

# THE LOCAL COLOR

**Encouraging the creation and enjoyment of art.**

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## **GENERAL MEETINGS, GUEST ARTISTS, AND ARTISTS OF THE MONTH HAVE RETURNED!!**

On February 3<sup>rd</sup>, general meetings resumed for Fremont Art Association, just in a different format than everyone was used to. We had the first Zoom demo and Helene Roylance was the Zoom Master, showing us that she has even more talents than we knew. There were 25 people attending that meeting, which went off without a hitch. We did the Artists of the Month competition on Zoom, too, and here are the winners:

- 1<sup>st</sup> place – “Spanish Café” by Helene Roylance
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – “Peaches” by Mia Balangué
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Green Textured Mug by Anita Clemenson

The guest artist at the February meeting was Vaishaly Jaiprakash, a member of FAA. Vaishaly is currently teaching watercolor classes on Zoom for FAA and you can find out more about her classes on the FAA website. Vaishaly has worked in watercolor for years and gets her inspiration from nature. She loves paintings flowers and leaves and for her demo she showed her techniques painting a beautiful landscape.

The March 3<sup>rd</sup> general meeting had 43 people attending the Zoom meeting. The Artists of the Month competition had 11 entrants! The winners were:

- 1<sup>st</sup> place – “Little Sentinel” by Carol Ramos
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – “Passageway” by Helene Roylance
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – “Reflection on Still Water” by Deepti Saraswat

Meghana Mitragotri was the guest artist at the March meeting. Meghana is a member of the Livermore Art Association and is a watercolor painter who uses bright colors for her paintings in her sometimes realistic and sometimes impressionist style. She especially loves painting flowers and landscapes but also lighthouses and birds. She demonstrated painting a sunflower which was quite vibrant and in it she showed several of her techniques.

And coming this April, 7<sup>th</sup>, we will be having demo artist Stephen Berry, a bay area artist famous for his paintings of local scenery. Painting is more than just an art for Stephen. He feels that paying attention and being whole-heartedly engaged in what you're doing is a simple, undervalued pleasure, and painting gives him that experience. He will also be teaching a workshop through the California Water Color society on April 16-18, so this demo is a great way to check him out ahead of time!

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## CERAMICS CLOTHING FACE MASKS JEWELRY PAINTINGS PURSES & BAGS WOODCRAFTS HOME DECOR & MORE

Dear FAA Members,

First, Tribute: Mary's Gallery Director report describes all the hands and brains, time and talent that go into creating and nurturing FAA's On-Line store. She did neglect to mention that she herself spends an inordinate amount of time in the Gallery, designing and rearranging the window display so that it looks fresh and inviting. Mary comes in whenever there is a site issue to resolve, mail needs to be collected or help required with receiving. And Mary is my memory and safety net; she keeps me on track and calm. Thank you, Mary, from all of us.

Second, Back to Business: If you read the words at the top of the page, each one should conjure up members who are being creative and active in the FAA. Look through the Roster and see if you can match up a face with a work of art, or with a job being done these days for the organization. And I want to make clear that our members who are not selling their wares are making generous donations over and above their dues. I get a frisson of appreciation when I see that one of you has sent the FAA extra money to keep going. Between sales, gifts, and grants (uh oh, that's Mary again), we are keeping our "doors" above water in the hope that we can reopen. Remember when it was so much fun to paint or knit together? To hang exhibits and even staff the gallery?? To walk past our OPEN sign and feel proud? And know there was a bathroom inside you could use? As we all get vaccinated and wear our masks, we move forward together to that day again.

Finally, The Nut: FYI, it costs approximately \$2000 a month to maintain our space. Half of that is rent. The rest is taxes, fees, financial and other services, and supplies. So you see why we can't sit back on our laurels. Everything you do, every way in which you support the FAA makes a huge difference. Because in the end, we are all the FAA. Keep up your spirits, and all the good work and caring that you do for the FAA.

As always, thank you for playing.

Denny

(still president)

## GALLERY DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Right now the FAA Gallery is display windows full of items that are in the online shop, with screens displaying art and hiding what's further back in the gallery. Behind the screens are tables for the online art and an area in the back is set up to take photos of the art that will go online. There are hundreds of art and cards for sale online. In the fall, we had fairly good online sales. Of course, January and February were slow selling months before the pandemic and it's the same this year. If you need a gift or cards, think of going to the FAA online shop and tell your family and friends about our wonderful website, too ([FremontArtAssociation.org](http://FremontArtAssociation.org)).

The gallery and online shop is being run by just a handful of wonderful members. Mia Balangue is our creative Webmaster who is constantly changing and adding things to the website to keep it interesting and fresh. Helene Roylance helps Mia and also takes photos of the art that is in the online store. And Helene doesn't just take one photo and call it good. She takes multiple photos of each item and then Photoshops the images at home to get them looking their very best. These two women put in countless hours getting FAA out in the community. Another extremely important person is Carol Ramos who is our friendly face to the customers who pick up the items they buy from the online shop. Carol has to first find the items, so she has to scour the windows and the stock in the gallery to get the purchased items ready for curbside pickup. Denny and I are there helping, too, but without Mia, Helene and Carol, there would be no income for FAA. I can't thank all of you enough!!!

And to all the members who have put art in the online shop, thank you for your patience and understanding with our new system of taking in art, new inventories, and new labeling. We are all volunteers who are constantly learning how to sell online.

I would like to thank Marsha Boone for her help at the General Meetings as chair of the Artists of the Month competition. Marsha did that job for several years, but is now taking a break. At each meeting, Marsha would take care of taking in the art for Artists of the Month. She would keep perfect records, tally the votes, award the ribbons, name the winners, and take photos to send to the Local Color newsletter. At the end of the year, Marsha would compute who was Artist of the Year for FAA. Thank you, Marsha. You've been a great help and I've enjoyed working with you.

Mary Bobik  
Gallery Director

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# Board Members and What They've Been Doing

## Carol Ramos-Director

My goal during covid has been to paint once a day. I have taken several workshops on zoom to keep up my skills and learn what I am not so good at in drawing and painting. These have been intense but the great thing was they were recorded. I went back to revisit and practice some of the skills taught. I continue to take weekly zoom classes with Steve Curl whose landscapes are bold and impressive.

Painting has helped me stay positive, healthy and happy during this time of shelter in place.



## Ginny Riedner and the war of covid survival-Director

At the beginning of our covid stay-in-place order, I discovered a free workshop on Facebook that got my attention and excitement. At the end of the workshop, I joined the ART2LIFE CREATIVE VISIONARY PROGRAM (CVP). It has been an intense 12 month experience that was fast (weekly hours of live videos and art discussions and learning). I felt overwhelmed earning abstract which is not anything I have done before. I spent the year listening, watching and participating in creating art.

Acrylic is a new medium for me and I have enjoyed learning how to use it along with bits of wisdom from Nicholas Wilton and his incredible team. The color reviews and general art concepts and play boards were awesome. I got a late start with my play boards however I did get some going, not complete yet. The year came to end this February. So, now I have to play on my own and as usual, some of life has put this on a slow down.

Living without art in my life is not possible!

## Denny Stein-President



## Tetiana Taganska

Tetiana Taganska teaches art at Imaginook Art Studio in Newark. The studio is open for online and in-person classes.

Tetiana is also working on her personal painting projects. The most recent is a portrait of her brother playing guitar. Unable to visit her family during the pandemic, Tetiana expresses her feelings via painting.

## Barbara Cronin-Director

Barbara Cronin started painting with the Tuesday Painters about 11 years ago. Her background is in photography and technical illustration. Ms. Cronin is known for teaching drawing in the Monart method and her tangles. She enjoys watercolors, ink, colored pencils, collage and mixed media. Currently art journaling is her biggest passion. Barbara also loves to knit with the Fiber Arts group.

## Vaishaly Jaiprakash-Director

I had 3 submissions for the New Dawn Virtual Art Show organized by Livermore Art Association.

Details about the show: [New Dawn | Livermore Art Association](#)

This virtual show is open between February 25 - March 31, 2021.

From the FAA, Parul Parekh, Trang Nguyen, Mia Balangue and Vaishaly Jaiprakash (myself) are participating in the New Dawn Show. One of my paintings "Marshland 3" sold on the 1st day of the show.

Here is a link to the facebook post: [Livermore Art Association and Gallery - Home | Facebook](#)

## Mary Bobik-Vice President

In November, I started attending Vaishaly Jaiprakash's Sunday watercolor classes on Zoom. The description of the classes says "Some prior watercolor painting experience could be helpful." I had NO watercolor painting experience, but I figured I could hide my art in the Zoom class and no one would see my feeble attempts at painting. I was surprised to find that I could keep up with the classes and I'm having fun painting. I won't be showing my paintings in the gallery but I can make decent small, simple paintings and have turned some of them into cards.

## Nancy Benton-Director

I recently signed up for an online class with Tansy Hargan titled, "Mixed Media Thumbnail Sketching" which has been so much fun. I'm enjoying the class so much I went ahead and signed up for the other course titled, "From Sketchbook to Wall" which may require me to buy a sewing machine! If you are interested in finding out more about her class or see her beautiful textile wall art, visit her website at [tansyhargan.com](http://tansyhargan.com)





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# Watercolor Workshops For Beginners!



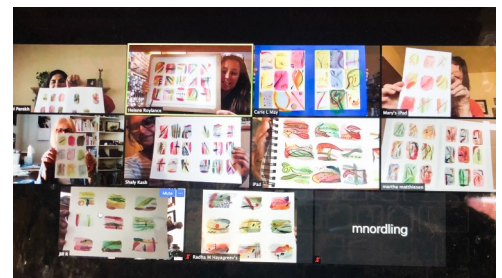
Starting in November, our very own Vaishaly Jaiprakash began offering watercolor workshops on Sundays, bringing students together to learn about watercolor with fun, relaxing exercises. The time was certainly right to start offering us an excuse to come together and create art – even if that was in a virtual Zoom space.

The workshops started almost by accident. When our Vice President Mary Bobik mentioned she had purchased some of Vaishaly's cards but had run out and needed more – Vaishaly had the inspiration to do a workshop to create cards, and teach the basics of card making so that members could start making their own cards for the holidays.

The designs for the cards were simple, yet elegant and decorative. Vaishaly provided a basic materials list, and participants learned some basic watercolor concepts along on the way to making a series of cards that they could then use. In every session, she broke down the process so that even beginners were able to enjoy the process and

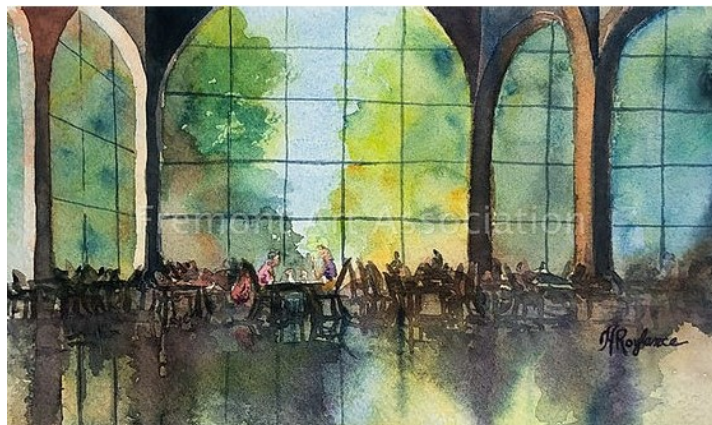
create beautiful but personal works of art. The sessions were not just popular with beginners, but experienced watercolor painters as well as painters of other stripes returned, week after week, to enjoy Vaishaly's painting sessions as she explored new ideas each week.

As the enthusiasm for the workshops persisted, Vaishaly began teaching different concepts – introducing color mixing with a primary triad of colors, building layers to create depth, using washes, and painting wet into wet to name only a few. The unexpected beauty of a virtual environment was that it allowed beginners the space and comfort to try new things, explore, and challenge themselves without feeling self-conscious. It allowed experienced painters the enjoyment and peaceful relaxation of a time to just paint, time out of an uncertain week to enjoy making art.



Sometimes we need an excuse to make art, and her workshops let us carve out that time to focus, create, and enjoy. Sometimes we need guidance, and Vaishaly's workshops provide solid instruction with a healthy dose of color theory, composition, technique, and more that have helped beginners become confident in creating their own works of art.

## February-Artists of the Month



**1st Place**  
Helene Roylance  
"Spanish Cafe"



**2nd Place**  
MiaMixesMedia  
"Peaches"



**3rd Place**  
Anita Clemetson  
"Green Textured Mug"

### Calling all FAA members!!

Attend general meetings to participate in "Artists of the Month." At the meeting, members vote on their 1st, 2nd or 3rd choices and the winner is named Artist of the Month. These votes are totaled at the end of the year and the highest score is named Artist of the Year. Meetings are free and include a guest artist demonstration.

## 2020 Artist of the Year



Helene Marie Roylance has been a member of the Fremont Art Association for 6 years. Her works focus mainly on watercolor and intricately painted ceramics. Her paintings often depict scenes from her travels, as well as plein air paintings of local vistas. Her works can currently be found in the Fremont Art Association Online Shop.







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# Livermore Art Association Presents their First Online Exhibit, *New Dawn*

The last year inspired a great deal of adaptation and creativity as we learned how to bring the familiar back into the new normal. In a stunning example of this, the Livermore Art Association's (LAA) online exhibit *New Dawn* has paved the way for what an online exhibit can achieve.

Chaired by Meghana Mitragotri of LAA, this exhibit received entries from 85 different artists, from 22 different cities! One of the central goals for *New Dawn* was to bring the community back together through art – and the volume of submissions demonstrated that local artists were ready to make it happen. Among those that submitted artwork are four artists from FAA, Trang Nguyen, Mia Balangue, Vaishaly Jaiprakash and Parul Parekh.

Trang Nguyen submitted two oil paintings to the show, including “Fremont Hills,” a lushly green portrait of the iconic hills in Fremont, a peaceful view of cows in the morning light. His second painting, “Orchids,” is a flowering orchid which pops against the deep green leaves and warm background. Vaishaly Jaiprakash submitted three beautifully atmospheric watercolor landscapes. First, “Marshland,” a piece inspired by the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge. Her next two paintings were inspired by Alameda Creek. In “River,” the beauty of early evenings with the sound of nature and birdsong, and in “Solitude,” the deep ochre of setting sun rays lighting up the scenery. Mia Balangue submitted three dynamic mixed media pieces which combine bright, flowing floral patterns juxtaposed with complex, straight edged geometric patterns. “Bloom” overlays bright fuchsia leaves with an evolving geometric gold design. “Shatter” balances an explosion of blue flowing leaves with an increasingly dominant gold pattern. “Lattice” embraces the organic background with a meticulous lattice pattern. Parul Parekh submitted three macramé pieces. “Knotty Chandelier” is an intricate pattern around a large metal loop, plaited down into 8 gathered sections. “Wall Hanging” hangs from natural driftwood, with bands of different patterns emerging like lace from the knots. Her final piece, “Dream Wreath,” coils a knotted pattern under a collection of brightly colored purple weaved flowers.

All of their pieces are viewable in the online gallery *New Dawn* on the LAA website. Congratulations to our artists for their submissions! The exhibit will run through March 31, 2021.

## How to Reach Us:

### Newsletter

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### Membership

Carol Ramos—carolsart100@comcast.net

### Gallery Director

Mary Bobik—gmbobik@gmail.com

### Fremont Art Association

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## Membership

We have several new members we would like to welcome to the Art Association! *Carol Drake, Carol-Ann Koch Weser, Catherine Rost, Danessa Mayo, Deepti Saraswat, Izabella Reznikov and Kelly Greathouse.* We hope we will get to meet you on a zoom call or in person in the near future.

Your membership helps us with the expenses of the gallery. We appreciate all who have made donations aside from their membership during this time!

With your membership your art work can be posted in the online store for purchase and you can also participate in Artist of the Month in our general meeting once a month. Contact me if you have any questions at [carolsart100@comcast.net](mailto:carolsart100@comcast.net).

May you have many creative moments!  
Carol Ramos, Membership Chair

## Board of Directors & Chairs

**Denny Stein**—President

**Mary Bobik**—Vice President

**Helene Roylance**—Treasurer

**Tetiana Taganska**— Secretary

Directors: Donna Arrillaga, Nancy Benton, Gene Bobik, Barbara Cronin, Carol Ramos, Ginny Riedner, Tetiana Taganska, Vaishaly Jaiprakash

Board Meetings are the 4th Wednesday of month at 1:00pm. All members welcome.



## SF BAY AREA ARTISTS

Silicon Valley Open Studios announces its 2021 Virtual Art Show and Benefit for the non-profit DrawBridge, an arts program for homeless children.



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