

ELDORADO

Arts & Crafts  
Association

## NEWSLETTER

2022 Studio Tour Update • EACA General Meeting Info • EACA Member Announcements • Meet the Artist •  
May be of Interest • Revised Board Member Roster

## UPCOMING

**April 1-22, 2022**

Studio Tour Application  
due. Online only.

**April 5, 2022**

EACA Board Meeting  
9:30 am Zoom mtg

**April 26, 2022**

Deadline for May  
Newsletter submissions.

Send to

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

**April 30, 2022**

EACA Spring Art Show

**Save the date!**

10am – 4pm at the  
Community Center (1  
Hacienda Loop) Be sure to  
stop by and say Hi and see  
what your fellow artists are  
up to.

**June 21, 2022**

EACA General Meeting

6pm – 8pm

Location tbd

## 2022 STUDIO TOUR UPDATE

Sept 25 & 25, 2022

The Studio Tour is officially underway. We had our first staff meeting on Mar 17<sup>th</sup>. The Publicity Team as well as the Underwriter Coordinator and Restaurant Sponsor Coordinator have been at work for a couple of weeks getting some early stuff done.

The Studio Tour Orientation Meeting and Participant 1 Meetings have been scheduled.

**Studio Tour Orientation Meeting:** May 10<sup>th</sup> 6:30 pm-8pm at the Vista Grande Library in the meeting room (exterior entrance to the right of the main entrance) Due to logistical issues we were not able to combine the Orientation with the Participant meeting so it will be held on a different day. The meeting is Mandatory for all new participants and optional for returning participants. It will help bring you up to speed with all things related to the Studio Tour.

**Participant Meeting 1a & 1b:** This is a mandatory meeting for all participants. As requested, we will be offering 2 dates / times. Participants will have the choice of which one they wish to attend. (you only need to attend one of these dates). At these meetings you will be given an overview of the tour and the changes for 2022, you will be confirming your contact info, studio location on the tour map and meeting your committee chairs to determine if you are able to uphold your volunteer commitment with your assigned committee.

Meeting 1a: Wed May 11<sup>th</sup> 6pm-8pm at location tbd

Meeting 1b: Thur May 19<sup>th</sup> 1pm – 3pm in the RR Room at the Community Center

• Below are some early dates to be aware of.

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| April 22, 2022 | Deadline for On-Time Applications  |
| April 29, 2022 | Deadline for Late Applications (\$50 late penalty fee)                             |
| May 10, 2022   | Studio Tour Orientation Meeting 6pm-8pm at the Vista Grande Library meeting room   |
| May 11, 2022   | Participant Meeting 1a 6pm-8pm   |
| May 19, 2022   | Participant Meeting 1b 1pm-3pm   |
| May 30, 2022   | Deadline for Participant Sponsorships & Underwriter Sponsor monies to be turned in |
| June 3, 2022   | Deadline for text & Image submissions for the brochure & website                   |

If you have any questions relating to the Studio Tour, please send to Jolene Petrowski at [eldoradostudiotour@gmail.com](mailto:eldoradostudiotour@gmail.com)

## RAKU KILN

Congratulations to Sammy Verschoor, who recently earned his Eagle Scout Award. His project was to construct a portable Raku Kiln which he is donating to the EACA for use by our members. Andrea Sharon and Nina Morrow, our Shop Talk Co-Chairs, are currently working with him on the details for a Shop Talk possibly in July. At this Shop Talk you will be able to bring you pottery to be fired in the Raku Kiln. We'll announce when more details are available.

## EACA GENERAL MEETING RECAP

General Meeting Tue March 15, 2022, 6:00 to 7:10PM Zoom

**Call to Order:** 6:03 pm 25 members in attendance

**March Program:** Studio Tour Updates

- Introduced Catherine Zarrillo who has agreed to be the Studio Tour Co-Director
- Most of the Tour Staff positions have been covered with the exception of Administrative Assistant Director, On-Site Assistant Director, Sponsorship Chair. Catherine will cover the Sponsorship Chair position for now and Jolene Petrowski will cover the 2 Assistant Director positions. Note: after the meeting Pat Rasmussen agreed to take on the Number Signs Chair position.
- Request for Proposals were sent out on March 7<sup>th</sup>, to several local Publicity agencies.
- A few minutes were spent answering tour related questions.

**Business:** EACA business update

- **President Report:** (Jolene Petrowski)
  - Janet O'Neal and Gail Ackerman were appointed at the March board meeting as Members at Large
  - Board positions of Vice President, Communications Coordinator and Website Chair are still vacant
- **Treasurer Report:** (Nan Patmont) as of Feb 27<sup>th</sup>. Assets: \$7, 837.34 Pending Liabilities: \$2800.00 Current Equity: \$5,037.34
- **Membership:** (Susan Delaney) as of Mar 12, 2022 126 members
- **Shop Talk:** (Andrea Sharon, Nina Morrow) Next shop talk will be in April. Looking into lining up a tour of the Greek Church
- **Spring Show:** (Karen Murry, Judy Kramer) Date: April 30, 10 am to 4 pm. At the time of the meeting we were still waiting on confirmation from the ECIA on whether or not they would be opening up the Community Center for public activities again.
- **New Business:**
  - A question was presented to the membership: Due to the current reservations concerning COVID and in person meetings does the membership wish to change our General Meetings to quarterly meetings or continue with our every other month schedule? A discussion was held. A vote was taken, and a unanimous response was to temporarily change to quarterly meetings for the rest of this year at which time we would reevaluate the situation.
  - Jolene brought up a concern that many of the full member emails sent out may be ending up in members' junk mail so they may be missing important information.
    - Suggestion from Janet O'Neal – send out postcards warning of this with instructions how not to have it happen. Jolene will bring this suggestion to the Board for discussion.

**Show & Tell:**

- Joey Serim showed and talked about a couple of her pottery pieces.
- Jolene Petrowski showed some of her macrame art

With no further questions, comments, or concerns, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm

Next Meeting to be held Tues June 21,2022

## EACA MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SAVE THE DATE

**Sun April 3rd**

10am – 3pm

**Jolene Petrowski** – Macrame & More will be showing and selling her Macrame Art and plant hangers at the Railyard Artisan Market



*Penelope Plant Hanger*



**Sun April 3, 10, 17 & 24**

10am – 3pm

**Adrian Skiles** – Image Shifting will be showing and selling his work at the Railyard Artisan Market

*Adrian Skiles - Zia*

Be sure to stop by the Railyard Artisan Market and see Jolene and Adrian's work up close.

**ELDORADO ARTS**  
**SPRING ART SHOW**

  
**Saturday**  
**April 30, 2022**  
**10 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

  
**Eldorado Community Center**  
**1 HACIENDA LOOP**  
**ELDORADO**

Eldorado Arts & Crafts Association  
[www.eldoradoarts.org](http://www.eldoradoarts.org)

*Please submit your announcements for the following month's newsletter by the 26<sup>th</sup> of the month for the next month's newsletter*

## MEET THE ARTIST: Alicia Otis

By Cyma Shapiro



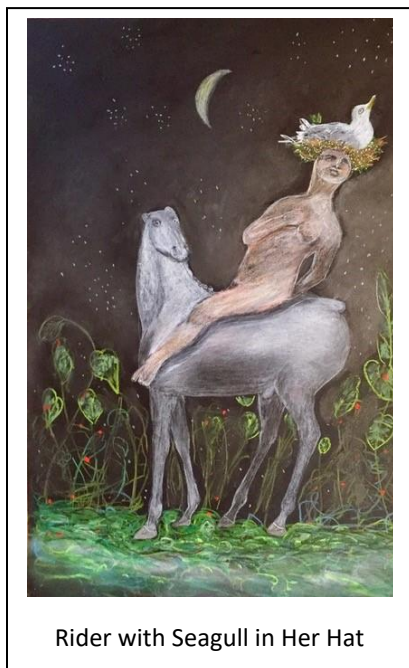
**Years in Santa Fe:** 52

**Medium:** Originally high-fired clay/ceramic sculpture. Later, acrylic on canvas, mixed media (pastels, colored pencils) on black paper

**Proudest Accomplishment:** Living 87 years. "To be able to walk my dog and do yoga...and being happy!" Also, "Letting go of making money making art. It's very freeing."

**Website quotes:** "A creative mind works its own magic when the artist's mind gets out of the way" And, "My passion is to bring joy and wonder into people's lives."

At five years of age, struggling with asthma and inclement weather in Northern Illinois, Alicia's early life was often spent in bed. To pass the time, she began copying pictures of Disney characters from comic books, became enchanted with the world of horses, rabbits and birds as seen in photographs, and the world of deer and antelope in Native American paintings. Her father's love of wildflowers, birds, horses and more importantly, nature, helped frame and cement her life-long passion of painting all animals including horses, birds and people's pets. Her grandfather had a large collection of native American art and so she was surrounded by both art and nature.

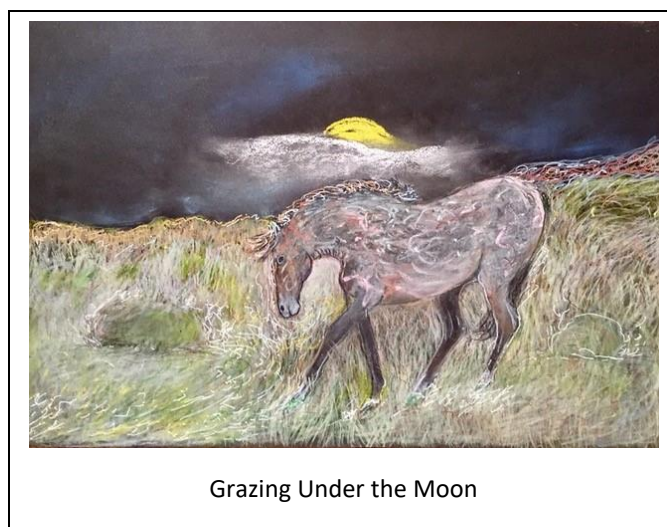


Rider with Seagull in Her Hat

When discussing her long and adventurous life, Alicia is quick to say she lived as a "free spirit, a hippie," a "loner," and even as an "eccentric." But, her characterizations are all said with abundant laughter and positivity. "I'm not a very social person," she said, "(But) "I love the outdoors and (most especially) animals."

Furthermore, she explained that hers was a life of freedom meant to simply create. She relied on her innate instincts as a mystic and spiritualist

to do her bidding. "I never needed to make money," Alicia explained, and therefore felt a sense of freedom in not pursuing the approval by others (and the need to sell her artwork). "I was attached to my work, but not attached," she said. "Do you know what I mean? It's a source of life for me, as an artist. I have a wonderful life...because I do all this work." In the 1970s, Alicia created and sold hand-coiled ceramic sculpture. "They were very organic and followed the lines of the mountains," she said.

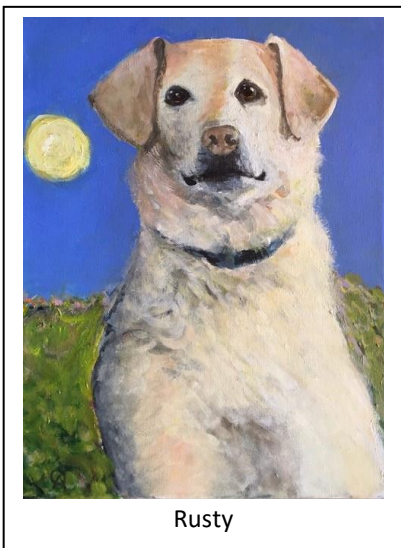


Grazing Under the Moon

(Continued on pg 5)

## Meet the Artist (continued)

Later, she painted bones, made more sculptures of animals with wings, and added beads to her work. But, her desire to return to her roots led her back to paintings – concentrating on birds, animals, horses, rabbits, foxes and the glorious creatures around her, fueled by living in New Mexico. “It is an organic, natural home for me,” she said.



Rusty

As an intuit and a creative, Alicia’s works reveal her deep spirituality combined with a keen eye for the outside world. One of her most special series, “When it Rains in the Desert,” was inspired by a trip to the Hopi reservation in Northern Arizona revealing green grass, the result of unusual heavy spring rains. During the trip, she read about the decline of Atlantic Seabirds, due to global warming and overfishing. Her works began infusing horses in the Southwestern desert, combined with precious sea birds from the Northeastern oceans.

“I’m not religious,” she said. “I’m a mystic. It is a connection with the creation of all things (with no name), but an energy about all that. I’m somebody who sees the underpinnings of life – of all forms. I think in a surreal way (and) use a juxtaposition of objects you wouldn’t ordinarily put together.”

Inspiration for her art comes from both her surroundings and from her imagination. However, she’s just as likely to find what she needs online – even “Googling” to find images which clarify her intent. She works from her photographs and the works of others. Over the years, Alicia has done many pet portraits and written a children’s book, “The Adventures of Jack, the Little White Dog.” But, she dislikes the business of....(the art) business. “I was never good at business,” she said. “The value of my work has nothing to do with *selling* the work. It was what you were *supposed* to do. I didn’t like it and I wasn’t good at it.”

“People put too much value on selling (their) work,” she continued. “It means a lot to them – it’s an affirmation. It has nothing to do with the *value* of someone’s art – whether someone buys it or not,” she said with emphasis.

However, enormously grateful for her long and storied life, she kept returning back to the value of her creativity and the desire to just create. “It’s like an energy people have. If they don’t use it, it’ll backfire on you,” she said. “It’s a great gift. You have to work very hard on it. You get better with it. (I’m) Challenging myself to do harder and harder things. It stops you from being cranky and stiff as you get older,” she said again with a laugh. “Getting (rid of the) negative. All of this energy keeps you being positive.” And, with a final thought, she added, “The world is getting harder and harder these days....”

<https://aliciaotis.com>

I have one more meet the artist articles ready for May. If anyone likes to talk with other artists to see what inspires them and likes to write, this job is for you! If interested, contact Jolene at [eldoradoarts@gmail.com](mailto:eldoradoarts@gmail.com) for more information.

## MAY BE OF INTEREST...

### Volunteer needed to coordinate the library's local artist exhibitions.

As many of you know, the Vista Grande Public Library features local artists on their walls every month, inviting them to exhibit and sell their creations to the library's patrons. They help artists get extra exposure by promoting the exhibition online, usually have an opening reception, and have seen many of them enjoy successful sales of their works while they are displayed at VGPL. The volunteer who has coordinated these shows, Sandra Young, is unfortunately leaving and the library is seeking another volunteer to continue her good work.

If this is something that may be of interest to you, contact Jim Zabora, VGPL Board President, at [president@vglibrary.org](mailto:president@vglibrary.org)

### Eldorado Reuse Center is Seeking Eldorado artists and residents who regularly visit the

**Eldorado Reuse Center** (28734 US Hwy 285), and take items for professional, artistic, or personal use. Interested in featuring several of you in an upcoming *Eldorado Living* 285/Recycles article. Please contact LibbyMaclaren @ [libbymac3@icloud.com](mailto:libbymac3@icloud.com).

### Beginning Watercolor Workshop (Reminder)

Beaux-Arts trained painter, Patsy Welch, will offer a Beginning Watercolor Workshop on four consecutive Wednesdays starting April 20 through May 11 from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. at her studio in Eldorado. The cost of the workshop is \$180. A supply list will be sent upon registration. The deadline for registration is April 13. For more information and/or to register contact Patsy at [patsywelch@gmail.com](mailto:patsywelch@gmail.com).

(See the EACA March Newsletter for the original article)

2022 EACA BOARD			
Website: <a href="http://www.EldoradoArts.org">www.EldoradoArts.org</a>			
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<b>Member Emeritus</b> Kim Crickard		<b>Member-at-Large</b> Janet O'Neal	

\*\* new email addresses