



Quarterly Newsletter FALL October 2025



From NAWA SC Chapter President Meyriel Edge

It is such an honor to be President of the South Carolina Chapter, particularly when it is time to study our members' work at exhibitions. Like all of us, I read the artists' statements and move on, later returning to my favorites. However, at the online reception for 'Threads of Labor, Women's Work,' we were all able to chat comfortably about our work and, behind every piece, was a fascinating, often personal story - an old photograph, Grandmother's tablecloth, or the research that went into a piece. Perhaps the most heartwarming moment was hearing that the first place award was the first juried art award the artist had ever received. What a glorious moment for us all! A thank you to Flavia for organizing our Chapter's first online 'Threads of Labor, Women's Work' exhibition and to Susan Irish for moderating the Zoom Exhibit Reception.

We have several board changes. Marie Echols has taken over from Melinda Welker as Treasurer, but Melinda will continue to produce the Newsletter; Susan Irish is now Secretary; Flavia Lovatelli our Exhibition Chair, assisted by Pamela Moore and Deidre Hayes, who is also Membership Chair. Rhian Swain is Marketing and Public Relations Director; Francie Klopotic is Social Media Chair.

Our 2026 Annual Exhibition will be at Aiken Center for the Arts in June. A save the date and exhibit theme information will be out soon. We are always searching for new exhibit venues, so do not hesitate to pass on any ideas you may have to Flavia Lovatelli.

Meyriel Edge
President NAWA

Welcome New NAWA SC Members this Quarter:

Sahar Aghasafari, Indian Land, SC; Frances Klopotic, Augusta, GA; Fran Davies, Mount Pleasant, SC; and Selene Paschoal, Simpsonville, SC. We hope you will share your interests and goals with board members to help our Chapter grow.

Welcome to Our New Chapter Treasurer



NAWA SC welcomes Marie Echols as our new Treasurer. She is retired from working in public education where she served various roles including: school psychologist, system curriculum director, system special education director, and teacher. She feels like she volunteered her whole career. Serving as NAWA SC's treasurer is her first volunteer position since retiring from education.

Marie is a contemporary, realistic watercolor artist, also working in collage, mixed-media, and occasional printmaking.

Themes in Marie's work has always called attention to the unnoticed, quiet legacy left to us by those who came before. The goal of her current work is to emphasize the overlooked narratives of women's quiet, yet significant contributions, to society.

Through her art, she seeks to amplify the voices of women whose stories were unrecorded, inviting viewers to contemplate the profound resonance of untold stories and unnoticed legacies.



(above) *Sadie*, watercolor by Marie Echols

Along with signature membership in NAWA, Marie is a signature member of the Georgia Watercolor Society. She has won numerous awards in local, national, and international watercolor competitions. Her work has been published in *Artist's Magazine* and in the *2023 Splash: Best of Watercolor* magazine. She lives and works in rural Wilkes County, Georgia.

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

Congratulations to the following artists whose work received awards at the October 15, 2025 Zoom Reception for the NAWA SC *Threads of Labor - Woman's Work* online exhibit. See all entries on our website: nawasc.org

First Place

Quilting Bee, by Rhian Swain

Acrylic



Second Place

Phillis Wheatley, 1770's Black Poet of the Revolution, by Deidre Hayes

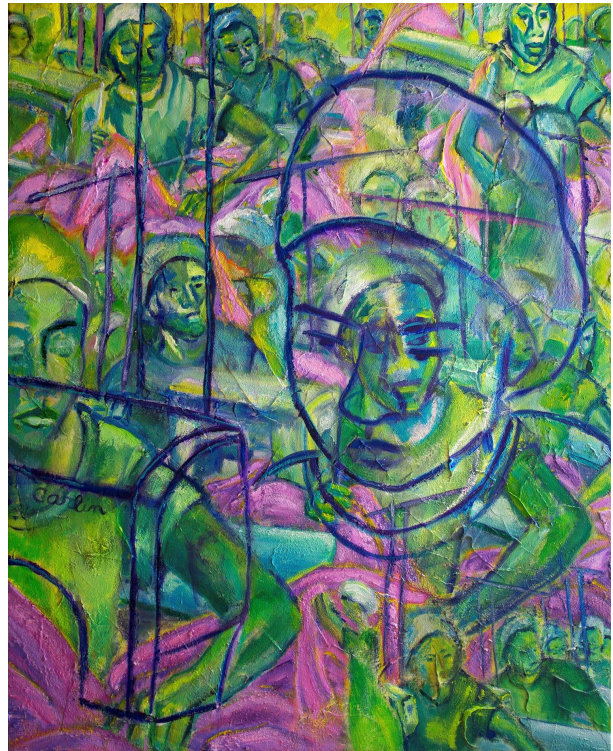
Photo-Painting: Digital Photography and acrylic paint



Third Place

Sew Sad Sweatshop, by Judith Carlin

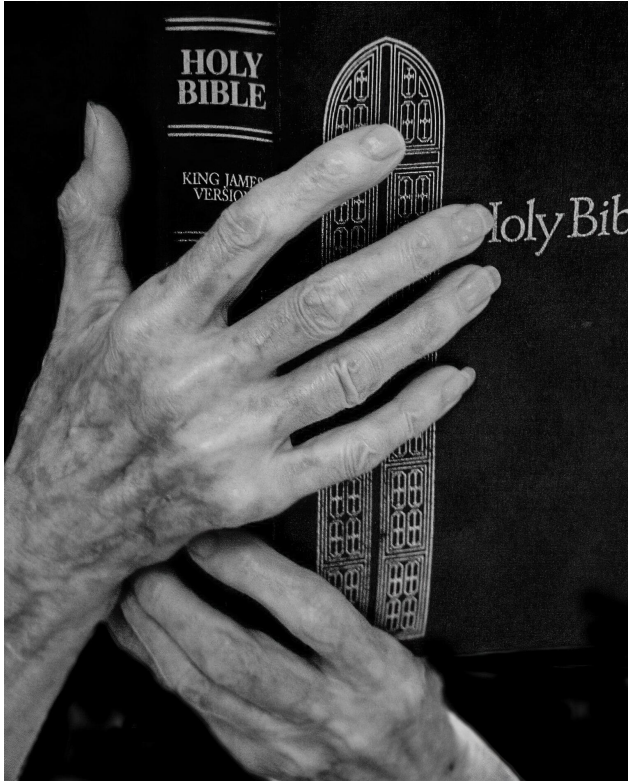
Acrylic, 30H x 24W x 1.5D



Honorable Mention

Window on the World, by Joyce Erb

Oil



Honorable Mention

Holding Fast to her Beliefs, by Sandy Dimke

Photography (Digital)

DAR Sponsored Award from
Henry Middleton Chapter,
Aiken

*One Woman's Work: A Framed
Portrait*, by Linda McCune

Sculpture: Wood; materials:
wood, metal, fibers, paper,
paint; 54"H x 78"W x 8"D



NAWA SC Chapter Featured Artist - Joyce Erb, Charleston, SC



Joyce Erb, with her oil painting: *Diana in the Garden*

Joyce grew up in Annapolis Maryland, and after doing her undergraduate at the University of Maryland and law school at Boston University, spent most of her life living and working in the New York City metropolitan area. She relocated to Daniel Island, SC in 2014.

In her former corporate life, she was required to account for her time in 6-minute increments. In retirement, she enjoys taking advantage of the time to slow down, take it all in and catch that feeling on canvas.

else; not with 20/20 vision, but with careful observation. Many of the most beautiful views here in the Lowcountry are glimpsed from our speeding cars on 526 or passing over the bridges. A lot of people rushing from here to there don't get a chance to really experience those sights. Part of our job as artists is to capture those fleeting images and make them into permanent reminders of the beauty and wonder of our world."

"As a painter, the opportunity to spend a morning on the marsh seeing the way the shadows move across it, or an afternoon at the beach watching as the sun slips into the golden hour, or a week or two waiting for a magnolia tree to burst into bloom, is a luxury that I value more and more as time goes on. Its less about going 'where the action is' and more about being in a place of quiet peaceful contemplation. Sometimes

Joyce says, "I've learned that painting is more about learning to see than anything



Second Sunday on King Street, by Joyce Erb; oil

that peaceful place is in the landscape, but other times it may be in the studio with a still life or a figurative piece that aims to capture a moment in time. I am so grateful to have this time, and it is that sense of luxury and gratitude for time well spent that I hope to capture in my paintings and convey to the viewer.”

Along with Signature Membership in NAWA, Joyce is a member of the American Impressionist Society, Oil Painters of America, the Charleston Artist Guild, and other professional organizations.

Member Highlights this Quarter:

Members - please share your good news! We want to promote your art achievements in our newsletters and social media. Please send your information to: art.nawasc.org.

Flavia Lovatelli's art was accepted into the 701 CCA SC Biennial 2025 Exhibit Part 1



Anemone VI, by Flavia Lovatelli

(left) Mix Media sculpture; recycled pattern paper cord and white card stock rings on a willow and paper mâché

Coral XXXIII, by Flavia Lovatelli

(right) Mixed Media sculpture; Willow branches with paper mâché and dictionary paper buds



Emi Sisk's art was juried into the *Living Harmoniously in a Fractured World: Vision for Peace Exhibit* in Osaka, Japan



Everything Breaks, by Emi Sisk

(left) Mixed Media on paper; 9"x12"

Sandy Dimke -
Lowcountry Original

Sandy is one of seven artists chosen, and interviewed, by Pink Magazine to be named a "Lowcountry Original 2025."

When asked what the proudest moment of her career has been so far, Sandy replied, "being juried into the National Association of Women Artists (NAWA) and serving on the board of their South Carolina chapter for five years. Historically, photography is not seen as a fine art, and for me and my work to be accepted into the first women's fine art organization in the country (established in 1889) was an huge honor and accomplishment. Winning their annual photography award in 2021 was the icing on the cake!"

See entire interview at:
<https://itsallpink.com/featured-women/item/sandy-dimke>



If you move or change your email address, please notify us at:
art.nawasc@gmail.com. Please put Change of information in the subject line.

How to Contact a NAWA SC Board Member:

When you wish to contact a member of the NAWA SC Chapter board, e-mail to: art.nawasc@gmail.com. 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.

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>.