

President's Message:

Dear Members,

It is an exciting month for WITVA with many activities and artistic opportunities.

February 9th is the WITVA 30th Years of Giving Luncheon at the Boca Raton Resort and Beach Club. The day includes an art project, a boutique, raffles, a silent auction, and a great lunch. If you have not gotten your tickets, hurry because seats are limited. If you are unable to join us, you can still participate in our silent auction. Look for the announcement email towards the end of January.

The members asked for this and WITVA delivered: At our February 15th general meeting, Kris Smith, a local art teacher and juror, will be critiquing your art. Come and gain insight into how a juror judges a show. Check the newsletter for more information.

We also have three shows gearing up. We will be at the Cornell Museum in Delray Beach, the Boca Raton Community Center, and the Eissey Theater located in Palm Beach Gardens. Check the website for more specific information on the shows.

At the end of the month, WITVA will be at the new GL Homes Boynton Beach's Valencia Bay for a private community art show. This is an opportunity to gain new clients and sell some of your latest works. See you out there!

Susan Clemmons
Co-President WITVA

KRIS SMITH LECTURE AT FEBRUARY 15TH MEETING, 12:30 to 2:00 P.M.



Kris Smith is our guest speaker at our February 15th General Meeting. She will provide personal critiques for some of our members. Learn how to appreciate your talent and improve artwork for personal and professional growth. Members may bring one or two artwork(s) for critique. Kris is an experienced artist, teacher/juror who focuses on constructive criticism and knows what jurors look for and how to develop to the next level as an artist. If interested, you can sign-up in advance by e-mailing Jane McIntyre at jane.mcintyre@comcast.net. Note that this will be on a first come-first service basis.

Kris Smith began her professional artistic career in the Washington, D.C. area, eventually creating over 3,000 painted and sculpted portraits of sports figures, politicians, and the famous as well as not so famous of its private citizens.

... continued on page four

CALENDAR

February 1: WITVA Friday Create Gathering, 10 AM to 3 PM, Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd, Boca Raton

February 8: WITVA Friday Create Gathering, 10 AM to 3 PM, Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd, Boca Raton

February 9: 30th YEAR CELEBRATION OF GIVING - Our big event! Our annual fundraiser at the Boca Beach Club and Hotel, 10 AM to 2 PM. See Page 2 for details.

February 10: Deadline for submitting information to Kris Henke, kgchenke8@gmail.com, for February newsletter.

February 15: WITVA General Meeting, 10 AM for Board Meeting and 11:30 to 3 PM for all members, Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd, Boca Raton

February 22: WITVA Friday Create Gathering, 10 AM to 3 PM, Boca Raton Community Center, 150 Crawford Blvd, Boca Raton

February 24: "Pop-up" art sale from 10 AM to 4 PM at the new Valencia Bay Clubhouse Social Hall, Boynton Beach. See Page 2 for details.



Come and celebrate WITVA's 30th year of giving at our annual scholarship fundraiser luncheon on **Friday, February 9th** at the Boca Hotel Beach Club. We will begin at 10 am with a hands-on creative art project followed at 12:30 pm by a delicious luncheon and celebration. You will browse our boutique of wonderful handcrafted items, bid on mystery gift bags and participate in our grand prize silent auction.

Call Susan Lewine at (203) 536 - 8744 to see if seating for this event is still available!

30 for 30 Campaign and Scholarship Fundraiser The list keeps growing!

We wish to thank our Business Donors:

Lilly Pulitzer; Oriental Trading Company;
Okeehelée Golf Course; TooJay's Gourmet Deli;
Total Wines and Spirits; Frost Museum, Gramercy Salon; Pure
Bliss Day Spa; Kendra Scott; Broken Sound Club;
Ludwig Framemakers;
MassageWorks by Monica E. Murphy;
Rendon Center Dermatology and Aesthetic Medicine;
Boca Raton Resort and Club; N.Y. Prime restaurant;
Kee Grill restaurant; Robert and Teresa Nilsson _ Jewelry;
Tim Forman - Painting; Jupiter Jewelers;
Spa Tique Nails; Izzy and Co. Hairdresser;
Ruth's Chris Steak House; Capitol Grill; oleda.com;
Lion Press

And we thank our \$30 for 30 years

Member Donors:

Judith Rosenberg, Genie A Cohen, Sharon Koskoff,
Jennie Eve Barnett, Jennifer Berkman, Jeanette Childress,
Susan Clemmons, Marta Cruz, Laura Kerzner, Liane Kravet,
Susan Lewine, Lola Lichman, Betty Magro,
Sandy Ryter, Roberta Sandor, Maxine Schreiber, Adeline
Weiner, Debbie Rubin, Bonnie Farber, Patricia Lappin, Grace
Fishenfeld, Helen Regenstreif, Velia Sweet

And Life members:

Edie Minkoff, Phyllis Annunziato, Joan Criscione
Janice Cohen

Welcome New Members

**Sally Accetta,
Barbara Marcus (returning member),
Marilyn Levin, Hollis Schlam,
Randi Senderowitz, Sarita Vernekoff**

VALENCIA BAY POP-UP SALE

February 24, 2019

WITVA has another opportunity for you to sell your work. Join us on February 24, 2019 at the new GL Homes Boynton Beach 's Valencia Bay for a private community art show. WITVA artists will be able to display, promote and sell their work in the gorgeous clubhouse social hall. The residents of Valencia Bay have new homes and many walls that need good art.

The community is very philanthropic-minded and supports WITVA with their purchases. There is \$20 entry fee to participate, and WITVA will take a 20% commission on all sales. You must bring your own display easels and display devices, and be able to transport your artwork to and from the event. Tables are available for crafters and jewelers. The WITVA Valencia Pop-Up will start at 10:00 a.m. and end at 4:00 p.m. This is open to all current WITVA members who have Florida sales tax certificates.

For more information, please contact Sandy Ryter at sandyryter@comcast.net or Susan Clemmons at syclemmons@gmail.com.

SAVE THE DATE SPRING LUNCHEON

April 17, 2019

11:30-3:00

Stay tuned for details!

MESSAGE FROM SANDY RYTER: Don't miss out on great events!! Remember to pay your WITVA dues. Please send your check for \$50 and made payable to WITVA to: Sandy Ryter, 7757 La Mirada Drive, Boca Raton, FL 33433.

HOSPITALART

Shirley Gelfand reports: Adopt-a-Family has received numerous paintings for their organization. Mr. Matt Constantine, Chief Executive Officer of Adopt-a-Family of the Palm Beaches sent us word of thanks: "The kindness and generosity you freely offer to families you may never meet reminds everyone here at Adopt-a-Family of the true meaning of the holiday season."

CONGRATULATIONS

WITVA "ARTISTIC INFLUENCES" SHOW AT CORAL SPRINGS MUSEUM

During December, twenty-two (22) WITVA members participated in the Coral Springs Museum "Artistic Influences" show. The diverse and colorful show was mingled with holiday lights and holiday cheer. At the show reception, Juror Janet Gold awarded the show ribbons and spoke of how "the show invoked innovation and creativity for the viewer".

First Place went to **Deidre Kline** for "**In My Studio**". Per Judge Janet Gold, "This fresh and clever mix-media piece integrates high-brow abstract imagery, with low-brow aesthetics...."

Second Place went to **Alia Fernandez** for "**Satellite**". Per the judge: "...purely about expressions and experimentation. Everything is every inch a delight in color and surface texture of the acrylic medium...."

Third Place went to **Kelly Merkur** for "**Sybil**", which was described as "the powerful abstract...with strength and proficiency."

Susan Kronowitz received honorable mention for her large-scale oil painting, the "**Favory VII Ariella**", and judges recognition went to new member **Darline Braz** for "**Ancient Ritual**". WITVA member, **Sally Foster**, was also on hand to give a guided tour and talk to the attendees about her current solo show at the museum.



Kelly Merkur was recently featured in "VoyageMIA" online magazine. An excerpt from the interview:

"Now I paint two completely different types of work. I still paint pet portraits. This is all commission work. People really love their pets!! I primarily paint dogs, however, I have done a few cats, a horse, a rooster, and a snake.

"I also love non-objective/abstract work. I paint with a lot of layers.

"The end result is simple and minimal yet rich with intense color and texture. I am in the process of growing my business. I am so excited to see what the future has in store."

The full interview can be found at:

<http://voyagemia.com/interview/meet-kelly-merkur-kelly-merkur-art-parkland-fl-broward-county/>



Carolyn Barth was awarded **First Place** in the NAWA FL show "*Envisioning Miracles*" at Nathan D. Rosen Gallery, Honorable Mention in the Boca Raton Museum Artist Guild Show at Sugar Sand Park and juried into the Palm Beach Watercolor Society show "*Into the Light*" at Cornell Art Museum.

Maxine Schreiber started off the new year as co-manager of the Artists of Palm Beach County Art on Park Gallery. Her painting "Massachusetts Summer" is among the art that was selected for the Members 2019 Exhibit, which will run until mid-February. In



December, our past president, Karen H. Salup, was the judge for the "Absolutely Abstract" exhibit in the gallery. This month, Maxine invited Fermin Presno to judge the Members Exhibit. The Gallery, which is located on 800 Park Avenue in Lake Park, is a venue WITVA members should consider. The hours of operation are Monday -

Saturday noon - 6 PM. Maxine now has studio and exhibiting space there, and she invites everyone to visit her at the gallery noon - 6PM on Tuesdays and Thursdays or 3 - 6 PM on Fridays.

Maxine is also presenting **The Life and Art of John James Audubon** for the Boynton Beach Historical Society on Monday, February 18, 2019, 7 - 8 PM in the First Presbyterian Church, Pratt Hall - 235 SW 6th Avenue in Boynton Beach (two blocks west of Seacrest Blvd). All are invited for the lecture and slideshow of Audubon's magnificent prints.

... continued

CONGRATULATIONS



Margo Berkson Berg is exhibiting her artwork "Into the Light" with the Palm Beach Watercolor Society at the Old School Square, Cornell Art Museum, 51 N. Swinton Avenue, Delray Beach, from January 2 through February 2019.



Jane Bazinet is providing painting classes in her studio. She is best known for her figurative paintings, but believes in "freedom in painting".

If you are interested in her classes, please contact Jane at 954-579-5942 or bazinetjane@yahoo.com.

KRIS SMITH LECTURE ...continued from page one

Two of her commissioned portraits hung in The White House during the Ford and Carter administrations.

Her sculpted portrait marionettes were chosen to be one of Neiman Marcus's "10 Most Unusual Gifts in the World" in their Christmas Catalog resulting in guest appearances on "OPRAH", "M.S.N.B.C.", and "Good Morning America" and a three page article in "PEOPLE" magazine. More recent clients include Suze Orman and Dr. Phil McGraw.

Working in a variety of media, her whimsical side emerges in a series of collectable wood and clay sculptures dubbed the "Little Guys". They are built of wood with puppet-like features and invite a smile!

She has completed unusual three-dimensional murals for both adult areas and children's rooms, some including life-size sculpted animals.

She designed and created a 12' tall contemporary painted wood sculpture for the Women in Distress Center in Deerfield Beach, Florida.

Since 2012 she has been traveling around the world teaching and selling art as an Artist in Residence on Oceania Cruise Lines.

Please check out her "Artobiography" video and visit her website: www.krissmithart.com.

WITVA CONTACT INFORMATION

CO-PRESIDENT: Susan Clemmons
(561) 750-1399 - syclemons@gmail.com

CO-PRESIDENT: Susan C. Lewine
(203) 536-8744 - susantimothychorney@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT AT LARGE, EVENTS: Sandy Ryter
(561) 391-9109 - sandryter@comcast.net

VICE PRESIDENT AT LARGE: Shirley Gelfand
(561) 417-7491 - swgelfand@aol.com

CONTROLLER: Jeanette Childress
(404) 414-3260 - witvatreas@gmail.com

RECORDING SECRETARY: Abbe Kalman
(561) 434-5652 - kalmanart@bellsouth.net

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, BLASTS: Maxine Schreiber
(561) 689-2530 - maxine@schreiberstudio.com

NEWSLETTER: Kris Henke
(561) 419-8030 (Home)
(561) 569-5831 (Cell) - kghenke8@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP: Sandy Ryter
(561) 391-9109 - sandryter@comcast.net

SPRING CELEBRATION HS ART:

Jennie Eve Barnett
(561) 346-2056 - jennieevebarnett@gmail.com
and
Phyllis C. Annunziato
(561) 504-9143 - witva2000@aol.com

JURYING: Agata Ren
(561) 523-3686 - jurywitva@gmail.com

HOSPITALART: Shirley Gelfand
(561) 417-7491 - swgelfand@aol.com

DEMOS & LECTURES: Jane McIntyre
(561) 866-4467 - jane.mcintyre@comcast.net

WEST BOCA IMAGING: Edie F. Minkoff
(561) 989-8786 - witva2013@gmail.com

WITVA COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP: Myrna Rodkin
(561) 703-0554 - zoomf16mr@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP DATA BASE: Sandy Ryter
(561) 391-9109 - sandryter@comcast.net
and
Lynn Berman