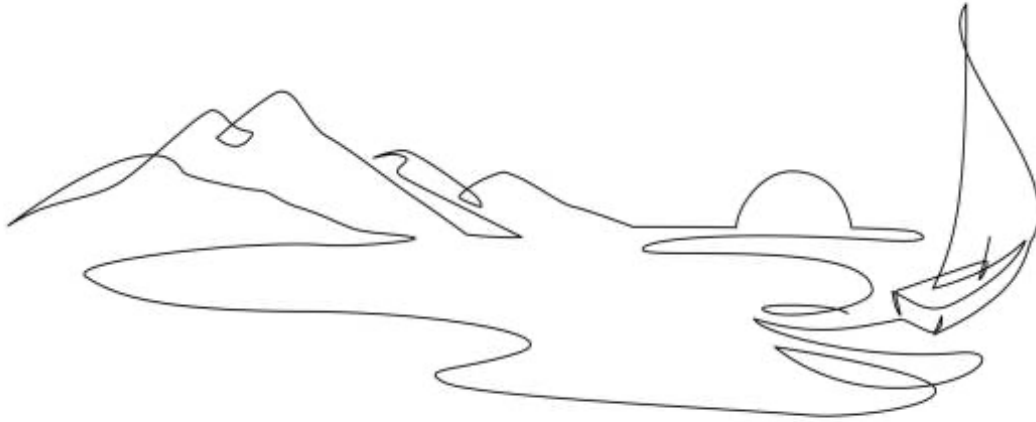


Saco Bay Artists

August 2025 Newsletter



Saco Bay Artists meets from March through December on the second Monday of the month (except for holiday weeks). All are welcome so feel free to bring anyone who is interested. The meetings are held from 10:30 am - 12:30 pm at the Saco Parks & Rec Center at 75 Franklin Street in Saco. Our final meetings of the year are as follows: September 8, October 20, November 17 and December 8.

We also host open-studio “drop ins” at the Rec Center on most non-meeting Mondays from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm for those who would like to get together to paint, create & chat. Ellen Pelletier coordinates these meet ups by sending around an email to interested members on Sunday or Monday mornings – please [email her](#) if you'd like to be on that list. Everyone on this list should reply-all to Ellen's emails and if at least 3 people are coming, the session is on!

August 11 Meeting Notes

- Cathy T gave the Treasurer's Report, with an ending balance of \$12,620
- Membership stands at approximately 70 members
- Heather did additional outreach to MECA about our Gertrude Eastman Scholarship (\$1000) and we now have two applicants
- SBA show update and discussion
 - Mary said we've had 50 artists for the year, 25 at the Aug 2 show and 31 so far for the Aug 30 show
 - Aug 2 show winners were as follows. The judge was Angela Coulombe:
 - **Best in Show** – Mary Brunner, Title – Hear Me!
Comments: Artist viewpoint, technique, use of craft as voice to start much needed conversation.
 - **First Prize Fine Art** – Angelia Murray, Title – Delightful Autumn
Comments: Conversation between self and work, minimal yet complex, understanding detail of medium, flow and multi-generational.
 - **Second Prize Fine Art** – Fred Mafigiri, Title – Arrival
Semi-abstract, understanding of technique, bold viewpoint, use of unexpected/unconventional colors, lets the viewer explore the space.
 - **Honorable Mention Fine Art** – Erik R. Minzner, Title – Port Clyde Sunset

Depth and Breadth of brush strokes and technique. Different viewpoint on iconic landscapes, refreshing use of bold color.

- **First Prize Fine Craft** – Al Pelletier, Title – Birch Breadbasket
Apparent skill, glazes are organic, glazes match subject, tranquility of pieces, subtle nod to coastal life.
- **Second Prize Fine Craft** – Cheri Goguen, Title – Untitled Basket
Purposeful reimagining of baskets originally made by Native Americans. A contemporary twist on traditional craft.
- **Honorable Mention Fine Craft** – Calvin Bryant, Title – 34 piece wooden box
Has been crafting since he was 15. Knowledge of woodworking, traditional joinery, passionate about the work.
- **Bill Edmunds Photography Award** – Anjelika Herzberg-Lee, Title – Snowy Boardwalk
Subject matter, presenting classic scenes in solitude. Allowing the viewer to pause and reflect and find that moment of zen in an otherwise chaotic world.

- There was substantial discussion about the SBA group tent at the Aug 2 show and the challenges this year

- Participating artists were all asked on their application to sign up for 2.5 hrs shifts to staff the group tent but some individuals didn't want to do so; this should be mandatory since it's a group effort
- A motion was passed that would require each participating artist to have their own display rack for their work, which will facilitate set up and make each easier for the artist to plan/hang their work
 - 6' free standing grid racks (2-3' wide) with T-bases can be purchased on Amazon
 - SBA will likely have some communal racks an artist could borrow (first come, first served) or they could borrow from another member
- A motion was also passed to have an imprinted banner for the front of the tent with the Saco Bay Artist name/logo
- Members could also consider sharing a tent with someone; John Huszonek would be willing to share his tent for the Aug 30 show and this opportunity could be offered more broadly for members to collaborate when the 2026 show applications go out

- SBA should also look at ways to build more awareness and an online presence for future shows; perhaps recruit an additional volunteer to help the show chair(s) with promotion

- Getting info out to online listings of summer art shows
- Potential for more advertising, including social media ads/boosts on Facebook/Instagram
- Explore possibility of a street banner with OP association and town of OOB

- **SBA 30th Anniversary Show:** The Saco Museum will host an exhibition in celebration of our 30th anniversary from September 6 - October 10, 2025. See below for details and what we need from members:

- **Tuesday September 2, 10-11:30 AM:** Drop off at Saco Museum. Ellen Pelletier will help coordinate the hanging of the show. If you'd like to help with this, let Kathy know. All artwork must arrive wired for hanging (no sawtooth hangers) and tags for the artwork were included on the application and must be filled out in duplicate so tags can be placed on both the front and back of the work.
- **Thursday September 11, 5-6:30 PM Reception:** We need finger foods and drinks for the reception - email me with what you will bring. Heather has a punch bowl. Is there someone who could make the punch? Let Kathy know.
- **Saturday October 11, 11 AM-Noon:** pick up your artwork or arrange for another member to do so.
- Kathy will be reaching out to past members of SBA to let them know about the exhibit.

- Does anyone have a piece of Elizabeth Horton Shore's artwork that they could loan for this show? She was a founding member of SBA and we'd like to highlight her work.
- Any questions - contact Kathy Angel Lee at kathyangellee@gmail.com or 207-245-8235
- Sylvia Orchard announced that beginning in September, the free painting and sketching group will return to the Libby Library in OOB every Thurs for multiple weeks. In the past the time has been 11 am – 2 pm. For more information, contact [Sylvia](#) or check the library website in Sept: <https://ooblibrary.org/calendar/>.
- The Libby Library show will move to Nov this year so it doesn't conflict with the 30th Anniversary Show. More information will be forthcoming as the date gets closer. Set up will likely be Oct 30 or Nov 1, with exact drop off and pick up times to be determined. Everyone will help with hanging their pieces on drop off day. Each artist is generally allowed ~4 pieces, no bigger than 16x20.
- There was a substantial and important discussion about getting more members involved in the roles required to run our group and its programs. Right now most of those responsibilities are being shouldered by a small number of people. But with ~70 members, we should be able to create smaller, more manageable roles and have more people participate, creating a vibrant community for all of us. We are asking that members step up to take on some of these roles listed below. Please text, email or call Heather if you would like to know more about, or volunteer to help with, any open position or committee: fountainglass10@gmail.com or 207-713-4029.

OPEN POSITIONS [term is one year, renewable if desired]

- Vice President: assist the President (Chair) with the duties of running the meetings and coordinating our space for meetings. Run the meeting in the absence of the Chair.
- Summer Shows Co-Chair to work with Mary Brunner
 - This person would work with Mary on the various show responsibilities so we have more than one coordinator in the mix
 - Reaching out to the banks on sponsored prizes
 - Coordinating with police about handicapped spots
 - Getting a juror/judge, organizing prizes
 - Show planning begins in February and continues through the final show in September
- Newsletter Chairperson/Clerk [Christine Labaree will step down by year end but can work to train someone before then] Newsletter typically has the information from the meetings, opportunities announced, show information and any other items
 - Shall take notes at the meeting (or find someone to do this for you if you are unable to attend)
 - Write the monthly newsletter for the group and keep all members informed as to the business meetings, upcoming events of interest, and exhibition opportunities. Others can submit things.
 - HesShe will also work with the Membership Chairperson (Vicki Lowe) to make sure our mailings are for paid members.
- Member Spotlight Coordinator
 - This person would write a short piece for the newsletter each month about one member and their work to be given to the newsletter coordinator.
 - Contact the artist to talk with them and obtain an image of the artist and of their work to be included with the short piece.
- Scholarship Committee [Gail Caiazzo volunteered – thank you! potential for another member join her]
 - Sends out the scholarship information to local High schools and art schools.
 - Sets the date for the application deadline, reviews the applications and stays in contact with applicants. Provides the updated application to the webmaster for the website.

ROLES NOW FILLED FOR 2025/2026

- Program Committee: Wayne Turpin and Pat Nash have volunteered – thank you!
 - Shall arrange programs/visiting artists/events throughout the year (9 meetings)
 - Entails contacting artists to see if they are willing to be a guest for 1 hour at one of our Monday meetings.
 - Contact them the month prior to see what they need for set up.
 - Arriving just before 10:00 to meet and greet the artist and help them set settled.
 - Contacting Cathy Turpin [treasurer] to let them know the amount of the check for the artist 100-150. If a speaker is of note and requires a larger amount, then contacting the president for approval from the board of directors.
- Outside (Library) Show Coordinator; Ellen will work with Robert Dunn (thank you Robert!) this year and hopefully train him to coordinate next year
 - Shall send out the show form with labels to the membership [already created by Ellen].
 - Keep an accurate record of all show participants who respond to the call for artists including the name of the artist, their contact info, titles of their pieces and prices. A copy of this list is given to the library in case anyone wants to purchase a piece.
 - He/she is responsible for organizing the show set-up date and time. All members in the show come to help hang the pieces together [Early Fall show at the OOB library]

Recent Photos from Aug 4 Painting at the Turpins and Aug 11 SBA Meeting





Art Opportunities

- Saco Parks and Rec is available every Monday (except for our meeting days and Aug 4) as an open studio for working on your art from 10:00 - 12:00. [Contact Ellen](#) if you are interested, we ask that you email her so she knows who is attending. If we don't have 3+ attending or if weather is bad, open studio will be canceled.
- Robert Whisenant, owner of the [Burano's chain](#) (three restaurants in Scarborough, Bath, and Hallowell) has started a program where he displays a local artist on the restaurant's walls each month. He has featured both painters and photographers so far. If anyone is interested, they should reach out to Rob by emailing info@buranospizza.com with "artwork" in the subject line.
- **SBA Summer Shows** – The final show of the year will be held Sat Aug 30th; all 9 am – 4 pm. There were still a few slots left for tents; if you are interested, contact [Mary Brunner](#) ASAP.
- ***Women in the Gardens* at Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens in Boothbay Harbor:** SBA member Kailleigh Archibald will have her drawings of Maine wild blueberries from her Certificate in Botanical Arts featured in this exhibit from July 18 – October 19 in the newly refurbished café.
- **September:** The free painting and sketching group will return to the Libby Library in OOB every Thurs for multiple weeks. In the past the time has been 11 am – 2 pm. For more information, contact [Sylvia](#) or check the library website in Sept: <https://ooblibrary.org/calendar/>.
- **September/October: SBA 30th Anniversary Show at Saco Museum.** The Saco Museum will host an exhibition in celebration of our 30th anniversary. The show will be from September 6 - October 10, 2025 with an opening reception on Thursday, September 11. See further info in Aug meeting notes above.
- **November: SBA Annual Show at the Libby Library in Old Orchard Beach.** More details forthcoming but see also info in Aug 11 meeting notes above.
- **December 6:** Mark your calendars for our 5th Annual Art Walk in Old Orchard Beach. More detailed information will follow in October. For now we have several venues where SBA artists can display work - Libby Library on Staples Street, Ocean Perk in Ocean Park (limited spaces), possibly one small space at Kathy Angel Lee's house/studio.

2025 Guest Speakers

This year we have an exciting and diverse group of guest artists who will be with us at our meetings:

- September 8th - Rebecca Hillman, Potter & Ceramic Teacher, <https://www.rebeccahillmanpottery.com/>
 - October 20th - Sylvia Orchard, SBA multi-talented artist will demonstrate how to cut a mat to create a professional look to your work. Members are encouraged to bring a mat board to try their hand at cutting a mat for their own work.
 - November 17th - Leah Bares of Violette Tide Studios, Watercolor <https://www.violettetidestudios.com/>
- December 8th is our annual holiday party.

Membership 2025

Annual dues are \$45.00 payable to Saco Bay Artists. If you have not renewed your membership, please bring it to Cathy Turpin at a meeting or mail it to Saco Bay Artists C/O Vicki Lowe, 47 Spruce Street, Foxboro, MA 02035 (May – Sept 2025, P. O. Box 7100, Ocean Park, ME 04063).

Saco Bay Artists Website

For new or current members who have an online presence for their art—either a dedicated website, Instagram feed or Facebook page—you have the option to have the SBA website link to that page (see the Artists tab at the top here: <https://www.sacobayartists.org/>). If you'd like to have your page added, please let Christine (art@christinelabaree.com) know and she will put you in touch with Stephen who maintains our website.

SBA Chairs/Committees

President/Chair - Heather Fountain
VP/Vice-Chair - NEEDED
Treasurer - Cathy Turpin
Membership Coordinator - Vicki Lowe
Events Coordinator - Sylvia Orchard
Newsletter Chair/Clerk – NEEDED
Member Spotlight Coordinator – NEEDED
Program/Demo Coordinators – Wayne Turpin & Pat Nash

Scholarship Committee - Gail Caiazzo, ADDITIONAL MEMBER NEEDED
Webmaster - Stephen Beckett
Facebook Coordinator - Kailleigh Archibald
Summer Shows Chair - Mary Brunner, CO-CHAIR NEEDED
Outside Shows Coordinators – Ellen Pelletier & Robert Dunn
SBA Historian – NEW/OPEN