



**Wednesday, March 13, 2024**

**7:00 pm IN PERSON AT THE LIBRARY\***

**Polish Folk Art of Papercutting  
 presented by Grace Bazylewski**

**\*RSVP is REQUIRED, SEE LINK AFTER THIS DESCRIPTION**



On March 13, 2024, at 7 pm, in partnership with the Homer Township Public Library, the Lemont Artists Guild is pleased to present, at the library, **Folk Art of Papercutting**. Polish American teacher and practitioner, Grace Bazylewski, will demonstrate “Wycinanki,” the intricate Polish folk art of papercutting that comes as the result of cutting, clipping, punching, tearing, and carving

paper into abstract and recognizable forms. Participants will create their own decorative and colorful Wycinanki designs to take home! **Supplies will be provided.** A Chicago born Polish American, Grace Bazylewski is the daughter of Post World War II political dissidents. She learned the art of *wycinanki* from Polish artists living in the United States while a member of the Polish Scouting Organization of Illinois (*Harcerstwo*.) She has been a teacher and practitioner of the folk art form for over fifty years. She has shown in various museums, libraries, galleries, public venues and clubs in the Chicago metro area as well as a museum gallery in Hong Kong.

In "real" life Ms. Bazylewski is an urban planner, works for the consulting firm Westwood Planning Solutions, LLC and resides in Chicago's south suburb of Lansing. She earned degrees in her field from the Illinois Institute of Technology and the University of Illinois at Chicago. Grace is active in a variety of professional organizations in Chicago and the south suburban region. She has served on the boards of the Chicago Southland Convention and Visitors Bureau, Polish Museum of America, the Polish Arts Club and an as ambassador of Chicago Community Trust and on the executive board of Habitat for Humanity South Suburbs and is involved in promoting the improvement planning for Camp Norwid, the Polish Scouting Organization’s camp ground in the North Woods of Wisconsin. She currently serves as the Chair for the Village of Lansing Planning and Zoning Board of Appeals. Recently, she contributed to Back Home, the retrospective of Polish immigration to the Chicago Region at the Chicago History Museum.

**Registration Link: The spots are filled for this program, but if you would like to be on the waiting list, you can sign up at <https://www.homerlibrary.org/papercutting>**

**OUR MEETINGS ARE CO-SPONSORED AND TAKE PLACE AT:**

**Homer Township Public Library**  
 14320 W 151st St, Homer Glen, IL  
[www.homerlibrary.org](http://www.homerlibrary.org)  
 708-301-7908

**2024 Upcoming Events at Homer Library unless indicated otherwise:**

**2024**

- ✦ **Wed. Mar. 13-7 pm: Folk Art of Paper Cutting with Grace Bazylewski**
- ✦ **Fri. Mar. 15-6 pm: Stories of Lemont Zine Release Party at the Table Church in Lemont Downtown, 102 Stephen St Lemont, IL-see more info.next page**
- ✦ **Mon. Mar. 25-1-3 pm: Create and Chat (4<sup>th</sup> Mon)**
- ✦ **Wed. Apr. 10-7 pm: Ceramics with Laurie Pollpeter Eskenazi**
- ✦ **Mon. Apr. 15-1-3 pm: Create and Chat**
- ✦ **Wed. May 8-7 pm: Pastel with Kim Abbati**
- ✦ **Mon. May. 20-1-3 pm: Create and Chat**

**Visit and “Like” our Facebook Page!**

Look up **Lemont Artists Guild**



**President’s Letter**

**Hello there!**

I am happy to put a clip art of a hat and green clover for March and very excited about all of the fun things happening with LAG! As I mentioned last month, we

have 7 LAG Members in the exhibit **“Best of the Best” at DuPage Art League and Gallery. We have wonderful news that two of our LAG Members won awards for this exhibit! Gina Rende received 1<sup>st</sup> place and Michael Preski received 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Congratulations to them!** There are only 8 awards total, so out of over 60 pieces, it is an amazing honor to win!



I hope you will **Save the Date, Fri. Mar. 15, 6-8 pm for the “Stories of Lemont” Zine Release Party.** (There are more details following this letter.) This is an event that came about by LAG Member and Past President, Nancy Uznanski, speaking with Jason Berry who is the Economic & Community Development Director for the Village of Lemont. Nancy is also a member of the Lemont Writers Guild (LWG). The idea took shape and writers in the Lemont Writers Guild created

the stories and then we, LAG, were pulled in to ask for artists to make pictures that go with the stories. (I sent out emails last summer to our membership asking if anyone would like to create a picture.) The artists from LAG are Lynn Rozycki, Mary Fronczak Grochocinski, Michael Preski, the late William Uznanski, and myself. LAG Members and LWG Members Nancy and Jackie Uznanski have written a story for it. But shh, I can't tell you too much, you'll have to attend the release party! If you are unable to register online please reach out to me and I can register you to attend!

We are excited for our **March 13 program on the Folk Art of Paper Cutting with Grace Bazylewski. It is already filled, but** there are a few waitlist spots if you want to get on the waitlist, fill in your information at

<https://www.homerlibrary.org/papercutting> or call the library to request to be on the waitlist at (708) 301-7908. Since so many people are interested, the library may have this program again on their own, we will let you know if they do this.



**We are very thankful for our own LAG member, Betty, who did an amazing program on Feltmaking on February 14!!** We learned a lot about feltmaking and the history of it. Thanks Betty!

*I hope you have a lucky and fun-filled March!*

Sincerely, Liz Connelly, LAG President

**E-mail:** [lemontartistsguild@gmail.com](mailto:lemontartistsguild@gmail.com)

**Website:** [www.lemontartistsguild.org](http://www.lemontartistsguild.org)

**View and "Like" our Facebook Page at:**

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100047747719705>

**Notes from the Editor:** Information for the LAG newsletter should be given to Betty Kirk by the first of the month (630) 257-0565, or [bettykirk321@gmail.com](mailto:bettykirk321@gmail.com) Gina Rende won 1<sup>st</sup> Place at the Best of the Best Art Show. Michael Preski won 3<sup>rd</sup> place at the Best of the Best Art Show at DuPage Art League and Gallery in Wheaton, IL.

## February 2024 BACK OF THE HALL

### Congratulations to:

- 🏆 1<sup>st</sup>: Cheryl Ferber, "Summer Fun," Watercolor
- 🏆 2<sup>nd</sup>: Mary Kodl Truesdale, "Niagara Falls," Watercolor
- 🏆 3<sup>rd</sup>: Gene Mark, "Female Cardinal" Photography

See the monthly 1<sup>st</sup> place winners on our website at:

<https://lemontartistsguild.org/back-of-the-hall>



**Save the Date: March 15, 2024 6-8 pm**

**Stories of Lemont Zine Release Party at the Table Church in Lemont Downtown, 102 Stephen St Lemont, IL**

Join the Village of Lemont, the Lemont Artists Guild, Lemont Writers Guild, and the Art and Culture Commission for the Stories of Lemont Zine Release party! The 150th Anniversary Zine is dedicated to Lemont, its history, and the writers and artists who have celebrated it through their work. Visitors can enjoy art from the Zine, hear from the writers about what inspired their Lemont stories, food, and drink. With a \$5 cash donation, visitors receive a copy of the limited edition Zine - the first 10 people to donate receive a copy signed by the contributors!

**To keep a count on how many people are coming, we request for you to register to attend at:**

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/stories-of-lemont-zine-release-party-tickets-781536736417?utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=listing&utm-source=cp&aff=ebdsshcopyurl>

To learn more creating the "Zine" visit:

<https://www.lemontdowntown.com/news/lemont-zine>

Parking information link:

<https://www.lemontdowntown.com/news/parking>

### **Sayings to Inspire You:**

*Learning, doing, improving brings success.*

*Good Friends are like snowflakes, all different and all beautiful.*

*The best way to lift one's self up is to help someone else.*

Booker T. Washington