DECEMBER EACA BOARD MEETING: topics & actions

The EACA has decided that the membership would be better informed and involved if we reported a synopsis of our Board Meetings. Better we should give you direct information, and not expect you to trust that we are busy taking care of things behind the scenes. We will, going forward, report on our meetings.

Anne Ortloff will be resigning as vice president, so we will need volunteers to run for that office.

The EACA has formed a Steering Committee run by Jolene Petrowski. The idea behind it is to review the Studio Tour process, determine areas where changes should occur, look at what worked and didn’t, and create a handbook for future Studio Tours. We are also creating a way to take pressure off the Director as it is a difficult, complicated, and stressful job. Further details will be made public once we complete the process, but know we are going over everything in great detail so future Tours will be more organized and less stressful.

We voted on the dates for the 2022 Studio Tour and decided that it would be on September 23rd (Preview Gallery Reception), 24th, and 25th (The Studio Tour). The consensus was that because the Balloon Festival in Albuquerque is scheduled from Oct 1st thru 10th, that we could benefit from the tourists that come into town early and are looking for fun things to do ...and spend money on.

The next Board Meeting is on Jan 4th, 2022. The Board will need names of volunteers who will run for offices on the board, so please send in your information and which office you are wanting to run for. Some of the officers of the board will remain. I am hereby announcing that I will not be running for President again for 2022. Members are welcome to run for any of the Executive Board offices even if there are current Executive Board members running again. A full “slate” of those running for office will be compiled at the next board Meeting. The voting for these candidates will be on Jan 20th at our next General Meeting. Please attend.

Kim Crickard
EACA President
EACA GENERAL MEETING

Day: Thursday, Jan 20, 2022  
Time: 7:00 – 9:00 pm  
Location: Vista Grande Library  
Masks Required

Our first meeting of 2022 is an important one! We will be electing our board members for the 2022 term. If you are interested in running for an elected position (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Communications Coordinator) or are interested in being considered for an appointed position (Membership Chair, Website Chair, Studio Tour Director, Spring/Fall Show Chair, Shop Talk Chair, Member-at-Large) please submit your name to Kim Crickard at president@eldoradoarts.org as soon as possible.

The Studio Tour Steering Committee will also be reviewing the revised organizational structure for the Studio Tour as well as additional committee plans going forward.

EACA MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

SAVE THE DATE

Please submit your announcements for the following month’s newsletter by the 26th of the month for the next month’s newsletter. These announcements will also be shared on our Facebook page and blog when applicable.

Adrian Skiles - Six Directions Photography, will be exhibiting his work at the Art on Barcelona Gallery. Opening/Reception will be January 14th - 5-7 PM. The show will run January through March and is titled Image Shifting - Graphics-Infused Photography. The gallery is located at 107 W Barcelona Rd. Santa Fe.  
https://www.uusantafe.org/art-on-barcelona.html

For more details and/or to be added to his mailing list you may contact Adrian at adrianskiles@gmail.com.

Adrian Skiles  
Six Directions Photography  
imageshifting.com  
sixdirectionsphotography.com  
770.722.8526

Pueblo Ladder
MEET THE ARTIST: Rena Paradis
By Cyma Shapiro

Years in Santa Fe: since 1967 (Seven houses....)
Medium: ceramics & painting (oils & acrylic)
Proudest Accomplishment: 1987 New Mexican newspaper named her one of 10 people (statewide) who made a difference (English as a Second Language)

Rena Paradis’ life has been long and winding. As a teenager, she followed in the artistic footsteps of her mother, a painter, and her stepdad, a woodcarver, choosing to focus on painting (mostly oils) and then ceramics. She was drawn to paint people, only - specifically, native American Indians and then, later, Spanish/Hispanics. In Arizona, her mother taught indigenous women how to carve, and it was first there that she became struck with the beauty of the culture all around her – the physicality of the people, and the culture and the artistry of their work.

In the 1960s, she became personally involved with native American Indians; began to stay at the Pueblo (during the days, when this was allowed); and trade with the women. Marriage to an Apache man only cemented her love of the surrounding culture. Together they created a lucrative and lasting ceramics business which is now available as collector’s items. Later, as her marriage waned, her interest refocused on Hispanics. She identifies strongly as a “Hispanofile.” “I didn’t know much about them but became involved because of my work...” she explained. “You become interested in the generalities of a culture, and then as you get to know it, you learn more about it.”

Rena found the demeanor and approach of those around her to be “terribly funny.” They were “a joy to be with,” she said. She was enamored by their passion which seemed to exude in all directions. “There is such passion about everything,” she said. “Family relationships – a wonderful love (for) each other and family. A love of color and traditions.”

As a young adult (while continuing to paint), she became a volunteer with the literacy program - a stint which led to a few decades in adult literacy initiatives and later as Executive Director of the New Mexico Coalition for Literacy, fulfilling a desire to simply give back to those who lived around her.

At retirement – approximately nine years ago – Rena continued with what she had always been doing – painting stylized portraits of Native American and Hispanic family life – again, those she lived amongst. “I paint all the time so I’m back where I came from,” she said.

Finding that oil painting “took so long to dry,” Rena began using acrylics, which became “so much easier and dries faster.” But, as retirement also signaled a gradual removal from the people and (geographic) areas which had provided so much inspiration, she relied more on her “memories of people I know, people I see.” She was inspired by emotions and felt it translated through to her canvas. “I don’t know how that happens,” she said with wonderment. (Continued page 4)
Covid and monsoon flooding changed everything – Rena was forced to close her studio (temporarily) and has reduced her art show participation. Although she once had representation through two local galleries, she prefers to sell her own work both in-person and now (primarily) online. “I want people to be able to buy my work,” she said. “I’m much more comfortable doing it the way I’m doing it now. I don’t need to (sell to) survive. I don’t need to worry about selling.”

What does she hope people will glean from her artwork? “I always hope people (will see) something specific,” Rena said. Referencing the annual (art) holiday cards she sends to her many clients; of this she adds: “I want them to smile again...you can’t help but grin when you look at them. (With Covid) It’s been so tough…”

Rene Paradis
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(505) 466-4665
www.renadesantafe.com

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**2021 EACA BOARD**

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<tr>
<th>Role</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vp@EldoradoArts.org">vp@EldoradoArts.org</a> Studio Tour Chair: Evie Gauthier <a href="mailto:EldoradoStudioTour@gmail.com">EldoradoStudioTour@gmail.com</a></td>
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