



IOWA ARTISTS

Since 1970



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Presidents message..... by Danna Fruetel

Hello Fellow Artists,

I don't know about you but I love the fall. It charges me up and then drops me into winter. I'm OK with winter though, because I tend to hibernate and get a lot of art done. By the spring I'll be ready to bust out of the house and create outside and be with many other artists again.

The workshops have gone well, and I'm sure we will continue to do them in 2023. If you should have any suggestions for next year, my email is always available to the members and I love hearing other ideas. In this newsletter there is information about our upcoming Online Show that will be done during the winter months. Our regional shows are also being planned, and more information will be coming your way soon. Watch my monthly emails for attachments regarding important dates and such.

I have been busy as your president and for the most part enjoying it very much. I hope to continue to keep everyone informed about what's going on with the group. Please connect with your local art facilities as they truly need those of us in this group to be involved locally.

The new Prospectus has been emailed to everyone. Thank you all for helping the board put this together and giving your input.

Have a great and colorful fall.

Danna Fruetel

President - Iowa Artists



RE M I N D E R

Membership with Iowa Artists is per calendar year, running January 1st-December 31st. Watch for your membership renewal reminder around December 1st so you can enter the Winter Online Art Exhibit!



Board Members

President

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Current Open Board Positions:

At-large Board Member position – Duties include joining in on quarterly Zoom online meetings (via either phone or internet) to help make decisions regarding Iowa Artists' business and programs. Meetings are approximately 1 hour each quarter. This is an easy way to learn more about Iowa Artists and to make connections with other artists and galleries in Iowa while not being too time consuming.

Membership Chair position – This position is open starting in May 2023. Duties include emailing Art Calls to members, collecting membership dues, keeping accurate records, and helping with other duties as assigned to help promote Iowa Artists. The candidate needs to have good communication skills and the ability to work with others. General computer skills are required but training can be provided should the candidate step forward before May 2023. Skill in using Google documents is helpful.

Facebook Iowa Artists Artworks Admin. This not a board position but is a small volunteer job that can be done from home. Looking for someone to regularly schedule Show Me Saturdays, post any art calls or other art events, and monitor posts in our private Facebook group. Obviously must be on Facebook and know how to post. This is an easy job that does not require much time throughout the year.

Newsletter Editor - This is a board position. Candidate is responsible for collecting articles from other members and layout of newsletter. One must have good computer skills with attention to detail and ability to create a newsletter quarterly and send it out in a timely fashion. Various board members support this position with proofing and content writing.

Please contact Deanna Skokan at fineart@deannaskokan.com if interested in any of the position or for any further questions.



2023 Membership Online Winter Art Show

Our annual Winter Online Show is accepting submissions from January 1, 2023-February 28, 2023. This is a chance for our members to show off their work to the public online as well as a chance to win an award for their artwork. Our judge this year is Scott Krohn from Minnesota, who is a Master Artist in the Colored Pencil Society of America (CPSA) and in the International Society of Scratchboard Artists (MSA). To see his work, go to <https://www.scottkrohnart.com/>.

There will be one division with 2D and 3D art all judged together. Prizes will be awarded for First Place (\$50), Second Place (\$40), Third Place (\$30) and Honorable Mention (certificate awarded for a number of Honorable Mentions at the discretion of the judge). Each member can enter 1 artwork between January 1, 2023, and midnight February 28, 2023. There is no fee to enter as this is a benefit of your membership in Iowa Artists; however, your dues must be current for 2023 at the time you enter. If you are unsure of your membership status, go to <https://www.iowaartists.us/> and at the bottom of the main page is a black button to click on that says "Current Membership."

To pay your \$25 dues for 2023, you can use a credit card using the PayPal button on our website or you can send a check written to **Iowa Artists for \$25** and mail it to **Iowa Artists, PO Box 1474, Newton, IA 50208-1474.**

The rules for accepted 2D and 3D art for the Online Winter Show 2022 are the same as our new rules for regional shows (see below) with the exception of only one entry is allowed. As this is an online show, art does not need to be framed. When you submit the photo of your art, please crop out any background or framing material. Please submit one high-resolution photo (300 dpi recommended) of your art for 2D entries and two photos for 3D entries by emailing your entry to iowaartistsofficial@gmail.com. Then fill out the online form on our website under the Art Events Tab.

With Fall's beautiful palette of colors all around, now is the perfect time to start working on your entry. Watch your email for more information in the coming months.

Rules:

1. Create your choice of artwork for submission. This can be either 2D or 3D art. There will be one division judging both 2D and 3D art together. It must be created within the past two years and not previously entered into any Iowa Artists-sponsored juried event. We want to encourage artists to keep creating. No work

created prior to 2021 will be accepted. Please post the date you completed the work on the entry form. One entry is allowed per member.

2. No digital paintings or prints are allowed. We want to keep this contest to its truly creative form with only original works done by hand and not computer-aided.

3. Submitted artwork must be your original work and the copyright must be owned by you, unless you have written permission from the photographer. No copying of artwork by other artists or artwork done in a class or workshop allowed.

4. For your one entry, one photo of 2D artwork or two photos of 3D artwork may be submitted. Entries must be emailed to: iowaartistsofficial@gmail.com by midnight on February 28, 2022.

5. Selected artwork for 1st, 2nd, 3rd place and Honorable Mention will be showcased on social media, including but not limited to Iowa Artists Facebook page, Iowa Artists Artworks Facebook group and Iowa Artists website at <https://www.iowaartists.us/>. The complete show can be viewed on the Iowa Artists website after March 18, 2023.

6. Artwork may be sold at any time before the end of the contest. This will be an online showcased event only, and artworks will not be physically shown in a gallery.

7. Competition opens January 1, 2023, and ends at midnight February 28, 2023.

8. Winners will be notified by March 18, 2023.



"Shimmering Reflection"

Scott Krohn

5x7 colored pencil

A colored pencil piece done by our judge for our Online Winter Show.

Art Domestique Washington, Iowa

Interview by Danna Fruetel

1. Tell our members about your gallery and your outreach in the community.

Art Domestique has been open here in Washington, Iowa for 7 years. Art Domestique is run by a board of directors made up of 10 local artists and business people. The art gallery is supported by Richard and Robin Plattenberger-Gilmore who owns the building that is located in downtown Washington on the square. Our mission statement is "Art Domestique Gallery is a space for the artist and community to exchange and create."

2. Can you tell us about your different display areas? How many pieces go in each area?

On the left side of the gallery, we have a featured wall which we change every 6 weeks, and we accommodate the artist in the amount of space they need for their show. On the right side of the gallery, we feature all of the board members who are artists, and it holds approximately 30 pieces. Our workshop in the back area also holds additional artwork. We also offer a pop-up show on a partition in an area of the gallery that will hold approximately 12 pieces of artwork.

3. How can we have a show on one of your display spaces?

You can display in the gallery by sending an email to artdomestique@gmail.com with a jpg sample of your work to be submitted for approval.

4. Do you offer workshops from your gallery?

We do offer a variety of workshops throughout the year. We have a sketch club here at the gallery twice a month on Wednesday evenings also open studio on Tuesday afternoon. We host a Plein Air event the second weekend of June where one can buy artwork from locations around Washington painted by artists.

Contact Info: 319-653-8550/email at artdomestique@gmail.com or follow us on Facebook or at <https://artdomestiquegallery.com/>.



Plein Air Tips

By Deanna Skokan

So you've decided to take your art to another level – outside or en plein air. You've picked which plein air event you'd like to travel to and compete in, but how do you prepare for the week long or 1-3 day event? I recently competed in the LOZ Plein Air Art Festival and I learned a lot, so check out these tips for your next plein air competition. I hope they help you out.

First, some plein air events have preferred lodging available which is convenient to the venues you'll be painting. Make your reservation early and consider traveling to the location a day or two in advance to scope out the venues where the plein air event will take place. If it starts early in the morning or is a nocturne, find out the timing for sunrise/sunset. Walk around and look for a good place to set up your easel where it is out of the way of passersby. Remember, the sun can move quickly and your preferred shady spot could disappear within an hour (bring sunscreen and a hat!). If doing a nocturne, check out the light pole placement or other lit areas.

Use a square viewfinder to “frame” any area of interest that you may like to paint. Take a photo of that area. Does it make for a good composition? Think about the Rule of Thirds when looking through the viewfinder. Where is your point of interest? Like the saying says, “Keep it simple, Stupid.” Remember, time is limited.

Turn around 360 degrees. Sometimes the eye is drawn to a pretty location, but when you turn around, you may see something that is more pleasing compositionally. Try not to spin around too fast though and become dizzy when trying this tip!

Come prepared. Bring plenty of canvases, boards, or paper, etc. so that you don't run out. You may have time to paint several paintings in a day. Supplies can also be hard to find when a lot of artists are painting in a small town. Make a list of everything you need, such as brushes, paint, bug spray, sunscreen, paper towels, frames, framing supplies or wet paint carriers. Even packing a small cooler with bottled water and snacks will make the event more enjoyable.

The most seasoned plein air artists prewire their frames so they can pop in their paintings quickly by having the D rings tilted at an angle so they don't obstruct the frame opening. They also add a bit looser wire so the painting can slip into the opening easily. Use a point gun to quickly secure the painting into the frame. This is one of the best tips you can use, especially if it is a quick paint event or a buyer's

choice type of event where the owner of the venue looks at all the paintings immediately and purchases their favorite right at the venue.

The easiest tip I learned made talking art with passersby so convenient. Most plein air events give the artists a lanyard with a plastic case for their nametag and emergency contact info. Put a bunch of your business cards in behind your nametag. You'll be amazed how many you'll give out as people come check out what you are painting. Take at least 50! It's a quick and easy marketing tool and you don't even have to put your paintbrush down to grab a card out.

Consider painting all the same size of paintings. Repetition using the same size substrate will actually save you time in the long run. Also, using the same size and color of frame makes the whole framing process easier and faster.

Some artists purchase or make "pocket sleeves" to slip their paintings in at the end of the week by using bubble wrap and packing tape. Make these ahead of time by folding a large sheet of bubble wrap in half, tape the 2 sides closed with the packing tape, leaving the top open to be able to slide the framed painting in. Be sure to make the pocket sleeve a bit larger than the frame so it slips in easily yet protects the painting.

Be sure to pack a yoga mat! After you start your day with a few yoga poses, the mat can be placed on the ground to keep your feet warm or dry, away from bugs, or to push tall grass down. After painting it can be used to place on the trunk of your car or on the ground as protection when slipping the paintings into the frames. A perfect way to avoid scratches on frames. And if the week of painting en plein air wears you out, you could use it to get a little outdoor catnap in!



Now these last tips are if you are painting in a cave like I was. First, find an overhang if possible where water from the ceiling isn't dripping onto your canvas. Second, caves are dark so purchase a clip-on light for your easel or buy a helmet with a light on it at a store such as Lowe's or Home Depot. It's always handy to have your phone charged and use the flashlight in a pinch, too. Without a light, you might have a little surprise when you come out of the cave and find

mixed purple instead of brown on your palette! Dress in layers. Some caves are colder than others. That yoga mat will keep your feet dry also. Bring palette knives as the humidity in caves can make painting with brushes a bit tricky. The paint will definitely not dry as fast when in a cave.

Lastly, when attending a plein air event, think strategically. Are you painting the same thing everyone else is, or are you painting something that will stand out? If there is a theme, try to create a painting that follows the theme. If there is a nocturne, do try it! I almost didn't as traffic was so backed up to get to my preferred spot to paint, but I patiently persevered and I was awarded Second Place. You'll find that many people decide to opt out of the nocturnes, so your odds are better at winning a prize.

Just remember to have fun, learn lots from others, and don't be shy. You'll make some great lifelong friends and feel like a family after painting for a week with "your tribe" and going through all the challenges of plein air painting together.



Regional Shows 2023!

We're looking forward to hearing from all of the 2022 Chairpersons with regard to your region's plans for the upcoming 2023 Regional Shows. By December 31, 2022, you should have your plans in place: venue, judge, dates, and times, and this information should be forwarded to me so we can update the website for everyone's reference and so we can publish in the newsletter. This allows the artists in your region ample time to prepare their artwork and you as the chair plenty of time to get out the information they'll need to register. During the first week of January, you will receive packet information for such. In the meantime, if you have decided to step down as chair, please remember it is your responsibility to have someone in your place.

Please provide that person(s) with this information. Please use the following email to correspond with me: fineart@rebeccajayhennessy.com.



Fall Workshops Reach an End for 2022

Here is an array of photos from our workshops that took place over the past two months. We had 71 lowans taking these workshops. Out of those 71, only a small percentage were members that also show art in our regional shows. Many joined just to go to the workshop. This is a group for everyone, and we hope to bring workshops to you that you would like to go to. Next year we are considering spreading them out between June - November doing 1 per month and spreading them out over the state over 2 years. We would love to hear your ideas too for what you would like to see. Feel free to email Danna: dfruetel@gmail.com.



Region 2 - Pine Needle Weaving
With Delayne Segar



Region 11 - Wool Painting 101
With Kathryn Roe





Region 3 - Zen Stones
With Susan Kuennen



Region 10 - Exploring Gouache Painting
With Danna Fruetel



Region 7 - Painting Though Nature
With Caylin Jayde

Region 6 - Live Figure Drawing
With Rick Stewart

Attention Iowa Artists! Iowa Artists is Rebooting the Traveling Art Exhibit for 2023!

Iowa Artists is revamping the Traveling Art Exhibit and moving it to three galleries in Northeast Iowa. The twist is that the exhibit will not be moving, but patrons will be encouraged to visit all three galleries in the month of February for a Gallery Art Hop to see the beautiful artwork produced by artists throughout the state of Iowa. Viewers will have a punch card to verify attendance at the three galleries which will then be entered into a drawing for a prize! The three galleries participating are the Collective in Elkader, Iowa; the Left Bank in McGregor, Iowa; and the Art Haus in Decorah, Iowa.

Artists may enter up to 3 works, by submitting photos and the entry form via email to mkruse54@gmail.com. Deadline for submissions is midnight December 21, 2022. Artists will be notified by January 9, 2023 of accepted works and the gallery they should be delivered to. If an artist has multiple pieces accepted, all of their accepted work will be shown at the same gallery to make delivery/pickup of artwork easier for the artist. **NOTE: Artists must deliver their accepted artwork to the gallery their art is assigned to by January 28, 2023 and pick up their artwork after the show.** Artwork can be hand delivered or mailed. Artwork may be shipped with a prepaid return address label or if hand delivered, artwork must be picked up by March 4, 2023. More information can be found on the Iowa Artists Official Facebook page, Iowa Artists Artworks private Facebook group, and Iowa Artists website at <https://www.iowaartists.us/> under the Traveling Art Show tab where the entry form and instructions can be downloaded.



The Humeston New Era Print Shop ... ARTIST MALL

By Ly-Lee Konopasek

Paul Gunzenhauser, a resident of Humeston, purchased the old Humeston New Era Print Shop at an auction. Humeston is a small rural town in Area 11, Wayne County, straight south of Des Moines. Paul's goal was to have a place where local artists could display their art.

The Humeston New Era newspaper had been Humeston's newspaper for 125 years. The paper was started in 1880. The building changed hands in 1919, 1946, and again in 1985. The newspaper is now at Corydon and printed in Albia. The old office still stands on the north side of the second block of Main Street, Humeston. It is much the same as it was originally.



Old photos of the building and a current photo of it today, as an Artist Mall.

The Print Shop was an antique shop for many years. In 2022 it became empty and was sold at auction. Now the “Old Print Shop” is full of art created by local artists. There are 23 different artists displayed in the building. Iowa Artists membership information can be found in Ly-Lee Konopasek's booth. Check out her art for sale. The hours of the artist mall are Monday through Saturday 10 am to 3 pm.



Spot in the mall, and one of the many Artists, Dale O'Connell. (photo with his permission)

We wish you all a creative fall season

