



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

October 20, 2025

- Membership report: Vicki Lowe reported we currently have 71 members. 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 \$10373.
- Leadership update: Most of the leadership positions have been filled now but Heather reminded members that Christine is stepping down after 4 years as Newsletter Editor. November will be the last issue unless someone(s) step in to take this on. This could be several members working together and it doesn't need to be fancy or complicated! Christine created a simplified template this month to make it easier to add content in the future.
- Leadership perk: As discussed at prior meetings, members who volunteer to take on leadership roles for the group should receive a perk of free membership or a free show during the year (if they exhibit). The member would have the option to choose one. The group voted on the plan and it was approved unanimously.
- November Libby Library Show: Ellen Pelletier gave an update on the plans for this annual exhibit at the Libby Library in Old Orchard Beach. The 19 members who are participating should drop off their art and help the group with hanging between 11 am – 12 pm (and onward) on Sat Nov 1 and pick up their art between 5-6 pm on Tues Dec 9. She still needs info from some of the members for their painting tags, which Robert Dunn is creating: name, medium, price and size. Contact her with any Qs: pastelpainter84@gmail.com.

- SBA 30th Anniversary Show: Kathy Angel Lee helped spearhead this show with help from other members. It was a tremendous success and a tribute to all of have been members of SBA over the years. 37 artists participated with 127 pieces, some of which sold. 15 of the pieces were paintings by the late Elizabeth Horton Shore (Betty) and 3 were sold, yielding \$535 for the SBA scholarship fund. Nearly 300 people visited the exhibit with 75-80 at the opening reception on Sept 11.
- December art walk: Kathy Angel Lee also gave an update on the plans for our 5th Annual Old Orchard Beach Art Walk on December 6. While we have some of the exhibiting locations we have also gained a few. We have 1 spot left at the library and 2 new spots at Kelp on Main Street next to Cafe 64. Application is included in the email and is due to Kathy by NOVEMBER 1 (no exceptions!). Contact her with any Qs: kathyangellee@gmail.com.
- December 8 SBA meeting: This will be the final meeting of the year and has historically been a holiday gathering. There will be table set up for people to swap or sell any unwanted art supplies. We will also host an optional fun gift exchange where members can bring an unmarked paper bag containing a small piece of art they've created or something artsy they've purchased. Everyone who brings a bag can choose a bag and enjoy what they receive. We will also have a sign up at the Nov 17 meeting and ahead of Dec 8 for members to volunteer to bring food & beverage contributions to the event.
- Anne Alexander suggested adding a list of art shows/fairs/shops/galleries to our website that our members may be interested in applying to. She is willing to help put together the content with contributions from our members. We would add this resource to the members-only section of our website, which will have a member login (to be provided once we have content in this area of the website).

We are particularly seeking shows that feature or include fine art although farmers markets or other venues can also be included. The list can also include members comments & reviews. If you are willing to share any previous shows you have participated in, please send the following to Anne before the end of October at annealexander@me.com:

- Name of Show,
- Location/ town
- Specific site
- Application link -if you can find it
- Fee (Approximate if you don't remember exact)
- Hours, days, dates or just month.
- Approximate application deadline or month. Ease of set up - load in out.
- Was it well attended/number of visitors to show?
- How did you do personally with sales?
- Any other notes?
- Given discussion about additional ways to advertise our shows and exhibits and interest in having more signage, Christine suggested creating "evergreen" lawn signs (like are used during election season). These could have our logo and say something like "Art Show Today" and be printed double sided on waterproof signboard that sits on metal stakes. These could be re-used with any of our shows or events like the Libby Library exhibit and the December art walk. Heather is going to look into options.

- Sylvia Orchard suggested the opportunity to organize a bus trip down to the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston over the winter months. SBA had done this in the past and the registration fee could cover the bus rental and admission to the museum. There might also be the option for a stop for dinner somewhere on the way back. The trip could be open to anyone interested in art—not just our members. Heather had gotten transportation quotes previously for a similar trip to the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston and could look into those. Richard mentioned that there is a Winslow Homer watercolor exhibit at the MFA from Nov 2-Jan 19 if we were able to organize something within that time frame. An option for a simpler trip might be for a smaller group of members to coordinate their travel together on the Downeaster train to Boston and then take the T or Ubers over to the museum. More discussion to come!
- There was no guest artist presentation during this meeting. Instead members brought pieces of art to share and discuss with other members of the group. See photos in the gallery at the end.

UPCOMING GUEST SPEAKERS

- November 17 SBA Meeting - Leah Bares of Violette Tide Studios, Watercolor
<https://www.violettetidestudios.com/>
- December 8 is our annual holiday party (no guest speaker)

ART OPPORTUNITIES

- October 25 - 26: Brunswick Guild Fine Craft Show (40 Artists), Fort Andross Mill in Brunswick from 10 am – 4 pm.
- There is a new fine art gallery and studio in Scarborough, The Nadra Clark Gallery at 256-US-1. The latest exhibit, Cozy Corner, has a preview on October 31st, 4-7 PM, and an opening reception on November 5 (5-7 PM). Member Kailleigh Archibald has a piece, *Snowdrops*, in the show.
- November: SBA's Annual Show at the Libby Library in Old Orchard Beach will take place from Nov 1 – Dec 9 and will be viewable during regular library hours: <https://ooblibrary.org/>. The 19 members who are participating should drop off their art and help the group with hanging between 11 am – 12 pm (and onward) on Sat Nov 1 and pick up their art between 5-6 pm on Tues Dec 9. Contact Ellen with any Qs: pastelpainter84@gmail.com.
- December 6: The 5th Annual Old Orchard Beach Art Walk sponsored by SBA will be on Saturday, December 6, 10-3 (hours at the library and Ocean Perk end earlier.) We have 1 spot left at the library and 2 new spots at Kelp on Main Street next to Cafe 64. It would be great if someone would check out Kelp and agree to set up there. Application is included in the email and is due to Kathy Angel Lee by NOVEMBER 1 (no exceptions!). Contact Kathy with any Qs: kathyangellee@gmail.com

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

ANNE ALEXANDER has always been a sculptor, carving in wood and stone and modeling clay. Living now in South Windham Village, Anne grew up in New Jersey and Ohio visiting Maine to see the relatives of her Damariscotta-raised father. After graduate school at Alfred University, NY, she decided to move to Maine and worked as an art teacher here until retirement. Since then, she has done school residencies where she leads students in alabaster carving. She has recently joined the board of the Maine Alliance for Art Education. Anne has been a member of SBA for approximately 5 years.

Anne has attended several artist residencies. A Fulbright grant enabled her to study the Taino Indians, and create a body of related work in the Dominican Republic, for a school year.

Scale plays an important role in her sculptures, as Anne enlarges the tiny forms she sees in nature. The organic shapes of her wood, stone, and clay pieces reference both nature and the human body, and she strives to show a connection between the two. Her recent work, sculpture in the mediums of carved wood and stone and modeled clay is embracing greater realism. To see Anne's work visit her website at <https://annealexandersculptor.com>.





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.

SBA CHAIRS/COMMITTEES

President/Chair - Heather Fountain

VP/Vice-Chair – Pam Chute

Treasurer - Cathy Turpin

Membership Coordinator - Vicki Lowe

Events Coordinator - Sylvia Orchard

Newsletter Chair/Clerk – 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 – Ellen Pelletier & Robert Dunn

SBA Historian – NEW/OPEN

PHOTO GALLERY

Art Share from October 2025 SBA meeting





















