



Paint Strokes

Murrieta's Gem of the Valley Art Association

April 2025

April Demonstrator

Joe Oaks

Artist Statement

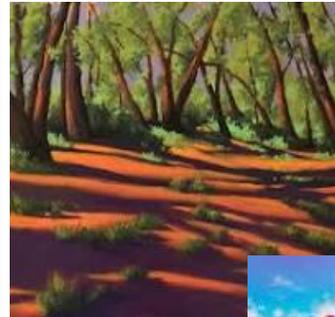
My landscapes of the West and Southwest are about the joy of nature and the colors it offers us. I paint with colors that evoke feelings of the first brilliant seconds of sunrise and the last fiery moments of sunset. Expressing those feelings through the use of bold, vibrant highlights and shadows of violet hues is my signature. I paint tributes to the mountains, canyons and valleys in the hopes it will slow us down long enough to appreciate them. Every painting is a challenge to examine the colors of our world and reconnect with nature.

Biography

Joe A. Oakes was a curious and observant child that began drawing at age five. He's been painting full time since 2008 and like other artists, had many previous occupations including, substitute teacher, art consultant and graphic designer. He has survived cancer and the loss of a child and used these life changing events to propel his art career forward.

Oakes' landscapes burn with the first brilliant seconds of sunrise and the last fiery moments of sunset. Expressing those feelings through the use of bold, vibrant highlights of orange and shadows of violet hues is his signature. His work offers a meditative sense of calm and happiness, with a profound reverence for the land. Each painting is a tribute to the mountains, canyons and valleys of the West and Southwest.

Oakes holds a BFA from CSU, Fullerton and his awards include: Third Place, "Sears Invitational", Utah Tech, 2024, Best in Show, "Nature of Color Show" Art Brut 27, 2020, First Place, "Visions", CCMA, Ontario, CA, 2019. His work has been included in many museum shows including, ArtsThrive, Albuquerque Museum, Sears Invitational, Sears Museum at Utah Tech and Art in the West, High Desert Museum, Bend, OR. His work has also been published in International Artist Magazine and most recently in Artists Magazine's "Acrylic Works 11 - The Best of Acrylic". Oakes resides near Palm Springs, California.



Gem of the Valley Art Association

General Meeting

Date: April 7th, 2025

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

Place: Senior Center Main Hall
41717 Juniper, Murrieta

Gem Mailing Address: 24930 Washington Ave., Suite 113, Murrieta, CA 92562

www.murrietaartists.org

President's Message



We did our March meeting up grand, didn't we? For those of you who didn't make it, you missed out on our 30 Year Celebration & Critique Session ~ it was a huge success! Pizza & Salad & Cake, oh my! And Marilyn Froggatt did a wonderful job of positive criticism on all the entries – nearly 20 of them! Yes, there were ribbons! But we did things a little differently! The membership awarded a People's Choice ribbon for each category!

And I think our April meeting will be just as much fun ~ Joe Oakes always makes it special, right? His color palette is off the chart and he's so informative and enjoyable, we love this guy! He's definitely one of our favorites so don't miss it!

On the business side, I want to remind you ALL that it's time to be thinking of taking a position on the Board for next year. The sign-up sheet will be sent around at the meeting (along with the sheet for our May Arts Craft Fair). Here are the open positions with simple job descriptions from me:

PRESIDENT: Planning & creating agenda items for monthly Board meetings (currently held in the Murrieta Library Heritage Room, last Tuesday of the month, 10-11:30 a.m.). Conducting Board meetings and Gem's General meetings each month.

VICE PRESIDENT: Contacting and securing demonstrators for each month with the goal of rotating the mediums used. Assisting the President in all matters for the Board and General meetings, including conducting those meetings in his/her absence. This person will handle the Library art project that we have in place by meeting with the winners.

AUDIO TECH/VISUAL TECH: This could be one OR two people for each piece of equipment. Audio equipment is color-coded and uses only one AA battery for the wireless mic. This equipment is brought in and set up for all General meetings (never used for anything but Gem meetings), then taken home by the tech and kept in a safe environment. Visual equipment is comprised of a projector, a camera, and tri-pod, using rechargeable batteries (we have two) that would be charged before the General meetings. This equipment is also used only for Gem meetings, brought in and taken home by the tech and kept in a safe environment.

HOSPITALITY: The most fun job of all! This once-per-month duty requires setting up one table with a tablecloth, pitchers (provided by the center) of beverages (water, lemonade & iced tea). Snacks are brought in by the members. The table set-up by the chairperson is only expected for Sept-Nov and Jan-May. The annual Christmas Party and June Luncheon are generally handled by Teri Smith (aka Party Planner Extraordinaire), but help from this chairperson and many members are welcome.

PLEASE, PLEASE, step up for a position! We want Gem to continue for another 30 years!

Gem ~ we're all about art!
Cathy



**Cathy Baca
President**

cathybaca@gmail.com



**Roxane Miskam
1st Vice President**

roxane.miskam@gmail.com



**Anne Slagle
2nd Vice President**

schatzie923@yahoo.com



**Patsy Kile
Secretary**

patsyek@yahoo.com



**Cathy Keeney
Treasurer**

keeneysc@yahoo.com



**Marti Thurman
Membership**

martiphotos@gmail.com



**Teri Smith
Newsletter/Photography**

billteri01@gmail.com



**Steve Staudenmeir
Webmaster**

steve.staudenmeir@gmail.com



**Ron Baca
Audio**

nvbacas@aol.com



**Camilla McNabb
Hospitality**

artistcamilla@aol.com

Your Board Members & Committee Members

**We currently have 47 paid
members for the
2024/2025 season.**

Treasurer's Corner

Beginning Balance	\$3,179.52
Monies out:	\$ 425.98
Deposits	\$ 29.00
Jan. Ending Balance:	\$2,782.54

Cathy Keeney
Treasurer

March Demonstrator

Marilyn Froggatt

Marilyn critiqued our members' paintings and photos







Patsy Kile won Marilyn's beautiful, donated painting in the raffle. 



March Awards

People's Choice Awards were given in all categories

Master Category



Cathy Baca
"February Morning Sky"

Advanced Level



Gina Wilson
"Winter Walk"

Intermediate Level



Rick Wilson
"Highland Longhair"

Entry Level



Marcci Herrmann-Jones
"Inquire"

Photography Category



Anne Slagle
"Tulum, Yucatan, Mexico"

Camilla McNabb brought her great-grandmother's paintings from the 1800's or early 1900's....Beautiful 



Here's something you may be interested in attending:



Hello *JEM!*

Fallbrook Artists Association (FAA) and FAA's The Gallery for all Artists is sponsoring a FREE Five-Day Art Extravaganza from **April 16 through April 20**.

The Extravaganza will provide demonstrations and activities for both adults and children featuring painting in oil, acrylic, and watercolor, one-of-a-kind printing with acrylics, how to draw cartoons, spinning yarn from sheep's wool, creating a pendant or beads with polymer and air-dry clay, marbling with acrylic paint, making your own SHARK(!) pop-up card and much more.

All activities will take place at The Gallery for all Artists, 119 N. Main, Fallbrook. Each day will be divided into two - 2 hour sessions. The morning session will run from 10:00AM to noon; the afternoon session will run from 1:00 to 3:00PM.

Please go to FAA's website fallbrookartassn.org to see which activity is scheduled when. You may choose to attend one, some or all. It's up to you. No registration is necessary.

Hope to see you there.

Susan
Susan Frommer
for Fallbrook Artists Association

Wednesday April 16	Thursday, April 17	Friday, April 18	Saturday, April 19	Sunday, April 20
AM - 10 - 12 noon	AM - 10 - 12 noon	AM - 10 - 12 noon	AM - 10 - 12 noon	AM - 10 - 12 noon
Intro. to Gelli plate printing	Amazing marbling	Origami fish	Quick draw portraits & Acrylic painting demo	Intro to polymer clay -make a pendant or bead
PM 1 - 3	PM 1-3	PM 1-3	PM 1-3	PM 1-3
How to cartoon & shark pop-up card	Abstract watercolor with paint & straw	Air-dry clay forms	Palette knife demo in oil	Spinning sheep's wool into yarn.

SCHEDULE FOR ART EXTRAVAGANZA APRIL 16-20

FINE ART & CRAFT SALE

UNION
HALL
GALLERY

BENEFIT FOR LOS ANGELES ARTISTS AFFECTED BY THE WILDFIRES

Help L.A. artists and bring home something wonderful! Shop 400 works of fine art and craft created or donated by 200 artists/collectors.

100% of proceeds from the sale will directly benefit the **Grief and Hope: LA Art World Fire Relief Fund**, providing funds to artists and art workers following the January 2025 fires.

Prices from \$10 to \$8,500. Take purchases home on sale - no waiting.

Realism - Abstract - Whimsical - Surrealism - Oil - Acrylic - Fabric - Fiber - Wood - Metal - Clay



APRIL 4-6 & 11-13, 2025

UNION HALL GALLERY - 2323 BROADWAY, SAN DIEGO, CA 92102

FRIDAY 2PM-6PM
SATURDAY & SUNDAY 11AM-5PM

619-202-0711

www.UnionHallGallery.org
Info@UnionHallGallery.org

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!