

Gilbert Visual Art League

SEPTEMBER 2026

ART
VINE

Stevie Denny

DON'T FORGET

GVAL Meetings now 6:00

Next meeting Thurs. October 1st

GVAL Presenter Change: Stevie Denny, an accomplished professional watercolor and oil painter will be the presenter for GVAL's next meeting at 6:00PM on Thursday, October 1st. Stevie paints wonderful portraits, landscapes, and still life. Stevie is an avid art journalist who incorporates calligraphy and other text into her artwork.

We will be fortunate to experience Stevie's presentation on watercolor techniques. She will demonstrate floral watercolor painting and provide a handout with helpful watercolor information.

Stevie is well-known for her art teaching expertise. She is an instructor at Scottsdale Art School and has an instructional art YouTube channel. Stevie has juried artist memberships: Arizona Watercolor Association, Oil Painters of America, Daily Painters of Arizona and Contemporary Fine Art International.





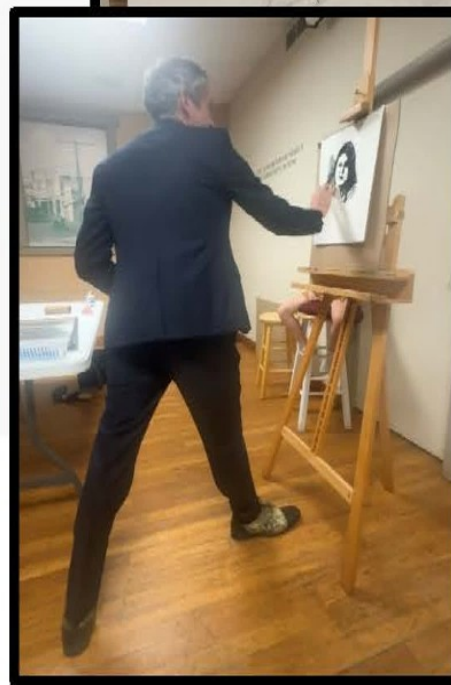
Demo by Tim Rees in September

GVAL was thrilled to welcome the phenomenal Tim Rees as our September artist presenter! He shared portfolios of his work and did a vine charcoal and willow portrait for 48 GVAL members. Tim's model was one of his darling daughters. She kept us smiling with her cute personality.

Tim shared information about values and how to achieve them. He also emphasized that a human model will have some movement. It is up to the artist to adjust his view accordingly. Tim also demonstrated various subtractive methods. Wonderful demonstration!

Tim opened an art school in Scottsdale called Rees Atelier. View his beautiful oil work too at

<https://www.reesfineart.com/>



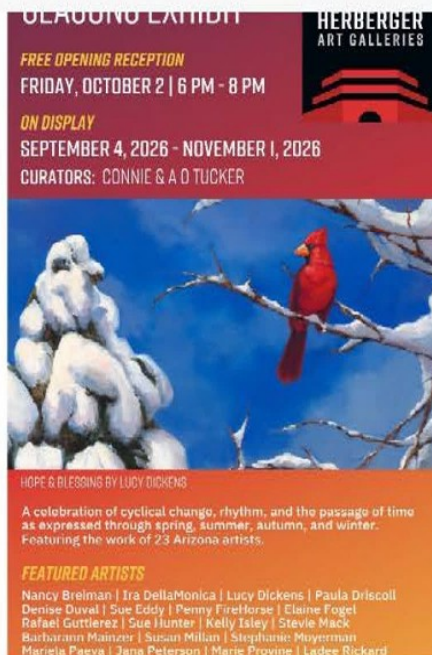


ARTIST OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to our September Artist of the Month, Linda Dugan Landry. Her painting was chosen by fellow members from the Summer Challenge Pieces. The directions for the Summer Challenge included cutting a visual three or four ways, rearranging those pieces, and painting the new arrangement.



Announcing Great News Christina Rosepapa's painting, "Thorn Born" was juried into the upcoming Seasons Exhibit at the Herberger Art Gallery. The opening reception will be on Friday, Oct 2nd from 6-8pm. The show will be on display until November 1st





ARTIST SPOTLIGHT ON MERRIE TAVERNA

Since 2003
Merrie is an accomplished mixed media artist from Arizona, whose work is deeply rooted in themes of love and connection. After working with children for 25 years—fourteen of which teaching elementary art— Merrie retired from teaching and embraced her lifelong passion for art, refining her skills and vision.

Merrie's artistic process is inspired by her belief in the intricate and divine connections between all things. Her work is characterized by abstract mark-making, layered collage, vibrant colors, and the strategic use of light, creating pieces that resonate with both depth and spirituality.

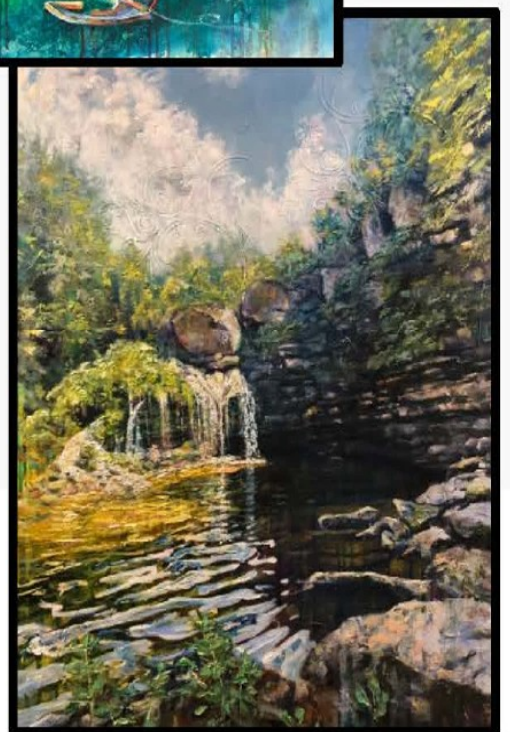
Her paintings often explore the theme of love in various forms—whether it's the bond between individuals, the connection with God, or the relationship with nature. Merrie's art is more than a visual experience; it is an expression of her reverence for life, often featuring people, animals, flowers, and landscapes as acts of devotion and prayer.

Today, Merrie works full-time from her home studio, surrounded by the inspiring vistas of Arizona's desert mountains. She enjoys spending time with her husband and their growing family, all while continuing to produce art that touches the heart and soul.





Merrie Taverna



Wednesday Art Day is busy at House of Refuge! The children made drawings and combined those with pulling acrylic paints. The class was led by Merrie Taverna and Karen Kruder.

Children built jeweled spiders and designed crazy hair using markers with Sally Tazelaar.

Kids painted bisque castle sculptures with acrylics. The kids art time was led by Karen Kruder and Lynne Fox. Children created drawings of fantasy creatures. Donna Finter led that art activity.

The teen & adult group collaged vision boards with Donna Finter. Participants put a lot of thought into their future. Thank you to all the GVAL recent art volunteers at House of Refuge!





you're Invited!

GVAL Member Art Show

***Enjoy and purchase from
dozens of artworks from the Gilbert
Visual Art League members.***

**Visit gval.org for
more details.**

***Shop early for the holidays
and give the gift of fine art.***

***Opening Reception
Sunday, Oct. 4th - 2pm to 4pm***



SHOW DATES: OCT 4th to NOV 3rd 2026

**Severson Center at HD South Museum
10 S. Gilbert Road • Gilbert, Arizona 85296**

Visit HD South website - hdsouth.org - for museum hours.

BECOME A MEMBER OF GVAL

Members, time is running out for Member Show entries. If you have not entered the free show (with your paid membership), please do so before before Sept 23rd. We look forward to seeing your work in the show! Also, if you are interested in participating, we will have a small works sale with all framed artworks at \$50. For details and form entry - please visit GVAL.org.