



Brushstroke

ARTWORK OF THE MONTH ANITA MOSER



Even though I attempted painting abstracts before, it wasn't until we moved to Arizona 6 years ago that I really delved into it. I took 5 workshops from Lu Bellamak, an artist in Scottsdale, learning the approach and understanding of abstract painting.

It's a delightfully freeing way of painting while paying attention to composition, design, and color theory in its conception.

This particular painting, *Cacophany*, developed slowly. Parts were lovely and acceptable, but some were definitely not. When I was near finished, I took a photo of it and was surprised to see a snake in the middle. When I painted out the snake, a turkey appeared! To develop a non-objective aspect to this composition, I had to get rid of this turkey too.

In a true abstract, it is up to the viewer to interpret their response. Abstract means "away from reality". It can be great or small, but non-objective is the furthest away. I hope to have achieved that here.

Look for special article on how to write your artist bio on page 2.

The Newsletter of the Mesa Art League JUNE 2023

WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello Art Friends,

I would love to take a few sentences here to introduce myself as your new president. My name is Tammie Pursley. I have lived and worked in Mesa for the last 35 years. I have recently retired from Mesa Public School, where I taught for 25 years.



Since my retirement, I have been painting and creating full time. I am truly excited and proud to have this opportunity to lead such a great group of artists.

I have met with the Executive Board, and we have some really great ideas for the upcoming months. Please feel free to email us with any ideas you feel will make our organization better. My personal email is tammiepursley@gmail.com.

We are currently working on many fronts. We have started an Instagram account (make sure to sign up for the @mesaartleague, the one with our logo). We are also continuing our Facebook page. We ask that posts include photos of current work, announcements of shows, hangings, and commissions.

We are not posting anything that has to do with selling on these pages. You can do that on your own pages and stores. We want our social media to be informative and inspirational. We are also working on our room at the OneOhOne Gallery in downtown Mesa to make sure more of us have opportunities to show our work in a beautiful gallery setting.

Keep checking in with us to hear about any summer opportunities for workshops, field trips and shows. Watch your email, Facebook, and Instagram for announcements.

MEETING LOCATION, DATE AND TIME

Meeting date & time: - NEXT MEETING Tuesday, September 12– 5:00pm Location: Greenfield Glen Club House - 1021 South Greenfield Rd. Meeting demo:

Our monthly meetings will start again in September, I am looking forward to meeting you all then.

Have a greatly creative summer, see you soon,

Tammie

MESA ART LEAGUE STUDIO 9 AT THE ONEOHONE GALLERY DOWNTOWN MESA



MAY AND JUNE EXHIBIT BY TAMMIE PURSLEY

Come check out the Mesa Art league's studio at the OneOhOne Gallery. It has had a total make over last month. While there, check out this month's artist of the month. For May is Art by Tammie - Artist, Tammie Pursley. For the summer the studio has added a new artist to the studio. An Art league member who is renting some space. Check out the new art the Veterans have been making and brought in. Lots of fun new art and changes come, check it out and support our members.

Artist of the month in Studio 9 at OneOhOne gallery

Kristin Dragos will show her artwork in July, Linda Smith is scheduled for October. Anyone interested in September? There is a small fee of \$50.00 to help offset the cost of the studio. Contact Brenda Pace at designsbybrendamn@gmail.com for more details.

FUTURE MEETINGS PROJECTS

When we return in September, it will be show and tell time. It's a chance to show off a painting or art project you did this summer.

In October, a challenge of painting a painting showing your favorite Fall colors or of Fall. Think FALL.

November's meeting will be an exchange of art cards. Bring a that you have created yourself to exchange with someone.

In December we will have our annual Christmas ornament exchange.

FROM THE ART ALLIANCE NEWSLETTER

The following article was printed in the latest newsletter from the Art Alliance.

Tips for writing a compelling artist bio

An artist bio is a useful and important tool for concisely conveying your biographical history. It is an opportunity for you to tell your story.

Bio requirements can range from 25 to 250 words. That's a huge difference. Write the long version that includes everything and then parse it out to smaller versions as needed. Doing this gives you a chance to review what is important. I recommend revising your bio at least once per year. However, if you are actively engaged in promoting your art, entering shows, and sending out applications for proposals, grants, and residencies then you should be revising the bio regularly to tailor it to your needs.

Understanding your audience:

Your audience may be specific, such as exhibition jurors deciding whether to include you in a show, or it may be a broader audience, such as visitors to your website. Knowing your audience and tailoring your bio is an important part of the writing process.

Think about who will be reading your bio. Audiences can vary from show curators, your website visitors, jurors, application review committees for grants, residencies and other art related opportunities, social media, a job, an exhibition entry form, and so on.

Content:

In general, the artist bio contains education and training, career summary, major accomplishments, accolades, and significant honors. Highlight moments from your career and education if they relate to the artwork presented. Keep it simple: *Raised in central New Jersey, Jane Smith graduated from Rutgers University and spent the majority of her career as VP of Human Resources for Engelhard Corporation. She studied painting with Picasso, and later earned her MFA from ASU. Her art is represented by A GREAT Gallery and is in public and private collections throughout the US.* In this example, it is mentioning the HR career while focusing on her art career.

Other information to include would be notable collaborations, commissions, or collections particularly if it is a prominent museum or public figure.

Relevant Information

It is important to think about what information needs to be included. As I mentioned earlier, there are many versions of your bio for specific projects. Consider what they are looking for and be sure to cull your biographical information to convey what they need to know. For instance, if you are applying for a teaching position, be sure to include your teaching experience.

I have had many accomplishments as a gallery owner. Of note is the exhibition of my kaleidoscope collection at the Museum of Northern Arizona. This was the first exhibit in the museum's 100 years that was not indigenous to the Colorado Plateau, which is the criteria for show selections. So, this show was a very big deal. Yet, as an artist, this information is irrelevant in my bio, and does not get talked about.

Questions to help you get started:

What are your major accomplishments?

What are you most proud of?

What is relevant to the purpose of writing the bio? For instance – if it is for a show, don't drone on about your corporate career.

Does where you are from affect your work? If so, be sure to include it.

Consider the 5 W's:

Who, What, When, Where and Why and don't forget How

Remember:

-The bio gets **revised** with EVERY application. You may replace earlier achievements with more recent ones.

-Write your bio in **third person**.

-Be sure to include your **genre**

-Select a **simple, readable font**. My favorite font is Garamond. It is clean, easy to read, and looks good on the page.

-Be sure to **proofread**, or better yet, have someone else proofread it for you.

-If you have room include **how you view your current and/or future work**. If the bio will be displayed with a specific piece of work, or body of work, be sure to include information about that. Remember, it is not your artist statement, so be sure to stay focused on your biographical information.

-Remember that your artist bio is an important part of your overall branding and marketing strategy. Take the time to craft a compelling bio that **accurately represents who you are** as an artist and what you stand for.

VENUE CHANGE OUT DATES:

Aster Center Venue change out:

We will not have change outs over summer so after the May 11, 2023, drop off, the next date will be September 7, 2023. Please remember wire hangers are the only acceptable hardware. Joni Anderson.

ADALANTE HEALTH CENTER

Location: 1705 W Main St, Mesa AZ 85201

2023 schedule:

September-October, November–December–January 2024 Text Elizabeth at 317–460–5903. Availability is first come first serve.

PHOENIX SKY HARBOR AIRPORT MUSEUM

The **Phoenix Airport Museum** is requesting entries for an upcoming exhibition surrounding the theme of “night”. This opportunity is open to Arizona artists to have their work on display at one of the country's busiest airports between October 21, 2023 – May 26, 2024.

The museum is interested in unique interpretations of night, from nocturnal creatures to city lights to the cosmos and the unknown. Submissions are due through WeTransfer on July 21, 2023, by 5pm.

For more information on shows listed by the Art Alliance go to <https://azartalliance.com/artist-opportunities>.

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DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS by 25th of the month.



Location of Classes

Aster Senior Center at Mesa Downtown
247 N MacDonald, Mesa, AZ 85201
Meets on the 1st Thursday of the Month



Veterans Resource Center
165 N Centennial Way #101, Mesa, AZ 85201
Meets on the 3rd Thursday of the Month



VETERAN ART ACTIVITIES FOR APRIL

MESA ART LEAGUE LEADERSHIP TEAM

President – Loralee Stickel-Harris

Vice President – Diane Black

Treasurer – Nancy Briggs

Secretary – Lu Wald

DIRECTORS:

Historian – Suzanne Leslie

Publicity and Social Media **need volunteer**

Artwork of the Month – Elizabeth Scriba

Membership – Alicia Short

Newsletter – Alicia Short

Website – Karen Beasley/Alicia Short

Demos – Pat Book

Scholarship -

Studio 9 – Brenda Pace

Art Shows –

Ad Rep – Diane Black

Veteran Liaison – J. Chris Brewer