



# Perspectives Newsletter

December 2024

This newsletter is published by and for the Brandon League of Fine Arts

Volume 65 / Issue 12

*A not-for-profit art league serving the needs of the Greater Brandon Area art community for over 55 years.*

**Join us on December 16, 2024, 6:30 p.m. at Creative Junk Therapy, 772 W. Lumsden Road**



Remember our

## **December meeting will be the Holiday Party.**

For those who wish to participate in the gift exchange, please bring a wrapped gift. We're recommending a dollar value of approximately \$15, and that it be a gift that you would be pleased to receive. So no gag-gifts, please.

The purpose of the BLFA shall be to educate the public as to the importance of the arts in the community. To contribute to the cultural atmosphere of the community, and support and educate members of The League in their endeavors in art.



Interested in Membership to the Brandon League of Fine Arts, please contact [BLFABrandon@gmail.com](mailto:BLFABrandon@gmail.com).



[BLFA.us](http://BLFA.us)



#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President:** Guy Learn  
**Vice President:** David Bodo  
**Secretary:** Carol Stebbins  
**Treasurer:** Karen Koseck

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**Newsletter:** Beth Smedley

**Photography:** Davette Glover

#### Promotional Committee:

Beth Smedley  
Carol Stebbins  
Dineen Roeller

**Membership:** Carol Stebbins

#### Refreshments:

Carol Stebbins  
Dineen Roeller

#### Hanging Committee:

Dineen Roeller, Chris Klein,  
Guy Learn, Karen Koseck,  
Carlene Earl

#### Revolving Displays:

Roxanne Tobaison

#### Shows:

For the Love of Art Member Exhibit  
Member Show  
Autumn Art Show

**Website:** David Bahm

#### Paint Out, Field Trips:

None currently scheduled

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Anyone interested in  
volunteering to help out  
on any committee, contact  
[BLFABrandon@gmail.com](mailto:BLFABrandon@gmail.com)

Submit news, articles and  
photos to: Guy Learn at  
[ArcherGuy@rocketmail.com](mailto:ArcherGuy@rocketmail.com)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



This has been a busy year for the league and we're expecting more of the same in 2025.

Of course the successes of the league haven't come without effort, and that said, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the officers, chairpersons and other members who constantly volunteer their time and talents to keep the league functioning. This includes the foundation of plans and transition assistance provided to me from my predecessor President, Beth Smedley.

As I step down as president and turn over the reins to David Bodo, I'm looking forward to having a little time to provide a new addition to our newsletters. Starting with the January edition. I intend to do an article focusing on a different BLFA member each month. I've always been impressed with the plethora of talent within this league and I'd like to bring more of it to the forefront.

But before that, I'm looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our Holiday Party on Monday the 16th. And for those of you who have alternate plans and will not attend, let me take this opportunity to wish you and your family a safe, happy and healthy holiday season!

More important than anything I mentioned above, I'd like to express my appreciation to the league for their generosity towards Betty Fairbanks as she continues to deal with her losses from the storms! We were able to raise over \$200. A sincere thanks to all who contributed.

And now, a final quote on the world of art..

***"I see little of more importance to the future of our country and our civilization than full recognition of the place of the artist. If art is to nourish the roots of our culture, society must set the artist free to follow his vision wherever it takes him."***

*John F Kennedy*

Thanks to all who help make this league successful and fun!

Guy Learn  
BLFA President  
[ArcherGuy@rocketmail.com](mailto:ArcherGuy@rocketmail.com)

## BLFA Member's Survey

Thanks to all of you who participated in our survey handed out at the November meeting.

These are the results of the survey:

1. Would you like to keep the "People's Choice" award in future BLFA Member's shows?

**All results were "YES".**

2. For those participating in the gift exchange at the Holiday Party, what do you see as an appropriate dollar value?

**Slight edge to folks preferring \$15 over \$20, so \$15 it is!**

3. What would you like to see more of at the monthly meetings?

**Art Exercises, Show-n-tells, Hands-On Demos, Mixed Media, New art techniques from various members, More member participation, Artist Demo, Busted Canvas, Pen & Ink, Oil Glaze, Make it - Take it.**

4. Is there something new you like to see at the monthly meetings?

**Still-life, Gesture drawing, Abstract Fabric Painting, Water soluble oils, Fabric/Textile, Dimensional Painting, Paint-Around (Handing off a piece so that it is done by multiple artists), Inspirational story presenters**

5. What sort of demo or educational event might be helpful?

**Variety of mediums, Mixed media, Collage, Acrylic, Guache, Charcoal, Urban sketching, Museum Standards, Marketing your art, Program on "How to setup/display for an art show", Leaders tell more about art background and training.**

And if so, do you know who has the expertise to lead such a demo?

**\*No replies.**

6. Is there anything you would like to see less of, or eliminated from the monthly meetings?

**Non-participative demos, Less emphasis on bringing refreshments.**

7. What events might you like to see BLFA involved with outside of the meetings?

**Art fairs / Gallery shows, Trips to museums, Collaborative/group entry in art market, Public/private school art programs.**

And would you be able to help facilitate/organize such an event?

**Yes for Art fairs / Gallery shows (Stephen Champlin)**

8. Is there anything you can think of that would be helpful to add to the newsletter?

**Profile a member each month.**

**\*I had intended to do this just before I had to take over as president and got too busy. I will start in January". (Guy)**

**History of family stories in the arts.**

9. Any suggestions for league "Paint-Out" locations:

**Parks, Eureka Springs, Lettuce Lake, Ybor City, University of Tampa riverside area, Curtis Hixon Park**

10. What days would be best for you for a "Paint-Out" (or other non-meeting events):

**Monday, Tuesday or Thursday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday  
Saturday (but not the 2nd Saturday of the month)**

**\*Looks like Sundays are definitely out.**

11. Would you be willing to facilitate a Paint-Out?

**\*NOTE: We normally need a facility nearby and place to eat or brown bag.**

**\*No responses.**

12. Do you have any ideas or suggestions for the league, aside from what this survey has already asked?

**A Show-n-tell - "My first painting / art, etc", How did you get involved in art (why)?, Decorative painting, Rock painting, Painting on Glass, Watercolor cards, Color theory, Marketing Program, Copyright infringement program, Presentation (rules???) art shows, Create a "go to" resource for local art classes or theatrical performances, Reach out to local high school art classes and do some kind of partnership or collaboration with younger artists - Connect with local art teachers.**

## Leadership Messages

### Election Results for Officers in 2025:

Election results from the members have confirmed these nominees as our officers for 2025:

President: David Bodo

Vice-President: Guy Learn

Secretary: Carol Stebbins

Treasurer: Karen Koseck

This team will now be busy in finalizing the team of chairpersons who are essential to the success of the league.

### From the Secretary

Members stay in touch with your BLFA planned events by reading the monthly newsletter for details. If you are not seeing any items of interest, consider adding your voice and suggestions by emailing [BLFABrandon@gmail.com](mailto:BLFABrandon@gmail.com) to participate.

### From Refreshments

Holiday party plans for December 16, 6:30 PM are under way for a repeat of last years wonderful celebration. RSVP and mail or drop off your payment of \$10 per member and/or guest (Creative Junk Therapy, 772 W. Lumsden Rd., Brandon, FL 33511 ATT: BLFA HOLIDAY PARTY) requested by December 6, to aid in planning the sitdown dinner. We are asking members to bring a covered dish to share with everyone, including serving implements for that dish. Email [BLFABrandon@gmail.com](mailto:BLFABrandon@gmail.com) with questions. See you there!

### From Membership

As 2024 comes to a close, your League is gearing up for an event-filled 2025, with monthly members meetings, workshops, exhibits, offsite paint outs and field trips to extend and enhance your creative experience. For some whose membership expires at the end of this month, we extend an invitation to continue meeting with your artist peers in 2025, and making the Brandon League of Fine Arts your one-stop center for creating, learning, and sharing—and having fun! To renew membership, see newsletter.

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## Brandon League of Fine Arts MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please print legibly.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Website \_\_\_\_\_

Medium \_\_\_\_\_

How did you find the BLFA? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you OK to have your information in the BLFA directory?  Yes  No

Membership type:  Individual \$40  Family \$50

Make checks payable to: BLFA.

Mail to: Brandon League of Fine Arts, 776 W. Lumsden Road, Brandon, FL 33511

You can also Venmo by scanning the QR code.

Please contact the BLFA if you would like information about volunteer opportunities.

For more information, email [BLFABrandon@gmail.com](mailto:BLFABrandon@gmail.com).



QR code

**Thank you for supporting the Brandon League of Fine Arts**

# word PLAY challenge

**Reminder:** Art from the words selected at the November meeting will be displayed at the January meeting.



## BLFA GENERAL MEETING NOTES November 18, 2024 From Secretary, Carol Stebbins

Guy Learn, President (GL)  
Karen Koseck, Treasurer (KK)  
Roxanne Tobaison, Exhibits (RT)  
Carol Stebbins, Secretary and Membership (CS)

Guy Learn (GL) opened the meeting at 6:43 PM, provided recent updates of League activities:

Another 10x10 member painting sold for \$30. The Gift Gala greeting card and ornament painting event at CJT November 8, produced income of \$140.00, CJT donated the 15% handling charge to BLFA. After \$25.78 in expenses, the League proceeds were \$114.22. Many thanks to Roxanne Tobaison (RT) and Karen Koseck (KK), BLFA members and guests who participated in this creative holiday themed event.

RT provided members with a report on Betty Fairbank's wellbeing, and announced member donations to assist her came to over \$150.

Carol Stebbins (CS) provided the attendance report – 15 members, no guests. CS asked that members making payment for membership renewal or for the holiday party should make sure their payment is identified clearly, and when possible, given directly to a League director. KK is League Treasurer but also runs CJT operations which can create the possibility of a mix-up when accepting cash and checks dropped off.

KK provided the BLFA bank balance as of 11/18/2024 at \$5,346.38.

During Show and Tell, Lois Miller (LM) brought in her assemblage art pieces and a series of sample card instructions to create the layered detailed surfaces she uses to create her art work. The members had many questions for her process, and inspiration, applauded her presentation with enthusiasm.

Steve Champlin's Show and Tell presentation had members fascinated by his colorful artwork, paintings in day glow colors with figural subjects that, when viewed with 3-D glasses (thank you David Bodo DB!) literally leapt off the canvas. Members again had many questions for him that indicated interest in his creative inspiration and received excited applause.

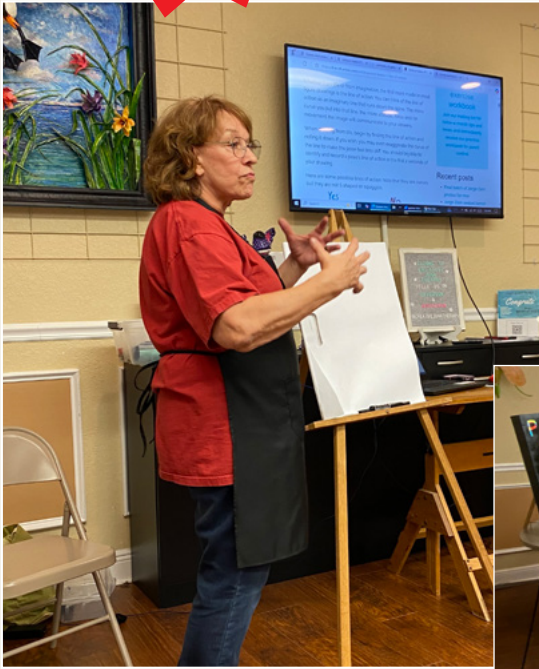
For the evening's workshop, CS introduced a visual presentation on the flat screen TV of gesture drawing exercises that demonstrated briefly displayed poses of models, scenic landscapes and still life grouped objects to elicit hand-and-eye coordination, and spontaneity when capturing scenes from life. The members were given paper and a variety of drawing pencils and conte crayons, graphite sticks to practice quick sketch techniques.

Leigh Ivy (LI) won the 50/50 and generously donated the proceeds to BLFA.

Members enjoyed the snacks generously donated for the meeting, which are always greatly appreciated!

Meeting adjourned 8:37 PM

# November Meeting Highlights



# BLFA Member Classes at Creative Junk Therapy

Visit Creative Junk Therapy's Event FB page and/or website for additional classes, schedules and fees.

[Facebook.com/CreativeJunkTherapy](https://www.facebook.com/CreativeJunkTherapy)

[www.CreativeJunkTherapy.org](http://www.CreativeJunkTherapy.org)



## Oil Painting Open Studio

Chris Klein  
Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m.  
\$15/session or \$56/4 sessions



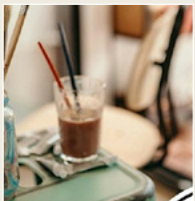
## Kids Drawing Develop Your Vision

Chris Klein  
3rd Wednesdays, 5-7 p.m.  
\$10/session or \$35/4 sessions



## Drawing Beginners & Beyond

Chris Klein  
4th Saturdays, 3-6 p.m.  
\$25/session or \$80/4 sessions



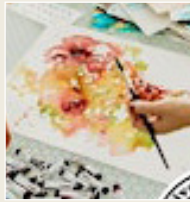
## Creative Meetup Open Studio

Friday, Dec. 20, 7 - 9 p.m.  
\$15 Per Person BYO Supplies and project



## Watercolor Classes

Roxanne Tobaison  
2nd Saturdays  
**Beginner** - 10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
**Beyond Basics** - 1:30 p.m. - 4: p.m.  
**Watercolor Open Studio** (Assistance with projects) - Friday, Jan. 17, 1 p.m.  
\$25 Per Person BYO Supplies  
(+ \$5 Supplies Included)



## Inspired Acrylic Painting

Sunday, Dec. 22, 3 p.m.  
\$25 Per Person BYO supplies  
(+ \$5 Supplies Included)



## Colored Pencils, Pastels and More

Michele Young  
Saturday, Jan. 24, 10:30 a.m - 1:30 p.m.  
**Beginner** - \$20 + \$5 Supplies  
**Open Studio** - \$15 BYO supplies



## Paint Along with Bonnie!

Classes in oil, acrylic, watercolor, textile painting, pouring, collage, pen & ink, colored pencil and more.

Limit 5 students.

Individual instruction. First class FREE supplies.

Weds @ 10 a.m. & Thurs @ 6 p.m.

[iteachpainting@me.com](mailto:iteachpainting@me.com) (813)810-4885



## CREATIVE JUNK THERAPY

776 W Lumsden Rd. in Brandon  
In La Viva Plaza • (813) 324-9777

### Hours of Operation

Closed Mondays  
Tuesday - 12 pm - 5 pm  
Wednesday - Friday 12 pm - 7 pm  
Saturday & Sunday 10 am - 7 pm

[Facebook.com/CreativeJunkTherapy](https://www.facebook.com/CreativeJunkTherapy)

[www.CreativeJunkTherapy.org](http://www.CreativeJunkTherapy.org)



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