





BRUSHSTROKES



Lee Hill, Guest Columnist



What's behind that mask?

As Halloween approaches and the creativity behind costumes continues to amuse us, here's a look back at the evolution of that critical piece, the mask. Masks allow the wearer to become someone else and because they conceal part of the face, they also hide our emotions. Historically, native people from many cultures created and wore masks for ceremonies to connect and communicate with the spirit world. Diverse cultures created different styles of masks based on materials available or specific beliefs. In some cultures, masks are thought to possess the power of healing. In others, masks are used in rites of passage rituals or used to stimulate fertility, prosperity, or ensure a successful harvest.

Masks have also been portrayed in and been inspiration for artwork for centuries. Wooden masks he viewed in a museum had a profound impact on the way Pablo Picasso painted faces. The raw, flat planes of the wood were one of the main inspirations for Cubism; an early 20th century art movement, pioneered by Picasso and George Braque. While masks are a way to disguise who we are, artists can also use them to make the viewer think about the identity of someone in a work of art.

Examples: As far back as the Romans, masks were integral to the performing arts and a mosaic found in 1824 included what became the tragedy/comedy symbol of theatre today. Magical properties to appease the gods were part of a southwestern 300-500AD Mexican culture stone mask unearthed in 1921. Masks appeared in European fine art like this portrait by Lorenzo Lippi from 1640 and as a crucial asset of the commedia dell'arte performances of the 16th through the 18th centuries. The Asian world in that same era included Japanese Noh theatre, with all actors wearing masks. Contemporary artists are also inspired by a mask theme, such as this 2014 textile from Christoph Hefti.

One more reason to enjoy this year's Halloween creatures - what's your favorite!













October 2024





October ARTIST OF THE MONTH Dianna Parirokh



Dianna has always had a deep admiration for those who can draw or paint. However, she never imagined that she would take on the challenge of doing it herself.

She moved to Arizona 27 years ago but never got around to art. After Covid she joined the Sun City Grand Clay Club and took a few classes in sculpting. She picked it up easily but had an allergic reaction and gave it up. She reasoned if she could pick up sculpting easily perhaps she could learn to draw.

Dianna began by drawing portraits. She was coached at Artists by the Lake but gave up after a few months. She then enrolled in a drawing class at Palo Verde Artists, where she learned about the tools necessary for drawing. However, it didn't hold her interest.

In 2023, Dianna met Carree Tolle, a local artist at Ground Floor Artists, and was drawn to her paintings of animals. Tolle used many different mediums but the ones Dianna liked the most were the animals she created using acrylic ink. Dianna began private lessons with Tolle and worked diligently drawing animals. After a few months, Dianna started painting her whimsical animal drawings with acrylic ink. She had found her passion! Her love of animals gave her a subject matter that she thoroughly enjoys.

She is currently learning calligraphy at the Sun City Calligraphy Club with the goal of integrating calligraphy into her art work. Dianna has also taken a few Zentangle classes and incorporates that into some of her art, as well.

You are invited to view Dianna's artwork which is currently on display in the showcase outside the Palo Verde Artists clubroom.







PVA October 2024 Calendar

Continuing -> Red New Classes-> Green

Workshops -> Blue Special Events-> Purple

Monday, Sept 30	Tuesday, Oct 1	Wednesday, Oct 2	Thursday, Oct 3	Friday, Oct 4	Saturday, Oct 5
SUNDIAL CLOSED	SUNDIAL CLOSED Gallery Exchange will be Saturday September 28th	Drawing 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Ruth Little	Portraits 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.	Watercolor 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Ruth Little	, and the second
Monday, Oct 7	Tuesday, Oct 8	Wednesday, Oct 9	Thursday, Oct 10	Friday, Oct 11	Saturday, Oct 12
ALL INSTRUCTORS Refresher on working with document camera and computer. 1 pm with Ruth Little	OPEN STUDIO 9 a.m. to 12 Noon Watercolor Landscapes 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Nedda Oswald	Drawing 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Ruth Little	Drawing 9 a.m. to noon Kaj Lofgreen Portraits 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.	Watercolor 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Ruth Little	
Monday, Oct 14 Critique 1 pm Ruth Little	Tuesday, Oct 15 OPEN STUDIO 9 a.m. to 12 Noon Watercolor Landscapes 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Nedda Oswald	Wednesday, Oct 16 Acrylic Painting Light, Shade Shadow 9 a.m to noon Paula Artac Drawing 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Ruth Little	Thursday, Oct 17 Drawing 9 a.m. to noon Kaj Lofgreen Portraits 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.	Watercolor 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Ruth Little	Fun with Alcohol Inks on Tiles 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Nancy Christy-Moore Please sign up at least 1 week before class date
Monday, Oct 21 Social In PVA Art Room 12 noon BRING SNACKS	Tuesday, Oct 22 OPEN STUDIO 9 a.m. to 12 Noon Watercolor Landscapes 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Nedda Oswald	Wednesday, Oct 23 Acrylic Painting Light, Shade Shadow 9 a.m to noon Paula Artac Drawing 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Ruth Little	Drawing 9 a.m. to noon Kaj Lofgreen Portraits 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.	Watercolor 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Ruth Little	Saturday, Oct 26
Monday, Oct 28	Tuesday, Oct 29 OPEN STUDIO 9 a.m. to 12 Noon Watercolor Landscapes 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Nedda Oswald	Drawing 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Ruth Little	Drawing 9 a.m. to noon Kaj Lofgreen Portraits 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.		Sign up sheets for classes and workshops are located in the PVA Club Room at Sundial