

NEWSLETTER

Volume 19, Issue 3

April 2022



Letter from the President

We are creators first, then artists. This is a strong concept to wrap one's head around, yet it offers clarity about how we view ourselves and the world around us when it comes to 'creating' art.

It allows us to see how external experiences such as family, faith, community, friends, and other circles of influence shape our perspective in creating our life. It is through this lens that we translate our creativity into form using skills and mediums that truly makes us an artist!

If you wish to improve as an artist, it is rather simple, you can study skills. If you wish to improve as a creator, what does one study? We only seek to gain others creative perspective by studying anything other than the muse you now best, yourself! Studying self can be less interesting, often intimidating and even downright scary for many, even though it is intriguing. It forces us to see both the good and the bad in ourselves. (In all this contemplation of "Deep thoughts by Tammy" I WILL get to the ART related message.) Learning the light and dark within oneself is no different than balancing the light and dark in an artwork. You will bring a new perspective to your work that wasn't before seen and create art with a more personal meaning or twist. See you at our next meeting, 1:30 PM at the Heyde Center on Thursday, April 7th.

NOTICE

The VOTE for amendment to By-Laws will be held at the upcoming meeting, please email myself or another board member by April 7th, prior to meeting and state your intent. (Majority will decide per quorum met in attendance.)

April Meeting Program - by Pamm Spooner "All Warped Up, Weaving in Action"

Members in attendance will be weaving a small wooden fiber piece with Pamm focusing on utilizing fiber in its unique quality as a medium in loom work.



SHOW AND TELL

Please bring a current piece you are working on, or photos to share with other members, we will try and set aside 10-15 minutes every meeting for this group discussion.

VAA is hosting the WRAP/STAMP exhibition this October, under the umbrella of the AWA (Association of Wisconsin Artists). ALL non-professional artists may enter either of the two categories. We encourage artists 18+ to enter WRAP and student artists, ages 13-19, to enter STAMP.

To see the complete schedule, go to the VAA website (www.valleyartassociation.org) and/or find more information at <https://wiscartists.wildapricot.org/event-4489667>

If you are interested in helping the VAA WRAP committee with this exhibition, please contact Val West Naber at valvaa2020@gmail.com

Showing In the Valley this month

58th annual Chippewa Herald Spring Art show at Heyde Center for the Arts

43rd annual ArtsWest Virtual Exhibit

Ongoing member exhibits at Lucy's Deli, Artisan Forge Studio's, and Altoona Library.

Upcoming events

Fine Arts and Craft show at Chapel Heights UMC, Eau Claire, April 23rd

Elmaro Winery Member Display - a few more artists are needed, please contact Jeff Nelson at

Jsnart2020@gmail.com

Maker's Market monthly at the Forage in Eau Claire, check Facebook for updates

Summer Picnic in June with a display of *member assemblage projects that are currently in the works independently by members*. For more information about this project, please refer to the project on the website.

Remember to visit the website often for updates. I'd like to give a huge shoutout to webmaster, Steve, for keeping the info current, providing photos of our events and exhibits, and organizing and facilitating the member gallery.

NOTE, he/we are looking for an 'understudy' to actively participate in the functioning of the website and its components. If this is one of your talents or interests, please consider serving the VAA and the visual art community by reaching out to him through the VAA email.

www.valleyartassociation.org