



BLAINE ARTS COUNCIL

NEWSLETTER



November 2025

General Meeting - November 13, 2025

NOVEMBER Meeting



Arrive early for the November General Meeting, as the Blaine High School Chamber Choir will sing you in! They will be gracing us with a holiday song medley from about 6:20 to 6:40, so the earlier you get there, the more you will hear. They are raising funds for a performance trip to Disneyland parks, so if you have the ability to support, please do so.

We'll do a bit of business, and then enjoy this year's last — **Artist Networking/Show & Tell!**

Show it. Tell it. Share it.

Each artist gets a few minutes to present their work and answer a few questions—just enough time to inspire and be inspired. Bring anything you are working on, proud of, or excited about. We want to see it!

After the presentations, stick around to mingle, connect, and get a closer look at the amazing art. It's a relaxed, supportive space to celebrate creativity, meet fellow artists, and grow your network.

Gallery News

Holiday Gallery Gift Shop Opening!

Join us on Saturday, November 15, for the Grand Opening Reception of the Gallery Gift Shop from 4–7 PM!

To make the evening even more special, the Blaine High School Chamber Choir, directed by Andy Marshall, will fill the gallery with festive music during a special holiday performance from 4:45–5:15 PM. You won't want to miss it! The choir will again be accepting donations towards their performance trip to Disneyland parks.

The evening will be filled with music, good cheer, and a delightful array of unique gifts to kick off the holiday season in true Arts Council style. Come celebrate creativity, community, and the joy of the season with us!

Join Us At Our General Meeting Location!
Blaine Community Complex - 763 G Street
November 13, 2025 - 6:30pm - 7:30pm

Graciously
Hosted by:



Blaine Art Gallery & Gift Shop - 922 Peace Portal Drive

NOVEMBER

2ND SATURDAY DOWNTOWN ART WALK

Gallery Gift Shop Opening Reception

November 15th
4:00 - 7PM

with a performance from
the BHS Chamber Choir
4:45 - 5:15PM

November's Downtown Art Walk
celebrates the opening of the
Gallery's Holiday Gift Shop!

Stop by and find the perfect gift for
those on your list!

Celebrate Creativity
Shop Local • Spread Joy

Enjoy savory snacks, hot
chocolate, and some sweet 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.

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!



- Aloha Cafe
- Blind Bird Art Studio & Gallery
- Drayton Harbor Oyster Company
- L & L Bakery
- Living Pantry
- Niemann's Black Forest Steak House
- The Vault Wine Bar

*We are grateful for our partnership with
Blaine's local business community & we
look forward to expanding in 2026!*

Blaine Art Gallery Halloween Fun!

Our lovely gallery hosted an impromptu Halloween happening this year, which will expand into an even bigger event next year, thanks to the partnership with so many of our fantastic downtown Blaine businesses and Chamber of Commerce.

Even with the monsoon that blew through town on the 31st, and the short notice to the community, we still had 32 kids and 28 adults come through the gallery on a blustery Friday evening. So many adorable costumes, new visitors to the gallery, and cards handed out to let the community know we will soon become a festive wonderland for holiday shopping!

Enjoy some of our delightful guests!



Holiday Gallery Gift Shop - November 15th - December 23rd!



BLAINE ART GALLERY WELCOMES YOU TO OUR
GALLERY GIFT SHOP
NOVEMBER 15TH - DECEMBER 23RD

OPENING RECEPTION
NOV 15TH | 4PM - 7PM
THURSDAY TO SUNDAY: 11 TO 5
OPEN: MON - 12/22 & TUES - 12/23: 11 TO 5
CLOSED: THANKSGIVING - 11/27 & 11/28
922 PEACE PORTAL DRIVE, BLAINE

STEP INTO OUR HOLIDAY GIFT SHOP, FILLED WITH
HANDCRAFTED TREASURES BY OUR TALENTED
BLAINE ARTS COUNCIL ARTISANS.

WARM UP BY A COZY FIRE AND ENJOY THE SPIRIT
OF THE SEASON WHILE YOU BROWSE
ONE-OF-A-KIND CREATIONS
PERFECT FOR EVERYONE ON YOUR LIST!

SHOP LOCAL • CELEBRATE **CREATIVITY** • SPREAD JOY



JEWELRY
MIXED MEDIA
PAINTINGS & PRINTS
HAND-DYED SILK SCARVES
TOPOGRAPHICAL CARVED MAPS
CUSTOM CRAFTED WOODWORKS
HOLIDAY CARDS, ORNAMENTS
& HOLIDAY DECORATIONS
WHIMSICAL GIFTS
AND MORE!

STEP INSIDE AND FIND YOUR
HOLIDAY **INSPIRATION!**

Gallery Gift Shop Participating Artists

Cathie Richardson
Cheryl Smith
Deb Freeman
Dennis Olason
Diane Butts
Georgia Donovan
Helen Worley
Jeff Shearer
Jennifer Korn
Joseph Kinnebrew
Kathleen Carlsson
Kathy Heaverlo
Kay Dee Powell
Keren Taylor
Lorraine Day
Margie Creen
Marjie Miller
Mark Seeger
Mary Solomon
Rebecca Danger



October Meeting Highlights - 10/9/25

Blaine Arts Council General Meeting Highlights

October 9, 2025

At October's general meeting, members of the Blaine Arts Council gathered to share ideas, celebrate successes, and explore new ways to strengthen our community's creative heartbeat. The small group discussions focused on event planning, artist engagement, and how to keep our gallery thriving as the centerpiece of Blaine's art scene. At the end of the session, each group presented their ideas to the attendees. Here is the culmination of a great evening's work and partnership!

Our Strength: The Blaine Art Gallery

There was overwhelming agreement that our greatest strength is the Blaine Art Gallery. Members praised the gallery as a cornerstone of the arts community; offering space to exhibit, connect, and inspire. It provides motivation and pride for local artists while enriching the cultural life of Blaine. Looking ahead, members hope to expand opportunities for artists to exhibit and reach broader audiences. Ideas included more pop-up shows and one-day art fairs during spring and summer, possibly with participation from both members and non-members alike.

Gallery Support Request: We are looking for a small team to take on the 2nd Saturday Opening Reception events. This would entail coordination of refreshments (not purchase of), set-up, take down, and staffing once per month from 4-7pm – ideally setting up ½ hour prior to start of event. If you are interested in supporting, and making these events shine, please email communications@blaineartscouncil.org.

Art Studio Tour

One topic sparked immediate enthusiasm - visiting artists' studios/homes and seeing the creative process firsthand. Members proposed restoring the tour's original format, possibly with shared studio spaces for artists without home studios. The return of this event would strengthen artist-community connections and offer visitors a behind-the-scenes experience that truly celebrates Blaine's creative spirit.

Creative Fundraisers and Community Events

- **Specific to the Holiday at the Gallery – Shopping Nights:** Women's Night (champagne and chocolates?) and Men's Night (beer and pretzels?), with fun shopping incentives.
- **Live Painting to Music:** Guests enjoy live painting performances with music, wine, and hors d'oeuvres. Finished works auctioned or raffled at the end. Possible involvement from Blaine High School musicians.
- **Online Art Auction:** Host an online art auction to reach supporters who can't attend in person.
- **The Wave Returns:** Continue the Wave fundraiser with a fresh format, featuring student and community involvement.
- **Art + Music Nights:** Combine visual art with live music for more dynamic gallery events.
- **Paint Blaine:** Citywide painting competition open to all, with cash prizes and potential for the winning art to become a jigsaw puzzle, etc.
- **Art "Salons" and Guest Speakers:** Invite artists from nearby communities for informal discussions or presentations.
- **High School "Evening of the Arts":** We will continue to collaborate with the BHS art department and showcase student winners at the gallery in June.

October Meeting Highlights - 10/9/25 (cont)

Building Engagement and Connection

Members emphasized the importance of increasing attendance and participation. Suggestions included adding mini art presentations, creative demos, and artist spotlights during meetings to make them more engaging. Strengthening collaboration among artists remains a top priority.

Promoting Our Artists and Events

- **Advertising & Flyers:** Monthly Northern Light ads and flyers at community hubs.
- **Partnerships:** Work with local visitor centers and realtors to share gallery information.
- **NextDoor Profile:** Keren Taylor has graciously done this for us! Thank you, Keren!
- **Social Media:** Collaborate with Blaine High School students or community volunteers for additional posting support.
- **Website & Signage:** Feature 2nd Saturdays prominently and improve signage visibility.

Reimagining the Year Ahead

Members are eager to develop a yearly calendar of art events to help residents anticipate exhibitions and activities. Coordinating with local festivals and businesses could build excitement and increase attendance. The Council continues to evolve as a creative hub for Blaine — where art, collaboration, and community thrive year-round.

Get Involved

The Blaine Arts Council thrives on the energy and ideas of its members and community. If you'd like to help with promotions, events, or outreach — or if you have skills in writing, design, or social media — we'd love to hear from you!

Email us at communications@blaineartscouncil.org to get involved and be part of the creative team that keeps Blaine's arts scene growing strong.

Board News!

Board Treasurer & Fundraising Chair - Bryan & Daphne Johnson

We are thrilled to welcome Bryan Johnson, with assist from his fabulous wife, Daphne, to the BAC Board as our new co-Treasurers/Fundraisers! Bryan has been a professional fundraiser for nonprofits, such as The Boys & Girls Club, Semiahmoo, and the Pacific Arts Association. Both Bryan and Daphne worked for the Pacific Arts Association, with Bryan as the President and Daphne as the Treasurer. We are very lucky to have them step into the financial roles of our Arts Council.

Board Gallery Chair - Scott Cilmi

We are excited to welcome Scott Cilmi to our Board. Scott has recently moved here from the San Francisco Bay area, and has been a professional artist for 30 years. He has exhibited in galleries, design studios, art festivals, and with Bay Area artist associations. He has owned and operated two galleries - San Francisco and Sausalito - has managed commercial galleries, and created pop-up galleries at various locations. He was an Administrator for the Marin Museum of Contemporary Art, and is a Board member with The Red Umbrellas, a nonprofit artist association in San Francisco. We are thrilled to welcome him to our little art gallery, and can't wait to see how we grow!

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!

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](#). You may also contact James: jamesbaby356@gmail.com.

THE VAULT WINE BAR, BISTRO, & THE STUDIO AT THE VAULT

Jurying process has begun for the **January show**, which will hang Jan 12th - Jan 14th. Minimum term is 3 months with 20% commission. Interested artists should submit digitally to joni@thevaultwine.com.

Every Sunday in November The Vault is offering "buy one Entree at full price and receive the second Entree of equal or lesser value for half". Who wants to cook on Sunday anyway?

The Vault's every month happenings!

- 10% off Wine on Saturdays
(15% for wine club members)
- Trivia Thursdays hosted by Alan
- Live Music most Fridays

The Vault Bistro Take & Heat Thanksgiving Dinner

Turkey with Jus OR Risotto Stuffed Roasted
Butternut Squash
Mashed Potatoes OR Candied Yams with Pecan
Sage Apple Stuffing
Citrus Spiced Cranberry Sauce
Orange Thyme Glazed Carrots
Brussel Sprouts
Brioche Dinner Roll
Pumpkin Pie with Whipped Cream
\$50 each includes tax & gratuity

Orders due by November 16 (while supplies last)

Pick up date 11/26, between 2:30 & 5:30

Place your order by calling: 360-392-0955



Classes!

GANGA ENGELDOW

Ganga is offering a class on how to design & make a Hawaiian quilt on **November 18th, from 10am - 3pm**. The class will be held at her Semiahmoo home. You will start by making an 18" x 18" quilt piece - big enough for a cushion top. Just bring your scissors, and get to quilting! All materials and lunch will be provided.

The cost is \$40, and all proceeds will be donated to the Blaine Food Bank. Contact Ganga at: geetbaazi@comcast.net.



THE VAULT

The Vault will host a Swag Class and Desserts with Auntie Em's Flowers on **11/22, from 3:00 - 5:00pm**. \$55 per person please sign up on www.auntieemsflowers.com.

ELIZABETH PHILLIPS taught a class at Stafholt Health & Rehab recently, and it was so much fun for the residents, she'll be doing it again! They created a "Treasure Jar" to remind them of summer and the beautiful place we live.



BAC Member Happenings & Opportunities

2025-2026 MEETING PRESENTERS & NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES!

Artist Networking at the General Meetings is our Adult Show & Tell, and is super fun! See below for 2025/2026 open opportunities to be a presenter at a general meeting and share what you do with us!

Dec 11 - BAC Holiday Party

Jan 8, 2026 - Open

Feb 12, 2026 - Annual General Mtg

Mar 12, 2026 - Adult Show & Tell

Apr 9, 2026 - Open

May 14, 2026 - Open

June 11, 2026 - Adult Show & Tell

July 9, 2026 - Open

A Petite Word From The President

Dear Friends,

As November arrives, it brings with it a season of reflection and gratitude, and even through the challenges we have all faced this year, there is truly so much for us to be thankful.

This past month has been filled with creativity, connection, and community spirit. Our first juried art show in our gallery was an incredible success, and a beautiful showcase of talent from the Western region. Our spur-of-the-moment Halloween event proved how spontaneous collaboration and shared enthusiasm can spark pure joy.

I'm also deeply grateful for the bounty of new Board members who have recently joined us. Each brings fresh ideas, experience, and a genuine passion for the arts. Their energy and dedication are helping make this one of the strongest, most dynamic councils we've ever had. Bring it on, 2026!

As we continue to grow, we're looking for a Vice President; someone with vision, leadership, and a love for community who can step into the President's role in 2027 and help guide the Blaine Arts Council into its next exciting chapter. I'd appreciate any recommendations from our community.

This month, I want to extend my warmest wishes to each of you for a joyful and happy Thanksgiving surrounded by those you hold dear. May your homes and hearts be filled with creativity, appreciation for all we share, and the love of family and friends.

With gratitude,
Margaret Owens

Welcome BAC Newest Members!

WE WISH TO WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS TO THE BLAINE ARTS COUNCIL.

Jeff Shearer | Kathy Heaverlo | Kevin Hoover | Mark Seeger | Mary Solomon | Scott Cilmi

*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