



President's Message



Dear Fellow COAA Members,

It's November, cold and flu season and I must admit I'm feeling a little short on inspiration!

So, I did what I often do and went searching on the internet. There are many articles, some good, some not so good about cranking up the artistic engine. This website: <https://robinpiree.com/blog/art-inspiration-ideas>, bravely listed no less than **101** inspiring ideas and that caught my attention. Some of them were quite creative and I've listed a some below:

- Create a painting inspired by your favorite artist or song lyrics.
- Create a series of artworks based on the four seasons.
- Illustrate a scene from a book you're currently reading.
- Paint a still life of objects that have sentimental value to you.
- Paint a landscape as seen through a window.
- Draw a series of hands expressing different gestures.
- Paint a scene inspired by a folktale or fable.

Another option - dig out old or new travel photos, try a new medium, draw a self portrait or one of your pets (pretend or real). One friend told me indoor painting time is from November to March, so hopefully you will find ideas that inspire you to load up the paint brushes this winter.

Looking back at this year, our show and exhibitions were amazing. I was

In this issue

2023-2024 Executive.....2
 Article/Book Review.....2
 Beyond the Palette.....4
 From the Editor..... 5
 Crossection Winners.....6 & 7
 From the Editor......5
 Members News..... 8 & 9
 Introducing the New Newsletter Editor......9
 Renewal Form10

so impressed with the sheer number of entries for each show and the quality as always was outstanding. Kudos to all of you!

Clearly you have said that exhibiting your work is your top priority, and we will continue to have three shows: Visions, Perceptions and Crossection. Dates and locations will be confirmed in the new year but I can tell you we will return to Castle Killbride in Baden for one, Minto Arts Council in Harrison and the Link at Innovation Park in Waterloo for another. We will also use digital

...continued on page 2

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2024 Executive

The executive is available to answer your questions. You can reach them by using the information below.

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Promotion and Marketing Chair
Julie Carlisle
info@coaart.com

Show Coordinator - Barbara McLeod
info@coaart.com

Thanks to Ana Jurpik
our web master

Members' News

Images and announcements of 20-30 words (not ads) are put into the newsletter free of charge for members in good standing.

...continued from page 1
submissions and jurying for our show in Harriston.

Beyond the Palette in September will be organized by ECOAA next year and both of our groups are questioning the feasibility of this event given our dwindling attendance.

I would like to know if you would prefer to have a mid week fall retreat (maybe Tuesday to Thursday) later in the fall next year where we paint plein air or indoors at a relaxed pace. Maybe had a demonstration by one or two of our members, but no

formal instruction. Could you give that some thought and give me your feedback please by email.

I will continue to reach out to you using Mailchimp and save my holiday greetings until next month. All the best to you and yours.
Anne

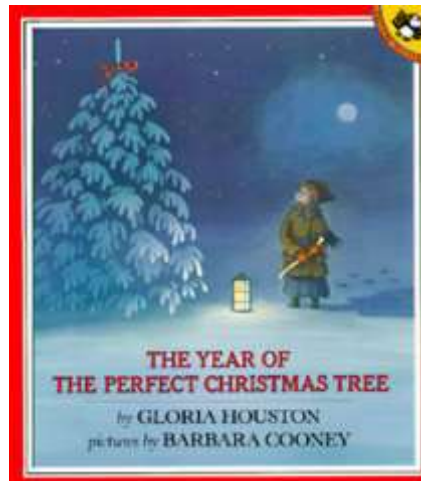
"If you hear a voice within you say 'you cannot paint,' then by all means paint and that voice will be silenced."
- Vincent van Gogh

Anne Williamson
COAA President

Article/Book review

By Anne Williamson

I came across an article in an older Watercolour Magazine about three children's book illustrators: Barbara Cooney, Ashley Wolff and Leonard Everett Fisher.



With the holiday season approaching I'll talk about Barbara Cooney and her book *The Year of the Perfect Christmas Tree*, and catch you up on the other two artists in future newsletters.

But first, let's look at her process. Barbara Cooney painted delicate acrylic pictures on silk and her pre-painting preparation was elaborate:

- First, a square of silk was mounted onto an acetate sheet with a "glue" of matte medium and water
 - Excess water, glue and air was rolled out with a small wallpaper roller and squeegee
- ...continued on page 3

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- With the same roller, a mixture of liquid acrylic gesso and matte medium was applied to the silk and left to dry before sanding with #400 sandpaper
- Another coat or two coats of gesso and matte medium, followed by sanding yielded a surface as smooth as eggshell at which point it was ready to paint

It almost makes me want to try it!

She painted with acrylic paint and Winsor & Newton Series 7 sable brushes as small as 000 size.

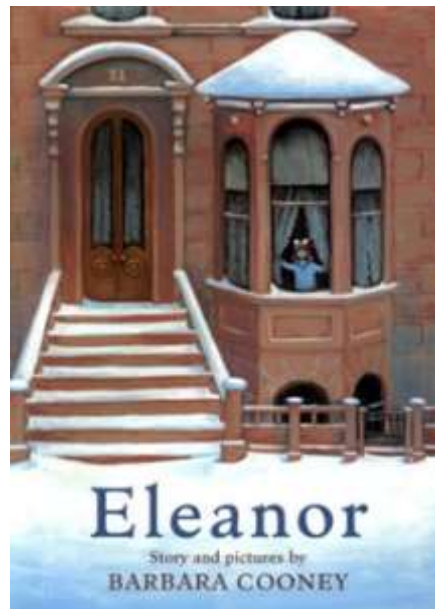
Her books and illustrations have won numerous awards and the pictures are precious. One reviewer described her pictures as “Grandma Moses touched up by Mary Cassatt”.

Her process began with cutting up the manuscript into book pages, followed by sketching her way through the text. She says “These sketches are a kind of dress rehearsal for the final illustrations in the book.” “Making a picture book is like making a little moving picture – you never want the eye to be bored” After completing thorough research, she might take a month to complete a “dummy”, and once ok’d by the editor, then Cooney would begin the final illustrations.

The Year of the Perfect Christmas Tree is a charming book with exquisite illustrations. The main character is Ruthie, a young girl who lives in the Appalachian mountains during the time of the ‘Great War’. I won’t spoil it by telling you the story but I for one am going to look for it to put under our tree for the grandkids this year.

~ Eleanor ~

You might be familiar with another story book “Eleanor”, she wrote and illustrated about Eleanor Roosevelt’s childhood.



“Though she came from a wealthy and privileged family, Eleanor Roosevelt grew up in a cheerless household that left her lonely and shy. Years passed before Eleanor began to discover in herself the qualities of intelligence, compassion, and strength that made her a remarkable woman.

In Eleanor, two-time Caldecott Medal winner Barbara Cooney paints a meticulously researched,

...continued on page 5

"Membership renews at the end of this year - more information to follow"

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Beyond the Palette 2024

The weather could not have been better. Our instructors were excellent, meals wonderful and the setting at the Bayview Wildwood Resort was as lovely as ever. What more could we ask for! Twenty eight artists enjoyed a fantastic weekend. We were three groups.



The group of independent painters produced lovely artwork in the Glyde Hall.



Watercolorists' had a super weekend with Linda Kemp teaching her Negative Painting techniques .



And our plein air group led by Sam Paonessa enjoyed the creative process while soaking up the sun!

The Wine & Cheese party on Friday, gave everyone a chance to mingle & chat as did our bonfires and boat cruises.



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From the Editor



I joined COAA in 2018 to learn about and meet other artists and find new places to exhibit my work. What started out as just another membership became much more.

Over the next few years I learned that to get to know people I had to be involved more so when, then president, Deborah Lengyell asked for help with the November 2020 edition it was my chance to step up. We were in the midst of the covid shutdowns and the newsletter was a great way to stay in touch.

It has been a lot of fun - and very interesting over the last few years

and although it was a difficult decision, the timing was right to pass on the job. I guess it is fitting that my last edition would be the November issue - completing the circle and finishing off where I started.

Some of you know that I have been working on a series of paintings depicting the native species of the Hamilton area. I am now up to 92 finished paintings and have started compiling the e-book these pieces will illustrate. It may sound like a lot of paintings but with well over 2,000 species inventoried in the Hamilton area I still have a long way to go. I am hoping to focus as much of my time as possible over the next year to see how much I can accomplish.

This project is my way of participating in the much bigger Biodiversity Action Plan that is being run by the city of Hamilton to help

the members of the community better understand and protect the amazing biodiversity in Hamilton.

I know there are a lot of exciting things coming up for COAA in the next year but we still want to hear from our members - please tell us about your work, exhibitions or other art adventures !

Don't forget - this newsletter is your connection to other COAA members. Please send in your stories so we can get to know you better - who knows you may find someone living a block away that shares your passion for art - or someone looking to share a ride to that exhibition or gallery when you don't want to go alone.

I am sure the next editor will be as grateful as I was when those emails and pictures arrive.

Karen Logan
COAA Newsletter Editor

Advertisements

are gladly included for a reasonable fee based on an 8.5" X 11" page .

~ Business card: \$25 ~

~ 1/4 page: \$50 ~

~ 1/2 page: \$100 ~

~ Full page: \$200 ~

Please email your ad to newsletter@coart.com

It will be invoiced as above.

*... continued from page 3
lushly detailed picture of Eleanor's
childhood world - but most
importantly, she captures the
essence of the little girl whose
indomitable spirit would make her
one of the greatest and most
beloved first ladies of all time."*

This article was in part copied and paraphrased from an Watercolour Magazine written by Mark Mitchell entitled SILK, WHITE CHALK, AND A SPOON, Pushing Water media beyond Tradition.



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Crosssection - 2024 Award Winners



Best of Show

“Into the Mystic” – Sherrill Girard

Juror’s remarks - *Masterful use of watercolour medium capturing the hazy backlight and contrasting soft and hard edges of the sumac leaves. Excellent play of complementary colours. Well done!*

Nancy Taves and Barb McLeod were on hand to give everyone their awards.



Gold

“Come Roll Back to Me” Vanaja Cotroneo

Juror’s remarks - *Confident, bold brushwork and dynamic colour drew my attention to this winning painting. Vibrant energy both in colour and execution.*



Silver

“Summer Falls Away” Marion Anderson

Juror’s remarks - *This less defined landscape allows the viewer to explore visually and imaginatively. As I look upon this painting I am drawn to the tonal structure of the work. Also known as the Notan structure that moves my eye throughout the painting with a rhythmic pattern. A pleasing strong graphic quality.*



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Crosssection - 2024 Award Winners—continued



Bronze
“I survived”
 Sharon M. Moon

Juror’s remarks - A very skillful execution of watercolour. The title is intriguing, where the viewer can interpret the meaning.





Juror’s Choice
“Elegance”
 Wendy Carmichael Bauld

Juror’s remarks - Just what the title said!




Honourable Mention
“Lady in Red” – Barbara McLeod

Juror’s remarks - An eye-catching painting that invites the viewer to sit on the porch and have some lemonade. The colours and subject evoke emotions of sunny summer days. A delightful painting!




Juror’s Choice
“Winter’s Twilight” – Brigitte Huber

Juror’s remarks - This small work captures well the mood of a winter sunset offering a warm hug at the end of a cold day.

Creativity is allowing yourself to make mistakes. Art is knowing which ones to keep.
 ~ Scott Adams ~




Honourable Mention
“Celestial” – Doreen Renner

Juror’s remarks - I’m a sucker for blue and orange. A strong graphic quality that lets my mind wander into the celestial colours and enjoy the edges along the way.

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Members' News



Karen Logan

Karen was thrilled to learn that her piece “Rocks and Ice” was one of 40 selected for the **Burlington Fine Arts Association ~ The Artist Mark** juried exhibition at the HUB in October. It was also selected for the **Colour and Form Society’s 72nd Open Juried Exhibition** taking place at the Etobicoke Civic Centre Art Gallery from October 30th to November 28th.

Rocks and Ice - soft pastels and pastel pencils on suede board - 15” x 20”

Ljuba Simovic

"Our member Ljuba Simovic has been busy participating in many shows this summer.

Two paintings were at the Castle Kilbride in Baden at the Juried Show organized by the Central Ontario Art Association.

Two pictures are at the McMaster Innovation Park, Art at the Workplace, in Hamilton.

Three paintings are at the Etobicoke Civic Centre at the "Crosssection" Juried show organized by the Central Ontario Art Association.

One painting is at the Art at 7 Innovations show in Dundas

Ten paintings were at the show organized at the Nelles Manor Park by the Lakeshore Pumphouse Artists Association in Grimsby.

And one painting is at the Cotton Factory in the "Celebration" show organized by the Women's Art Association of Hamilton.



1

1. *After the Storm - mixed media - 24” x 36”*

2. *The Warm Effect - acrylic - 20” x 20”*

3. *The Cold Effect - acrylic - 20” x 20”*

4. *Congratulation WAAH - acrylic 20” x 40”*



2

3



4

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Meet your new Newsletter Editor



I'm Pavitra, a Mom, a Tech Consultant, and the Artist behind the canvas. I love diving into the world of colors and emotions, using different mediums like color pencils, pastels, and acrylics to bring my visions to life.

Pet Portraits

I have a special place in my heart for painting pet portraits. There's something magical about capturing the unique personalities of our furry friends. With each brushstroke, I aim to capture those special moments and create a lasting bond between pets and their human companions. My goal is to immortalize the joy and companionship that pets bring into our lives, creating cherished memories for pet owners.

Wild Animal Portraits

Painting wild animals lets me connect with the untamed beauty of nature. Each wild animal I paint tells a unique story and spirit. Whether it's the majesty of a lion, the grace of a deer, or the mystery of an owl, I strive to bring out the essence of

these amazing creatures. Through my art, I hope to inspire a deeper appreciation for wildlife and the natural world.

Abstract Art

Exploring abstract art lets me express emotions in a different way. The mix of colors and textures becomes a space for feelings and interpretations. It's my way of inviting you to join me on a journey of self-discovery through art. Abstract pieces allow for personal connection and reflection, letting viewers find their own meaning and emotional resonance.

I'm passionate about sharing the joy of art and knowledge. Every piece I create is an opportunity to share a bit of my world with you.

Members' News continued



Cabin Fever
oil - 16" x 20"

Nancy Taves

Nancy was thrilled to learn her painting "Cabin Fever" was shortlisted for the 2024 En Plein Air Competition at the McMichael Gallery in Kleinburg, Ontario. It was one of 34 chosen from more than 90 artists. Submissions will be included in both, the online, and physical exhibitions at The McMichael Community Gallery. The opening reception and exhibition have been postponed until April 2025. Final award winners and dates for the reception will be announced in a later newsletter.

The McMichael Gallery is Home to Art of Canada and where the Group of Seven is displayed.

Thank you to the team at The McMichael Canadian Art Collection for this special honour.

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Central Ontario Art Association

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership runs from January 1st to December 31st
Membership paid after September 15th will carry into the next calendar year

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP		PAYMENT METHODS
Basic:	\$45	1. E-Transfer to COAA Treasurer: anneelizwilliamson@gmail.com 2. Personal cheque mailed to: Anne Williamson, COAA 471 Stillmeadow Circle, Waterloo, ON N2L 5M1
Student:	\$25	
Note: Above fees include the option to add two photos of your work to the website gallery at no additional fee.		

PLEASE PRINT VERY CLEARLY

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: Street _____ Apt/Unit _____

CITY/TOWN: _____ ON, POSTAL CODE: _____

HOME PHONE NUMBER: _____ CELL NUMBER: _____

EMAIL _____ WEBSITE: _____

Website Gallery: Send a brief bio, 2 images of your art (including the title, size, medium) and any contact information you wish to include to Anne Williamson at anneelizwilliamson@gmail.com for posting on the COAA website.

Membership Contact Permissions (please check):

I give COAA permission to send me emails: Yes No

I give COAA permission to photograph my artwork for promoting COAA events Yes No

Signature of Member/Applicant: _____

Please send your completed membership form to: Nancy Taves, COAA Membership Chair 206-214 Mill St. New Hamburg, ON N3A 0G6	FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
	PROCESSING	DATE
	Membership Form Received:	
	Membership Roster Updated:	
	Membership Shared with Executive: (for communications & website)	