



# Los Altos Art Club

www.losaltosartclub.com  
475 Knoll Drive, Los Altos, CA 94024

## January 2026 NEWSLETTER

Next Board Meeting: TBD

### LAAC BOARD

President  
*Aileen Trant*  
Vice President  
*Carol Rivers*  
Secretary  
*Ellen Barker*  
Treasurer  
*Isao Nojima*

### COMMITTEES

Newsletter Editor  
*Ellen Barker*  
Dispatch via e-mail  
*Leslie Grimm*  
Programs  
*Rona Foster*  
Webmaster  
*Leslie Grimm*  
Refreshments  
*Carol Rivers*  
*Charlotte Montgomery*  
Membership  
*Isao Nojima*  
Exhibit Venues  
*Julia Kahan*  
Art Show Coordinator  
*Aileen Trant*  
Panels  
*Rona Foster*  
Publicity  
*TBD*

## CLUB NEWS

### Happy New Year

Here's to an inspired 2026!

### Next Club Meeting

**Monday, January 12, at 7 p.m.**  
Apricot Room

### 2026 Meeting Schedule

- January – Member Sharing (contact Rona at [ronasuef@gmail.com](mailto:ronasuef@gmail.com) if you can present)
- February – Julia Foug (figurative & abstract- oil & acrylic)

### January Meeting Agenda

- Business: Venues, Refreshments, etc.
- Member sharing

### December Meeting Report

The holiday party was a smashing success, with lots of members and excellent food.

As 2025 ends and 2026 begins, we paused to thank our members who have made LAAC the welcoming, art-supportive club that it still is after five decades. Here are the highlights from that speech:

### Meeting Reminder

- **EVERYONE!** Bring new works or works in progress to share
- We need one more signup for refreshments in January—click [LAAC Refreshment Signup](#).

Thank you all for coming – it's wonderful to see so many of you here tonight. This is always a highlight of the holiday season for all of us.

Let's start out by thanking **Aileen Trant**, club president. Aileen has been president of the club for a long time and we are all grateful for her long service (although she might be just as grateful if someone else would like to take the reins for a while).

Next, a huge thank you to **Isao Nojima**, our long-standing treasurer who does far more than take care of the books. He also makes sure our meeting room is reserved and paid for, that our demonstrators are paid, that all our various sign-up sheets are working. Tonight we are especially grateful to him for making the arrangements for this party. So let's hear it for Isao. One more thing, I think the best way to thank Isao for all his work for us is to pay our dues on time in 2026!

**Carol Rivers**, our vice president, has also been handling publicity – thank you for that! Carol and **Charlotte Montgomery** together have been responsible for refreshments, and we can always count on tasty treats and hot drinks at meetings.

**Leslie Grimm** is both webmaster and distributor of the monthly newsletter, two jobs that are critical to the club but are underappreciated. And remember, every club member gets a page on the Gallery section of the website, so be sure to send her photos of your artwork.

Next on our thank-you list is **Rona Foster**, who has done a stellar job of attracting demonstrators. If you missed any, remember that you can watch recordings any time you like – the list is in every club newsletter.

And finally, many thanks to **Julia Kahan**, our Venues chair. Scoring the **State Street Market** for the club was an amazing feat and has resulted in new members and member sales. And getting us into the **library** for November was another major achievement – it was truly a great show.



## Past Demo Recordings

Did you miss a demo? Or want to go back and see how an artist achieved a certain effect? You can watch recordings of the 2023, 2024, and 2025 demos by clicking the links in [Appendix A](#) at the end of this newsletter.

Note: all links are on YouTube – search for **losaltosartclubdemo**.

## Refreshments: Signup Link



To sign up or to check which dates you've volunteered for in 2026 and see who is signed up with you, click [LAAC Refreshment Signup](#).

Questions, email Carol at [carolrivers@pacbell.net](mailto:carolrivers@pacbell.net)

## Venues

**PLEASE VISIT THE VENUE BEFORE HANGING** so that you know what to expect and can plan your exhibit accordingly. Reminders and more information about hanging at venues are included in [Appendix B](#) at the end of this newsletter.

[Click this link](#) to see which venues have openings January through June, what size each venue wants, and other information. To sign up to exhibit, just type your name in the appropriate box; no need to save. You will get an email reminder when it's time to arrange the hanging. You can also sign up in person at LAAC meetings.

### **Send in pics of your venue hangings**

Once you've hung your artwork, take a few pictures and send them to [ellen.barker@pacbell](mailto:ellen.barker@pacbell) – I'll include them in the next month's newsletter.

Support our venues!

## MEMBER ART NEWS

We are here to support each other! Send your news to [ellen.barker@pacbell.net](mailto:ellen.barker@pacbell.net)

## LAAC Membership

[Click here for the current roster of club members.](#) You can view but not edit the sheet. If you can't access the sheet or need to update data, contact Isao at [isao.nojima@gmail.com](mailto:isao.nojima@gmail.com).

### Julia Kahan

Curious about stained glass? Julia teaches stained glass for beginners. Contact her at [jorthomom@yahoo.com](mailto:jorthomom@yahoo.com) for details.



### Rona Foster

Rona offers custom, one-on-one and small group classes at her studio. Contact her to discuss. Call (no text) her at 650-858-0589 or use the contact form on her [website](#): [Contact — Rona Foster](#).

#### Upcoming workshops

(all at Redwood City Parks & Recreation, Red Morton Center, 1120 Roosevelt Ave. in Redwood City)

#### Acrylic Painting Techniques

Saturday, January 10, 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

#### Mixed Media Landscapes

Saturday, February 14, 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

#### Metal Leaf Mixed Media with Acrylic

Saturday, Feb. 28 1:30-4:30

Cost: \$100 includes some supplies

To register and see supply list, call Rona at 650-858-0589.

Learn how to apply metal leaf to your canvas. Mixed media techniques will be introduced and you'll be guided in designing and collaging simple images, such as butterflies, birds, and flowers using colorful papers. More information at [Workshops — Rona Foster](#)



### **Mandala Art**

Saturday, March 21, 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

### **Mixed Media Florals with Acrylic**

Saturday, March 28, 1:30-4:30

Cost: \$100 includes some supplies

To register and see supply list, call Rona at 650-858-0589

Learn a variety of collage and painting techniques using acrylic paint and colorful paper. Create a floral design of your choice on canvas. More information at [Workshops — Rona Foster](#)



## **LOCAL ART NEWS**

### **Justice Vanguard Call for Art**

**Black and white paintings of any kind, any size**

Justice Vanguard is a civil rights education foundation founded in Los Altos by a young black Los Altan, Kenan Moos. His mother was a black physician and his white father was born and raised in Los Altos. He grew up being challenged by police and authorities when he walked from his Los Altos Avenue home to his grandparents' home in Los Altos Hills. He was a scholar and soccer star at Yale. He was named Los Altan of the Year in 2022 for his work in making Black Lives Matter films and documentaries about black history and for his teaching of civil rights and black history at regional schools.

His foundation is having a fundraiser on February 21, 5-8 p.m. at Los Altos Community Center. At previous Justice Vanguard events, works of Black Panthers other black artists has been featured, as wells the films the foundation has made. The February 21<sup>st</sup> community event is **a fundraiser and will feature donated black and white work of local artists and photographers.**

Please contact local artist Karen Druker at [kadruker@pacbell.net](mailto:kadruker@pacbell.net) or 650-941-8073 if you have any work of any size that is black and white that you would like to donate to the fund raiser. Donations are tax deductible.

## Los Altos Library

### January Art Wall Exhibit

Eileen Logsdon Bugée, a Los Altos resident, creates paintings in acrylic, watercolor, and gouache. Her work will be on display at the Los Altos Library for the month of January 2026.



### Watercolor Workshops for Adults

**Friday, January 09, 11:00am–12:30pm  
or 1 – 3 pm**

### Silicon Valley Reads: Art With Drawn2Art

**Tuesday, February 03, 6:30pm–8:30pm**

Join instructors from our local Drawn2Art studio for this fun Silicon Valley Reads-themed art program! This program is designed for adults and teens. All materials will be provided.

### Sunday Crafternoons

**Sunday, February 15, 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. in the Orchard Room**

Relaxed crafting on the 3rd Sunday of every month. All ages. Supplies are provided for you to explore a surprise art activity.

### **Future dates for Crafternoons:**

February 15

March 15

April 19

**For more future events, [click here.](#)**

The library has all sorts of online resources including these online art classes. Enjoy at your leisure.

**[Creativebug: Art & Craft Classes | Santa Clara County Library District](#)**



Can't get to the library? Don't let that stop you from getting art books or any other books you want or need. The library will take the books to you. The Santa Clara County Library District Homebound Services program is a free library materials delivery service to SCCLD residents of all ages who are unable to visit a library because of temporary or long-term illness, injury, impairment, medical condition or disability. [Click here for more information.](#)

## Los Altos Community Center

**Community Center Beginning and Intermediate Painting Classes**  
[Click here for details.](#) Full disclosure, this website is a little hard to navigate.

## Los Altos History Museum



Coming in January:

**10,000 Memories**

**Partition, Independence, and WWII in South Asia**

Jan 29, 2026–May 24, 2026

## Arts Los Altos



**Latest in downtown outdoor art:**

**At right, a sneak preview of a new work on State Street in downtown**

First Friday walking tours run 5-6 pm monthly, meeting at the Mandahlia sculpture (169 State Street at 3rd). For a private group tour, email your preferred dates/times to [tours@artslosaltos.org](mailto:tours@artslosaltos.org)





**FabMo**

1240 Birchwood Drive, Suite 2 Sunnyvale

**Next shopping dates: January 8-9-10**

**Heart Embroidery Appliqué with Lindsay (WK-HRT-0125) — FabMo**

\$55.00 (benefits FabMo)

Sunday, January 25, 10 am to 2 pm

Ring in the new year by learning how to make a lovely embroidered heart.



**ArtVentures**

ArtVentures is a drop-in open studio with an ever-changing set of artists, many of whom are LAAC members. Artists meet in person to work on their own projects and to encourage, critique, and commiserate with each other.



- **Join Us in Person:** Drop in any Wednesday, any time between 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. in the Apricot room of the Los Altos Community Center. Registration is not required, and it's free.
- See what ArtVenturers have been creating by clicking [here](#).

A constantly changing selection of their work is displayed in the Adult 50+ Center at Hillview. The latest collection is *Warp and Weft, Woven Images*. Stop in for coffee and take a look.



## Local Galleries



### GALLERY HOUSE CONTEMPORARY FINE ART

826 Santa Cruz Ave, Menlo Park, CA 94025  
Wednesday - Sunday 11am to 5pm

#### Patricia Nojima

The January featured artist is our own Patricia Nojima.

Join Patricia and Isao on January 10 at 6 p.m. for the artist reception.

Check the [gallery website](https://galleryhouse.art) for more works and for the latest featured artist.

#### FEATURED ARTIST RECEPTION:

SAT 1/10/26 6-8PM

**JOIN US**

Gallery House presents the Feature Show of watercolor artist:

**Patricia Nojima** from January 7th to February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026

Artist's Reception Saturday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026 from 6 to 8 pm  
(free and open to the public)



Gallery House, 826 Santa Cruz Ave, Menlo Park, CA [galleryhouse.art](https://galleryhouse.art)  
Wednesday through Sunday 11 am - 5 pm

*New Show ~ Good Cheer ~ Uplifting Conversations*



#### 104th Anniversary & Exhibition Fundraiser

Group Exhibition  
Through January 13

This exhibition directly supports our mission as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit to make the visual arts accessible and inspiring for all. Proceeds benefit our education programs, community outreach, and exhibitions, ensuring that art continues to thrive for generations to come.

More here: [Exhibits — Pacific Art League](https://www.pacificartleague.org/exhibits)





Gallery 9 Los Altos • 143 Main Street, Los Altos • [gallery9losaltos.com](http://gallery9losaltos.com)

Tuesday - Saturday 11 – 5. Sunday 12 – 5

**Suej McCall**

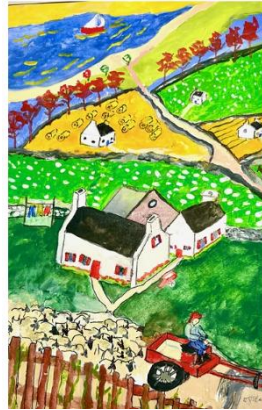
**My Last Picture Show...maybe**

December 30 – February 1

**Opening Reception**

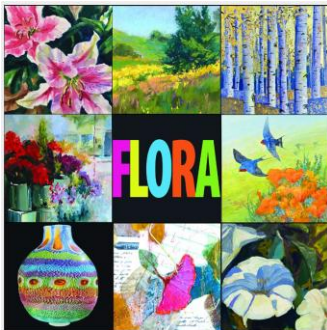
Date: Saturday January 3rd, 2026

Time: 1 pm - 4 pm



315 State St., Los Altos  
(650) 941-5789

Gallery hours: Wed-Sun 11am-5pm



**"Flora" - Group Show**

Show Dates: December 31–January 31

Reception: Friday, January 2, 5-8pm

Featuring works by all fifteen of the gallery's talented artists.

**Recommended by Our Members**

**[Zoya Scholis Workshops](#)**

Fee: \$150 each workshop

Questions and registration: contact: [Zoya@ArtforPersonalGrowth.com](mailto:Zoya@ArtforPersonalGrowth.com)

**Saturday, January 10**

**Richard Diebenkorn, Ocean Park Style Minimalism**

**Saturday, February 7, 10 am - 2:30 pm**

**Henri Matisse**

**Saturday, March 14**

**Georgia O'Keeffe Zoomed-in Abstraction**

## **University Art**



Tricks of the Trade is a section on the UArt website. Everything from the wacky to formal drawing techniques.

This works for almost any holiday:

[Glitter & Shimmer & Shine...Oh My! - University Art](#)

## **December Insight from [Cheap Joe's Art Stuff Blog](#)**



Your Guide to Choosing the Perfect Paint Palette

Choosing the right paint palette is one of the most important decisions you'll make as an artist. It's where your paints live, mix, and come to life—ready to burst onto your canvas. But with the wrong palette, your paints can dry out or become a mess

[Check out years and years of advice and inspiration at Cheap Joe's.](#)

## Opportunities to get your artwork out there

[Click here](#) to see local and national shows and competitions.

## An Art Carrier You Already Own

Always struggling to carry your paintings to shows, venues, and LAAC meetings? Check your closet for that garment bag you aren't using for travel at the moment.



Two (or more) 16 x 20 pieces fit easily into a standard bag. Zip it up, fold it, and off you go

## One Last Click for January

Okay, probably none of us is actually going to do this. But it's still a fun little video. And sunhat season is coming.



Please send newsletter comments, complaints, and contributions to [ellen.barker@pacbell.net](mailto:ellen.barker@pacbell.net)



# APPENDIX A

## Past Demo Recordings

**2025**

**11/11/25 – Mansi creates a little token**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?si=3ozFAS-wuCeEljNY&v=Q4tG5CI9Lfo&feature=youtu.be>

**6/9/25 – May Shei, painted Peony with Chinese brush painting.**

[https://youtu.be/bfJR\\_4d6GKQ](https://youtu.be/bfJR_4d6GKQ)

**05/15/25 – Karen Olsen, Watercolor Techniques**

<https://youtu.be/k7STI-RXI3A>

**4/14/25 – Rona Foster's Still Lifes and Anil Sawe's Seascapes**

<https://youtu.be/kcCLgkvHkTQ>

**03/10/2025 – Ria Sharma, Pastels**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wU\\_vNLMoPA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wU_vNLMoPA)

**2024**

**11/04/2024 - Michelle McCune, Wildlife Painting in Oils**

[https://youtu.be/HulbrpGOG\\_8?si=fFkuA\\_NZr9HOLIt5](https://youtu.be/HulbrpGOG_8?si=fFkuA_NZr9HOLIt5)

**10/08/2024 – Dotty Calabrese, Weaver**

[https://youtu.be/kAWn4sa\\_o\\_g](https://youtu.be/kAWn4sa_o_g)

**5/13/2024 – Lonnie Zarem, Encaustic wax**

<https://youtu.be/hgCHZdK6m5w>

**4/8/2024 – Ria Krishnan, Oil painting**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hkZBiGjqg6E>

**3/11/2024 – Eric Greenhut, Watercolor (Member Presentations)**

<https://youtu.be/Qtir1uNdIJl>

**2/12/2024 – Rafael DeSoto, Watercolor**

<https://youtu.be/yoRRtKraB6w>

**1/8/2024 – Richard Becker, Acrylic Landscape**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aVoQFR8HzXY>



## **2023**

10/2/2023 – Rajashree Dokras Painting on silk.

<https://youtu.be/K819PzWVaI8>

6/10/23 Loic Maltais Portrait from live model

<https://youtu.be/gv7ot00tOJ8>

4/10/23 Vineha Bat Shenoy - Pyransky art on eggshells and other things

<https://youtu.be/kp5MZbADcl0>

3/13/23 Denise Howard – colored pencil and graphite

<https://youtu.be/JRhch78srEA>

2/13/23 Lisa Bauermeister – Fine Art Gourds

<https://youtu.be/Onrx2U1QjMc>

1/9/2023 Karin Taber

Abstract sea and landscape

<https://youtu.be/HsQDLsxufkc>

## **Earlier**

9/9/19 Stacey Nussbaum – colorful, textural California landscapes done in pastel.

<https://youtu.be/qukC-2DmMrA>

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# **APPENDIX B**

## **Venue Reminders**

### **Guidelines for signing up at all venues**

- An artist cannot sign up for the same venue two times consecutively.
- An artist cannot sign up for more than one venue at a time
- Exceptions will be made if we have empty slots on the schedule within a few days of the art exchange date – contact Julia.

### **Reminder about Sales**

- For each sale through a club venue, please send 10% to LAAC, c/o Isao Nojima (treasurer), 475 Knoll Drive, Los Altos, CA 94024.

### **Tags at Venues**

- [Click this link](#) to open a pdf and print the official tags (print them on card stock if you can, otherwise printer paper is fine). You can fill them in by hand or electronically.

- Artwork must display the official LAAC tag next to each artwork
- Prices should be included if the piece is for sale (otherwise, put “not for sale” on the tag)
- Make sure your contact information is legible and correct
- Printed tags can also be picked at our club meetings