

# West Hills Art League

## NEWSLETTER

**FEB  
2021**

### This Month's Guest Demonstrator: **James Sulkowski**

**Zoom Meeting  
February 18, 7pm-9pm**



**James Sulkowski** received his education from the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Art, Carnegie Mellon University, and - most notably - the Art Students League of New York with Frank Mason and Robert Beverly Hale. His timeless works have been displayed in the White House, the Metropolitan Opera House in New York City, and historical museums abroad. Since first offering classes in 1981, he has instructed hundreds of students - first at his studio, then at the university level and workshops across the country.

James has authored articles for numerous publications, including American Artist, American Art Review, and US Art. His first full-length book, Mastering Oil Painting, was published by Walter Foster in 2013. For eleven seasons, he hosted the instructional show Let's Paint on public access television. His art instruction dvds art and art video downloads have been collected worldwide .

His original oil portraits , commissioned murals and other work has been collected

worldwide and is in public and private collections including President and Mrs. George H.W. Bush, The Metropolitan Opera of New York, The Abdul Azziz Museum in Jedda, Saudi Arabia, The Hotel Lafayette in Nemaconlin Woodlands Resort, Carnegie-Mellon University and countless others.

For those interested in original oil paintings , commissioned portraits , florals , landscapes , still life or a special project please email us or call us . Art workshops conducted nationally and in the Pittsburgh area as well as art video downloads , art instruction dvds and art instruction books are all available . James' classical art approach has garnered many awards throughout the years and he shares his knowledge with those who attend his art workshops in Houston,Pa.

James lives in Pittsburgh with his wife, Sherri, and their adopted beagles, Opal and Molly.

<http://www.jamessulkowskifineart.com>

### ZOOM Instructions:

**Step 1:** To get started with Zoom, head to their website ZOOM.com and click on the "SIGN UP" button that is at the top-right corner of the screen.

**Step 2:** You have two options when it comes to creating a Zoom account. You can either:

- Create a new account using your email address.
- Sign in using your Google or Facebook account.

**Step 3:** Zoom will now send you an email with a confirmation link.

**Step 4:** Download the desktop app/ Zoom client from the Zoom website for easy access.

Enter the zoom meeting address or click the link that will be sent to you in your email.



### WHAL Virtual Show And Share Tues., Feb 2 @ 7:30pm

All WHAL members are invited! This is simply an informal chat session where members can show recent completed pieces or works-in-progress. There will be opportunities for you to ask questions about someone's process and materials, or you could ask for input on something you are working on, or even just log in to get inspired. It's a great opportunity to connect, collaborate or mentor



## February Artist Spotlight

# Kelley Bush



Some of my fondest memories as a child include standing at my mother's side during the WHAL Annual Show or setting up her booth at Three Rivers Arts Festival, to name a couple. Growing up in big, old houses converted to art centers, like Robin Hill and Shadyside Center for the Arts, filled with the mingling smells of turpentine and brewing coffee along with the sounds of artists conversing, are still my favorites places.

After years of living in New York City and experiencing the art world from a different perspective, I was reminded of my roots when I participated in a mural project in my last neighborhood in Brooklyn, Prospect Lefferts Gardens.

I was reminded that to me, Art signifies Community.

Tired of the NYC crush, I moved to Costa Rica almost nine years ago. I was inspired by the life that I saw. Once I made the decision to move here, destiny took over and 6 months later, I had met my future husband and was stepping off the plane with my mom, two cats, and a couple of boxes.

Again I drifted away from making art. After being let go from a job just as our high season was ending, six months later, I was still wondering what to do for work. Mulling over my options one morning while I was washing the dishes, I had an epiphany. I swear I heard a voice in my left ear, very clearly and rather loudly, saying:

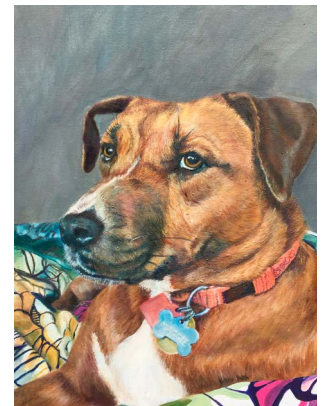
"Pet Portraits by Kelley Bush"

I called my husband and I said, "I know what I'm going to do!!!" He had never seen me paint before, but said, "okay, if you want to try that". That was four or five years ago. Since then, I've partnered with a local wild animal refuge, and we produced a line of t-shirts and tote bags. I take commissions to make portraits of animals, and now have a chance to explore my wonder and passion for clouds by creating small, affordable paintings in a series entitled, "Tiny Windows". I was inspired by a friend living in Manhattan and hearing her tale of life during the quarantine in a city where one is meant to be out and about. I thought the small paintings might bring some relief to those stuck in those tiny New York City apartments.

Today, I am participating in a local art fair and organic market on the weekends, and feel like a missing piece of myself has finally been restored.

Being able to attend the WHAL monthly meetings and Show & Share, has ignited my passion and inspiration never to be lost again. The art league's ability to adapt to Covid restrictions has created more outlets for more people, and is a testament to the amazing fortitude of this group and the people involved. From international Zoom meetings to demonstrators from outside the West Hills area, it is this kind of ability to adapt and change to our environment that has inspired generations of artists long before us. Art is Community.

<https://www.facebook.com/petportraitsbykelleybush/>





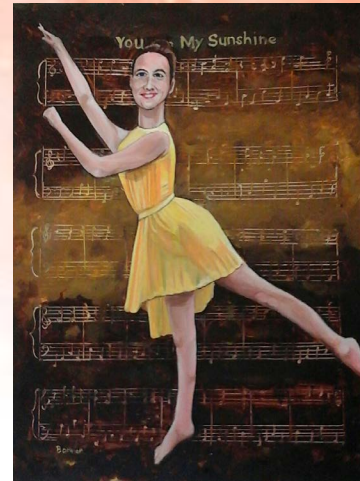
# WHAL January Challenge: Figure In Motion



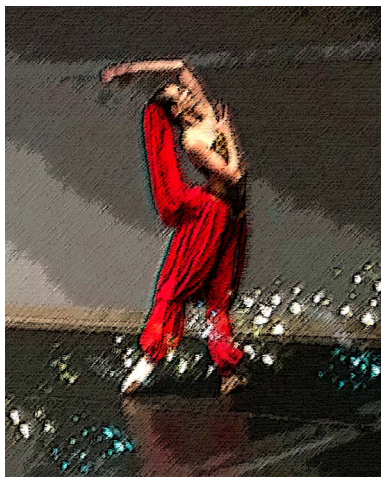
**LANCE MALONEY**



**NEELAM DWIVEDI**  
WATER PLAY - PASTEL



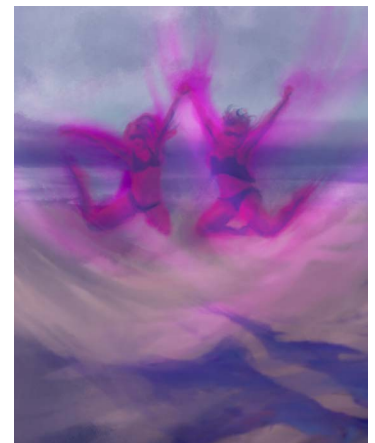
**RALPH BONNAR**  
YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE - OIL



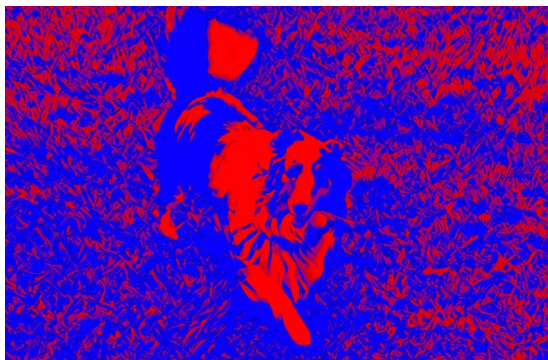
**DEBBIE TOBIN**  
BALLERINA - PHOTOGRAPHY



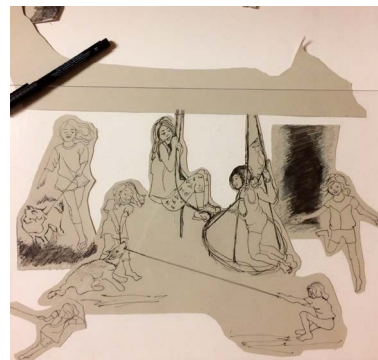
**HELENA VALENTINE**  
THE MATADOR - DIGITAL



**LYNDA KIRBY**  
SYNCHRONIZED BEACH LEAP  
DIGITAL SKETCH



**JIM TOBIN**



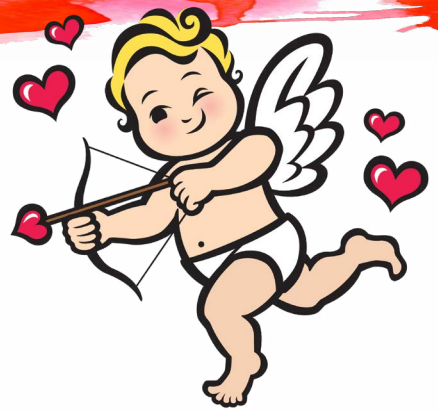
**MARYANNE PLUMP**  
ME AND KIDS PLAY

**FEBRUARY 2021 CHALLENGE:  
'ART WITH HEART'**

Let's give a "warm" welcome to February with a new Art with Heart challenge. This month's theme is love so please email your interpretation by Feb. 28h to [kirbycreativeservices.com](mailto:kirbycreativeservices.com).



# Call for Artists



## Call for Artists

**ENTER NOW - DEADLINE MARCH 5, 2021**

**WESTMORELAND ART NATIONALS  
JURIED FINE ART & PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITIONS**

### Westmoreland Art Nationals Juried Fine Art & Photography Exhibit

#### Now Accepting Entries for 2021 Westmoreland Art Nationals

Every year, the Westmoreland Arts & Heritage Festival holds the Westmoreland Art Nationals, a juried fine art and photography competition, featuring art from all around the country. Artists are permitted to enter as many pieces as they'd like to be considered in both of our exhibits.

The first exhibit will be held in Commissioners Hall at Westmoreland County Community College. The exhibit will run from Saturday, May 22 through Wednesday, June 9, with the Opening Reception on May 22 from 6-8 PM. Awards will be Announced at 7:00 PM on May 22 and posted on our Facebook page. The second exhibit will be held at the Westmoreland Arts & Heritage Festival on Thursday, July 1 through Sunday, July 4 with the Opening Reception set for Saturday, June 26 from 6-8 PM. Awards will be Announced at 7:00 PM on June 26 and posted on our Facebook page. Both shows are free and open to the public to attend.

A total of \$4,800 in prize money will be awarded in the following categories:

- Best of Show
- Painting
- Graphics
- Craft
- Sculpture
- Photography
- Mixed Media
- Digital Media/Digital Art
- New Entrant
- People's Choice

Winners are selected for each exhibit and are not announced until the night of the Opening Receptions. Both shows provide excellent exposure and serve as wonderful networking opportunities to meet other distinguished artists.

<https://artsandheritage.com/the-arts/art-nationals/>

### Hoyt Regional 2021 Call for Artists

Artists are invited to submit electronic entries for the 48th Hoyt Regional Juried Exhibition. Elaine A. King, freelance curator and art critic, will select works and award winners for the exhibition.

#### DATES TO REMEMBER

- \* Deadline for Entries: 2/6/21
- \* Notification of Acceptance: 3/15/21
- \* Delivery of accepted works: By 4/3/21
- \* Exhibition Dates:  
April 13-June 24, 2021

<https://hoytartcenter.org/hoyt-regional-juried-exhibition/>

**FIBERART**  
INTERNATIONAL•2022  
EXHIBITION OF CONTEMPORARY FIBER ART

**SUBMISSIONS DUE 8/31/21**  
**CaFé: [www.callforentry.org](http://www.callforentry.org)**

**EXHIBITION: JUNE 3 - AUGUST 20, 2022**

**FOR ONLINE APPLICATION OR MORE INFO:**

**[FIBERARTINTERNATIONAL.ORG](http://FIBERARTINTERNATIONAL.ORG)**

**[FIBERARTINTERNATIONAL@GMAIL.COM](mailto:FIBERARTINTERNATIONAL@GMAIL.COM)**

 PRESENTED BY THE FIBERARTS GUILD OF PITTSBURGH, INC.

<https://fiberartspgh.org>

# Call for Artists



**The State Museum**  
OF PENNSYLVANIA

<http://statemuseumpa.org>

## **New Virtual Artists/Conservations on Zoom Premiering Feb. 5**

**The State Museum of Pennsylvania is launching a series of virtual Friday lunchtime programs in February.**

Fine Art Curator Amy Hammond will kick off this series by hosting a monthly conversation with an artist or art professional the first Friday of every month at 12:15 pm. On February 5, Ms. Hammond will welcome Ron Tarver, a Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer who has explored many facets of the African-American community for over 30 years. His fine art work has been exhibited nationally and internationally and is included in many museum, corporate, and private collections including the National Museum of American Art of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington DC, Philadelphia Museum of Art, and The Studio Museum In Harlem. His work entitled "Vented Steam" is in The State Museum's permanent collection. Mr. Tarver served as a juror for the 2020 Art of the State exhibition.

All of our Learn at Lunchtime programs are free via Zoom - plan to eat your lunch and enjoy great dialogue about art and artists!

To register for this program, visit our Learn at Lunchtime web page: <http://statemuseumpa.org/learnatlunchtime>

## **Art of the State Status**

Many of you may know that we remain closed to the public due to the COVID-19 crisis. So accordingly, we have been grappling with how best to go forward with Art of the State 2021. Because we do not yet have a museum re-opening date, we have determined to move forward with Art of the State 2021 as an online exhibit of digital images of art work that will premiere in September 2021. We're working on art work submission details right now and will be back in touch with Art of the State 2021 deadlines and anticipated reduced entry rates, so please stay tuned! Art work will still be juried by art professionals, and select prizes will be awarded.

If things change so that we will indeed be open to the public in time, we may be able to accept art work into the galleries for an in-person exhibit opening in September 2021. However, for now we are planning to continue our 50+ year tradition of holding Art of the State, but doing so virtually - online.

## **One Lens Online Exhibition: Entries Accepted Beginning Feb. 8**

We'd like to let you know about a special opportunity for an online photography exhibition. Pennsylvania's First Lady Frances Wolf has announced a special online exhibition entitled One Lens: Sharing Our Common Views - The First Lady's Virtual Photo Exhibition Project. To quote from Mrs. Wolf's message announcing the project:

"One Lens is a virtual photo exhibition to give each and every Pennsylvanian the opportunity to share their COVID-19 stories through photography. One Lens is our chance to show what it is like to experience this

extraordinary moment in history. Because art has the power to heal us, and by telling our stories, we can honor our efforts during this time, recognize our achievements, and help sustain each other as we continue the fight..."

Online submissions will be accepted Feb. 8 - Mar. 8, 2021. The show goes live on Mar. 19, 2021.

For more details and submission instructions, please visit: <https://www.pa.gov/one-lens/>



# Events and Shows



## The North Hills Art Center Where Love Dwells - 2021 Winter Show Art Exhibit



Benefiting Hello Neighbor - Juror for this show is William Pfahl  
Awards Announced & Virtual Viewing February 6  
Gallery viewing February 8-February 26 | <https://northhillsartcenter.org>

## Carnegie Museum of Art Exhibitions

<https://cmoa.org/exhibitions/>



SCAIFE GALLERIES - now through Jun 27, 2021

### Controlling the Chaos

Controlling the Chaos features photographs from Carnegie Museum of Art's collection that offer a range of responses to the complexity of lived experience today.



CHARITY RANDALL GALLERY - now through Mar 27, 2022

### Locally Sourced

Locally Sourced presents the work of 19 Pittsburgh-area artisans and makers.



ONLINE - now through Feb 14, 2021

### Diane Severin Nguyen: Tyrant Star

This next iteration of the exhibition series features Tyrant Star, a 16-minute video work by artist Diane Severin Nguyen (American, b. 1990). This exhibition marks the first time that the work, a new acquisition, will be exhibited by Carnegie Museum of Art.



SCAIFE GALLERIES - now through Mar 14, 2021

### Trevor Paglen: Opposing Geometries

The third cycle of the Hillman Photography Initiative, Mirror With A Memory, explores themes of artificial intelligence (AI) through the work of acclaimed artist Trevor Paglen.

#### West Hills Art League

P.O. Box 633, Moon Township, PA 15108



[www.WestHillsArtLeague.com](http://www.WestHillsArtLeague.com)



@WestHillsArtLeague

Send Social Media submissions to:  
Cindy Gilberti • [c.b.gilberti@gmail.com](mailto:c.b.gilberti@gmail.com)

Send Newsletter submissions to:  
Lynda Kirby • [kirbycreativeservices@yahoo.com](mailto:kirbycreativeservices@yahoo.com)

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