



West Hills Art League

NEWSLETTER

AUG 2020

Next Zoom Meeting:
Thursday, Sept. 17th

Message from our president, Nebra Tobin

Hello all!

I hope everyone is well and are having a nice summer despite all of the COVID-19 restrictions.

I would like to thank everyone who participated in our July self-portrait challenge! I've really enjoyed "seeing" you all through your wonderful artwork. Lynda has included them in this month's newsletter and we will also be sharing them on our website and Facebook page.

I'd like to keep up the art momentum with a **new challenge for August** called "Outside My Window". With so many people still restricting their social activities and travel, I thought it would be interesting to challenge us all to create art from the perspective of looking out from our homes. No restrictions, all mediums welcome.

I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome our new member **Mary Duranti** from Mc Donald PA. We hope Mary will enjoy being a member of our group and look forward to her sharing her artwork!

Looking ahead to our new membership year and our September meeting and taking into consideration the social distancing guidelines and event number restrictions, I am planning to continue our virtual meetings for the time being. Kim Freithaler is working on finding artist demonstrations that will work well with this platform. I believe our April meeting virtual demo by Gadi Leshem definitely proved the advantages a virtual demo can offer with it's close-up video and artist/viewer chat interaction. I have been in touch with Moon Parks and hopefully we will be able to return to our normal in-person meetings as the situation allows. Until then, please send us updates on any upcoming events and images of the artwork you are creating.

I look forward to seeing you all for our Zoom meeting in September!

Debbie Tobin

Have you tried a Zoom call yet?

While a video call may seem like a technical challenge if you have never tried it before, the good news is that it's really not as intimidating and complex as you may think. We are here to help if you have any questions on how to participate! If you would like some step-by-step help getting set up, schedule a time via email with our multi-media expert, Jim Tobin, at jamestobin@yahoo.com or our Zoom guru secretary, Leah Shuck, at leahshuck@gmail.com.

**Let's stay creative
& connected!**





August Artist Spotlight

Kim Freithaler



Kim Freithaler is originally from New York City and has a Bachelor of Fine Arts from St. John's University, where she completed an internship at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. She has also studied at the Art Students League in Manhattan.

She taught literacy through art in Manhattan public schools and currently teaches oil and acrylic painting at the North Hills Art Center in Ross Township, where she is also the Executive Director. She is an award winning painter who exhibits her work in galleries, as well as local businesses. Her murals are installed in public buildings both here and in Georgia. Recent murals can be viewed at Northland Library, Animal Friends, Ingomar Middle School and the North Hills Art Center. People and pet Portraits are done by commission.

A wider selection of her artwork may be viewed at www.kimfreithaler.com or www.facebook.com/kimfreithalerportraits.

Artist Statement

I have managed a rare thing. I have merged the things that I love and incorporated them into my daily life. I have always created art and have always been an animal lover. As I have matured as an artist, painting in oils and animal portraiture have become my main focus.

Early on, I would try to paint like other artists who I admired, or to paint landscapes and other subject matter that I perceived as more marketable. I realized that while I could copy other styles and subject matter, there was no passion

behind it and the end results made that quite apparent. Now, I tell my students that their goal is to find the style and passion they already possess. I believe everyone has an artist within them and it is just a matter of discovering how to share those talents.

I do not paint every day. That would be a chore. I need to crave painting, to view it as a special activity where time stands still and nothing else matters. During a mural installation, I can easily paint for 11 hours straight. Most of my clothing has paint stains. If I pass my easel and see something that needs to be done on a painting in progress, I will drop everything and paint.

My goal for the animals I paint is to capture not only their likeness, but their personality and their soul. While I need to paint realistically to achieve this, I still try to play with color and composition. I tend to simplify backgrounds. I think I am really a minimalist at heart.

There is no faster way to kill creativity than to become competent at one thing and paint that way over and over again. I once had a gallery manager look at my portfolio and remark that the pieces were so diverse that it looked like they were done by many artists. All I could say was, "Thank you".

Working at the North Hills Art Center has been a wonderful incentive to grow as an artist. The exposure I get to new artists and their amazing work keeps me motivated to push myself and try new things. As an artist, I couldn't ask for anything more.



WHAL July Challenge: Self Portrait



FRED DUPIN



SANDRA BEITSINGER



DOMENIQUE ZAMOGNA



DIANNE BAUMAN



DEBRA TOBIN (AND BOWIE!)



KIM FREITHALER



AUDRA ZAMOGNA



HEIDI LEE



WANDA SELLEY



RITA WILSON



JAMES TOBIN



LYNDA KIRBY



MARYANNE PLUMP



LEAH SHUCK

AUGUST
CHALLENGE:

OUTSIDE
MY WINDOW

Call for Artists

The North Hills Art Center Annual Members' Show

The North Hills Art Center is conducting a CALL FOR ENTRIES for the upcoming Annual Members' Show – Multi-Media **Juried Art Exhibit.

Gallery open to view show in-person Sept 14 thru Oct 9 : Mon-Fri, 10am-3pm; Tues, 7pm-9pm. View virtually on NHAC website, Facebook and YouTube starting Sept. 14.

Juried awards and people's choice! Amateur and professional artists can submit their 2D & 3D work to the Art Center for the show. This art show is for North Hills Art Center members only; those who are not members can join now to be eligible for participation online at: <https://northhillsartcenter.org> or call the office at (412) 364-3622.

Our Juror for this show is Pittsburgh artist Holly Pultz. Besides being a fulltime art teacher for 30 years and Chair of the Art Department at Seneca Valley School District, Holly has pursued the thrill of watercolor painting, oil painting, sculpting, calligraphy, large wall mural painting & puppet making.

Juror's Bio **This is not a juried entry show. Artwork is juried for awards only. However, the Art Center retains the right to reject artwork that is deemed inappropriate.

The Members' Show drop off dates are: 8/31-9/4, 10am-3pm; 9/1, 7-9pm. The show ends 10/9 with pick up: 10/12-10/16, 10am-3pm; 10/13, 7pm-9pm.

Art Walk Cory Saturday, October 17, 12-4pm

The Coraopolis Community Development and Gilberti Fine Arts Studio & Gallery have invited artists from the West Hills Art League to participate in Art Walk Cory. Artists and artwork from Pittsburgh Society of Artists and the West Hills Art League will be stationed inside participating businesses throughout the Coraopolis business district. There will also be strolling musicians, children's activities and the Hoshi food truck. Please contact Debbie Tobin at debratobin@gmail.com to sign up to participate.

They are confirming five Coraopolis businesses to serve as "artist hosts" for the day of the art walk so we are looking for five WHAL artists to represent the league. Two pieces per artist, and the artists will need to provide easels or pedestals (for sculpture) as they can't allow nailing into the businesses' walls. Once we have our five artists, they will match each artist up with a business that provides the necessary space. Load in/setup will be between 10 am and 12 pm the day of the event. Artists can, of course, sell their pieces during the event if they have a square or some other type of electronic payment.

BEING IN AMERICA: International Call for Art About Being In America

The Cincinnati based non-profit arts organization and gallery, Manifest, invites visual artists to submit works of art that in some way address the theme of Being in America. This exhibit has no defined expectation for type or style of work to be considered or selected. Submissions can range from the most traditional to the most conceptual, abstract, or experimental of any media.

We ask how artists record, through creative and thoughtful means, thoughts, feelings, and observations on what it means to be in America today, whether that is from the point of view of one living here now, of those who aspire to be here one day, or from those who observe at a distance. The theme is wide open to interpretation, and works need not be over-stated, nor political in nature. They may simply be works that comment or reflect on being in America today. Subtlety is most appreciated and welcome.

\$40 for up to 4 entries submitted. \$5 per each additional entry.

Deadline: 08.27.2020

Details: <http://www.manifestgallery.org/america>

Shades of Red 2020 Online Visual Arts Competition

This is an open call for all painting mediums, and colored pencil & pen, digital paintings and/or mixed media, photography and sculpture. (no installation art or video). Submitted artwork can be any subject matter including abstract work. Artwork must have the color red as a prominent color.

Deadline for Entry Aug 16

For more information about this opportunity for artists, please visit the Event Website. <https://www.camelbackgallery.com/shadesofred2020competition>



West Hills Art League P.O. Box 633, Moon Township, PA 15108

 www.WestHillsArtLeague.com  @WestHillsArtLeague

Send Social Media submissions to:
Cindy Gilberti • c.b.gilberti@gmail.com

Send Newsletter submissions to:
Lynda Kirby • kirbycreativeservices@yahoo.com

BOARD MEMBERS:

Debra Tobin - President debratobin@gmail.com
Kim Freithaler - Vice President / Programs kimartagain@gmail.com
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