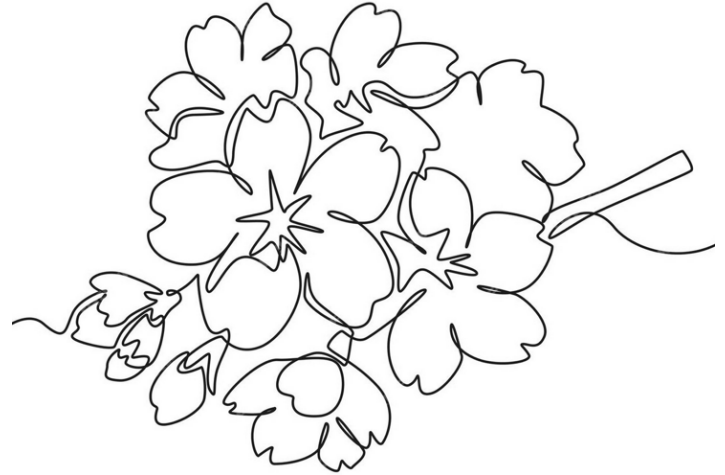


Saco Bay Artists

May 2024 Newsletter

Our meetings are scheduled monthly from March-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 typically held from 10:30 am -12:30 pm at the Saco Parks & Rec Center at 75 Franklin Street in Saco. **NOTE, this will be the location of our June 10 meeting but because of the Parks & Rec summer camp, our July 8 meeting and plein air painting session will be at 2 Pavia Ave, Old Orchard Beach. The location of the August 12 meeting will be confirmed at a future date.** Please also mark your calendars with the remaining meeting dates for the year: Sept 9, Oct 21*, Nov 18* & Dec 9.*



We also normally host a “drop in” at the Rec Center on the non-meeting Mondays from 10:30 am – 12:30 pm for those who would like to get together to paint, create & chat. Please let Ellen (pastelpainter84@gmail.com) know if you might like to join on those Mondays; she has been trying to email around before hand to see who plans to attend, which helps us in planning.

May 2024 Meeting Notes

- Heather gave a quick update on Ocean Park disaster relief; the damage to the library has been extensive.
- Kathy Angel Lee couldn't make the meeting but the SBA summer show registration deadline is approaching on May 30 (more info on shows & registration is included later in this newsletter); there are a few spots remaining for the July and August shows and a few more for September. Kathy normally distributes the show maps after the deadline passes. More information on the SBA member tent opportunity for the Aug show will likely go out in June and the number of pieces a member can contribute to the tent will depend on the number of participating members and the size of each piece.
- Stephen is doing some website updates, including adding the new logo. If members have a website for their art which isn't currently listed on our www.sacobayartists.org website, please let Christine know and she can put you in touch with Stephen.
- Heather reported that we currently have 53 members and that Vicky will take over as membership coordinator in June.
- Cathy T gave the treasurer's report.
- Heather noted that SBA is seeking someone who can act as SBA's historian, cataloging the group's history. Please talk with her if you'd like to know more or are interested to help.
- Also, as reported at the prior meeting, Sylvia is stepping down from coordinating portrait sketching at the Libby Library in OOB, which is offered once a month for 3 hours from June to October. The sessions are free and open to the public and the library pays for a model to sit. Sylvia has talked to someone about potentially taking over for her as coordinator but if you are interested, please contact her at sgorch6648@gmail.com.

- Heather reported that the Gertrude Eastman Scholarship was awarded to Odilia “Teddy” Ngalamulume, a senior at Scarborough High School. She has been accepted to the animation program at Champlain College. We’ve invited her to join us for an upcoming SBA meeting, potentially in June, and tell us a little about her work. The following statement she submitted as part of her application gives background on Teddy and what brought her to where she is with her art:

One consistent theme throughout my artwork is diversity and inclusivity. I create characters that tell stories of both beauty and tragedy because as a black woman, I feel that a lot of the art I see lacks diversity and inclusivity. This is why I like to create diverse art that includes people from different backgrounds and with different abilities and disabilities. I want people to be able to see themselves within my art so I try to make it relatable to real experiences. As a child I didn't grow up around art. When I was young I didn't have interest in being an artist, but at age seven my older sister pointed out that this was a talent that I have. From then on I have worked to express myself emotionally through my art and gained self confidence and self expression through the pieces I have created throughout the years.

I would like to be a 2D and 3D animator and hope to make a short film someday expressing the difficulties in embracing your own skin. I think this scholarship would help me to achieve my goal of becoming the first generation to go to a four year university. I have worked very hard and overcome a lot of hardships in life and I feel that I am deserving of appreciation for the art I make. This scholarship money will help me achieve my goal of becoming an artist and bringing awareness to people of all cultures and backgrounds.

- Kailleigh distributed copies of the designs that were submitted since the April meeting for consideration as SBA’s new logo and Christine reviewed some of our criteria for the logo and how it would be used—including on our website, Facebook page, new SBA banner, and any materials that promote SBA, our shows and other events. The designs were identified only by a number so no one would know who submitted what. Slips were distributed for people to vote on their first and second choice; votes were tallied and confirmed by Heather. The winning logo (below) was design #4 which had been submitted by Kailleigh. She will receive the \$100 art supplies gift certificate for her winning submission. When asked about her inspiration for the logo, she had this to say:



“When trying to come up with a design for a logo, I knew I wanted a nautical theme and to show our connection to Saco Bay. I decided to use a series of circles and C-shapes to tie together and symbolize an ocean wave, the lovely curve of the Saco Bay from Biddeford to Scarborough and the lines of the S, C and O in Saco. The bluish green color was previously used in our rack cards and posters and I felt was a good color to represent water.”

May Meeting Meeting Demo/Presentation

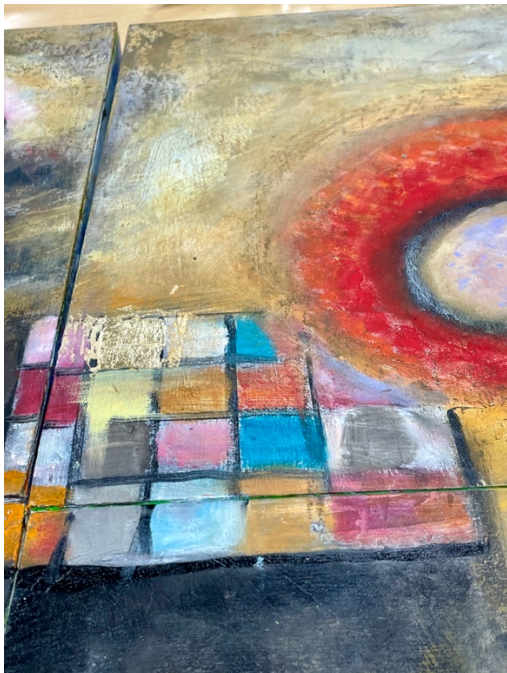
Martha LaMarche delivered a fascinating and interactive presentation and demo of her abstract painting techniques using oil pigments and cold wax. Martha started in painting with landscapes and still life but began exploring cold wax in 2020. She is working on a copy of Kandinsky's "Strong," which is on exhibit at the Portland Museum of Art, and had a smaller study of the work that she used as part of her demo. She is a fan of using the Procreate program to plan works like this on her tablet. She used the demo to show how she alternates oil paint and cold wax, including mixing the two, in up to 10 layers on a surface, and sometimes uses opaque or translucent oil sticks for more deliberate strokes. Often, she will then scratch in, make marks or distress the surface of the painting with a variety of tools. She also uses metals such as edible gold leaf or copper foil tape on the surface (or even as a framing alternative with the tape). Her process brings about a depth of expression, texture and mood. See photos below.

She also compiled this helpful blog post, summarizing some of her information and supplies she uses:

<https://www.marthalamarche.com/blog/194442/cold-wax-demo-for-saco-bay-artists---51324>







Announcements, Events & Happenings

- Artists, Mary Greto-Brunner (an SBA member) and Joël LeVasseur have combined their talents in a thought provoking show bound to intrigue and delight viewers. The exhibit, **New Works: Greto-Brunner and LeVasseur**, will run from May 9-29 at River Arts in the River Room. River Arts is located at 36 Elm St. in Damariscotta. Regular gallery hours are Tuesday-Saturday from 10 to 4. For additional information visit the website: riverartsme.org or call the gallery (207) 563-6868.
- **Apply for any or all SBA Summer Shows – Deadline May 30:** Independence Day Show-July 4, Illumination Night Show-August 3, Labor Day Show-August 31.
- **Maine Slow Art Day Closing Event** on Friday, June 7 from 4:30-7PM - Artists Revealed @ 6:30PM. COME & EXPLORE THE ARTWORKS, DEEPEN YOUR UNDERSTANDING & YOUR FAMILIARITY WITH THE ARTISTS. LOCATION: 511 Congress St., Suite A, Portland, ME 04102 - Ocean Gate Plaza, across the street from MECA+D (look for the "Portland Rattle" Sculpture).
- **Saco Main Street 53rd Annual Arts Festival** – Saturday, June 22: <https://sacomainstreet.wixsite.com/arts>
- <https://www.sacobayartists.org/pdf/SBAShowApplication2024.pdf>
- **Art in the Park, Ocean Park Plein Air:** Juried artists create around OP and sell work on Wed, 5PM in the Temple. July 21-24. *All Artists are always welcome to create in and around OP anytime.
- **Open Air Artistry:** This new plein air event will be hosted in OOB and Ocean Park on Saturday August 24 from 9-4 (rain date Aug 25), and will include cash awards for both professional and amateur painters as well as a wet paint sale. Visit <http://oob365.com/> for more information and the entry form. Deadline for applications is August 9.

2024 SBA Art Shows

Welcome to another show season with SBA. Although Ocean Park suffered severe damages during the recent storms, we are hopeful that everything will be repaired and shows/activities will go on as usual in Ocean Park.

For 2024, show messages will be from Kathy Angel Lee (kathyangellee@gmail.com) and Mary Brunner (marybrunner82@gmail.com) who is learning the Show Coordinator job & will be included in all communications. The show guidelines and application for this year's three shows (July 4, Aug 3 and Aug 31) can be found on the SBA website: <https://www.sacobayartists.org/pdf/SBAShowApplication2024.pdf>. Please read them carefully before signing - there have been some additions to the agreement. Note that the entry deadline is May 30 for application & fees. If there is space available after May 30, we will consider additional applicants.

Membership 2024

Dues for 2024 are \$45.00 payable to Saco Bay Artists. If you have not renewed your 2024 Membership, please send it in or bring it to the next meeting on May 13 and include your membership/renewal application: <https://www.sacobayartists.org/pdf/SBAMembershipApp.pdf>. Heather Fountain will continue to serve as membership chair through the end of May. In June we will welcome Vicki Lowe as the new Membership Chair:

June-September: Bring membership to a meeting or send to Saco Bay Artists C/O Vicki Lowe, P. O. Box 7100, Ocean Park, ME 04063

Oct 2024- April 2025: Saco Bay Artists C/O Vicki Lowe, 47 Spruce Street, Foxboro, MA 02035

Upcoming Guest Presenters

We have an exciting line up of artists for our meetings in 2024:

- **June 10** - TBD
- **July 8** - NOTE: meeting location 2 Pavia Ave, Old Orchard Beach
Ellen Pelletier will give us an intro of what to think about with Plein Air Painting and will send us off to work plein air outside or viewing the outside while comfortably sitting inside.
- **August 12** - Vicki Lowe, Sktchy app & charcoal portrait drawing 101
- **September 9** - Ken Kantro, Lovell Design, sculptural metal work

We are still looking for artists or suggestions for October, November, and December and our presenters typically receive a \$100 honoraria. If you have met any interesting artists or have artwork, a tool, a technique, or a topic you would like to teach us about, please let Heather Fountain know. She can be contacted at: fountainglass10@gmail.com or text or call 207-713-4029.

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
(new as of June 2024)

Events Coordinator - Sylvia Orchard

Webmaster - Stephen Beckett

Facebook Coordinator - Kailleigh Archibald

Summer Shows Coordinator - Mary Brunner/
Kathy Angel Lee (2024 only)

SBA Historian – new/open