

In Our Gallery  
May 2 – May 27  
Garden Theme Show

Open to  
All Guild Members - All Mediums

Opening Reception  
Sunday, May 3, 3:00 to 5:00

In our Lobby:  
Artwork by Guild  
Associate and Exhibiting Members



**The Guild of Creative Art  
Monthly Online Bulletin**

May 2026 Volume 26 Issue 5  
© Guild of Creative Art 2026-2030

Website: [www.guildofcreativeart.org](http://www.guildofcreativeart.org)

620 Broad Street, Shrewsbury, NJ 07702

[guildofcreativeart@verizon.net](mailto:guildofcreativeart@verizon.net)  
732-741-1441

Open Tuesday through Friday 8:00 – 4:00  
Saturdays 10:00 – 3:00

In our Gallery  
May 30 – June 24

**Pastel Society of New Jersey**

Reception: Sunday  
May 31, 3:00 – 5:00

In our Studio: Work by Students of Bob Stetz

In our Gallery June 27 – July 29

**SUMMER SHOW  
OF PAINTERS**

Open to All Guild Members  
Painting Mediums Only  
Reception June 28 3:00 – 5:00

Background image from a painting by Lorraine Dey

**Membership Portfolio Review**

Become a Guild of Creative Art  
Associate or Exhibiting Member

May 14 to May 16

Enjoy the benefits of  
advanced Guild memberships  
For information & application, click [HERE](#)  
Next Portfolio Jury is in November 2026

**Register for Art  
Classes**

All Mediums for  
Teens and Adults

For detailed information about our classes, including a list of materials needed, start dates, and class availability, please contact the teacher of the class directly. Teacher contact information is located on the class schedule.

For a complete schedule of all classes, click [HERE](#)

**Guild Membership  
Dues for 2026**

Have you paid your  
2026 dues?

**General: \$30**  
**Associate: \$45**  
**Exhibiting: \$80**

Renew today to get the full  
benefits of your membership.

Click [HERE](#) to renew your  
membership online

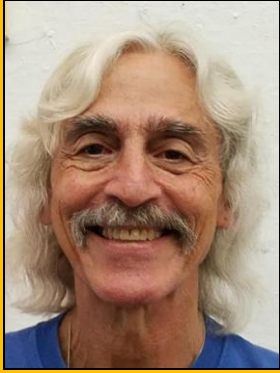
**Future  
Guild Exhibit Info**

- Show Dates (gallery, lobby, & studio)
  - Entry eligibility for various shows
  - Reception dates and times
  - Receiving dates (Noon to 7:00)
  - After show art pick up dates & times
- Dates and times are subject to change.

Click [HERE](#) for info about  
future Guild exhibits

# **Guild President David Levy**

[dlevy1939@gmail.com](mailto:dlevy1939@gmail.com)



## **2026 Guild of Creative Art Board of Directors**

### **Guild Officers:**

**David Levy**

President

**Barbara Russo**

Vice President

**Sheila Menendez**

Treasurer

**Liz Jacobelli**

Secretary

### **Board Members:**

**Patricia F. Arroyo**

**Thomas J. Camal**

**Marino Cirillo**

**Jay Eaton**

**MaryAnn Goodwin**

**Bob Stetz**

**Barbara Withers**

### **Guild Staff**

**Bill Alcaro**

Bulletin Editor,  
Educational Services

**Vicky Culver**

Gallery Director

**Audrey Lombardi**

Bookkeeper

**Mike Menendez**

Webmaster

**Steve Ravner**

Webmaster,  
Art News

**Frank Remski**

**Gus Goodwin**

Technology

# **President's Message**

As I write this message, "Threshold," the Design & Visual Communication and Commercial Photo Majors Senior Art Show has just concluded. This Red Bank High School show follows two other stellar ones: Artists from Neptune High School, and the Senior Art Majors from Rumson Fair Haven Regional High School.

What makes each so special? Part of it has to do with the excellent guidance from the teachers. Part of it is the passion with which these young students pursue their art. Never discount the unbridled imagination these artists possess. However you slice it, the shared excitement, joy, and pride displayed by the artists, their friends and family make our April student exhibits and receptions second to none.

May brings our annual All Members' Garden Theme Show, with receiving April 30th from 12-7 PM and a reception Sunday, May 3rd, from 3-5 PM. This exhibit is always an appealing one, with still lifes, florals, and landscapes that can best be described as "eye candy"!

We have just been given the go-ahead to display, once again, Guild art at Shrewsbury's Borough Hall. This off-site venue is open to all Exhibiting Members, one of the privileges accorded those who have elevated their membership status through our Semi-annual Portfolio Review.

Keep in mind that receiving for this occurs on May 14<sup>th</sup>. Call the Guild to schedule an appointment to bring in your five pieces. Judging will take place on May 15<sup>th</sup>, and pick-up is on Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> from 10:00-3:00 PM.

Want more information? Simply click [HERE](#) and scroll down to the bottom of the page.

We are thrilled that Exhibiting Guild member and entertainer/ singer Sherri Ehrlich and her husband and composer/pianist Charlie Clarke, will stage a benefit concert on June 20th from 2:00-4:00 PM at the Guild to celebrate this country's 250<sup>th</sup> birthday. Stay tuned. More Information appears in this Bulletin.

At the end of 2025, the Guild boasted over 400 members. At this point, the numbers stand at around 320. If you have not yet renewed your dues, please renew as soon as possible. It's as easy as clicking [HERE](#).

In collaboration with the James T. Gary Foundation, the Guild offers a \$1000 scholarship to a Monmouth or Ocean County Senior who will be continuing a career in art in college. For the first time ever, we are reaching out to our Guild community to donate toward the scholarship in memory of a loved one. A Constant Contact message will soon be sent out with more details. Pay homage to a loved one and help support this worthy cause.

Have you noticed Erin Fleming and her crew filming the Guild documentary? If you have been around, you could not fail to notice. Shooting will be finished this spring, and the editing process will occur throughout the summer. Fall should bring the finished product.

Erin's documentary, "Drift", recently was shown on PBS. May our Guild documentary share a similar fate.

**Guild of Creative Art:**

**First of its kind!**

**First in its class!**

The Guild of Creative Art and the James T. Gary Foundation present a

# \$1000 Scholarship

The Guild of Creative Art and the Gary Foundation will award a \$1000 scholarship to a graduating high school senior who lives in Monmouth or Ocean County, and plans to major in the visual arts at an accredited college or art school during the 2026-2027 academic year.

**Open to Painters, Sculptors, and Photographers graduating high school in 2026**

- Application, portfolio, and supporting documents must be received at the Guild before

**May 1, 2026**

- Mail to: The Guild of Creative Art Guild Scholarship, 620 Broad Street, Shrewsbury, NJ 07702

Click [HERE](#) for a fact sheet and application

Award notification will be sent in June 2026 for the 2026-2027 academic year

Contact Person: **Sheila Menendez** – Chairperson, Guild Scholarship

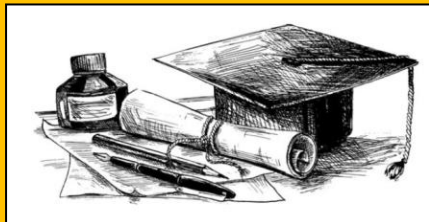
732-294-8543 or email [scholarship@guildofcreativeart.org](mailto:scholarship@guildofcreativeart.org)

## Scholarship Funding – You Can Help

As a member of the Guild, you know how vital encouragement and opportunity are to young artists. We invite you to support the next generation of artists with a gift of \$25 or more.

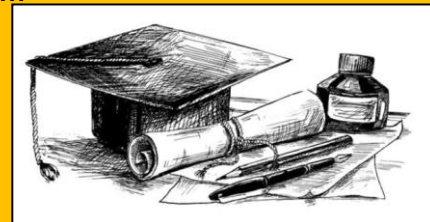
You may donate in your own name or make a tribute or memorial gift to honor someone special. All donors will be recognized at the May 3<sup>rd</sup> reception honoring the scholarship recipient.

Together, we can invest in the future of the arts in our community. You can donate by calling 732-741-1441 between 11:30 pm - 3:30 pm



or... Click [HERE](#) to donate online

or... you can send your donation to:  
The Guild of Creative Art  
620 Broad Street  
Shrewsbury, NJ 07702



## GUILD OF CREATIVE ART

620 Broad Street, Route 35, Shrewsbury, NJ 07702 Telephone: 732-741-1441 Email: [Guildofcreativeart@verizon.net](mailto:Guildofcreativeart@verizon.net) Web Site: [www.guildofcreativeart.org](http://www.guildofcreativeart.org)

### *Original Art on Display*

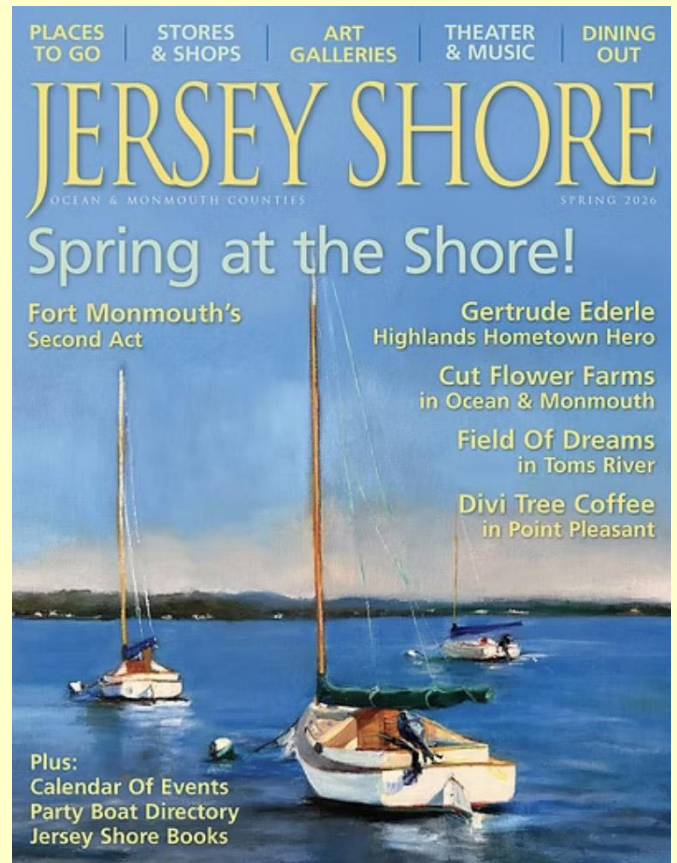
The oldest and largest art community in New Jersey, the Guild of Creative Art, is a non-profit organization dedicated to advancing excellence in the visual arts through teaching, exhibits, workshops, and special events.

**The Guild features monthly exhibits open to the public and admission free, art classes in a variety of mediums, docent tours, gallery and studio rentals; plus we are a premier source of original art at affordable prices.**

# Member News

**Judy Stach**, Guild Exhibiting Member, had her painting selected for the cover of Jersey Shore magazine's spring issue. This is the sixth time her artwork has been chosen. →

**Debora Bruno**, Guild Exhibiting Member, will exhibit her photographs at the Eastern Branch of the Monmouth County Library in Shrewsbury. Her show is titled "Beauty and Blooming" and will be on display throughout May. ↓



Send us a jpg image of your Member News item and have your artwork displayed in our monthly bulletin, our social media pages, and our publicity outlets.

Images must be of the artwork only (no mats or frames), and have a sharp focus. Artwork usage is subject to quality and space availability in Member News.

Artwork must be titled as follows: Your Last Name. Your First Name. title. medium. town of residence

Example: Doe . John . My Painting . Watercolor . Shrewsbury

Send your news item with or without an image to [info@guildofcreativeart.org](mailto:info@guildofcreativeart.org).

By submitting artwork or JPEG files to the Guild of Creative Art, you are granting permission for these files to be utilized for promoting shows, exhibits, and any additional promotional activities sponsored by the Guild, as well as use in the Guild's Bulletin. Further, the copyright for any submitted JPEG files remain with the submitting artist.

**Please note: Member News is designed to announce exhibits displaying Guild of Creative Art members' work, and/or honors our members receive.** Advertisements and information regarding "for profit" ventures are not permitted and will not be included. News items and associated jpg images will be edited for space and content. There is a maximum of three news related items per person in each issue unless space allows more. Items may be grouped if several Guild members are participating. Submissions received after the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to the next issue will only appear if space is available.

facebook

To visit the Guild on Facebook,  
click [HERE](#)



Search on Instagram:  
[Guildofcreativeart.org](https://www.instagram.com/guildofcreativeart.org)

## Welcome New Member

Lara Gomez

Emily Huresky

Walt Huresky

Renee Michelle Moreau

***The Guild is Run by  
Member/Volunteers  
and  
You Can Help!***

Please decide where you can volunteer. Then, use the email address to contact the appropriate person listed below for information.

**Category and  
Contact Info**

***Data Entry/Front Desk:***

Vicky Culver

[guildofcreativeart@verizon.net](mailto:guildofcreativeart@verizon.net)

***Physical Plant:***

David Levy

[dlevy1939@gmail.com](mailto:dlevy1939@gmail.com)

***Gallery Shows – Receiving,  
Pickup and/or Hanging:***

Vicky Culver

[guildofcreativeart@verizon.net](mailto:guildofcreativeart@verizon.net)

David Levy

[dlevy1939@gmail.com](mailto:dlevy1939@gmail.com)

***Community Outreach:***

Liz Jacobelli

[lizjacobelli@aol.com](mailto:lizjacobelli@aol.com)

David Levy

[dlevy1939@gmail.com](mailto:dlevy1939@gmail.com)

***Grants:***

David Levy

[dlevy1939@gmail.com](mailto:dlevy1939@gmail.com)

Vicky Culver

[guildofcreativeart@verizon.net](mailto:guildofcreativeart@verizon.net)

Audrey Lombardi

[audreylombardiart@gmail.com](mailto:audreylombardiart@gmail.com)

***Social Media:***

Barbara Withers

[baw.withers@gmail.com](mailto:baw.withers@gmail.com)

David Levy

[dlevy1939@gmail.com](mailto:dlevy1939@gmail.com)

***We Celebrate our Recent Volunteers***

Building: **David Levy, Tom Camal, Duncan Culver, Bob Stetz**

Constant Contact: **Barbara Russo, MaryAnn Goodwin, Faith Molitor, Barbara Withers**

Data entry: **Natalie Kadash, Patricia Zilinski**

Desk Coverage: **David Levy, Patricia Zilinski.**

Figure Workshop: **Susan Rickman**

Garden Show Gift Baskets: **Tina Behr, Liz Jacobelli, Bob Stetz**

Grant Data: **Patricia Zilinski**

Grounds: **David Levy, Tom Camal, Marino Cirillo, MaryAnn Goodwin**

Guild Photography Group: **Patricia Hart Zackman**

Housekeeping: **David Levy, Tina Behr, Patricia Zilinski**

LADACIN Network and Mira Vie docent tours: **David Levy, Barbara Russo**

Laundry: **Tina Behr, Liz Jacobelli,**

The Arc of Monmouth docent tours: **David Levy, Barbara Russo**

Lobby Show: **David Levy, Tom Camal, Duncan Culver, MaryAnn Goodwin, Natalie Kadash, Pam MacNeill, Joan Manley, Bob Novak, Debbi Page, Michele Rath,**

Office Volunteers: **David Levy, Natalie Kadash, Patricia Zilinski**

Offsite/Arbor Terrace: **David Levy**

Phone calls: **David Levy**

Purchasing: **David Levy, Tina Behr, Liz Jacobelli, Duncan Culver, Vicky Culver**

Photography at Guild events: **David Levy, Barbara Russo, Tom Camal, Marino Cirillo**

SEARCH Day Volunteers: **David Levy**

Social Media: **David Levy, Barbara Withers**

Special Events/Garden State Art Weekend: **Barbara Withers, Barbara Russo, MaryAnn Goodwin, Liz Jacobelli**

Special Events/Shrewsbury Centennial: **Jay Eaton, Liz Jacobelli**

Technology: **Marcelo Bruno, Jay Eaton, Barbara Withers**

Volunteer Recognition: **Bob Stetz**

Webmasters: **Mike Menendez, Steve Ravner**

***Would you  
like to  
volunteer?***

The Guild only works if we have  
**“Member Power”**

Please select from the choices on the left side column and contact the appropriate person for information about how you can volunteer to help your Guild.

# Guild of Creative Art Membership

## Membership offers the following advantages:

- entry in "Members Only" exhibits
- discounted entry fees for specific Guild Shows
- discounted tuition for Guild classes, workshops, & more
- the opportunity to exhibit in the monthly lobby show (Exhibiting and Associate members only)

The Guild of Creative Art survives fiscally on generous donations from our members, proceeds from our workshops and classes, commissions from the sale of artwork, fundraising events, and member dues. Join today and become a part of the Guild family. Click [HERE](#) to join.

## Guild Fees

- Gallery Commissions on Artwork Sales:  
Sales on Guild premises: 33<sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub>% Off-site sales: 20%
- Gallery rental, hanging, & tags: \$500
- Portfolio Pieces, Cards, Jewelry, Books, Fine Crafts: 20%
- Instructors: The Guild retains 30% of Member Tuition plus 100% of non-member surcharge.

## Legacy and Friend Donations

### Two Ways You Can Help the Guild

**LEGACY CIRCLE PATRON:** is a Guild member who bequeaths in their last Will and Testament \$10,000 or more to the Guild of Creative Art  
**LEGACY CIRCLE BENEFACTOR:** bequeaths \$5,000 to \$9,999  
**A LEGACY CIRCLE MEMBER** \$1000 to \$4999 to Guild of Creative Art

**FRIEND OF THE GUILD GOLD LEVEL** donates \$5,000+ to the Guild  
**FRIEND OF THE GUILD SILVER LEVEL** donates \$3,000 to \$4,999  
**FRIEND OF THE GUILD BRONZE LEVEL** donates \$500 to \$2,999  
**FRIENDS OF THE GUILD:** members who donate up to \$499 to the Guild

Donations received honoring deceased Guild members in the amounts shown above are also eligible to be designated a FRIEND OF THE GUILD. Click [HERE](#) to make a donation to the Guild

## ***Paul Hansen Original Painted Tees***



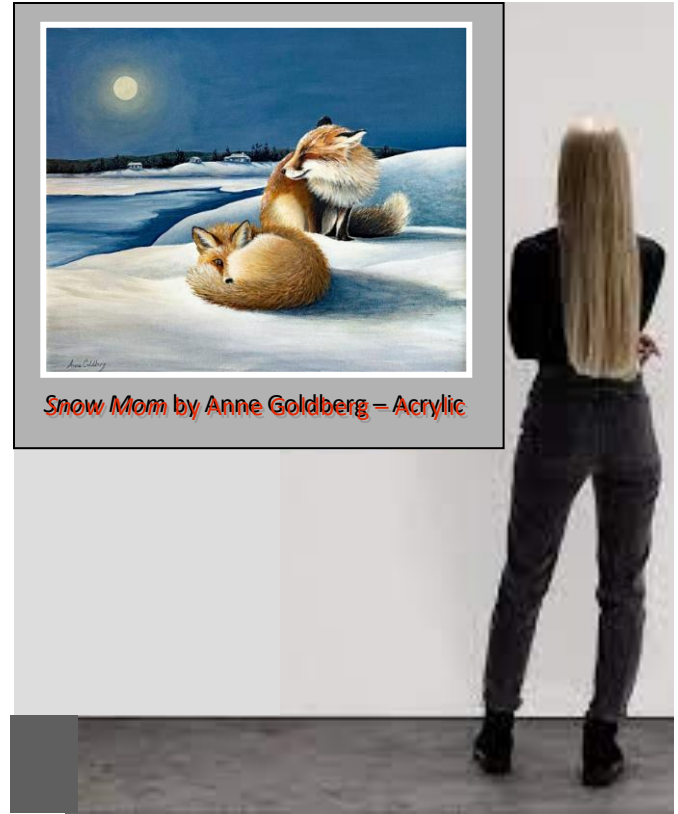
***One of a Kind Design!***

**Variety of Sizes  
and Colors**

You have enjoyed his exhibits, now you can wear his artwork!  
\$25

while supplies last.

Only available at the Guild of Creative Art



**Snow Mom by Anne Goldberg – Acrylic**

**See something you like?**

Artwork on display in our galleries at the Guild of Creative Art, and our off-site shows, is for sale. For information regarding the purchase of artwork, click [HERE](#).

## You can be a Medal Sponsor

Your Guild membership gives you the opportunity to sponsor awards for selected exhibits. You may choose the awards to be in your own name, or be titled to honor the memory or celebrate the life of a loved one. The choice is yours. You also get to choose the medium category and the quantity of awards (up to 15) that you wish to sponsor awards.

Email [guildofcreativeart@verizon.net](mailto:guildofcreativeart@verizon.net)



# Art Education and Growth Opportunities

**Art Instruction in the Guild Studio**

**Taught by Highly Qualified Teachers**

<u>Class</u>	<u>Instructor</u>	<u>Day &amp; Time</u>	<u>Contact Instructor</u>
<b>Drawing and Painting</b>	<b>Leslie Backlund</b>	Saturdays 12:00-2:00	<a href="mailto:lesliebacklund@gmail.com">lesliebacklund@gmail.com</a>
<b>Watercolor from Concept to Completion</b>	<b>Bob Stetz</b>	Tuesdays 1:00-3:00	<a href="mailto:rstetz2@verizon.net">rstetz2@verizon.net</a>
<b>Mastering the Media of the Masters</b>	<b>Sven Widen</b>	Wednesday 10:00 – 12:00, 12:30 or 1:00	<a href="mailto:openingyoureyes@verizon.net">openingyoureyes@verizon.net</a>
<b>Drawing</b>	<b>Randy Mayer</b>	Thursdays 10:30 – 11:30	<a href="mailto:randy@randymayer.com">randy@randymayer.com</a>
<b>Watercolor Painting</b>	<b>Randy Mayer</b>	Thursdays 11:30 – 1:30	<a href="mailto:randy@randymayer.com">randy@randymayer.com</a>
<b>Beginner Pastels</b>	<b>Carole Rogers</b>	Fridays 1:00 – 3:00 in May	<a href="mailto:Crogers222@gmail.com">Crogers222@gmail.com</a>
<small>(Carole Rogers' class meets 12:45 – 2:45 in May and September, 10:00 – 12:00 the rest of year)</small>			
<b>Landscapes in Oils</b>	<b>Pratima Rao</b>	Fridays 10:00 – 12:00 in May	<a href="mailto:pratimarao05@yahoo.com">pratimarao05@yahoo.com</a>
<small>(Pratima Rao's class meets 10:00 – 12:00 in May and September only)</small>			

To register online for a class, click [HERE](#). For more info about each class, email the instructor.

**Pratima Rao** returns to the Guild of Creative Art this May with a four-week Landscape Oil Painting class. You will be learning fundamentals of landscape oil painting while also exploring your own unique voice with expressive brushwork and color. These classes are designed for all experience levels though some familiarity with oil painting is necessary.

Tuition for the four-class session is \$145 for Guild members, \$175 for non-members

Tuition includes classes on Fridays May 1, 8, 15, & 22 from 10:00 until noon

Click [HERE](#) to sign up online. For info, email Pratima at [pratimarao05@yahoo.com](mailto:pratimarao05@yahoo.com)



## The Guild Photography Group

Meets each month on the second Tuesday via Zoom from 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Free to Guild photographers.

Contact Patricia Hart Zackman:

Email: [digitalphz@yahoo.com](mailto:digitalphz@yahoo.com)

Phone: 908.461.5579



## Informal Figure Workshop Tuesdays, 10:00 – Noon

- No instruction
- Casual atmosphere
- Figure drawing with a live model
- Location: Guild Studio
- Sharpen your skills
- Open to all adult Guild members
- Non-member adults also invited
- No pre-registration required
- No need to call
- Come when you can



Cost: Guild Member: \$20 per two hour session

Non-Member: \$25 per two hour session

This workshop is headed by **Susan Rickman**

Contact Susan Rickman by email at [josunset59@verizon.net](mailto:josunset59@verizon.net)

Click [HERE](#) for information about Guild memberships

Click [HERE](#) to join the Guild Online



# Neptune High School Show Opening Reception



*The photographic images of artwork appearing in the Guild's Bulletin represent a sampling of the original work displayed in our exhibits. These images may appear slightly different from the original. We regret we cannot show all the work on display, but we invite you to visit our gallery and browse.*

*Artwork on display at the Guild is available for purchase. The Guild proudly offers to the public original art by talented artists at affordable prices. To **Purchase** art online from a Guild Exhibit, click [HERE](#).*

*All exhibits are open to the public and admission free. All donations to the Guild are voluntary and much appreciated.*

***The Guild Gallery is Open Tuesday through Friday 8:00 – 4:00, Saturdays 10:00 – 3:00.***

***Call 732-741-1441 for specific viewing times.***

# Rumson Fair Haven Regional High School Artwork from Senior Art Majors



**Ayla Shaheen**

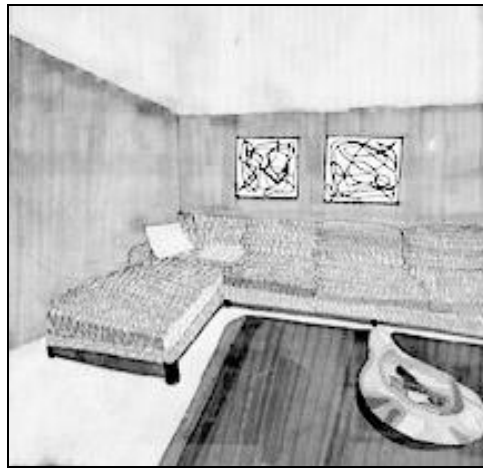
Next year, I plan to attend Virginia Tech with a major in either Environmental Science or Marketing Management. Art has always been important to me, as it serves as a creative outlet to express myself. My favorite crafts to make in my free time are intricate friendship-style bracelets, made of embroidery floss and followed by a grid style pattern.





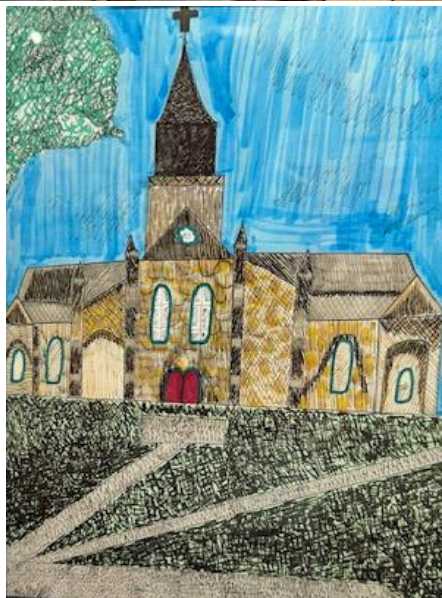
## Reyna Dermer

I plan to go to Indiana University to study at the Kelley School of Business. I am very excited to start this new chapter of my life. The art room at RFH has always been a safe space of mine. From working on projects, talking with friends, or confiding in my teachers, I am always there. I have loved art and doing art from a young age. Although I may not be the best at it, art will always hold a special place in my heart. Thank you!



## Sal Taddeo

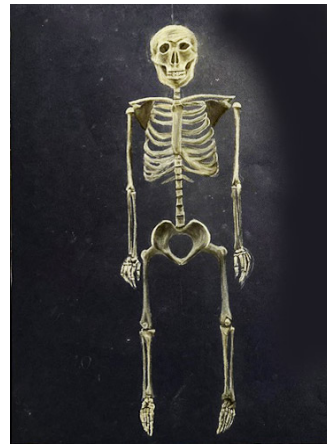
I'm going to Spring Hill College next year in Alabama. I will be playing D2 Soccer there as well as studying business. Art has been important to me because it's a way to express myself. I enjoy seeing how different styles and techniques can tell a story or capture a feeling within art work.





**James Kiley**

Next year, I will be attending Lemg Washington and Lee and playing on the football team. I plan to study business and finance. When I was a freshman, I got put into art class as a second year and was initially annoyed, but looking back it was a huge blessing in disguise. Doing art at RFH has helped me grow my creativity and uncover a passion I never really knew of before.



**Ella Curran**

I am currently a senior at Rumson Fair Haven High School and will be attending the University of Notre Dame in the fall to continue my educational journey. I will be majoring in engineering and minoring in art. Art has brought balance to my life. It has given me a place to creatively experiment with new ideas and explore different artistic techniques!





## Emma Kilbourne

I'm a senior at RFH and I've grown up in Rumson all my life. I've been doing art since elementary school and it has impacted me in the most positive ways. I enjoy creating oil paintings, colored pencils, and charcoal pieces. I am continuing my art with a major of interior architecture at the University of Tennessee and couldn't be more excited!



## Ruby Kemler

I grew up in Fair Haven, and I love to work in pencil and watercolor. Next year I will be attending the University of Michigan to study art and design. I mostly do art for fun, and it's something I naturally turn to when I want to relax or express myself. Over time, it's become a really important part of my life and how I think creatively. I'm excited to keep improving my skills and explore new ideas in college.





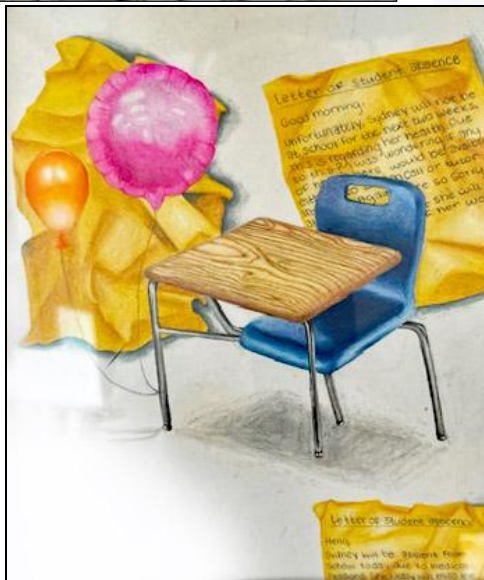
**Alexandra Ramirez Colotl**

I am an 18-year-old senior at RFH. As I prepare for the next chapter of my education and finalize my college decision, I am continuing to dive deeper into my passion for art. While I have always loved painting and drawing, I have recently found a new focus in watercolor and colored pencil.



**Sydney Davis**

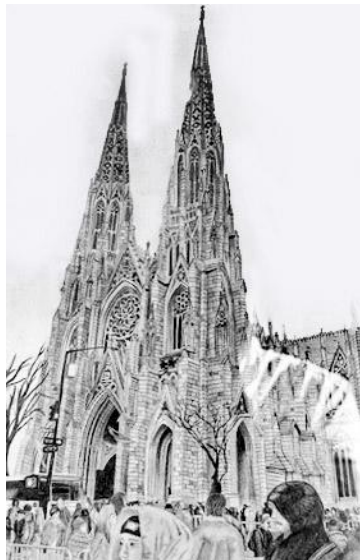
Hi! I'm Sydney. I'm going to be attending Elon University where I'll be studying Art History. I've always had a creative brain, and art, specifically drawing, has been a hobby/love of mine for as long as I can remember.





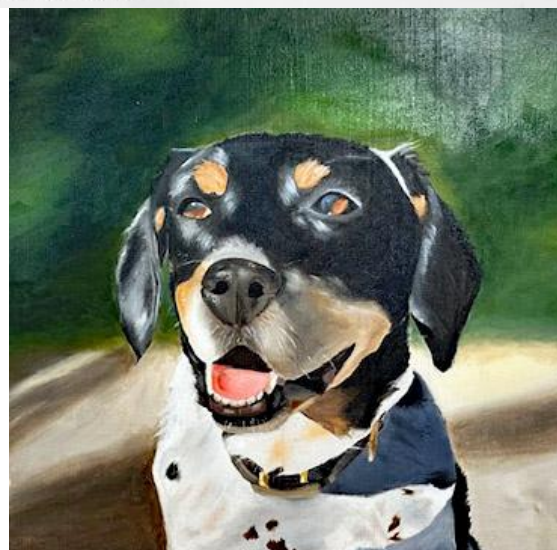
## Charlotte Gagliardi

I grew up in Rumson New Jersey with art as a constant staple in my life. It has changed how I view the world around me immensely and I couldn't imagine being without it. I love to use pencil, colored pencils, and oil paint as my main media. I plan to study psychology and neuroscience in college with a potential minor in art. Regardless of where my career path does end up taking me I plan to keep artistic pursuits in my life forever.



## Susana Burns

I am a senior at Rumson Fair Haven High School and I currently take Portfolio and Design. I have always had a passion for art, and I am planning on studying interior architecture in the fall at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Art has been my favorite class at RFH all 4 years!





## Gracia Marullo

Hello! My name is Gracia Marullo and I am a RFH senior. This fall I will be attending Bucknell University, where I plan to major in political science. A meaningful story to my passion for art is that it all started with my Poppy. I first discovered my love for art by looking up to him and admiring each beautiful piece he created. One of my earliest memories of his art is the Winnie and Pooh paintings he made for my brother and my room when we were little – something I will hold onto forever.



## Talia Sophinos

I am going to attend Hamilton College in the fall and study physics and history. Art has always been in my life by allowing me to create things in multiple different media. Whether that be creating an art project for school, a banner for a church, or model with 3d printing



# Rumson Fair Haven Senior Art Majors Show Reception



Shrewsbury Mayor Kim Doran Eulner (right) with Guild President, David Levy at the RFH Reception.



Filmmaker Erin Fleming films footage of the RFH reception for her documentary about the Guild.



More than 100 people attended the RFH Reception.

## The Artists from Rumson Fair Haven Regional High School

L-R) Back Row: James Kiley, Susana Burns, Ayla Shaheen, Emma Kilbourne, Reyna Dermer, Sydney Davis, Alexandra Ramirez Coloti, Gracia Marullo, Talia Sophinos

Front Row: Ruby Kemler, Ella Curran, Teacher Kristen Lanfrank, Charlotte Gagliardi, Sal Taddeo



Red Bank Regional High School and the Visual and Performing Arts Academy  
present  
"Threshold"  
the Design & Visual Communication  
and Commercial Photography Majors Senior Art Show

The Artwork:  
Studio Art

Julie Trieste, is a Little Silver resident and Red Bank Regional Senior who has been in the Studio Art program for four years. While in the program, she has developed her skills greatly and in her senior year, developed her AP portfolio with an emphasis on childhood. She would like to thank her family who has supported her passion for art since she was little; she would not be where she is today without their love and support. She will be continuing her art career at Pratt Institute in the fall where she will be studying Industrial Design.



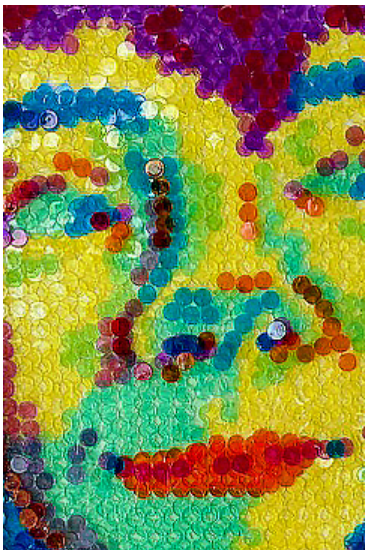
## Madison Boon

To me, art is an expression of viewing the world on a deeper level. Creating work based on who we are. My work explores how daily life experiences and nature are more than what meets the eye. In my series of work, I address both human and world experiences and personal themes. Some pieces focus on the struggles women face throughout life: adolescence and adulthood. Other works explore symbolic themes and ideas, such as hidden, a praying mantis camouflaged with flowers; Saying, which is based off the quote "the world is your oyster"; and Within, a butterfly attempting to escape its cocoon. I mainly worked with paint, such as oil, acrylic, and watercolor. I also used colored pencils to layer on top of the watercolor. I explored brighter colors and used techniques such as watering down my paint on top of a layer of oil, which made it translucent. I expressed different emotions through my work as well, such as overwhelm and stress in my pieces of girlhood. I was influenced by observations of daily life and some personal experiences that shaped me to be who I am. Through my art, I wanted to invite viewers to think more about what they usually look past and see more complexity and beauty within things.



## Jeanette Maher

Art has always been a powerful motivator for me. I have an ongoing urge to improve and push myself, to be the best artist I can be. I've never felt that same drive towards anything else. Having art in my life has not only shaped my skills but also my understanding of myself and my relationships. I typically work with acrylic paint, along with other mediums like charcoal, to explore texture, contrast, and emotion. As I've grown, my art has grown with me, I started to notice art in my everyday surroundings. Even in the small, seemingly meaningless things like the color created when light reflects off different surfaces or the different texture woven into my sweaters. Through art, I've learned to observe the world more closely and draw inspiration from it. A large part of my work is rooted in connection. I often use art as a way to express appreciation and love for the people closest to me, especially my family. I really enjoy painting portraits inspired by them, allowing me to capture moments, emotions, and memories that I can't express with words. Although art is a hobby for me, it has deeply shaped who I am and how I view the world. It has changed my perspective on the world and helped me see beauty not only in my surroundings, but also in the relationships that matter most to me.



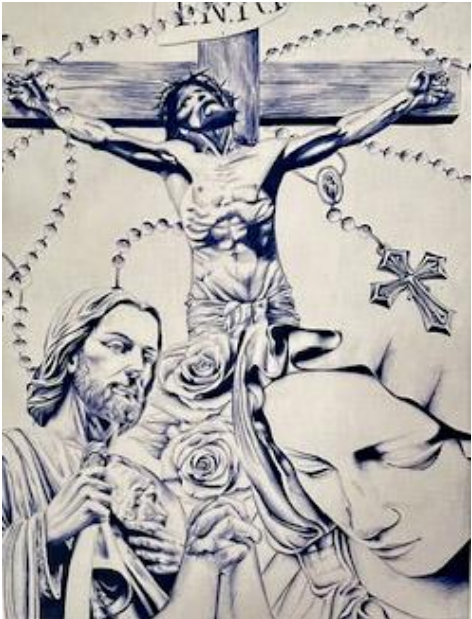
### Erin Kiley

Art serves as a map to me. When I explore mediums, subjects and compositions in my artwork I use them to find out more about myself and in turn attempt to give a viewer a deeper look into who I am as a person. I practice my skills and study other artists to eventually be able to directly speak to another person through my compositions, this is why I view art as a map. I know my goal and I know my intentions with the work I create, however the only way to get there is to continue to experiment and explore leaving my finished works as land markers. Since I was a child I have used art to regulate strong emotions like anger and sadness, but being able to express and project those feelings onto a viewer with my art is what motivates me still today. I paint subjects like toys to speak to a viewer's "inner child" trying to encourage them to think back to objects, like toys, that hold a memory, like these do for me. I also use myself as a subject to hopefully allow the viewer to switch places with me so they can get a look into a world I've made for myself. I intend to continue my art education to reach my goals and be able to converse with people through my art.



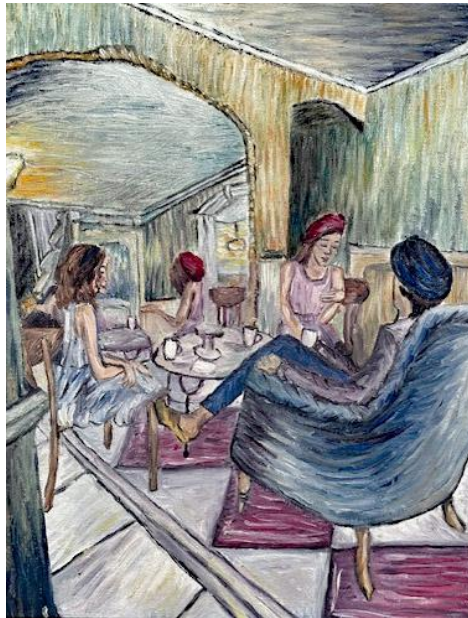
### Angel Ramirez-Contreras

My work is shaped by perseverance and identity. After being rejected by my local high school art program in 8th grade I nearly gave up on art, but with encouragement from family, I re-auditioned and later got accepted in my freshman year. Since then I began a journey of growth upon myself and as an artist, and developed a sense of purpose. These past 3 years, I have participated in exhibitions, competitions, and a summer program in New York City, experiences that expanded my creativity. I mostly work with a Bic ballpoint pen/pen art, a medium that not only allows me to create pieces with confidence but with intention as well. I am influenced by Chicano tattoo art, calligraphy, my Mexican heritage, and especially my fathers tattoos; my work reflects personal history and cultural storytelling of my heritage. Through my work I focus on representing where I come from, honoring my culture, and contributing a space where voices are seen, respected, and valued.



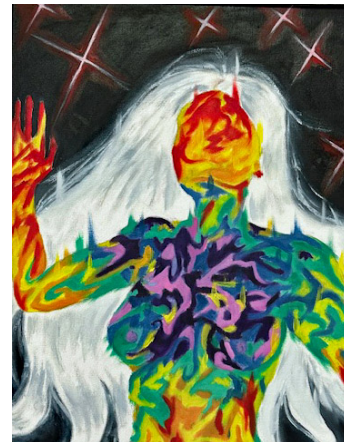
**Cass McGee**

Drawing and painting is something I have gravitated towards doing in my free time from a young age. I am inspired by the world around me, and my imagination. Making art regularly since I was little has shaped the way I think creatively. As I got older I realized how important it was to me and I decided I wanted to deepen my skills and knowledge. Over the past couple of years In school, I have studied fundamental concepts such as light and color, perspective and anatomy. I have explored mediums I hadn't before like printmaking and oil painting which has encouraged my own experimentation. I have learned more about the periods of art and artists by going to museums which have greatly inspired my own art. I plan to always continue to experiment in my art and use the skills that I have learned to execute my ideas.



**Yaneliss Gutierrez-Perez**

Art has always been something I loved and enjoyed. Ever since my mom gave me my own notebook, I started doodling random characters that were supposed to be my family or myself. I started drawing little stories, making short comics, or fanart; which led to me taking art more seriously and exploring new things. From drawing on a school notebook to getting my own tablet, I was dedicated to improving my art every single day. There wasn't one day where I didn't have my tablet and pen in my hands, drawing my favorite characters and creating my own pieces of art. I upgraded to expressing myself through paint, colored pencil, acrylic, pencil, which helped me stop being afraid of using colors. When I need time for myself and just get away from the world, I hide away with a sketchbook in hand and pencil on the other. Drawing away the anger, sorrow, joy, excitement, and love—turning a blank piece of paper into an illustration with purpose and meaning. Art will always be a part of me whether it's on paper, my phone, walls, films, or just the way I view the world.



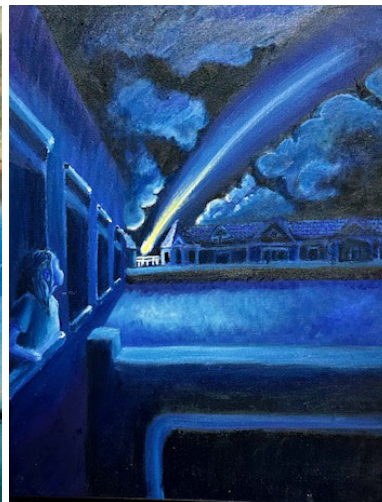
## Holly Slack

What cannot be conveyed through words must be conveyed otherwise, and what better way to do so than visually? With my work, I aim to illustrate ideas and emotions that cannot be verbalized. In an abstract sense, I take lots of inspiration from my own experiences in life. I also take inspiration from the artwork of my friends. I intend to evoke emotions in the people that view my work through the use of vibrant color, considering all colors have universal meanings to some extent. I like to explore different subject matters as I enjoy portraying things that I have not depicted previously, usually doing so in a figurative style. I typically work with oil paint, acrylic paint, marker, or colored pencil. I spend a good amount of time on my paintings in particular, I aspire for them to be pleasing to the eye and emotionally evocative. Art is an outlet for me to say what I'd like to say.



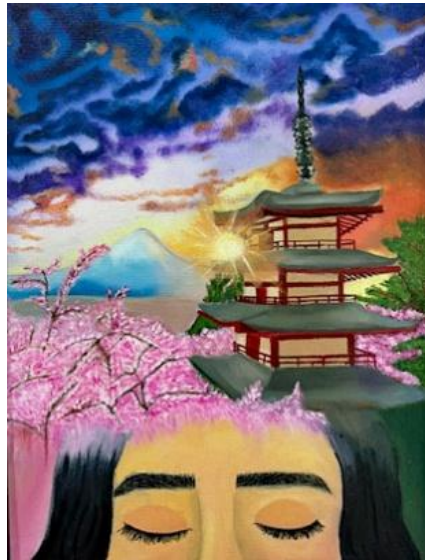
## Elizabeth "Ash" Peña-Martinez

Art can display a form of communication, allowing there to be a conversation with the viewer. Those who have spoken with me can agree that they might not understand me from time to time, often due to how I can't effectively say the words correctly and mess up. But art has allowed me to communicate in a different way. When I little I was captivated by the animated shows on tv and then I discovered anime and my love for art started to bloom. From stick figures, to messy sketches, to now detailed art pieces, learning how to draw gave me the opportunity to show how I saw the world. My skills will never surpass others, but that was never my intention to begin with. It fills me with pride every time I see an art piece I created, admiring the skills I have developed; every single piece I display is always made based on what inspired me to use to make it. My art is worth every single error; no mistake, nor the paint stains on my clothing can ever hold me back. Despite the majority of my artworks being oil paintings, I do love exploring different media and materials. Whether is by creating a comic, designing a character for an show, or displaying an art piece of mine in a restaurant; I am proud to flaunt my creativity and hopefully inspire someone, just like many artists inspired me.



### Heidi Bonilla-Santiago

I never would have thought that art would become such a big part of my life. When I was little I used to think art was just a hobby. As I grew older I've realized that art is way more than that, it could teach people many things. Throughout these 4 years in the art academy, art has taught me that I can create art pieces based on what I'm feeling, my inner thoughts or experiences. This Senior year, I have been able to have more freedom with my artwork. I have allowed myself to be more open minded and have tried to come up with different and creative ways to express how I view different topics. I also have explored different media and surface sizes to create my pieces. All these artistic exploration has allowed me to strengthen my creativity, but most importantly, it has taught me that art is my safe place. When I'm making art it takes my mind off of many problems, it's my stress reliever, and no matter what lies ahead, art will be part of it.



### Sophia Lopez

Who would've known from the day I sat in my father's kitchen, pencil and blending stub in hand, teaching me all his tips and tricks, that it would form the person I am today. Thanks to him I'm able to express myself, I'm able to experiment and express myself on the inside and put it all on paper in a snap of a finger. But I can't only thank my father; I also have to thank my mother for being able to make all this magic happen. I can confidently say that she is the one that pushes me to be my best self, to follow my heart, to do what makes my heart happy. Now from head to toe, I walk around with a roster of different colored hair that changes every other day, ears stretched to the point I can stick a finger through them and mix matching clothes that for sure make heads scratch. At the end of the day I'm never worried about what others' opinions on me have to be because I might not look good to others but I'm confident in my own eyes and to be honest, is the most important opinion of them all. I don't think that my art can solely be expressed on paper but I think it can also be shown through how one dresses, a little color never hurts nobody.



**Melissa Martinez-Reyes**

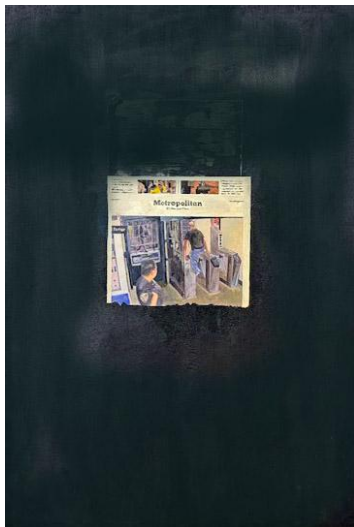
The Visual Performing Arts program has allowed me to explore my artistic side and develop my art skills over the four years. What makes art so special is that everyone is unique in their own way, based on their preferred style, media and meaning behind their work. I've always taken art as a therapeutic approach. It's something that's so calming and allows me to express my inner feelings. Whenever I'm feeling happy or upset I always look forward to my art classes because I'm so concentrated on creating interesting compositions and learning something new. Out of the variety of art styles we have worked on I prefer expressionism because it really captures deep emotion and you get to distort all sorts of colors to convey feeling. In my work I have tried to combine the affinity I have for the styles, media and colors I prefer, thus giving a way not only to express myself, but allow the viewer a glimpse to those things that are unique to me.



**Edwin Huresky**

This body of work largely addresses the struggle between meaning and meaninglessness, as well as physical fragility. The central works, which I call The Black Paintings, juxtapose representational imagery with non-objective fields of black. Drawing upon the visual vocabulary of abstract painters such as Malevich and Reinhardt, the paintings open a dialogue between image and emptiness, one that explores the tension between the human condition and the seemingly meaningless nature of being. The nothingness that surrounds the central images in each painting invalidates the imposed significance that we place on the facets of life which initially appear as important.

These works began as an attempt to confront my fears about my own mortality and doubts about my personal significance, but they grew into a broader reflection on the collective meaning we share as human beings. My technique developed with specific regard to my concept. I first lay paper on canvas and spray it with adhesive and sealant so I can paint on the paper without causing damage to it. I use this method not only to make the images stand out from the background, but to also make them feel delicate and ephemeral. Each image conveys an idea that I feel warrants scrutiny and includes or is surrounded by black paint and/or a sense of emptiness. The black space functions as a void, a site where human presence, memory, and image dissolve into something larger and ultimately unknowable.

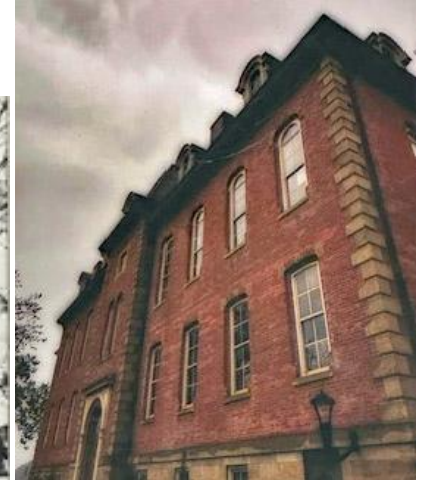


# The Artwork: Commercial Photography



**Corey Solomon**

My photography focuses on capturing moments that feel calm, natural, and visually interesting. I am especially drawn to nature, but I don't limit myself to one subject or theme, instead experimenting with different elements or principles of design to let each image develop in its own way. I use editing as a creative tool, often making subtle adjustments like selective coloring or black and white filters to create contrast and guide the viewer's eyes. I find inspiration in anything that catches my eye, especially scenes that feel peaceful or have the potential to become visually compelling. Through my work, I want to provide the viewers with a sense of calmness and curiosity in order to influence them to take a closer look at the pieces. One of my most meaningful pieces is a photograph of a monkey where the environment is in black and white and the subject remains in color, reflecting both my struggles and successes. This symbolizes my personal strength and growth, while also connecting to something that hasn't changed—my love for monkeys!



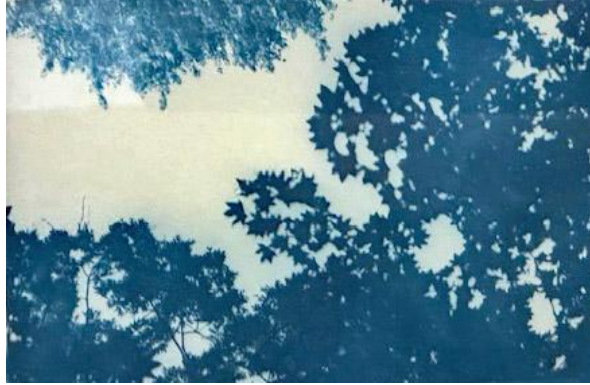
**Drake Montano**

When I was a kid I never enjoyed taking pictures. My parents would want to take photos for "memories" every single second. I remember me and my family were at Disneyworld one summer, and they wanted to take photo after photo, but all I wanted to do was go on the rides and have fun. We would take pictures for every occasion and to me it didn't seem necessary. But that all changed when my dad handed me the camera so that I could take the photo. I learned that there was more to it than just pointing it and clicking the button. After that I'd start to take photos of subject matter that I found interesting, and something just clicked in my brain. I started to enjoy it and this has led to joining the photography academy at Red Bank Regional High School. I've learned quite a lot since then and I've even bought cameras for my personal use instead of just using my phone.



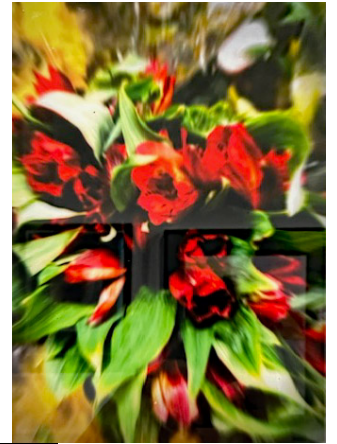
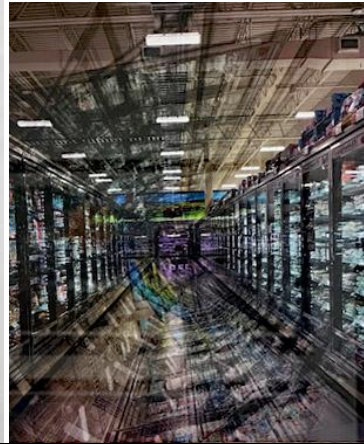
### Henry Rojas

I use photography to show people how I see and feel the world. Growing up in Red Bank, I became fascinated by the difference perspective can make, and how everyday objects may appear completely different based on their surroundings. In my photographs, I also try to emphasize and draw attention to those elements and features that may be missed or ignored by others. Using interesting camera angles, lighting, and composition, I create images from a different viewpoint than most people will ever be able to see them. The intent of my photographs is to highlight to the viewer that everyday objects can be viewed in an entirely different manner by one individual, depending on his or her perspective.



### Ximena Luna-Martinez

Photography, for me, is a way for me to capture moments that others might not see. I'm drawn to quiet scenes, loud scenes, night and day scenes and nature because that's what I'm surrounded by everyday. Through my work, I learned what I like to capture and what I can make out of it. Being part of the Photography Academy has helped me grow both personally and creatively. I learned to pay attention to my surroundings, lighting, and how my perspective can turn any subject into something meaningful. I will take a picture of anything because I know that each scene or subject has potential and can become something meaningful. Photography has not only shaped how I view the world, but also how I choose to share with others.



# Red Bank Regional Reception



**(Above) The Studio Artists from Red Bank Regional  
(left to right):**

Front row: Ms. Claudia OConnor - Teacher,  
Angel Ramirez-Contreras, Sophia Lopez,  
Elizabeth Pena, Melissa Martinez,  
Heidi Bonilla-Santiago, Yaneliss Gutierrez,  
and Jeanette Maher

Back row: Madison Boon, Erin Kiley,  
Julie Trieste, Cass McGee and Edwin Huresky



**← The Commercial Photography Artists  
from Red Bank Regional  
(left to right):**

Drake Montano, Ximena Luna-Martinez,  
Corey Solomon, Henry Rojas,  
Dawn Lisko – Teacher



# America Through Song

## A Musical Benefit Celebrating America's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



Sherri Ehrlich and Charlie Clarke

### Saturday, June 20 at 2 PM

Enjoy the arts in all forms at the Guild of Creative Art in Shrewsbury with Sherri Ehrlich (vocals) and Charlie Clarke (piano). This special performance blends music and artistry, honoring America's rich cultural spirit through beloved classics, patriotic favorites, Broadway gems, and timeless songs.



Enjoy a beautiful fusion of music and visual art.  
Live duo performance: voice & piano



Running time: 60 minutes

Surrounded by inspiring artwork, enjoy an afternoon of song, storytelling, and community—perfect for all ages. Come sing along and celebrate the creative spirit of America!

Congratulations to

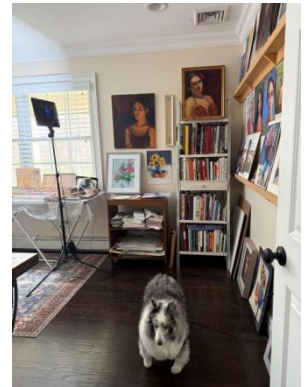
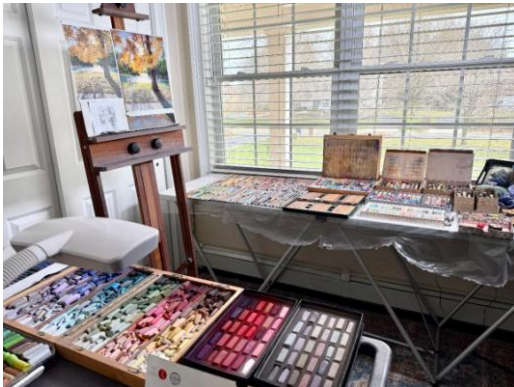
# Carole Rogers

Guild of Creative Art Exhibiting Member

PASTEL  
SOCIETY OF  
america



Carole was featured in the Pastel Society of America's showcase of member artist's studios.



Carole explains: I converted a small bedroom into a home studio for painting in pastels. Having lighting on a tripod gives me flexibility in this small space. I also work in oils, but not from home. Narrow shelving was installed on two walls, enabling me rotate finished work and paintings in progress. One of my work tables is on wheels, so it can be moved as needed. My drafting table is for drawing, still life setups, and all the tea I drink while painting. I love having all my materials within reach. The vibrancy of pastel sticks and their tactile nature is always exciting. I use many brands of soft pastels. I just recently realized I may have organized my palette for a right-hander instead of a lefty, but it doesn't change how much I love all the breathtaking colors!

# The Guild of Creative Art thanks Monmouth Arts for its support



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## The Guild of Creative Art is a Qualified Organization of the

