



Mission Statement

The Blue Ridge Fine Arts Guild (BRAG) promotes the works and activities of artists working in two-dimensional media in Yancey, Mitchell, and Avery counties and the surrounding areas of Western North Carolina. BRAG is an avenue for artist education and exposure through programs, workshops, exhibitions, and the internet, and seeks to promote and encourage the arts among its members, local schools, and the public.

Check out our On-Line Store to use PAYPAL



February 2013- BRAG Newsletter

From the Editor...

Last month's meeting was canceled at the last minute and since we didn't have a meeting in December, our February meeting will be 3 months since we last met. That meeting is coming up on Monday, February 18th at the Town Center. It sure will be good to see each other again! I've talked to several members who have been to Highlands already to see the exhibit at the Bascom. They tell me it is wonderful. If you are up for a road trip filled with beautiful scenery, followed by an art exhibit by talented artists, then this is the exhibit for you! You might remember that last month I mentioned that I was participating in a 30 Paintings in 30 Days Challenge. I'm pleased to say that I made it through the 30 days and also that I painted 30 paintings. The lessons I learned were priceless - the kind learned only by doing a challenge like this. Spring starts next month - I hope you are ready!

Don't forget... paint first!

Susan Garriques

Our next meeting will be Monday February 18th at 6:30 in the Town Center in Burnsville. Since it is winter and we never know about the weather, rather than scheduling an artist, we will show a DVD of Suzanna Winton "Step-by-step Water Color Portraits". Suzanna's portraits are beautiful. If you would like a sneak preview before the meeting..... click here.....http://www.suzannawintonwatercolors.com/

The rules and regulations for the upcoming "Made To Measure" exhibit at the TRAC Gallery in September 2013 were sent to members last month. If you missed them, here they are again: "BRAG, MADE TO MEASURE" EXHIBIT AT THE TRAC, BURNSVILLE GALLERY

September 14, 2013 thru October 12, 2013

OFFICIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS:

- 1. The show will only be open to paid-up members of BRAG.
2. Artwork must NOT have ever been exhibited at ANY PREVIOUS TRAC SHOW.
3. There will be FOUR sizes accepted in this show due to limited space. Sizes are in inches: (these are the image or ca nvas sizes—not the frame). 8 x 10 9 x 12 11 x 14 12 x 16 ----(thus—MADE TO MEASURE!)
4. Each member can render TWO pieces for consideration in the show. We have 40 members as of Jan. 2013, so if ALL 40 members submit An entry—just ONE piece of work from each will be chosen.
5. If there are less entering the show and especially if the sizes are the smaller sizes, TWO pieces from each member will be chosen for the show.
6. There is no time limit on when your work was rendered, and no limitation on the subject matter. (It cannot have been in any TRAC show).
7. Must be two-dimensional: Photography, pen & Ink, charcoal, pastels or any other painting medium.
8. Must be framed properly and ready to hang. The acceptance committee has the authority to refuse any work that does not fit the proper criteria.
9. Entry forms will be available by July 2013 on the BRAG website or at the July and August meetings.
10. There will be an ENTRY FEE of \$10 per MEMBER to help with expenses.

Artist Ann Vasilik, who presented a demo to BRAG members last fall and who will also be the judge for the upcoming PaintOut in May, has an exhibit at the North Carolina Arboretum. The exhibit is titled "A Painter's Journey" and will be on display at the Baker Exhibit Center from January 26th through May 19th. If you have never been to the Arboretum before you are in for a real treat. Learn more at ncarboretum.org.

Creative Challenge - Each month a photo will be included in the newsletter and members are encouraged to paint from that photo. It should be quite interesting to see how everyone handles the subject matter. Feel free to crop and edit as you wish. You may bring your paintings to the meetings, or if you would prefer, send photos of your paintings to Susan Garriques for the newsletter. And... you don't have to finish it for a specific month - there won't be any deadlines. So if you don't get to paint this month's photo till November or December, no worries. Just have fun. (if you would like a higher resolution image (larger image) for printing - or an image from a previous Creative Challenge, please email Susan Garriques)

On Going Events

Sandra Gates, Rolf Holmquist, Laurel Lovrek, Roy Nichols, Gaylene Petcu and Nancy Wood all have art in the Bascom exhibit - Regional Art Leagues: Selected Works. The exhibit runs from January 19 - March 31, 2013. The reception and awards announcement will be held March 23rd, from 5 - 7 pm. You can learn more about the Bascom here.... http://thebascom.org

Time for a field trip??

Check out this exhibit at the Columbia Art Museum in Columbia, SC: Impressionism from Monet to Matisse showcases 55 masterworks from the Dixon Gallery and Gardens. The exhibition features paintings by the well-known leaders of French Impressionism: Claude Monet, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Camille Pissarro and Alfred Sisley as well as paintings by America's most noted Impressionist painters, Mary Cassatt and John Singer Sargent. Major modern paintings by Paul Cézanne, Paul Gauguin and Georges Braque are also on view. http://www.columbiamuseum.org/exhibitions/monet-to-matisse/

Toe River Valley Plein Air Painters is a brand new group for artists that enjoy painting outside. There will be no membership fee. There won't be any formal meetings. Basically the "group" will serve as a method of finding someone to go paint with. All "business" will be conducted through email and a blog. If you are interested, please email Susan Garriques - susan@susangarriques.com.



Artist: Carol Bailey Red Flowers



Artist: Mary Dykes Home away from Home



Artist: Susan Garriques Goldfinches



Creative Challenge February



Artist: Sandra Gates Pottery and Spoon



**Internet Tidbits**

Thanks very much to **Laurel Lovrek** for these two great "Internet Tidbits" ...  
<https://www.callforentry.org/> - This website lists opportunities for showing work. The website hosts your portfolio, work you have uploaded. When you want to enter a show the work is selected from the portfolio. There is an entry fee and jury for most of the shows.  
and ....

<http://www.artbusiness.com/artists.html> a useful guide to writing an artist statement, which TRAC required. it looks like to has other guides valuable to all artists.

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*And here are a few more....*

Learn to fail better as an artist.....

<http://painting.about.com/od/inspiration/a/learn-to-fail-better.htm>

And now that it is time to start thinking about taxes....

[http://www.nyfa.org/archive\\_detail\\_q.asp?qid=83&fid=6&year=1999&s=Spring](http://www.nyfa.org/archive_detail_q.asp?qid=83&fid=6&year=1999&s=Spring)

And stories behind The Girl With the Pearl Earring....

<http://faso.com/fineartviews/55640/stories-behind-girl-with-a-pearl-earring>  
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**Classifieds**

DEADLINE: Wed, July 31, 2013

**Southern Appalachian Artist Guild National Juried Show**

Location: GA

Georgia, Blue Ridge, The Southern Appalachian Artist Guild presents the 2013 National Juried Show, Oct. 19-Nov. 8, 2013. Juror: Michael Chesley Johnson, PSA, MPAC. \$5,000 in awards. Deadline July 31, 2013. Prospectus online: <http://www.blueridgearts.net/Pages/SAAGNationalShow.aspx> or send SASE to 420 West Main St., Blue Ridge, GA.

Contact: Southern Appalachian Artist Guild | 706-632-2144 |

[www.blueridgearts.net/Pages/SAAGNationalShow.aspx](http://www.blueridgearts.net/Pages/SAAGNationalShow.aspx) | [saagnationalshow@gmail.com](mailto:saagnationalshow@gmail.com)  
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**Largest Juried Competition in Southeast**

Carolina's Got Art! has launched a call to artists for its annual juried arts competition. Open to NC/SC artists only, \$15,000 in cash and prizes will be awarded to winning artists. Notable art critic, Lance Esplund, of Bloomberg and The Wall Street Journal, will serve as 2013 juror.

Carolina's Got Art! accepts most mediums including paintings, photography, sculptures, woven pieces, and ceramics. Of the ten 2010 winners, five won prizes for sculpture or ceramic work.

If an artists' work is chosen, Carolina's Got Art! will come to a city near you to pick up and drop off your work. See the website for details.

Entry Deadline: 3/15/13

Website: [www.carolinascgotart.com](http://www.carolinascgotart.com)  
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**Looking for some extra income?**

Let the Haywood County Arts Council help sell your artwork in local businesses! All artists are welcome, so let us hear from you!

Original works in oil, watercolor, pastel, acrylic, etc. are sought as well as fine art photography, textiles, and prints. Three-dimensional work is accepted for some locations. All artwork must be for sale.

Interested artists should send name, phone number, email address, and website address/other online gallery presence address to [info@haywoodarts.org](mailto:info@haywoodarts.org). Project coordinator will contact artist to go over details.  
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**A studio opportunity in Bakersville:**

Located next to the post office, the building is a 30x50' raw space at 1500 sq/ft with a 20x 30 concrete pad out back. Two large roll up doors and plenty of room for several small studios. I am looking to rent, lease and hopefully sell the building. Any and all inquires please contact Zack Noble at 828 467 0265.  
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**One last note** - it's about the Money Jar. You may have noticed a vase or a jar placed near the refreshments at each meeting and you may have assumed that was to help pay for the coffee and cookies. BUT..... BRAG pays the Town Center \$30 for each night that we meet. The "Money Jar" is meant to help pay the rent. If each member attending the meeting will contribute \$1 it will just about cover the cost of the rental. Please don't forget to add your dollar when you come to the meetings.

Every dollar helps!  
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**Archive of Newsletters:**

- December Newsletter.pdf
- January/February Newsletter.pdf
- March Newsletter.pdf
- April Newsletter.pdf
- May Newsletter.pdf
- June Newsletter.pdf
- July Newsletter.pdf
- August Newsletter.pdf
- September Newsletter.pdf
- October Newsletter.pdf
- November Newsletter.pdf
- December Newsletter.pdf
- January Newsletter 2013.pdf



Artist: Nancy Wood *Breezy Oaks*



Artist: Kathrine McCarty *Teacup*



Artist: Kathleen Turczyn *Grasshoppers view*

