



## Upcoming Events

### September Small Image Show

#### September 1

Take-down of August show  
3:00-6:00pm and

September 2 10:00-1:00pm

#### September 1

Members Meeting  
5:30-8:00pm  
Artist Demo by  
Roberta Dyer 6:30pm

#### September 2

Take-in September Show  
10:00-1:00pm  
Jurying 1:30-2:30

#### September 10

Roberta Dyer Workshop  
10:00-1:00

#### September 17

Reception 4:30-6:30 pm

### October Gallery Members Show – No specified theme

#### October 3

Board Meeting 10:00am

Gallery at Porter Hall  
4910 Memorial Drive  
University & La Mesa Blvd.  
(619) 464-7167

<https://foothillsartassociation.com>

# FOOTNOTES

SEPTEMBER 2022

<https://foothillsartassociation.com>



## The History of Porter Hall

by Marva Smith

Dropping in last week to Thursday's "Acrylic and Oil Painting Group," I had the luxury of eavesdropping on two octogenarians – standing members of Foothills Art Association. Anticipating the unveiling of this August's art exhibit dedicated to our senior members, I could not help but *romance* the idea of taking a historical perspective for generations of La Mesa's uniquely developed landmark, Porter Hall—named after the former mayor, Edward W. Porter (1920 – 1924).

### Cohen's "Dance Me to the End of Love"

Suddenly, I found myself playing a soundbite of Leonard Cohen's music (Jan. 2009) in the endearing, official video on my Smartphone, "Dance Me to the End of Love." The painters tolerated my reverie, listening to the song, while I viewed the music video with the artfully, crafted montage of couples depicted across decades of their lives; and figuratively speaking, wearing their romantic vows "on their sleeves." One Canadian artist in Thursday's group, Margaret Priske, happened to impart a piece of trivia, declaring that Leonard Cohen's life-like image covers a building in Toronto, Canada (As it goes, Canadians obviously romance Leonard Cohen, too!). While Margaret painted a whimsical giraffe, I got to know a little more about her and her style in artistic expression.

(Continued on Page 3)

**PRESIDENT**

Peggy Connolly

**1<sup>st</sup> VICE PRESIDENT**

to be determined

**2<sup>ND</sup> VICE PRESIDENT**

Roberta Labastida

**3<sup>rd</sup> VICE PRESIDENT**

Judy Sawyer

**TREASURER**

Roz Oserin

**SECRETARY**

Gary Dyak

**GALLERY COORDINATOR**

Renee Ciufo

**FEATURED ARTIST****COORDINATOR**

Judy Sawyer

**HISTORIAN & SOCIAL MEDIA**

Renee Ciufo

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

Bonnie Owen

**SHOW HANGING****COORDINATOR**

Barbara Drews

**WEBSITE COORDINATOR**

Robert Pinner

Contact all above by email:  
[foothillsartassoc@gmail.com](mailto:foothillsartassoc@gmail.com)

**Gallery**  
 619) 464-7167

**Message from the President**

Well, it was an amazing month of August. What an incredible treat to see and digest all the outstanding artwork from our Octogenarians. With over 22 80+ year old artists showing their work, it instilled in me an appreciation of what an artist's life might really look like. To paint through joy, love, loss, illness, and everything else that comes with living a long and fulfilling life – I can only assume that their art has brought them great solace and joy while attending to all that matters.

There is great wisdom behind these artworks – wisdom that comes with experiencing the long and winding road of life. It was also a joy to see the artist's gathering, seeing each other after many months of not being able to meet. They were laughing, telling stories, and clearly enjoying each other's company.

A huge shout out needs to go to Hazel Waters, as she was the one who came up the idea and made all the arrangements for the artists etc. Thank you so much Hazel, it was a brilliant idea!

Also, a big thank you to the take in and hanging crew who took such good care of the artists, helping them bring their works into the gallery, registering them and ultimately hanging the show. Someone mentioned to me how the artists were so happy to be so welcomed and see all the smiling faces at the gallery. So, thanks to Hazel Waters, Roberta Labastida, Barbara Drews, Bonnie Owen, Rustin Holec and whoever else was part of that day! Another great group of our artists supported the reception, thanks to Barbara Drews, Linda Morton, and all the other cast of characters who helped! The excitement, support, and participation reminds me of how lucky we are to be a part of such an amazing community. I for one think this should become a tradition at The Foothills Art Association Gallery- Bravo to all!

Coming up in September is our Small Image Show, a Juried Members Show with entry fee and prizes awarded. Entry Fee- \$10/ one, \$15/ two, \$20/ three. 1<sup>st</sup> Prize / \$150, 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize \$100, 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize / \$75, Honorable Mention x 2- \$25 each. The Small Image Show will be juried and judged by Drew Bandish. Thank You Drew!

Reception and Awards for the Small Image Show will be on Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 4:30-6:30pm, with Awards at 5:30pm!

**Thursday, September 1st, will now be for take down of the Octogenarian Show ONLY.**

Members Meeting & Art Demos start again on September 1st-- 5:30-8:00pm

Guest Artist- Roberta Dyer – Watercolor

Workshop Saturday, Sept 10th, 10am-noon

**FRIDAY, September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022. Take in from 10:00am to 1:00pm, jury the show & select award winners 1:30-2:30pm. Hang the Show and contact all members not juried in.**

Our Webmaster Bob has been doing a great job with online entries on our website. So, remember you can enter now online for all our upcoming shows.

The Wildlife in Art Show will be here before you know it, so I hope everyone is busy, busy painting! I look forward to seeing everyone again very soon, it will be a busy and exciting fall.

Peggy Connolly  
 President

## The History of Porter Hall (Continued from Page 1)

by Marva Smith

### Early 20th Century Bronze Sculpture Stole Hearts

With the mind-set of civic leaders rounding out early history in La Mesa at the turn-of-the-century, there was no shortage of talent in the arts. For the brother of Mayor Porter, being an understudy to the creator of Mt. Rushmore, the memorial in the Black Hills of South Dakota—he helped forge a foundation for James Tank Porter’s later works of sculptures in bronze. Working in Stamford, Connecticut, James Tank had trained in Gutzon Borglum’s studio, as his assistant and he received his education from Pomona College, Claremont, and Beaux Art School at Columbia University.

One such display of a trained eye in representations in humanism was rendered as a tribute to philanthropist, Ellen Browning Scripps. Dedicated in 1926, James Tank’s sculpture represented a kneeling boy fashioned out of bronze; however, after almost seven decades, it lost its luster in 1995, when—just outside of the current Museum of Contemporary Art in La Jolla—the piece was stolen! Overlooking the pristine coastal route of La Jolla Shores, since then [See artist’s work in photograph from La Jolla Historical Society], sightseers took the hit!

Born in Tianjin, China, to parents engaged in medical missionary work there, it is not hard to imagine the Porter family ensconced during political tensions with *The Boxer Rebellion*, named for the 1900 union uprising, in northeastern China. In her book review: “A battle that made the world see red,” Kim Rosendorph (July 2000: *Christian Science Monitor*) recounts a detailed record of the union workers’ beliefs that their supernatural powers could thwart Christian missionaries and repel swords and bullets, according to author of *The Boxer Rebellion*, Diana Preston. In sum, James Tank spent the last 18 years of his life in La Mesa, passing away on May 11, 1934, at his home on El Cajon Boulevard—just seven months shy of his eightieth birthday!

### Porter Hall’s Artists Still “Dance Me”

Reflecting on our landmark’s own history at Porter Hall, those early turn-of-the-century civic leaders in La Mesa, like James Tank and his brother, Edward William Porter, rekindled for me a narrative, which is not unlike waltzing away to “Dance Me to the End of Love.” Leonard Cohen’s melodic tribute to life’s enduring aura is only one step removed from reality. Paying close enough attention to *hopeless romantics* like the ones I have observed in drafting this article, hopefully I have not stepped-on-any-toes. But, instead, my offering of a caress and shouldered touch of rejuvenation comes couched in this richness calling for a glimpse of the locals and bygones past.



Edward Porter, Former Mayor of La Mesa.



James Tank Porter, sculptor and bust.



Memorial Fountain by Tank Porter

## Roberta Dyer will be our Demonstrating Artist

Roberta's art is best described as expressive, whether figurative or abstract. She uses a combination of bold color and mixed media techniques to present her subjects in unusual ways. "I am constantly pulled by two loves - painting figures and painting abstracts. It makes me happy to work with the push and pull of these two disciplines. I want to explore how design and pattern interact to make a realistic subject more abstract and enhance the theme of a painting. For me, the process of painting involves adding and removing and editing as I go along. If something doesn't work, simply paint it out and go in a different direction. I don't try to paint likenesses, that is a task for portrait artists. I use figures as shapes in a painting. While I love painting, drawing is my passion.

For the past few years Roberta has been teaching artists to reach beyond their own expectations to create unique, energetic and engaging work. She is an award-winning, Signature member of the San Diego Watercolor Society, the International Society of Acrylic Painters (ISAP) and the Western Federation of Watercolor Societies. Often juried into prestigious competitive international shows, you can enjoy her artwork regularly hanging at the San Diego Watercolor Society and the Ashton Gallery at Art on 30th in San Diego.



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## Foothills Facebook Page is now linked to Foothills Instagram Page!

Our Foothills Art Association Facebook page is now linked to our Instagram page! Be sure to follow, like, share and enjoy! The holidays are coming and buyers are shopping for your art (no supply chain problems at FAA)! You can reach our Facebook and Instagram pages from our website too!

<http://Facebook.com/FoothillsArtAssociation>

<http://Instagram.com/FoothillsArtAssoc2020>

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## FOOTHILLS ART ASSOCIATION. AUGUST 2022 BOARD MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. July 25, 2022

Attendees – Barbara Drews, Roz Oserin, Judy Sawyer, Bonnie Owen, Bob Pinner, Roberta Labastida

The minutes from last meeting of June 27 were accepted by a unanimous vote.

Reports from:

**President** – Peggy Connolly -see below Wildlife Show

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President** (interim VP-Roz Oserin) re: demos/workshops Linda Morton has everything under control:) for demo artists/workshops

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President** – Roberta Labastida – shows

**3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President** – Judy Sawyer – Featured Artist of the Month

**Director** – Wild Life Show -Peggy Connolly - Peggy got 6 tickets from the SD Zoo for the Wildlife Show. We will decide at the next board meeting how to use them – be it as a raffle/gift giveaway, etc.

**Hanging Committee Leader** – Barbara Drews – reported all is well Octo Show take in will be from 11-2 August 4<sup>th</sup>

**Website Leader/ Membership** – Bob Pinner – reported all is well – We have 2 new members that signed up at Roz’s artist reception last week. Bob is going to call some of the members that initially signed up for the acrylic/oil weekly meetings as the attendance has been low. We talked about what happens if a group decided to NOT MEET – then sitters must be found for that week, ie. Roberta and Barbara will sit this Friday as they have cancelled the Friday group this week.

**FAA – Facebook/Historian/Gallery Sitting** – Renee Ciufu (absent)

**Treasurer** – Roz Oserin -Reported that as of June 30 there is \$6868.00 in the checking and \$10005 in the savings acct. The City of La Mesa has sent a notice of rent increase of 8.6% (\$21) month as of July 1.

**Recording Secretary** – Gary Dyak (absent)

### Old Business:

1. Octogenarian Show – Judy Sawyer bought a binder to add the bios for the Octos and a sign in book. Bios will be put into the master binder after the show. Peggy/Judy working on KPBS to try to get some coverage
2. Window Banners – 10 entries as of last week...we need 13- the question was asked if there are not enough submitted can someone submit a 2<sup>nd</sup>?
3. Small Image Show – Drew Bandish, juror - Reception Sept 17 4:30-6:30
4. Wildlife in Art – On schedule (from Peggy) San Diego Zoo donated 6 tickets should we save some for other shows? Discussion about using them to fundraise (sell tickets at the reception) or use them for the Honorable Mentions or give all artists in the show a ticket and then draw winners. We will discuss again at the next meeting when there are more awards received by Peggy. Also discussed was doing a flyer to send to other art associations to let them know about this show as it is a regional show and open to the public.

Regarding Linda Morton's question below: The decision to allow Wild Animals that are also farm animals was discussed. (as in a wild rooster) Peggy motioned that we allow the wild animals with the word "Wild" as part of the painting name, and the motion was seconded by Bob Pinner and the motion passed.

Linda Morton asked-

I'd like to enter the Wildlife In Art show with a painting of a wild rooster. I took a picture in Kauai of one of the roosters there that run wild all over the island. But – I just read in the brochure that "No art depicting domestic or farm animals will be accepted." Does that mean my Wild Rooster is excluded? Or can an animal type be both "farm" and "wild," such as a horse or goat?

**New Business** –

The board talked about getting a plexi wall mount box to add for the Featured Artist info so that it is always accessible. Judy will look into pricing for that. The board unanimously likes this idea.

The next FAA Board Meeting will be an "in-person" meeting at Foothills on Monday August 29<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m.

Meeting was adjourned at 11 am.