



Bismarck Art & Galleries Association, Incorporated
422 East Front Avenue
Bismarck, North Dakota 58504

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ARTISAN

Bismarck Art & Galleries Association

September 2014

BAGA Supports Artists in Their Creative Endeavors

By Barb Nechiporenko

BAGA is not only a venue for regional and local artists to show and sell their work. It also serves to foster ongoing learning for many of us who want to paint but have not taken formal art classes. Most of the local artists who are currently showing and selling their work through BAGA have had other careers but never got over that “itch” to create art. Many of them were teachers, nurses and doctors, writers, business owners, clerical and government workers. While some continue in their careers while pursuing art, most are retired and finally have some time to do what they have always wanted to do - create art. BAGA provides many learning opportunities by offering work-shops, figure drawing groups, classes and tours as well as monthly opportunities to view new artists' exhibits.

I recently had time to consider the importance of a local art organization while reading the obituary of fellow painter Vidette Freier who passed away in August of this year. She was working to support a family when she taught herself to paint by following the directions from an art kit she bought for her son. She soon found a group of fellow artists and realized the importance of taking lessons from a teacher to further her knowledge and share her passion with other like minded individuals. Vidette had painted for at least five decades and was involved from the beginning in the organizations that were the very seeds of what is now Bismarck Art and Galleries.



From a group that painted in the teacher's basement to the formation of Elan Gallery and then to the founding of BAGA and Gallery 522, belonging to a group of artists was important to the quality of Vidette's life. When someone asked her how long

it took to create a painting she always replied “40 years “, meaning all the years of learning and working with oils and pastels. Toward the end of her art career she really didn't need the help of an art instructor but she continued to attend painting classes at BAGA. I think she did most of her painting when working in a group of other artists and enjoyed the social aspect of the group since she lived alone. She continued to paint until 88 years of age. When asked what medium she preferred, oil or pastel she replied, “Which ever one I'm not using now.” She always joked about choosing an easy subject to paint that always turned out to be not so easy. We will miss Vidette, but she serves as an inspiration to those of us who hopefully still have a way to go in our creative lives. Will we still be wanting to, or able to, paint when we reach that age? What are our artistic goals we hope to accomplish in the coming years? We appreciate what she overcame to be the accomplished artist she was and how BAGA was able to contribute to that end.



Vidette with Chris Fulton & Bro Halff (left to right)

Bismarck Art & Galleries Association cordially invites you to attend Festival of the Arts...

A Winter Wonderland

Saturday
November 15th
6:00 p.m.

Radisson Hotel, Bismarck

Watch your mail for more information.

Under the Dakota Sky: An Exhibition Celebrating 125 Years of Statehood

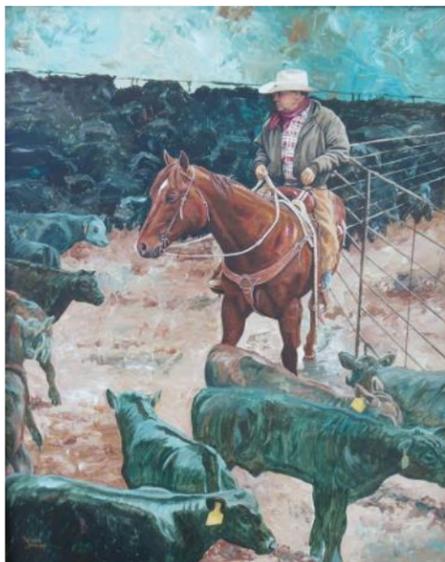


Exhibit Artwork by Andrew Knudson

The North Dakota Art Gallery Association (NDAGA) and the North Dakota Council on the Arts (NDCA), with support from Starion Financial, organized this exhibition to celebrate 125 years of statehood for North Dakota. Opening during the signature event on the Capitol Mall Friday, August 16, this exhibition presents artists' work with a strong connection to North Dakota.

Under the Dakota Sky showcases many of North Dakota's finest creative personalities, including contemporary and traditional artists hailing from all corners of the state. The artwork will be on display in the Missouri River Events Center at the North Dakota Heritage Center through October 23, 2014.

NDCA Executive Director, Beth Gigante Klingenstein describes the exhibit: "The North Dakota Council on the Arts is pleased to contribute to North Dakota's 125th celebration of statehood. The works of art on display showcase a wide variety of art disciplines, exceptional North Dakota artists, and our state's rich artistic heritage. I hope all those with a love of our state and the special art produced here will visit the exhibit! Under the Dakota Sky is not only about sharing the artwork in this exhibition, but also about changing perceptions and developing images that communicate more completely the North Dakota experience. It is about raising the visibility of many excellent North Dakota artists. It's about living in and creating artwork in a rural state, which can be both advantageous and challenging. It's about appreciating these artists and recognizing what a great asset they are to our state and our communities."

Art lovers are encouraged to let others know how much they appreciate the role the arts can and do play in North Dakota's wellbeing, community pride, tourism and economic development.



Exhibit Artwork by Leon Basler

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Upcoming Events

Sept. 2-27	Ellen Diederich & Robin Reynolds Member Artist, Colette Wieland	Reception, Sept. 5, 5-7 pm
October 7-25	Fall Art Show-Local/Regional	Reception, October 7, 5-8 pm
Oct. 28 - Nov. 29	Tom Temple, Montana Member Artist, Sue Sorlie	Reception, Nov. , 5-7 pm
November 15	Festival of the Arts at the Radisson Inn	6 pm- 1 pm
Dec. 2-23	Member Artist Holiday Show	Reception, Dec. 5, 5-7 pm
December 13	Cookie Walk, at BAGA	10 am-3pm

Recipe: Marinated Tortellini provided by Connie Johnsen

- 1/4 C white wine vinegar
- 3/4 C olive oil
- 3 Tsp Dijon mustard
- 3 Tsp fresh lemon juice
- 1/4 Tsp sugar
- 1 Tsp salt
- 1 Tsp each rosemary, season salt, oregano, marjoram
- 2 jars marinated artichoke hearts, drained
- 1 C small fresh mushrooms, 1 can pitted ripe olives
- 1 red bell pepper cut in bit sized pieces
- 1 9 Oz. package fresh cheese tortellini, cooked al dente, drained and cooled
- 1 TBS rinsed drained capers
- 1 Lb large cooked shrimp



In small bowl, combine vinegar, olive oil, mustard, lemon juice, and seasonings. Whisk until well blended. In large bowl, combine remaining ingredients, and dressing. Marinate at least 3 hours. Add shrimp and marinate 1 to 2 more hours.

Do you have a favorite recipe you would like to share in the BAGA newsletter?
Send it to baga@midconetwork.com or drop it by the gallery so it can be included in an upcoming issue.

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We welcome your comments and suggestions for this newsletter.

Contact BAGA at 701-223-5986 during business hours.

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How to Choose Mat Colors from matshop.com

How to Choose Mat Colors for your Pictures

There are several simple techniques that professionals in the art and framing industry use to be able to shorten the time it takes to choose the right mat color or mat combinations for matting and framing pictures. One very important rule to remember is – mat (and frame) your picture to suit the picture – not the wall, the furnishings or décor. That is not to say that taking those things into consideration is not important – particularly if you are working on complimenting a room or design – but that the first consideration is that your choice will enhance the image. This of course also allows you to easily move a picture from one room or design environment to another – knowing that your framing will always enhance the image.

A second, but key, rule is that all framing and matting should have one goal – to draw the viewer's eye to the focus of the image being presented. To that end choices of mats and frames are made that build on this principle.

The techniques for matting are not difficult to learn and I will provide some of the basics in the following parts.

Single Mat Choices

When choosing a single mat to go around your images you need to realize that people looking at the picture will have their eyes drawn to the most visually stimulating area – usually the area of the picture



with the greatest color, contrast or dominant focal point. If you choose a mat that overshadows this area, then you will hurt the presentation of the picture – no matter how well the mat color matches your wall or furnishings. Therefore – if choosing a single mat – use a color that compliments the image, does not fight with the colors in the image – or overshadow them, and allows you to step back from the picture and still see your eye drawn in to the focal point.

Great choices for single mats are often simple clean colors such as whites, creams, very light greens, blues and grays.

Double Mat Choices

With double mats – you have many more options available to you for your second or inner mat. While the outside mat should adhere to the rules for single mat choices – because you are adding an accent color beneath – you can often allow the outer mat to be a bit stronger since the eye will naturally be drawn to the inner accent color.



The most important thing of course is that the inner accent color should now help continue your eye's travel on to the focal point of the picture. That is why choosing the inner mat color is most critical with double mats.

One rule of thumb is to step back from the picture and decide on color order. For example: What is the dominant color, what is second, third and fourth. Often a dominant color is not obvious until you notice the overall affect. Ideally you do NOT want to use this dominant color as your accent. Instead now look at the secondary or tertiary colors and see how they relate to the focus of the image. Choose one of those colors as your accent or second mat color. That way your eye will be drawn from the outer mat to the accent to the focal point of the picture.

Mat Border Sizes

A last but key element in choosing mats is to determine how wide the mat borders should be around your image. Once again the rule of matting to draw your eye to the focus of the picture can be your guide. Too wide and all you see is mat. Too narrow and the mat will seem cheap or unnecessary. Some professionals have a comfort level with a simple percentage – i.e. 15 - 20% of the smallest dimension of the image should be the mat border. Using this rule an image that is 24" x 30" would have a minimum mat border of 3.6" and a maximum of 4.8" – probably

Continued on page 4

50th Annual Stampede and Quick Draw in Stanford, MT by Sherry Niesar

Camping just up the mountain at Dry Wolf Creek Campground gave me the perfect opportunity to visit the Stampede and Quick Draw and Art Auction in the quiet town of Stanford, Montana. On Saturday, July 18th the town came alive with folks from across the state for this annual event.

Artists had only one hour to complete their painting, sculptures and framing and then the Live Auction began. Participating artists came from Montana, Idaho, Wyoming and Oregon. The Stampede Quick Draw has become one of the most popular in the Northwest. Each piece was sold immediately following the completion of the Quick Draw. Funds from the auction are used for numerous community projects in Judith Basin County.



How to Select Mat Colors - continued from page 3

rounded off to 5". This would provide enough weight around the image without taking away from the picture. Others are less exacting and often through experience have found certain border sizes to work well with certain image sizes. For example – they always like a 2.5" border on images that are between 8" x 10" and 9" x 12" and a 3.5" border on images that are larger than 9" x 12" - say up to around 16" x 20".

There is no set rule here. In fact some photographers with strikingly dramatic photos often will mat their gallery images with huge borders that serve to isolate the image from the entire wall and region around it and allow the viewer to focus more clearly. Experiment with what works best for you – but keep in mind that your goal is to get the viewer to look at the image – not the mat.

Member's Holiday Art Show

Please make plans to participate in the Member's Holiday Show in December. This show is BAGA's gift back to our member artists. There is no cost to participate. Additionally, it is a 'Cash n Carry' show where buyers can take their art at the time of purchase so the artist can bring in additional artwork to sell.

In 2014, participation in this show declined and very few artist took advantage of this gallery membership perk. If participation continues to decline, the Board of Directors has decided that the show will not continue in future years. Please take part in this show if you are a member of BAGA. If you are not a member, join today at BAGA or online at: www.bismarck-art.org under the membership tab.

Artist's Corner

Plein Air Painting Outings and Events

Fall is upon us and our last remaining scheduled Plein Air outings are coming up. To try to catch some of the fall colors we added a paint out on Monday September 29th starting at 4:30 pm at Sam Coleman's, Circle C north of Bismarck.

On Monday, October 6th at 6:00 pm we plan to meet at Sertoma Park Shelter #7 for a potluck and our fall planning meeting. Details for each of these will be emailed to group members in advance. If you are interested in following the exploits of the group and haven't already signed up, contact me at maz@bis.midco.net and I will add you to the group email for all outings.

Larry Maslowski

Pine Needle Basket Class

Bismarck Art & Galleries will offer a **Pine Needle Basket Class with Eileen McEnroe** on Saturday, October 25, 2014 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. The cost of the workshop is \$50. with a supply fee of \$15 paid to the instructor the day of class. Pine needle basketry uses a technique of coiled dried pine needles and various materials sewing the coils together. Students will complete at least one small basket made of long leaf pine needles, sewn with waxed linen thread. Workshop participants will master the basic stitch and skills to make additional baskets on their own. Eileen McEnroe of Bismarck has been making pine needle baskets for 8 years. Class sizes are limited, so register early. To register for classes contact Bismarck Art & Galleries Association email at baga@midconetwork.com, at 701-223-5986, or online at www.bismarck-art.org under the classes tab.





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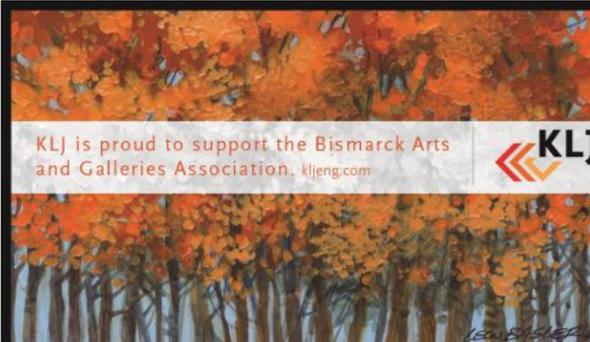
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Planned Giving

Contribute to the Bismarck Art & Galleries Association's future by planning for a special kind of gift. Although cash contributions to BAGA are always appreciated, there are other creative and flexible options that can benefit you and the Gallery. You can help ensure the BAGA's future by creating a trust while you are living or by including the Gallery in your will.

Appreciated securities are an excellent way of funding many of these gifts, often unlocking greater income while eliminating, or at least reducing, capital gains tax. (See your tax consultant for a definition of the capital gains tax and other relevant terms.)

Bequests

Donors who have remembered BAGA in their wills have benefited the gallery in many ways, providing indispensable support for exhibitions, conservation efforts, and a range of educational activities. A bequest is one of the simplest ways to provide for the Gallery.

You may arrange for the Gallery to receive:

- a specific dollar amount
- specified assets, such as securities, real estate, or tangible personal property
- all or a percentage of the remainder of your estate after all other obligations (a residuary bequest)

You may make a bequest to BAGA by preparing a new will or adding a codicil to your present will. An outright bequest to BAGA is fully tax-deductible for estate-tax purposes.

Estate Planning Tip

One easy way to include the Gallery in your estate plan is to name BAGA as a beneficiary of your donor advised fund, retirement plan, IRA, or life insurance policy. Doing so is as simple as filling out a beneficiary designation form from your plan provider or administrator.

Charitable Remainder Trusts

This agreement between you and a trustee can provide fixed or variable income to meet your specific financial needs, at the termination of which the remaining assets are passed to the Gallery. This arrangement operates somewhat like a mutual fund, accepting gifts from many donors, managing them as a common fund, and providing variable annual income.

Charitable Lead Trusts

This agreement between you and a trustee provides income to BAGA for a period of years, at the end of which the trust property typically passes to an heir.

Retirement, life insurance, and real estate assets may all be donated to the BAGA.



Portrait Painting Anyone?

Are you interested in learning about and practicing portraiture? A group of artists will be forming an informal group to practice portraiture with a live model, share ideas, methods, and critiques. The group will meet once a week at the BAGA classroom at a time/day to be decided by the group. If you are interested in participating in this artists group or would like additional information, please call the gallery at 701-223-5986 or email at baga@midconetwork.com



What's Happening at BAGA

Artists



Judy Carlson & Zoe Wergeland
July 2014



Audrey Bauer
August 2014



Eileen McEnroe
July 2014



3rd Annual Square Foot Show
August 2014



Vickie Kessler & Donna Kjonaas
July 2014

Capital A'Fair August 2-3, 2014



BAGA

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Rent The Gallery!

If you have a birthday, retirement, anniversary, or graduation coming up, BAGA can provide the perfect venue for your celebration!

For More Information
Contact BAGA at 223-5986

“Without art, the crudeness of reality would make the world unbearable.”

George Bernard Shaw



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