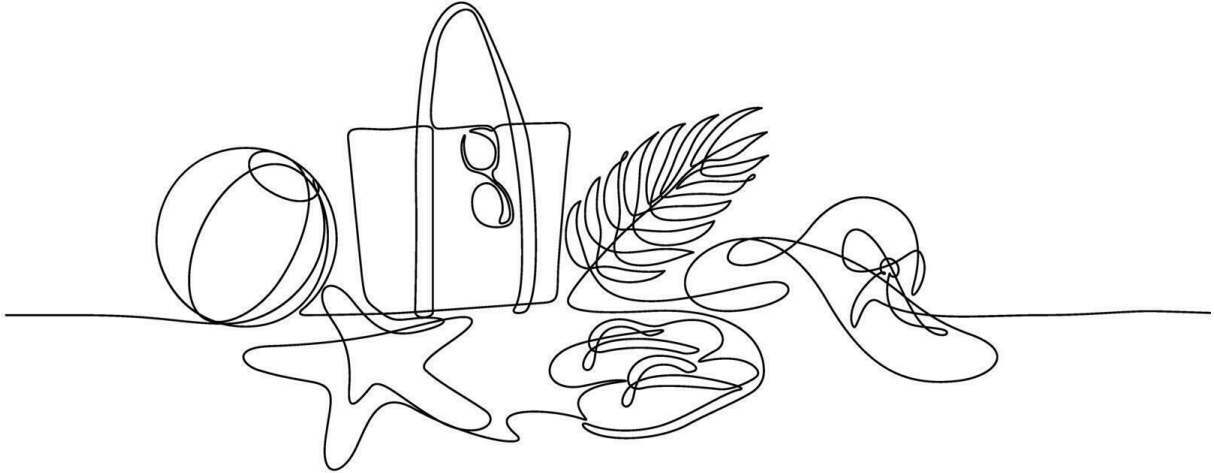


Saco Bay Artists

June 2025 Newsletter



Saco Bay Artists meets from March through December on the second Monday of the month (except for holidays). All are welcome so feel free to bring anyone who is interested. The meetings are normally held from 10:30 am -12:30 pm at the Saco Parks & Rec Center at 75 Franklin Street in Saco.

NOTE: THE JULY 14 MEETING WILL BE HELD AT PORTER HALL, 52 TEMPLE AVE, OCEAN PARK, MAINE There's parking on Temple Avenue, but also we are welcome to park pulling straight in on the grass behind the building which is Colby Avenue. It will start with an artist talk that we are sponsoring and opening for the community to join us as part of Arts in the Park week in Ocean Park. The featured artist is painter Amalia Tagaris, which will start promptly at 10:30.... with a short break and then will be followed by our meeting if there are any meeting items.

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!

June 9 Meeting Notes

1. Survey (Protection of Privacy) Heather has sent out an email asking members what information they may wish to share. This will appear solely on the Members Only page which will require a password to log into. Currently the Members Only page is blank but will eventually contain monthly newsletters as well.
2. Our July Meeting will be held at Porter Hall in Ocean Park since the Parks and Rec Building will be used for summer activities. See details above on location and parking.

3. Currently there are 71 paid members of Saco Bay Artists.
4. Treasurer's Report: Current balance is \$12,841.62. Cathy suggested that we look into putting part of that money into short term CD's. She is checking that out.
5. SBA show update: Mary reported that there are still some spots open for [all three shows this summer](#). She will be sending out map and placements of the tents/booths in the next couple of weeks. As of now:
 - July 4th: 34 Artists showing
 - Aug 2nd: 23 Artists showing
 - Aug 27th 27 Artists showing

During the Aug. 2nd Show, SBA will have a booth/tent. Members may sign up to show their work. It is dependent upon the number of people entered as to how many pieces may be displayed. Those participating will be asked to donate some time to man the booth.

6. SBA student scholarship. No applicants so far this year. This could just be a reflection of the times. Several ideas were suggested:
 - a. Perhaps extend this to other towns but that would need a vote to change the by-laws. It was also noted the Saco Bay Artists was originally established for the Saco Bay towns.
 - b. Expand the scholarship for older adults going back to school
 - c. Award a certain amount to a special art student
 - d. Offer money to a junior or community college to an art student starting out for expenses
 - e. Talk to guidance counselors at school, rather than just art teachers

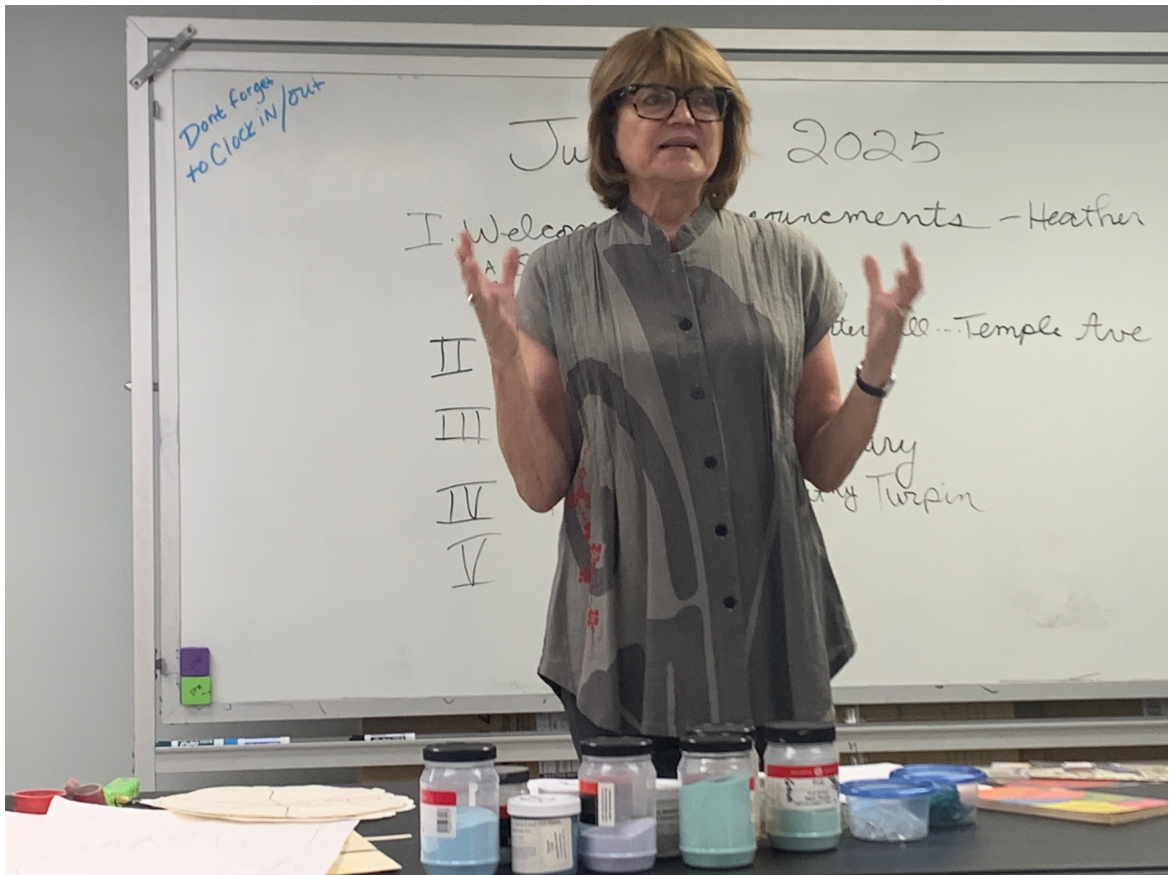
7. Kathy reminded the group that it is the 30th Anniversary of Saco Bay Artists and that our event at the Saco Museum will be in September. It is a large facility. She has a list of current and former members that she will contact. Information will be emailed and the deadline for entries will be around August 1st.

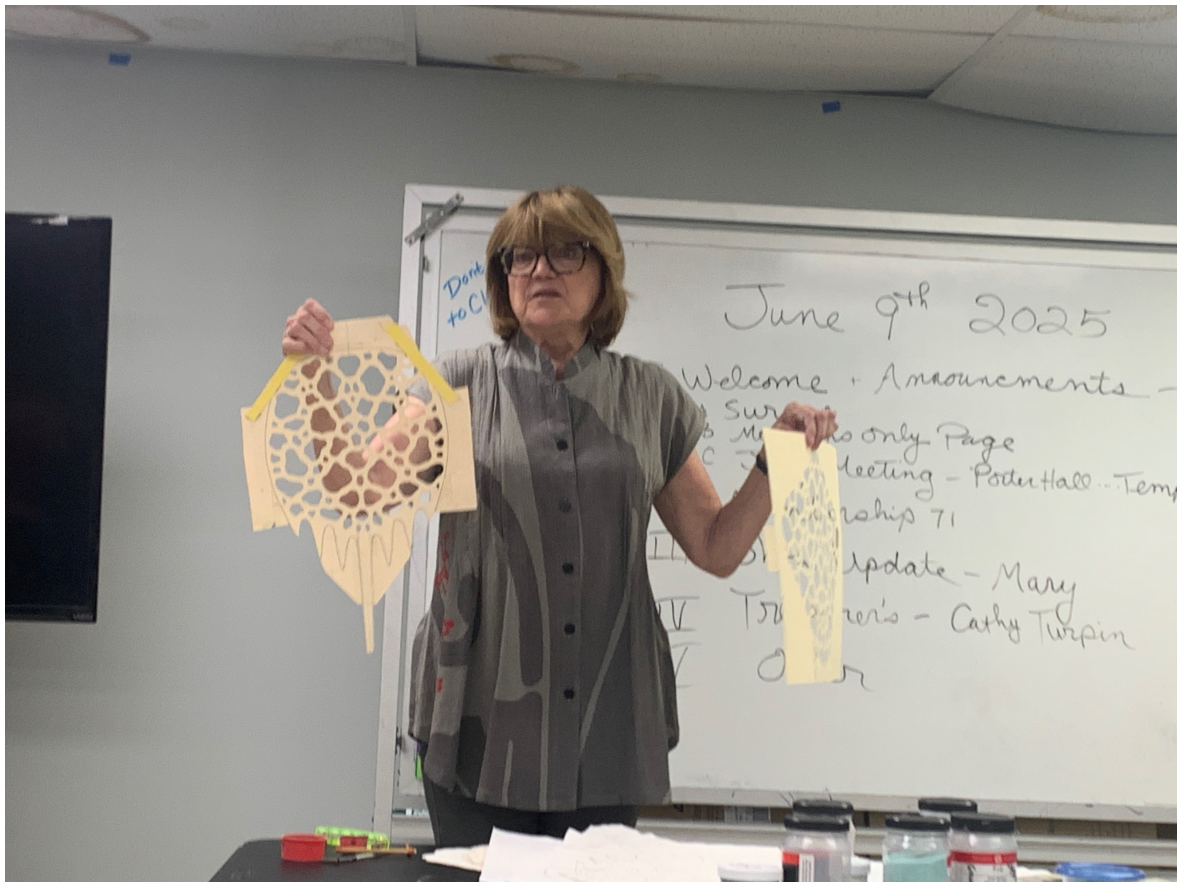
8. [Saco Main Street Annual Arts Festival](#) is Saturday, June 21st. SBA will have a booth/tent. So far three people are interested. Those wishing to enter may choose to sell or display art of their choosing.

9. Art in the Park, Ocean Park, July 13-16. This year Arts in the Park week will encompass a series of arts events ranging from art camp, and art classes to art story time and the annual plan air event with six artists who were chosen by jury. The six artists arrive on Sunday, July 13 and will be creating around town through the 16th, culminating in a wet paint sale art show that evening from 5:00-7:30 PM in the Temple. As a note, artists are always welcome in Ocean Park to create around town anytime. Ocean Park is a very artist friendly community. More information can be found in the [event brochure](#).

Guest Presenter

Our guest presenter was Karen Gola, who gave an informative, entertaining, and lovely presentation on her work with glass. Having grown up in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the historic center of glassmaking in North America, and coming from a Czech heritage, she was always enamored with exquisite glass pieces. She began her career working with stained glass and then fell in love with creating her own works of art capturing the organic essence of nature. Karen explained her process from design, use of templates, use of colored powdered glass, tools she worked with, firing in a kiln, to finished product. Her samples showed examples of pieces in various stages. She showed photos of her studio and how she displayed her work in galleries.







Art Opportunities

- Saco Parks and Rec is available every Monday (except for our meeting day) 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 at least 3 attending or if the weather is bad, open studio will be canceled.
- Robert Whisenant, owner of the [Burano's chain](#) (three restaurants in Scarborough, Bath, and Hallowell) is looking to start 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.
- **[Saco Main Street Annual Arts Festival](#)** is Saturday, June 21st. SBA will have a booth/tent. So far three people are interested. Those wishing to enter may choose to sell or display art of their choosing.
- **SBA's 3 Summer Shows** – *register ASAP*: Fri July 4th, Sat Aug 2nd (Illumination Night), Sat Aug 30th; all 9 am – 4 pm. Information and link to our application at <https://www.sacobayartists.org/shows.html>.
- **The Ocean Park Bazaars** have been scheduled for Wednesday July 16 (rain date 17th) and Wednesday August 13 (rain date 14th). Both run on the Curtis and library lawns from 9 am – 1 pm with set up beginning at 7:30 am. These are true bazaars (not a fine arts show). Forms will become available on the Ocean Park website or through Nancy K closer to the event. Table registration is \$25 and the bazaars are usually very well attended.

- ***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: SBA 30th Anniversary Show at Saco Museum.** Set up will likely be Sept 2 or 3, with the date of the artists' reception TBD (likely a Thurs); take down will likely be Saturday Oct 11.
- **October: SBA Annual Show at the Libby Library in Old Orchard Beach.** Set up is likely October 3 (first Fri of the month) with take down likely on Fri Oct 31 or Sat Nov 1.

2025 Guest Speakers

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

- TO BE RESCHEDULED - Meline Barash Levitt, Owner of Jackson Art Studio and Gallery, Plein Air Oil Painter <https://www.jacksonartnh.com/melanie-barash-levitt-owner-of-jackson-art/>
- July 14th Porter Hall in Ocean Park - Amalia Tagaris, Encaustic Mixed Media Artist who loves texture <https://www.amaliatagaris.com/>
- August 11th [Location TBD]- Rebecca Hillman, Potter & Ceramic Teacher, <https://www.rebeccahillmanpottery.com/>
- September 8th- 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 mat board to try their hand at cutting a mat for their own work.
- October 20th- TBD, Have a suggestion? Please contact Heather fountainglass10@gmail.com
- 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

Chair - Heather Fountain
Treasurer - Cathy Turpin
Meeting Scribe/Newsletter - Christine Labaree
Membership Coordinator - Vicki Lowe
Events Coordinator - Sylvia Orchard

Webmaster - Stephen Beckett
Facebook Coordinator - Kailleigh Archibald
Summer Shows Coordinator - Mary Brunner
SBA Historian – new/open