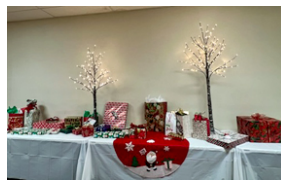




December

GVAL WINTER PARTY



Christmas Social

And the winner is.....**Sharon Hess** as the most festively dressed person who was chosen at our annual Christmas party held on the 5th of December. There were 6

people judged for ugliest sweater or most festive apparel. Runner up was Peter Eobbi.

It was a fun filled evening and the food was delicious with a variety of dishes shared. The GVAL board donated a ham and many yummy side dishes were provided by attendees. The desserts were a delight and most bountiful. Calories were forgotten for that day.

The evening included the Rob Your Neighbor game that was a riot and there was some competition for certain sought after gifts. The most popular were the art supplies such as paints, brushes, a watercolor pad, sketch books, pens, and more. Other gifts exchanged were candles, stackable mugs, luncheon plates, games, wall clocks, movie tickets, etc.

Thanks so much to Sharon Hess, our Hospitality coordinator, and all who contributed to the night of laughs, fun, and camaraderie. So many folks helped clean up and put tables and chairs away. It made for a quick and easy end to the evening which was most appreciated.

Sharing Members' Successes

Merrie Trevino

I have been juried into the following venues:

“Big” and “Tiny” at the Herberger Theater, Dec 6th - Feb 2nd. Opening Reception is on Dec 6th Herberger Theater Center 222 E Monroe St, Phoenix

<https://herbergertheater.org/art-gallery/>

“Square” and “Sunrise/Sunset” at the Herberger Theater, Feb 7th - March 2nd.

Opening Reception is on March 2nd. Herberger Theater Center 222 E Monroe St, Phoenix. Web link above.

“Urban Wildlife: Surviving in a Complex World” at the Phoenix Zoo Savannah Gallery, Feb 27 - Jun 29. Opening Reception March 7th.

<https://www.phoenixzoo.org/art-on-the-wild-side/>

Board Member Spotlight



Donna Finter, Community Outreach Coordinator

I've been a member of GVAL about 11 years and on the board 9 years. I published the newsletter, administered social media, promoted public relations, and now coordinate community outreach.

As an educator, I supplemented the art teacher's lessons by giving my students extra art experiences. I took a couple of art classes for myself in Kansas. When I moved to Arizona 14 years ago, I took more painting classes.

I like variety, so I experiment with several painting mediums... oil, acrylic, markers, digital, and watercolor. I paint in many styles including abstract, impressionistic, mixed media, paint pouring, and realism.

Art is my hobby, so I paint for enjoyment and to improve my art skills. I've had a couple of honorable mention art show awards, 3 commissions, sold a few paintings, and donated pieces to charity. I gift a lot of my art to family and friends. I recently started an art Instagram page @donnafinterfineart to share my work and thoughts about art.

Volunteer opportunities

The board needs a Special Events and Venues Coordinator.

Duties:

1. Arrange extracurricular activities for members, i.e. art tours, etc.
2. Coordinate plein aire sessions.
3. Coordinate one day art sale events.
4. Seek opportunities to display the work of GVAL members in the community
5. Schedule and coordinate displays and any receptions, if allowed.
6. Work with the location manager to determine dates and duration of displays.

7. Collect and maintain information regarding GVAL artists who are seeking opportunities to display work. Use the GVAL Art Release and Liability Forms
8. Periodically (duration and location will be determined by venue coordinator) make arrangements with members to change out artwork whether it is to add or remove their pieces, from various display locations. Please contact any board member if interested.

Community Outreach

GVAL has two educational outreach art programs that are year round. Volunteer Members lead children in art activities at House of Refuge in Mesa, and provide art instruction to children and adults through workshops at HD South in Gilbert when available.

To learn more about GVAL's Two Community Outreach Programs, see our website at <https://gval.org/community-outreach/> or email Donna Finter at donnafinter@gval.org

Incidental and Fortuitous Thoughts

Please share with us your favorite websites for art news, art related valley happenings, and inspiration.

We want to know what you are doing art-wise. Please share anything newsworthy or of interest to GVAL members here in the newsletter. You can email me at jelltay@sbcglobal.net Please put in the subject line **NEWSLETTER**.

Do you have happy art news to share on GVAL's social media? If so, contact Michael Mackowski of the GVAL Board.

A big thank you to all who contributed to this month's newsletter

Linda Taylor

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