



Paint Strokes

Murrieta's
Gem of the Valley Art Association

September 2024

September Demonstrator

Valentina Lamdin

Palette Knife Landscape

Russian artist, Valentina Ratschenko-Lamdin, was influenced by her artist father, Jakob Ratschenko, whom she lost during World War II. As an artist, Valentina does not limit herself to subject matter or medium, or style. She loves color and is recognized as a colorist, with works in many private collections and museums. Valentina has been teaching art for some thirty years, focusing her students on developing their talents and abilities. By teaching, she achieves the reward of hearing a student say, finally...my gosh, I get it! Valentina stated she is also very proud of her students when they are recognized and win awards in art shows.



ATTENTION

Because of Labor Day, the September meeting will be on the **2nd Monday** of the month....September 9th

Gem of the Valley Art Association

General Meeting

Date: September 9, 2024

Time: 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Place: Senior Center Main Hall
41717 Juniper, Murrieta

President's Message



YIPPEEE!!

WE'RE BACK IN THE SADDLE AGAIN, FOLKS, AND WE'RE SO EXCITED TO BRING YOU ANOTHER YEAR OF FUN MEETINGS, GREAT DEMONSTRATORS, AND THIS CELEBRATORY YEAR – YEP, GEM IS TURNING THIRTY! SO, BRING YOUR BEAUTIFUL ART AND GET READY TO FILL OUR YEAR WITH COLOR!

IMPORTANT TO KNOW!!

IF YOU ARE NOT A MASTER OR ENTERING IN PHOTOGRAPHY, YOU'LL BE ENTERING YOUR WORK IN THE NEW CATEGORY CALLED "GENERAL ART" AND THIS IS FOR YOU:

- ~ YOU'LL BE CHOOSING YOUR APPROPRIATE LEVEL OF ABILITY AT THE SEPTEMBER MEETING:
BEGINNER/ENTRY LEVEL, INTERMEDIATE LEVEL, OR ADVANCED LEVEL
- ~ YOU'LL GET ONE (1) CHANCE TO CHANGE YOUR CHOICE AT THE OCTOBER MEETING. YAY!
- ~ ALL CATEGORIES ALLOW 2 (TWO) ENTRIES

You're going to see the entire break-down with great explanation later in this newsletter but let me reiterate here, this new process for judging our work is on a one-year trial basis. If we all find it just doesn't work, we'll revert back to our old method of Original/Non-original judging. But I have to say, I've heard many positive comments from excited members about the new way to enter their art.....it might just be what we need to encourage EVERYONE to show their stuff! I'm excited for you all to be confident and happy about your work and to embrace your talent. Let it be showcased on the level of your choice and I'll betcha dollars to donuts that your art will be in the Library Display Case adorned with ribbons!

We never know what's around the corner, right? See you on September 9th!!

Gem ~ we're all about art

Cathy



**Cathy Baca
President**

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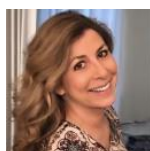
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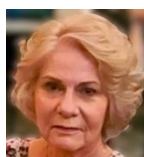
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Your Board Members & Committee Members

**We currently have 16 paid
members for the
2024/2025 season.**

Treasurer's Corner

Beginning Balance as of
September 9th: \$3,413.00

Cathy Keeney
Treasurer



Membership Dues

**Renew Your Membership at
the September Meeting
\$50/Person**

**In order to schedule this season's
monthly demonstrators and
programs, we need to have an
accurate accounting of our
membership dues.**

**We appreciate your continued
support and ask that you take a
moment now to bring a check or cash
to our meeting in September to
renew your annual dues.**

As discussed in the June meeting, members themselves will determine in which of the following categories they will place their artwork for evaluation and ribbons. You will have an opportunity in the October meeting to revise your decision if you wish....however, you would then be in the level you have chosen. Upon receiving three (3) first-place awards, you would be moved to the higher level. Three first-place awards in the Advanced category would automatically move you to Masters.

EXHIBITOR'S GUIDELINES

Exhibits:

1. Only members may enter work for judging.
2. Members must have dues paid prior to the time of judging.
3. All entries must be registered prior to the meeting.
4. All paintings must be dry. All oil/acrylic/pastel work must be framed or gallery-wrapped. If gallery-wrapped, no staples should show and all sides painted. All watercolors must be framed.
5. Members must enter their own work and be present to win.
6. Any entry winning a blue or gold First Place ribbon may not be re-entered for judging with Gem again. Others may be re-entered after three (3) months.
7. Members may enter two (2) entries each month in the General Art Category, which offers three (3) different levels ~ Entry Level, Intermediate, and Advanced. Each member will choose their appropriate level at the beginning of the year.
8. Members may enter two (2) entries each month in the Photography Category.
9. Masters members may enter two (2) entries in the Masters Category.

General Art Category:

1. Entry Level:
 - ~You have created artwork off and on for two (2) years or less.
 - ~You have little or no experience with your chosen medium.
 - ~You are starting artwork for the first time.
 - ~You use teacher assistance for some areas of artwork.
2. Intermediate Level:
 - ~You are somewhat comfortable with your chosen medium.
 - ~You are returning to art after several years away but are experienced.
 - ~You are somewhat comfortable with the elements of art (see Judging Criteria)
3. Advanced Level:
 - ~You are comfortable with your chosen medium.
 - ~You have created artwork regularly for several years.
 - ~You need little guidance; you primarily work alone.

Photography Category:

Both true and digitally enhanced photography are allowed.

Masters Category:

This category allows original entries only. To become a Gem Master, the member must win a cumulative total of three (3) First Place ribbons in the General Art- Advanced Category within one fiscal year. Also, any member who has been an art demonstrator, an art teacher and/or a professional artist will automatically be placed in the Masters Category

Ribbons Awarded by the Demonstrator/Critiquing Judge:

Each category requires a minimum of three (3) entries for a ribbon to be awarded. Fewer than three will not generate a ribbon for that category. If there are three (3) or more entries, 1st, 2nd and 3rd place ribbons will be awarded.

Ribbons awarded by the Membership – People's Choice:

This ribbon is awarded to one artist during the monthly meetings. All members and non-members in attendance have one vote each and all artwork in all categories are included. If there is a tie for this award, the judge will be asked to break the tie.

Gem Artist of the Year:

Only the "General Art – Advanced" and "Masters" first-place winners from the Gem competitions held between September through May can qualify. These artists will be invited to bring and display some or all of their winning pieces to the June meeting. The winners are selected by all members of good standing in attendance. Two ribbons will be awarded at each June meeting: one ribbon for the Artist of the Year in the "General Art – Advanced" Category and one ribbon for the Artist of the Year in the "Master's" Category.

Hospitality Corner

**Members are welcome to bring
goodies for the snack table.**

GATHER & PAINT

Join us every Tuesday in the Senior Center Main Room from 12:30-3:30 to paint & create! Most of us are GEM members so you'll be among friends. Bring your project and supplies, the tables & chairs are set up for us. No instructor, just a great room with perfect lighting and good friends. And it's FREE!

The Gathering Place

Good Friends, Good Food, Good Times



MACarts951@gmail.com

Call For Artists

Art @ The Alleyway

Artist vendor fee: \$25

Thursdays All Year

Join us, and many others, each and every Thursday in Downtown Murrieta. Murrieta Market Nights is held on the 1st & 3rd Thursday year-round. 60+ vendors, music, food & of course ART! Open Mic Nights are held on the 2nd & 3rd Thursday @ The Alleyway. All ages & all talents are welcome!