



Member News

Karaus Wins OPA Gold



MaryBeth with gold around her neck at OPA National in Wichita.

MaryBeth Karaus' exquisite floral still life painting now sits at the very top of this year's OPA National Competition. If you spin the clock back to April 5th

at Mark Arts Gallery in Kansas City, you will see MaryBeth jumping and filled with emotion. She was there at the Award Ceremony with her two daughters when host juror Sherrie McGraw announced that the best painting was her *Center of Attraction*. Gold indeed! It came with a gold medal around her neck and a check for \$25,000.

When MaryBeth began this painting, she was filled with emotion over the composition of live flowers and the beauty of the light falling on the petals. The flowers were a Mother's Day gift from her daughters. It is this emotion that transfers through her brushwork onto the canvas. There is sublime joy in being able to capture and recreate immortal flowers that art patrons are honored to have as a part of their collections.

MaryBeth says of her work, "Well, of course I have to pay attention to values and edges and brush strokes, but it is the emotion that connects the flowers and my canvas. I cannot help it, cannot stop it. I just feel it and I believe it fills every petal. I love flowers. I cannot wait until summer when my roses bloom." "I got this wonderful frame from fellow Club member **Gail Morrison**. I knew instantly the painting to go in that frame had to match the beauty of the frame. It was not a standard size so I had Suder's stretch a canvas to fit it. The opportunity to do a painting for this frame came immediately when I received the

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Art for a Lifetime Celebration



CINCINNATI ART CLUB
Celebrates -
Art for a Lifetime



Brian Burt



David Mueller



Gail Morrison



MaryBeth Karaus



Ray Hassard



Ursula Brenner



Tom Post



Jens Rosenkrantz, Jr.

Help us raise funds for our Capital Campaign. We have put together a historic exhibition of artworks from our collection and significant Cincinnati artists from the past 133 years! We are honoring two CAC past presidents for their contribution to the arts. Eight fabulous artists have donated their artwork to be auctioned off... and we will have raffle baskets, and delicious food and drink.

We will start the evening by honoring two esteemed past presidents of the Cincinnati Art Club, **Kay Worz** (2008-2010) and **Roger Heuck** (1995-98) for their lifetime of creating, collecting, teaching, governing, and promoting art in the community.

Auction – Following the awards ceremony, our Live Art Auction will showcase the extraordinary talent of eight dedicated CAC artists, whose lifelong commitment to their craft has produced stunning works of art. Artists **Brian Burt, Ursula Brenner, Ray Hassard, Mary Beth Karaus, Gail Morrison, David Mueller, Tom Post, and Jens Rosenkrantz, Jr.** have donated their work for auction.

Exhibit – The Cincinnati Art Club will show their historic collection of past presidents work from its 133-year history. This remarkable Exhibition will also be supplemented by Cincinnati Art Galleries collection of prestigious local artist of the same period. This historic show will be on view at the Cincinnati Art Galleries until late June 2024. Stop in to see it.

Date – Thursday, May 9, 2024

6:00 PM - Guests Arrive (Valet Parking Available)

6:30 PM - Art for a Lifetime Awards

7:00 PM - Live Art Auction and Paddle Raise

7:30 PM - Historic Cincinnati Artists Exhibition

7:30 PM - 9:00 PM - Raffle, Music, Food, Drinks

Location – Cincinnati Art Galleries

225 E. Sixth Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202

Honor – Art for a Lifetime presents a unique opportunity to Honor the remarkable contributions of individuals who have left an indelible mark on the Cincinnati art scene.



CINCINNATI ART CLUB
Cultivating Creativity

Coming Events

Flowers in a Simple Still Life Workshop with Mary Beth Karaus

May 2 - 3, 9:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Sketch Group

May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 7:00 - 9:30 PM

May 6, 13, 20, 27, 1:00 - 4:00 PM

Drop Off, Spring Signature Show

May 2, 7:00 - 9:00 PM

May 6, 1:00 - 4:00 PM

Debra Dorko Meeting

May 3, 6:00 - 9:30 PM

Figure Drawing & Painting the Live Model Course with Carin Hebenstreit

Mondays, May 6 - June 17,

9:30 AM - 12:00 PM

All Member Critique

May 7, 7:00 - 9:30 PM

Trustees Meeting

May 6, 5:00 - 6:30 PM

Art for a Lifetime Celebration

May 9, 6:00 - 9:00 PM

Spring Signature Show Exhibition

Opening, May 10, 6:00 - 9:00 PM

Exhibition, May 11, 12,

1:00 - 4:00 PM

Members' Business Meeting -

MEMBERS ONLY

May 15, 6:00 - 9:00 PM

Trustees Meeting / Turn Over Board

May 22, 4:30 - 6:30 PM

DAWG

May 28, 7:00 - 9:00 PM

American Art Society of

Cincinnati - Annual Dinner

May 30, 4:30 - 10:30 PM

Online Exhibitions

[Pastel Exhibition](#)

[Sketch Group](#)

[Critique Group](#)

[Abstract Expressions](#)

[Photography](#)

[Associate](#)

[7th Annual High School Plein Air](#)

[ViewPoint 55](#)

[Fall Signature Exhibition](#)

and [More Publications](#)

[Dragonfly Newsletter](#)

[Imagine](#)

CAC [YouTube](#) Channel

gift of flowers delivered to my door. I immediately deconstructed the flowers, added an antique tea pot from my sister's collection, set up my lighting, and began the painting. I was so excited."

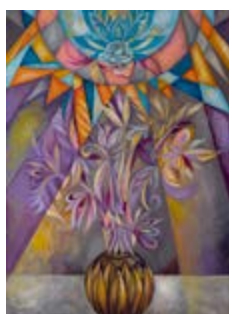
"It was like those flowers felt my emotion and they stayed perky and colorful. That is how *Center of Attraction* (named by my sister) came about. It took teamwork to turn the painting into gold."

Barbara Keller Puts the Club on Television



CET's Barbara Keller explored the rich history of the Cincinnati Art Club with President, **Christine Kuhr** and Head of Development, **Kay Hurley** on "Showcase." They shared the Club's Art for a Lifetime Celebration, their fascinating artistic journeys, and talked about what's in store for the future of the Cincinnati Art Club. The interviews were re-aired eight times in April, giving CAC a large audience of adults interested in the fine arts across Greater Cincinnati. [SHOWCASE with Barbara Keller](#)

Cedric Michael Cox Installs Rhythm & Bloom at Eisele



Cedric Michael Cox inaugurates the spring season at Eisele Gallery with a solo show of new, deeply introspective paintings drawing upon some of his earliest memories and experiences. *Rhythm & Bloom*, a collection of 18 new canvases, features paintings of various influences and genres unified under Cedric's vivid visual language. From futurist-inspired cityscapes to narrative still-life paintings that testify to his upbringing and his renowned arrangements of shapes and patterns that reference musical compositions, Cox creates a continual visual climax of monuments in motion for all to enjoy.

Frogs in Loveland?



Loveland has established itself as an "art magnate" on the northern edge of Cincinnati. The Loveland Art Crawl will be held on June 22 from 4 to 9 PM. **Tom Post** designed a T-Shirt reminiscent of the *Abby Road Frogman Crossing* related to Loveland's Frogman myth — apparently a "thing" around that part of town. Please be respectful and stop your car if you spot any frogs in the crosswalks — like ducks they need protection. Artist reservations deadline is May 15th.

Loveland is also home of Loveland Art Studio on Main where about 25 artists have their individual studios: **Tom Post, Mary Beth Thompson, Carol Holland, Johanna Kremer, and Monica Achberger.**

Advice from Marlene Steele –



You got a lot of help from **Marlene Steele** if you attended her Plein Air Workshop. In fact, no matter what workshop she teaches, she works harder than the students to make everyone successful. This comes from 30 years of teaching art at the Academy.

A lot of her instruction is in the traditional principles of value, color, edges, and composition. But she also has a sly wit that makes everything more enjoyable.

Marlene said, "My students in the mid-April Plein Air class set up at the walking bridge at the Twin Lakes. It turned out to be a beautiful day with great progress for all students."

She passed on this wisdom, "Be a painter first—not a specialist. Plein aire painting in nature imbues your work with authenticity and a greater understanding of light—the great tool of Nature. My workshop will promote your ability to compose outdoor and harmonize your palette." If you want to get better at any kind of drawing or painting take this advice from a former student: Get into her class and you will become a better artist because of the way in which she teaches.

Jens Rosenkrantz, New Signature Member



Jens Rosenkrantz, one of two members who have been selected as Signature members this month, opened a studio at the Pendleton Art Center in 2011. This followed a career in finance and investment banking, and a brief fling in launching two restaurants.

He has always had an eye for dramatic composition that he put into practice with his camera over decades of photographing his travels throughout the United States, France, and Italy. Currently he runs the Annex Gallery in OTR next to the Pendleton Art Center which is home to

100 artists. The non-profit Annex Gallery was founded in 2018 and supports non-commercial exhibits as well as other arts organizations. It is also home to his Cuban/US art exchange project *Bridges Not Walls*. Jens is married to Signature member **Katherine Hurley**, a nationally recognized landscape painter.



Cedar Island by Jens Rosenkrantz

“I am often asked what type of photos I take. My response is that I like to capture light, shape, color, texture, and shadow. From my studio I am treated to an ever-changing view of a city in transformation throughout the seasons and with the shifting light of the day. And during my many travels on the back roads, I am constantly amazed by the beauty of nature.”

“In my third career as a fine art photographer, after investments and restaurants, I enjoy sharing my vision of the world whether it is in Cincinnati or my travels around the world which has recently included the Western States, Cuba, and France.”

Michelle Andrews – From Orthopedic Surgeon to Signature Member



Michelle Andrews was selected by the Board for Signature status. She took to oil painting the same way she did as a medical doctor. With a deliberateness in blending lifelong learning, precision, and a deep appreciation for the human form.

Her path to becoming one of the nation’s most recognized orthopedic surgeons and as a fine artist both formed alongside each

other. She was pursuing pre-med in college when she took an art history course on the Great Masters. She recalls, “what struck me was the light and how the Masters were able to control light to bring a painting alive with energy and vitality.”

Pre-med led me to medical school in Philadelphia, surgical electives in San Francisco and Boston and then a residency in Orthopaedical Surgery at Yale. Wherever she traveled, she would spend time wandering through some of the best art museums in America and Europe.

While largely self-taught in art, during and after her medical training she also attended seminars and workshops with a Who’s Who list of great portrait artists. Her love for both surgery and fine art has been a lifelong trail of learning and an ability to adapt and learn with success in both worlds.

“It is an honor to be recognized by the Cincinnati Art Club at the level of Signature Status.”

“I would describe my work as an interplay between realism and impressionism. This approach allows me to better capture both the beauty and the energy of the subjects of my paintings.”

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Dragonfly Member Newsletter



CINCINNATI ART CLUB

Cultivating Creativity

The Dragonfly is published for and by members of the Cincinnati Art Club

Cincinnati Art Club

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dragonfly@cincinnatiartclub.com

by the first of the month prior to publication. Photographs submitted must be at high resolution (300 pixels per inch).

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Don Schuster: The Artist You Think You Know

By Johanna Kremer



Don in action, plein air painting at Findlay Market and at Spring Grove Cemetery

There's a popular party game my kids like to play: Two Truths and a Lie. It's fun and often revealing — how well do we really know those we think we do?

If you've been a CAC member for any length of time, you know or you've heard the name "**Don Schuster**," our long-time board member and former CAC president (2018-2023) and a prolific oil painter, with more than 100 works of art created over the past two decades.

Those familiar with Don know he's a master at creating landscapes and revealing nature at her best. In 2018, **Mandy Putnam** wrote an article about Don focusing on his artwork. She revealed why he documents "visually striking focal features" that "draw the viewer into the scene — evoking feelings of being part of the locale he depicts."

Don said, "My hope is that if I single out things that catch my eye, others may start noticing the extraordinary visual wonders of this region."

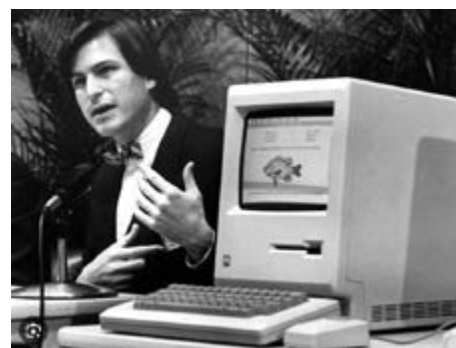
One look at Don's portfolio reveals a truth about his heart and explains why he is an award-winning artist. But what made Don so effective as a leader during his tenure as president? Elected to the role in 2018, he navigated CAC through the treacherous Covid-19 terrain, and provided much-needed stability. Those were serious years that required serious leadership skills. Now that the crisis is over (mostly), we can relax a little. Have some fun, and reflect... How did Don do it? What experiences in his past enabled him to be the right person at the right time? I think I have an idea, but rather than just give you my perspective, let's play the game Two Truths and a Lie. Which of the following are true?

- Because Don was avid sports fan, he began his career in management in the sports apparel screen-printing industry.
- Don's first wife got a job offer in Alabama, so he moved to Birmingham.
- Don managed the company's art department, pre-press, and screen-printing operation.

Mostly true. I'm not sure if Don is an avid sports fan — or if sports had anything to do with his job choice — but Don did begin his career at Quality Sports Apparel in Reading and managed their operations for about four years. When his wife was offered a job in Alabama, he left the company and took a job at the Birmingham Publishing Company working in their pre-press area. Don's first career roles involved managing people and respecting the success of others.

There's more data about Don to reveal, so let's continue! Which of the statements below are true?

- Don moved back to Cincinnati to manage the printing department for a sportswear company.
- Don began using a Macintosh computer in 1985 when they first arrived on the scene.
- Don met Steve Jobs while traveling for his company.



No, Don didn't meet Steve Jobs, but he was on the cusp of computing. He worked for H. Wolf & Sons, a sportswear company, and managed their printing department. At first the artwork in pre-press and screen-printing areas was done by hand, but when the Macintosh computer arrived, Don was instrumental in switching the department's operations. It was a time when floppy disks ruled, but as the computer evolved, so did his team. Don began managing four artists, and then the department evolved to a multi-functioning operation of 135 people. Don's affinity for working with leading-edge technologies enabled his department to thrive.

How are you scoring so far? One last set of statements! Are these true or false?

___ Don transitioned his next company from main frame system to desktop computing and created a database program to work with clients remotely.

___ Don traveled the country setting up a customer service network with M&M Mars, Nestlé, Dole, and Tropicana.

___ Don worked for three companies that folded.

All true. Don began in customer service at Viva-color, a pre-press company that specialized in the packaging industry. Not long afterward, he transitioned the company into the desktop computer age. “Because I was familiar with the process,” he said, “I worked on a conversion to desktop computing — I took their order entry stuff and put them on the desktop. They eventually got rid of the mainframe computer — too old, slow, too expensive to program. I had been working with clients who wanted our timing, so I created an interface with our order-entry system.”

Next, Don initiated remote project management. “We sent data back and forth, which led me to setting up on site service locations with our clients. Instead of all customer service being in Cincinnati, we had a client relationship with a New Jersey design firm doing artwork for Mars. We were doing direct transfer of files via modem — this was prior to the Internet. I started up proofing separations remotely both on screen and printed. It was on the leading edge. I later began doing remote customer service for Nestlé (in San Francisco), and then Dole (in Los Angeles), and then Tropicana (Bradenton, Florida). I was traveling around the country.”

Don had found his unique niche in the industry. “I tended to go into companies and see the need for something different, so I created my own jobs. For screen printing operation, I started managing all print production, but later I hired a manager for the printing part of the business. I retained the art part and started doing catalogs and point of sale. When there was a need for customer service, I expanded into that. All along I was involved with figuring out the best ways to use computers to do the artwork — looking at the technical aspects of it.”

When Viva-color folded, Don went to work for a Cincinnati design firm and found himself once again carving out a new role based on need. “I started with Fisher Design in customer service and eventually wound up working for the VP in charge of production. I created a production manual and codified all the production art processes. I produced sales presentations, visual aids, and promotional pieces for the company. During customer sales calls, I would do the computer presentations — I was their ‘technical wizard.’ It was comfortable for me.”

Unfortunately, Fisher Design also went bust. Don had now seen the demise of three printing and design companies. He then found a job at Phototype, another pre-press company, but the volatility of the industry intervened again. One of the company’s major clients, P&G, had a policy of “shaking up their vendors so that none of their people would get too tight with the vendors” and our company lost a quarter of their business. “I was the last one hired and most experienced — so I was expensive,” he explained. “Since I was one of the highest paid employees, I was one of the people let go. This was in 2008.”

While the country weathered the housing crisis, Don once again began pounding the pavement, and painting. “I went out and started looking for a job again,” he said. “While I did that, I was getting bored, so I pulled out my paint box from college and started painting.”



Don’s career as an artist was born out of that crisis. He forged on and became the proverbial example of “when life gives you lemons, make lemonade.” Don joined artist associations and attended sketch groups. He became involved in the Southwest Ohio Plein Air group and sought feedback from CAC’s critiques. He later participated in exhibitions, won numerous awards, was featured in Artist’s Magazine and represented by the Eisele Gallery of Fine Art, to name a few of his many accolades.

But Don also gave back. Using his extensive management expertise, he provided the leadership CAC needed to keep the artistic fires burning. Board member **Dale Wolf** explains why Don was the right man at the right time: “I worked with Don for two years when I first began as editor of Dragonfly, and I served with him as a member of the Board of Trustees for five years. During that time, he drove me to our events, giving us time to talk about his vision for the Club, as well as the weather and family. We got to know each other pretty well. In my former years of working with the senior management of P&G, Toshiba, 3M, Frigidaire, and Blue Cross, I have seen some powerful leaders. Don would stack up as good as the best.”

Dale’s final analysis: “Our Club was fortunate that Don came along when he did. He led us out of the pandemic that devastated other organizations. Covid forced us to shutter our monthly dinner meetings, but Don carried on. He grabbed the bull by the horns and taught it to dance. At our last monthly meeting we had an attendance overflow, which was a visual reminder of his leadership legacy.”

What else don’t you know about Don? Here are a few fun facts about him as an artist: He makes stained glass windows and lampshades, restores antiques, and is an avid photographer.



Board and Club News

New Board Members

Michael Paolercio and **Don Baumgarten** are filling open seats on the Board of Trustees. Both are former Board Members and bring valuable experience to their tasks. Michael will chair programming for the dinner meetings and Don will take over as chair of house and property.

Big Year Recap at Business Meeting, May 15

The Club Annual Business Meeting is an essential part of running our Club. It ends the first year under President **Christine Kuhr**. It is a different kind of monthly meeting because the presenters are discussing the Club itself. It is different also because it attracts members who

really care about what was accomplished this past year and the direction in which we are headed for next year.

There is a special camaraderie at the Business Meeting. People who want to better understand what the Club is all about come to this meeting and share their opinions on our future.

The presentation will be on accomplishments and issues. We discuss the financial picture of the Club and vote on issues (thus it is essential that we have a quorum so that official business can be conducted). And Richard Prince will not disappoint you with his version of "Hitching Post" Fried Chicken and delicious sides.

RSVP hospitality@cincinnatiartclub.com

Wednesday, May 15th Menu

"Hitching Post" Fried Chicken
German Potato Salad
Coleslaw
Deviled Eggs
Glazed Strawberry Pie, Whipped Cream
Banana Pudding
Chocolate Almond Brownies
(Gluten Free)

Iced Tea/Lemonade/ Coffee
Iced Tea/Coffee

\$10.00 per person
Reservation Deadline:
Friday, May 10th at 4:00 p.m.

Memorial Day Celebration, Remember and Honor

May 27/2024 at 10:00 AM At Site of Duveneck Memorial in Mother of God Cemetery, Covington



Memorial Day, 1922 and 2023

"The Club's traditional visit to the Duveneck gravesite is very long-standing and is something that should be valued by the members. Its purpose is to not only pay respect to our artistic founder, Frank Duveneck, but also to remember and pay our

respects to current members who have passed during the preceding year. Some of those may have contributed to the Club in a public and obvious way and others quietly in the background. Both contributions have been important, and it seems that we should take this small event to remember them. It does not take long, never more than an hour at the gravesite. We had a good turnout in 2023 and I hope that is the beginning of a trend for upcoming years. It is surely a small commitment for each of us to take this short time to honor our fellow artists who can no longer be physically with us."

Light the Lights! The Signature Show is Comin' Up! Which Piece will be Your Favorite?

We know you are tired out. It's been a busy week and just one day after Art for a Lifetime comes one of our most exciting art exhibitions. Give it one more push and come to the annual Spring Signature Show on May 10, from 6:00 - 9:00 PM.

See firsthand what our Signature members have been doing since the Fall. The show will also be open Saturday, May 11, and Sunday, May 12, both at 1:00 - 4:00 PM.

The Club, in accordance with this Signature tradition and our Constitution, offers its top members this show, just twice a year in Fall and Spring. These artists have been tested before a qualification committee. We all can learn a lot just by exploring how they created the art on display. This is our chance to get to know them personally. Getting to know them and talk about art with them can further our careers.



"Comparing Apple to Apples" Still Life Workshop with Lon Brauer

August 23 and 24, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

This workshop is taught by Lon Brauer, Show Judge for ViewPoint 56. Think of those things that you do every day ... like tying your shoes or brushing your teeth. You do these things automatically because they are habit. You remove the variables. Painting should be an approach with the same principle. We must create habits; create intuitive responses; create familiarity.

Then we can confront those very specific challenges that always come up when we make paintings. His

process allows you to more clearly see your work in progress so you can compare elements in your work much like comparing apples to apples. Lon Brauer's teaching technique will help you create faster by eliminating the variables so your painting will become faster, more assured, more fluid.

He is an American artist known for his work in figure and plein air landscape work in the abstract expressionist movement. Although a representational artist, he steers clear of the overtly literal.



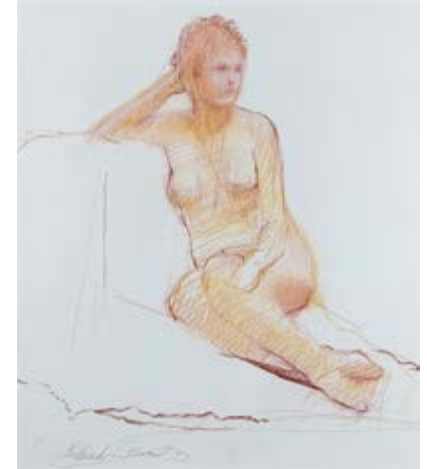
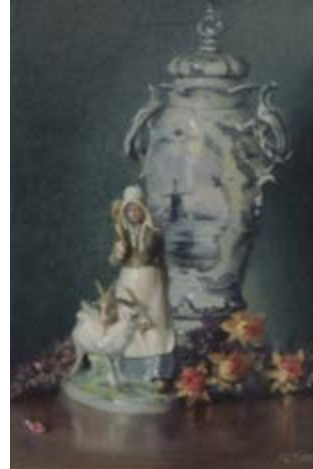
The Velvet Touch Knows No Boundaries at CAC

Attendance at our exhibitions is going in one direction: UP. And the April Pastel Exhibition was a knockout winner! It was a magnificent demonstration of the potential of pastel to tell beautiful stories, using this velvet magical medium. Photos thanks to Kay Hurley.

Ray Hassard had this to say about his pastel entry from his road construction series: "I have always been fascinated by construction sites, especially this mammoth project on US 50 near where I live. As a painter, the big (BIG) shapes, bright

colors, and the drama of it all combine to make it impossible not to paint it. I did many paintings for this project from 2011 through 2015 or so in oil and pastel, large and small. I especially enjoyed using pastel: a soft, delicate art material to paint hard machines doing very delicate things! This remains one of my favorite paintings from the series.

A few of the entries from The Touch of Velvet Exhibition are included here to show the diversity of the pastel medium:



FROM TOP LEFT:

Feathered Girl
by Trish Kaman,

Megan
by Donna Townsend

Dutch Treat
by Linda Crank

Mermaid in Waiting
by Shalmah Prince

Balloon Dodge
by Chris Kuhr

Old Station
by Craig Lloyd

ViewPoint 56: The Show is Running on Schedule

Update by Chair, Martha Howard



The ViewPoint 56 National Juried Art Competition planning is well under way. The 56th year of this show hosted by the Cincinnati Art Club will open August 23, and is being hosted by the Eisele Gallery for 3 weeks. We're very excited to have nationally known artist

and sculptor Lon Brauer as the Show Judge, and he will also be giving an art club workshop the weekend of the Opening. He describes his work as expressive realism.

www.lonbrauer.com.

The Call for entry is open now, with details and the prospectus on the Cincinnati Art Club web page,

www.cincinnatiartclub.org/viewpoint.

Members of the Cincinnati Art Club have already received one Constant Contact email announcing the show. If you haven't

received the Call for Entry email please check your spam folder, or perhaps you need to re-subscribe. The entries are mostly done online, through CaFE, at www.callforentry.org but there is also an option to enter by mail, with info on the Art Club website.

Entries close June 27th, so keep those dates in mind if you have paintings or sculpture you wish to enter. You can enter up to 4 pieces of art, but only one piece per artist will be chosen by the judges to be in the show. Space limitations at the exhibition gallery determine how many pieces can be invited.

The jurors are signed up ready to score the artwork. First place is \$3000, with \$1000 for 2nd and \$750 for 3rd. There is also an OKI award of \$500 for artists who live in Ohio, Indiana, and Kentucky. We are working now to get additional awards of gift certificates from local and national art businesses.

This is **Martha Howard's** second-year planning ViewPoint, and we have a great team with **Shalmah Prince** and **Mark Schlachter** on the committee, along with advice from **Steve Hart** and **Joe Stewart** who have worked on it in previous years. Anyone who wants to get involved is welcome, please email viewpoint@cincinnatiartclub.com.

Member News (continued)

"My passion is and always will be oil painting. In the past year, I have made an intense study to refine my drawing skills using graphite and charcoal. By focusing on the fundamentals of composition, value, mass, and gesture, I hope to continue to strengthen my oil paintings. Creating art has limitless boundaries, and for me this is what makes it exciting and challenging."

Jay Wilford Joins the Club



"I descend from a family both creative and passionate about the arts. Thus, I was taught, by my mother, to draw and then paint at an early age. Just as importantly, there was a seemingly continuous encouragement to "see" the world as a painter. The lesson learned was that beauty was virtually everywhere and my challenge was to work towards capturing it."

"From those origins, with minimal formal instruction, I've forged ahead and though I didn't pursue a career in the arts, I always considered it my most authentic calling. Since retiring I paint and create most days in my studio gallery in downtown Cincinnati."

"Finally, thank you for welcoming me. I've long been aware of the Club's impressive history and membership and am delighted to get involved."

Connie Springer, Photographer, Watercolorist and New Member



"I've been doing photography since I was a kid. Watercolor was new for me. I began watercolor class with Ken Buck 16 years ago and continue studying him. Both photography and watercolor enable my passion for storytelling. I also have written two books on photography."

"I went to Oberlin College for a degree in sociology and a master's degree in library science at Simmons College. After college, a two-year photography program at the Art Institute of Boston. For five years I was the librarian in the Films and Recordings department at the Main Branch of the Public Library."

Connie is one of 14 artists in the Art Circle at the Essex. She joined our Club to expand her horizons and to be with other artists.

Featured in the Masthead



The Masthead this month features **Christine Kuhr's** pastel portrait, *Balloon Dog*. This 13 x 13 piece was featured in the 2024 Pastel Exhibition – The Velvet Touch.