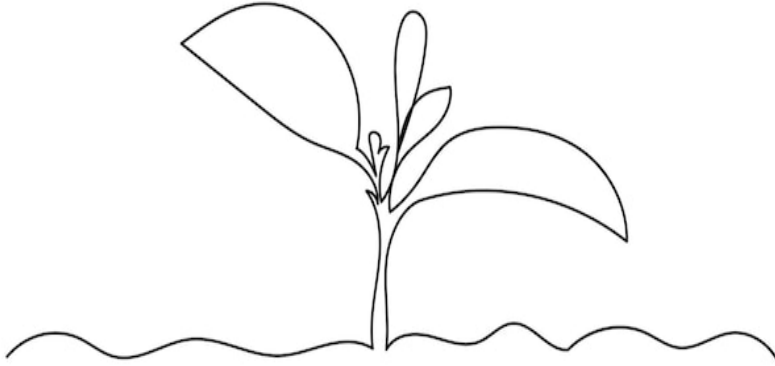


Saco Bay Artists

March 2024 Newsletter



Our meetings are scheduled monthly from March-December on the second Monday of the month (except for holidays). The meetings are held from 10:30 am -12:30 pm at the Saco Parks & Rec Center at 75 Franklin Street in Saco. Please mark your calendar with the following 2024 meeting dates: April 8, May 13, June 10, July 8, August 12, September 9, October 21*, November 18* & December 9. All are welcome so feel free to bring anyone who is interested.*

We also normally host a “drop in” at the Rec Center on the non-meeting Mondays from 10:30 am – 12:30 pm for those who would like to get together to paint, create & chat. Please let Ellen (pastelpainter84@gmail.com) know if you might like to join on those Mondays; she has been trying to email around before hand to see who plans to attend, which helps us in planning.

March 2024 Meeting Notes

- Heather welcomed everyone to the meeting as SBA’s new chairperson
- 23 people were in attendance
- Reminder to members that of membership renewal is due (see section below on annual dues)
- Cathy Turpin provided the treasurer’s report
- Kathy Angel Lee reviewed the proposed 2024 budget projecting ~\$15k in income with expenses of \$8K; the budget was voted on and passed
- Kathy also gave an update on SBA’s 2024 art shows (see section below and <https://www.sacobayartists.org/pdf/SBAShowApplication2024.pdf>):
 - Kathy is teaming up with Mary Brunner this year, who plans to take over as show coordinator in 2025
 - Of 32 available spaces, 15 are already filled for the July 4 show, 9 filled for Aug 3, and 11 filled for Aug 31 (Labor Day weekend); 2023 was the first year SBA had 2 “sold out” shows (so reserve your spot soon!)
 - Judges have also been selected for each show: Dawn Maron in July; Sue Colburn Motta for Aug 3 and Pam Edwards for Aug 31
 - Waiting for word from the banks on purchase prizes, etc.
 - The Aug 3 show will feature an SBA tent, where members who would like to offer a few works without a tent of their own can participate; application to take part in that will be sent in June
 - Kathy has been actively seeking out fine artists at other shows and inviting them to apply for ours; the idea was floated again that SBA have a flyer or business card made that could be handed out; Kalleigh mentioned another organization has a nice card for these purposes which says “you do great work, join us”

- Given SBA's deep connection and collaboration with Ocean Park over the years and the profound destruction that has impacted the community's infrastructure during the storms this past winter, a donation to the Ocean Park Disaster Relief fund was proposed and discussed
 - This concluded in a motion for SBA to donate \$1000, which was passed
 - A suggestion was made for SBA leadership to present the check personally versus just mailing
- Heather recommended that SBA recruit volunteers for a Program Committee (or at least a coordinator) to help arrange speakers, programs and demos for monthly meetings but perhaps also including group outings to exhibits, museums and other activities of interest.
 - Please notify Heather if you would be willing to help out
 - Heather has arranged presenters for the monthly meetings through August thus far
 - Heather would welcome suggestions of topics or speakers for future meetings or ideas for outings; please email her at FountainGlass10@gmail.com.
 - The group also agreed to provide latitude in the amount paid to presenters; previously this had been \$100 but SBA would have flexibility up to \$150 per presenter
- Discussion was had around SBA's Elizabeth Horton Shore oil pastel award to provide greater flexibility in presenting this annual award
 - It was put in place with the Oil Pastel Society of Maine folded and as a result, was originally intended for oil pastel artists (in memory of artist Elizabeth Horton Shore)
 - In practice, few oil pastel artists have participated in our shows and we also have adopted the guideline to not present an award in a category unless there are at least three artists participating in the category
 - A motion was voted on and passed to expand the category to all pastel artists
 - While the award was presented in recent years at the August show, there was agreement that perhaps we could be flexible about which show we will present the award in and select the show that has the greatest number of pastel artists registered at the beginning of the show season
- Kalleigh mentioned that Saco Main Street is doing its annual sidewalk arts festival on Saturday June 22 from 9-3 (rain date June 29) and is looking for sponsors
 - Sponsor levels range from \$60-3000 and include certain visibility that SBA could consider further
 - They are still accepting artist submissions for artists and are rejurying everyone in 2024 with an effort of focusing the event more on fine art/craft
 - More info at <https://sacomainstreet.wixsite.com/arts>
- Ocean Park will host their annual plein air Art in the Park event beginning Sun July 21 with selected artists (including our own Ellen Pelletier) creating in and around Ocean Park and culminating in an exhibit and wet paint sale with the artists on Wed July 24 at 5pm in the Temple. The artists painting locations will be posted on the OPA facebook page daily during the event so others can find them and watch them work/ask questions. Of course, Ocean Park always welcomes artists at any time of the year to create around the park!
- A new plein air event, Open Air Artistry, will be hosted in OOB and Ocean Park on Saturday August 24 from 9-4 (rain date Aug 25), and will include cash awards for both professional and amateur painters as well as a wet paint sale. Visit <http://oob365.com/> for more information and the entry form. Deadline for applications is August 9.
- Heather intends to add upcoming art-related events at the bottom of our monthly meeting agendas. These will also be included in the meeting notes. Additional opportunities not mentioned above are as follows:
 - The Paradise City Arts Festival call for entries application deadline is April 2
 - October 12-14 in Northampton MA: <https://artists.paradisecityarts.com/apply/fall-northampton-application>
 - November 22-24 in Marlborough MA: <https://artists.paradisecityarts.com/apply/fall-marlborough-application>

- The Art Guild of the Kennebunks is hosting its annual jurying for new members. The deadline for submission is April 20 and the application and guidelines can be found here: https://www.artguildofthekennebunks.com/become_a_member.
- Sylvia is stepping down from coordinating portrait sketching at the Libby Library in OOB, which is offered once a month for 3 hours from June to October. The sessions are free and open to the public and the library pays for a model to sit. Sylvia has talked to someone about potentially taking over for her as coordinator but if you are interested, please contact her at sgorch6648@gmail.com.

March Meeting Program

Following the business portion of the meeting, Cali Rossen, founder of SacredFrequencies.org and a certified sound & Reiki practitioner, explored the profound connection between sound, color, and artistic expression. Using crystal sound bowls, a vintage Burmese gong, and other therapeutic instruments, Cali produced a sound bath, guiding listeners into a state of relaxation and heightened creativity – see photo below. Members tuned in and some created in their medium of choice. Afterward, Cali mentioned that she was grateful and honored to have the opportunity to work with our group.



Upcoming at the April 8 Meeting

Guest artist, Ken Kantro, will be sharing his design process and sculptural metal work with us at the next meeting. Ken has been an artisan for over 40 years. His pieces have been influenced by the beauty and fluidity of Celtic and Asian art, as well as the beauty of Maine. Ken works out of his studio in Biddeford, Maine creating original designs in sterling, pewter & gold. He has received commissions from several museums and institutions including the Art Institute of Chicago, The Winterthur Museum, Monticello and the National Holocaust Museum. His work is in the permanent collection of the Portland Museum of Art. He has won numerous awards & his work has been exhibited at the Smithsonian Institution.



He shares that, “from the beginning, I have been inspired by the transformative power of art and the powerful process of creating jewelry and objects of beauty from the elements found in the earth. When silver, gold, and pewter are turned into molten states, they assume fluid properties which can be molded and shaped in ways limited only by one’s imagination and creativity.”

“Accompanying this creative gift has been my deep, abiding love of nature. I have been blessed to find myself in Maine where I have discovered the austere, uncompromising beauty of its North Atlantic coastline and its mountainous inland wilderness. I can only hope my work is an adequate reflection of this extraordinary beauty and reality.”

Ken’s jewelry and ornaments can be found at <https://lovelljewelry.com/>

Saco Bay Artists/Gertrude Eastman Scholarship

Did you know that we, Saco Bay Artists, offer a scholarship to students who have been accepted into a college or program where they are studying in the arts? If you know a student who is graduating high school and heading into an arts related field of study or recently graduated and is already studying in an arts program that leads to a degree or certificate in any art related field AND they are from a Saco Bay area school (Saco, Biddeford, Old Orchard Beach, Scarborough) please let them know about our scholarship. This year we have updated the scholarship application process and made it easier, so that students can self-submit their applications to our new scholarship email address: sacobayartists@gmail.com. More information and the application can be found on our website at <https://www.sacobayartists.org/award.html>.

2024 SBA Art Shows

Welcome to another show season with SBA. Although Ocean Park suffered severe damages during the recent storms, we are hopeful that everything will be repaired and shows/activities will go on as usual in Ocean Park.

For 2024, show messages will be from Kathy Angel Lee (kathyangellee@gmail.com) and Mary Brunner (marybrunner82@gmail.com) who is learning the Show Coordinator job & will be included in all communications. The show guidelines and application for this year's three shows (July 4, Aug 3 and Aug 31) can be found on the SBA website: <https://www.sacobayartists.org/pdf/SBAShowApplication2024.pdf>. Please read them carefully before signing - there have been some additions to the agreement. Note that the entry deadline is May 15 for application & fees. If there is space available after May 15, we will consider additional applicants.

Membership 2024

Dues for 2024 are \$45.00 payable to Saco Bay Artists. If you have not renewed your 2024 Membership, please send it in or bring it to the next meeting on April 8 and include your membership/renewal application: <https://www.sacobayartists.org/pdf/SBAMembershipApp.pdf>. Heather Fountain will continue to serve as membership chair through the end of April. In May we will welcome Vicki Lowe as the new Membership Chair. During this transition membership information is as follows:

Jan- April: Bring membership to a meeting or send to Saco Bay Artists C/O Heather Fountain, 2 Pavia Ave, Old Orchard Beach, ME 04064

May-September: Bring membership to a meeting or send to Saco Bay Artists C/O Vicki Lowe, P. O. Box 7100, Ocean Park, ME 04063

Oct 2024- April 2025: Saco Bay Artists C/O Vicki Lowe, 47 Spruce Street, Foxboro, MA 02035

Upcoming Guest Presenters

We have an exciting line up of artists for our meetings in 2024:

- **April 8** - Ken Kantro, metal artist of Lovell Designs, design process and techniques.
- **May 13** - Martha Lamarshe, cold wax process
- **June 10** - Melanie Barash Levitt, NH plein air painter
- **July 8** - NOTE: meeting location 2 Pavia Ave, Old Orchard Beach
Ellen Pelletier will give us an intro of what to think about with Plein Air Painting and will send us off to work plein air outside or viewing the outside while comfortably sitting inside.
- **August 12** - Vicki Lowe, Sktchy app & charcoal portrait drawing 101

We are still looking for artists or suggestions for September, October, November, and December and our presenters receive a \$100 honoraria. If you have met any interesting artists or have artwork, a tool, a technique, or a topic you would like to teach us about, please let Heather Fountain know. She can be contacted at: fountainglass10@gmail.com or text or call 207-713-4029.

Saco Bay Artists Website

For new or current members who have an online presence for their art—either a dedicated website, Instagram feed or Facebook page—you have the option to have the SBA website link to that page (see the Artists tab at the top here: <https://www.sacobayartists.org/>). If you'd like to have your page added, please let Christine (art@christinelabaree.com) know and she will put you in touch with Stephen who maintains our website.

SBA Chairs/Committees

Chair - Heather Fountain
Treasurer - Cathy Turpin
Meeting Scribe/Newsletter - Christine Labaree
Membership Coordinator - Vicki Lowe
(new as of May 2024)

Events Coordinator - Sylvia Orchard
Webmaster - Stephen Beckett
Facebook Coordinator - Kailleigh Archibald
Summer Shows Coordinator - Mary Brunner/
Kathy Angel Lee (2024 only)