

Sketchy Business



What we did last summer

Next meeting

Tuesday, September 8, 2026
starting promptly at 7:00 pm

Mahany/Meininger Community Center

3500 Marias, Royal Oak
(North at the light off 13 Mile
between Main and Crooks)

Rooms 8 & 9

Meetings are the first Tuesday of each
month unless otherwise noted.

Keep in touch!

Check out our website at
southoaklandart.com

Follow us on [our Facebook group page](#).

Contact us by email at
SOAA200@gmail.com

Instagram at @SouthOaklandArt

President's Report

Welcome to the start of another amazing year with the South Oakland Art Association!

It has been a busy and fun summer, with members participating in outdoor art fairs, plein air events, and their own individual art shows. While everyone has been busy creating and sharing their work throughout the community, it will be wonderful to come back together this fall to reconnect, learn, create, and enjoy our shared love of art.



We have an exciting fall planned! Our first meeting will be **September 8th** at the **Mahany/Meininger Community Center in Royal Oak**, where we will welcome **Pewabic Pottery** for a special presentation. Pewabic has a fascinating history and is an important part of Michigan's artistic heritage, so this is a presentation you won't want to miss.

We also have many other exciting programs, events, and opportunities planned for the coming months. **Our Annual Art Show opens November 8th**, and I look forward to seeing the incredible work our members will share.

Thank you for being part of the South Oakland Art Association. Whether you have been with us for years or are joining us for the first time, I hope this year brings plenty of opportunities to create, learn, connect, and have fun together. I'm looking forward to another wonderful year with all of you!

The new look

Andrea Slomczenski has passed the torch of newsletter creation to me, and I definitely have huge shoes to fill. Her newsletters in the past year were very enjoyable to read and look at. Thank you, Andrea, for applying your amazing talents to a terrific newsletter!

You may have noticed its new name and look this month. I have also added some interactivity to it. If you see any underlined text, you can click on it to get to another website or to email someone mentioned in the notice.

I would love ideas for new articles from anyone in our membership. Have an art show you will be participating in? Any interesting commission you'd like to tell us about? Take any interesting photos at one of our SOAA events? If so, I want them for our newsletter.

Send your feedback, text, and jpeg photos to me, John Nagridge, at johnnagridge@gmail.com.

Get free Facebook promotion!

We feature the art and a short bio of each of our artists on our Facebook page. Only one artist will be featured at a time. Once it's posted, feel free to [share it on your Facebook page](#) or anywhere you like.

If you'd like to participate, please email 3-5 photos of your work and a photo of yourself (optional) to John Nagridge at johnnagridge@gmail.com. Don't forget provide the medium and titles of the pieces. Feel free to add a short bio and/or an artist's statement or why you like to draw, paint, or sculpt the art that you do.

Upcoming meetings and events

September 8, 2026: First SOAA meeting featuring Pewabic Pottery

September 19, 2026: Trenton Art Fest SOAA will have a booth

October 6, 2026: SOAA meeting featuring Camille Lecoutre presenting her Printmaking

November 7-21, 2026 (Opening Sunday, November 8)
SOAA Annual Show at Royal Oak Historical Society Museum

November 10, 2026: SOAA meeting featuring your nature creations and cyanotypes

December 1, 2026: SOAA meeting featuring our Pot luck holiday gathering (starts 30 minutes early)

January 5, 2027: SOAA meeting

February 2, 2027: SOAA meeting featuring Ashley Menth, Painter

March 2, 2027: SOAA meeting featuring Jill Stefani Wagner presenting *Working in a Series*

April 6, 2027: SOAA meeting

May 4, 2027: SOAA meeting

June 1, 2027: SOAA meeting featuring our Ice Cream Social

2026–2027 SOAA Board Members

President and Program Chair- [Melissa Wilson](#)

Vice President: [Leigh Wright](#)

Treasure, Membership Chair and Corresponding Secretary: [Susan Donnellon](#)

Recording Secretary and Awards Chair: [Joyce Knight-Coyne](#)

Mini Masters: [Paul Stema](#)

Hospitality Committee Chair: [Janice Schult](#)

Webmaster Committee Chair: [John Rash](#)

Newsletter Editor: [John Nagridge](#)

Outreach Committee Chair: [Rachel Kaltner](#)

Email questions to SOAA200@gmail.com

Discover the Legacy of Pewabic Pottery

Our next South Oakland Art Association program is one you won't want to miss!

We are thrilled to welcome [Pewabic Pottery](#) as our upcoming presenter. For anyone interested in ceramics, Detroit history, architecture, craftsmanship, or the story of artists who helped shape our region, this promises to be a fascinating evening.

Founded in Detroit in 1903 by artist and educator Mary Chase Perry Stratton and Horace J. Caulkins, Pewabic Pottery became an important force in Detroit's Arts & Crafts movement. At a time when Detroit was rapidly transforming through industrialization and the rise of the automobile industry, Pewabic championed the beauty and importance of handmade art.

Pewabic is perhaps best known for its distinctive iridescent glazes and architectural tiles, which can be found in some of the most significant buildings and institutions in Detroit and throughout the country. Pewabic tiles have adorned homes, churches, schools, libraries, museums, and major public buildings—including the Detroit Institute of Arts and the Detroit Public Library. Its work can also be found far beyond Michigan, including at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., and the Shedd Aquarium in Chicago.

The Pewabic building on Detroit's East Jefferson Avenue, designed by architect William Buck Stratton, opened in 1907 and remains an active pottery today. The building was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1991, making Pewabic not simply a historic institution, but a living part of Detroit's artistic legacy.

And Pewabic's story didn't end with its early success. For more than 120 years, it has continued to evolve as a working pottery, architectural tile studio, education center, and nonprofit organization dedicated to keeping the ceramic arts alive and accessible to new generations.

Come learn the stories behind the beautiful tiles and ceramics you may have seen throughout Detroit without realizing they were Pewabic. Whether you work in clay, admire ceramics, love Detroit history, or simply appreciate beautiful handmade objects, this is a program you will not want to miss!

Join us for an evening celebrating one of Detroit's most treasured artistic institutions—and discover how Pewabic helped put Detroit on the map of American craft and design.



We need your mini-masters

Those small 5"x7" masterpieces you, our members and friends donate to the Mini-Master Program really do make a difference. We would like to request everyone take a bit of time and create for the cause.

Blank Canvas Boards are usually available at our meetings and if watercolor or other mediums are more your specialty, we can arrange to have pre-cut paper available too.

Show your artwork on our website

Another advantage of membership is our **Member Artwork Section** on our SOAA website at southoaklandart.com. It's easy to do and allows us to show off the talents of our membership.

Submit up to 8 photos of your artworks you would like to display, a short bio and/or artist statement, and possibly a photo of yourself to be used in your section. Photos should be in jpeg format. Email them to Webmaster John Rash at rash.john1@gmail.com along with your contact information.

At Our September 8 Meeting

1. Please sign in and take a name tag.
2. If you bring a guest, have them sign in and introduce them to some of our members
3. Place your snack items in the provided space.
4. **DON'T FORGET!** Members, set up your artwork for our *Artist of the Month Competition* before the 7 pm meeting!

Time to pay your dues

September is the beginning of a new SOAA season of meetings, events & programs! For most of our membership it is time to renew your membership. SOAA membership dues pay for our monthly room rental, speaker fees, program supplies, website, mailing expenses and more.

Annual membership dues are **\$30 per individual** or **\$35 for two adults** living at the same address.

Payments can be made by cash or check made out to **South Oakland Art Association** or by credit card (using a credit card will incur a 4% added service charge).

A membership table will be open at 6:30 p.m. at this meeting for your convenience. Be sure to let us know if you have any updated contact information changes such as name, address, phone, etc.

Questions regarding membership can be directed to Susan Donnellon at sdonnellon6925@gmail.com.

Be one of our SOAA Artists of The Month

One of the best parts of our monthly meetings is seeing the beautiful new art coming from our members. The variety of mediums, styles, and subject matter never fail to inspire. We'd love to see the new work you make and hope you bring it in and submit in our *Artist of the Month* competition. Here's our contest rules:

1. You must be an SOAA member in attendance to enter artwork in the monthly contest.
2. All artwork must be submitted by 7:00 p.m. Voting ends at 7:15 p.m.
3. Our categories are **Portrait, Representational, Abstract, and 3-dimensional**.
4. Artists may enter two pieces of art each month. They do not need to be entered in the same category.
5. First & Second Place Awards will be given in each category. In the event of a tie, both winners will receive an award.
6. Anyone attending the meeting may vote for the *Artists of The Month*.
7. Winners are announced at the end of the meeting and will have their photo taken for our newsletter.
8. Once a piece of art has been entered in the *Artist of The Month* contest, it cannot be entered again.
9. When a piece of art borders on two categories, the Awards Chair may assist with category selection with artist agreement. Some art could fit in multiple categories.

Not a member yet?

What are you waiting for? We would love to have you join us! Your dues go for programs, shows, awards and supplies.

Annual Dues are only **\$30 individual** or **\$35 to include a second adult family member** at the same address.

Bring a friend to any meeting **for \$5**.

Payments can be made by cash or check made out to **South Oakland Art Association**, or by credit card (using a credit card will incur a 4% added service charge).

Art in the McNamara Terminal Update

We should have the final language to sign sometime soon to display along with Pewabic Pottery. It will be a 4 month run.

Please make sure to email SOAA200@gmail.com if you are interested in displaying some work for this. Currently these artists have expressed interest, but we know there is more:

Ronda Berger
Winnie Chrzanowski
Joyce Coyne
Philip Deneau
Noah Ford

Cynthia Gould
Erica Davis Hernandez
Tom Kulich
Camille Lecoutre
John Nagridge

Madhu Oberoi
Kathy Pare
Andrea Slomczenski
Melissa Wilson

It is time to sign up for our Annual Show

You can sign up at the first meeting and pay at that time. We will have a reduced admission fee this year of **only \$10**. We are able to do this because of the success we have had at our other shows. Also, we will have 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes to be awarded, courtesy of **BLICK Art Materials**.

Eligibility & Requirements:

- Current paid up membership in SOAA required.
- **\$10 Show Entry Fee**, paid no later than at art drop off prior to the show.
- Entry/Inventory Form) must be completed, signed and submitted at drop off - **November 3, 2026** from 10am- 4pm.
- Pick up 3:30-4pm on November 21, 2026.
- A sales commission of **15%** will go to SOAA.
- Participants are expected, if at all possible, to help with the show. This includes working a shift during museum hours and attending & bringing a food or service item to the opening event. Please sign up.

[Sign up here to bring an item for the food table.](#)

[Sign up here to work at the show any days other than the opening.](#)

- Size limit is 30" x 30". **Entry limits may be adjusted due to number of entrants participating.** If change is necessary, you will be notified. 2D art must be ready to hang
- **Hanging Art:** 5 pieces
3D Art: 10 pieces
Bin Art: 15 pieces
Note Cards: No limit, there will be two shared racks

It is important for everyone to learn how to create their tags.

If you're having trouble with the computer or need assistance, **Dave Buffington** is available to help. You can reach him at 248-561-0697. Please call him at least one week before the art drop-off date.

If you can type your tags but don't have a printer, you can email your PDF to **Melissa Wilson** at melissawilson192@gmail.com, and she will print them for you. If you'd like to learn how to do it yourself but are still finding it challenging, please call Melissa at 248-770-8528. She can set up a time to assist you.

Please don't wait until the last minute! Plan ahead to ensure your tags are ready on time.

[Click here for the Avery tags label file.](#)

[Click here for directions on how to use the tags.](#)

Looking forward to seeing the beautiful work you submit.

SOUTH OAKLAND ART ASSOCIATION - ANNUAL ART AT THE MUSEUM
SHOW & SALE

Royal Oak Historical Museum

OPENING RECEPTION - SUNDAY NOV. 8TH, 2026 - 2 P.M. - 5 P.M.

1411 W. WEBSTER, ROYAL OAK, MI 48073

You're invited



You are invited to the South Oakland Art Association Annual Art at the Museum Show & Sale at the Royal Oak Historical Society Museum. The show runs November 7th- November 21st, 2026, with the opening reception on Sunday, November 8th, 2026 (2 p.m. - 5 p.m.). Regular Museum hours are Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Check their Facebook for last minute changes, or call them at - (248) 439-1501.



Congrats to Leigh Wright on her successful solo show.



On August 8, 2026, member Leigh Wright had an opening reception and artist talk for her solo art show *Between The Lines: Memory & Automatic Drawing* at the Orion Art Center. Check out [Leigh's website](#) to see more of her beautiful work.



Royal Oak Outdoor Art Fair, 2026



Plein Air Outing at the Buffington House

Dave and Deborah Buffington generously hosted yet another great plein air outing on their beautiful property on the lake in mid-July. Mother Nature was most cooperative and we had a wonderful day to draw and paint the beautiful landscape on the lake. Melissa and Gloria even paddled out to get a good closeup of the lily pads across the lake for their paintings. After we stopped working on our pieces a few hours later, we were treated to a delicious lunch.

Here are 2 pages of photos from that fun day.

Thank you, Dave and Deborah for a wonderful time.



Plein Air Outing at the Buffington House



Art School

Painting Classes with John Rash

Painting - All Media

Thursdays, 9:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Painting - Watercolor

Fridays, 9:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Wednesdays, 6:15 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.

Generally, 8 classes = \$65.

These classes are held at the Mahany/Meininger Community Center at 3500 Marias, Royal Oak.

For more information, call **248-246-3900**

Watercolor Techniques and Creative Watercolor Play with Joyce Knight-Coyne

Whether or not you have taken one of Joyce's classes before, if you want to expand on techniques or just learn and experiment with techniques and creation with watercolor, this class is for you. Suggested supply list available upon registration.

Wednesdays, 6:15 – 8:45 pm
November 4 – December 23

\$80 Residents

\$100 Non-residents

For more information, call **249-246-3900**



Unlock Your Artistic Potential with Private Lessons by Melissa Wilson

Are you interested in private art lessons? Look no further! Melissa Wilson, an award-winning art teacher, is here to guide you on your artistic journey.

Melissa specializes in a variety of mediums, including Oil, Watercolor, Encaustic, Ceramics, Photography, and so much more. Whether you're a beginner eager to learn or an experienced artist looking to refine your skills, Melissa offers private lessons tailored to your needs. Each private session lasts 2.5 hours and is just \$50 per session.

Contact Melissa today at melissawilson192@gmail.com to schedule your private art lesson and "unleash your creativity!"

Bringing Walls to Life:

Got walls? Muralists and Artists Andrea Slomczenski and Juliana Rabban are always on the lookout for new mural projects and creative collaborations in the Metro Detroit Area. With a shared passion for transforming spaces through vibrant, large-scale artwork, we're excited to bring our unique styles and experiences to both outdoor and indoor spaces.

From community projects to commercial or residential spaces, each mural either of us create is designed to reflect the spirit of the community and the vision of our clients. Recent projects always remind us how powerful art can be in shaping and uplifting spaces. If you have a friend, friend of a friend, family member, or other who is looking for a muralist, we can help bring it to life!

You can view Andrea's work at andreaajs.com or visit her Instagram @AndreaSztuka. Or email her at Andreaajs.illustrations@gmail.com

You can view Juliana's work at justbyjuliana.com or visit her Instagram @justbyjuliana. You can email her at justbyjuliana@gmail.com

Do you know who else paints murals?

SOAA member Joyce Coyne! You can email her at sandybeadsllc@gmail.com.

SOAA May 2026 Artists of the Month



PORTRAITS, 1st Place
Mo Robertson
Ballerina



PORTRAITS, 2nd Place Tie
Dave Buffington
Jill



PORTRAITS, 2nd Place Tie
Ron Novak
Baroque Lady



REPRESENTATIONAL:
1st Place
Jim Anderson
A Stone Bridge



REPRESENTATIONAL:
2nd Place, Three Way Tie
Joyce Knight-Coyne
Cat Tail's Pond



REPRESENTATIONAL:
2nd Place, Three Way Tie
Julie Hock
Red Flowers

REPRESENTATIONAL:
2nd Place, Three Way Tie
Julie Hock
Overlook



ABSTRACT: 1st Place
Ron Novak
Office Manager



ABSTRACT: 2nd Place
Mo Robertson
Dandies



3-DIMENSIONAL: 1st Place
Phil Deneau
Tea Pot



3-DIMENSIONAL: 2nd Place
Tim Pare
Oliver

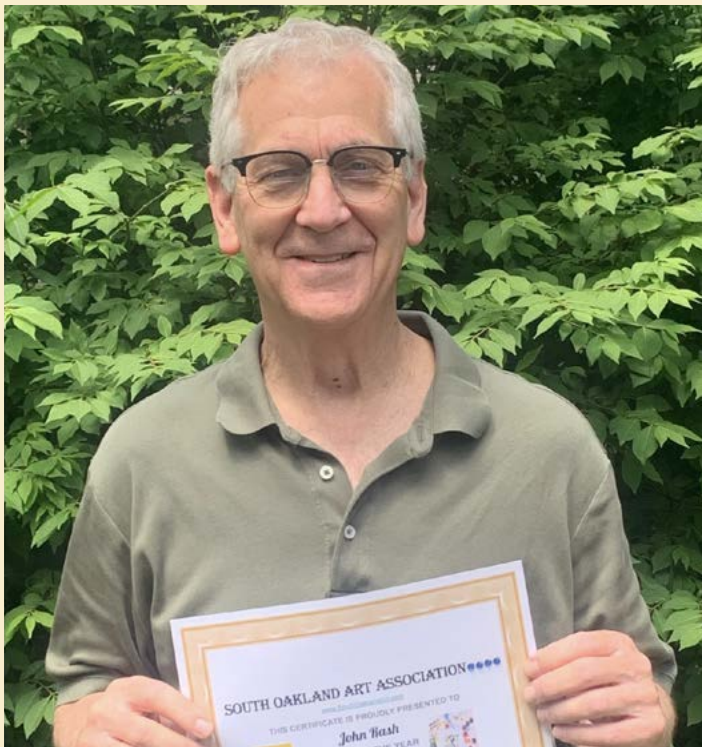
SOAA 2025–2026 Artists of the Year



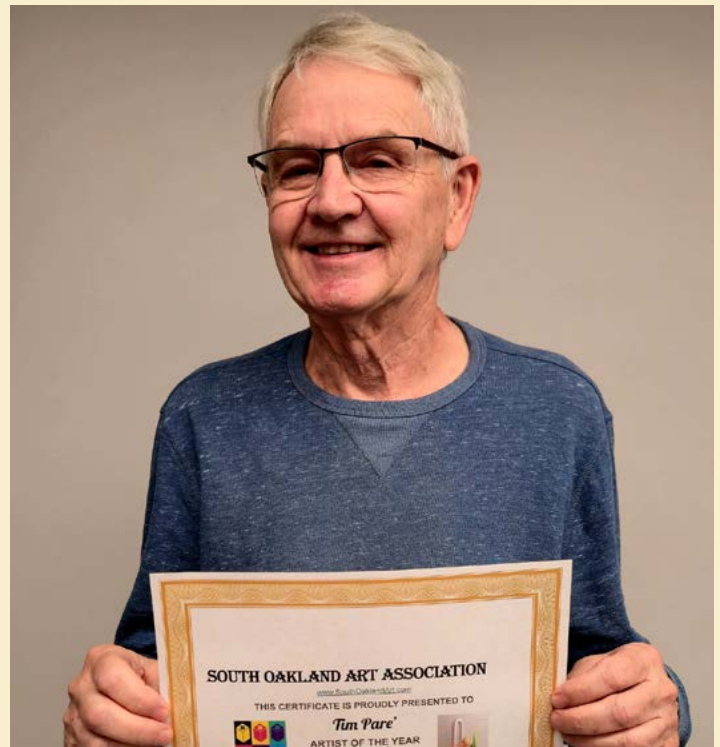
PORTRAITS
Susan Donnellon



REPRESENTATIONAL
John Nagridge



ABSTRACT
John Rash



3-DIMENSIONAL
Tim Pare

An Exhibition of Works By the
**MONKS
&
FRIARS**



**Letterpress Printers of Michigan
Since 1962 Celebrating 64 Years**

**September 1 - October 31, 2026
Hands-On Demonstrations and Public
Activity September 2, 6 - 7:30 pm
SOUTHFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY**

THE MONKS & FRIARS printing organization was created to serve professional and amateur printers. The name derives from antique printing terminology: white and black spots on a print were referred to as "monks and friars." Thus our name.

monksandfriars.org

Poster Printed by Camille Lecoutre and Jim Horton

SOAA NATURE-ONLY ART CONTEST GUIDELINES

OUR NATURE-BASED ART CONTESTS FOCUS ON THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF NATURAL, PHYSICAL MATERIALS. PLEASE REVIEW THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

1. EPHEMERAL NATURE ART (USING NATURAL MATERIALS)

ARTWORK MUST BE CREATED ENTIRELY FROM MATERIALS FOUND IN NATURE, SUCH AS LEAVES, ROCKS, STICKS, MOSS, FLOWERS, SAND, OR PEBBLES. NO SYNTHETIC OR MANUFACTURED MATERIALS ARE PERMITTED.

2. MATERIAL EXCLUSIVITY

ONLY NATURAL MATERIALS MAY BE USED IN THE CREATION OF THE ARTWORK. ADDITIVES SUCH AS GLUE, WIRE, OR OTHER NON-NATURAL ELEMENTS ARE ALLOWED BUT SHOULD BE VERY LIMITED.

3. SIZE AND PRESENTATION

ARTISTS MAY EITHER:

- BRING THEIR PHYSICAL ARTWORK TO THE NOVEMBER MEETING (SIZE LIMIT TO WHAT YOU CAN CARRY), OR
- SUBMIT A HIGH-QUALITY PRINTED PHOTOGRAPH OF THEIR EPHEMERAL WORK.

4. ORIGINALITY

ALL SUBMISSIONS MUST BE ORIGINAL WORKS CREATED BY THE ARTIST. ARTWORK SHOULD NOT REPLICATE OR COPY EXISTING OR PUBLISHED WORKS.

NOV

TUES | 10 | 7pm

SOAA MEETING



BLICK[®] art materials

3 convenient locations

Royal Oak – 28878 Woodward Ave., (248) 548-7679

Detroit – 4501 Woodward Ave., (313) 833-9616

Dearborn – 14339 Michigan Ave., (313) 581-7063

BLICK Art Materials is one of the largest providers of [art supplies](#) within the U.S. with over 90,000 items available online, in our catalog, and at our retail locations. BLICK has been “Family-Owned and Serving Artists” since 1911. It is currently in its third generation of family ownership.



Follow BLICK on social media





Need a Realtor? I Noah guy!!
Call
Noah Ford 248-505-4742
Buying or selling Real Estate?
I'm your guy!
NoahAFordREO@gmail.com
31 S. Main Street
Clarkston, MI 48346
248-625-0200



Great news for home buyers! The market is flooded with more homes for sale than there are buyers so there are deals to be had. Your bargaining power is very good right now. I can help you negotiate the best deal. Home ownership is one of the top ways to make money on an investment. First time home buyer specialist! Investment property? I got you!! Got questions? I have answers. Let's sit down and talk. **Call me @ 248-505-4742**

SOUTH OAKLAND ART ASSOCIATION

ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITY!



Do you have a business that's **not art-related**,
but you think SOAA members would love to know about?

ADVERTISE IN OUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER!

**ONLY
\$100
PER YEAR!**

Easy Steps:



1 Create your ad image



2 Email it to **SOAA200@gmail.com**



3 Reach dozens of SOAA members
every month!



Connect with Our Creative Community!

CONTACT US TODAY!



SOAA200@gmail.com