



March 2026

From the President

What a joy it was to see such a great turnout for our February meeting at Café du Burg! With nearly 30 of us gathered—including three new guests—the energy was truly inspiring. So many of you shared how much you enjoyed the evening that we are already looking into making it an annual tradition! Also, please remember to pick up your artwork during the first week of April.

As we move into a busy spring, I want to encourage each of you to help us spread the word about Mid-Missouri Artists. We have so much happening, but sometimes the word doesn't get out! For just \$20 a year, new members can join our supportive community and enjoy some wonderful benefits:

- **Connect & Learn:** Monthly meetings featuring mini-workshops and presentations across all artistic genres.
- **Showcase Your Work:** Reduced entry fees for our Spring Fine Arts Show Contest and our Fall Craft Show.
- **Exclusive Opportunities:** Display work in the MMA Members-Only show at the UCM Gallery, volunteer to help with the Missouri State Fair Fine Arts Show, and participate in our popular Summer Paint-In.

MMA is a non-profit dedicated to providing an environment where artists and art enthusiasts can meet, share, and exchange ideas. Let's keep growing this vibrant community together—**consider inviting a friend to our next meeting!**

MMA March 26 Program: **Small Figures, Big Stories: The Art of Toy Photography**

Brett Butler is a Missouri-based photographer and novelist whose work blends storytelling, nostalgia, and humor. Much of his visual art centers on staged photography using vintage toys and dolls, transforming familiar childhood objects into cinematic scenes filled with camp, satire, and emotional undertones. Through carefully composed images, Butler creates miniature worlds that explore



themes of identity, memory, pop culture, and the strange beauty found in everyday objects.

Alongside his photography, Butler is also the author of numerous novels, many of which explore LGBTQ+ experiences, personal identity, and the complexities of relationships. His books—including works such as *Catholic School Boys in Trouble* and *The Green Marble*—combine heartfelt storytelling with moments of wit, drama, and reflection.

Whether through a camera lens or the written page, Butler's work is driven by the same impulse: to tell stories. His photography captures moments that feel like scenes from unwritten novels, while his novels often carry the visual sensibility of carefully staged images. Together, they form a creative world where humor, nostalgia, and human experience meet. Brett Butler MFA, BA, COTA/L
MHPC OTA Program Director State Fair Community College



March meeting: Thursday, March 26—6:30 p.m. Arts and Crafts Room Warrensburg Community Center.

MID-MISSOURI ARTISTS, INC. Minutes

Date: February 26 **Time:** Meeting 6:50 (Open at 6:00) **Location:** *Cafe'DuBurg* 211 N Holden St, Warrensburg, MO

From 6:00 to 6:50 PM, members gathered at the café to socialize, order refreshments, and display their artwork on the walls before the meeting officially began.

Call to Order: President, Janie Lankford

Welcome and Introductions: Members were asked to wear name tags to help everyone get to know each other. Three guests were introduced.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes from the Jan 29, 2026 meeting posted in the Newsletter, were approved.

Treasurer Report: _ Bill Wayne Bill reported that there are currently no changes to share. He also reminded attendees who haven't yet paid their 2026 dues to do so during the meeting.

Old and Ongoing Business (Discussion and action on unfinished business)

Social: Lisa Knisely agreed to be our social chairperson. She will be in charge of assigning volunteers to bring light snacks to our monthly meetings. Lisa volunteered to bring snacks to our March 26 meeting..

Policy and Governance: (Bylaws, policies, procedures, and compliance matters).

Sandy Carlson moved to accept the revised Bylaws. The motion was seconded by Lisa Knisley. The motion passed.

Other: Members were asked to bring ideas for the 2026 art challenge to be voted on at the March meeting.

New Business:

Citation Show: Janie discussed that volunteers are needed to help judge artwork at the UCM Gallery. Members were asked to let Allena Yates know if they were able to judge. An email will be sent out giving the exact date and time.

Other: Questions were asked about our scholarships. Bill Wayne and Rebecca Limback confirmed that the current scholarship amount is **\$300** for each selected art student. They also noted that **four scholarships** were awarded last year. They also clarified that scholarships are not currently awarded to high school students, as there are already numerous other financial aid opportunities available to them.

Announcements:

1. Hanging System at the Community Center—No new artwork display until renovations are completed.
2. The Blue Springs Art League Fine Art Show Registration Deadline: NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 2026
Registration link: <https://www.bluespringsartleague.org/art-show-registration>
3. Sedalia Spring Fling Art Show. Schedule of events <https://www.facebook.com/sedaliavisualartassociation>
5. Other: - Sandy Carlson shared about the **Members Only Facebook** page.
- Lisa Knisley asked that the **June JOCO Fair art show** be added to the calendar. Dates to come.
- Lisa Dean reminded us about the **March 28 Craft Show** that will be at **Ridge View Elementary**.

- Bonnie Shelton talked about the changes that were being worked on for the Annual **4th of July Clinton Art Show** ("Ike" Parker Memorial Fine Arts Show). She encouraged members to participate.
- Janie reminded members about **MMA's Spring Art Show** on **May 1, 2, and 3**. More info to come soon!

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Next Meeting:

Date: March 26, 2026 **Time:** 6:30 **Location:** Arts & Crafts Room at the Community Center **Program:** 3-D Acrylic (note—program changed)

Submitted by: Janie Lankford for Angela Lankford, Secretary

Welcome New Members!

David Christopher, Warrensburg

Lisa Knisely, Centerview

Linda Webster, Camdenton

Opportunities and Events

SVAA Spring Fling Art show: March 9 through April 30, 2026. Liberty Center, Sedalia.

Blue Springs Fine Arts Show. March 21-22 - Entry forms available at [\(1\) blue springs art show - Search Results | Facebook](#)

Raymore Power of Perspectives Art Competition. (painting, drawing, photography, mixed and sculpture) Deliver art—April 6—reception April 17 6-8 p.m. Details: <https://www.raymore.com/residents/the-arts-in> Second Annual **Mayfair Arts Festival** happening May 9th in Sedalia, Missouri.

Mayfair is a growing, artist-focused event featuring juried fine artists and invited artisan crafters. There are no booth fees, and participating artists even receive a stipend for bringing their own tents. Our goal is to support working artists while creating a strong, engaging arts experience for the community.

NOTE: MMA owns a 10 x 10 EZ up tent available for use by members—it's in our storage building—see Jane Lankford to reserve use and access the storage unit.

Member News

Theresa Yates, one of our youngest members had a photo chosen in the West Central Electric Cooperative 4-H Click Masters calendar competition. Her photo will appear in the 2026 cooperative calendar.

Jo Narron has a painting selected for the 30th annual Heartland Artist Exhibit, Merriam, KS—March 7-28—works by artists throughout the U.S.

SVAA Spring Fling—Congratulations to MMA members receiving awards:

2-D: 1st place **Linda Hoover** for “This Old House.”

3-D” 3rd place **Ben Franklin** for “Owlbelisk.” Merit Award: **Jo Narron** for “Gary Paints.”

Note: Jo’s painting is a memorial tribute to Gary Cadwallader. The show can be viewed through April 30—drop by the Liberty Center in Sedalia to view this tribute to Gary.

MMA Fine Arts Show

The 45th MMA Fine Arts Show will be May 2-3. Entry forms will be available at our March meeting and can be printed from our web site. The volunteer sign up sheet was passed around at the February meeting and will also be at the March meeting. All members are encouraged to donate finger foods for the receptions, volunteer to help with the show, and distribute flyers in Warrensburg and other area communities.

Encourage non-members to enter the show and also to consider joining MMA!



February Meeting

Top: Bonnie Shelton discusses her new work; Holli Burge explains her paintings. Bottom: Some of the hanging art.

MMA 2026

March 26 Brett Butler **Small Figures, Big Stories: The Art of Toy Photography**

April 30

May 28

June 25

July 18 Paint in

September 24

October 29

November 19

Events

May 1-3 Spring Fine Arts Show

Citation Awards (UCM Gallery) Wed. April 1 3:30-5:30

UCM Summer Exhibition—date to be set

November 6-7 Holiday Arts and Crafts Show

December 10 Christmas Party

If winter weather causes us to cancel a meeting, will post on fb and send email. .

2026 Officers

Jane Lankford, President

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jblankford69@gmail.com

Allena Yates, 1st VicePresident

650-380-4280

allena@a-rose-designs.com

Sandra Carlson, Second VP

304-886-3594

smcarlson123@gmail.com

Bill Wayne, Treasurer

660-624-4944

info@cedarcroft.com

Angi Lankford—Secretary

660-864-6300

alankford2112@gmail.com

Jane Lankford, Historian

Rebecca Limback, Newsletter

Lisa Knisely, Social chair

Member Websites

Barb Byrne—<https://barbbyrneglass.com>

Brett Butler: ontheedgecreativity.com

Gary Cadwallader—garypaints.com available temporarily

Tara Dunbar: <https://tarasstrangeart.com>

J.Ricker/RJ "Spotlight on the Arts" gmntvplus.com

Shirley Kleppe—outrageousred.com - lenseon.com

Dina Kowal—dinakowalcreative.com

<https://www.facebook.com/janiebrancolankford>

Janie Bs Creations

Cody Page—<http://www.codypage.com>

Myrna Ragar—ragar-banners.com

Myrna Ragar—art-bymyrna.com

Dawn Safariik.— <https://dawnsafariik.com>

Linda Webster— lwebster.faso.com

Allena Yates-- <https://a-rose-designs.com>

Susan Sanders Dillon Creek Studios on You Tube

Members—send your web site address to rlimback@iland.net to be listed here and on the web site.

Mid-Missouri Artists, Inc. Membership Application 2026

NEW

RENEWAL

Name/s _____

Address: _____

E-mail _____

Telephone _____

Type of Membership (circle one)

Active Member \$20

Active Member & Spouse \$25

Family Membership \$30

Senior (age 62+) \$15

Senior & spouse \$20

Student (includes college) \$0

Send check along with this form to: Mid-Missouri Artists, P.O. Box 116, Warrensburg, MO 64093. Questions? Call Bill Wayne 660-624-4944.

Membership fees are due January 1. Members in good standing receive a monthly newsletter informing them of area art shows and results, MMA business, upcoming programs, workshops, and other activities. Members are also eligible to vote for executive **board** members and enter MMA art shows at a reduced rate. Members receive a 20% discount on art supplies at the UCM bookstore by showing a current membership card.

MMA Newsletters are available on the MMA website—you can always refer to them there!

Be sure to sign up for the MMA Members Only Facebook group!