

Flourish

EAST VALLEY ARTISTS'
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

BY CAROLE CAMERON

I've been painting a lot lately...my house. I'm exhausted but looking forward to the next two months. Our annual BBQ is on Saturday the 26th. The first year I joined EVA, I didn't go to the BBQ. I'm shy and I didn't know anyone. I wasn't sure about going alone to an event at someone's house I didn't know. It seems silly now. I found out the next year that I missed out on a great time at a lovely place with wonderful people. Don't repeat my mistake. We are going to have some art games and play with puff paint and watch the panoramic sunset.

Also coming up is the annual show next month. Thursday evening August 17th is a mandatory meeting for show participants at the church.

See you at the barbecue,

Carole



photo by Sarah J.L. Nguyen

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ARTIST OF THE MONTH ONLINE

Congratulations to our AOMO winners for the month of July!

Entries for the AOMO contest should be emailed to us at eastvalleyartists@gmail.com by 8:00 pm on the third Wednesday of each month.

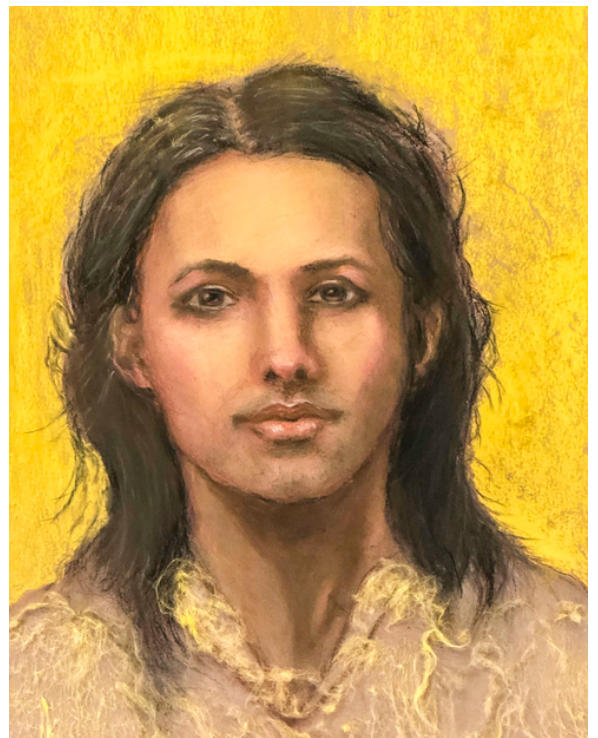
August AOMO entries are due on August 16th!

FIRST PLACE



Sriharsha Annadore - Calmness of Mother Earth
Photography, 12 x 18

SECOND PLACE



Rebecca Chang - Young Teacher
Pastels on Sanded Paper, 15 x 18

ARTIST OF THE MONTH ONLINE [CONTINUED]

THIRD PLACE



Margie Matthews - Where's That Kitty?
Oil on Canvas, 10 x 10

BONUS CATEGORY: THE UNEXPECTED



Julia Cline - Third Family
Watercolor, 22 x 30

AUGUST ARTIST OF THE MONTH ONLINE'S FOURTH CATEGORY: NEGATIVE SPACE

BY JULIA CLINE

Negative space is akin to the time, energy, talent and unique perspective you as an artist bring to your work. Without it, the piece of art would not exist as it is and that person, compelled to take a closer look, would not have stood there for so long, only to remark, “I like this, but it’s over-priced.” That is to say, most of the time negative space, though essential to the work, sits outside of the viewer’s awareness and often goes unappreciated.

In two- and three-dimensional work, negative space is the cohesive area surrounding the subject (2D) or physical object (3D). In two-dimensional work, it can be argued that negative space actually defines the shape of the subject. In three-dimensional work, besides the area surrounding the object, negative space is any place the object is not. This includes any hole within the object. The empty area created by a bend in the design, a window or the holes in a lattice may be considered negative space in a three-dimensional work of art.

Negative space assists the eye of the beholder in finding the important parts of the artwork, the parts that deserve the most attention. Negative space also provides a place for the eye to rest, a vacation retreat of sorts.

In two dimensional work, negative space is not always empty. In landscapes, it may include trees, buildings, waterways, sometimes animals, clouds, even people. Portraits, and still life arrangements may be set against the backdrop of a favorite family room, bookcases, floral curtains, an English country garden-- the possibilities are endless. In these instances, as Sri reminded us during his workshop over the weekend, negative space is created by manipulating values and color palettes. Similar values cause multiple objects to hang together as a cohesive group, whatever their color—they become a unit. Then pushing their colors

toward blue and lightening them, causes the group to recede. What could have been a fragmented display of equally prominent features becomes a cohesive backdrop, residing behind the subject matter, rather than competing with it. Items depicted within the negative space of a two dimensional work are wallflowers at the party.

Thinking about negative space is not always straightforward. Sometimes a two-dimensional image is wrapped around a three dimensional work. For example, a picture may be carved into or painted upon a wooden object. In assemblage, some parts of the entire object may be more important than others—there may be negative space within the material substance of the three dimensional whole. Other times



In this bead created by Shelly Woollvin, the swirls and swathes of colored glass lend to the feeling that the jellyfish is floating, drifting within the negative space. Yet their values and hues prevent them from competing with the central subject. Shelly has created a three dimensional negative space within the material of the bead and the jellyfish floats freely.

NEGATIVE SPACE, CONTINUED

emptiness is the artwork. Would you say the carved out portion of a jack-o-lantern is negative space, or is the pumpkin itself the backdrop for the illuminated emptiness?

If the two-dimensional and three-dimensional work our club members produce were Hollywood movies, negative space would be the Executive Producer of most every project. It would be the force that bankrolls our work toward success. And when the credits rolled, no one would stay long enough to find out. ■

Using completely different media, Sri Annadore (photography) and Candy Yu (watercolor) have handled the negative space in similar ways. Objects within the negative space are presented in softer focus. The values within the space are incrementally graduated so that the area hangs together as a whole. Additionally, the values in the negative space are quite different from those of the more important areas in the images. In Candy's painting, the negative space is lighter and the subject matter is darker. In Sri's photograph, the negative space is darker and the centers of interest are lighter.



This collaboration by Sloane Perroots and Jennifer Wool provokes many considerations about negative space. The ceramic vessel contains negative space and is surrounded by negative space. In the woven section, the darker fibers or the lighter fibers could be considered the negative backdrop—each for the other. Most interesting, however, is the fact that the slate gray bowl provides the negative support that presents the woven work and, and therefore, the bowl functions as both negative space and subject in this mixed media piece.



GETTING YOUNG PEOPLE OUTSIDE FOR ART AND NATURE

BY MARILYNN SMITH

Being out of doors and sketching/painting/doing art is a wonderful way to connect to nature and to express your creativity. Or, at least that's what I think. So does artist Takeyce Walter. She has dedicated her time and her art to helping others experience the wonder of nature through art. She works with a group called The Nature Conservancy and another called Black Dimensions in Art. She also got together with a local church in New York developed a program to give kids some exposure to Nature

Conservancy preserves, teach them a bit about art, and, hopefully, foster an appreciation for enjoying the natural world. These youngsters had never been to the Adirondacks though they lived nearby. "Our goal was to help them see that they belong in these places, and that painting is another way of being present."

[Read the full article](#) on The Nature Conservancy's website.



Photo by [Gary Yost](#) on [Unsplash](#)

UPCOMING EVA 23 EVENTS

AUG 17 ANNUAL SHOW PREP DAY



Get ready for the show with us during our normal meeting time.

- Pay your Annual Show Fee
- Turn in your signed paper application
- Learn how to properly frame your paintings for a juried show
- Pick up flyers to share with your mailing list
- Get tips on photographing your art
- Get help setting up Venmo or Square
- Ask questions on show logistics

All show participants are required to attend!

When: Thursday, August 17 at 6:30 PM

Where: Fellowship Hall - Foothill Community Presbyterian Church
5301 McKee Rd. San Jose, 95127

AUG 26 EVA ANNUAL BBQ POTLUCK



Gather at the home of Jennifer Wool for good food and good times at EVA's annual summer get-together. Family members are welcome; bring a dish to share and whatever you would like to drink. Bring your swimsuit and a towel if you would like to swim.

We will have two art activities: shadow painting with watercolor and fabric painting. Bring watercolor brushes (size 7 to 16) and watercolor paint to use and share if you have them, and/or bring your own fabric item(s) to decorate!

When: Saturday, August 26 at 4:00 PM to Sunset

Location: You'll receive directions when you RSVP.

RSVP: Email eastvalleyartists@gmail.com by August 22.



UPCOMING EVA 23 EVENTS [CONTINUED]

SEPT 22 ANNUAL SHOW SETUP

8:00 - 10:00 AM - Juried Show setup in Fellowship Hall

10:00 - 11:00 AM - Juried Show art intake

3:00 PM - Jurying

6:00 - 8:00 PM - Non-Juried Art table and canopy setup in courtyard and rooms 8&9

SEPT 23 ANNUAL SHOW - DAY 1

8:00 AM - Non-juried art setup in courtyard and rooms 8&9

10:00 AM - SHOW OPENS

5:00 PM - Saturday overnight closing

SEPT 24 ANNUAL SHOW - DAY 2

11:00 AM - Sunday morning opening

4:00 PM - People's Choice Award tally and presentation

4:00 PM - 10% of sales due for church fee - cash or check - give to Show Coordinator

5:00 PM - Art removal and takedown - all artists or their designated helper must assist with takedown.

Annual Show & Sale



Foothill Presbyterian Church
5301 McKee Road, San Jose

Saturday

9/23

10am - 5pm

Sunday

9/24

11am - 4pm

NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY WALK WITH SRIHARSHA

This month EVA member and photographer Sriharsha Annadore delighted us with an informative demonstration focused on taking quality reference photos for our art. We dove into the settings on our phone cameras, took test photos in black and white, discussed best practices for photographing different subject matter, and much more.

A huge thank-you to Sri for sharing his wealth of knowledge on getting that perfect image with us.



Photos by Hadi Aghaee and Sarah Nguyen

MEMBER NEWS

Here's what our members had to share this month.

Send your news & photos to eastvalleyartists@gmail.com. We'll include it in next month's Flourish.



A warm welcome to EVA's newest member, **Ruben Lopez**.

And congratulations to **Cara Drouin** and **Susan Harding**, who have been voted in as Exhibiting Members!



JEANNE WARDRIP

Jeanne will have several pieces in the South Coast Artists' Alliance Show happening this month in Pescadero. Details below.



2023

South Coast Artists' Alliance

Gala

August 18, 7-9
Preview at 6

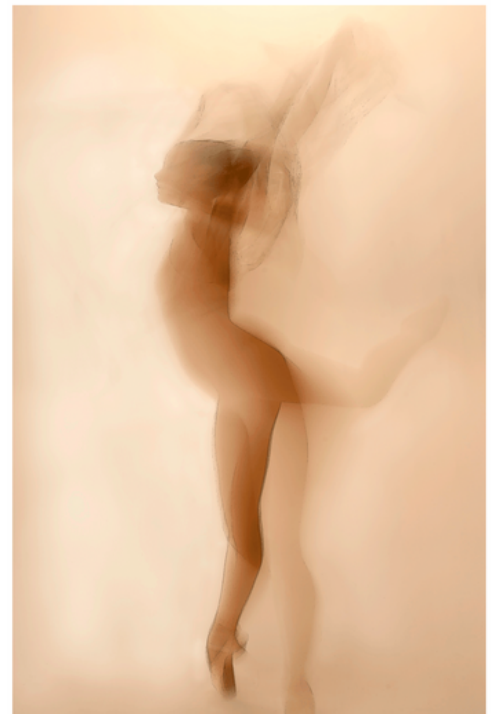
Art Show

August 19 & 20, 10-6

IDES Hall

Stage Road
Pescadero

25% of profits go to fund the arts in local schools.



Dancer 42 by William Bishop

MEMBER NEWS CONTINUED



HADI AGHAEI

The Salon at Triton show which I am part of will continue until August 20.

I will be part of a small group of artists in the “Eat & Play” exhibit at Chopsticks Art Gallery at 38 S. 2nd St, San Jose CA. The exhibition Opens Sep 1 (First Friday) through Jan 14, 2024.

I will also be participating in Fine Arts league of Cupertino (FALC) annual Exhibition/competition on Sept 9, 2023.

Finally for the fun of it, I will be one of the featured artists at Luna Park Chalk Art Festival on Sept 16, 2023 at Backesto Park, 551 N 13th St San Jose, CA.



SHELLY WOOLLVIN

I will be teaching two classes at Bay Area Glass Institute. Moonscapes 10/21 and Seascapes 11/18. Sign ups and class descriptions are on the BAGI website. <https://www.bagi.org/classes/studio-classes/soft-glass/>.



MEMBER NEWS CONTINUED

SARAH J.L. NGUYEN



This month I received a scholarship from the City of San Jose to participate in Business of Art, a 10-week program being put on by the Center for Cultural Innovation (CCI) and the San Jose Office of Cultural Affairs. I'm excited to develop my business skills and build relationships with more local artists through this program.



SAN JOSÉ
BUSINESS OF ART
ENTREPRENEURIAL TRAINING FOR ARTISTS



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ARTIST PANELS FOR RENT

Rent EVA's panels for your next art show.

Contact a board member for details or email us at: eastvalleyartists@gmail.com



GRAPHIC DESIGN services

- logos, identity & branding
- website setup & redesign
- business cards, brochures
- page layout, book design
- content writing & editing

→ **1-on-1 consultations to learn Canva or DIY website editing tools**

✉ **SARAH J.L. NGUYEN**
 sjl.nguyen@gmail.com

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President: Carole Cameron
 Vice President: Jennifer Wool
 Treasurer: Candy Yu
 Publicity: Sarah Nguyen
 Secretary: [OPEN]
 Webmaster: Julie Cline & Sarah Nguyen
 Newsletter: Sarah Nguyen
 Demo Scheduling: Hadi Aghaee

CONTACT US

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