Artists United

NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2026

Jeanne's gel-plate print demo

On October 6th at Artists United's monthly meeting, Jeanne Salter, past AU president and master crafter, did a follow up demonstration on gel plate printing.

Gel plate printing is a form of mono-printing that uses a flexible, reusable plate made of gelatin. While synthetic gel plates can be purchased in various sizes and shapes, the traditional form uses homemade gelatin from the kitchen. Jeanne often uses homemade plates in her work.

To begin, create the gel plate. Mix dry gelatin with glycerin, add hot water until liquified. Heat in micro-wave until the mixture feels like gelatin.

Once your gelatin is set and cooled, the plate is ready to use. Add a small amount of acrylic paint to the plate and use a brayer to smooth it into an even layer of paint. Now you are ready to create your design.

Anything with texture works great to make your design — string, lace, fabric, leaves, bubble wrap, etc. Press them into the paint to create designs.

Once you have a design you're happy with, press a sheet of paper (newsprint, tissue, book pages, etc.) to the plate and rub gently to transfer the design to the paper. Slowly remove the paper from the plate.

Once the print is dry, you can print on it again and again with different colors and textures to create seemingly endless possibilities of design.

Finished papers can be used in collage, card-making, or as a base for painting — essentially, wherever you might use paper in your artwork, you can use these printed papers You can also print onto fabric.

Here is a list of supplies that the beginner will need to start their own home print shop.

1. Synthetic gel plate (i.e. Gelli Arts, Speedball, etc.) OR a homemade gelatin plate
2. Acrylic paint
3. Paper (any kind)
4. Textural elements

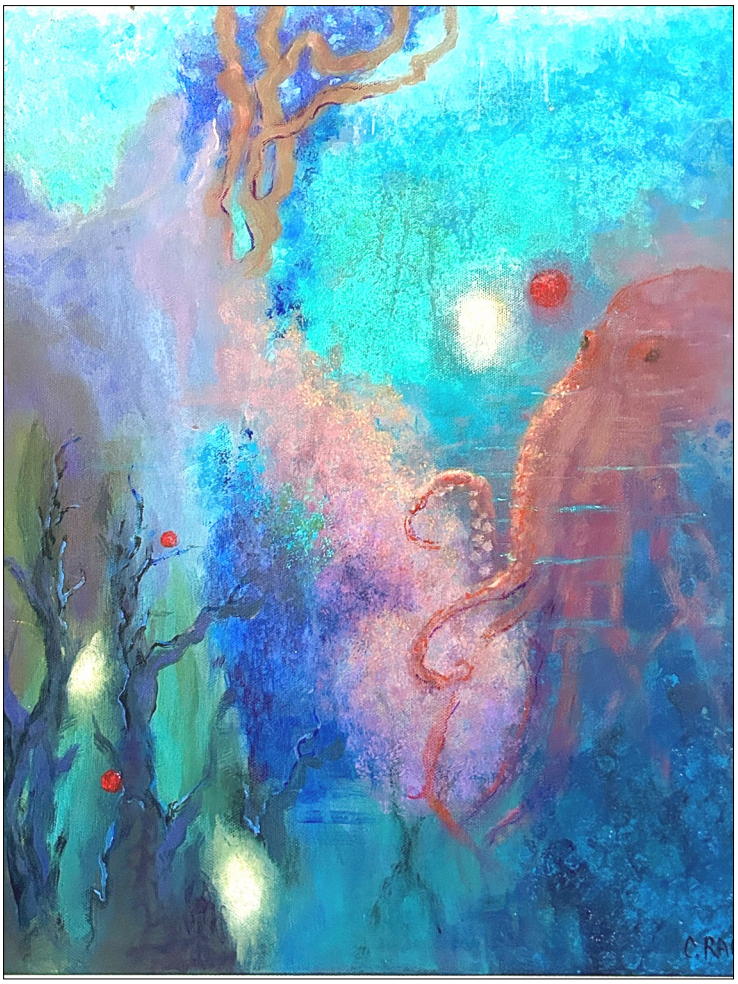
Dozens and dozens of gel-plate demonstrations can be seen on You Tube. But be warned, it's a deep rabbit hole—ha!

NOVEMBER PROGRAM:

Robert Hardy, Attorney at Law, (and Tammy's husband) will discuss his experience in forming Non-profit organizations and the requirements to do so.

Member News

CARLA ESTEVANE's artwork (at right), "Conjure," won the **October Artwork of the Month**. She used oils, cold wax and graphite to create this piece. The theme was "spooky." November's theme will be "gratitude".



"Conjure" by Carla Estevane

JOHN MORREAL will have a solo show of 40 of his Sasquatch paintings at Merrill Gardens from February through May. These often humorous and thought-provoking works feature Sasquatch in human settings that seem to startle the creature.

DEBRA VALPEY invites any member of Artists United to join in a weekly "art-in" at her dining room table in Normandy Park on Thursday afternoons. Bring your own project to work on. Space is limited, but there is room for one or two more. Interested? Contact her via email at: **debravalpey@gmail.com**.

Also, **DEBRA** wants to start up writing member features again for the newsletter. She says, "I appeal to you, dear members, to either volunteer to meet with me so I can learn more about you, OR suggest to me whom YOU would like to learn more about and I will go right to that person and say "it's YOUR time to reveal your inner mysteries," (although they do get veto license)." These are fun articles that introduce members to one another. Would you be willing to be interviewed? It's painless. Or do you have others you'd like to suggest? Contact her at: **debravalpey@gmail.com**

MIKE SAROCA will have his studio open and his art for sale as part of the Inscape Open Studio Tour on Sunday, November 15 from noon to 6 p.m. at 815 Seattle Blvd. S. in Seattle. Stop by and say "hi"! He will also be a featured artist at Page 2 Books in Burien from November through December.

What are you up to?

Share your art-related news with us! Awards you've won, shows you're in, etc.

Email a short blurb and photo to **patriciaschug461@gmail.com** for inclusion in an upcoming issue.

Try something new creatively

Feeling a bit stuck in a rut with your art? Or longing to try out a new medium for awhile? Check out a few local options to shake things up.

Monthly Plein Air Painting South Sound communities

**Next date: October 24

South Sound Plein Air is a loosely organized but well coordinated group of painters who enjoy the adventure of painting outdoors, together. Planned monthly "paint outs" run through the nicer months, and last minute pop-up sessions happen whenever someone instigates one. No membership dues - you just need to get on the email list! To do that find South Sound Plein Air on Facebook and message the organizer. September's session was at Titlow Beach in Tacoma. **October's will be at Ft. Steilacoom Park in Lakewood on Oct. 24th.** New Artist United members Catherine Feeney (SSPA leader) and Kelly Loney (SSPA participant) can also help get you signed up.

New AU Member Kelly Loney at the September Paint Out at Titlow Beach in Tacoma.

Free Online Art Classes through Winslow Art Center

On those rainy days when you don't want to go anywhere, log on to the Winslow Art Center in Bainbridge Island and take a free or paid class. The online free library contains 239 videos of artists of many different media demonstrating and discussing their work. All you need to do is sign up (also free). They also offer a free online weekly artist talk from one of their art tutors. **winslowartcenter.com**

Visit SAM on Free First Thursday

Sometimes, seeing great art, or even art that makes you scratch your head, can jar something loose in us and gets us making art again.

Admission is free at the Seattle Art Museum on the first Thursday of every month. And now that the light rail station has come to Kent/Des Moines and Federal Way, it's easier than ever to get to downtown Seattle. For $6 roundtrip (or $2 roundtrip for those 65 and older), you can take the Sound Transit light rail to the Symphony Station downtown and then you're only a two minute walk to the museum. No traffic stress! And you can sketch or doodle the whole way there and back! Go to **soundtransit.org/tripplanner** for details.

Show and Sell Your Art

Try out some or all of these opportunities to share your art with others.

2027 CVG Show

Deadline: Nov. 7
Fee: $45 for two pieces; $10 per additional
Contact: cvgshow.com

Juried show of 2-D, 3-D, photography and digital art at Collective Visions Gallery in Bremerton. Cash prizes.

Burien Farmer's Market, Burien

WEEKLY OPPORTUNITY
Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. through October
Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. through April
Deadline: Monday of each week
Cost: $30

Every Thursday throughout the year (pending having a van/truck to haul tables and grids), Artists United will have a canopy, tables and grids set up for up to four artists to have space to sell their artwork. If you're interested, notify Paul Illian on Monday before the Thursday market to tell him you want to sell that week. Paul will set-up and take-down the booth for you! Currently, we need someone to help with transportation of grids — can you help?
Contact Paul at illcon@msn.com.

Miniature Show Heritage Museum

Hangs December through February
Contact: Tammy Hardy at email:
t_j_hardy@yahoo.com

This is Artists United's annual winter show at the Highline Heritage Museum in Burien. All works must be size 10 "x10" or smaller, including the frame. There is room for participants. Contact Tammy if interested.

Find more opportunities at:

- Call for Entry (Café): callforentry.com
- Entry Thingy: entrythingy.com
- Artists United website

Watch your emails from Artists United for additional opportunities as they become available, or check out the club website at **artistsunitedclub.com**

November meeting—Nov. 3

It's election day, so please remember to complete your ballot first!

Cove Show:

- If booths remain, you can sign up to share one, or have your own spot.
- **If you're not selling this year, PLEASE consider volunteering at the show — this is a huge Club event and many hands are needed to make it flow smoothly.** Debra Valpey will know if booths are available, or what job you can help with: debravalpey@gmail.com

Artwork of the Month:

November theme is "Gratitude". (NO sawtooth hangers,please). At this time, only art that can be hung on a wall is accepted. Winning works typically hang monthly at the Burien Community Center, but due to remodeling at the center, will hang in a group during the month of January.

Meeting will be Tuesday, Nov. 3 at the Normandy Park Community Club (The Cove), from 11:30 to 2 p.m. Consider coming at 11 to help set up and/or stay after to take down tables and chairs. Bring snacks if you're so inclined.

Guests are always welcome.

Artists United Board & Committee Members

President: Paul Illian	illcon@msn.com
Vice President: John Morreall	morreall@jhumorworks.com
Treasurer: Laura Scheuffele	art.escapes@comcast.net
Secretary: Debra Valpey	debravalpey@gmail.com
At-Large: Tammy Hardy	t_j_hardy@yahoo.com
Membership: Pat Kelley	pattiannart@gmail.com
Newsletter: Tricia Schug	patriciaschug461@gmail.com
Communications: OPEN	
Programs: Linda Logie	llogie44@gmail.com
Events/Venue: OPEN	
Artwork of the Month: Patricia Layden	patricialayden@gmail.com
Webmaster: Paul Illian	illcon@msn.com
Hospitality: Alice Salter	salteraj@yahoo.com

Artists United Board meets monthly on the 3rd Tuesday at a board member's home. Contact Paul Illian for information. All are welcome to attend.

Artists United general membership meets monthly on the first Tuesday at the Normandy Park Community Club (the COVE), located at 1500 SW Shorebrook Dr., Normandy Park, WA

Social networking at 11:30 (set up starts at 11)
Business meeting at Noon (light snacks provided)
Artist talk: 1 to 2

Guests are encouraged to attend.

If desired, bring a sample of what you've been working on lately. Members may also bring an entry for Artwork of the Month (should be ready to hang).