

MuseLETTER

Minnesota Artists' Association since 1937

Mark Your Calendar

March March 29, 6-8 PM

Reception and awards presentation for the MAA Spring Juried Exhibition at North Suburban Center for the Arts.

April 19th - In-person class on iPhone photography by Charles Hezsely, 1 hour & 30 minutes + Q&A

May - Spring pot luck

March Meeting: MAA Spring Juried Exhibition



Our Spring Juried Exhibition will be hosted by the North Suburban Center for the Arts (aka Banfill-Center for the Arts), 110 - 77th Way NE, Fridley, MN 55432. We will be the first exhibition in the newly renovated fire station that is the new home of NSCA! The show dates are March 26 - April 30, 2022. **Your entry forms are due March 12, 2022.**

Our reception and awards presentation will be Tuesday, March 29, 6-8 PM. Everyone should have already received the form by email. You'll be filling out the form online and submitting it to NSCA directly but will be sending your entry

fees to Marjorie Moody. All the information is on the form. Abby Kosberg, NSCA Executive Director, will be our juror. Delivery of artworks is Monday, March 21, 10 AM - 6 PM (or by appointment). There will also be a gallery talk with the award winners (those who are

willing to participate) on April 21 at 6:30 PM. Pick up of artwork will be Monday, May 2, 10 AM - 6 PM (or by appointment). Hope you will all enter the show and come to the reception!

[Learn about their new home.](#)

Spring Show Dates at a Glance

Entry forms due	March 12
Awards presentation	Tuesday, March 29, 6-8 PM
Artwork drop off	Monday, March 21, 10 AM - 6 PM
Gallery talk	Thursday, April 21 at 6:30 PM
Artwork pick up	Monday, May 2, 10 AM - 6 PM

February's Meeting: "The Most Famous American Artist You've Never Heard Of"



Marie Panlener gave a fascinating presentation on the life and work of **Jean-Michel Basquiat**

(December 22, 1960 - August 12, 1988). She told us of his origins - father from Haiti, mother of Puerto Rican descent,

raised in Brooklyn, New York and had two younger sisters. His mother instilled a love for art in him and he was a junior member of the Brooklyn Museum of Art. His parents separated in 1968 and he was raised by his dad. His mother had mental illness and was institutionalized when Basquiat was ten. By age 11 he was fluent in French, Spanish and English. At 15 he was caught using pot and ran away from home until his father found him and had him brought home. He and his friend Al Diaz wrote and made cartoons for the school newspaper and the two of them became graffiti street artists as teenagers and signed their work SAMO (same old shit). Basquiat met Jennifer Stein who was making postcards using baseball cards, with players faces obscured with white-out. They began making them together and selling them on the street for a dollar. Basquiat had guts walking into a cafe to sell a couple of his \$1 postcards to Andy Warhol. Basquiat had a quick rise to fame because of his unique talent and good fortune of meeting people who believed in him. He seemed to be at the right place at the right time meeting a gallery owner who gave him studio space and then gallery shows. His first painting on canvas sold for \$200 and a few months later they were selling for \$20,000. His first American solo show in 1982 sold out! Basquiat and Andy Warhol collaborated on many paintings until they had a falling out. During his eight-year career as a Neo-Expressionist artist Basquiat was

represented by galleries in New York and Zurich, had shows in New York, Italy, Germany, Switzerland, Paris, Tokyo, and Los Angeles, among others.

I see a strong connection between the baseball card idea of figure, blotting out parts, solid backgrounds, added words and his large paintings where he created his own figures (the black skeletons), added bold, bright color swatches for background and pertinent words either personally important to him or politically meaningful for the time. His work is autobiographical, as is the case with many artists, authentic, passionate, and symbolic. Besides the self-portraits, Basquiat painted psychological portraits of his friends, including Andy Warhol, Black boxers and Black musicians. In 1983 he started using heroin and cocaine developing a \$2000 a week habit. How does one handle success at such an early age? How do you continue to produce and grow as an artist when you've already reached the top so young? Basquiat made a million dollars by age 21. He was even thinking of quitting painting and being a writer or film maker when he tragically died of a heroin overdose at age 27. (See other members of the "[27 Club](#).") His life and work were so intertwined. His paintings are indeed a psychological portrait of his life.



In 2017, this painting, "Untitled," 1982, by Jean-Michel Basquiat sold to Yusaku Maezawa (pictured) for \$110.5 million at Sotheby's.

- by Marjorie Moody

Member News

Ann Sisel has an acrylic and collage artwork called "Line Dance" in the International Society of Experimental Artists online show. The show is called "Making Our Marks" and is an all-members show.

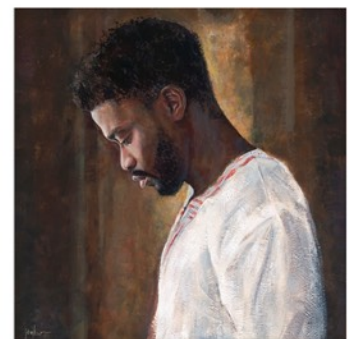


Susan Solomon's painting "Snow Bench" was chosen as one of the designs for Courage Kenny's 2022 holiday card line.



The cards will be available next winter at Lund's and Byerly's and other locations in the Twin Cities. The holiday cards raise money to support Courage Kenny's Rehabilitation Center.

Greg Lecker's oil and alcohol ink paintings, titled "Watershed" will be shown at The Phipps in Hudson, WI, March 4 thru April 16. The Opening Reception is Friday, March 4 6:30 - 8:30 PM.



Marie Panlener won a small prize for a small painting in a "Less than 49 square inches" show at the Shoreview Community Center sponsored by Gallery 96. The gouache painting, "Watching Distant Rain," won 4th place.



Don Aggerbeck had a watercolor accepted into the Northern Lights Exhibition at the White Bear Center for the Arts. Don also has watercolors in these exhibitions as well: The 10th Anniversary Show at the Wyoming Area Creative Arts Community, the March Madness members show at Robbin Gallery and the Northstar Watermedia Society Spring members show.



JuliAnne Jonker become an elected member of the Salmagundi Club.

Also, she was commissioned by Art in Public Places to create 12 large fine art giclee canvases for Dakota county. The paintings will be displayed in the northern facility, Apple Valley facility and the Hastings courthouse.

Mission

The mission of MAA is to educate, encourage, and inspire visual artists of all mediums and skill levels, offer fellowship and a supportive environment for creativity, and be a vital presence in the community through our programs and exhibitions.

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Learn About Producing Public Art on TV

When the world wants "Big Art," it comes to Urban Art Projects, an art-making business founded by identical twins Daniel and Matthew Tobin. From humble beginnings casting bronze door handles, today they run a team who make some of the biggest art in the world.

Watch free on IMDB, Six 24-minute episodes.



Congratulations to Kristi Abbott

Kristi, a collage artist, was our March 2021 demo artist.

We're happy to see an article about her and her work in "Midwest Home" - Jan/Feb 2022 for an article, titled, "Painting With Paper," on pages 10-11.

