



SBA MEETINGS AND OPEN STUDIO “DROP-INS”

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.

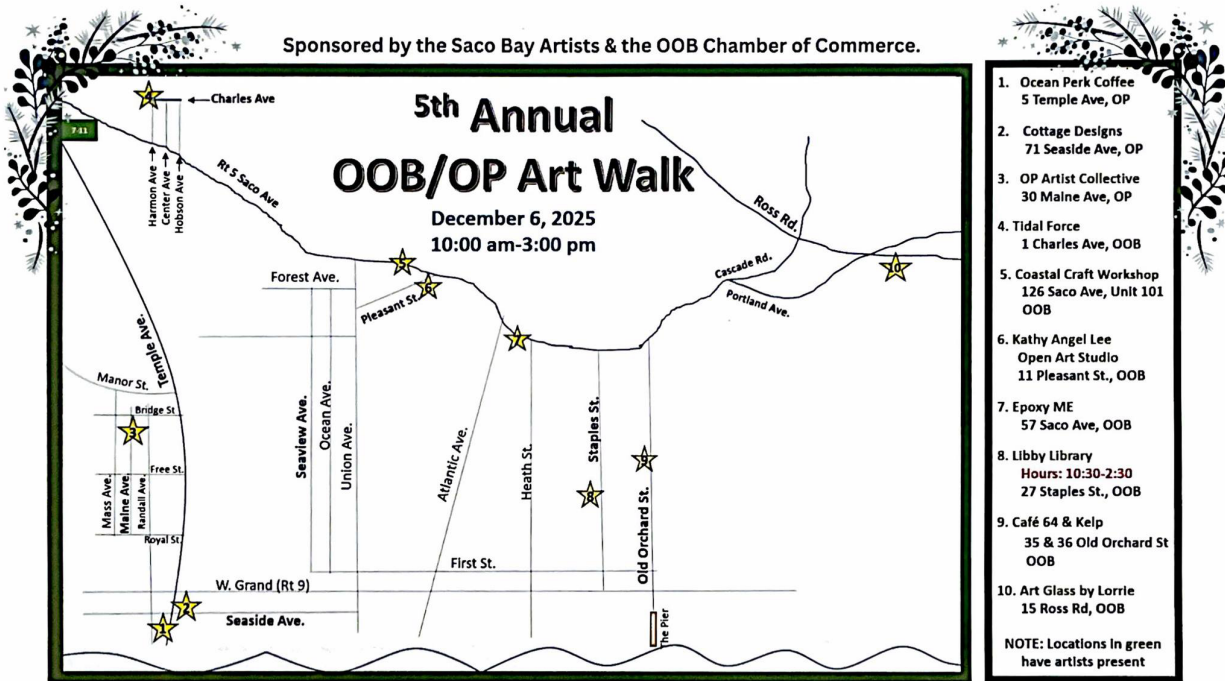
We also host open-studio “drop ins” at the Rec Center on most non-meeting Mondays from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm for those who would like to get together to paint, create & chat. Ellen Pelletier coordinates these meet ups by sending around an email to interested members on Sunday or Monday mornings – please email Pastelpainter84@gmail.com 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!

MEETING MINUTES

November 17, 2025

- **Membership report:** We currently have 73 members, with 2 new members joining since the last meeting. Anyone joining SBA before December will have their membership rolled into next year. A reminder that membership applications and dues need to be mailed to Vicki at her MA address until May next year (see Membership section below).
- **Treasurer's report:** Cathy Turpin reported an end cash balance of \$11,014.
- 4 SBA members participated at the recent **USM Craft Show**: Kay Sparrow, Al and Ellen Pelletier, and Kailleigh Archibald. The 2-day show is well attended and is mostly fine craft. Kathy reported that it's hard to get into if you haven't been a participant in prior years and Kailleigh mentioned that it's mostly items priced \$50 and under that move.
- Anne reminded everyone that she's working on the **reference list of shows** and other opportunities that will be added to the members section of the SBA website. She circulated a sheet at the meeting for members to add additional shows. If you weren't in attendance, please reach out to Anne at annealexander@me.com with info on your favorite shows to include.
- The **December 6 Holiday Art Walk** participants and locations have been finalized by Kathy Angel Lee. There are 10 locations around OOB and Ocean Park (3 new this year) including over 40 artists. Kathy had flyers to give to members to hand out and encouraged folks to share the SBA Facebook post on their social media. There will also be some posters around town and the Chamber will be promoting the event. A free trolley will be making the circuit of all locations. It will depart Café 64 at noon and people should be able to park their cars nearby for the duration. The event hours are primarily 10-3, though the Libby Library and Ocean Perk have slightly shortened

hours. Artists exhibiting at the library can set up Fri night from 5:30-6:30. All participating artists should provide Kathy with a small donated art item that can be included in the gift bag drawing for art walk attendees that visit all 10 locations. Please direct any questions to Kathy: kathyangellee@gmail.com. She is also looking for a volunteer to work with her on the art walk next year and eventually take over as coordinator.



- **Libby Library Show:** 19 members are participating in the show which continues until December 9. Art should be picked up that evening between 5-6 pm. If you can't attend in person to do your pick up, please arrange for someone else to collect your art for you.
- The **December 8 SBA meeting** will be at 10:30 am at the Saco Parks & Rec Center and will be the annual holiday get together. Members who plan to sign up to bring a food item for the party should let Pam Chute (pamchute@gmail.com) know what they will bring for food/beverages (unless you've already signed up on the sheet during the meeting). If you would like to take part in the anonymous gift swap, please bring a small item—perhaps a small version of your art or something else you have created—in a brown paper bag so it can't be seen. Everyone who brings a gift bag will choose a bag. Also, we will have an art supply swap table where people can bring art items (paints, paper, canvasses, books etc.) that they would like to sell or give away. All members are welcome to browse the table for items they might use.
- **Next SBA meetings:** The December 8 meeting is the final of the year and there will be no SBA meetings in January or February. The first meeting of 2026 will be Monday, March 9 at 10:30 am at Saco Parks & Rec.
- Heather stated that this is the time of the year that we usually make our **annual contributions** to the organizations that support us with facilities during the year: the Libby Library, the Dyer Library and Saco Parks & Rec. In past years we have donated \$250 to each but given our healthy treasury balance, the suggestion was to increase this to \$300 this year. Heather will mention in our note to each that SBA is able to give slightly more than usual this year so there isn't an expectation that the amount will always be the same in future. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to approve a \$300 donation to each organization before year end.

- A quick update was made on the **proposed SBA bus trip** to the Boston MFA. A bus won't be easily doable because it requires insurance so the next step would be carpooling or renting vans. Taking advantage of the Downeaster train might be the easiest option. More discussion to come.
- **Newsletter updates**
 - Faylinda Kodis has offered to draft a Member Spotlight article for each newsletter. Her profile of Anne Alexander appeared in the October newsletter. Heather asked if there are members who would be willing to talk with Faylinda and be featured in future issues. Please let Heather (fountainglass10@gmail.com) or Faylinda (fkodis@gmail.com) know.
 - Someone has volunteered to take over as Newsletter Editor for future issues but we still need a volunteer(s) to offer to take notes during meetings and then email those to the editor for inclusion. Please let Heather know if you are willing to help.
- The **slate of SBA officers** (chairs/committees listed at the bottom) was reviewed and a motion was made and seconded to vote them in, which passed unanimously. As voted on at a prior meeting, serving in one of these roles earns the person either free membership or a free show during each year. Vicki will contact each person and ask their preference for 2026.

Guest Speaker: Leah Bares of Violette Tide Studios
<https://www.violettetidestudios.com/>

Leah shared that she returned to art after pursuing a law career. She lost a child to cancer and found painting to be therapeutic. She thought it might be useful to talk through her process of moving from watercolor original works (which she keeps) to producing giclees for prints and cards, which she sells.

To turn a work into a giclee, Leah has a photographer who takes a very high resolution image which she can then manipulate via PhotoShop to create a final image for printing. She could also scan the work to create a photo but prefers the result she gets with a photographer. She has a student level PhotoShop membership at \$29/month but noted that there are less expensive software options ([PicMonkey](#) and [GIMP](#)). The photo editing process is helpful because it allows her to alter or adjust an image before printing, including if there are aspects of the original work she'd like to change. Once she's finalized an image for printing, she finds it is trial and error to find the right paper or other surface for printing the image—it's whatever provides the effect you are looking for that fits your medium. For instance, she'd tried "fancy watercolor paper" for reproducing her watercolor works but found the print quality wasn't satisfactory. She prefers to use a luster paper since her works tend to have negative white space. While she has used professional printers in the past, including currently for larger sizes, she tends to do all her printing at home with her Canon Pixma Pro 10 printer, which prints cards and prints up to 11x14 successfully and affordably.

SEE PHOTOS FROM THE MEETING & PRESENTATION AT THE END OF THE NEWSLETTER

MEMBERSHIP

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 (Oct-April) and P. O. Box 7100, Ocean Park, ME 04063 (May-Sept).

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 Stephen Beckett (know as he maintains our website: stephen@hourworld.org).

2026 Officer Slate

President/Chair - Heather Fountain
VP/Vice-Chair – Pam Chute
Treasurer - Cathy Turpin
Membership Coordinator - Vicki Lowe
Events Coordinator - Sylvia Orchard
Newsletter Chair/Clerk – NOTE TAKERS NEEDED
Member Spotlight Coordinator – Faylinda Kodis
Program/Demo Coordinators – Wayne Turpin & Pat Nash
Scholarship Committee - Gail Caiazzo & Faylinda Kodis
Webmaster - Stephen Beckett
Facebook Coordinator - Kailleigh Archibald
Summer Shows Chair - Mary Brunner; Diane Fumia (assistant)
Outside Shows Coordinators – Robert Dunn
SBA Historian – NEW/OPEN

PHOTO GALLERY

