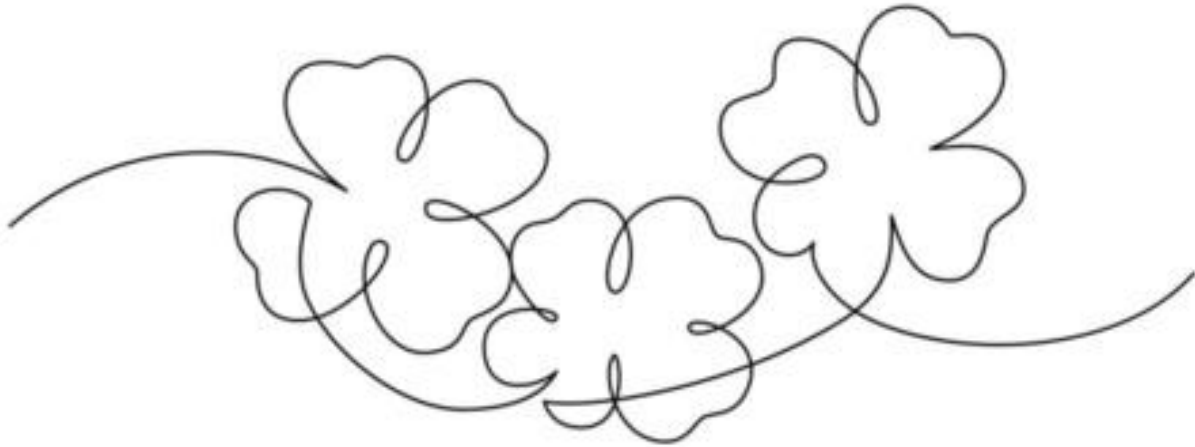


# Saco Bay Artists

## March 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 held from 10:30 am -12:30 pm at the Saco Parks & Rec Center at 75 Franklin Street in Saco.*

*We also host open-studio “drop ins” at the Rec Center on most non-meeting Mondays from 10:30 am – 12:30 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: [pastelpainter84@gmail.com](mailto:pastelpainter84@gmail.com). Everyone on this list should reply-all to Ellen's emails and if at least 3 people are coming, the session is on!*

### **March 10 Meeting Notes**

- Heather welcomed all members as well as several visitors. Each table had a conversation starter related to art and we began by getting to know people at our table and then shared with the large group. Everyone had the opportunity to share their thoughts.
- Cathy T. provided the treasurer's report. As of the end of February the balance is \$10,838.80.
- Membership to date is 72 with 25 unpaid. Dues for 2025 are \$45 and can be turned in and paid to Cathy at a meeting or mailed to Vicki Lowe, 47 Spruce St., Foxboro, MA 02035.
- Kathy brought up that we might consider making dues payable by February if a member wants to participate in the summer shows; Maine Women in the Arts does this. Discussion ensued about costs of show fees and current rules. As of now, entry fees are \$100 for non-members, \$65 for members, and \$35 for members who have attended at least three meetings in the previous year. Applications are due May 15th for shows but if spaces are available people may apply later. A motion was made to have March 15th as the deadline for membership fees instead of Feb, as it has been in the past. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously. This does not affect participation in shows, but only those who are members in good standing can pay the members rate, AND only those who are members in good standing and have attended 3 or more meetings in the previous calendar year will be eligible for the \$35.00 rate.

- Kathy Angel Lee mentioned that we pay for membership with the OOB Chamber but recently realized that they were also charging us an additional \$200.00 for a "hyperlink" from their webpage to the location of our summer shows. This link was free for the first 2 years, but is no longer free, and when clicked on has been connecting to the wrong place. It was taking people to the Oceanwood Camp and Conference Center, instead of the OP Library Lawn. This link should connect to our website and the location of our shows. It was suggested by Cathy that since we have been paying for something that was inaccurate, that we should ask for a free year and apply the \$200 payment to next year. This year we paid both the \$200 charge and the \$175 dues. Kathy will follow up with the Chamber and this will be revisited at our next meeting.
- Kathy suggested we get more "rack cards" printed this year (double last year) Heather will speak to Mary about obtaining at least double the amount so people can pass them out at shows, including ours, and the digital image one as well. Kailleigh is the one who has been designing digital advertising for us to use. In addition, members discussed a new idea of seeing how people found our shows in the summer by having artists ask 4-5 people during the show in their booth how they heard about the show.....and then toward the end of the show we have a short slip that each vender fills out with this and a couple other items about the show- survey. This is typical of other shows in other places.
- One Student Scholarship of \$500 is available to Students in Saco, Biddeford, Scarborough and Old Orchard Beach who are pursuing an art degree or program. This is earmarked for a student for postgrad from high school work or for a student already in a college or art program. As of present, there is just under \$2000 in this account. It was agreed to keep it at one student, at least for this year and revisit how funds are donated or added to this account. Application on the webpage- [sacobayartists.org](http://sacobayartists.org)
- SBA's 30th Anniversary is in October of this year at the Saco Bay Museum (20th was also held there) with a time frame of about three weeks. This is a large space with plenty of glass cases. Any medium will be accepted. Heather asked for a vote to see if the membership wished to have a show- this would be in addition to our 3 summer shows and September Libby Library Show. Membership voted to have a 30th anniversary show. Pat Scammon, Sylvia Orchard and Kathy Angel Lee volunteered to be on the committee to organize this event.
- Privacy Policy: All associations need to have a privacy policy to meet state and federal requirements. Heather shared a PowerPoint to show how information is collected currently, what information is collected, who has access directly and how the information is stored.
  - Presently the chair, treasurer, membership coordinator, communication/newsletter coordinator and show coordinator have access to member and show attendee information.
  - We do not sell or share any information outside of our organization.
  - Information is collected from self-provided information from members and others when they fill out a show, scholarship or member application. Also, members provide art websites or other links to add to our website which is provided to our communication coordinator and our website administrator. Also check information is recorded by our treasurer.
  - Information is stored on a member roster by the membership coordinator which is shared monthly with the Chair, Treasurer, Communication/Newsletter Coordinator, Show Coordinator when needed. It is also stored on an SBA google drive.

Discussion ensued as how to allow members to have contact information about other members and how times have changed where emailing a list could put the information at risk from hackers etc...and is worth money. Physical paper booklet was suggested, as well as a member only page on our website. We need to add to our membership renewal form our privacy policy and a place for members to choose: If, how and what of their information they wish to share. Heather will send out a survey to membership about choices so we can

read and vote on choices and finalize a privacy policy. Once that is done we can decide how to have members express their personal privacy choice for 2025.

Guest Artist - Julie Gray

After experiencing a near-death experience, Julie began to engage in motifs of mortality, mourning culture and the psychological space of "limbo". She explained how objects hold memories, and her work included pieces in papier-mâché, beading, photography, needlepoint and spirit photographs. Julie brought along an exciting variety of art works in these mediums. She strives to bring wonder and levity to her work. Julie is also heading up Art in Biddeford and will send along a schedule of the many upcoming art events in Biddeford. See her work at [Juliekgray.com](http://Juliekgray.com)

Below are photos from the meeting and presentation.







## Art Opportunities

- Open Studio at the Libby Library is on Thursdays 11:00 - 2:00 until April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Anyone who wishes to attend is welcome, all skill levels and media welcome. Sylvia Orchard mentioned that it will then start up again on September 25. Contact Sylvia if you have any questions. [Sgorch6648@gmail.com](mailto:Sgorch6648@gmail.com)
- Saco Parks and Rec is available every Monday (except for our meeting day) as an open studio for working on your art from 10:30 - 12:30. 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. [Pastelpainter84@gmail.com](mailto:Pastelpainter84@gmail.com)
- Robert Whisenant, owner of the [Burano's chain](http://buranospizza.com) (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 is thinking paintings vs photos. Christine will be showing in May. If anyone is interested, they should reach out to Rob by emailing [info@buranospizza.com](mailto:info@buranospizza.com) with "artwork" in the subject line.
- SBA's 3 Summer Shows – *register by May 15*: Fri July 4th, Sat Aug 2nd (Illumination Night), Sat Aug 30<sup>th</sup>; all 9 am – 4 pm. Information and link to our application at <https://www.sacobayartists.org/shows.html>.
- Makers Mart-Pride in the Park May 31st, 12-4pm. Spaces 10x10, \$55.00 <https://sacomainstreet.org/even/prideintheparkmakersmark>.
- Kailleigh shared about the Saco Main Street Sidewalk Art Festival on June 21, 9-3. Apply online: <https://sacomainstreet.org/54th-annual-sidewalk-arts-festival-artist-application/>. There is a focus of art.

## Biddeford events recommended by March presenter Julie Gray

Portals of Portland: Ataraxia

Friday March 14 from 7-9pm, Saturday March 15 from 6-9pm

The Foundry , [30 Upper Falls Rd. Biddeford](#)

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/portl>

Biddeford Mini Film Festival: Social

Friday April 4 from 5:30-9pm

City Theater, Biddeford

Free event! Suggested donation of \$5-10 per ticket (all donations go directly to the filmmakers)

<https://citytheater.org/tickets/>

WOOD / METAL / FABRIC: Biddeford Furniture Makers and Woodworkers

Artists: Caitriona Fiero, Sten Havumaki, Derek Preble, Stefan Rurak, and Gabe Sutton

April 7-May 2, 2025 by appointment and weekly-announced gallery hours

Artist Reception on Friday April 18th from 5-8pm

The Foundry , [30 Upper Falls Rd. Biddeford](#)

ALTERED STATES AND OTHER REALITIES

Artists: Martha Miller and Kaitlyn Miller

May 5-May 30, 2025 by appointment and weekly-announced gallery hours

Artist Reception on Friday May 16th from 5-8pm

The Foundry, [30 Upper Falls Rd. Biddeford](#)

## **2025 Guest Speakers**

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

- April 14<sup>th</sup> - 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/>



*Melanie Barash Levitt graduated from the Rhode Island School of Design in 1990. She currently lives in the White Mountains of New Hampshire and is the owner of Jackson Art Studio & Gallery. Melanie is an award winning artist who paints in a loose, impressionistic style with a brush or a palette knife. As a plein air painter, Levitt paints on location braving the elements to capture the mood of the scene. Her favorite subjects are the mountains, rivers and small farms of New Hampshire and the rugged coasts of Maine. Her artwork resides in the home of many collectors through the US, Canada and Europe. She exhibits her work in galleries and juried shows throughout NH, ME, VT and NY. She has been featured on Boston Chronicle (WCBV TV ABC), NH Chronicle (WMUR 9) and been published in various newspapers and magazines. She has received numerous awards for her paintings in regional shows and juried events and is a member of the Salmagundi Club in NYC. She will be doing a demo on stage at the 2025 Plein Air Convention in Lake Tahoe, CA.*



- May 12<sup>th</sup> - Our Very Own Frank Jedrychowski, Using Blind Contour Drawing in Preparation for a Painting
  - June 9<sup>th</sup>- Karen Golo of Golo Glass, Kiln-formed Glass Artist [www.gologlass.com](http://www.gologlass.com)
  - July 14<sup>th</sup> [Porter Hall in Ocean Park] Amalia Tagaris, Encaustic Mixed Media Artist who loves texture <https://www.amaliatagaris.com/>
  - August 11<sup>th</sup> [Location TBD]- Rebecca Hillman, Potter & Ceramic Teacher, <https://www.rebeccahillmanpottery.com/>
  - September 8<sup>th</sup>- 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 20<sup>th</sup>- TBD, Have a suggestion? Please contact Heather [fountainglass10@gmail.com](mailto:fountainglass10@gmail.com)
  - November 17<sup>th</sup>- Leah Bares of Violette Tide Studios, Watercolor <https://www.violettetidestudios.com/>
- June 9<sup>th</sup> is TBD and December 8<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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