

Meet Our INSTRUCTORS



Jan Forbes

A watercolor artist, and former art shop owneroperator of shops in Longville and Bloomington, Jan studied and painted with many famous artists including Bill Alexander, Bob Ross, and Betty Edwards. Students in her popular classes experience the pure joy of creating art through Jan's warmth and humor.

Tom Kutschied

A successful professional artist with an art resume dating back to his youth, Tom taught oil painting in Arizona for 32 years, helping upcoming artists realize their potential. He is most proud of his art contributions to benefit wildlife conservation groups including Ducks Unlimited, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, National Wild Turkey Foundation, and Pheasants Forever.





Barb Anderson

Stained glass goddess, Barb provides expert guidance to her glass art students as they build skills through hands-on projects. Serving as President, Treasurer, and grant writer, she oversees the finances of the Longville Lakes Arts Alliance in addition to wearing many other hats in the community.





Saundra Martell

Attorney- mother- mentor- art hound: Operations Manager Saundra found her own creative niche in her love of Inktense water media and mixed media. Giving generously of her time and talents to achieve the mission of the Longville Lakes Arts Alliance, she covers a lot of bases in her role at the LLAC.

Sara Schroeder

The cuteness factor of Sara's wool felted critters is over the top! In addition to teaching wool felting and wearing a variety of hats at the LLAC and in the community, Sara is the lead instructor for summer Kids Camp and free weekly summer kid's classes in our Youth Art Studio.





Melinda Schumacher

Formally with Hallmark Cards, Mel brings her eye for design and passion for fun to all her classes. Students love her classy up-north mobile designs and amazingly soft, tactile pop top purses, among her delightful creations. Mel helps keep calendars current and related duties for LLAC.





Rose Riffle

Junk journaling, yes! Gelli plate printing, absolutely. Incorporating fiber art, sun printing, use of natural materials, you name it, Rose does it all. Her amazing creativity is a sight to behold!

Shannon Lucas-Westrum

Named one of two 2025 McKnight Fiber Artist Fellows, this one-of-a-kind honor recognizes Shannon's innovate work in basketry. As a graduate of Bemidji State University (BSU), she is dedicated to making art accessible to rural communities throughout our region.





Pam Manthei

Inspired while on vacation in Iceland in 2011, Pam and husband Joe's curiosity with the beauty and design of fish leather ultimately developed into the business they operate today, creating exotic durable goods using fish leather with a variety of skills and techniques. Pam shares her expertise in classes, art shows, and festivals across the region.