

# Editorial COMMENTARY

by Tom Starland, Editor and Publisher

## Vote!

If you haven't voted yet, get your butt out there and vote.

### Arts Council of North Carolina Gets It

On Oct. 6, 2020, I received an e-mail from the Arts Council of North Carolina, sent out to their e-mail list encouraging people to get registered and vote. It simply said: "The deadline to register to vote is October 9. In-person early voting begins Thursday, October 15, and ends Saturday, October 31. Election Day is Tuesday, November 3. Register to vote, find your polling location, and sign up to vote by mail at (<https://www.ncsbe.gov/>)."

I've not heard a peep from the South Carolina Arts Commission. Artists and Art Agencies like to put their heads in the sand and tell themselves that politics and the arts don't mix. I say, "the hell they don't". State art agencies are nothing but about politics - who gets money, help and recognition and who doesn't. And it's not always based on talent. At least the Arts Council of North Carolina had the guts to encourage people to register to vote and vote. They didn't say who to vote for, but if you've been paying attention, you know Republicans are no friend of the arts. So when they encourage you to vote, they mean vote for those who support the arts. It's that simple.

### Those Special Moments

I remember one delivery day I was driving down that big hill, coming from the Tryon, NC, area on I-26, going towards Landrum, SC, after delivering

an issue of *Carolina Arts* to Asheville, Hendersonville, and Tryon. A car passed me and the person in the passenger side of the front seat was reading that very issue I had just delivered to galleries in North Carolina. It was a surreal moment. Or once when I was delivering copies to the Lee Hansley Gallery in Raleigh, NC, Hansley was sitting at the desk where I dropped a stack of our publication and as I'm walking out the door he says, "Tell the guy who does this, thanks for including us and having you bring us by copies." I turned around and said, "I'm that guy." He looked back in astonishment and asked, "Why are you delivering them?" And, I replied, "Who else would do it for free?" And, I saw that look of a self-employed person who owned an art gallery, something many people would admire and remember how many times he had to take out the trash and clean the toilet. Hansley and his gallery is no longer with us, but he knew what I was talking about. It's not like I'm the Editor/Publisher of the *Washington Post*.



Jennifer Smith Rogers' two young daughters reading "Carolina Arts" inside the Anglin-Smith Fine Art gallery in downtown Charleston, SC - pre 2010.

This photo taken at the Anglin-Smith Fine Art gallery is another of those moments. Back when we printed our publication, back when it had a glossy color cover.

## City of North Charleston, SC, Offers Works by Pastel Society of South Carolina

The City of North Charleston's Cultural Arts Department is pleased to announce that works by members of the Pastel Society of South Carolina (PSSC) will be on display at Park Circle Gallery, in North Charleston, SC, from Nov. 3-25, 2020. The annual judged exhibition is free and open to the public.

*Pastel Passion!* will feature 30 dry pastel works with a variety of subjects by PSSC members. Ribbons for first place, second place, third place, and honorable mentions will be awarded by guest judge, artist Christopher Groves. Groves' paintings hang in numerous private and corporate collections and he is the recipient of multiple awards and recognitions. He is a member of Oil Painters of America, the American Impressionist Society, and the American Society of Marine Artists, and is currently represented by Horton Hayes Gallery.



Work by Rita Ginsberg

PSSC is a not-for-profit organization whose objectives are to promote public awareness of the pastel as a fine art medium, to provide educational programs for its members and other interested parties and opportunities for them to exhibit their work, and to unite pastel artists in order to bring about recognition of their work. For more



Work by Mary Brigman

information, visit ([pastelsocietyofsc.com](http://pastelsocietyofsc.com)).

The Park Circle Gallery is located on Jenkins Avenue in North Charleston, in what was formerly known as the Olde Village Community Building. Admission is free and free street parking is available on Jenkins Avenue in front of the gallery, as well as on the adjacent streets and in parking lots close by. Gallery capacity is currently limited to 10 people at a time. Staff and all visitors must wear a face covering while they are in the gallery and practice social distancing. Hand sanitizer will be provided upon entry.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Cultural Arts Dept, at 843/637-3565 or visit ([www.northcharleston.org](http://www.northcharleston.org)).

The deadline each month to submit articles, photos and ads is the 24th of the month prior to the next issue. This will be November 24th for the December 2020 issue and Dec. 24 for the January 2021 issue. After that, it's too late unless your exhibit runs into the next month.

But don't wait for the last minute - send your info now.

And where do you send that info? E-mail to ([info@carolinaarts.com](mailto:info@carolinaarts.com)).

Don't forget about our website:

[www.carolinaarts.com](http://www.carolinaarts.com)



You can find [past issues](#) all the way back to August 2004!

You can find [past articles](#) all the way back to June 1999

Also don't forget about our two blogs:

[Carolina Arts Unleashed](#)  
[Carolina Arts News](#)

Send us your email address to be added to our list to receive notice of each monthly issue.

[info@carolinaarts.com](mailto:info@carolinaarts.com)

## Charleston Artist Guild in Charleston, SC, Offers Work by Marcia Sprecher Mathias

Charleston Artist Guild in Charleston, SC, will present *Life Within a Garden*, an exhibition featuring a collection of original paintings by Marcia Sprecher Mathias, on view in the Guild Gallery, from Nov. 1 - 30, 2020.

Mathias was born in Batavia, NY, and grew up in Seminole, FL. She moved to Charleston in the mid 1970's where she worked as a registered nurse and pursued another personal passion in visual art: painting in watercolor, acrylics, and oil.

As a self-taught artist, Mathias' favorite art books are *Art and Visual Perception* by Rudolf Arnheim and *The Art Spirit* by Robert Henri. Not only are they both technical, but they also discuss at length the psychology of painting and perception. Mathias created her personal style by taking the skills she learned from these books and applying her own interpretation.

The artist presents her work to the public as impressionistic with a slightly different expression and whimsical look. She also enjoys abstract painting to push her creative thinking further and believes that art is very personal - the beauty is not only what the artist sees, but in how the viewer interprets the art. Mathias' goal is to capture the viewer and inject feelings of solitude and passion in a harmonious movement across



Work by Marcia Sprecher Mathias

the canvas.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings or call Steve Jacobs at 843/722-2454.

## Meyer Vogl Gallery in Charleston, SC, Offers Group Show Focused on Florals

Meyer Vogl Gallery in Charleston, SC, will present *Terrarium*, a group show focused on florals, on view from Nov. 6 - 27, 2020. An all-day pop-in opening celebration will be held on Nov. 6, from 10am to 5pm.

The florals in Meyer Vogl Gallery's upcoming group show *Terrarium* are not so much flowers growing in nature but instead potted plants, vases of flowers, bouquets. The artists - painters Stanley Bielen, Anne

Blair Brown, Kathleen Jones, and Melanie Parke - are bringing the outside in and reflecting on the opportunity to nurture and nourish. In the terrariums we create, we are able to make mistakes and learn from those mistakes and, in turn, grow — and then ultimately enjoy the plants' beauty.

"I wanted to explore not only the plants and flowers that we bring into our homes,

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