



Paint Strokes

Murrieta's Gem of the Valley Art Association

October 2024

October Demonstrator

Valentina Ragsdale

I was born in Chelyabinsk, one of the largest cities of Russia. I lived in three different countries and in 2004 I decided to settle in beautiful Southern California.

As a child I loved to draw and paint and always dreamed of being an artist, so I pursued my dream. I made art and creativity my career. I find great inspiration in the people around me and the most admiration I have is for creative people of any kind, and that is why I have an endless source of food for my soul.

I have traditional training from a famous Russian realistic school, and my style is classical realism with a contemporary touch. In a school of design and art university I studied painting and drawing, history of art and sculpture. I have tried and worked with many art materials, but my favorites have always been oil and pastel. I consider myself a portrait artist, but I cannot restrain myself from painting an amazingly beautiful bouquet of flowers or crashing waves of the ocean. Sometimes I would take a large spatula and paint an abstract with fast drying acrylic paint. I believe every medium dictates its own rules. In the past I have worked as an interior designer, graphic designer, colorist, teacher of drawing, visual merchandiser and production designer but I never stopped working at my own easel and participate in different exhibits and shows with my fine art.

I have amassed numerous awards and have my artworks in small and large collections in Russia, Mexico, Israel, Germany and many other countries. I am happy to be an independent freelance fine artist.

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Visit my Facebook or Instagram page



New Members

Camilla McNabb
Julie Byrd
Sundee Ziegler
Joanne Van Volken

Gem of the Valley Art Association

General Meeting

Date October 7 , 2024

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



FALL is my favorite, probably yours too, right? And, right now it's gray & gloomy outside and I'm loving it! After such a long duration of extreme heat and then the fires – this sudden change to cool and mild will be easier for all of us!

Sooooo.....our October meeting could be kinda spooky & ooky! Shall we dress up like last year? Why not!! Come as your superhero or dress up scary or cute! I can't wait to see it!

IMPORTANT TO KNOW!!

MONTHLY RIBBON WINNERS: The Library has agreed to open the display cases for us each month as follows: **FIRST WEDNESDAY AFTER EACH GEM MEETING @ 11 A.M.** Winners will meet me at the display case by the Heritage Room.

PREVIOUS MONTH'S RIBBON WINNERS: You must meet at that time as well to remove your artwork to make room for incoming artwork.

ARTS & CRAFTS FAIR: We're approved to hold our fair at the Alley Way (Juniper & Washington) on November 23rd. What time is still being determined but I'm sure we'll do it in the afternoon for a few hours. I'm working with MAC to get a flyer put together, which you'll see as soon as it's done!

CHRISTMAS POTLUCK/SILENT AUCTION: Donate your beautiful crafts, art tools, art supplies, etc. to sell for the benefit of GEM of the Valley! We'll have fresh canvases, new & gently used frames, for sure. Start gathering or creating now, December will be here before you know it!

Gem ~ we're all about art

Cathy



**Cathy Baca
President**

cathybaca@gmail.com



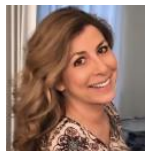
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Your Board Members & Committee Members

**We currently have 37 paid
members for the
2024/2025 season.**

Treasurer's Corner

Balance as of 8/30/24: \$3551.00

Outgoing

Insurance :	\$- 138.00
Fed. Tax Form	\$- 19.90
P.O. Box	\$- 182.00
Demonstrator	\$- 200.00
Audio Equipment	\$- 319.90
Total Outgoing	\$- 858.80

Incoming

22 Memberships	\$+1,095.00
Raffle	\$+ 67.00
Total Incoming	\$+1,162.00

Sept. Ending Balance: \$3853.20

Cathy Keeney
Treasurer

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!

September Demonstrator

Valentina Lamdin



Valentina started with a blank canvas



Anne Slagle was the lucky raffle winner for a 2nd painting Valentina brought with her.

Lesley Quigley was the lucky raffle winner for Valentina's Painting



September Awards

Master Category

1st Place



Soon Chung
"Homeless Man"

2nd Place



Taka Ritchie
"Peachy White"

3rd Place



Soon K. Chung
"Little Girl"

Advanced Level

1st Place



Marti Thurman
"Tiger & Sugar"

2nd Place



JoDee Luna
"All God's Creatures..."

3rd Place



Susan Worley
"We Three"

Intermediate Level

1st Place



**Rick Wilson
"Jazz Singer"**

2nd Place



**Steve Staudenmeir
"Young Ballerinas"**

3rd Place



**Cathy Keeney
"Stary Lion King"**

People's Choice



**Steve Staudenmeir
"Young Ballerinas"**

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!