



the Sketchpad



October 2024 Sketchpad

President's Message

Hello artists.

The San Clemente Art Association was started in 1953 which was 6 years before I was born. If you have not read the chronological history of our organization, I would encourage you to do so. SCAA's history can be found on our website and in the membership directory. Something that strikes me when I think about the history of SCAA is how many volunteers, and the level of commitment, that it has taken to keep an all-volunteer organization such as ours running for over 7 decades.

This is the 3rd year I have been president of SCAA and the biggest challenge, as well as the biggest threat, to the longevity of SCAA is getting volunteers to take responsibility and ownership of the various components and programs that keep SCAA running. During my time as president I have seen several very key individuals step down for various reasons and it has been very difficult to replace them. SCAA has almost 200 members, but the reality is that only about 20 people really make the organization run.

Please volunteer if you have any interest in getting more involved in SCAA. We need volunteers who we can train as future officers, chairs for our events, and help with our general art shows. SCAA's future truly does depend on our membership's level of involvement and ownership.

As always, please reach out to myself if you would like to get more involved in SCAA.

Thank you,

Kevin Bertrand

Message from the Gallery

Supporting young artists in our schools

Our Art Association has been involved in local schools for many years, through awarding scholarships and giving art instruction in the schools. We were recently asked to participate with the San Clemente High School *Reflections* Program, which reaches out to all young artists in the high school to be creative and develop a 2 dimensional wall art utilizing the theme, *Accepting Imperfection*.

There were 6 entries (5 art pieces and 1 photo) and each young artist was encouraged to write a short essay that explains their artwork and how they would interpret this theme. Each art piece was a personal reflection on the young artist's mindset and how life was affecting them. We were given scoring sheets and four of us from the Board judged this contest. (Kevin and Gina Bertrand, Tiffany Gantt and myself) A panel of 4 judges and even though we each judged independently of one another, we came up with the same results!

I hope that all of our members take a moment to stop by the front desk and have a look at the young artists who attend SCHS.

Helping young artists nurture their creative potential means we all have to get involved and form a supportive environment where self-expression is given importance and encouragement. Inviting the *Reflections* winners into our Art Gallery is an important step towards growing new artists in our schools.

Thank you. Mary Franta



BEST OF SHOW
Ernie Romo
San Clemente Community Center



ACRYLIC WINNERS



1st Place
John Dillon
Red Car



2nd Place
Nevine Erian
Neptune



3rd Place
Jeff Ponce
Frankenstein the Novel

Honorable Mentions
Amy Alger, Nevine Erian



October 2024 Featured Artist
Georgie Gigi Hackford



I was born in New Jersey... mother was an artist and dad created the Aviator Sunglasses. At age three, we sailed from Red Bank, N.J. to San Juan, Puerto Rico where Dad had a sunglass factory. We sailed and lived on a boat until I was in the 7th grade.

Living on a three-masted schooner influenced life in many ways. A small bronze plaque that said, "O Lord, thy sea is so great and my boat is so small," was a daily reminder. Humility and respect for the power of nature were early life lessons. I learned Spanish by age four...and

came down hard with mumps meningitis...according to my mother. I died. Prophetic visions from that experience have stayed with me, and this "near death experience" had taken my thinking and very being into unforeseen directions.

By age twelve I was reading philosophy...The Basic Writings of Bertrand Russell launched me into the realm of philosophical thoughts while poetry distilled the ponderousness of most philosophical writers...e.e. cummings was a favorite. Dad gave me a used Royal typewriter and mother gave a big dictionary. I was enamored with words. After graduating from Santa Barbara High School, I attended Sarah Lawrence College...where...Joseph Campbell...gave permission to "follow your bliss",...reading, writing, playing the harp, and immersion into the visual arts happened at Sarah Lawrence. I actually went to SLC twice...eventually earning an Ms.Ed. Degree.

Life is lived in chapters. A few of the most influential chapters are the following...obviously Sarah Lawrence College... Peace Corps Bolivia... natural childbirth...Waldorf Education... life in the Fairhope Artists Gallery in Fairhope, Alabama... the tragic chapter of experiencing the loss of my only son, Rio, by Uveal Melanoma...and most recently the new beginnings...where I am now in California.

Artistically I have been influenced by Leonardo da Vinci, the Dutch masters and many of the American masters from the Art Students League in New York City. Actually I admire and am inspired by the art spirit...making art... a purely human impulse...that goes beyond imitation into originality...the ah!ha! experience...pushing paint leading to visual surprises that come from deep within creating something new and unexpected...

My parents lived the creative life...mother the painter...dad the designer...their sense of aesthetics and the actual "doing" was a role model that I continue.

Optimism...playfulness...laughter...the light side of deep meanings...jumping into the deep end and knowing when to get out of the pool...a self-generated curiosity to discover elements of surprise and wonder...continue to spark this life. It's the doing...the completing of what was started...the beginning again...and all the while remembering w3 hat Picasso said... Your muse is there for you...but needs to find you working.



Jewelry Winners



Photo not available

*1st Place
Cheryl Abbott
Golden River*

*2nd Place
Nevine Erian
Beach Day*

Photography Winners



Photo not available

*1st Place
Todd Metzger, Float*

*2nd Place
Julie Horne
Alabama Hills Movie*

*Honorable Mention
Rob Williams, Arpad Petrass*





Oil Winners



1st Place
Nick Martello
Doheny Beach Sunset



2nd Place
Carmen Newlove
Laguna Keyhole



3rd Place
Mary Dunlap
In Havana

Honorable Mentions
Michael Downey,
Nick Martello, Mary Franta





Watercolor Winners



1st Place
Alan Nowell
Dahlia



2nd Place
Vickie Killeen, Heading Home

Honorable Mention
Julie Horne



3rd Place
Bill Gibson
Captain T-Mar
(photo not available)

Other Media Winners



1st Place
Johanna Blackburn
Cowboy



Other Media winners



3rd Place
Dianna Yao-Garcia
Cinque Terra Trail

Honorable Mentions
Lee Connerat Cohan, Dianna Yao-Garcia



Guest Artist Dennis Carrie
With live model, Kevin Bertrand

The Ole Hanson Room was filled with eager artists who wanted to sketch a live model with our guest artist, the very accomplished Dennis Carrie.



The model was our president, Kevin Bertrand. Everyone was given a clipboard with artist paper and a number 2 pencil. As Dennis drew Kevin, who was seated in a chair, he gave very clear instructions on how to begin drawing the basic head shape, which was 2 circles stacked upon one another. Then he drew a curved line vertically, down the center of the face area, and he told us that the head is basically a tall cylinder.

He started to divide the face into 3 equal parts horizontally, to show where the eyes, nose and mouth should go. Dennis would point out that there is always a horizontal and vertical

line-up within the facial structure. For instance, the bottom of the ears line up with the bottom of the nose on Kevin's face. Kevin did a great job sitting very still and looking straight ahead. Being a model and holding still is not an easy job, but Kevin did it very well!

Dennis kept telling us that we need to constantly check our proportions and make sure of accuracy. He said that if we don't get the eyes just right, and the mouth, then the drawing would not add up.

We took a break to rest — the second half is when we would tackle the eyes. The eyes are the most important part of the face when it comes to drawing. Dennis gave lots of direction, and before we knew it, the session had



ended. In the end we all held up our drawings for everyone to see and enjoy. Every drawing was done carefully and

they were all very well done! This was a very fun art demo. We enjoyed eating pizza during the breaks to make it even more special and memorable. I hope that many good paintings will come from these handsome sketches. Dennis

stressed that if we want to make an excellent painting, it must start with an excellent drawing. This was so much fun because we know the subject, and we all worked hard to show our best work.

Thank you to Dennis and a big thanks to Kevin!!!
Mary Franta





Guest Artist Dennis Carrie
With live model, Kevin Bertrand





Young Artists of the Future . . .

The display board features the following artworks and labels:

- Top Left:** A colorful painting of a person in a field with large flowers. Label: *Deshira Garcia, Grade 12, "Nature Accepting our Imperfections"*
- Top Middle:** A black and white sketch of a woman's face. Label: *Yessa Prudillo, Grade 12, "You or Mine?"*
- Top Right:** A photograph of palm trees at sunset. Label: *Luke Alonzo, Grade 12, "Sunset of Perfection"*
- Bottom Left:** A colorful painting of many butterflies. Label: *Kalvin Hatt, Grade 12, "Accepting the Change Butterfly"*
- Bottom Middle:** A black and white sketch of a figure with wings. Label: *Kevin MacDonald, Grade 12, "Reflective Art"*
- Bottom Right:** A drawing of a brain with flowers and a ladybug. Label: *Jordan Jones, Grade 12, "Determined Brain"*

On the far right of the board is a sign for **San Clemente High School Referring Parents** with contact information.