



Quarterly Newsletter Spring May 2025



From NAWA SC Chapter President Meyriel Edge

First of all, congratulations to everyone involved in 'Brookgreen Inspires: Women Create'! We certainly created, and the exhibition was a triumph in every way. I am honored to be part of this organization, and I am so proud of our SC Chapter.

Because we are all volunteers, it means we have people rotating in and out of volunteer positions from time to time. Flavia Lovatelli will stay on as Exhibition Co-chair, and now we look to our membership for someone to chair this committee with her. We bid a fond farewell to two stalwarts, at least from their present roles. Exhibitions Co-chair Staci Swider departs the Board this month after serving two years. Melinda Welker, Treasurer, will depart in August after serving two years on the Board, but will continue to produce the Chapter's quarterly newsletter. Both have set high standards that optimize the original mission statement of NAWA, "To foster and promote awareness of, and interest in, visual art created by women in the United States." Thank you Melinda and Staci.

We welcome members to contact Flavia and Melinda at art.nawasc@gmail.com if you have an interest in serving in one of these Board positions. Melinda will work with the new Treasurer through July and August to ensure a smooth transition. Our Board meets once a month through Zoom. The NAWA National President, Chapter Liaison, and Executive Director also attend our meetings. Serving on the Board is a wonderful way to give back and to become even more connected to NAWA. I welcome new volunteers who will bring their own unique style to these Board roles.

I might add that the current artists in the South Carolina Chapter are fostering and promoting as hard as they can. If we could each find a potential new member, imagine, just imagine....

NAWA SC Board Members:

Email art.nawasc@gmail.com to contact a NAWA SC Chapter board member. Please put the name of the department you wish to contact in the subject line of your email, such as Membership, Exhibitions, President, Social Media, Newsletter, etc.

Board President - Meyriel Edge

Board Vice President - Susan G. Hammond

Secretary - Deidre Hayes

Treasurer - Melinda Welker

Membership Chair - Susan Irish

Exhibition Chair - Flavia Lovatelli
Committee member: Lillie Morris

Satellite Gallery Chair - Susan Irish

Web Manager - Emi Sisk

Social Media Manager - Rhian Swain

Publicity and Marketing Team: Susan Irish and Rhian Swain

Newsletter - Melinda Welker

Welcome New Members

We are delighted to welcome new members this quarter: Claudia Boyce, Wadmalaw Island, SC; Jill Bright, Hahira, GA; Josie Campbell Dellenbaugh, Glastonbury, CT; Peggy Demarest, Conway, SC; Marie Echols, Dignall, GA; Joyce Erb, Charleston, SC; June Klement, Evans, GA; Natalia Kropf, Forest Hills, NY; Ruth McCully, Bluffton, SC; and Deborah Rosato, Ravenal, SC. We welcome all new members to contact a Board Member at art.nawasc@gmail.com to let us know how you would like to help our Chapter. Please put *new member volunteer skills* in the email subject line. Your participation in keeping our Chapter active and moving forward is always needed and appreciated.

Featured Artists -

This month we congratulate and recognize our NAWA SC Chapter artists who exhibited in the *Brookgreen Inspires - Women Create* Exhibit at Brookgreen Gardens in Murrells Inlet, SC. They are:

Jill Baratta, Claudia Boyce, Jean Capalbo, Rose Cofield, Catherine Conrad, Annette Crosby, Lindsay Daniel, Josie Dellenbaugh, Sandy Dimke, Brittany Taylor Driggers, Peggy Demarest, Marie Echols, Meyriel Edge, Joan Eckhardt, Joyce Erb, Fran Gardner, Muffy Clark Gill, Sheila Plaskon Grabarsky, Susan Hammond, Leslie Hamrick, Deidre Hayes, Susan Irish, Carson Kapp, June Klement, Natalia Kropf, Jackie Lorieo, Flavia Lovatelli, Mary Cooper McDonough, Linda McCune, Pamela McLaurin, Pamela Urban Moore, Maily Morhous, Lillie Morris, Diane Salamon, Emi Sisk, Saundra Renee Smith, Mary Steffen, Rhian Swain, Staci Swider, Mary Steffen, Bernice Mitchell Tate, Melinda Welker, and Beau Wild.

Brookgreen Inspires - Women Create Art Awards

Anna Hyatt Huntington Award

Josie Campbell Dellenbaugh, CT

Title: *Golden Apples of the Sun*

Media: Bronze, 28"

Award Sponsored by: NAWA, NY
Judged by Robin Salmon, Brookgreen's Vice President
of Collections and Curator of Sculpture*

* Liz Miller, Curator: Franklin G. Burroughs - Simeon B. Chapin
Art Museum judged all other awards.





Best in Show - Staci Swider; SC

Title: *The Seed Keepers*

Media: Fiber Art; 62" x 41"

First Place 2D - Linda McCune, SC

Title: *Brookgreen Inspires*

Drawing Media: Charcoal, graphite, watercolor, ink, and pastel



First Place 3D - Meyriel Edge, SC

Title: *The Inspirer of Imagination and Mystery*

Media: Sculpture; Armature wire, string, vines, tea bags, household trash, sinamay, discarded packaging and boxes, fabric scraps, paper bags and glue.



Second Place 2D - Beau Wild, FL

Title: *What the Silence Left Behind*

Media: Mixed media



Second Place 3D - Flavia Lovatelli, SC

Title: *Pompano Cluster*

Media: Sculpture; willow branches, paper mâché, and paper cord created from recycled patterned paper.

Third Place 2D - June Klement, GA

Title: *Unconditional Love*

Media: Oil





Third Place 3D - Catherine Conrad, SC

Title: *Protected Treasure*

Media: Mixed media; Conceptual Installation
Sculpture on wood slab of maple tree.

Thematic Expression Award
Muffy Clark Gill, FL

Title: *Rice Dreams #2*

Media: Mixed media on dyed paper;
48" x 47"

Award Sponsor: The Greater Augusta Arts
Council, Augusta, GA



Reframing the Vision Award
Susan Irish, SC

Title: *Labyrinth*

Media: Sculpture; kaleidoscope effect represents life cycle. A pulley system and rubber bands pulls the wheels slowly, almost imperceptible - like life itself.

Sponsored by: The Great Frame-Up,
Bluffton, SC



Nature's Muse Award
Laura McRae Hitchcock, TN

Title: *Rooted and Whole*

Media: Fiber art; wool and sticks

Award Sponsored by: Coastal Carolina
Bank, Aiken, SC and Myrtle Beach, SC



Hammond - Soroka Award
Photographic Expression
Sandy Dimke, SC

Title: *Fiery Forest*

Media: Photography; panned photography

Sponsored by Susan Hammond (NJ) and
Melinda Welker (SC)



NAWA SC Chapter Exhibit Preview, Annual Meeting and Artists Talks
May 2 - 4, 2025
Brookgreen Gardens



Attending the Exhibit Preview, on May 2, are (l to r) NAWA National President Jackie Lorieo, NY; NAWA SC Membership Chair Susan Irish, SC; NAWA Executive Director Jill Baratta, NY; and NAWA SC Exhibit Co-Chair Staci Swider.



During the annual meeting, on May 3, NAWA SC President Meyriel Edge (left) introduced Board members to explain their roles. NAWA Executive Director Jill Baratta (right) applauded the NAWA SC Chapter for the Brookgreen Exhibit, the work of the Board members and all SC Chapter members for their participation to help the SC Chapter grow and thrive.



Melinda Welker thanked award sponsors and announced award recipients during the Preview Exhibition at Brookgreen. Meyriel Edge accepted her award.



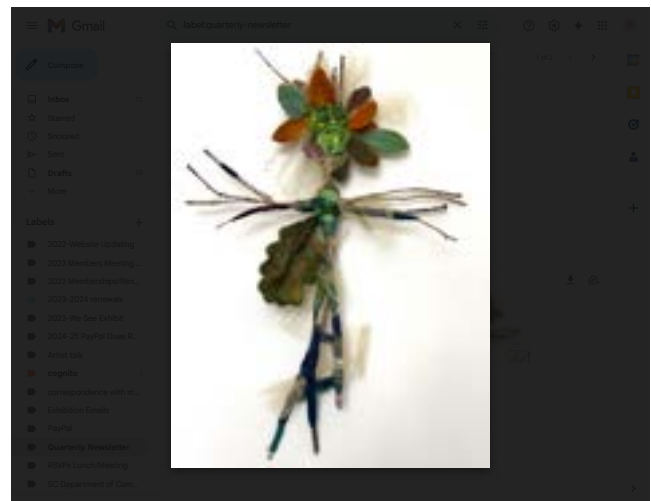
NAWA SC Members gave their Artists' Talks at the Rosen Gallery on May 3.

Please view more Brookgreen exhibit photos on our Facebook page as well as on our website: nawasc.org



In conjunction with the *Brookgreen Inspires - Women Create* Exhibit, Melinda Welker made a presentation at Brookgreen, which featured her bird photography to show how art can inspire the preservation of natural wildlife habitats.

Member Highlights this Quarter



Laura McRae Hitchcock has been invited by the Arts and Culture Alliance of Knoxville, TN to exhibit this month at the Emporium Center.

Laura's exhibit is titled *Whispers of the Root and River* and features her paintings and new felted sculptures.

photos: *Healer of the Wounded* (left); and *Sentinel of the Autumn Hush* (right)

Lindsey Daniel's art was accepted into NAWA's *Chroma Spectrum: Exploring Color in Art* exhibit showing now through May 30th.

Title: *Into the Blue Nightscape*

Media: Mixed Pastel, Acrylics, and Pencil;
9.75" x 6.5"



June Klement was awarded Second Place in the Aiken Artists Guild Annual Member Show this May.

Title: *A Luminous Evening*

Media: Oil; 18" x 18"

Marie Echols' art was accepted into Artfields 2025 Competition and Festival, a state-wide juried exhibition of South Carolina artists.

Title: *Sadie*

Media: Mixed media; watercolor and collage,
16" x 20"



Happenings - Looking Ahead

NAWA SC Exhibit - Fall 2025: *Threads of Labor: Women's Work*

Exhibit Overview: This online exhibit will explore the overlooked contributions of women during a pivotal period in American history: 1774 - 1781, and the lead up to the American Revolution. Through a diverse range of mediums - textiles, painting, sculpture, photography, and multi-media works - contemporary artists will reflect on the concept of “women’s work,” connecting historical narratives with modern artistic interpretations. This exhibit reclaims and reimagines the labor, creativity, and resilience of women from the 13 colonies who shaped the cultural and economic landscape of Colonial America.

Questions?

NAWA SC is proud to be a part of the National Association of Women Artists and further the national mission in our state of South Carolina - to promote awareness of, and interest in, visual art created by women in the U.S. Contact art.nawasc@gmail.com if you have comments or news to share. Please put “newsletter” in the subject line. To join the NAWASC Chapter and become part of our active membership, visit <https://nawasc.org>.

