We've got the keys to your



The Visual Arts Center

Providing the best art classes, instructors and exhibit opportunities for members and visitors.

- 3 Art Galleries (20+ Exhibits Annually)
- Extensive Arts Library
- Artisan Gift Gallery of Hand-crafted Items
- Instruction for All Skill Levels
- Art & Supply Store

Hours: Open to the Public

Mon. & Fri. 10am-4pm

Tue. Wed. & Thur. 10am-7pm

Sat. 10am-2pm

Class Times: (VAC Opens ½ Hour Prior to Class Start)

• Weekday Mornings: 9:00 – 12:00

• Weekday Afternoons: 1:00 – 4:00

• Evenings: 6:00 – 9:00

• Saturdays: 10:00 – 1:00 & 1:00 – 4:00

Personal & Group Classes available.

Call (941) 639-8810 or go online at www.VisualArtCenter.org to register.



EXHIBITS | CLASSES | GIFT GALLERY | ART SUPPLIES

210 MAUD STREET | PUNTA GORDA, FL 33950 (941) 639-8810 | WWW.VISUALARTCENTER.ORG In Punta Gorda across from Fishermen's Village

ART CLASSES ONSITE & ONLINE Draw & Paint

- Abstract
- Acrylic
- Black & White
- Charcoal
- Colored Pencils
- Drawing
- Mixed Media
- Oil Painting
- Open Studio
- Pastels
- Scratchboard
- Watercolor

Fiber

- Baskets
- Dyeing
- ♦ Embroidery
- Weaving

Glass

- Fused Glass
- Stained Glass
- Glass Etching

Jewelry

- Casting
- Enameling
- Glass Fusing
- Silver & Copper
- Wire Wrapping

Photography

- Photography
- Digital Editing

Pottery & Clay

- Apoxie Clay
- Big & Tall
- Hand Build
- Raku & Horsehair
- Pottery Wheel

Wine & Art Socials Youth Classes





In 1961 a group of artists organized an outdoor art show, and an astonishing 3,000 people came. These artists began to organize, and the Visual Arts Center was built in phases as money was raised. The doors officially opened in 1989.

Today, the Visual Arts Center (VAC) provides the finest art classes, instructors and exhibit opportunities for members and visitors. Courses are designed for all ages and skill levels and the VAC offers classes and workshops throughout the year in a wide variety of visual art media. Basic art supplies for oil, watercolor, acrylics, drawing and pottery, plus premade class kits, are available for sale along with VAC logo items, snacks, and member rental storage lockers.



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ART EDUCATION PROGRAMS

CLASS DATES & TIMES

Class day of the week and times suggested for each instructor are according to their preferred teaching schedule, however, the schedule does change from time to time based on classroom availability. Classes generally begin every four to six weeks. Currently scheduled onsite classes are highlighted in yellow. For the most current list of scheduled classes, visit www.VisualArtCenter.org.

ONLINE CLASSES

A selection of classes is offered online. Online classes meet weekly for 1½ hours for four-to-six-week sessions. Currently scheduled online classes are highlighted in grey.

OPEN STUDIOS

An opportunity to work in the VAC Studios independently without formal instruction with a VAC Coordinator available to connect you to VAC resources. Join one session at a time or sign up for multiple sessions.

YOUTH & TEEN PROGRAMS

Classes just for Teens in Pottery, Jewelry or Art Exploration, ages 10 to 18. Summer Camp for ages 8 to 18.

WORKSHOPS

The Visual Arts Center offers Workshops in addition to classes taught by our Instructors or Visiting Instructors. Workshops offer a concentrated focus of one-half day to four consecutive days of instruction and creativity. Visit the website to see the current list of Workshops.

MASTER WORKSHOP SERIES

Several nationally recognized artists present workshops each year. These workshop artists, selected by a committee of instructors and accomplished artists, represent new techniques or highly recognized expertise. Visit the website to see the current list of Master Workshops.

CREATE AND PAINT EVENING SOCIALS

FUN WITH ART+ WINE – Each month we feature Art as a social event. Create your own piece of art in a 2-hour fun group workshop. – Painting, Glass Etching, Fused Glass and more. Onsite & Online.

INDIVIDUAL/GROUP PRIVATE LESSONS

Personalized and private group classes are available for groups of 5 or more at the regular class rate. Individual lessons are available on an hourly basis.

MEET OUR INSTRUCTORS

JAMES (JIM) BEECH, FWS

Jim studied at the Philadelphia Museum College of Art, the School of Visual Arts in New York, and Sheridan College in Oakville Ontario Canada. His primary background is in advertising design, graphic design, marketing, and communications in art. Jim's watercolor adventure began in 1957, studying under prominent illustrator George Wilde in Philadelphia and later with the Schunnemunk Art Guild in Orange County, NY. Jim is a signature member of the Florida Watercolor Society, member of Sea Grape Gallery in Punta Gorda, the Arts and Humanities Council of Charlotte County and the Visual Arts Center.

WATERCOLOR



WATERCOLOR - INTERMEDIATE

Classes will begin with basic art concepts and a review of drawing, color, design, and techniques. There will be weekly demonstrations and practice of fundamentals, including the use of shortcuts, photos, and watercolor techniques. The final weeks will be a student project of your choice. Supply List available online.

6 Week Sessions. 10 Spaces

Intermediate / Advanced: Wednesday, 9am-12pm



LINDA BENSON



Linda trained at the Art Institute of Chicago and the American Academy of Art. Her 40-year career as a commercial artist and illustrator included working as an artist for the Chicago Tribune and as a graphic designer and manager for various Florida newspapers on the mainland and Key West. Linda enjoys painting on her boat studio, the Artist Xpress, a 46-foot Chris Craft. Linda's hands-on teaching technique allows you to create along with her in the classroom.

DRAWING & PAINTING



WATERCOLOR

Enjoy being creative with transparent watercolors and learn something new or refresh your skills. You will learn brush techniques, color theory, gradients, and composition. Class supply list online. Art Class Supply Kits available for purchase in the VAC Art & Supply Store.

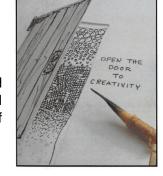
6 Week Sessions - 10 Spaces Beginners: Monday, 1pm-4pm

Intermediate / Advanced: Monday, 9am-12pm

PEN & INK DRAWING

Learn to draw with pen and ink using flexible dip pen with India Ink. Learn pen and ink drawing techniques through a 4-step process: texture, color theory, faces and perspective. Document your creativity in a journal that serves as a workbook of lessons in an artistic way. Learn tips and tricks, including different drawing utensils.

6 Week Sessions - 10 Spaces, Saturday, 10am-1pm



DIANNE BROOKS JFWFIRY



Dianne discovered her love for creating silver jewelry after a 30-year corporate career. Her favorite medium is silver, but she has branched out to lapidary intarsia, glass fusing, enameling, precious metal, clay, and wire. Dianne expands her skills each year at William Holland School of Lapidary Arts in Georgia as well as the Florida Society of Goldsmiths, where she is a member.

CHASING, REPOUSSE & FOLD FORMING COPPER

Explore the elasticity of metal. Fold, hammer, roll and stretch copper sheets to make different shapes and textures. \$25 Material Fee. 6 Week Sessions - 10 Spaces, Wednesday, 6pm - 9pm

ENAMELING FOR JEWELRY- All Levels

Learn the basics of enameling, safety, tools, materials, kiln firing, metal preparation and enamel application with a variety of design techniques. Start with the basics, then move onto advanced techniques: champlevé, plique-ajour, cloisonné on copper or silver, beads, foil, enamel on Precious Metal Clay (PMC). \$45 Material Fee to Instructor.





Learn to make beautiful patterns and variations using the age-old art of Chain Maille. Learn a different bracelet pattern each week, one link at a time. Chain Maille can be used in many ways to create beautiful, unique jewelry. \$65 Material Fee. Tool list online.

6 Week Sessions - 10 Spaces, Thursday, 1pm - 4pm





BELINDA DUCLOS

Falling in love with Native American jewelry, Belinda began creating her own over 15 years ago. She discovered her love of stained-glass colors and textures and is always excited to create a new piece and share her experiences with her students.

STAINED GLASS - Beginners & Studio

Learn the complete process of traditional stained-glass design and make a simple sun catcher using the copper foil method within the first two classes, then choose your next project from a vast library of pattern books. Materials & tools provided. \$20 Material Fee.





GLASS

6 Weeks - 10 Spaces Stained Glass (All Levels – Beginners Welcome), Wednesday 1pm-4pm Stained Glass Studio (Intermediate to Advanced), Thursday, 1pm-4pm

GLASS ETCHING Wine & Art Social



A fun evening with glass etching. Create a set of playfully etched wine glasses that are dishwasher safe and won't fade over time using patterns and an etching solution in less than 2 hours. Each session includes materials for up to 4 glasses, wine, and snacks. Additional glasses can be purchased for \$5 each.

One 2-hour Session – 10 Spaces, Wednesday once each month, 6pm-8pm.

BELINDA DUCLOS JEWELRY

SILVER & COPPER JEWELRY – Introductory & Studio Sessions

Create jewelry using mixed metals in our studio equipped with the most popular tools. Solder, etch, texture, drill, form, rivet, cut saw, stamp, color, cast and more. Learn to use the acetylene torch, rolling mill, bench shear, drill press, hydraulic press, buffer, bench sander, stamps, mandrels, and hand tools. Stones and metals are available for purchase. \$20 Material Fee to Instructor.

Introduction to Silver & Copper (Beginners)

4 Weeks - 10 Spaces, Tuesday, 1pm-4pm

Silver & Copper (All Levels)

6 Weeks, Thursday, 6pm-9pm & Saturday, 10am-1pm

Silver & Copper (Intermediate+)

6 Weeks - 10 Spaces, Friday, 9am-12pm



Learn the techniques of lost wax casting, the process by which a wax pattern is made into a jewelry mold and then filled with molten metal or silver to create custom jewelry. \$20 Material Fee to Instructor.

4 Weeks (Twice a week for 4-weeks) – 10 Spaces Friday & Saturday, 1pm-4pm







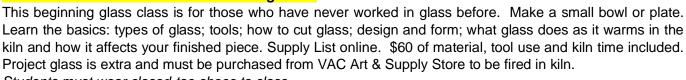
JANIE DUKE



Janie Duke is a Southwest Florida fused glass artist specializing in a unique French approach to creative glass making that allows for subtle gradations of color. She produces her own designs from her Glass Duchess Studio in Port Charlotte. Her works can be found

throughout the US, Canada, and parts of Europe. She considers her work representative of the Earth, Sky and Oceans striving for serenity and a calming effect on the viewer.

INTRODUCTION TO FUSED GLASS - Beginners



Students must wear closed-toe shoes to class.

6 Week Sessions – 10 Spaces, Tuesday, 1pm-4pm

FUSED GLASS - Intermediate & Advanced

Now that you know the basics, experiment with a new fused glass technique each session. Folding, forming, braiding and more. Must have taken Introductory Class before this class. Supply List online. Bring your glass tools. Tools and project glass available for purchase in VAC Art & Supply Store. Class may be offsite. Students must wear closed-toe shoes to class.

Intermediate/Advanced I – 4 Week Session – 10 Spaces, Thursday, 1pm-4pm Advanced II – 4 Week session – 10 Spaces, *Not currently scheduled*





MARGARET EGLI

NEO-IMPRESSIONIST OIL PAINTING



Margaret studied graphic and fine art at the Ontario College of Art in Toronto. She spent forty years in Switzerland where she painted Plein Air throughout Europe. She has participated in exhibitions, created commissioned lithographs of small towns for their governments and rendered many commissioned portraits for heads of state. Margaret and her husband retired to Florida in 2000.

OIL NEO-IMPRESSIONISM – Beginners to Advanced (All Levels Welcome)

Learn the easy steps to oil painting in the Neo-Impressionism style. Techniques to create on a flat surface, three dimensions, distance, depth, light, and shadow. Your canvas can become a fascinating colorful impression. You will learn how to handle your paints, mix your own colors, to store them, and how to use reflected light to

your advantage.



6 Week Sessions – 10 Spaces Wednesday, 9am-12pm or 1pm-4pm





KATHRYN ERICKSON

PINE NEEDLE BASKETS



Kathryn Erickson began weaving pine needle baskets as a hobby in 2002. She quickly advanced from hobbyist to serious artist, winning several awards for her baskets. She is known for incorporating unusual stone and mineral slices into her designs.







PINE NEEDLE BASKETS - 1/2 Day Workshop

If you can sew, you can learn how to form pine needles into a piece of art. Learn to coil pine needles and finish a basket on your own. This class is for beginners, nothing but patience is needed. \$10 material fee paid to Instructor, which includes written instructions, pine needles, thread, and nut base.

Half-day Workshop: 12 Spaces, Thursday, 11am-2:30pm

NANCY GRAY GIFFIN

NANTUCKET BASKETS



Nancy graduated with a degree in graphic arts and an associate degree in banking and finance. She worked in the banking industry over 20 years before retiring and following her passion full time in the art world. After moving to Naples, Florida, from Massachusetts in 1992, she decided to try her hand at baskets. The first ones were

made using wire and beads, however, the beauty of the Nantucket Baskets kept calling to her. She is currently a member of the National Basketry Organization, Visual Arts Center, Sarasota Art Center and Southwest Florida Fine Craft Guild . Her baskets have won many awards and she enjoys sharing her craft with others.



NANTUCKET LIGHTSHIP BASKET WEAVING

Learn the history of Nantucket Baskets, weaving baskets using different molds, the difference between cane and Bleached Hamburg cane and reed, using even vs uneven spokes, and adding a step to create a pattern.

Round Nantucket Basket: The first two sessions will focus on the basics and create a 5" basket over a wooden mold using Reed and Cane. \$100 Supply Fee to Instructor.

Nantucket Hourglass Vase: The second two weeks will advance your knowledge and create a 9" vase. \$100 Supply Fee to Instructor

4 Week Session – 10 Spaces Thursday, 9am-12pm



CLORA HAMILTON



Clora Hamilton moved to Port Charlotte from her hometown, Danvers, Massachusetts. Before retiring, Clora taught at Charlotte County Public Schools. She loves everything fabric, making her own designs, and sharing her knowledge with others.



FIBER



PAINTING FLOORCLOTHS

Floorcloths have provided beauty and durability for more than 400 years. Through the centuries, the purpose has remained the same, cloth sturdy enough to withstand the tread of shoes. Floorcloths are handmade canvas-based rugs that are infinitely customizable in style, size and shape.

Create your own floor cloth from beginning to end. Design, paint and finish a floor cloth that matches your home and style on a $2' \times 4'$ canvas and learn about proportion, design and finishing techniques.

4 Week Sessions – 10 Spaces Tuesday, 9am-12pm



RICARDO ("RICK") HICKS

POTTERY



Rick is a master potter and artisan. He began training in pottery in 2006 and served as an apprentice instructor under Howard Hartke, continuously expanding his skill and teaching knowledge in wheel throwing, hand building, clay types, trimming, firing, (including Horsehair and Raku), design, texture, sculpting, and glazing. He enjoys passing his knowledge onto others, watching them grow and mastering new techniques.

WRECKS & EFFECTS ... OR ... GLAZING TECHNIQUES

1-Day Workshops with Steve Strunk & Rick Hicks 10 Spaces, Tuesday, 9am-3pm

POTTERY HANDBUILD & WHEEL - All Levels

Work on your individual pottery projects using the wheel, hand building techniques, or a combination of the two. Learn tips and tricks to make your pottery adventure an easy one. Class includes critiquing and individual assistance. Up to 25 pounds of clay, glazing and firing (\$60 value) included. Pottery tools available for \$15.



6 Weeks - 10 Spaces, Wednesday, 1pm-4pm & 6pm-9pm

POTTERY HAND BUILD: BIG & TALL

Learn the basics of pottery hand building using pinch, coil and slab construction with a focus on creating larger pieces using clay and your hands. Create pottery pieces to build skill and technique and continue building your skills in an Intermediate+ class. Class includes up to 25 pounds of clay, glazing and firing (\$60 Value). Pottery tools available for \$15.

Beginner: 6 Weeks - 10 Spaces, Thursday, 1pm-4pm Intermediate+: 6 Weeks - 10 Spaces, Thursday 9am-12pm



ROSALIE MACK DRAWING



A true Florida "native," Rosalie was born and raised in Bradenton, FL. She worked as a fashion illustrator while she earned her Bachelor of Fine Arts. She began teaching art in Charlotte County in 1982 and recently retired from Charlotte High School where she taught Advanced Placement Drawing, Drawing and Painting, and Art History & Appreciation. As an artist, Rosalie loves drawing in all mediums and has a passion for art history!

DRAWING SKILLS & TECHNIQUES

A variety of 4-week sessions, each with a unique focus on a different aspect, media or technique. Supply Lists online. Supplies available in VAC Art & Supply Store.

- Let's Draw! Drawing fundamentals in black & white, plus color.
- Art Studio with Individualized Instruction: All Media with Critiques.
- Getting Started with Pastels A focus on pastel drawing.
- Exploring Colored Pencil Techniques for colored pencils.
- Dare to Draw Studio class with personal instruction.
- Drawing & Painting Florida in Color Sunsets, beaches, boats, wildlife, harbors, flowers, and local flavor.
- Specialized Drawing Skills Development Color pencil, perspective, faces & figures.

4 Week Sessions - 10 Spaces, Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday (class schedules vary)

ARTS TOP 100 GREATEST ARTISTS OF ALL TIME! - Appreciating Art & Art History

A lecture series and adventure through time in Art. Each session devoted to one specific time period using multi-media presentations, fun-loving discussions and discoveries with amazing impressionists, post impressionists, and 20th century creatives. **4 Week Sessions – 14 Spaces, Wednesday, 1pm-4pm**



JACK MCCLENNEN POTTERY



Jack has been teaching pottery at the high school, university, and community college level for more than 30 years. Jack has a Master of Arts education from Mansfield University, PA. He attended the University of Wyoming Fine Arts Master's Program for Ceramics, and attended Summer Ceramic Intensive at Alfred University, NY. He has participated in national exhibitions and received awards for his work, as well as teaches a variety of workshops. His focus is on functional "useful" pottery, and he enjoys working the wheel and experimenting with kilns. One of his favorites is using a wood fired kiln.



ENHANCING "YOUR FORMS" IN CLAY

A focus on creativity and control of "your forms". Short discussion and hands-on exercises on finding "your" art voice. Demonstrations include handles, lids, knobs, stretching, stamping, ribbing textures, and more.

4 Weeks - 10 Spaces Monday, 1pm-4pm





Don has studied with internationally renowned teachers such as Tony Couch, Robert Wade and Cheng-Khee Chee. Don paints charming and delicate watercolors and renders pencil drawings in a realistic style. The winner of multiple awards, Don has enjoyed the opportunity to teach both locally and nationally. He is a member of the Florida Watercolor Society, Southwest Florida Watercolor Society Signature Member, Sea Grape Gallery, and the Minnesota Arrowhead Art Club.



WATERCOLOR BASICS (All Levels)

Landscapes in watercolors simplified. Scenes are depicted through identifiable shapes, strong values, composition, and color. Don paints in a realistic style. His paintings often contain a building, barn, lighthouse, boat, or other common man-made objects with the goal of preserving individuality. Each session begins with demonstrations and discussions on theory followed by participants painting with individual help and instruction. Beginners are always welcome. Supply List online. Class supply kits and art supplies available in VAC Art & Supply Store.



4 Week Sessions – 10 Spaces Tuesday, 9am-12pm Tuesday, 1pm-4pm

CHERYL MONTALE FIBER



Cheryl is a weaver and textile artist with interest in creating one-of-a-kind textiles for everyday living. From wearables to wall art and household textiles, her interest led to a study of natural dyes and surface design technique, many of which have been practiced for centuries, and are sustainable and less harmful to humans and the environment. Cheryl has studied weaving with Becky Ashendon at Vavstuga Weaving School in Shelburne Falls, MA; natural dye and surface design techniques with Suzanne Connors at Aya Fiber Studio in Stuart, FL, Maiwa School of Textiles in Vancouver, BC, and with Irit Dulman in Israel.



INDIGO DYING & SHIBORI – 1-Day Workshop

Learn the basics and magic of indigo dyeing, using Japanese techniques to create designs on silk and cotton. Indigo, a natural plant derived dye has been in use worldwide for centuries. Japan has a long tradition of combining indigo dyeing with a variety of stitching, folding, and clamping techniques to create unique designs on silk and cotton. Complete three to four pieces to take home. Students may select from a selection of cotton and silk scarves and are welcome to bring their own fiber and clothing to dip in the vat. \$30 Material Fee to Instructor.

1-Day Workshop: 10 Spaces

Thursday, 10am-4pm

DENISE MORETTI



Denise is a lifelong fiber arts enthusiast. Beginning as a weaver in the 1980s, she pursued her interest in weaving and surface design by completing workshops and classes at Rhode Island School of Design, Haystack, Maine and a yearlong studio study in fiber art at Worcester Center for Crafts in Massachusetts. Today, Denise enjoys creating new pieces with her "stash" of fibers, sharing her knowledge with others, and continuing to experiment, explore and learn.

BEGINNING TAPESTRY ON A LITTLE LOOM

An introduction to tapestry weaving using little looms to create 4 sample tapestry pieces. Each piece will highlight a different basic technique to create beautiful pieces to use or display. Supply list available online.

4 Week Sessions – 10 Spaces Monday, 9am-12pm



FIBER





PAULETTE MORRISSEY

FIBER



Paulette has been working with fiber arts for over 40 years, from weaving and quilting to art dolls and bead weaving. She enjoys passing her skills onto others and sharing her passion for fiber. Paulette has taught sewing, spinning, quilting, doll making, weaving and other fiber arts techniques for many years from her studio.

INKLE LOOM WEAVING



An introduction to the Inkle loom and weaving basics, progressing with pickup stitches, Baltic weaving, and weaving letters, and onto card weaving and color work. \$8 Material Fee to the Instructor.

4 Week Sessions - 10 Spaces, Wednesday, 9am-12pm

FELT APPLIQUE WALL ART



4 Week Sessions - 10 Spaces, Wednesday, 1pm-4pm

BEAD WEAVING

Learn to weave beads and make colorful, creative pictures using a loom.

\$10 Material Fee to Instructor. 4 Week Sessions – 10 Spaces, Wednesday, 1pm-4pm

BEADED RIBBON AMULET BAG WORKSHOP







ROBERT "NISH" NISHIHIRA

PHOTOGRAPHY



Robert was a full-time commercial photographer for 18 years in California and had clients such as Callaway Golf, IBM, and Qualcomm. He achieved several honors including CA Magazine's Award of Excellence and ASMP's Gold Award. Robert's work has been published in magazines such as Vogue and Town & Country. After retiring from commercial photography, Robert taught at the City College of San Francisco for 20 years.

INTRODUCTION TO CAMERA EXPOSURE

A course designed for picture-takers of all levels who wish to take the mystery out of camera exposure settings. Whether a novice or seasoned pro, all will benefit from the exposure tips and techniques that will be covered. Students will produce photographs that will be evaluated by instructor in class critique sessions.

6 Week Sessions - 10 Spaces, Thursday, 9am-12pm

SEE THE LIGHT

Photography literally means *drawing* or *writing with light*. And since light is so fundamental to photography, this hands-on course will explore the 4 main characteristics of light. Students will learn to exploit those characteristics as they raise their photography skills to the next level. A hands-on course exploring the four main characteristics of light. A chance to experiment with lighting modifiers and filters.

6 Week Sessions - 10 Spaces, Thursday, 6pm-9pm



SUZANNE PATTON



Suzanne describes herself as an eclectic artist. Trained as an art teacher, she was exposed to all disciplines of art. She has been weaving and working with fiber art for more than 40 years. She is a weaver, dyer and spinner. She works with big looms, giant looms, harness looms and more.

TREASURE NECKLACE WORKSHOP

Create a colorful necklace of memories. Bring trinkets, single earrings, or use the supplies provided. Make a necklace in 1 Day. \$20 Material Fee to Instructor.

1 Day Workshop – 12 Spaces, Thursday, 10am-3pm

RIGID HEDDLE WEAVING



For the Beginner - Learn about the wonderful world of yarn and what you can create! Discover looms and wind warps. Create samples and projects. A few looms are available for rental.

Intermediate+ – Expand your skills with color, texture, double weave, and more (experienced only).

Beginner - 6 Week Session - 10 Spaces, Friday, 9am-12pm Intermediate - 6 Week Session - 10 Spaces, Friday, 1pm-4pm

LOW IMMERSION DYEING

Discover the wonderful world of dyes – learn to dye safely using the right chemicals for cotton, silk, and wool, using solar heat. \$50 Material Fee to Instructor.

6 Week Session - 10 Spaces, Saturday, 10am-2pm

WEAVING







LAURA POMMIER



Laura is originally from the Midwest and recently moved to Florida. She received her Bachelor of Fine Arts from Murray State University in Kentucky and her Master of Art from Indiana State University in Painting. Since 2005, Laura has taught many art classes and workshops in portraits, figures, pastels, plein air, flowers and more. Her award-winning artwork has been displayed in many exhibits as well as featured in several solo shows. Her specialty is painting and drawing with an emphasis on portraits and figurative art.

OIL PORTRAIT PAINTING – All Levels

Demonstrating all aspects of a successful portrait -- from how to mix and use oil paint to basic techniques. Gradually progress into creating volume, expression, and true likeness. Supply List online. Oil Kit & art supplies available in VAC Art & Supply Store.

6 Sessions – 10 Spaces, Thursday, 9am – 12pm

INTRODUCTION TO PASTELS

Learn basic drawing techniques with pastels. Designed for beginners with a focus on the individual while learning about value, color, line and composition.

4 Sessions - 10 Spaces, Monday, 1pm-4pm

ONLINE SKETCH OF THE WEEK

Using just pencil and paper, learn to draw or expand your skills with a new sketch from beginning to end each week from the convenience of your home.

4 Sessions – 10 Spaces, Friday, 10am – 11:30 pm

PAINTING





KATHLEEN PRENDERGAST

PET PORTRAITS



Kathleen Prendergast (Kat) is a retired psychologist who resides in both Geneva, IL and Punta Gorda, FL. Upon her retirement four years ago, she has received drawing instruction from a renowned Disney illustrator at the School of Art in Geneva, IL; private lessons with pastel artist Pam Hamilton; multiple classes in pastel and colored pencil at the DuPage Art institute in Wheaton, Illinois; oil painting classes at the Art Box in St Charles IL. In Florida she has taken multiple classes with Robert Pavon using charcoal and pastel and Rosalie Mack using colored pencils. Her work has been exhibited at the Geneva Library, DuPage Art League, Pop Up Gallery in St. Charles, Illinois, and the Visual Arts Center in Punta Gorda.

PET PORTRAITS - All Levels

Working in colored pencil or pastel pencils, learn the basic anatomy of dog and cat heads, front, profile, eyes, ears and noses, and how to best place the image on paper, plus tips and tricks for realistic animal portraits.

6 Sessions - 10 Spaces, Wednesday, 1pm - 4 pm







PATTI PRESSELLER

PAINTING & COLLAGE



Patti was born into a New Orleans household and community of talented artists. Artists tutored her in needle, graphic, signage painting and most recently, acrylic painting. Assemblage and collage provide her inspiration, allowing found articles to "discover" each other and guide her as she works. She enjoys drifting back and forth among different media, as the spirit moves her, and often has several projects in progress at the same time. Patti teaches Acrylic Painting and Collage at the Visual Arts Center.

ACRYLIC TECHNIQUE OF THE WEEK - ONLINE

Join Patti online and learn a new technique each week using acrylic paints from the convenience of your home.

4 Sessions, Wednesday, 10am - 11:30 am

ACRYLIC PAINTING - Beginner

Don't know which end of the brush to use? It doesn't matter...use both ends. Have fun exploring media, substrates and tools while you develop skills using acrylic paint. Supply List Online. Supplies & Class Kit available in VAC Art & Supply Store.

4 Sessions – 10 Spaces, Friday, 9am - 12pm

COLLAGE – Beginner

Learn the basic techniques of collage using simple materials and mixed media. Supply List online and available in VAC Art & Supply Store.

4 Sessions - 10 Spaces, Thursday, 9am - 12pm

LET'S PLAY WITH GELLIE PRINTS

An introduction to Gellie Printing. Experiment with tools, materials, color combinations, designs, mark making, and more! VAC kit is recommended.

4 Sessions – 10 Spaces, Wednesday, 6pm – 9pm



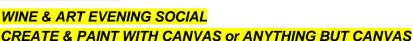


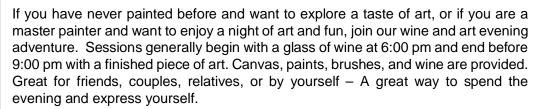
MARQUELYNN (MARKI) RAPOSA

PAINTING



Marki is a graphic designer, art instructor, previous gallery owner and recipient of numerous awards for her fine art paintings. She received her master's degree from the Rhode Island School of Design. She arranges private art parties through her company, "Let's Get Splashed". Painting parties include acrylic painting on canvas, bags, wood, and wine glasses. She also teaches pet portraits from a photo.





ENCAUSTICS WORKSHOP

Learn to work with wax and heat to create unique and interesting pieces of wall art. \$50 of materials included. Join Marki for a one-day workshop to explore the possibilities of encaustics.

1-Day Workshop, Thursday, 10am - 3pm







JEWELRY

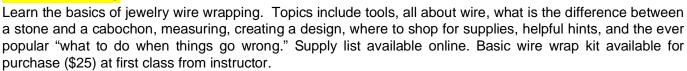
DIANA REINHARD



Diana, a retired science teacher, has turned her knowledge of stones and her love of teaching into jewelry making. Her interest in art began 25+ years ago as she developed a high school course in horticulture

integrated with art and science. Working with artists in the Baltimore area, she learned to create "wearable art" using paper or cloth. Upon retiring, Diana moved to Port Charlotte and created wearable art as fundraisers for clubs and organizations. Diana has utilized her teaching skills to instruct others in the techniques of creating paper, cloth and wire wrapped jewelry.

WIRE WRAPPING



6 Week Session – 10 Spaces 4 Week Session – 10 Spaces Monday, 9am-12pm: Beginners Monday, 1pm-4pm: Advanced

KUMIHIMO - All Levels



Japanese for "gathered threads", Kumihimo is the Japanese form of braid-making. Cords and ribbons are made by interlacing strands. Learn new techniques each week. Previous wire wrapping knowledge is helpful. Supply list available online. Basic kit available for purchase (\$25) from instructor.

4 Week Session - 10 Spaces, Thursday, 9am-12pm

LINDA (LIN) SCHEPPERLY

FUSED GLASS



Lin started working with clay after retirement, with her primary focus being ceramics designed for daily use, and then, she found fused glass, opening a new world of creativity. Lin lives with her husband, Chris on Marquette Island, Michigan during the summer and works with clay and glass in her studio. During the summer she is often found at the Les Cheneaux Area Artisan Cooperative as an instructor. She returns every winter to Punta Gorda and the Visual Arts Center Glass Studio to inspire creativity in others.

FUSED GLASS CREATIONS

Create a different fused glass piece each week. No prior glass experience necessary. Make pendants, bowls, plates, night lights. \$40 of supplies included. Additional glass may be purchased from the VAC Art Supply Store. Only VAC glass may be fired in VAC kilns. *Please wear closed toed shoes.*

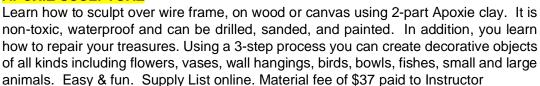
4 Week Session – 8 Spaces Friday, 9am-12pm



SUSAN SHORE

Susan had creative parents and siblings and started her art career in middle school with Paper Mache ducks. Recently, her efforts have been centered on sculpture and creating a new method for sculpting 3D art forms. In 2002, Susan discovered Apoxie Sculpt, a self-hardening polymer clay that she combines with her unique method of creating armatures out of floral wire and the Sunday newspaper. Susan is the author of "Adventures in Sculpting," and teaches classes to create animals, jewelry, flowers, and other abstract items, as well as any other art form her students want to create.

APOXIE SCULPTURE



6 Week Session – 10 Spaces Monday, 9am-12pm



APOXIE SCULPTURE







JOANNE STRAMARA WATER MEDIA



Joanne was born in rural Pennsylvania and moved to Florida in 2006 to capture the sea, sky, flora and fauna of the area. She is happiest studying, sketching, and painting. Joanne studied art at Kutztown University and Wyomissing Institute, and with many local and national art instructors. Her favorite medium is watercolor, and her love of experimentation coupled with an explosive use of color creates a unique style. She is a signature member of Suncoast Watercolor Society and one of the co-owners of Sea Grape Gallery in Punta Gorda. Her artwork has won many awards in Southwest Florida and is in collectors' homes everywhere, from Nova Scotia to the Florida Keys. Joanne spends her time creating and teaching in Charlotte and Sarasota Counties.

MIXED MEDIA WATERCOLOR - All Levels

Watercolor can be combined with a wide variety of other media to create new and exciting looks. Learn to add textures and other media to watercolor artwork to create unique variations with depth and dimension.

4 Week Session – 10 Spaces Saturday 10am-1pm



STEVE STRUNK



Steve Strunk and his family moved to Punta Gorda from Washington D. C. 19 years ago. He attended Prince George's College in Maryland and has a degree in Broadcasting. He was first introduced to pottery through the Visual Arts Center Pottery Studio and found his passion. Over the next 7 years, he developed his skills and advanced techniques under master pottery instructors. Today, he is an award-winning potter, and his works can be found in the Visual Arts Center Gift Shop.

WRECKS & EFFECTS ... OR ... GLAZING TECHNIQUES 1-Day Workshops with Steve Strunk & Rick Hicks 10 Spaces, Tuesday, 9am-3pm

WHEEL POTTERY - No prior experience

Learn the art and technique of wheel thrown pottery. The class is designed for the beginner as well as those that have been challenged by the potter's wheel. A focus on mastering the basics of centering, pulling and shaping. Learn to create bowls, vases, and other functional stoneware pottery pieces. Material Fee: \$56 - includes 25 lbs. of clay, use of glazes and kiln time. Basic pottery tools are available for \$15.

6 Weeks- 10 Spaces

Thursday, 6pm – 9pm, Friday 9am-12pm, or Saturday, 10am-1pm

YOUTH POTTERY WHEEL

A special class in wheel pottery techniques just for youth ages 10 to 18 **6 Weeks- 10 Spaces, Saturday, 1pm – 3pm**









CLYDE SWEATT PHOTOGRAPHY



Clyde developed an interest in photography as a teen in New York City. He studied commercial photography at the New York Institute of Photography becoming skilled at 35mm to 8x10 view cameras,

and studio and dark room techniques. He developed his skills through product, portrait, and wedding photography. Much of his work is photo journalistic, focusing on NY street scenes, as well as landscapes.





BEYOND THE SNAPSHOT

You may have a new digital camera and are surprised that you are not taking noticeably "better" pictures. Learn to use your camera more effectively and the skills

that will allow you to produce more creative and pleasing pictures. Bring your camera with you. 4 Weeks: 10 Spaces - Thursday, 6pm-9pm

Not currently offered.

PICTURING PUNTA GORDA

A series of work/study sessions for photographers working creatively in a group at various locations with assignments using principles and techniques taught in Beyond the Snapshot. The goal is to create a photo exhibit, "Picturing Punta Gorda". 4 Weeks: 10 Spaces - Saturday, 10am-1pm

INTRODUCTION TO PHOTO EDITING

Learn photo editing techniques using Adobe Lightroom Classic, a software program with digital editing capabilities, as well as extensive tools to catalog photos. Many techniques can also apply to other popular photo editing software. For best results, bring your laptop or tablet with editing software already installed.

4 Weeks: 10 Spaces - Thursday, 6pm-9pm

SHERYL UNWIN



DRAWING & SCRATCHBOARD

Sheryl is originally from Massachusetts and now lives with her husband in North Port, Florida. She began her formal art education at the Art Institute of Boston and later pursued a career in the commercial print industry as a graphic designer. Since

moving to Florida, Sheryl has worked as a freelance graphic designer, as well as a portrait and wildlife artist. She has a passion for animals and nature from the largest of wildlife creatures to the smallest of domestic pets. This passion is represented in many of her scratchboard, graphite, color pencil, or pen and ink drawings.

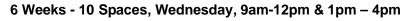




SCRATCHBOARD ART

Scratchboard is an illustrative technique using sharp knives and tools for engraving into a thin layer of white China clay coated with

dark, often black India ink. learn the different types of boards, the range of techniques and variety of different tools for etching your image and explore the different mediums that can be used for colorizing your scratchboard drawing. Learn the basic technique with the Introductory Beginners session then enhance your skills with the Intermediate session.



1-Day Workshop - 10 Spaces, Wednesday, 10am - 3pm



BEVERLY YANKWITT PAINTING



Beverly moved to Southwest Florida from West Virginia with her husband, Ralph, and two children in 1985. Upon retirement from Merrill Lynch in 2012, she has been pursuing her true love . . . ART. Beverly is a member of Sea Grape Gallery, the Florida Watercolor Society, the International Society of Experimental Artists, and a past president of the Board of Directors for the Arts & Humanities Council of Charlotte County. Her art has been accepted in many juried shows including the 2014 National Art Exhibition held at the Visual Arts Center. She works in oils and mixed media and especially enjoys abstract art in mixed media.



ABSTRACT PAINTING – ALL LEVELS

Students are encouraged to develop their own style of painting. Work on your own designs with a focus on composition and design principles. Contemporary and more difficult approaches to abstract art are featured, as well as artwork critiques with class participation. Supply List available online. Art supplies available in VAC Art & Supply Store.



4 Week Sessions - 10 Spaces

Beginners: Wednesday, 1pm-4pm Advanced: Wednesday, 9am-12pm



ABSTRACT PAINTING - ONLINE

Develop your contemporary abstract art skills with a focus on composition and design principles, online from the convenience of your home.

4 Week Sessions - Tuesday, 1:30pm-3pm

BARBARA ZAPPULLA





After a 40+ year career as a Commercial Interior Designer, including 10 years as an Adjunct Instructor at Maryville University, Barb began weaving and joined The Weavers Guild of St. Louis and The Missouri Fiber Arts organizations. She moved to Port Charlotte in 2018. Barb's fiber art includes both jack and tapestry loom weaving, knotted waxed deer antler basketry, bead weaving, pine needle basketry, batik/mud dyeing, embroidery and knitting/crocheting. She draws inspiration from nature, wildlife and Indian cultures, telling stories through cultural symbols and designs. Barb has won many awards including 1st Place at "Artists in Paradise" exhibit in Big Pine Key Florida, as well as exhibits at the Visual Arts Center, Punta Gorda. Barbara is the Co-Author of *Produce Successful Art Exhibits/Events/Workshops* 2020.

EMBROIDERY JOURNALING – ALL LEVELS

Learn or expand your embroidery stitch knowledge studying basic and unusual embroidery stitches and color blending with floss. Develop artistic ideas: a flower box, fish, coral, and reinterpret those

using the learned stitches. Each journal will record all classroom learning and experiments to become your personal embroidery resource.

4 Weeks Sessions, 8 Spaces Tuesday, 9am-12pm



Open Studios

For those that enjoy art, want to be engaged with others with similar interests, but are not currently interested in formal instruction, an Open Studio might be just what you are looking for. Work on your own individual project, at your own pace, in small groups without an instructor or instruction, at the Visual Arts Center. Come one time to complete your unfinished project or come every week and enjoy the comradery of others. Each session has a VAC Coordinator to connect you with VAC resources. Sessions range from \$12 to \$25 per session.

- 2-D Art Open Studio for All Mediums, Thursdays 10am to 12 pm (\$12)
- Watercolor, Water Media & Alcohol Ink Open Studio, Fridays 1pm to 4pm (\$12)
- Fused Glass Open Studio, Fridays, 1pm to 4pm (\$25 includes kiln firing)
- Fiber Arts Open Studio, Mondays or Fridays from 1pm to 4pm (\$12)
- Pottery Open Studio, Tuesdays, 1pm to 4pm or 6pm to 9pm and Wednesdays, 9am to 12pm (\$25 includes glazing and kiln firing)

If there is an art subject you would like to have an Open Studio for, just let us know. One can be formed for groups of 5 or more with a common interest.

Affiliate Groups

Art Activities Organized . . . for VAC Members . . . by VAC Members.

Join other VAC Artists in specialty group activities in the artistic areas and mediums you enjoy most.

Artists in Action

Meets Saturdays from 10am to 12pm

VAC Member artists come together each week to paint, learn and support each other with friendship and constructive advice. All painters at all levels are welcome. (\$2 per week)

Common Threads (Fiber Arts Group)

Meets the 3rd Friday Monthly at 12:30pm VAC Members with a passion for creating art with fiber get together to share ideas and inspire each other -- knit, weave, spin, sew and felt.



Meets the 1st Tuesday from 4pm to 6pm VAC Member artist enthusiasts learn and share new ways to critique their artwork. (\$5 per session)

Life Drawing Studio – During Season

Meets each Tuesday from 6:30pm to 9pm Join other VAC Member Artists for figure work, including nude poses with live models. Must be 18 or older. (\$20 per session)

Portrait Studio

Meets every Thursday from 9am to 12pm Join other VAC Member Artists and work on your portrait skills in any medium with live models. (\$10 per session)



For more information . . . www.VisualArtCenter.org



COME EXPLORE THE ARTS . . .

GET INSPIRED . . . GET CREATIVE



Register in person or by phone **(941) 639-8810**Visit Website for class details - **www.VisualArtCenter.org**

SAVE . . . WITH A VAC ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

Take 2 classes and your membership pays for itself!

- \$ 25 Youth Membership
- \$ 80 Individual Membership
- \$130 Family Membership
- \$175 Patron Membership + NARM Membership
- \$500 Patron Advocate Membership for 2 + NARM Membership
- \$500 Business Membership

North American Reciprocal Museum = Free Admission 1,000+ Art & Cultural Centers across North America

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Visual Arts Center is a non-profit center for the entire community

EXHIBITS ON DISPLAY - Always Free Admission . . .

Plus . . . Original Art for Sale in 3 Exhibit Halls

LIBRARY - 3,000+ Art Books, Periodicals & DVDs

GIFT GALLERY - Unique Creations by Local Artists

ART & SUPPLY STORE – Art Supplies & Class Kits







EXHIBITS | CLASSES | GIFT GALLERY | ART SUPPLIES

HOURS: Monday & Friday 10-4, Tuesday to Thursday 10-7. Saturday 10-2 Location: In Punta Gorda across from Fishermen's Village

210 MAUD STREET | PUNTA GORDA, FL 33950 (941) 639-8810 | WWW.VISUALARTCENTER.ORG

