors that make him happy. He uses broad strokes of acrylic paint on canvas and never knows how his paintings will end until the colors “pop.” Johnson’s only sibling, Zach, was killed in a motorcycle accident in 2011. He was more isolated in his studio then, which gave Johnson freedom to create. Painting helped him get through a really challenging time, just like it helps him deal with everyday problems and get to a happier place in his life. Johnson enjoys hearing people say they like his work. He believes that art connects him to his community and to the larger art world. He is grateful for the opportunities that art gives him.

Morgan Johnson *Gold Beach, OR*
Johnson is an artist working in oil on canvas. His styles range from realism to abstraction. Currently he is working in his own style, which he calls fractionalism. This is a melding of all recognized “isms,” with a heavy emphasis on color theory

and cubism. Johnson attempts to capture beauty by reproducing what he sees as awe-inspiring. Johnson has been disabled officially since 1994 with AIDS. He contracted HIV in 1985. While Johnson has survived long-term using the available medications as they came on the market, both the virus and the powerful drugs have limited his eyesight, stamina, mental faculties and perception/understanding. Johnson is motivated by the statement: “Art is long, follow your awe.”

David Karasow *Levittown, PA*
Karasow is a digital photography collage artist, who is on the autism spectrum. He loves to joke that he has “artism.” His art is influenced by nature, comic books, science fiction and comedy, and he loves to take nature walks and look for turtles. Karasow has a BFA from Temple University’s Tyler School of Art, and he painted a mural of Noah’s Ark on the front wall of Temple University’s Jewish social organization, Hillel. To thank him, they gave him a room to use for an art studio for five years.

Mark Kaufman *Wilmington, DE*
Art seeks connection to write, paint, dance, query, invite an expectant waiting—that moment of connection when artist and

viewer both wait for questions to emerge. Kaufman's images seek to connect. He almost hates to name them for that limits what the viewer sees. Thirty years ago, Kaufman was diagnosed as having bipolar 1 disorder. He has, however, been somewhere on the spectrum of those disorders since kindergarten. Kaufman began painting as a child, and in his teens studied at the Corcoran Museum's School of Art. After a decade as a practicing attorney, in his 30s he returned to the study and practice of art. He now lives in Wilmington, Delaware with his wife of 50 years and his cat named Cat.

Jan Alice Keeling *Nashville, TN*
Keeling's passion is painting portraits in watercolor. She takes her time when painting, using

manifested as extreme fatigue, difficulty walking and occasional blurred vision, played a role in her decision to paint full time. Keeling enjoys turning a client's photograph into a work of art. She finds great pleasure in the way her watercolors allow her to connect with other people.

Christopher Ketz *Shillington, PA*
Ketz is a professional Reading-based contemporary artist and entrepreneur. Having a BFA from Shippensburg University, he now primarily works in pen and ink drawings and alcohol ink paintings. Suffering a severe accident in fall of 2020 that left him temporarily blind and with a fixed pupil, Ketz continues to push the limits within his alcohol ink paintings. He uses art as therapy to his disability, as he continues to

“I choose to embrace the gift of life and create, create, create. Art is not to isolate, but to build community.” —Charles Blackwell

abundant water and many washes of color. Most of her subjects are human faces or beloved animals. Keeling was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis 40 years ago. Her disability, which is largely

share his passion for the arts and hopes to inspire others to push forward. “We are always in search of something or someone, but most importantly, we are looking for ourselves. Through trial and



Jeffrey Iverson, *Lonely Street*

error, we explore our preferences and look for something that brings us joy and happiness!”

Eddie Kil *Baltimore, MD*
The youngest artist at Make Studio, Kil explores a variety of media in his art process. His most recent works are heavily inspired by famous artists like Vincent van Gogh and Edgar Degas, making his own interpretations of well-known paintings and drawings. He's also inspired by everyday things like nature, food and animals. Kil often uses sounds—song snippets, movie quotes, things he hears on the news—to help him focus on his art-making. During an on-site session at MICA's Fiber Arts Department for Make Studio's 10th Anniversary Exhibition, “Making

it Work,” in 2020, Kil kept the sounds and creating going as he completed most of his runway looks using an iron, scissors and fabric spray paint.

Linda Killingsworth *Elverson, PA*
After earning an associate degree in art, Killingsworth chose to explore the little-known medium of colored pencils. Pencils allow the fine detail for out-of-the-ordinary subjects she enjoys creating. She is a member of the Colored Pencil Society of America and an award winner in their international competition. Killingsworth's work can be seen in local shows and colored pencil publications. She is part of two juried, local art groups: Flying Colors Fine Artists and The Artists Circle.

Cheryl Kinderknecht

Bradenton, FL

Kinderknecht is a visually impaired painter and mixed media artist. Her formal training includes a bachelor's degree in art from Fort Hays State University, Kansas. For her, creativity is just as important and life-giving as breathing. Kinderknecht is inspired by the world around and within her, and she relies upon thoughts, emotions, dreams and her mind's eye to anchor and inform her work. "I'm increasingly motivated by the truth that there's way more time behind me than there is ahead of me."

Viktorija King *North Attleboro, MA*

King is a portrait artist. She focuses on capturing the truth, beyond surface level, in everyone

she paints. "It is important for me to capture the essence of who someone is and not just what they look like."

Kaius Kirby *Wheaton, IL*

Kirby is a disabled, intersex, mixed-media, working artist in Chicago. Currently their work focuses on vessels that can be meaningfully "encountered" by the disabled body. Kirby's works are brightly colored (for low-vision), textured (for autism stimming) and unmounted (for low mobility). Kirby started experimenting with their signature pointillism style last year during episodes of extreme chronic pain. During these episodes, Kirby would sit down and dot to center themselves, to meditate. "After a week in bed with a 'flare,' I look down and my human misery has wrought something jubilant, imaginary. My pain is now bright orange, yellow or blue—and a gift to the world."

Dawn Klug *Floral City, FL*

Klug's tapestries reflect the love she has for the Great Smoky Mountains and the cultures hidden within its many valleys. Using wool, cotton, linen and Spanish moss, the timeless beauty that lies within the Appalachian Mountains is revealed in each new work produced. Klug uses the Cherokee

language as her inspiration in naming her works and creating "name drafts" for fabric design that enhance a tapestry or stand alone. As a quadriplegic of 40 years, Klug has physical limitations but has found no boundaries in her life as an artist.

Tyson Klug *Philadelphia, PA*

Klug says that art is a way for him to express what words can't. "My mind and heart are very full and art gives me the opportunity to express that. Color and form are untethered by rules and restrictions."

Ege Kolcu *Carrara/Massa, Toscana*

Kolcu studied art at Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University in Turkey and graduated in 2020. He moved to Carrara, Italy to work on his master's degree. This is where he now lives, studies and produces his artwork. Kolcu chose to work as a sculptor because he found that it's the most expressive way to communicate and coexist. As a deaf artist, he believes his sculpture speaks to him and others about the awareness of sign language. Rich communication doesn't have to be verbal. With his recent art works, Kolcu tries to bring life to a long-forgotten deaf culture. "There is more to a human than he can or cannot hear. When

you're deaf, it's human to feel like having the inner awareness of seeing the world differently."

Janet Kolstein *Guttenberg, NJ*

Images from the past are recycled in Kolstein's mixed media pieces. These paper images have been gathered from estate sales, garage sales, antique shops and eBay. Now her work is mostly in digital and traditional collage. Before Kolstein's road traffic accident in Northern Ireland, and even after, she was a textile designer. Poetry and art fill up her creative time and define who she is. Kolstein has published extensively in the Red Wheelbarrow Poets' anthologies, providing illustrations and cover art. Her artwork appears on the cover of Laura Boss' book of poetry, *The Best Lover*. "Aging with a disability, I find my energy flagging; creating remains an important aspect of daily life."

David Kontra *Hartville, MO*

Kontra is a self-taught expressionist artist using acrylics, pens, ink and an assortment of unusual, useful tools. Having retinitis pigmentosa makes it difficult to create his work, for he can only see a quarter inch of the canvas at a time. Art has made Kontra feel more independent when he paints or draws; it is the



Patrice Tullai, *Sumatran Elephant*

art and himself, in his own personal world, enabling him to release emotions. This is the definition of expressionism, he says. “I open my mind and allow my memory and imagination to cut through the blindness in order to create the visions that I see.”

Debrah Block Krol *Millburn, NJ*

Krol is a diabetic, which over the years has affected her eyesight. She also has essential tremors in both her hands and feet. Krol’s work originates from the desire to explore the relationship between color, form and emotion. She tries to make universal the feelings that art can evoke, through what makes us human and our connections with the larger world. Her subject matter is nature, whether it is a traditional landscape or an abstraction. In painting, she uses traditional materials to capture movement and depth, making the colors dance and swirl. Everything is captured in the spontaneous, unpredictable interaction between brush, paint and paper. “To me, color is powerful and joyful.” Experimentation is a big part of Krol’s creative process, and she’s always learning through it.

Jace Laakso *Missoula, MT*

Laakso works with reduction relief printing, which uses a single block

for as many as 10 colors. The block is inked, then printed, then carved, for the next color. This continues for each successive color as ink is applied and printed until finally, with the last color, most of the block’s surface has been carved away. Much of Laakso’s inspiration comes from seeing the landscape and mentally framing how it could best fit into his art. Negative spaces and shadows play a huge part in how he translates these surroundings. Laakso says making art is meditative. He can lose sense of time. “While I don’t ever forget that I am disabled, it does not define who I am.”

Daphne LaCroix *Philadelphia, PA*

LaCroix has been producing fine art since the 2000s. She was a graphic designer by profession years ago, but has always loved the fine arts of drawing, painting and printmaking. LaCroix says she will never tire of learning and improving by work.

Cherie Lee *Pennsauken, NJ*

“This thing is fragile; this thing has astounding strength. It is perfect and beautiful as it is; and it can be adorned in endless fashion. It can be full of life, or a hollow shell. Impermanent and transitory: this thing is of the nature to break. It will disintegrate.” Lee says whether



Debbie Huff, *Crazy Cat*

she’s talking of the subject, the medium or the artist is immaterial. Drawn to both the strength and the fragility of eggshell-as-carving-medium, these concepts remain in the forefront of her practice and are a reflection of her daily condition. Knowing each day that Lee’s work might not reach completion, fully aware of its delicate nature if it does, it is a full appreciation of strengths and weaknesses informing every step of the process.

Katie Lickfield

Kennett Square, PA

Lickfield is an oil/acrylic painter. She just graduated from West Chester University this past summer with a B.S. in interdisciplinary studies with a minor in studio art. She currently works as a paraprofessional at

Hillendale Elementary School and St. Cornelius, both located in Chadds Ford. Lickfield has been painting since 2019, as she took a lot of painting and art classes during college. She not only likes to paint, she also enjoys staying involved in bible study, hanging out with friends, traveling and making earrings for seasonal occasions. She is excited to take part in Art Ability and make others smile.

Bonnie MacAllister

Philadelphia, PA

MacAllister’s portraits on handmade felt are crafted through embroidery, created from an original figure drawing. She transforms it into needlepoint, a quilt of pores, threaded with more than 20 colors, bounded and knotted with each perforation, a performative puncture onto self-



Don Whittecar, *Fire 19*

healing felt. After learning to spin and weave as part of her Fulbright Hays to Ethiopia, MacAllister became determined to continue her story through textiles. As she describes her practice, “the muscle memory of sewing is guided by recollections, stringing the grit and tooth of obstacles...pounded out in coarse intermingling of fibers, torn out and restitched, a forgiving medium where every loop can be redone and undone, tacked and basted anew.”

Susan Martin *Woodinville, WA*
Martin has spent over 30 years working in the graphic and instructional design arenas for companies like Disney, Apple, Microsoft and T-Mobile. She created a line of children’s books and toys, but after her illness, her art began to shift in

a new direction. With Martin’s background in design, she started to create patterns with simple iconic shapes or words to tell the story of her pieces. Martin uses her artwork as motivation to get through her long days of occupational and physical therapy.

Rose Mavis *Bethlehem, PA*
Mavis is proficient in oils, acrylics and, most recently, colored pencils. She looks to her local area for inspiration in her landscapes and plein air work. She also enjoys rendering the natural forms that surround us as well as creating and composing still lifes. Mavis has been an artist since childhood, which has enabled her to enjoy a rich and creative life despite her deafness. “My artistry has served me well as a buffer against the stressors of being hearing-impaired since birth.”

Valerie Mayer *Greenbank, WA*
Inspired by nature, her travels and encounters along the way, Mayer endeavors to create paintings that elicit a smile or the viewer’s own memory related to the scene or subject before them. Distinctive elements of human experience, wildlife, flora, light and seasons invite her to paint. Living with multiple sclerosis for 30 years and its unpredictable and degenerative nature causes Mayer to approach each day with a flexible outlook and realistic expectations. “It is similar to the nature of watercolor painting, its inherent variability and often surprising results.” Once a painting is planned and sketched on paper, her brush in hand, Mayer intentionally lets go of previous expectations and outcome. Immersed in the creative process and painting intuitively, she achieves her finest work.

Colleen McIntyre *Buena, NJ*
When McIntyre first started her journey into the world of photography, she didn’t know what direction or road to follow, until one day she followed a dirt trail. It was the rodeo! She could not put into words the energy she felt from both the two- and four-legged athletes, but she immediately felt alive. McIntyre set a goal for herself to become

part of the Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association (PRCA) as a photographer. After many hoops of fire, she has achieved that goal. Now, anytime McIntyre has her boots in the dirt, she says she is one happy gal, happy to be a part of the greatest show on dirt.

Kelly McQuain *Philadelphia, PA*
McQuain’s jubilant, folklore-inspired paintings feature people and animals in symbolic arrangements. Growing up gay in West Virginia taught him that joy itself is an act of resistance, so he endeavors to create artwork that serves as an antidote to polarizing times. He starts with abstract color washes, out of which he teases the shapes and secrets he embeds in each piece. McQuain’s repeated use of dots, scratches and other mark-making convey the pixelated complexity of living with ADD and a rare genetic neuropathy that affects his hands, forcing him to push past the pain to create each imaginative piece. He considers his paintings “visual poems.” In addition to painting, McQuain also writes poetry.

Kathleen McSherry *Doylestown, PA*
McSherry used to paint and draw; she kept a drawing diary every day since 1977. When she was

diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 2002, her confidence waned and she stopped drawing and painting. However, once she discovered assemblage art, her confidence came back. One of McSherry's first pieces contained used needles from her MS medication. "As an artist, I must create." McSherry no longer compares her technique to before and after MS. She takes objects found from the past that have lost their usefulness, retaining only memory, then combines and alters them in such a way that they rise up, like a phoenix from the ashes, finding a new language, new meaning and a new form. "This has become a metaphor for my work. It is also a metaphor for MS and me."

Allison Merriweather

Olympia, WA

Merriweather doesn't believe there are any rules to art. She believes rules are contradictory to the creative process. Her inspirations come from within. She creates small colorful worlds that she inhabits for a brief time. Merriweather lives in the Pacific Northwest and loves to wander the trails along the shore. She makes her own pigments from plants and minerals she discovers on her wanderings, and uses them along with store-bought paint. Painting has always been her sanctuary and

"The only time I ever feel "normal" is when I'm creating." —Ivy Rose

refuge from the time Merriweather was a child. "The world is often unkind to learning-disabled children. I am also on the spectrum and retreating to my painted worlds has been my salvation."

Lawrence Meyers *Paoli, PA*

Meyers is an impressionistic watercolorist who connects the viewer to his vision of God's design and the excitement with our commonplace surroundings that are often overlooked.

He transforms these into extraordinary beauty, to be cherished with each brushstroke. Meyers is hearing- and vision-impaired, has tritanope color-blindness, type 2 diabetes and residual stroke paralysis of speech, fine motor skills and walk that required occupational, physical and speech rehabilitation therapy at Bryn Mawr Rehab. This changed his style to paint more loosely and rely more heavily on value, depth and darkness of color rather than color itself, to create his artwork. Meyers feels blessed to be able to continue his pursuit of art and share his view of the complexity in nature.



Brandon Allebach, *In Search For I*

Vinetta Miller *Wynnewood, PA*

Miller likes to paint portraits the most. The people that model for her are all different. She wants them to have different smiles, different backgrounds, different dresses that they're wearing. Miller creates art because it's fun, it allows her to concentrate, and she likes working with her hands. First she puts down a drawing in pencil, then in pen, and then watercolor paint. It's finished when she does all of the lines.

Nicole Miritis

Montreal, Quebec, Canada

A car accident in 2012 left Miritis with limited physical abilities and chronic back pain. She was faced with finding a way to cope with her condition and lifestyle change, so she started painting. "My painting has been part of a therapeutic process. Sometimes it is challenging to paint, but I continue, as it helps me express my emotions. I have a conversation with my canvas and am often inspired by music." Miritis is a self-taught, mixed-media artist often working with found paper materials as well as a variety of other mediums. Her style and way of thinking, which is out of the box, is often depicted in her artwork and she has a portfolio of varied accomplishments.

Mary Monteiro *Douglassville, PA*
 Monteiro's interest in photography originated through her sister Ann, who taught her about nature and basic photography. Monteiro has osteogenesis imperfecta. In her 20s, she really focused on her photography, then life happened. In 2017, she became ill with horrible nerve pain and had to leave her job, fight hard for disability, and rebuild her life from scratch. Her sister gave her an old digital camera and that is how she started back with it. Early in life, Monteiro could never feel relaxed and present, as her childhood experiences were very scary. "Photography now helps me witness the beauty of nature, while feeling calm and truly present." Monteiro loves taking close-up shots of animals and land/seascapes.

Victor Mordasov *West Chester, PA*
 Mordasov, a widely recognized artist whose work has been exhibited both nationally and internationally, has spent many years exploring different mediums and methods of painting. He discovered the joy of painting by following the techniques of the old masters in combination with an impressionist manner of painting. Mordasov paints a wide range of subjects, including landscapes,

still life, portraits and marine venues. His paintings, as well as his sculptures, display a commitment to portraying not just the exterior of the subjects but their characters and personality as well. Mordasov's focus is to bring people's attention to the beauty of God's creation, which is around us all. He has had Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease since he was a young teenager, which limits his physical activities. It was not long after this diagnosis that Mordasov started to draw, leading to his education and professional career in art.

Frank Morrone *Coatesville, PA*
 Morrone experienced his first stroke in 2013. After his second stroke in 2019 and the drain from all the rehabilitation and recovery, his interest in his art waned. When Morrone went home, all of his art supplies were in his basement and he could no longer go down the stairs and work. After a period of time, his family transferred his tools up to a guest room and he once again got started with his art. Morrone's primary medium is acrylic paint and colored pencils. He has practiced with pastels but has not achieved results that he likes as yet. "Due to my limitations, I am limited in my activities, and art has been a wonderful way to spend time and be creative."



Jerry Williams, Angels Of Fire

Daniel Neufeld *Philadelphia, PA*
 As a little boy, Neufeld was diagnosed with pervasive developmental delay, a learning disability. But it didn't stop him from gaining and sharing as many talents as possible. He grew fond of art through his mother, who's also an artist. Neufeld is into drawing, painting, ceramics, printmaking, photography, comic books and animation. Subjects that he enjoys capturing with his pencils, pastels, pens, inks and paints include people, still lifes and sites that he sees on his travels. Art has inspired and helped Neufeld see things in the world creatively. Skills that he has to this day not only include fine art, but also playing sports, singing, playing the cello, cooking and making and editing his own movies.

R. David New *Philadelphia, PA*
 New recently reignited his lifelong passion for creating art when he learned about a new 3D laser technology for creating laser-edged glass sculptures, a perfect medium for his visionary mind and imagination. He was introduced to the machinery, serendipitously located in Miami—the only one of its kind in the country. New designs the concept, the imagery, dimensions and presentations, as well as the polished stainless steel bases and glass specifications. His work has been exhibited in art galleries and at Art Basel Miami. New has taught students from elementary school level to graduate students for the last 15 years. "I believe it is integral to evolution to educate our youth about accessibility and the arts."

Thu Nguyen *Pepeekeo, HI*

“Amelie-An was born in Can Tho, South Vietnam in February 2008 under a very dim star. She was abandoned as an infant due to her medical problems which left her disfigured and mentally retarded. I adopted her in December of 2008... She smiled at me and I just knew we were meant to be together.” The first painting Nguyen created of her daughter was to celebrate the transformation of her appearance after her first surgery. She had not intended to do any more paintings but she found herself being obsessed with capturing her daughter’s fleeting emotions. When Nguyen paints Amelie, she says it feels like a way to show a uniquely personal side of her daughter that is often hidden by her disabilities.

Lauren Nicholson

West Chester, PA

Nicholson is a local artist in the greater Philadelphia area working mostly in photography and oil painting. She is not only an artist but is also the art therapist at Bryn Mawr Rehab. Inspired by the act of art-making as a creative medium, Nicholson encourages herself and the patients she works with to express themselves through art. Her photography is often carefully



Dave Allen, Summer Field

calculated, capturing the right angle and light to evoke a quiet and contained feeling. Nicholson sustained a hip injury from horseback riding and experiences chronic pain. While she’s grateful the injury was non-life-threatening, the experience has helped her empathize with the people she works with who face chronic pain on a daily basis from a variety of conditions, including sickle cell, stroke, TBI and other injuries.

Jason Norris *Savannah, GA*

Norris was a dancer throughout his entire life until he got sick. Now he experiences severe pain throughout his entire body, making it extremely difficult to walk. Norris uses painting as a conduit to express creativity and movement.

Kathryn Noska *Phoenixville, PA*

Multiple chemical sensitivity (an allergy-like reaction to extremely low levels of many kinds of toxicants), greatly impacts Noska’s daily life. It influences and limits her choice of media and caused her to quit creating art many times over her life. Fortunately, Noska found a cold-pressed walnut oil paint her body handles, and she uses solvent-free techniques. She paints “worlds of possibility” with intimate detail, blended depth and bright colors that focus on beauty, delight and positive qualities. Despite flouting rules of “reality,” she creates meticulously realized imagery that’s grounded in believability. Noska’s imaginative paintings open you to go beyond

the ordinary, and are reminders to trust your path, live unconstrained, and purposely uplift your world.

Timothy O’Donovan

Wynnewood, PA

O’Donovan likes the idea of seeing nature by itself in its own form. He feels very comfortable with nature when he takes hikes and walks. O’Donovan feels more in control of his life and his emotions when he makes a piece of artwork. If there is too much tension, he paints and draws while listening to natural music, sounds of the ocean, and Enya. O’Donovan is a learning-disabled individual since birth. He’s been independent since age 14, a self-advocate for 25 years, and an artist at the Center for Creative Works for 12 years.

Jon Ohman *Dennis, MA*

Ohman is an enthusiastic young man with high-functioning autism, a cognitive disability involving an impairment of social interaction and communication, and repetitive behaviors. He draws and paints images with colored pencils, markers, oil pastels, acrylics and watercolor. When drawing or painting, Ohman says he does best at two-dimensional art in both side view and front view angles. His artwork is mainly inspired by horses, his greatest passion.



Kari Souders, *Fleur Fall*

It makes Ohman feel proud to have the talent of bringing his images to life. “It is one of my most significant accomplishments. My creation of artwork makes my family and friends feel prouder of me.”

Patrick Ohman *Dennis, MA*

Ohman has been diagnosed with the classic form of autism. His favorite subject matter for his art is animals, and he likes to use mixed media for his creations. Much of the artwork he has made is inspired by some of the beautiful images he has seen of animals. Ohman says that creating art helps him cope with his autism.

Diana (Rejmer) O’Neill

Haverford, PA

O’Neill spent 25 years as a successful glass etching/carving artist. Though she enjoyed completing various commissions, they lacked color and expression. So, when O’Neill was introduced to watercolor painting, she fell in love with this exciting medium. It freed her creative imagination and she has become passionate about it ever since. Her paintings typically are impressionistic and are inspired by the incredible beauty of nature found in scenic landscapes, birds and animals. It’s O’Neill’s hope that the bright colors and natural patterns in her work will inspire others to appreciate the natural environment that surrounds us. One of her favorite quotes is: “Every day is a gift, so enjoy and make it count.”

Susanne Dagmar Olsen

Vordingborg, Denmark

Olsen thinks art reflects the person you are. She works in a broad range of media, but her favorite is linocut. Her subject matter consists of flowers, animals and people. Olsen believes that if you do what you like most, you get the best results.

Joanne Orth *Phoenixville, PA*

Orth is a lifelong artist, and in recent years, art has helped her

appreciate how rich her life really is as her physical limitations have increased. Producing a new painting gives Orth a tremendous sense of accomplishment, and reminds her that there’s beauty all around us and that life is good. She works mostly in acrylic and pastel, although she also enjoys other media. Retired from a full-time career in science, she can now indulge her passion for painting nearly full time. Orth’s work tends to emphasize how contrasting light and shadow define a subject and how they can create a mood. As a longtime resident of Chester County, PA, she often focuses on local sites, sometimes including animals in their natural surroundings.

Melinda Orth *Philadelphia, PA*

Orth has a spinal cord injury and uses a strap to help her paint. Art inspires her to explore different media. She looks forward to Tuesdays when she has art class. Orth says that creating art makes her happy and relaxes her.

Leslie Palmer *Audubon, PA*

Palmer enjoyed a 30-year career as a scientist, but always found time for her other passion, art. A bicycle accident ended Palmer’s career after she suffered a

traumatic brain injury. Art became part of her therapy. She enjoys an experimental approach to her art, choosing the medium and technique that best convey the subject or mood. Taking part in the Art Ability show holds great meaning for Palmer. “I found so much needed hope looking at the work of disabled artists on the walls of Moss Rehab Hospital where I was treated. I’m excited to now be able to exhibit my paintings at Bryn Mawr Rehab in the hopes of giving other patients the hope that meant so much for my recovery.”

Sal Panasci *Devon, PA*

Panasci spent 25 years in the advertising field, where he received numerous awards for his design work. In 1995, Panasci’s life took a dramatic turn. He was injured in an accident as a passenger in a taxi, which resulted in him being diagnosed with a mild traumatic brain injury (MTBI) and blindness in one eye. Panasci spent 16 months in rehabilitation and continues receiving treatment today. During his initial rehabilitation, he was encouraged to try painting in watercolor, a medium that was new to him. Panasci says, “I become emotionally attached to the color palette, the texture of

the paint and the composition. Through this, the painting takes on a character of its own and a specific visual interest, allowing the viewer to recognize a familiar subject in a new fashion.”

Treavor Stinson Pence *El Paso, TX*
Pence is an artist and educator teaching for over 25 years. He loves painting oil landscapes and charcoal portraits. He has sold more than 350 of his works to clients across the United States, Canada and Australia. Pence is motivated by a quote from the famous El Paso artist, Bill Rakocy, “You have to paint a mile of paintings before you can call yourself a master.” As a person with scoliosis, Pence says, “I have learned to overcome the pain with art as my therapy.”

Victoria Pendragon *Paw Paw, WV*
Pendragon’s fingers rest, permanently curled, almost on the palms of her hands, the result of scleroderma which left her crippled. She paints, canvas laid flat, on a high table, as she has limited flexibility. To her, the woods feel like her family. As a survivor of abuse, Pendragon often turned to the woods and nature to heal the trauma she endured. Her experiences continue to inform her artwork in the present.

Christopher Pereto *Weymouth, MA*
Pereto has been drawing since before age 5. He can’t imagine art not being a part of him. When Pereto first began trying to be “serious” about art, he used colored pencil and aspired to be like illustrator Richard Scarry. It wasn’t until the second half of his college career that Pereto got into marker and pen, thinking more in terms of animation cells. Somewhere along the way he combined the media and began adding watercolor and even paint marker to the mix. Pereto says, “I’ve never had any conception of what role art played in my life as an autistic man; however, neither have I had an idea of how my condition may impact how I create. Both would seem to be something beyond words, fully coming from intuition and the subconscious.”

Cassandra Petruchyk *Philadelphia, PA*
Petruchyk’s art has been with her from day one. It seems the one thing almost untouched by a disorder she was diagnosed with at age 14, obsessive compulsive disorder—best described as the disease of doubt. With OCD, passing thoughts don’t pass and worries consume her time

as constant thoughts or rituals devised to control them. The one activity where she finds herself least plagued by this is drawing. Petruchyk uses drawing to

“Art has given me a sense of accomplishment and has boosted my self-esteem.” —Bobby Edmon

communicate and advocate for animals, wild and domestic. With this intimate art form, line made by pencil, pen, prisma color, and sometimes emphasized using dabs of oil pastel, expresses emotional intention. Her intention is to show the viewer that these are emotional beings and should be treated as such, with respect and honor.



Billy Cogswell, *Red Robin*

Natasha Plaza *Wynnewood, PA*
Plaza’s style combines high-impact pop art with delicate, romantic linework, giving it a fantastical, dreamlike appeal to graphic,

illustrated elements. Focusing largely on natural subject matter, particularly florals, Plaza works both with photographic images and from her imagination. She resides in Philadelphia with her family.

Jenna Powers *Wynnewood, PA*
Powers is an artist living in Andorra, PA who loves to spend time with her family. She works at Center for Creative Works making artwork. In her free time, Powers likes to listen to music and go bowling. She has exhibited work at the Ludington Library in Bryn Mawr, PA. Powers’ favorite things to paint are animals and nature. Painting makes her happy!

Cathy Pregmon *Drexel Hill, PA*
Pregmon has had multiple careers including being a schoolteacher, artistic director for a touring theater company that toured plays of empowerment for children,

consultant with the Bureau of Special Education in Pennsylvania, and now as a designer of handcrafted, one-of-a-kind jewelry. Pregmon never makes the same piece of jewelry twice. She favors beads that are organic and come from nature. Many of her pieces feature semiprecious gems but her work also incorporates seeds, horn, bone, shells and vegetable sources such as tagua and acai nuts. She favors fair-trade beads such as Kazuri porcelain beads from Kenya and paper and linen beads from Uganda. Her pieces are chunky and funky “jewels” with touches of whimsy, and creative use of unusual materials.

Jane Quartarone *Wilmington, DE*

Quartarone is passionate in the belief that we are all born with the ability to create and just need the opportunity and freedom to express ourselves, free of limitations. Her entry in this year's show was born out of a weighted feeling when soldiers, women and children were trapped underground for several days in Ukraine. Creating the piece became her therapy.

Liz Quigley *Adrian, MI*

Quigley is a self-taught, late-in-life art bloomer playing with acrylics, oil, and pen and ink. Her subjects

include florals, seascapes and dancers which may be rendered in realism and/or abstract. She's inspired by the miracle that is herself. Quigley had just begun her art journey when an injury left her unable to do anything but breathe. After many months and



Daniel Neufeld, *High Up In Seward*

years of rehab she is now returning somewhat to where she was at the beginning of her journey.

Meg Quinlisk *West Chester, PA*

Quinlisk is a professional artist and art instructor living in Chester County. Diagnosed with juvenile rheumatoid arthritis at 13, the pain and deformity caused by her JRA left her very depressed. Quinlisk taught herself to paint, giving her

life new purpose and meaning. She paints landscapes and floral still lifes using acrylic paint. Mosaic art has become a new passion for her. She uses mosaic glass to capture the fragility and brilliance of life. The broken glass is a reminder that we are all broken yet what matters

is what we do with our broken pieces. Quinlisk felt like a prisoner in her body, constantly held back by deformity and pain. Painting helped her forget this and allowed her to view herself as an “abled” person, not a “disabled” person.

Tim Quinn *Wynnewood, PA*

Quinn says that he never knows where he'll create his next piece of art. It may be on the wall of the

warehouse, his father's office, inside his house; he has no clue. He starts with a line that goes all around. He makes dots with paint markers. Quinn names each of his works after dogs and family friends.

Judy Quitoriano *Pacific, CA*

After Quitoriano's stroke, she could not even count the stitches to make a granny square. She simply wanted to resume doing her crocheting, which she had learned at age 15. Now, Quitoriano is happy to create wearable art which she has designed herself. “It is my hope to encourage others who have experienced disability to never give up.”

Joy Raskin *Bedford, NH*

Raskin says she has a restless soul, a need to experiment, a need to keep pushing the limits. She covers a wide range in metalworking, from tiny jewelry pieces to flatware to large-scale welded sculpture. Raskin finds she enjoys knitting and shaping wire to create unexpected metalwork such as knitted wire clothing, metal purses and knitted jewelry. Her specialty, besides wire-knitting on a large scale, is also spoons and tableware. Raskin doesn't limit herself to one style or specific technique but employs a wide range of skills to execute the ideas



Susan Stallsmith, *Wine Bottles*

she has in her mind. “I get lost in the pleasure of working with the metal, how it forms or shapes under my hands, and eventually becomes a functional piece of art.”

Lillian Rhinecker *Boonsboro, MD*

Rhinecker has been painting for more than 25 years. She often paints en plein air so that others can observe her process. She paints in a variety of themes, including landscapes. She says that art is her ability to express herself without using words. Art has helped her social life.

Vojko Rizvanovic *West Valley City, UT*

Legally blind, photophobic, with a 14X/52D magnifier and poor visual

references, Rizvanovic says painting doesn't get more fun, but more challenging. However, he is inspired by the challenges and feels it gives his art more merit. His credo is “I paint because I want to exist!”

Holly Robbins *Edinboro, PA*

Robbins is a mixed-media artist with a flair for colorful, high-intensity imagery. Disabled most of her adult life from the extraordinarily painful neurological disease, complex regional pain syndrome, previously known as reflex sympathetic dystrophy (RSD/CRPS), Robbins has been forced to adapt her art to her ever-changing medical conditions. Once, solely a landscape/nature photographer, she now seeks

out art in other localities, as the weight of the camera becomes too heavy. Robbins has learned many lessons through her disability, but flexibility in her thinking has been her greatest lesson of all. Being able to adapt her art to meet her abilities at the moment has put her on artistic paths previously undiscovered. Robbins' favorite saying is, “Nature is my religion, outside is my church.”

Maxine Rosen *Narberth, PA*

Rosen is a ceramic artist who has also dabbled in collage. Some of her ceramics tend to be more sculptural in nature, though many pieces are functional. She has a strong need to create mostly using clay, but used some of the pandemic time to work at home and create collage pieces that tell the story of her life. Both mediums allow Rosen to explore and work alone while also meeting with other artists on Zoom. “My desire to self-express in any art medium is paramount to my well-being, even if I'm out on a hike.”

Tetiana Rouser *Breckenridge, CO*

Rouser paints in oils and acrylics, both en plein air and in the studio. Her main subjects are landscapes, but she likes painting anything that sparks her visual interest. She currently lives in Summit County,

Colorado, and local scenery is her main source of inspiration. Art has been a therapeutic activity for her since 2006, when she became paralyzed after a biking accident.

Abigail Sabin *Limerick, PA*

Sabin is 16 years old. She loves using all kinds of mediums such as charcoal, watercolor, acrylic, pencil, pen and ink, and colored pencil. During the school year from September to June, most of the art she creates is for school. But in the summer, she is able to experiment and create artwork for herself or others.

Carla Schaeffer

West Cape May, NJ

Schaeffer's unique mosaics are a visual illustration of the things that make her happiest in life. Nature, travel and the beauty in the world inspire her to share these interests through her art. Forced to leave her business career when chronic arm pain made it too painful for her to make it through the work day, Schaeffer found that losing her ability to be creative made coping with her injuries unbearable. When she later suffered a debilitating brain injury, she knew she must find a way to bring creativity back into her life. Rediscovering her love of the

artistic process while finding a way to participate in it despite her limitations, has brought her joy and allowed her to reclaim her life.

Rebecca Scheuer *Narvon, PA*
Scheuer is a wife, mother and high school counselor. After a serious car accident in 2015, she started taking oil painting lessons as part of her vision therapy. She realized early on that painting brought her joy. Learning about color, value and composition has helped her to see the world in a different way. Scheuer says that painting has provided an opportunity for her to be creative and relieve stress. She plans to continue learning and painting and enjoying her time in the studio.

Erika Schwarz *Watertown, MA*
Schwarz was diagnosed with Asperger's and nonverbal learning disorder (NVLD) later in life after many decades of diagnostic confusion. This "invisible" mental tangle manifested as OCD behaviors and negative thoughts. Producing works helps her confront the OCD tendencies and attempt to resolve them. Biological sciences and natural systems are the unifying focus of her work: to relay the importance and necessity of environmental

health at an interface with educating the public. To Schwarz, this is an inherent part of her autistic viewpoint.

Christine Severson *Richmond, VA*
Severson, a nurse, suffered a life-changing event in the late 1970s while transferring a quadriplegic patient into a wheelchair. She incurred significant damage to her spinal cord, which continues to limit her mobility and left her with chronic pain. Severson still managed to raise two daughters, and in the meantime creating became her passion, which to this day provides her with a sense of pride and purpose. Severson works on her jewelry during the

day and on her baskets in the evening. Her work is done from a semi-reclining position wearing elbow and wrist splints. The material she works with needs to be lightweight. Weaving jewelry was the perfect fit along with pine needles for her baskets. Severson believes that creating has changed her from viewing herself as a patient to viewing herself as an artisan.

Stephanie Shea *Philadelphia, PA*
To Shea, art means the ability to express herself. Her source of inspiration is anything she sees that piques her interest. This is also her motivation to create. Art lets Shea express herself in

a healthy way and it makes her forget for a while that she is living with a disability.

Ian Shearer *Seattle, WA*
Shearer soaks his sketches with water, creating rivers of pigment. He paints between these dripped lines, manipulating perspective, creating a jumble of flat and rendered imagery. Low and high contrasting values help tell the story of neurological disorientation. Paint spatters mimic the jarring euphoria of sensory processing disorders. The chaotic drippings are symbolic of the "static" of aphasia and the lack of muscle control of dysarthria and apraxia; while simultaneously creating sensations of vertigo, common to traumatic brain injury. Patterns within the drips are highlighted or darkened to resemble MRIs and angiograms. Bits of medical records are decoupled into Shearer's paintings, backward or upside down, hidden in signage or shadows, almost indiscernible—reflecting the experience of millions of people, like himself, living with invisible disabilities.

Nancy Cook Smith *Santa Monica, CA*
Smith says her approach is simple: take found printed fabrics, cut them up, put them back together



Joanne Orth, *Old Friend #27*

in a new composition. She looks for the play between chaos and structure, narrative and silence, what remains of the original and what she shapes as new.

Ivy Rose Smith *Baltimore, MD*

Smith's brain has always been chaotic and loud. Her neurodivergence has gifted her synesthesia, which means she sees colors and shapes when she listens to music or hears sounds. With all the noise of the outside world, Smith is very easily triggered by sounds. When she listens to music, all the chaos can be streamlined. That streamline produces her paintings and drawings. She finds a lot of comfort in the surrealist movement for this reason. Smith paints almost exclusively on black canvases because they feel more mysterious, vast and infinite. Most of her artwork covers topics of trauma, feminism, activism and her muse, Brett. Most recently, she's been focusing on healing her inner child and honoring parts of her that she was unable to explore as a child.

Ken Smith *Riverside, WA*

Smith's creative life began as a freelance writer and commercial and editorial photographer. Since 1991, he has been concentrating on limited-edition fine art, primarily in



Theresa Heidig, *Breathe*

“Painting represents freedom, I can make and do what I want.”

—Ivy Egger

the still life genre. Smith prints his work in black and white and color, using traditional photographic processes and archival pigment ink printed on fine cotton printmaking papers. He also works in mixed media. Smith believes his role as an artist is to be open, curious and available to experience beauty. He

then may be able to interpret that beauty into his work, so the viewer may be moved by the feeling within. Smith's work reflects on his walking disability, encouraging patience and the understanding of how to find beauty in the commonplace.

Eugene Soh *Singapore*

Soh started to learn painting when he was 11 years old. Although he had art training during his primary school days, he did not touch brushes for more than 10 years after his major spinal cord surgery

in 1981, which resulted in him being paraplegic and wheelchair-bound. Soh is a self-trained artist with a B.A. in mathematics from the National University of Singapore. He admires the artistic style of van Gogh and Pierre-Auguste Renoir. To him, art is everywhere: from the depository of his memories of traveling with his wife to the expression of his deep faith in God, the mainstay of his artistic inspiration.

Arlene Solomon *Narberth, PA*

Solomon is a mixed-media artist, particularly interested in photo collage. She had always enjoyed art and being creative, so after a 40-year career as a rehabilitation counselor working with people with disabilities, she began taking classes. Solomon creates colored papers, collects found objects, and more recently uses her own photos to create art. Her source of inspiration is anything that catches her eye that she would like to make something new from. Solomon's work is colorful and shows her sense of humor. To her, collage is like doing a puzzle, so she gets a tremendous sense of accomplishment when she creates a successful piece. “Art has helped me to take my mind off my various aches and pains and helps me feel a sense of accomplishment.”

Kari Souders *Gladyne, PA*
Souders is an abstract painter with a B.F.A. and M.F.A. Having been born with vision in only one eye, she has always seen the world through a monocular lens. This more narrow window has made her hyperaware of fine details and has given her a deep appreciation for experiencing our world not only visually but also tacitly. As a result, Souders gravitated toward becoming an artist who creates textured art using her unique lens. Her work is created through a ritualistic physical and structural approach. Souders' process involves mapping, exploring organic constraints and seeking the possibilities of continuous systems. She works to harmonize mixed media through layering beeswax, paint and collage elements that evolve to a mutual resolution over time.

Harry Spilker *Camp Hill, PA*
Spilker is a self-motivated artist, using his digital camera or iPhone to capture images, and different apps to manipulate the colors and other aspects of the pictures, creating an artistic effect. He especially likes to photograph everyday objects and scenes and then create boldly colored abstract pieces that evoke an emotional response. Spilker

enjoys photographing nature and the environment. He likes taking pictures of trees and clouds and the Susquehanna River in different light. He also takes lots of pictures of his dad. "My photographs make a statement about how I see the world."

Susan Stallsmith *Philadelphia, PA*
Stallsmith has always loved the arts and would describe herself as an "artsy" person. Her motivation to create is her desire to express herself. Stallsmith says that both art and music give her a great outlet for self-expression.

Siddhartha Sukla *Cuttack, Odisha, India*
Sukla has enjoyed painting since childhood. Though hearing-impaired, he doesn't feel inferior to others, just differently abled. With a fine arts degree from Utkal University, he works in various mediums like watercolor, oils and collage. Sukla has been awarded a number of prizes by different organizations, both national as well as international. He attributes his success to the blessings of all his mentors and well-wishers. He says he feels fortunate if he can satisfy his supporters through art. Sukla continues to focus on his work as a professional artist and finding more opportunities.

"I stand similar to abled people through my art. Disability does not affect my work."

Sriharsha Sukla *Cuttack, Odisha, India*

Sukla was born with a hearing impairment. But in spite of his disability, he feels able in every respect. He has been inspired by his parents, especially by his mother, to pursue art. Sukla works in oil and watercolor but his specialty is collage work. He has been awarded a number of prizes by different organizations, national as well as international. Sukla has a degree in fine arts, and he continues to concentrate on his

work as a professional artist and looking for more opportunities. "Whatever the position I have reached, it is due to the blessing of all my mentors and well-wishers."

Elizabeth Sullivan *Elgin, TX*
Sullivan has been a professional watercolor artist and mural painter for the past 20 years. Painting is her happy place. "The joy of creating supersedes all else." Being disabled limits her career options, but fortunately she's been able to make a living doing what she loves. Sullivan's art is inspired by life around her. She is fascinated by cave paintings, Asian brush paintings



Lynne Green, *Metallic Winter*



David Gerbstadt, *Rainbow Robot*

and ancient art, which also serve as inspirations reflected in some of her work. Sullivan lives in Elgin, Texas, with a tiny dog, 12 cats and 11 chickens. She also has three grandsons nearby and she shamelessly and repeatedly paints their portraits.

David Terrar *Gaithersburg, MD*
Terrar survived a major heart attack. His life changed suddenly and a long depressing struggle followed. Terrar needed stability and hope to get through it. On a wintry walk through the woods, he saw his struggle played out

in nature. The struggle to get through the winter was the snow. The sun struggled in the last half hour of the day. All the colors changed, yet the golden sun coming through the trees was a sign of hope. The struggle inspired his work using acrylic and 23K gold leaf. Gold has been an artistic symbol for hope and heaven for thousands of years, and the trees in his paintings are a symbol of strength and stability. “When my mind is not fixed on worry and anxiety, I know my healing is happening.”

Leo Tujak *Floral Park, NY*
Tujak thinks that photography is great. It allows him to see something and transfer it to a photograph, but with some input from him as he takes the picture. By controlling the composition, lighting and angle at which the photo is taken, one can alter many things. But the outcome all photographers are looking for is a “good” photo. Due to a retinal eye problem, Tujak could no longer use his right eye when taking pictures. This required him to retrain himself to use his left eye to look through the camera’s viewfinder. Tujak hopes that everyone enjoys looking at the photos as much as he enjoyed taking them.

Patrice Tullai *Southworth, WA*
Tullai is a painter. She uses both oil and acrylic paints and is currently focused on endangered species. Tullai finds beauty and inspiration and solace in the natural world. She is very interested in documenting endangered animals and giving them a voice in our conversation. “They are beautiful and important.” Art has played an important role in Tullai’s life, giving her a sense of purpose and direction. She says it also allows her to be productive.

Max Tzinman *New York, NY*
Tzinman’s works generally begin digitally, in two or three dimensions, adding layers of mixed media (acrylic, oil, collage, metal) to create still structures and moving images, light and sound. Each project is based on a specific vision which may be realized, changed or extended during the creative process. “Art is my way of trying to make sense of life.”

Hilda Volkin *Albuquerque, NM*
Volkin is a New Mexico artist working with materials that combine both art and science. Working with light has been a constant source of inspiration in her work. Combining fluorescent plexiglass with dichroic and

holographic films reveals the spectrum and wavelengths of light. Fluorescent plexiglass transmits colored light to the edges, giving the appearance that the art is lit. The films split a beam of light into two beams with different wavelengths which transmits one color and reflects another. When viewed from different angles, new colors appear. Inspired by nature, these artworks demonstrate how light affects us. Volkin was diagnosed with otosclerosis over 40 years ago. She has very little hearing in her left ear and the right one is failing as well.

Joyce Washington *Philadelphia, PA*
Being born and raised in Philly, Washington has been surrounded by art her whole life. She loves expressing her art through people and nature. Her inspiration comes from her love for creating and the environment that surrounds her. Art has made Washington so happy, as she can truly express herself.

Shoaib Wazir *Fairfield, CT*
Through his art, Wazir symbolically synthesizes the patterns of beauty with an equally contradictory proposition of pain to demonstrate reconciliation and transcendence into collective

actualization of universal consciousness. He tries to accomplish this by a technique he refers to as “pyroblading,” where he employs sculpting and painting techniques on a burned or traumatic surface. Wazir’s art practice is inspired by the upheaval and displacement he experienced as a member of a minority population while growing up. Through his art, he tries to communicate the plight of migrants and refugees fleeing war and upheaval. He hopes to demonstrate how a traumatized soul emerging from a burned and wounded past is still able to seek new hope and new life and completely reinvent itself.

Joseph Weber *Berwyn, PA*
Weber is a former banking professional and now self-taught artist who began painting acrylic on canvas in 2016, when he realized he no longer had control over his life. He was so overworked that he missed half of his three daughters’ childhoods; he had lost himself. This led to an emotional and spiritual breakdown/awakening which led him to seek therapy for anxiety and PTSD, among other mental health conditions. As a child, artistic expression was not encouraged and painting finally



Arlene Solomon, *Wheels Are Wonderful Things*

allowed Weber to express himself. With now 550+ canvases and 6,000 textile designs created from his art, Weber’s dream is to bring people together through his art, share his experiences and knowledge with people and help them be who they were meant to be—not who someone else wanted them to be.

Kurt Theodore Weston *Mission Viejo, CA*
Weston is a world-class photographer turned blind visionary. He graduated with a Master of Fine Arts from

California State University, Fullerton. Weston’s work is in the permanent collection of the Museum Fine Arts Houston, the Museum of Contemporary Photography and the California Museum of Photography. He photographs natural beauty, interpreting the world as he now sees it. His cloud series was photographed on the island of Maui using a vintage Fujifilm Pro S3 digital camera known for its exotic sensor design. Using this camera helped Weston achieve the unique brilliance he seeks in his landscape photography.

Don Whittecar *Stevensville, MT*
Whittecar’s passion lies in documenting the beauty of his subject matter, primarily threatened and endangered species of wildlife. His medium, copperplate engraving, is also disappearing. While most people are aware of conservation efforts for wildlife and their habitats, few are aware of the need to preserve vanishing art forms. Whittecar strives to preserve both. Wildlife Art News, an international publication with circulation to 110 countries, has cited him as one of only seven or eight wildlife art engravers currently practicing worldwide (Wildlife Art News, Artists Edition, 2004). Whittecar’s disabilities, Still’s disease and tardive dyskinesia, enable him to devote the focused attention needed to cut each individual line into a copper sheet to produce a printing plate.

Jerry Williams *Baltimore, MD*
Williams has been a prolific artist for as long as he can remember, filling page after page with drawings and paintings of his favorite subjects. His favorites include superheroes, circus performers, wrestlers, all things Star Trek and many more. Not shy around celebrities, Williams has met John Waters, former Governor Martin O’Malley and many current

and former Baltimore politicians and news broadcasters. As much as he loves to paint and draw, he also enjoys sculpture using found materials and has demonstrated his personal technique for papier-mâché to students, teachers and community members of all ages. Williams was Make Studio's very first artist in 2011.

Robert Winig

Rancho Palos Verdes, CA

Winig was introduced to the art community at a very young age, growing up the son of an artist. He tried many disciplines of artwork in his youth and always enjoyed photography, and after retiring from a long career in engineering, he found his way back to it. In his photography, Winig now combines his passion for experiencing the great outdoors with capturing the beauty that nature has to offer. With limited range of motion in his shoulders, he is still able to enjoy taking shots in nature.

Nancy Wood

San Antonio, TX
Wood is a classically trained artist currently using photography and digital media to explore the aesthetics of the natural landscape. She received her B.A. and M.F.A. degrees from the University of California, Los Angeles. As Wood describes,

“During the 1990s I bought a computer and began to teach myself digital media because I believed it would be the future of visual arts.” She was right and this led her to become a successful digital artist. Wood experienced severe hearing loss and mental illness during a difficult period in her life. Wood's digital artworks are included in private and corporate collections and have received many awards.

Steve Yarnall

West Chester, PA
Throughout Yarnall's long career as an environmental graphic designer, he always maintained a strong interest in photography. This interest began in junior high when he persuaded his father to buy him a single lens reflex 35mm camera. Yarnall enjoyed making

“Art allows me to express myself in ways that I find difficult to express otherwise.” —Jeffrey Iverson

nature photography, as well as photos of friends and animals, and later architecture and objects. Since suffering a debilitating stroke in late 2020, he has found great enjoyment in combining various images he has captured over the years into new artful

images which have a degree of visual intrigue about them. Yarnall takes care to title his images to give the viewer a clue as to what they are observing.

Jacquie O. Young

Lewes, DE
Young believes we live in a world that is complex and a constantly changing puzzle, in a time when people need creative visual energy to excite the mind. She says a “speed bump,” better known as multiple sclerosis, has averted her photographic career into the fine arts of photography. It is through her lens that she captures visions that portray uniqueness. Some through a different spectrum of light, the unseen surreal spectrum of infrared. Others through art lenses, seeing in a new way, capturing creative visions. The

surreal or dreamy sense of Young's imagery feels as surreal as her diagnosis of MS. Creating art becomes a therapeutic healing process for her, an escape from MS. The once acquired images from her camera become visual interpretations of her imagination.



Jameir Andrews, *Untitled*

Allen Yu

Fairless Hills, PA
Yu is an artist who works out of the studio at Center for Creative Works in Philadelphia. Primarily working in colored pencil on paper, his drawings are vibrant and technically precise. Some favorite subjects include fruits, the Philly Phanatic and candy. Since joining the Center for Creative Works studio in 2020, Yu's work has been widely exhibited and sold at the Outsider Art Fair in New York and Art Enables in Washington, DC. His drawings are currently consigned at Summertime Gallery in New York and Galerie Bonheur in Saint Louis. In his spare time, Yu collects brochures and schedules, enjoys reading, drawing and traveling on SEPTA. Yu lives in Bucks County, PA with his family.

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