



Franklin County Art Alliance Officers:

President: Dee Henry

Vice-President: Cathy Kwolek

Past President: Arlene Babb

Treasurer: Doretta Wisler

Secretary: Aretha Williams

### Message from the President:

Greetings, FCAA members! We will soon be welcoming SPRING!!! Doesn't that quicken your artist's heart? Close your eyes and think with all your senses about the newness and wonder we get to experience every spring.

As artists maybe we get to enjoy it more than the average person. Emily Dickinson is one of my favorite poets and she expressed this in words better than I ever could.

Emily may not have been a painter with pigment, but she certainly understood art and spring--- the light, the color, the passage of time. I have always felt that painting is like poetry and maybe that is reciprocally true as well. My fellow members, have a lovely, artful spring!

**Dee Henry**

*A Light Exists in Spring, by Emily Dickinson*

*A light exists in spring  
Not present on the year  
At any other period -  
When March is scarcely here*

*A color stands abroad  
On solitary hills  
That science cannot overtake,  
But human nature feels.*

*It waits upon the lawn;  
It shows the furthest tree  
Upon the furthest slope we know;  
It almost speaks to me....*

**The March meeting of the Art Alliance will be held on Zoom, Saturday March 13 from 1-3pm, with a 12:30 social time.** Artist and educator Mary Beth Akre will present an interactive program on the use of expressive color in your art.

If you'd like to participate in Mary Beth's "Be the Color Beast!" color exercises, please prepare these for the meeting, and have your computer set up so you can paint while watching!

Mary Beth Akre is a Professor in the Department of Fine Arts at Loyola University Maryland. She earned a BFA from the Maryland Institute College of Art and a MFA from Radford University. Her landscapes have been shown in solo and group exhibitions nationally. Solo shows include Gross McCleaf Gallery in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, which represented her work for many years, The Lancaster Museum of Art, and Johns Hopkins University's Turner Gallery. Recent juried exhibitions include the Cumberland Valley Artists Juried Exhibition at the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts, The Susquehanna Center for the Creative Arts, and Montpelier Cultural Center. Ms. Akre's work can be found in numerous private and public collections including six paintings selected for the Princeton Medical Center's Art for Healing program, Ballard and Spahr Associates, Rev. Brian Linnane, S.J., President of Loyola University Maryland and other private collections from Seattle to Louisville to Philadelphia. She teaches painting, drawing, design, collage and the found object and other courses at Loyola, and volunteers with local soup kitchens, making large quantities of soup for the Loaves and Fishes program at St. Ignatius Church in downtown Baltimore.

### Here's what you need to have on hand, near your computer:

- A close-up photograph of a natural object, zoomed in so the leaves, etc., run off of the borders. Examples could be a close-up of corn, strawberries, leaves, etc.
- One sheet of watercolor paper, gessoed, (if you don't get it gessoed, it's ok to paint directly onto the paper.) Larger is better: 18x24, or 14x17 – but if all you have is 8x10, use 4 & tape the backs together form a rectangle.
- Masking tape
- Acrylic paint: it's good to have red, blue, yellow, white and burnt umber as a minimum. You will need white, but not a lot: just whatever colors you have!
- A variety of brushes, including a large one (Mary Beth uses a two-inch brush from Walmart, "the cheap one with a wooden handle, about \$1"!)
- A stick of vine charcoal or a pencil
- A jar or cup of water
- Paper towels



Mary Beth Akre: Windy Day

**Mark your calendars with these dates - more details to come!**

**(April 14 meeting details - see page 2!)**

**Wednesday May 12, 7-9pm, 6:30pm social time:** FCAA Monthly Meeting, program TBA

**Saturday June 12, 12-3pm:** FCAA BYO Lunch Picnic: Van Gogh's Birthday Party, at Greene Township Park, 900-1074 Elevator St, Chambersburg (just off PA Rt.997 exit of I-81 at Scotland)

**Monday - Thursday Oct. 4-7:** FCAA Annual Workshop with Julie Riker. See registration form on page 5!

**Friday October 22 - Thursday October 28,** FCAA Annual Exhibit at Calvary United Methodist Church, 150 Norlo Drive, Fayetteville.

**Meetings, continued –**

**The April meeting of the Art Alliance will be held on Zoom, Wednesday April 14 at 7pm, with a 6:30 social time.** Artist and educator Lesa Cook will present an interactive demonstration of portrait drawing from a model, using charcoal. Members are invited to work along with Lesa while she creates a portrait, and explains her techniques, materials and procedures.



*Lesla Cook: David*

Lesla Cook grew up in SC and received a BA in Studio Art from USC in 1987. After moving to the DC suburbs, she continued her fine art studies part-time at The Maryland Institute College of Art, the Corcoran School of Art, the Art League of Alexandria VA and the Schuler School in Baltimore. She was a full-time student at the Florence Academy of Art in Florence, Italy from October 2018 until March 2020, when COVID-19 interrupted her studies.

Lesla resides in Burkittsville, MD where she paints, sculpts and teaches at the Delaplaine Visual Arts Education Center in Frederick, MD. She has extensive teaching experience with a variety of student populations, including those dealing with memory loss and their caregivers, and previously under-served populations. A big believer in the power of art to reach, heal and connect, she has seen firsthand the benefits a creative outlet can provide. She is also a registered copyist at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC, and considers herself stylistically to be a classical realist, drawing inspiration from the great masters and trying to capture not only the natural form but the emotional reality as well.

Lesla will be working with medium and hard Nitram charcoal, and we can work along-side her, using whatever we have at hand:

- drawing paper, toned is best, with some tooth (not too smooth) Lesla uses a beige Hahnemuhle paper.
- vine or stick charcoal, if you have it
- sandpaper for sharpening
- a kneaded eraser
- boar bristle brushes
- an eraser pencil
- General's charcoal pencil in medium
- General's white charcoal pencil
- a pencil sharpener (Lesla uses an Aformat sharpener)

*Again, specific references to supplies don't mean you have to have them, but are just a recommendation of what a Lesla uses!*

**Alliance News**

**Annual Show** – the Alliance Board met in February and is planning for our annual show to be held in October. The church where we hold the show cannot commit to us at this time, that they will be open for events such as ours in June. We have tentatively reserved the church for October 22-28. Stay tuned for an entry form in your May/June newsletter!

**Annual Workshop** - Details are now in place for our workshop, October 4-7, with Julie Riker: see page 5.

**Annual Party** – the Alliance Board voted to hold a party in summer to replace our Holiday Party, so Van Gogh's Birthday Party will be held this summer in an outdoor sheltered location – see date and location on page 1! Details in May/June newsletter.

**The Alliance dues** - \$30 per year - are due between July 1 and April 15, for the membership year of July 1 through June 30. Dues support the club by paying for our speakers, newsletter and donations to the Library and Church, which generously host our meetings and our show. They also support our website: **check it out at [www.franklincountyartalliance.org](http://www.franklincountyartalliance.org)** Once again this year, members paying their dues before January 1 were entered into a drawing where the winner (Cindy Baker!) **earned free membership** for the following year, as announced at the January meeting. If you have any questions about your membership status, please call our Treasurer Doretta Wisler at (717) 809-3171.

**The Alliance website** - **Check out the Alliance online!** Cindy Baker (cmeebaker@gmail.com) maintains our website - [www.franklincountyartalliance.org](http://www.franklincountyartalliance.org). - and Vicky Taylor (dltyvt56@comcast.net) handles our Facebook page: please contact them with suggestions and questions!

**Help Needed** - Cindy Baker would like to step down after many years handling our website and would welcome the chance to train a replacement! Please contact her at [cmeebaker@gmail.com](mailto:cmeebaker@gmail.com). You do not need to be a pro to do this (though we wouldn't mind that, of course!) – just reasonably comfortable with your computer and working online. It's a chance to build skills in a friendly and understanding environment! Other volunteers are always welcomed, to work on finding programs for our meetings, and content for our newsletter, as well as to help putting together our annual exhibition in June. Many hands make light work! Please call or email Anne Finucane if you'd like to be part of the team that will maintain the club's activities into the future! 717-816-7568 or [ahf53@comcast.net](mailto:ahf53@comcast.net).

**News of our members:** If you have news to share about your art activities, please send it to FCAA Newsletter Editor Linda Best at [lm402@comcast.net](mailto:lm402@comcast.net) or call her at 717-369-2249.

*So many references to websites! You can follow them easily: click on Newsletters at [www.franklincountyartalliance.org](http://www.franklincountyartalliance.org)*

### **Opportunities:**

**Monterey Pass Battlefield Park and Museum** is proud to announce the **“First Annual Monterey Pass Art in the Park!”** The event will be held July 17, 2021 from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm at their park in Blue Ridge Summit, PA. Artist and artisan participants will show and sell their work to our guests, and all who attend will enjoy music and food. Registration and attendance for the event is free and no commission will be taken on sales. Participants will be assigned locations on a first come, first served basis. Vendor spaces will be 10' x 10', mostly on grass, and there will be limited access to electricity for vendors – also on a first come, first served basis. They hope to have a registration form and more details on their website and social media by mid/late March. More details will follow on registration, and will be posted at [montereypassbattlefield.org](http://montereypassbattlefield.org) and our social media sites. Questions can be directed to [montereypassbattlefield@gmail.com](mailto:montereypassbattlefield@gmail.com).

**The Washington Studio School** is offering virtual figure-drawing sessions in conjunction with the DC Art Model Collective (DCAMC). This is a wonderful way to experience working with a model online. You will find the registration link below in addition to a link with the variety of figure-drawing sessions offered by the DCAMC. Join WSS each Monday, from 7 to 9 pm EST, for an opportunity to practice figure work from a model live via Zoom in a monitored but non-instructed session. The sessions are open to the public. Sessions are \$7 for 1-hour sessions, \$14 for 2-hour sessions, \$20 for 3-hour sessions:

<https://www.washingtonstudioschool.org/drop-in-figure-drawing>.

For more figure drawing opportunities check out [www.dcartmodelcollective.com](http://www.dcartmodelcollective.com)

**The Institute’s Earth Celebration Day & Festival of Art** will be Saturday, April 24 but artists and artisans will not be part of the event this year. They ask that artists keep **April 23, 2022 on their calendars!** No longer affiliated with Renfrew Museum and Park, they don’t yet have official approval on the location for the Earth Day event, but that will be posted on their website as soon as it’s available: [www.NatureAndCultureInstitute.org](http://www.NatureAndCultureInstitute.org) Email: [info@NatureAndCultureInstitute.org](mailto:info@NatureAndCultureInstitute.org) Phone: 717-762-0373

**Classes at the Council:** Oil painting classes by Ski Holm and Colored Pencil classes by Amy Lindenberger have been held this winter, following PA guidelines: small classes, with social distancing in place. More classes are forthcoming: check the Council’s website at <https://www.councilforthearts.net/classes>.

**Chambersburg’s artists’ co-op, The Foundry Art Market**, now in its 5th year at 100 South Main Street, continues to welcome applications from new artists. Annual membership fee is now just \$120 per year plus a \$25 application fee which is applied to overall cost upon acceptance. Commission is 40% on sales, but artists can receive lower commission rates if they choose to fulfill workshare hours: 4 hours per month = 35% commission; 8 hours per month = 30% commission, 12 hours per month = 20% commission. The annual fee goes toward overhead costs of paying rent, utilities, insurance, etc., and commission helps cover day-to-day costs of sales, like swipe fees, promotion, administrative work, etc. Visit [www.FoundryArtMarket.com](http://www.FoundryArtMarket.com) and scroll down under Home, or better yet, stop by and meet a Foundry Artist. Many are members of the Art Alliance who enjoy the networking and collaborative aspects of Foundry membership – and having lots of their work in a gallery with a growing audience. The shop is a busy place, open Friday through Sunday 11am-3pm, with additional hours during the holidays!

### **ON VIEW.....in person!**

- Jan.31-April 4      **2021 Cumberland Valley Artists and Photographers Exhibitions**, Washington County Museum of Fine Arts, Tuesday through Saturday: 10am - 4pm, Sunday: 1pm - 4pm, 301-739-5727.
- Feb.5-March 6      **“I REAd it somewhere”**, Carlisle Arts Learning Center, 38 West Pomfret Street, Carlisle, Tues.-Fri. 10am-5pm, Sat. 10am-3pm, 717-249-6973
- Feb.12-ongoing      **Wearable Art:** an investigation into how items worn on the body transcend functionality, becoming an expression of individuality, intention or perception. Council for the Arts, 103 North Main Street, Chambersburg. Call for hours: 717-264-6883.
- Feb.19-March 14      **Art by Wilson College Students in the Foundry’s Spotlight Gallery**, 100 South Main Street, Chambersburg, Friday-Sunday 11am-3pm, [www.foundryartmarket.com](http://www.foundryartmarket.com)
- March 19-April 25      **“Home Sweet Home: The Real Face of Homelessness”** by Carrie Breschi in the Foundry’s Spotlight Gallery, 100 South Main Street, Chambersburg, Friday-Sunday 11am-3pm, [www.foundryartmarket.com](http://www.foundryartmarket.com)
- Through April 10      **Art for the Holidays & Beyond at Gallery 50:** painters Brad Clever, Katrina Hoopes, Eric Miller, Donna Mitchell, Felicity Sidwell, and Marti Yeager, along with quilter Karen Manderson, oil, pastel, and watercolor paintings on subjects including portraits, animals, still life, landscapes & more! Also hand-crafted quilts and tote bags. 50 West Main Street, Waynesboro, Fridays 4-6pm, 717-655-2500.

**FRANKLIN COUNTY ART ALLIANCE ANNUAL WORKSHOPS with JULIE RIKER: October 4-7, 2021**

**Drawing Approaches: Pathway to Strong Finished Pieces  
Monday, October 4, 9:30 to 3:30, with lunch from 12 to 1.**

Drawing can be really difficult: we often flounder as we try to crystallize our ideas on paper. Effective drawing always results in better paintings, though! Julie will present methods for breaking the drawing process into manageable steps. She will cover techniques that connect the eye-hand-brain process, so that our drawings will more faithfully show our intentions. These concepts will help any artist, from beginner to more experienced, refine their technique & improve their work.

This is a one-day workshop, and can stand alone, or flow into the following workshop. Location TBA.

FCAA Members: \$60, Non-members: \$70

**Notan: Seeing Ideas Take Shape**

**Tues.-Thurs. Oct. 5-7, 9:30 to 3:30, with lunch from 12 to 1.**

Notan is a Japanese word, meaning light/dark harmony. It's a great idea for planning paintings, and getting the important ideas down at the beginning of a piece (rather than hoping it will come together at the end!). The Notan idea can be used for any type of painting. We hope to be working outside (weather permitting), using the interesting street views of Chambersburg, but if the weather doesn't cooperate, we can always work on still life or from photographs. Whether in plein air situations or not, it can be difficult for painters to streamline all the details they see into a coherent composition. And while Julie's area of media expertise is in oil painting, all media - and levels of experience! - are welcome.

The cost of this 3-day workshop alone is \$170 for FCAA members, and \$185 for non-members. Both workshops will cost members \$225, and \$250 for non-members. Location TBA.



Landscape & Preliminary Notan Drawing, Julie Riker

**Julie Riker**

Pennsylvania artist Julie Riker studied Illustration at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia. After graduating she worked on the historic restoration of the PA State Capitol and then in 1996 started her own painting business creating artwork for individual homes and businesses. Working out of her Camp Hill studio she specializes in custom art, decorative painting and murals for walls and furniture. She has travelled from New York to Florida for commissioned projects. When not working for a client, Julie enjoys painting outdoors. "Though my work is representational, it is often the abstract patterns of shadows that get me started!" Often her plein air paintings serve as inspiration for larger studio pieces, but some stand on their own as observations of the beauty and variety of nature. She has participated in many national plein air events; among her recent accomplishments are First Place at Paint Annapolis and People's Choice Award for Quick Draw at Finger Lakes Plein Air. Julie's paintings have been published in Fine Art Connoisseur Magazine and she is profiled in an article in the Feb/March 2018 issue of Plein Air Magazine. Southwest Art Magazine recognized Julie as an "Artist To Watch" in their October 2018 issue. More recently, she won First Place in Oils at the Art Association of Harrisburg's 2020 "Figuratively Speaking" show. Visit her website: [www.julieriker.com](http://www.julieriker.com).

**2021 Workshop Registration**

\_\_\_\_\_ Drawing & Notan Workshops October 4-7 (\$225 members, \$250 non-members)

\_\_\_\_\_ Notan Workshop October 5-7 (\$170 members, \$185 non-members)

\_\_\_\_\_ Drawing Workshop October 4 (\$60 members, \$70 non-members)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

To reserve your space in the workshop please mail checks payable to FCAA to Mary Hickman, 20 Carla Drive, Shippensburg, PA 17257. If you have any questions, please email Mary at [maryhickmanart@gmail.com](mailto:maryhickmanart@gmail.com).

Workshop location will be announced by Sept. 1, and will be in downtown Chambersburg.

FRANKLIN COUNTY ART ALLIANCE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership year: July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Member since (estimate ok!) \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

ADULT \_\_\_\_\_ (\$30) HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT \_\_\_\_\_ (\$15) LIFETIME (60yrs & older) \_\_\_\_\_ (\$175)

Would you like to contribute to our FCAA Membership Award, funded by members, and awarded by judges to an outstanding work displayed at our annual exhibition? (any amount ok!) \_\_\_\_\_

Mail form and appropriate dues (payable to FCAA) to:

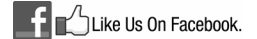
FCAA
ATTN: Treasurer
P.O. Box 1341
Chambersburg, PA 17201

[ ] The Franklin Co. Art Alliance will publish a listing of the names and phone numbers of paid Members in the March/April Newsletter. Please check this box if you DO NOT want your phone number listed

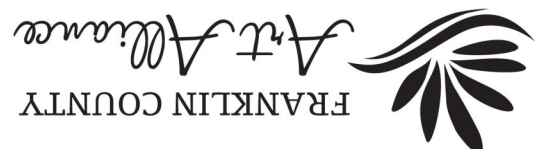
Note: If membership card is desired, please include a SASE
Remember your membership is good from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

Franklin County LIBRARIES The Franklin County Library System supports the Art Alliance not only with meeting space at Grove Library, but with their community art spaces open to all!

A little girl four years old says she knows what drawing is: "You just think of something and then run a line around your think!"



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