

June 6, 2015- Art studio event benefits Verde Valley Caregivers

The creativity and originality of Sedona artists will be on full display this weekend at West Sedona's Gandolfo Art Studio. The public is cordially invited to the venue's "Spring Into Summer" exhibit on June 13 and 14, at 10AM to 6PM each day.

The nine participating artists will be showcasing an imposing array of paintings, jewelry, photography, glass, sculptures, and more. To give back to the community, they will donate a portion of all sales to the Verde Valley Caregivers Coalition, a non-profit organization providing critical assistance to local senior citizens.

The artists, listed below, will be present during both days to meet the public, answer questions, and discuss details about their art. This is a unique opportunity for the public to meet nine diverse, professional, local artists and see their best works.

Heather Molans holds a BA degree in art and is a teacher, watercolorist, and jewelry designer. She is the recipient of many awards in painting and jewelry, and her jewelry has been featured in Sedona Monthly magazine. She will be showing a variety of her latest jewelry creations.

Photographer Jim Peterson grew up in northwestern New Mexico, and has a BA in Music and a PhD in Biochemistry from the University of Chicago. After a long and varied high tech career, he redirected his creativity to Photography. His photographs have been featured in galleries and publications in Phoenix and Sedona, and have been acquired by collectors worldwide.

Metal sculptor Richard Barnwell was introduced to the arts in a woodshop class, but he found he didn't like waiting for wood glue to dry. So switched to metalworking, which is better suited to his natural talents. After 30 years in the print and broadcast industries, he settled in Sedona where he now devotes his full time to creating beautiful iron sculptures and custom wrought iron works.

Oil painter Gary Jenkins graduated from Florida's Ringling School of Art. During the 1980's he had the opportunity to become one of the first painting instructors on U.S. television, and has been producing his series "The Beauty of Oil Painting" ever since. He specializes in elegant oils with sophisticated use of color, as in his current series of paintings called "Small Treasures Hummingbirds".

As an artist, Sedona's Dr. Carol L. Gandolfo is nothing if not versatile. Her first big success was as a photographer three decades ago, when her image of her cat Cinnamon appeared on the cover of a photography magazine and became

one of the world's best selling posters. But in her case, one medium definitely led to another, and then more. She moved on to pastels, acrylics, oils, and sculpture, studying with such renowned masters as Paul Davis, Carolyn Ensley, Gretchen Lopez, John Soderberg, and Mike Trcic. Not surprisingly, she will be showing a wide range of works.

Rick Gandolfo is renowned for his depictions of local landscapes and landmarks. His bold colors and adept brushwork contribute to a style that is instantly recognizable and highly expressive. He got his start as a painter with a scholarship to Chouinard Art Institute in Los Angeles. His favorite artistic pursuit is now plein air painting in Sedona's magnificent surroundings, but he also paints historic buildings, people, and animals, and is now exploring the new (to him) medium of sculpting.

Beverly Kievman Copen is an entrepreneur, author, and award-winning photographer with more than 45 years of experience in marketing, sales, writing and consulting. She has published four photography books, and was awarded the 2011 Grand Prize by Arizona Highways magazine for her image Sunset of The Century. She has had several exhibits at the Herberger Theater Center Art Gallery in Phoenix, as well as many galleries in Sedona and beyond.

Sharron Vincent Porter's acrylic landscape paintings, which she calls "Landstracts", are visually dynamic compositions with rock-like, pumice-textured surfaces. They often incorporate real rocks, twigs, and branches to create a tactile as well as visual experience. She holds a BA in Art Education from the University of Illinois (UrbanaChampaign) and an MA in Sculpture from Northern Illinois University, and also has years of supplementary art and education courses in various disciplines.

Lorraine L. Fexas developed her love of glass when she moved to Sedona in 1999 and became a member of the Sedona Arts Center. She has been commissioned for a variety of art installations for private collectors nationwide. She designs fused glass plates, bowls, wall pieces and other decorative and functional items. She created one of the 50 pairs of javelinas for Sedona's "Javelinas on Parade" project.

All sales from this event will benefit Verde Valley Caregivers Coalition, now in its 23rd year of service to nearly 2,300 older adults who need assistance to live independently. VVCC's volunteers provide transportation to medical and other appointments plus a wide range of other essential services. For more information or to learn more about volunteering call (928) 204-1238 or visit www.vvcaregivers.org.

The event will be held at Gandolfo Art Studio, 220 Goodrow Lane, Sedona, AZ 86336. For more information, call 928-282-0918 or 928-202-7073. Goodrow

Lane is accessed via Bennett Drive, which in turn is just north of Sedona Rouge and across from Safeway on Rodeo Road.



From left to right: Kim Meller, George Ault, Fran Stowell, Jim Stowell, Bill Macuri, Lee Weller, Hubert Ballesteros, Kent Ellsworth.