

Gilbert Visual Art League



ART
VINE

MARCH 2023

Let's Mark Our Calendars!

April Presenter

DON'T FORGET
GVAL Meeting
Thurs. April 6th

April 6th Member Meeting
Join us on April 6th at 6:30 pm
for our Member Meeting at HD
South! Linda Glover Gooch will
be our April presenter. Bring
your artwork for member
critique and a completed
painting for a chance to be voted
Artist of the Month.
See you there!
To see more of Linda's art go to
www.goochstudio.com

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**Artist of the month – Mohan
Toopal**



DONNA HAHN BRANSON: A Life Well Lived

By Donna Finter



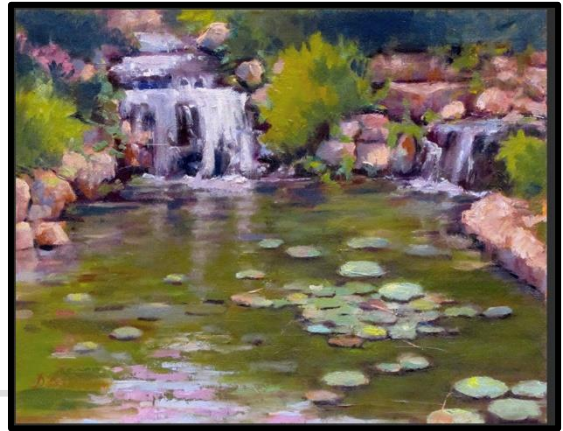
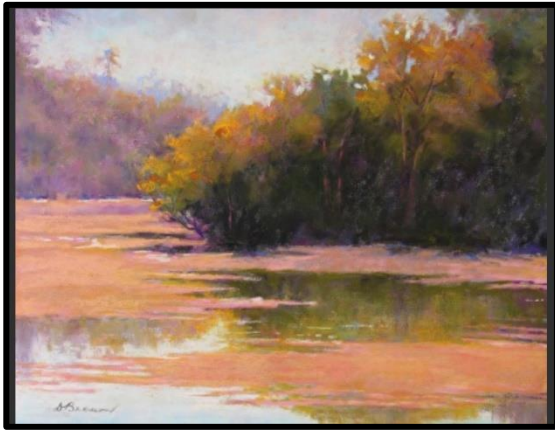
One of our beloved GVAL members Donna Hahn Branson passed away on February 8th, 2023. Donna grew up in Oak Park, Illinois. She was a devoted mother and wife. Donna reignited her childhood passion for painting after retiring from a 27-year career in apparel design at Oklahoma State University. Dr. Branson was a widely acclaimed apparel design researcher whose academic career included teaching, research, and administration. She was awarded the prestigious 2006 Homeland Security Award for innovative, cutting-edge protective apparel design research, and induction into the Oklahoma Higher Education Hall of Fame in 2011.

Donna's former doctoral students left these thoughts for her, "We will always remember your kindness and mentorship. Thank you for showing us how to be great teachers, researchers, and leaders! ~ Cathy, Gam, Jinhee, Su, Pim, Erin, Rachel, Panos, and Huiju.

Her colleague Hua Weng said, "I had the privilege to work with Dr. Branson in many research projects. She was such a great mentor who shaped my career! She will be dearly missed!"

In retirement, Donna enjoyed painting landscapes, florals, and sometimes figurative works. She studied oil and pastel painting under many prominent artists. She won numerous art awards. Donna was a member of the American Impressionist Society, the Gilbert Visual Art League, and a signature member of the Arizona Pastel Artists Association. She was a Chandler, Arizona resident.

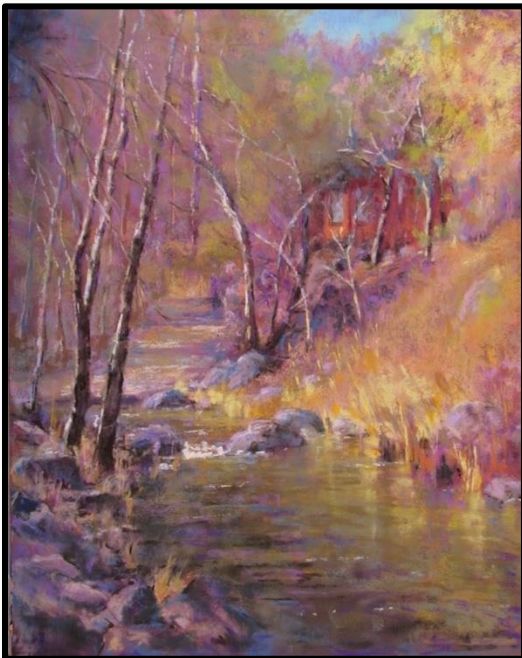
Donna Hahn Branson



Judy Pechur, fellow artist said, "Donna was a wonderful person, very kind and thoughtful. She was a terrific artist and so creative. I will miss spending time with her at art events and painting with her." Donna Finter of GVAL described her friend, "Donna was a lovely, intelligent, friendly lady. She was generous with her art talents putting the finishing touches on art given to pastel artists in the Ukraine. Donna loved serving the children in GVAL Kids' Art Time program at House of Refuge in Mesa, Arizona. GVAL will make a donation in Donna Branson's name to the non-profit House of Refuge.

This is Donna's art in her words, "I am particularly excited by light and the myriad effects that light in all its forms has on objects' shapes, colors, and textures. What we observe or study can be grasped at multiple levels depending on our personal experiences and our capacity to see. I find it intriguing to focus on people, landscapes and objects illuminated by differing light quality and to capture my feelings about what I see in my paintings. I am drawn to color in all its complexities from vivid saturated color to soft muted color, and my art is a communication vehicle to celebrate my perception of reality... I wish to share that with the world."

Enjoy more of Donna's wonderful art on her website <https://www.donnabranson.com/>.



MARCH MEETING

We were thrilled to have Jerry Salinas give a 1 hour demo on portrait painting. We had a full house to see him present his art methods. Jerry lives in Phoenix and teaches at the Scottsdale Artist School. His art, painted in the contemporary realist style, can be seen at Santa Fe Trails Fine Art Gallery located in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Enjoy more of Jerry's art at www.jerrysalinas.com





Juried Art show

Some of the beautiful works we were fortunate to have in our Juried Show. All works and winners can be seen on GVAL.org



Juried Art Show

More of the beautiful works we were fortunate to have in our Juried Show. All works and winners can be seen on GVAL.org



Artist of the Month



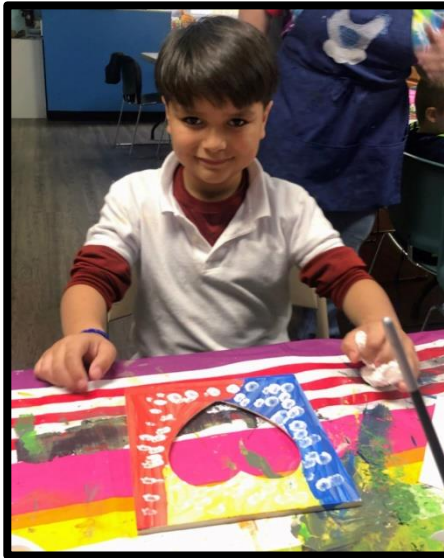
Congratulations to Mohan Toopal, GVAL March Artist of the Month! His "Stanford Grad" is a 28" by 48" oil painting on board.



House of Refuge Fun

Painting picture frames for their own photos was so much fun for the kids at House of Refuge! A big thank you to Cora Newell for providing the frames, photos and art lesson! Donna Finter assisted the children with their painting.

If you are a GVAL member and want to know more about being a volunteer for Children's Art Time, contact donnafinter@gval.org.



UPCOMING DATES

Upcoming Dates

April 5, 2023 – Nominations for GVAL Board Members are due. Please fill in the [nomination form](#) by April 5th to be considered for a board position. All GVAL Members are welcome to apply for all positions. To be nominated for the position of President, prior experience on the GVAL Board is required.

April 6, 2023 – Monthly Member Meeting – Linda Glover Gooch will be our April presenter. Carol will demonstrate her unique style of abstract art. www.goochstudio.com

April 4, Tues. 2023 – Pick up your artwork at Gallery 4, HD South from 6-7:30. If you are not able and have arranged for someone else to pick up your artwork, please let us know in advance to whom we should release your art. Our contact is hello2@gval.org.

20th Annual Juried Fine Art Show and Sale
February 25 – April 4, 2023
Hosted by Gallery 4 at HD South
10 S. Gilbert Road, Gilbert, AZ

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See Art in the News, Enjoy Fun Art Memes and Celebrate Artists' Accomplishments!

<https://www.facebook.com/gilbertvisualartleague/>

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commenting, and sharing posts of interest.

GVAL is on Instagram as well at
[instagram.com/gilbertartists/](https://www.instagram.com/gilbertartists/)

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janegvalnews@gmail.com