

# The Arts NEWSLETTER



WINTER/SPRING 2023

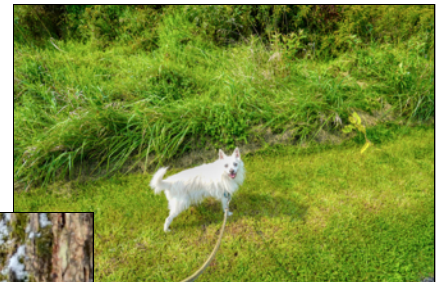
## Drew Monthie - Featured Artist

As someone who has always had a fascination with the natural world, photography is a logical extension of that interest. I grew up in Queensbury, before it became suburbia. There were lots of wild places to play and walk. We lived down the street from Cole's Woods and I played there before ski trails or the Aviation Mall existed. My parents and grandparents were gardeners, so plants were always a part of my life. My parents fed and watched the birds. This shaped my own childhood.

I began growing plants around age four and helped in the vegetable and flower gardens. I attended the BOCES horticulture program in high school and then went to SUNY Cobleskill to earn an AAS in Plant Science. I worked in and owned nursery and landscaping businesses before returning to college in the early 80's to earn a B.S. in Ecology at SUNY Empire State College and then a M.A. in Historical Ethnobotany (the study of how cultures use plants). Since 1998 I have operated a landscape consultation and design business, while continuing to take pictures. I have also been teaching in the Natural Sciences and designing courses at SUNY Empire State College since 2008. I use my photography in my natural sciences courses to illustrate ecological concepts and principles.

I began taking photos with my parent's Polaroid in the 1970's and then got a Minolta camera during jr. high. Once digital cameras appeared on the scene in the 1990's, I switched from film and never looked back.

Each photo captures a magical second in time that will never come again. Sometimes it's a bee alighting on a flower, other times grasses swaying in the wind, and sometimes a fox or deer in the woods. I also love to capture wide landscape scenes and scenes deep in the forest. My goal with each picture is to do as little post-processing as possible and capture the image I am seeing with the camera. This is the photographer's greatest challenge: to get the camera to present an image as the photographer's eye sees it. Specialized lenses can help with this but often it is luck and practice. Most of the post-processing adjustments I make are usually lighting related.



Almost every photoshoot I do is in the company of my small terrier mix dog, Picadilly (above), whose quiet curiosity often alerts me to the presence of wildlife I might not have noticed.

North Country Arts (NCA)  
Suite 120  
71 Lawrence St.  
Glens Falls, NY 12801

Visit us at:  
[www.northcountryarts.org](http://www.northcountryarts.org)  
Like us on Facebook and  
Instagram



Photography is also a tool for conservation and education, to record and help preserve that which exists before it possibly disappears. Environmental literacy and knowledge of the natural world have become rare. Most people have no idea how important the plants or ecosystems around them are or what their loss would mean to life on earth. It is one of my goals that my photos help to educate and inform while still being artistic. Natural scenes are also something that evoke emotions in most people, a childhood memory or memory of a time you spent somewhere in nature that evoked positive feelings.

The pandemic really gave me an opportunity to think more deeply about how and why I take photos and as I ease into semi-retirement with actual retirement not too far away, photography has become a central focus for me again.

My work can be found on my websites <https://glass.photo/starflowerstudiony> and [www.starflowerstudiony.com](http://www.starflowerstudiony.com). I also have a small gallery in my space at the Shirt Factory G09.



## President's Message

Dear NCA Members,

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I wish to extend our best wishes for the coming year.

NCA is the only art organization in the region that gives its members the opportunity to exhibit their work nine times annually. Seven shows are scheduled for the Shirt Factory gallery and an additional two are slated to occur in July and December at the Friends Gallery located in the Crandall Public Library.

All shows in Suite 120 are open to member participation. There seems to be some confusion concerning Suite 120 Solo Shows. These shows take place in the small gallery known as the Elizabeth (Betty) O'Brien Gallery during our regularly scheduled exhibits. Three out of seven shows have been designated for this purpose and are an enhancement to the regularly scheduled activity.

NCA is a volunteer organization and artist power is needed. Expansion is next to impossible without more help. Any assistance you can give us will be greatly appreciated. More member participation is needed on the Board of Trustees, the Gallery Committee, the Reception Committee, the Hanging Committee and/or the Marketing Committee. If you are interested to becoming more involved in the organization, please contact me at [jtully27@gmail.com](mailto:jtully27@gmail.com).

Without your volunteerism the organization will need to hire one or two staff members. This will not come without a cost. Annual dues will have to substantially increase.

Happy New Year,  
Judith



## EXPRESSIONS 2023

NCA's 2023 Juried Art Exhibition will be at:  
NCA Studio # 120 at the Shirt Factory  
71 Lawrence St., Glens Falls, New York 12801

**Saturday May 6 to Saturday June 10, 2023**

**Opening and Awards - Saturday May 6 from 5 to 7 p.m.**

**A maximum of 2 pieces may be dropped off Saturday, April 22, 2023 from 12 to 4pm.**

**Pick up after Jurying will be Saturday, April 29, 2023 from 12 - 4 p.m.**

**Awards: Gold: \$750, Silver: \$500, Bronze: \$250, Honorable Mention \$100**

**Jurying: JUROR IS LAURA VON ROSK, GALLERY DIRECTOR LAKE GEORGE ARTS PROJECT**

**Eligibility: Art will be accepted from within a 150 mile radius from Glens Falls in any direction but art must be delivered and picked up for there will be no shipping available.**

This is an open call opportunity; media may include sculpture, photography, painting, printmaking, pastel, digital art, pottery, mixed media, etc.

Maximum Frame Dimensions: 48 inches on longest side

Sculpture: 48 inches on longest side, work must be ready to hang or display. Works not ready to hang will not be included. Original artwork only.

**Work Not Accepted must be picked up Sat. April 29, 2023 from 12-4  
71 Lawrence St. Glens Falls, at the designated times. No shipping.**

### **Submission:**

All entries must be submitted at Studio #120 at The Shirt Factory. The entry form can be filled out there but preferred is to **print it out from the NCA website, [northcountryarts.org](http://northcountryarts.org) and complete in advance.** The numbers on the side will be assigned at drop off. List sizes up to the nearest inch. Print your email legibly so you can be contacted about acceptance.



## **Expressions 2023 (continued)**

### **Nonrefundable Jurying Fee:**

**Jurying fee is \$25 for NCA Members and \$35 for Non-Members for two submissions.**

**Payment with check or cash must be made during Drop-Off. No Charges.**

### **Commission:**

**There is a 35% commission for artwork sales. Artists checks will be mailed after the show.**

### **Notification:**

**Artists will be notified of jurying results by email by Friday, April 28th.**

**Award winners will be announced at the Opening, Sat. May 6, 2023, 5 to 7 p.m.**

### **Photography**

**Artists agree to allow North Country Arts to photograph works for promotional purposes.**

### **End of Show Pick-up**

**Unsold artwork must be picked up Sat. June 10, 2023 between 12 and 4 p.m.**

### **Publicity:**

**North Country Arts will publicize the show and opening regionally via email marketing, press releases, website and social media promotion. Artists are encouraged to promote the show to their patrons, friends, Facebook friends, etc. NCA can not do it alone.**

### **Liability:**

**Each work is insured to a reasonable amount while turned over to the care of NCA. Items will be handled with the utmost care; however, North Country Arts will not be held liable for damage as a result of workmanship or design. Artists are responsible for delivering to and from the Gallery and for insuring work while in transit. Artists are also responsible for providing work that is sturdy and durable for necessary hanging purposes.**

**Visit us online at: [northcountryarts.org](http://northcountryarts.org). NCA Gallery at the Shirt Factory Suite 120, The Shirt Factory at 71 Lawrence St., Glens Falls, NY 12801**



## Expressions 2023

## Registration Form

Exhibitor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Info: Address or Phone or Email \_\_\_\_\_

\$25 Member \_\_\_\_\_ \$35 non-member \_\_\_\_\_

Entry #1 Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Media \_\_\_\_\_ Price \_\_\_\_\_ Assigned \_\_\_\_\_

Entry #2 Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Media \_\_\_\_\_ Price \_\_\_\_\_ Assigned# \_\_\_\_\_

I have signed an Artist Agreement with North Country Arts Initial \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ →

Artwork Identification Label

ATTACH THIS FORM TO THE BACK OF YOUR ARTWORK

Entry #1 ATTACH TO BACK OF YOUR ENTRY

Exhibitor's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Assigned # \_\_\_\_\_

Artwork Identification Label

ATTACH THIS FORM TO THE BACK OF YOUR ARTWORK

Entry #2 ATTACH TO THE BACK OF YOUR ENTRY

Exhibitor's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Exhibitor's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Assigned # \_\_\_\_\_

## Hometown Artist Creates Mural that Pays Homage to the Adirondacks

20 Warren Street, Glens Falls, NY - Local artist Hannah Williams has been painting murals around Glens Falls and the Capital Region for a decade, but not on the scale of her latest building mural she completed in September 2022. The overall project was completed in one month, two weeks. It involved major prep work, then two and a half weeks for Hannah to paint the nature-based mural from start-to-finish. She had to go through a certification process through Action Equipment in South Glens Falls to become a boom-lift operator so she could paint the 30 ft. x 70 ft. painting with ease.

This project was part of a grant The Arts District received through the Glens Falls Downtown Revitalization Initiative. After months of planning and several art concept changes, she realized it was important to think about where Glens Falls (Hometown USA) is geographically - resting at the foothills of the Adirondacks. Therefore, the composition showcases local animals and native flowers that can be seen around Glens Falls or close by.

Aside from painting murals, Hannah is a full-time artist offering many creative services. She offers commissioned portraits including pet portraits, live wedding paintings, drop-shipping services, art consultations and sells her original paintings and other merchandise showcasing her work. If you are interested in viewing Hannah's portfolio or contacting her for inquiries, you can visit her website at: [www.hanwilliamsart.com](http://www.hanwilliamsart.com) or Instagram: @hanwilliamsart.

Location of the mural: 20 Warren St. at Goosehead Insurance Building, next to Warren St. parking lot and St. Mary's - St. Alphonsus School.

Professional photos below by: Greg Barrett



## NCA's Fine Arts Show Winners



Winners of the Juror's Choice Awards at the NCA December Art Exhibition at Friends Gallery, Crandall Public Library, left to right:

Marina Petro, Fred Holman, Frieda Toth, Juror: Jon Segan, Kath Cormie, Linda Buerkley

During the month of December, North Country Arts presented their annual Fine Arts Exhibit at Crandall Public Library. Twenty-six artists displayed work. Our esteemed judge was Jon Segan. Jon was tasked with choosing five artist's works he thought were worthy of our Juror's Choice Awards. It's never easy, but Jon succeeded in choosing five pieces he felt deserved recognition. The winners were:

Frieda Toth - "Autumn Retreat," oil  
Marina Petro - "Distant Worlds," oil  
Fred Holman - "Around the Bend," oil  
Linda Buerkley - "Prayer Flags-Blessings on the Wind," monoprint  
Kath Cormie - "Maggie," watercolor



As the monetary awards were given out, Jon spoke about each piece and the individual qualities of each winning piece. A reception was held that night and it was nice to be able to mingle and chat with fellow artists and friends of the arts.

A big thanks to the Friends of Crandall Public Library for allowing us to use this community gallery space.

## Grant News

**To LARAC for the NYSCA Decentralization Grants:** One application was for \$2500 to hold a new Music and Live Art Series during the NCA Gallery Exhibitions. A musician will be paired with an artist who will create a piece of art while the musician is playing. This will take place six times during the year on a Saturday afternoon. The rationale is to create a program that can draw people into the gallery during the middle of an exhibition. The musicians to be involved are: Anthime Miller- Cellist, Carol Shapiro -Banjo, Donna Button - Keyboard and Guitar, Mark Rabin - Guitar, Jack Kenyon - Guitar, and Stories Told (Gary Moon and Alice Housman). The artists involved will be Corey Pitkin, Prof. John Hampshire, Anthony Richichi, Hannah Williams, Shelley Fairbanks, and Sarah Calzada. We shall schedule the series as soon as we receive a positive decision for the grant.

This year another application for \$2500 was submitted to support the entertainment at the Gem Festival to take place in the gardens of the Shirt Factory on July 8, from 12 p.m. to 9 p.m. There will be two stages and will include bands like Chestnut Grove, The Midnight Revival Band, Brookline, Seize Atlantis, and Under the Den. There will also be a number of artists; some of the artists are also in the Music and Live Art Series.

**To the Touba Family Foundation:** A grant was received for \$2500 for the Expressions 2023 Exhibition for awards, and other expenses incurred for the exhibition. The juror for this juried show will be Laura Von Rosk, Gallery Director, Lake George Arts Project. The January issue of **518 Profiles** describes Jacqueline Touba's contribution to the arts community in Glens Falls.

## NCA's Second Floor Gallery City Hall, Spring 2023 Exhibit

BY DENNIS WILSON -

Spring 2023 brings with it solo exhibitions from award winning artists as well as the World Awareness Children's Museum. We hope all NCA members can drop by to enjoy viewing it. The schedule is as follows:

| 2023 SPRING 2ND FLOOR<br>GALLERY SCHEDULE | DATES OF<br>DISPLAY | RECEPTION<br>2ND. FLOOR<br>GALLERY |
|---|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| Sheri Snedeker<br>(canceled)              | 1/9 - 2/17          | canceled                           |
| World Awareness Children's<br>Museum      | 2/20 - 3/31         | February 24<br>5-7 p.m.            |
| Maureen Temple & Kath Cormie              | 4/3 - 5/12          | April 7<br>5-7 p.m.                |
| Jacquiline Toubas &<br>Dennis Wilson      | 5/16 - 6/24         | May 19<br>5-7 p.m.                 |

NCA's Second Floor Gallery, located on the second floor of City Hall, is planning for a varied and exciting group of exhibitions during the 2023 season. Award winning artist Sheri Snedeker begins the exhibits for 2023 with her paintings derived from old photographs. Sheri has exhibited her paintings extensively in New York, including New York City, Vermont, Connecticut, and Massachusetts. She has won a National Award for Representational Painting from the Judith Selkowitz Fine Arts gallery in New York City and a First Prize in Portraiture from the New Canaan Annual Art Exhibition in Connecticut. Her paintings are in both private and institutional collections.

Landscapes and objects of different kinds often inspire artists: Sheri's inspiration lies in a collection of vintage black & white photographs she originally inherited from her grandmother. For Sheri, the people in the photos remain real and alive. The photos suggest narratives of missing and hidden stories. She attempts to bring the photo subjects alive again with large size and "invented color." Visiting Sheri's exhibit will be a fine opportunity for viewers to meditate on the paintings and listen to what the images might be saying about their lives.

For the last week in February and all of March, the gallery will host the World Awareness Children's Museum's exhibit entitled "COVID-19 & Me: Changes in My World." This exhibit will feature the artwork from children in ten schools across the country. The children were encouraged to express their feelings about how the pandemic has changed their lives, and explore and process the pandemic's effect on their lives.

The objective of this initiative was to help the students process these difficult times. The Museum wishes to thank The Toubas Family Foundation, Blick Art Materials and Dr. Judith Mysliborski, MD for providing the means necessary to complete this project.

The gallery's third exhibit of the season will showcase the work of two artists, Maureen M. Temple and Katharine Clarey Cormie, who combine their efforts. Maureen who holds an MA degree from SUNY Plattsburgh, is a retired art teacher who nonetheless remains "fully involved" in art. She continues her own education by taking classes at SUNY Adirondack and exhibiting her work often.

Maureen has always had a passion for art. As a child she recalls making clay replicas of Native American pottery and weaving small baskets from blades of grass among many other artistic endeavors. Her art takes varied forms, and in this exhibit, we'll likely see her drawings, oil and watercolor paintings, jewelry, sewing and needle felting. Maureen is a member of several local arts organizations and has exhibited her work extensively.

Similarly, Katharine Clarey Cormie remembers back to the age of four when she drew three dimensional pictures. Her mother was an important influence and introduced her to various media including oil and watercolor painting and needle arts. For Katharine, art is deeply personal. It illustrates both how the artist views the world and how the artist interprets it. In sharing that interpretation, the artist also reveals himself or herself.



Throughout the remainder of the spring, Dr. Jacqueline Touba and Dennis Wilson combine their talents to bring another joint exhibit to the gallery: Dr. Touba's beautiful paintings of mythological birds and Dennis' chip carved interpretations of them in basswood.

Well-known for her vivid paintings of colorful folk costumes from around the world, Dr. Touba has embarked on a similar artistic endeavor: to create vivid, colorful paintings of birds from various mythologies. One of the best known is the Greek Phoenix bird which rises from its parent's ashes every 500 years. Associated with fire and sunlight, the Phoenix is envisioned as a combination of a peacock and an eagle. Other mythological birds are much less known to Americans, but equally colorful and associated with mythological tales as well: the Persian Simurgh, the Indian Hamsa, the Chinese Nine-Headed Beekeeper. In all, Dr. Touba will exhibit 15 paintings.

When Dennis saw Dr. Touba's colorful paintings of mythological birds, and when he leafed through the coloring book she made based on them, *Explore Birds in Mythology*, he saw immediately that the images would make interesting chip carvings. He approached Dr. Touba with this idea, and she graciously agreed. As they discussed the idea, they saw the possibilities for a unique joint exhibit in City Hall Gallery that would illustrate both her paintings and Dennis' carvings.

Before taking on this project, Dennis had never read about birds in mythology, and found it wonderful to discover that so many cultures had them and equally fantastic stories to accompany them!

Please arrange to visit these exhibits and attend the receptions. The reception is the only opportunity most members will get to meet the exhibiting artists.



Above: The Firebird, by Jacqueline Touba



Above: The Firebird, carved in basswood, by Dennis Wilson



## NORTH COUNTRY ARTS FIRST ART GUIDE AVAILABLE IN EARLY 2023

North Country Arts first **ART GUIDE** will be published in early 2023 thanks to the partial support of the Town of Queensbury for this project. The idea emerged when some NCA Board members attended a conference in Binghamton and saw an arts guide published in Broome County. With so many accomplished artists located in Warren County and surrounds, it seemed a worthy endeavor for this area. The NCA Arts Guide includes photos of 40 regional artists' work with their contact information as well as ten arts organizations including a map of the Arts District of Glens Falls showing also, SUNY Adirondack's location. The booklet was designed by Sidekick Creative and will be printed by Glens Falls Printing. The booklet will be used as a marketing tool to introduce the arts-

loving tourists to this region as well as employers who may want art to embellish their facilities. It will be distributed to major sites around the region, through chambers of commerce, regional arts councils, museums, major employers and other pertinent venues. Cover art is by the late Elizabeth (Betty) O'Brien. Limited copies will be available at the NCA Gallery, #120, The Shirt Factory, 71 Lawrence St., Glens Falls and at the Town of Queensbury Town Hall.

## 2023 Art Exhibitions

NCA Gallery  
Suite 120 The Shirt Factory  
71 Lawrence Street, Glens Falls, NY

**The Sweetheart Deal** Jan. 14 - Feb. 18  
Artwork for \$99 or Less

**Elements of Style** March 4 - April 22  
Solo Show

**Expressions Juried Show** May 6 - June 10

**Point of View** June 17 - August 12  
Solo Show

**The Small Works Show** August 20 - Sept. 24  
Art no larger than 12" in any direction

**Bounty** Oct. 7 - Nov. 11  
Solo Show

**Celebration** Nov. 18 - Jan. 7

**Expressions Juried Show**  
Juror

Laura Von Rosk

Gallery Director, The Lake George Art Project  
Drop-off NCA Gallery at the Shirt Factory  
Drop-off: April 22, 12-5 p.m.  
Pick-up: April 29 for unselected  
Awards Ceremony May 6, 5 p.m.

Solo shows with up to 20 works of art  
Will take place in the Elizabeth (Betty) O'Brien Gallery  
During the following scheduled exhibits:  
Elements of Style, Point of View, and Bounty

**2nd Floor Gallery City Hall**  
42 Ridge Street, Glens Falls, NY

**Sheri Snedeker** Jan. 9 - Feb. 17  
Oil Paintings (canceled)

**World Awareness Children's Museum**  
Feb. 20 - Mar. 31  
Children's 2D Art

**Maureen Temple/Kath Cormie**  
April 3 - May 12  
Drawings, Paintings, Pottery

**Jacquiline Touba/Dennis Wilson**  
May 16 - Jun. 24  
Pen & Ink Watercolor Batik, Chip Carving on Basswood

**Guild of Adirondack Artists**  
June 26 - August 4  
Paintings and Drawings

**Shayna DeRusso**  
August 7 - Sept. 4  
Paintings

**Jack Montoya**  
Sept. 18 - Oct. 27  
Drawings and Prints

**Upper Hudson Valley Watercolor Society**  
Oct. 30 - Dec. 1

**Drew Monthie**  
Dec. 4 - Jan. 5  
Photography

**Photography Exhibit**  
Friends Gallery at Crandall Public Library  
During the month of July

**Fine Arts Exhibit**  
Friends Gallery at The Crandall Public Library  
During the month of December

**Notes and Strokes**  
Saturday afternoons of jeweled performances

## NCA Board Members

### Officers

**Judith Aratoli Tully:** President, Gallery Committee

**Phil Casabona:** Vice Pres. and Gallery Committee, Juried Show Expressions

**Ann Nelson:** Secretary

**Jacquiline Toubia, Ph.D.:** Treasurer, Grant Writer, GFArtsDistrict Rep, Juried Art Show Expressions Coordinator, Marketing Committee

### Others

**Maria Clara Castano:** 2nd Floor Gallery Chair

**Hannah Williams:** Marketing Committee

**Drew Monthie:** Marketing Committee, Labels and Programs

**Anthony Richichi:** Marketing Committee, Gem Festival

**Jon Segan:** Gallery Committee, Hanging Coordinator

**Lee Shippey:** On Leave

**Sheri Snedeker:** Gallery Committee

**Dolores Thomson:** Chair, Marketing Committee

**Adelaide Walsh-Leibold:** Juror's Choice, Fine Art and Photography Show Coordinator at Crandall Public Library, Gallery Committee

## Non-Board Regular Volunteers

**Brian Alvarado:** GEM Festival

**Nancy Austin:** Newsletter Coordinator and Designer, Marketing Committee

**Robin Brewer:** 2nd Floor Gallery Assistant

**JoAnn Johnson:** Marketing Committee

**Russell Hillard:** 2nd Floor Gallery Assistant

**Emily Latterell:** Membership Chairperson

**Jennifer Switzer:** Bookkeeper

**Pamela Standardi:** Marketing Committee

**Jim Tubbs:** Gallery Committee

**Hannah Williams:** Marketing Committee

**Dennis Wilson:** 2nd Floor Gallery Exhibit Writer and Solo Show Writer

## 2023 North Country Arts Schedule

**The Sweetheart Deal** - artwork for \$99 or less

January 14 - February 18

Drop off: January 7

Opening: January 14, 5-7 p.m.

Pick up: February 18

**Elements of Style**

March 4 - April 22

Drop off: February 25

Opening: March 4

Pick up: April 22

**Expressions** - Juried Show

May 6 - June 10

Juror: Laura Von Rosk, Gallery Director, Lake George Arts Project

Opening: May 6, 5-7 p.m.

The logo for Stewart's Shops, featuring the word "Stewart's" in a large, red, serif font, with the word "Shops" in a smaller, red, serif font directly below it.

Please support North Country Arts by liking us on Facebook and by visiting our Instagram page.



North Country Arts  
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