



BLAINE ARTS COUNCIL

# NEWSLETTER

ISSUE  
**32**

July 2025

**General Meeting - July 10, 2025**

## July Presentation

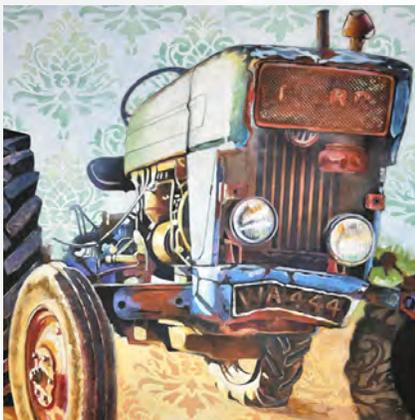


**July Meeting Presenter: Michele Kamrath**

Michele is an award-winning artist, author, art teacher, children's book illustrator, wife, mother and grandma. While living in California, she was represented in the Valley Art Gallery in Walnut Creek, and won first place in the California Watercolor Association's Sacramento State Capitol show.

In 2020, she authored and published a secondary art textbook entitled *Emerging Art for Private and Public Schools*, which is sold on Amazon, and offers art courses through her online school, MK Art Academy. She has also illustrated and published children's and nonfiction books for various authors.

In 2023, Michelle and her husband settled in the Pacific Northwest where she continues supporting schools globally with her online art curriculum. She also enjoys spending time in her studio painting primarily in acrylic. She believes art has the power to change atmospheres and beautify spaces, and she hopes to achieve this by weaving the concepts of creation's goodness into her work.



"HIDDEN" | ACRYLIC | 20" x 20" | SOLD



**Join Us At Our General Meeting Location!  
Blaine Community Complex - 763 G Street  
July 10, 2025 - 6:30pm - 7:30pm**

Graciously  
Hosted by:



## Blaine Art Gallery & Gift Shop - 922 Peace Portal Drive



2ND SATURDAY DOWNTOWN

Art Walk

**July 12 - 4:00PM-6:30PM**

Our Downtown Art Walk is 2nd Saturday! We're hoping those of you coming into Blaine for the day will stop by on your way home after supporting your local businesses. And those of you coming in for the evening will begin at the gallery and then go on to see the wonderful artworks displayed at local businesses who have partnered with us.

**Enjoy sweet & savory treats from L & L Bakery!**

*Begin* at the **Blaine Art Gallery** at 922 Peace Portal Drive. Check out our amazing artisans' creations and enjoy treats from L & L Bakery.

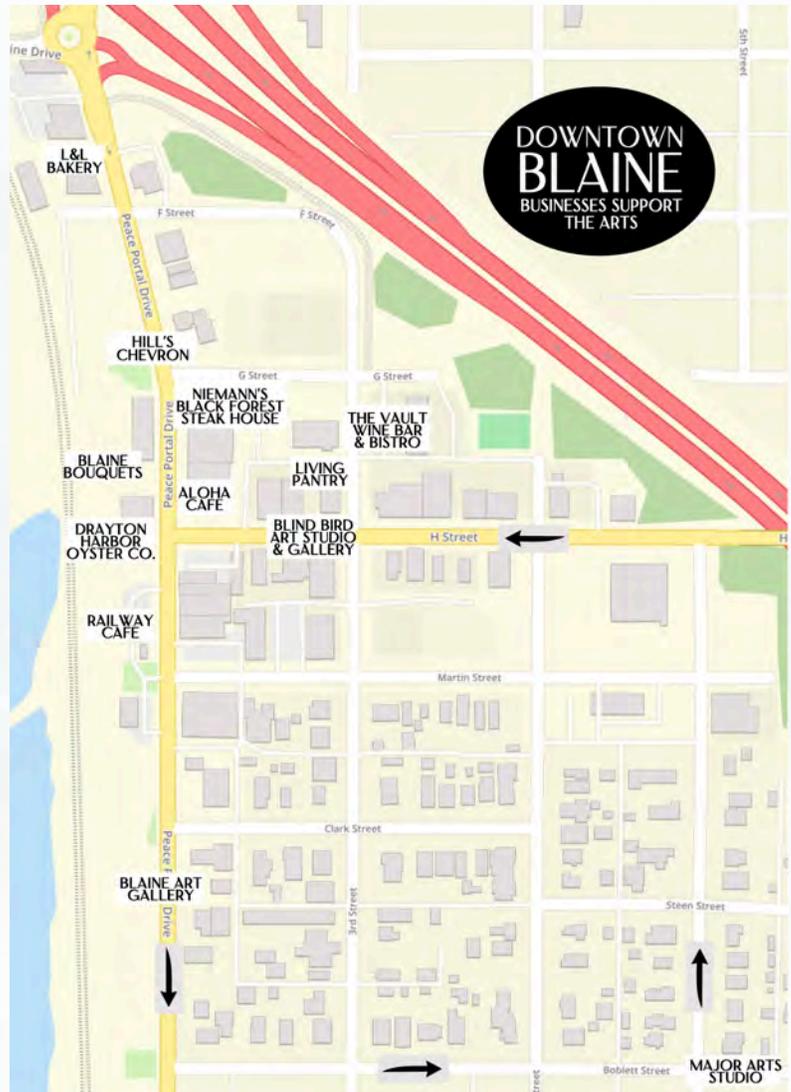
*Then,* head to **Major Arts Studio** at 978 Harrison Avenue to check out all the incredible pop art, sculptures, and paintings.

*Continue* to **Blind Bird Art Studio** at 264 H Street and see Shawna Morris' lovely artwork.

*See* the fantastic artists showing at **The Vault & L & L Bakery.**

*And* enjoy the many things Blaine's local businesses have to offer!

We are grateful for our partnerships with Blaine's local business community and look forward to growing!



**Aloha Cafe**

**Drayton Harbor Oyster Company**  
(Artist: Kim Morris)

**L & L Bakery** (Artist: Kay Dee Powell)  
**Niemann's Black Forest Steak House**  
**The Vault Wine Bar** (Artists: Rod Kent & several WAST artists)

Blaine Art Gallery & Gift Shop - 922 Peace Portal Drive

# July Gallery Show

**Special July 4<sup>th</sup> hours - 10am - 2pm**



## Participating Artists

Bruce Scott      Lyn Rackley  
Gordon Nealy    Tamara Olson  
Isabella Clark

Join us this July as we celebrate the awesome works of these local painters and sculptures. Thank you for your patronage all throughout our first year!



Art by Bruce Scott



Art by Isabella Clark



Art by Gordon Nealy



Art by Lyn Rackley



Art by Tamara Olson

Blaine Art Gallery & Gift Shop - 922 Peace Portal Drive

# July Gift Shop

## Gift Shop Artists



**GALLERY HOURS**  
Thurs - Sun  
11-5



Pottery by Cathie Richardson



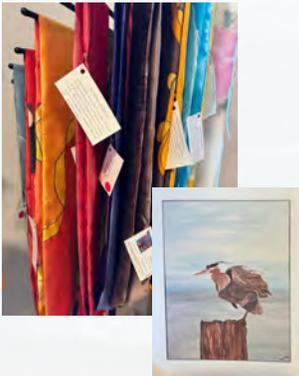
Jewelry by Cheryl Smith



Paintings & Cards by Deb Freeman



Prints & Cards by Georgia Donovan



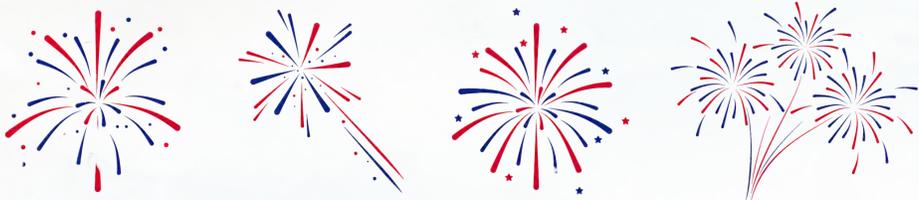
Silk Scarves & Cards by Kay Dee Powell



Paintings, Cubes, Fabric Bags, & Cards by Marjie Miller



Photography by Martin Johnson



**Special July 4<sup>th</sup> hours - 10am - 2pm**

**The Blaine Art Gallery & Gift Shop has many gift options from our incredibly talented local artisans.**  
**Come check us out for all your gift shopping needs!**

**Connect with us!**



Blaine Art Gallery & Gift Shop - 922 Peace Portal Drive

CALL TO  
ARTISTS



**The Gallery is booked through September! Here are the upcoming opportunities to participate! Don't miss out to show in 2025!**

### **October Call to Artists Show - Small Art, Big Impact**

**October's exhibition** will be a new and exciting one! We invite you to submit your most compelling small artwork for consideration in our gallery's inaugural juried exhibit. This competition celebrates both 2D and 3D smaller works of art. This event challenges you to present your creative imagery in a more compact format. Cash prizes: 1st - \$300 & 2<sup>nd</sup> - \$200.

This juried exhibit highlights the western region's abundant talent and their unique artistic visions, and is open to artists residing in WA, OR, ID, WY, MT, NV, CA, UT, AZ, CO & NM.

- 2D artwork maximum 24" on longest side
- 3D artwork maximum 15" longest dimension

**Entry deadline is September 3<sup>rd</sup>** and the link to apply is: [BAG - Small Art, Big Impact Call to Artists](#).

### **November & December Call to Artists**

**November's exhibition** will herald the holiday season into the gallery! The Holiday Gift Shop will open on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in November and run through the end of December. We will once again show off the talents our local artists have to offer as we open the gallery up as a **Holiday Gift Shop!** Spots are filling quickly, so get your name in soon!

**These are fantastic opportunities to exhibit in a vibrant, community-focused gallery.** We welcome submissions from artists across all mediums, including painting, photography, sculpture, woodworking, jewelry, and more.

#### **HOW TO APPLY:**

Submit your entries to the [GALLERY PARTICIPATION FORM](#). Have questions, contact us at [gallerychair@blaineartscouncil.org](mailto:gallerychair@blaineartscouncil.org).

**Don't miss this opportunity to share your art with the community—apply today!**

## BAC Member Happenings & Opportunities



### BARBARA DAVIS-PYLES

On the first Tuesday of every month, BAC member Barbara hosts "Write Here Right Now" at the Blaine Library from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. If you're ready to work on that book you've always wanted to write, this is the time and place!

### BONNIE VENTURA

Bonnie will be teaching a coil planter class for BBPRD2 at the Blaine Pavilion. Two sessions: 8/1/25 & 8/8/25, from 5:30pm - 6:30pm. She will also be teaching a two-session mug class for BBPRD2 at the Blaine Pavilion on 9/13/25 & 9/20/25, from 3pm - 4pm.

### GORDON NEALY

Gordon is showing some of his plastic sculptures at the Fogue Art Gallery in Seattle through July.

### JAMES ROBINSON

James is offering an online, still-life & photo drawing course for pencil, for beginners to advanced. If you would like more info, visit [Online drawing course info link](#) - please note this is an updated link for James' art lessons. You may also contact James at [jamesbaby356@gmail.com](mailto:jamesbaby356@gmail.com).

### LYN RACKLEY

Lyn has a painting accepted to the Jansen Art Center's Summer Juried, Exhibit, running 7/10 - 9/29. The painting is called Done for the Day.



Art by Lyn Rackley

### MARIA MONKS

Maria has 5 paintings showing at the Blaine Library.

### MARTIN JOHNSON

Martin is featured in an online art exhibition through Artsy.net, as well as the Decagon Gallery in Brooklyn, NY, the Chicago Digital Showcase, and the Greece Digital Showcase.

### RUTH LAUMAN

Ruth's art is showing at the Great Blue Heron July and August. There will be an artist reception Wednesday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> from 4:30 - 6:30pm. Come sip and see this beautiful new show!

### SIERRA JAMES

Sierra is showcased in "Women Rising: Expanding Visions/Diverse Perspectives", [Cascadia International Women's Film Festival](#) art exhibit showcasing the work of Pacific Northwest women artists at the Dakota Art Store in Bellingham.

### VAUNE AINSWORTH

Vaune has a piece accepted in the Jansen Art Center's Summer Juried Exhibit, running 7/10 - 9/29. The piece is called Breakthrough.



Art by Vaune Ainsworth

Due to the City Revitalization Project street closure happening on Peace Portal Drive, starting July 14<sup>th</sup>, the **Summer Art Festival is being rescheduled.**

Please stay tuned or join us at the next General Meeting for further information. We are sorry for any inconvenience.

## BAC Member Happenings & Opportunities



### 2025 MEETING PRESENTERS & NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES!

**Artist Networking at the General Meetings** is our Adult Show & Tell, and is super fun! See below for 2025 open opportunities to be a presenter at a general meeting and share what you do with us!

Aug 14 - Open

Sept 11 - Adult Show and Tell

Oct 9 - Open

Nov 13 - Open

Dec 11 - BAC Holiday Party

Jan 8, 2026 - Open

Feb 12, 2026 - Annual General Mtg

Mar 12, 2026 - Open

## A Petite Word From The President

Dear Council Community,

As we step into July, it brings with it thoughts of summer, time with friends, and maybe even travel. I also find myself wondering how July arrived so quickly — wasn't it just March last week??

Life moves on, and in the very wise words of Ferris — Bueller? Anyone? Anyone? — “Life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it.”

It doesn't always give us time to catch our breath before we're swept into the next thing — shiny or not. That's why I believe now is the time to lean in, live boldly, and embrace every beautiful, messy, magical moment.

Let's dig in and ride this incredible wave of creativity and community for all it's worth. From murals to gallery shows to youth art classes, our mission remains clear: to fill this town with color, connection, and the kind of art that wakes something up inside you.

So come out, get inspired, meet an artist, make something, say yes. Let's celebrate the arts, our town, and this wild and wonderful life together.

With gratitude and gusto,  
Margaret Owens

## Welcome BAC Newest Member!

**WE WISH TO WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBER TO THE BLAINE ARTS COUNCIL.**

Cathie Richardson | Isabella Clark

*Share  
With Us!*

We want to know all newsworthy items about your art and you! Shows, awards, where your art will be, art items you would like to sell or trade?  
**Please submit information by the 25th each month to:**  
[communications@blaineartscouncil.org](mailto:communications@blaineartscouncil.org)