

Serving Artists in Oregon City and Surrounding Communities

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Volume 10      **April 2017 Newsletter**      Issue 4

***Mark your calendars!***

The next TRAG General Members meeting will be on Monday, April, 10th at 7PM at the Pioneer Community Center.

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Greetings, Members!  
 Mark your calendars for Monday, April 10th. TRAG is holding the April general meeting at the Pioneer Center at 7 p.m.

Our presentation will be a workshop on ["Writing Compelling Artist Statements" by Susan Schenk](#)

Please review the proposed [bylaw change](#) and come prepared to vote on it at Monday's meeting.

John Trax  
 President, Three Rivers Artist Guild

**In this Issue**

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## **TRAG MEETING MINUTES – General Membership Meeting**

### **TRAG MEETING MINUTES – General Membership**

03-13-2017

Meeting Location: Pioneer Community Center (Downstairs), Oregon City

Attendance: 31 members, 3 guests, 2 new members

Called to order @ 7:00pm., by Jason Faucera, Vice President

Suzi Anderson asked if we would send out another Art Extravaganza call for volunteers. She has some fliers that she gave us for the gallery.

Deferred minutes to April since the newsletter did not go out and secretary was absent.

Gallery reported the upcoming Artist reception will be on March 19th from 1-3pm

No Holiday Show report, but we did get a thank you from Meals on Wheels for the \$500 donation from the last holiday show

OCFOTA report was given by Lynda Orzen. Call for volunteers to assist, all food vendors are returning and music acts are getting scheduled. Deadline to apply ends soon. We had

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support artists, artist are also there to support TRAG through donating a bit of their time. The more people step up to help, the more we can do to get member art seen. With Linda Merry's departure, we have already seen a reduction in some of the events we had planned as we backfilled all she was doing.

Membership report from Sue Thomas, 133 members (or in the ballpark).

Events - The dueling artist event has been postponed to fall as Trieste works through the new duties she inherited as Linda Merry left.

Marketing report - Vldn requested that members share the venues and events they were a part of so he could share them on TRAG social media. He also asked that members share TRAG across their networks so that we could increase our reach with the community.

Vldn then gave his class on social media, specifically Facebook and a little on Instagram.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.

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## TRAG Bylaw Change

The TRAG board has recommended the following changes to the TRAG bylaws. The Volunteer Coordinator position has not been filled for several years. Both the Holiday Show and OCFOTA are major TRAG events that need board representation. This change will be published in the February newsletter and voted on at the March meeting.

### REMOVE:

#### C. Volunteer Coordinator:

- (1) Recruit and coordinate volunteers for TRAG events;
- (2) Acknowledge volunteer service;
- (3) Keep a current list of active volunteers and qualifications.

### ADD:

#### G. Oregon City Festival of the Arts Chair:

- (1) Act as the show committee chair and assume leadership of the OCFOTA committee;
  - (2) Coordinate with the artists, volunteers and local authorities to conduct the OCFOTA show;
  - (3) Provide information to Public Relations coordinator for ongoing announcements in the news media;
  - (4) Provide information to the Marketing coordinator for inclusion in advertising and other marketing efforts being conducted;
  - (5) Provide updates for the TRAG newsletter to the Newsletter editor;
  - (6) Attend board meetings and keep the Board of Directors informed of OCFOTA matters;
  - (7) Prepare and submit timely reports to the Board of Directors and Members.
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H. Holiday Show Chair:

- (1) Act as the show committee chair and assume leadership of the Holiday Show committee;
- (2) Coordinate with the artists, volunteers and local authorities to conduct the Holiday show;
- (3) Provide information to Public Relations coordinator for ongoing announcements in the news media;
- (4) Provide information to the Marketing coordinator for inclusion in advertising and other marketing efforts being conducted;
- (5) Provide updates for the TRAG newsletter to the Newsletter editor;
- (6) Attend board meetings and keep the Board of Directors informed of Holiday Show matters;
- (7) Prepare and submit timely reports to the Board of Directors and Members.

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# Art Extravaganza!

## Art Extravaganza Volunteers Needed

Art Extravaganza is an Arts Alliance signature event featuring a vendor trade show for two and three-dimensional artists. This event provides artists, educators, students and all art enthusiasts an opportunity test, try and buy new and favorite art supplies and tools. Art Extravaganza will take place on Saturday, April 22, 10 am - 4 pm. Set-up will happen on Friday, April 21, 4 - 7 pm (maybe earlier)

This year's event is bigger and better than ever! More artist demonstrations, lecture demos & workshops. The Arts Alliance can not do this event without the volunteer efforts of many people, especially Three Rivers Artist Guild members. There are 4 time shifts for volunteers: 1) Friday, April 21, 4 - 7 pm: Setup; 2) Saturday, April 22, 7:30 - 10:00 am: Set-up; 3) 9:30 am - 1:15 pm: various job duties and 4) 1:15 - 4 pm: various job duties. During morning and afternoon shifts the day of the event there are various jobs we need volunteers: Check-in table, Directional guards, hospitality/break floaters, and exit survey.

If you have volunteered at Art Extravaganza in the past we would love to have your

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Please contact Suzi Anderson at [suzi@clackamasartsalliance.org](mailto:suzi@clackamasartsalliance.org) or 503-805-9473 if you are interested in volunteering!

The goal is to have at least 20 Three Rivers Artist Guild members available to volunteer at Art Extravaganza.

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## New Members

Melissa Sleasman from Oregon City is a photographer whose subjects are abstract patterns, and details and patterns in the natural world using black and white as well as vibrant colors. She can be reached at [melissajoyphotos@gmail.com](mailto:melissajoyphotos@gmail.com)

Valerie Barbeau is an acrylic painter from Gresham who does colorful land and seascape paintings using brushes and her fingers. She brought some beautiful paintings to show at our March meeting. You can reach her at [valbarbeau@gmail.com](mailto:valbarbeau@gmail.com)

Kelly Brogoitti, of Kelly's Eclectic Creations is from Sherwood and can be reached at [kellyselectriccreations@gmail.com](mailto:kellyselectriccreations@gmail.com). She works in glass and tile mosaics to do yard ornaments and fountains; as well as denim quilts and fabric aprons and bags.

Eric Griswold is a former commercial photographer with 40 plus years of experience from West Linn who has exhibited at the Clackamas Co. Arts Alliance and in the Geezer Gallery, you can reach him at [eric@griswoldphoto.com](mailto:eric@griswoldphoto.com)

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## Member Appearance

TRAG member Robert Bresky will be talking about his book: More Than Run of the Mill at the following places:

- April 22, Camas Public Library, 1-4 pm.
  - May 18th, Willamette View Manor, 3 pm
  - May 21st, Marylhurst University Peregrine Series, 3-4 pm
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## Story Mugs to Newsletter Stories!

New member Phyllis Koessler brings her storytelling skills to both her fanciful pottery designs and now, our newsletter, too!



Learn more about her artwork (including the story mugs) in this month's gallery rotation article and see her wordsmithing skills in action with the gallery reception article. "Editing is especially fun for me," she writes, "so I'm happy to join [in this] word journey."

Phyllis will be helping long time newsletter writer Beth Daniell.

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## Calling all Volunteers!

The Oregon City Festival of the Arts is in need of several committee chairs for the 2017 event. To date the only committee chairs filled are for marketing, entertainment and food services and artist registration. To date, this has been adequate to get the festival started but now we need to recruit the rest of our team.

Three areas that are vital to the festival are the Volunteer Coordinator, Silent Auction Chair and the Children's hands on art.

The Volunteer Coordinator position could be shared. We already have a spreadsheet of all the positions needed to run the event-just needs to be filled with people. Volunteers will be needed to work the TRAG information table, greet visitors, relieve artists, assist with set up and break down, find volunteers for the silent auction and children's art tables. This position will need several months lead time to full all the volunteer positions.

The Silent Auction chair would be responsible for collecting pieces of art from artists, set up auction tables, bids sheets and collect funds. This year we are just going to be auctioning art work and no outside community donations.

Children's hands on art should be a simple matter of finding volunteers to man the tables and instruct. For the 2016 event Holly did a wonderful job of creating several projects. There is enough stock left-over from the art project items from 2016. All volunteers need to do is supervise and help visitors make a piece of art work to take home.

If you are interested in any of these positions or would like to discuss them further, please

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## Spring Brings New Talent to the Gallery

Spring brings a burst of new artists to the March-April '17 gallery rotation! From encaustics to pottery and even the creative use of snake skins, each new Guild member brings us a flowering of artistic expression.

Two of the new artists are actually “teams” of two family members working together.

R-Lab’s Robyn Lindsey and Andrew Baker are a mother-and-son painting team. “We collaborate on paintings in a dueling artist style,” Robyn writes, “each painting on the same canvas at the same time, communicating silently through paint.” Andrew adds that “our style is ‘predictably unpredictable’ and we are constantly pushing one another to learn new techniques and to hone our skills.” From haunting mask-like portraits to bold abstracts, the two bring diverse expressions to the gallery.



Kira Jackson is truly a budding artist. At nine years old, she works with her

mom to transform her pet python’s shed skin into works of art. The fragile pieces are patiently coaxed into the form of swimming koi and gilded with gold or silver paint before being mounted on watery-hued canvas. The effect captures perfectly the jewel-like

effect of waterborne fish, their scales shimmering below the surface. Kira hopes to use her art sale proceeds to buy another python!



Yelena Shabrova’s creations ([www.shabrova.com](http://www.shabrova.com)) are so diverse that they almost seem like two artists’ signature work. Her first passion is colored pencil, which she says “allows me to draw practically anywhere, in any intervals of time, and

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framed “Plum Blossoms” glows with the soft pastel tones of spring blossoms backed by the gentle brown of bending branches. The pensive, Asian feel of the piece both calms

and inspires.

Yelena also creates condensed geometric pen-and-ink designs in stark black and white. As intricate as jigsaw puzzle pieces, each portion takes on an identity of linear design or a precisely-drawn image. “Black ink that can tell the story with lines, dots and areas of pure black is yet another favorite of mine,” she tells us. “Working with pen and ink leaves no room for mistakes, but surprisingly, it gives me a sense of liberation.”



Two of our showing artists work with glass, but in entirely different ways. Jeanie Hardesty uses what she calls “reverse painting on glass and Plexiglas” to create special painted effects with prominent layers in the composition. “On Watch” offers a tiny bird guarding its nest behind a separate glass layer of sheltering leaves. “Dexter and Friends” gives us a sly-looking cat on one layer, while his mouse friends scamper about on the layer behind him.

him.

Kandyse Whitney ([www.BlueFoxGlass.biz](http://www.BlueFoxGlass.biz)) works with fused glass to create fascinating artisan plates rich with color. Round starburst patterns, red and yellow mosaic designs or watery blue blossom forms give us artistic delights that can serve a practical purpose, too.



Phyllis Koessler brings an eclectic mix of functional pottery to the gallery. Each of the tall and graceful story mugs is wrapped in a three-dimensional raised pattern that suggests a setting or theme. Whether it is ferns and frolicking dragonflies, or dolphins, sea turtles and seashells on dancing waves, the mugs hope to remind you

of a story from your life as you drink your favorite beverage. Another group of mugs is adorned with cats that stretch, play, look haughty or groom, while a quiet bunny looks on from another





counters or potluck offerings. If you're tired of goopy bar soap, there's a soap holder (which can do triple duty as a business card or sponge holder, too) waiting for you. And those tiny funnels mean no more bouncing peppercorns as you fill your grinder or spice

jars!

Sheila DeLaquil ([www.sheiladelaquil.com](http://www.sheiladelaquil.com)) is also currently showing in the 221 Gallery (see March's newsletter), but here, she focuses on her fascinating abstract encaustics. With titles like "Ephemera 1 and 3" or "Full Moon," she uses the thickened quality of her wax medium to explore new dimensions in her work.



Joining the new group of artists is a long-time member whose work is almost new to the gallery.

Carol Ellison is both a painter and a jeweler, but focuses on the latter for this rotation.

"With my longtime friend Lynne Collum," she writes, "I took classes in silversmithing and jewelry-making. I had long been fascinated with Native American jewelry and silver most of my adult years, so I was thrilled . . . to create things in silver. My intention has not been to copy it exactly, but to incorporate some of the elements in my own creations." Using turquoise and copper-toned gemstones along with turtle and bird forms, her earthy style brings special warmth to the gallery's jewelry cases.



This is a great time to break away from the winter doldrums with a visit to the gallery. Enjoy the blossoming of a new season of color and creativity with the March-April rotation!



## 2017 Call to Artists

Three Rivers Artist Guild is presenting an arts, culture and heritage event known as The Oregon City Festival of the Arts (OCFOTA) on August 12 & 13, 2017 for the purpose of promoting local art in the community. Artists working in every medium will participate along with local food vendors, and local musical groups. The event is free to the public.

Location: End of the Oregon Trail Interpretive and Visitor Information Center  
1726 Washington Street, Oregon City, Oregon 97045

### IMPORTANT DATES

February 1, 2017	Call to Artists & Application emailed to TRAG artists
April 1, 2017	Applications due
June 1, 2017	Acceptance letter, contracts & digital show card emailed to accepted artists
July 1, 2017	Contract and payment due
July 24, 2017	Artist information sent by email. Includes booth # and position, parking and set-up Info
August 11 & 12	Artist set-up (Friday: 2 pm - 7 pm, Saturday: 7 am – 9:30 am)
August 12 & 13	Festival – 10 am – 5 pm both days

### IMPORTANT FACTS

Contact person: Lynda Orzen (503-313-0024) [ocfota@threeriversartistguild.com](mailto:ocfota@threeriversartistguild.com)

Services to artists during event:

- Security on grounds Friday and Saturday nights
  - Volunteers to provide breaks for artists
  - Designated parking area for artists
  - Water and snacks
- 
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# March Madness at the Gallery

A rare warm day with no rain and hints of sunshine made us nervous about attendance at the March Artist Reception but as always, we had a strong showing of customers who bought a total of \$517 of art!



Trieste brought two cheerful bouquets to adorn the cash register and appetizer table that was filled with sandwiches, a vegetable tray, and colorful cookies and brownie bites.

Singer Hill Café graciously supplied a carafe of coffee for our guests.



A special thanks to Jerilyn Walker who manned the cash register and Cheri Bosserman who stopped in for a "few minutes"

and stayed throughout to help Jerilyn with the onslaught of sales.



Customers must have been feeling a strong desire to communicate, as our artists' creatively designed cards made up the majority of the sales!



Special thanks to Ken Vetterick and Spring Jackson (artist Kira Jackson's mother) for manning the Gallery in the morning and helping Trieste set up. Our youngest artist, Kira Jackson, who creates images from the shedded skins of her pet snake Henry, sold 3 of her pieces. Vldn Taylor, Cheri Bosserman, Susan



Schenk, and Judy Haas did well also.



Guests were duly impressed by Vldn's metal photography prints as he explained his process to many guests. It is always amazing how customers are often more willing to buy our works when they understand the creative process behind the work.



Ken Vetterick drew people around his wooden teacart as he explained



making his furniture, from choosing and hewing the wood to the final sanding and finishing that brings out the inherent beauty of wood. Judy Haas' new line of clay figurines inspired by her whimsical paintings brought happy faces .... and sales!



And a large nod of appreciation to the powerful painting team of Robyn Lindsey and Andrew Baker, a unique mother and son collaborative, whose numerous friends and family attended the reception to contribute to the overall success of the day.

In all, a wonderful reception - thanks one and all for your ongoing generous support!



## How to write compelling artist statements

Susan Schenk will present a workshop on writing compelling artist statements.

An artist's statement tells others about you and your work. Writing one is a powerful exercise for articulating your passion and art. But, it also a challenge to capture in words what is often so hard to express and intangible. No matter your medium or level of proficiency, a good statement is a useful tool.

In this workshop, you will be guided through a series of questions to gather information to create a sophisticated artist's statement, and to deepen your thinking about your own art making. If you are happy with your current artist's statement, *then write a statement for the fabulous artist you aspire to be*, so that you can set that intention into the universe. Or, answer the questions as preparation for when you are interviewed for a national artist's publication.

**Art**  
Extravaganza!

## 2017 Art Extravaganza

### Art Extravaganza Moves to Earth Day, April 22<sup>nd</sup>

Mark your calendars for Art Extravaganza's new date on Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>! The move to Earth Day comes as organizers reach out to more working artists by shifting the date from Wednesday to Saturday. Both the popular location at Oregon City's Providence Willamette Falls Community Center and the 10AM to 4PM timeframe remain the same, though, as does the event's purpose – to "test, try and buy."



This year's line-up includes the vibrant mix of



exhibitors, demonstrating artists, lecture demonstrations and the “pop-up” art store that attendees have come to expect, but offers new features, too. Scheduled events include a panel discussion on the Craft Emergency Relief Fund (CERF+), a safety net concept for artist resources. Learn more about the event at the Clackamas County Arts Alliance’s website, [www.clackamasartsalliance.org](http://www.clackamasartsalliance.org).

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# Artist of the Month

## Dorothy Sherman & Denise Gilbert Photography



**Dorothy & Denise** work as a team, bringing their inspiring photographs to eager buyers as greeting cards, prints and framed art. With subjects ranging from still life scenes to placid, Zen-like landscapes, their artwork lifts the spirit and calms ragged nerves. "One just needs to look for those moments of beauty," Dorothy writes.



Happily, with the click of the camera, they can share those moments with us.



Both Denise and Dorothy have carried their cameras across continents and for a very long time. Dorothy taught English in



China for 17 years, travelling and taking photos in her spare time. "It just seemed right for me to share some of the marvels I had seen in China and those I continue to find every day," she tells us.



Denise began her fascination with digital photography a little over a decade ago, quickly learning to edit her compositions. "I've loved art my entire life," she explains, thrilled that her camera can help share that passion with others. The two joined forces formally in

2014 with the business "Artistry in Cards," selling their work at the Guild's gallery and local shows. You can see their developing website at [www.etsy.com/shop/ArtistryinCards](http://www.etsy.com/shop/ArtistryinCards).

Denise has also been making hand-molded, naturally-scented soaps for the past fifteen years, and the two enjoy selling them at local art fairs. Perfect as soothing, small gifts, they channel the same peaceful energy found in their prized photographs. You can learn more about the soaps at [www.etsy.com/shop/ArtisanHerbs](http://www.etsy.com/shop/ArtisanHerbs) and can reach the pair at [artistryincards@gmail.com](mailto:artistryincards@gmail.com).



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