FOOTHILLS ART ASSOCIATION

FOOTNOTES

September 2026

UPCOMING EVENTS

October Member Meeting
Thursday, October 1st
5:30 – 7:00 PM

Demo: "A Look at Two Hands: Bone and Neuland"
by Yvonne Perez-Collins
Oct. 1st *(during Member Meeting)*

Society for Calligraphy Show
Oct. 4th – 16th
Reception: Oct. 4th / 2 – 5 pm

Wildlife in Art Show
Reg: Aug. 4th – Oct. 15th, 6 PM
(Online registration only, no take-in entries.)
Notifications: Oct. 20th
Take In: Oct. 22nd, 2 – 5 PM
Show dates: Oct. 27th – Dec. 2nd
Reception: Nov. 7th, 2 – 5 PM

Holiday Party
Dec. 10th, 5 – 7 PM.
Refreshments, opportunity baskets, gallery rummage sale, holiday cheer.

https://foothillsartassociation.com/calendar-page/

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Members,

The current Small Image Show is one of FAA's most unique exhibitions of the year, challenging artists to express their visual ideas within an extremely small format. I especially enjoy how the show is hung, with enough space between each piece to appreciate the wide variety of styles, subjects, and techniques represented.

Our next special exhibition arrives for just the first two weeks of October. The Calligraphy Show will feature artists from San Diego and Orange Counties, along with a free demonstration and a reception open to everyone on October 4 from 2 – 5 PM at FAA.

And don't forget—there is still time to enter this year's Wildlife in Art Show. If you have questions about entering, please send FAA an email.

Finally, a big thank-you to all the volunteers who make these exhibitions possible and to those members who fulfill their monthly gallery-sitting commitment. Keeping FAA open depends on members volunteering their time. When members take their shifts, they aren't simply filling a spot on the calendar—they are helping keep our gallery open and available to artists, visitors, and the community.

Let's all do our part to keep the gallery doors open!

Best,
John Engen
President, Foothills Art Association

FOOTHILLS ART ASSOCIATION

FAA BOARD

President – John Engen
Vice President – Sharon Meng
Treasurer – Anne Johnston
Secretary – Sarah George

MEMBERS AT LARGE:
Barbara Drews
Rosalind Oserin
Judy Sawyer

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Art Take-In
Bob Pinner

Class Coordinator
~Volunteer Needed~

Demo / Workshop
~Coordinator Needed~

Exhibition
Barbara Drews

Featured Artist
Rosalind Oserin

Foothills Fridays
John Engen /
Rachel Tung *(starting 2027)*

Gallery Sitting
Michele Barbour

Gallery Supplies
Joan Merrick

Juried Shows
Rosalind Oserin &
Patti Palenschat

Membership
Michelle Regan

Newsletter
Sandi Whitaker,
graphic artist/co-editor &
Cindy Cotner, *co-editor*

Social Media
John Engen / Anne Woods

Gallery Website
Sharon Meng

Digital Gallery & Website
John Engen

Wildlife In Art
Sharon Meng

To contact a Board Member, please call the Gallery during open hours at (619) 464-7167 or email: foothillsartassoc@gmail.com

FAA WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS!

Foothills Art Association welcomes new members:
Marilyn Felton, Debra Rafdal
We are delighted to have artists and art enthusiasts join our community and we look forward to your contributions to our artistic community.

SOCIETY FOR CALLIGRAPHY SHOW
OCTOBER 4TH – 16TH
RECEPTION: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4TH / 2 – 5 PM

Calligraphy is more than just "beautiful writing. It is an experience that elevates the written word to a transcendent art form. Calligraphy has many sub-categories: traditional, brush, hand-lettered, illumination, illustration, decorated letters, logo design, and modern calligraphy. Foothills Art Association will be co-hosting the Society for Calligraphers exhibit The Language of Letters, October 4 through October 16th. The opening will be Sunday, October 4th from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The Society of Calligraphy was officially founded in 1974, when a resurgence of calligraphy was taking place due to Edward Johnston's landmark book, Writing & Illuminating & Lettering, as well as the efforts of Maurey Nemoy, a lettering artist at Universal Studios who taught calligraphy for UCLA Extension. His students made up a substantial segment of those who founded the Society for Calligraphy.

The Society for Calligraphy was the first calligraphy guild in the U.S. At the height of its popularity, SFC had more than 1200 members. Today it has 657 (and growing) members spread among seven chapters: Inland Empire, Orange County, San Diego, San Fernando Valley, San Gabriel Valley, South Los Angeles, and West Los Angeles.

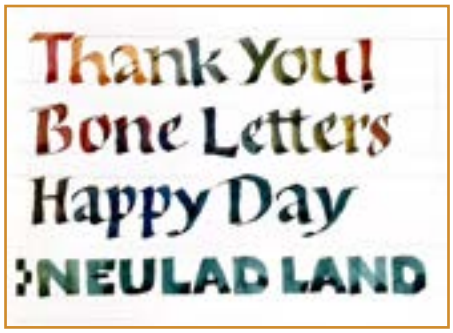
The vision of the Society of Calligraphers is to promote the study and critical practice of calligraphy as a craft and as an art form, to encourage individual excellence, and to foster a wider appreciation and a deeper understanding of calligraphy, its history and applications, by the free interchange of ideas and techniques. The Society offers classes online and in person and hosts the annual Society of Calligraphy Conference, Letters California Style, in Los Angeles in February

For information: https://societyforcalligraphy.org and
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWlngVNwWPr_CVlpD8HigFw

OCTOBER DEMO ARTIST
YVONNE PEREZ-COLLINS

A LOOK AT TWO HANDS: BONE AND NEULAND
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1ST *(MEMBER MEETING)*

The San Diego section of the Society for Calligraphy invites you to Foothills Art Gallery on Thursday, October 1st at 5: 30, to watch a demo and presentation of two lettering styles, Neuland (1920's) and Bone (1970's). You will see the difference when using different writing tools and the pigments to write each style. You can also watch calligraphers write your name on a bookmark with other lettering styles. Calligraphy is alive and well in San Diego, as you will see in the exhibit by SfC members.



UPCOMING SHOWS:

Mid-Oct. through Nov.
"Wildlife in Art" Show
Oct. 27th – Dec. 2nd.

Holiday Party
Dec. 10th, 5 – 7 PM.
Refreshments, opportunity baskets, gallery rummage sale, holiday cheer.
More information to come.

UPDATED FACEBOOK LINK:
https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61575335946912&

FOOTHILLS ART ASSOCIATION

AUGUST SHOW PEOPLE'S CHOICE

Dotty Thompson "Out of Darkness" is our People's Choice award winner this month. Congratulations!

WE NEED Volunteers

GET INVOLVED!

TEMPORARY FILL-IN VOLUNTEER: Volunteers are added to a call list and contacted when assistance is needed.

Hospitality Coordinator: Help create a warm and welcoming atmosphere at our meetings and events. This role includes organizing snacks and beverages for monthly meetings (Jan.–June, Sept.–Nov.), coordinating simple sign-up sheets for member contributions, and sending reminder emails. The coordinator will also shop once a month for Foothills Fridays artist receptions (April–Sept.) and assist with light hospitality needs for select artist receptions and the annual holiday party. A modest budget is provided for event refreshments. If you enjoy bringing people together and adding a thoughtful touch to our gatherings, we would love to have you join us!

DEMO ARTIST SUPPORT: Share responsibility with the lead Demo Artist Coordinator, helping with set up/ breakdown of the artist's or speaker's things during the monthly meeting (1st Thursday at 5 PM) and at their workshop (if scheduled).

SEPTEMBER SMALL IMAGE SHOW WINNERS

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE WINNERS!

1ST PLACE: "AUTUMN CITY IN SAN DIEGO"
JUNE MAXION

2ND PLACE: "ISLAND LIFE"
JAMIE WRIGHT

3RD PLACE: "JUST BREATHE"
SUE HUBBLE

HONORABLE MENTION:
"PASSAGE" ANNE WOODS

JUROR'S CHOICE
"FREE BIRD – EUROPEAN ROBIN"
SHERMA LEWIS

HONORABLE MENTION:
"BLUE VASE"
JACQUE SWERDFEGER

FOOTHILLS HAPPENINGS IN SEPTEMBER

SMALL IMAGE SHOW & RECEPTION WITH AWARDS BY JUROR **ROBIN ERICKSON**

SHARON FINZI SEPTEMBER FEATURED ARTIST RECEPTION

SOCIAL MEET UPS

Bring your works-in-progress, exchange ideas, and enjoy the company of fellow artists while building creative momentum and community.

LIFE DRAWING

3RD MONDAY
10:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Drawing from life is a skill that enriches all artists, regardless of their chosen medium. This group is open to nonmembers. A $10 fee for members and $15 fee for nonmembers covers the cost of live models with an additional $5 if you wish to take photos for future reference. For further information please call the gallery at (619) 464-7167

WORDELL CRITIQUE GROUP

2ND MONDAY, 10 AM – 12 PM

The Wordell group encourages growth and development, providing valuable insights and encouragement in a supportive environment to artists at all stages of their creative journey. In addition to the collaborative critique sessions, participants have the option to take on monthly challenges designed to inspire creativity and expand artistic horizons. Attendance is open to all members. $3 donation.

SAN DIEGO DRAWING GUILD

TUES. 5 – 8 PM / WED. 10 AM – 1:30 PM

The San Diego Drawing Guild is dedicated to exploring the rich possibilities of colored pencil, pastel and graphite art. This group consists of beginners to experienced artists in a supportive group where creativity flourishes and friendships form around a shared love for drawing. $3 donation.

NOW 2 MEET UPS A WEEK!

OIL AND ACRYLIC

2ND, 3RD AND 4TH THURSDAY
11 AM – 1:30 PM

The Oil and Acrylic Painting Group at Foothills Art Association is dedicated to the exploration and mastery of oil and acrylic painting. The group provides an opportunity for artists to refine their techniques and share insights. Join us as we blend colors, experiment with textures, and bring our artistic visions to life on the canvas. $3 donation.

WATERCOLOR

FRIDAY, 10 AM – 1:30 PM

The watercolor group is a community of artists brought together by a shared passion for the medium of watercolor. Whether you're a seasoned painter or a beginner, our welcoming atmosphere encourages exploration, learning, and growth. Join us as we gather to paint, share techniques, and inspire one another. $3 donation.

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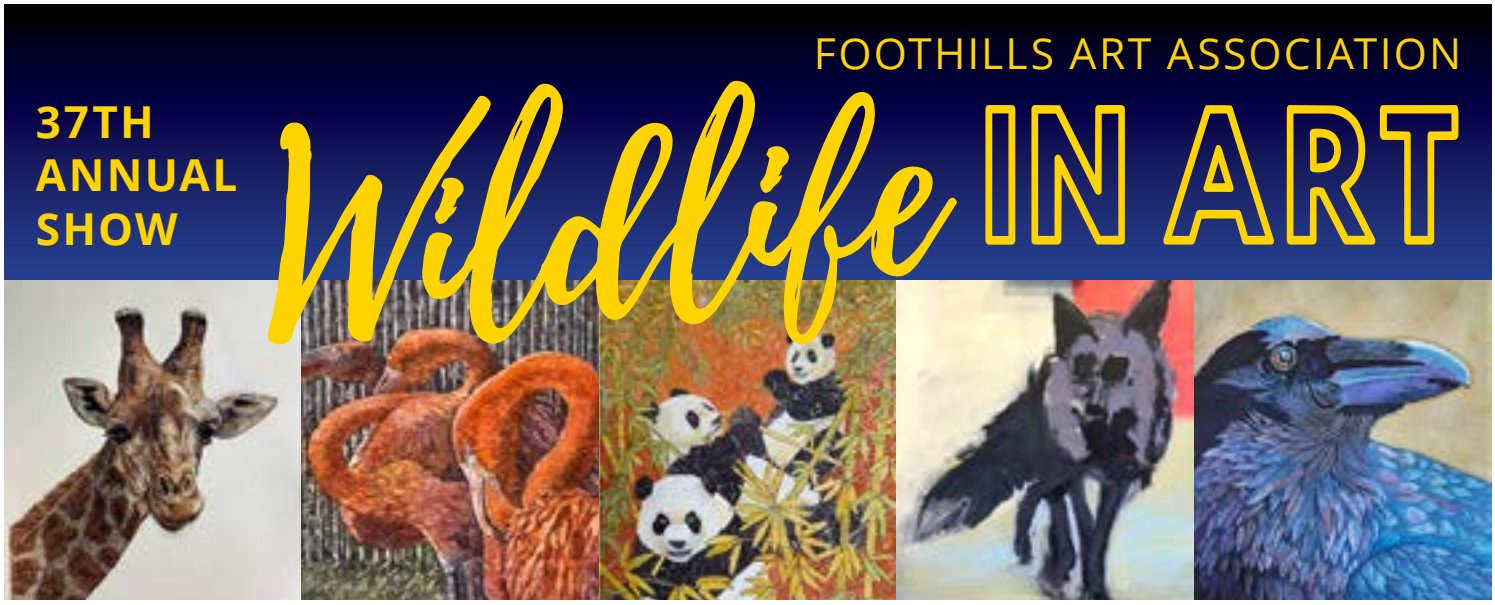
WILDLIFE IN ART PAST WINNERS EXHIBIT

Foothills Partnership with San Pasqual Wine Tasting Room
August 29 – September 26TH

In 2024, Jo Ann Bray and Linda Morton, both long-standing Foothills Art Association members, connected with Mike McWilliams, owner of San Pasqual Wine Tasting Room and Gallery in downtown La Mesa, and his wife, Linda, to display art in the wine tasting room. Mike is an arts advocate and is especially connected to art through his brother's art, which is displayed permanently at San Pasqual's. Jo Ann, Linda, and Mike share a common vision: connecting the community to the arts through local artists. Like Foothills, San Pasqual's hosts a featured artist with receptions, wine tastings, and art for purchase or commission. Past artists include Drew Bandish, Lyle Rennick, Lorna Farmer, Linda Morton, Maureen Kerr, Paul White, JoAnne Merrick, and Cindy Cotner. The current exhibit, which features past winners from the Foothills Wildlife exhibit, previews what to expect at the upcoming Foothills Wildlife exhibit. The San Pasqual's exhibit runs until Sept 26, when Roberta Dyer, signature artist for the Watercolor Society of San Diego, will be featured. Foothills features the 37th Annual Wildlife in Art exhibit, which runs October 27 through December 2nd at the Foothills Art Association Gallery. The reception is Saturday, Nov. 7th from 2-5 pm. Please show your support by dropping by San Pasqual's and Foothills for a breath of art, wine, and conversation.

JO ANN BRAY

Jo Ann Bray's mantra is "let's bring the arts to La Mesa!" She strives to make La Mesa an Arts destination that brings together businesses, patrons, and artists to benefit the community. She was recently voted to serve on the **City of La Mesa Arts and Culture Commission**. They are working on a ten-year master plan, and the vision includes bringing art and culture to the city through music, murals, libraries, community centers, and downtown opportunities. Jo Ann is an active member of Foothills, as well as the San Diego Watercolor Society, Art on 30th, the Oceanside Museum Alliance, and a professional member of the San Diego Museum of Art Artists Guild. She welcomes support and suggestions for making La Mesa the future go-to city for the Arts.



KEY DATES & FEES

- **Registration:** Aug. 4th – Oct. 15th, 6 PM. Gallery membership is not required.
- **Notifications (Acceptance / Rejection):** Oct. 20th, 2026
- **Artwork Drop-off (Take In):** Oct. 22nd, 2026, 2 – 5 PM at Foothills Art Association Gallery
- **Show dates:** Oct. 27th through Dec. 2nd, 2026
- **Reception:** Nov. 7th, 2 – 5 PM
- **Art pickup:** Dec. 3rd, 2026
- **Entry Fees:**

  1 piece: $40 members / $45 nonmembers
  2 pieces: $50 members / $55 nonmembers
  3 pieces: $60 members / $65 nonmembers
  4 pieces: $70 members / $75 nonmembers

PRIZES

1st Prize: $400
2nd Prize: $250
3rd Prize: $125
Honorable Mentions: (4) $50 each
(+ various "Personal Choice" Awards!)

For More Information

ELIGIBILITY

The Subject: *The focal point of your artwork must be a* ***wild animal in its natural habitat****. Domesticated animals and wild members of a domesticated species (like cats, parrots, or horses) are not eligible for this show.*

Originality First: *All submissions must be your own 100% original work. No classwork permitted.*

Fresh Work: *Pieces must have been created within the last five years and must not have been previously accepted into a Foothills Wildlife in Art show.*

WILDLIFE SHOW JUROR CHELSEA PAULUS

Chelsea Paulus is a San Diego-based artist whose work focuses primarily on creating wildlife and portraiture on scratchboard. Using dramatic lighting and intricate detail, her black-and-white compositions explore the raw beauty of the natural world. She is a village artist and teacher through the Village Arts & Education Foundation at the Spanish Village in Balboa Park, and she exhibits her work throughout Southern California. Having drawn from an early age and exploring several mediums over the last decade, she values the power of expression that wildlife can be portrayed in all mediums. Her artistic vision is driven by a passion for storytelling, technical precision, and creating artwork that evokes emotional connection.

Chelsea Paulus www.chelseaaynaart.com
Instagram: @chelsea_ayna_art **Facebook:** ChelseaAynaArt