



# Pittsford Art Group

NEWSLETTER - March 2022

## A Message from the Vice President

As you may be aware, there have been discussions among some of the local art groups regarding the criteria for subjects that are permitted in juried shows. I have had many discussions with individual members, and the Board on this topic. The Board met recently to confirm PAG criteria that expresses our perspective on this subject. If anyone has further questions after reading this, they can follow up with me. Going forward the following will be the prospectus of future juried shows with regard to reference images. **You must have ownership of photographic references used, or permission to use them, or images must be substantially changed. Images available in the public domain, may be used as references.**

I want to emphasize the primary goal of the Pittsford Art Group. We are a community art group that wishes to encourage artistic creation and support for our members. PAG offers the opportunity to participate in juried shows and to give members the experience to have their work judged by a neutral artist. We also offer opportunities for members to participate in non-juried shows, and individual exhibits at local venues for potential private sales. Of course, we offer other benefits to create a supportive community, and further artistic growth and learning.

With regards to painting subjects, references or inspiration for juried shows, individuals must be responsible for their own work. PAG sets guidelines in the prospectus, however, it is up to each member to make discretionary decisions for themselves. It is NOT the responsibility of the group as a whole, or individual members, to police others' work. There have been instances in which some have been questioned as to the origin of a subject's inspiration. I think it is important that we treat one another with grace and respect vs. focusing on potential legal issues regarding copyrights, etc. It would be rude of me to assume that others have not traveled to exotic locations, have excellent photographic talents, or have the permission of other talented photographers to use their photos for references. It is also not unreasonable to use photos in the public domain for inspiration that are rendered in a personal, unique style.

## A Message from the Vice President

I had the privilege to view a solo exhibit of Hung Liu, the first Asian American to be honored with a solo exhibit at [The National Portrait Gallery](#) in Washington DC. A large quantity of her paintings use very recognizable iconic photos from the Chinese Revolution as subject matter. She has changed various elements in her paintings from the reference photos, but the paintings still maintain significant elements of recognition to the original images. It struck me that here is a woman being honored in a National Gallery, using recognizable photos as references, so WHY, are so many in local community art groups getting all twisted up about reference images?

Art is a very personal expression of creativity. Let us encourage one another to explore and experiment rather than impose limitations that cause members undue anxiety. I would prefer to encourage all members to participate as enthusiastically as possible, rather than withhold their work in fear of unnecessary criticism. Some have brought up the current legal issues between the estate of [Andy Warhol](#) and Vanity Fair. It is my opinion that we keep this subject in proper perspective with regards to our community art group. When one of us becomes as famous as Andy Warhol, then a hearty congratulations will be in order!

**Betsy**

## March 2022 Guest Artist - Rebecca Maynard

Rebecca Maynard was kind enough to show us her watercolor batik painting method. She starts with Hosho rice paper, which is actually made of Mulberry fiber. It is highly absorbent and when wet has the texture of soft toilet paper. She applied the first light wash of yellow paint for us because it takes so long to dry the paper in between the stages of layering wax.

Rebecca had a lightly drawn sunflower design and proceeded to brush melted wax onto the center petals, as well as a few dots in the center of her sunflower to preserve the light yellow color. The hot wax will spread on the paper, so she takes that into consideration when applying. The wax dries very quickly and leaves the wax covered surfaces with a level of transparency. She then wet the entire paper and added darker yellow, violet and green pigments around the waxed areas. The saturation of the paper allows the pigments to flow organically into one another. The paper is very soft and delicate, so she uses very soft brushes and only layers lightly once with water, then with color. Using a blow dryer, she then completely dries her paper again. Now she can apply more wax to preserve the colors she has applied in the slightly darker value.

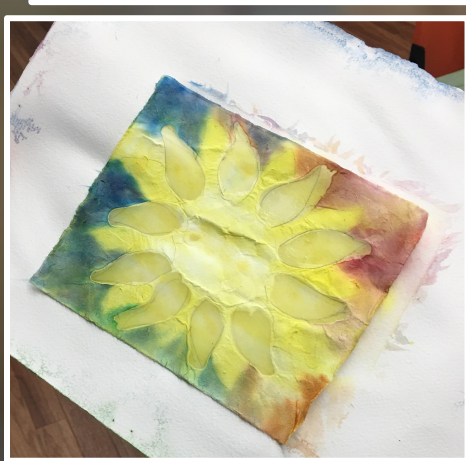
The entire composition is painted in a negative fashion, preserving the light colored areas and adding progressively darker pigments to create depth, by repeating the process of applying water and pigment, blow drying, then more wax to cover the subsequent areas she wants to preserve. Sometimes upon her final wax application, she will gather together the entire dried paper to crumple it, creating fractures in the wax. She will then apply a final dark pigment and scrub it into the creases created by the dried wax.

The final step is to iron off the wax from the entire work. She layers the dried painting between several layers of newspaper and applies a hot iron. The melted wax will be absorbed into the news print paper. This must be repeated several times until no more wax appears on the newspaper. The light colored areas of the painting may retain a transparent appearance.

When framing her work, she will mount the painting on top of a white sheet of paper to give those transparent areas more opacity. She also uses alcohol markers to refine some areas of her composition that require more definition than is achievable with the blunt application of the wax. The final painting has a texture similar to fabric. We discovered that if the paper is not dry prior to ironing, the newsprint will impart itself into the wet fibers of the painting. This creates an interesting effect also.

(Thank you to Betsy for taking notes!)







## AWARD WINNERS

### Best of Show:

Barbara Jablonski: Wiltsie Crump Building, Pittsford

### Body of work:

Lois Zebelman: Cherries, Cabbage, Radishes, and Figs

### Juror's Award:

1. Carolyn Lobkowitz: Fall at the Creek
2. Ann Limbeck: Feeding Ducks
3. Susan Fredericks Hodes: First Heartbreak
4. Elizabeth Thurnherr: Nova Scotia Fishing Boat
5. Cathy Schwegler: Suck It Up Buttercup
6. Betsy Liano: Sunflower Trio

### Merit Award:

1. Margaret Mitchell: Emma in Sunglasses
2. Joseph Sirianni: Horse Farm
3. Niesdri Welsh: NY Organic
4. Helen Presberg: Out on a Walk
5. Elizabeth Thurnherr: Purple Iris
6. Sylvie Culbertson: Remember?

Photos of the show are on the [PAG](#) website homepage.

## ROTATING EXHIBIT Schedule

Venue->	Pittsford Town Hall	Friendly Home Main	Star P.T.	Presbyterian Church
# pieces->	10 to 15 medium	22	16	3 large, 7 small
Jan-Mar '22	Barbara Jablonski	Ann Limbeck	Nies Welsh & Betsy Liano	Claire Gmelin
Apr-Jun '22	Betsy Liano	Joanne Andrews	Hiroko Jusko	Ann Limbeck
Jul-Sep '22	AVAILABLE	AVAILABLE	AVAILABLE	AVAILABLE
Oct-Dec '22	AVAILABLE	AVAILABLE	AVAILABLE	AVAILABLE

If you have questions about this schedule, please contact [Laura Davis](#).

## REMINDERS

**OUR NEXT MEMBERSHIP MONTHLY MEETING** is **April 7th** at 7pm in-person at the Community Center (room 207). We will do our best to use Zoom during the meeting for those unable to attend in-person. Check the [PAG website](#) for a list of upcoming presenters. Masks are currently not required at the Community Center.

**GUESTS** are welcomed and encouraged to join us at our monthly meetings to hear and see what's going on and to watch our wonderful demonstrators. To help with rising costs it would be appreciated if a **\$5.00 donation** was made to the group for in-person attendance. If the guest would like to join our group then their donation will be applied to their joining fee.

**Sylvia Ball** will send **occasion appropriate cards** to members or their families. If you know of someone who is ill or a member that has passed, please contact Sylvia.

# WELCOME New Members!

PAG currently has 39 members! Please reach out to friends and acquaintances to join us!

## NEWS

**PAG** is at the *Pittsford Spiegel Recreation & Community Center!*

All are welcomed. Stop by and do not forget your art supplies! Members have been enjoying meeting on these evenings to paint together!

### "Fridge" Reminder

**PAG Friday Night Paint Out!**

**Pittsford Community Center**

4/22 and 5/20 in Room 119, 6:30 to 8:30

\*\*\*Save the NEW date: June 16th, 2022 **PAG PICNIC** at Kings Bend Park!

**We need you!!!** Two Executive Board positions need to be replaced this coming year - **Treasurer** and **Recording Secretary**. We thank Hiroko for stepping up to backfill the treasurer position this past year and for Sylvie's dedication over the years as recording secretary. Please contact a Board member today to discuss these positions!

**Barbara Jablonski** is providing a comprehensive, outdoor, three-day Spring Plein Air Painting workshop, Tuesday, May 17th through Thursday, May 19th. Check out the details on her website:

<http://www.barbarajablonski.com/plein-air-painting-workshop.html>

**PAG on Instagram:** <https://www.instagram.com/pittsfordartgroup>



Please send Joe some new pictures of your work to be posted on our Website and Instagram account.

It is 6x6 time again at the Rochester Contemporary Art Center ([RoCo](#)). Artworks accepted now through April 9th. Four Artworks per artist accepted.

**Explore** Rochester's art venues on **First Friday**. Visit [firstfridayrochester.org](http://firstfridayrochester.org) for a full list participating venues and events.

# Executive Board & Committee Members

## 2021 – 2022 Positions

### Executive Board Officers

President	Margaret Mitchell
Vice President	Betsy Liano
Treasurer	Hiroko Jusko
Recording Secretary	Sylvie Culbertson
Corresponding Secretary	Joe Sirianni

### Standing Committees

Membership	Carol Schott
Program Chair	Betsy Liano
Refreshments	Niesdri Welsh
Rotating Exhibits	Laura Davis
Sunshine	Sylvia Ball
Website Manager	Joe Sirianni
Newsletter	Joe Sirianni

### 2021 – 2022 Season Shows

March 2022 (Feb. 27 - April 2): Pittsford Barnes and Noble

Please volunteer  
for these  
positions!!!

