



Torrance Artists' Guild

P.O. Box 1494, Torrance, CA 90505

May 2021

TAG Zoom Meeting Tuesday, 7:00 pm, June 8, 2021



Featured Artist

Margarita Rey

Margarita came to the U.S. many years ago from her native Cuba and has made Southern California her home ever since. After her daughters began attending Loyola Marymount University, she found a rare commodity at her disposal: time.

She began pursuing a life long desire to paint. She has attended courses in Drawing, Life Drawing, and Water Color at local colleges, and has traveled to Seattle and Mexico in order to take workshops with world renowned Watercolorists.

The themes of her works vary from local vistas and people, to the architecture and landscapes of her many travel destinations:

Russia, Greece, Egypt, China, Bali and Peru
..... etc.



Margarita is a long standing member of the Torrance Art Guild, The Peninsula Artists Group, and The Watercolor Gourmets.

[See Rey pg.2]

www.torranceartistsguild.org

Webmaster: Jeannine Madden

torranceartistsguild@gmail.com

Statement of Purpose

The Torrance Artist's Guild is a non-profit corporation organized to cultivate art skills, promote awareness and encourage appreciation of art in our community. It is chartered by the City of Torrance in cooperation with the Cultural Services Division of the Community Services Department. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every other month.

General TAG Meeting: Online via Zoom until further notice. Board Meeting: 5-18-21
Newsletter Deadline: Wed. 6-1-21
Editor: Alvin Takamori
(310) 941-1866 alvintaka@att.net

TAG Officers

President: Tricia Alexander
(310) 749-0881 triciaalexander@verizon.net

Vice-President: Kathie Reis
(310) 540-0518 k_reis@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Diane Reeves
(310) 220-1313 diane.reeves@sbcglobal.net

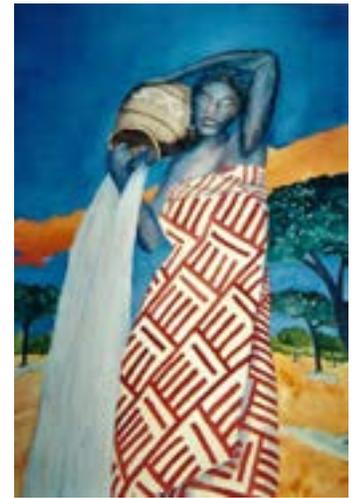
Recording Secretary: Darlene Merle
(310) 720-8035 darlenemerle@yahoo.com

Publicity Chair: OPEN

Membership Chair: Elke Goodno
(310) 614--6274 elkescreations@gmail.com

Program Chair: Linda Thompson
(310) 318-7006 lv2art@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary: OPEN



**Margarita
Rey**

On Being a Middle School Art Teacher...

First of all, let me say things have changed during the 25 years that I've been teaching Art at the middle school level. Or, should I say, KIDS have changed? It used to be that they were more engaged, more curious, more willing to put in the time and effort it takes to be an accomplished artist, or rather, art student. These days, unfortunately, the cell phones and Instagram and youtube influencers have virtually erased any stick-to-it-iveness kids had, let alone any sense of focus or concentration. Sounds pretty depressing? Well, sometimes but not always. There are still those kids who LOVE to make Art, LOVE to create, LOVE to put their all into a project. When those kids come along it gives me hope and fulfillment as an educational professional and I can put aside the behavior issues, the parents who blame me for their kid's failure, the admin's micro-managing, and all the other struggles

I've endured in the public school system to do what I love.

Being an Art Teacher is a lonely job though. There is little interaction with other adults who can relate to what I'm doing. Most Math or Social Studies teachers think we are just "coloring pretty pictures" or having fun in the Art room. There is that, yes, but there is a whole lot more to taking an Art class with Mrs. Chavez! There is problem-solving, collaboration with others, forming opinions, doing research, understanding history/cultures, communicating in all sorts of ways, self-reflection--all the skills the kids will need to be successful in life. And, taking an Art class is proven to be one way to increase their SAT scores (if that gives a little more credence to the ones who control the purse).

[Teacher from pg.2]

I don't have to tell the members of TAG that the Arts are vital to our economy, to our cities and schools, to our well-being in general. They give us joy, make us ponder, piss us off even! What other medium can say all that? I'm forever urging the kids to pay attention to what they see, hear, and touch out there in the real world (and get off their phones and experience life in person) and bring those insights back to the Art room to create Art that means something to them. I tell them to take a risk, to let them show their insides on the outside. I tell them the habits they are forming and the skills they are learning in Art class are going to help them throughout their lives. Sometimes they listen. I hope so anyway...often it is hard to tell.

But, then there's that one kid who comes back to visit their Art teacher from middle school to say they remember something I said. They say they've held onto all their Art projects and look back on their experiences at Sussman Middle School fondly because they were lucky enough to take Art/Design or Ceramics or Exploratory Art with Mrs. Chavez. And, that makes all the years of education, late nights, stress, and heartache worthwhile. That what keeps me excited about being an Art Teacher.

Leslie Chavez

**Endangered Species Project, 7th/8th grade Art/Design class
Sussman Middle School, Downey, CA**



Bethany G.



Hailey L.



Lily G.



Sophia G.



Nate P.



Michael T.



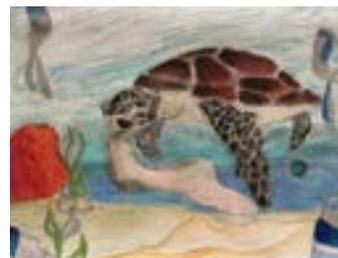
Ximena A.



Fabian A.



Maiya L.



Leia Z.



Angelica R.

President's Message

Dear TAG Members,

Children make friends ridiculously easily, but we older adults don't seem to find it so simple. One way to become integrated into the TAG group is to become its president. I do like to joke around as you may have noticed, but I'm serious about this. I have been more in touch with our members since January than during my first two of years as a TAG member (this is my third year with TAG). In the past six years, I have joined four local groups, and in three of them, I was on the board by the second year. That fourth group seemed to be run by 2-3 people, who didn't seek input from the other members. I was also asked to take on a job in that group, but it was a new position, with no job description, and it was not a board position. I replied that I was already on other boards, but as soon as they came up with a job description, I would take a look at it. They never got back to me. Joining a board is a way to immediately be in touch with the most active people in an organization. TAG has some really undemanding board positions, which I hope you'll consider. My recommendation is to always ask for a written job description, so you know what you are expected to do.

One shift in our general meeting agenda, which seems to have caught people off guard, is that I have asked for a discussion on some issues, because I want input from the general membership. If you would like a heads up on items to be discussed among the TAG membership, I can send out the general meeting agenda ahead of time. Let me know what you think about this. Next meeting, there will be a discussion of changes to the bylaws, and I certainly intend to get those changes out to you ahead of time. By the way, Board meetings are open to all members. Dates for the Board meetings are listed in the newsletter. You simply need to tell me you would like to attend, so that I can send you the Zoom link.

The latest on our proposed July paint-in at Destination Art is this: Saturday, July 3rd, is wide



open for us to use the space at Destination Art. July 17th would be another option. If you are interested in this event, please let me know your preference as to date (July 3rd or 17th). This would be a free "paint in" for TAG members to bring your painting, art supplies, and reference material to hang out with other TAG members. Feel free to bring beverages, wine, crackers and cheese, whatever suits you.

Tricia Alexander

TAG April General Meeting Winner - People's Choice



African Mother in a Blue Dress
by Tricia Alexander

If you want to share a piece of your artwork at the next meeting, please send a photo of it, unframed, to Lynn Attig: lynnattig@gmail.com

Crocodile Painting

A couple of years ago while sitting in Malaga Cove with other artists, I had this picture on display. As I was getting coffee in the market, I met Florence and her parents. Florence was 5 years old at the time. As I started a conversation, I told her she had to come to see the crocodile. To add more interest, I stuck out my thumbs and said; “How do you think I got those short thumbs?” Anyway, we all became friends and I went home to write the tale about the crocodile for Florence. She is 7 now, and we are still friends.



About that ‘Crocodile’, the next month, while sitting in Malaga Cove, a great big, burly guy makes a straight beeline for it and says; “I want that Crocodile.” As we worked out the price, I told him it came with a tale, which I handed to him as well. I saw him walking away smiling from ear to ear.

It made me happy that my painting found a loving home.

Elke Goodno

The Crocodile

That Crocodile, I found it in a spot
In the middle of a parking lot
It looked so lonely and I thought
I’ll take it home and then I bought
A toothbrush for that darling beast
To get rid of the yellow teeth at least
Bright shining teeth is what I want on pets
Then I attempted to brush them without giving
it meds
But maybe to put it in a better mood
I should have started just giving it food
‘Cause as I was moving in with my brush
It growled a bit but I was not in a rush
I tried again and got quite close
This time it snapped and I got a dose
Of reality as most of you might say
‘Cause it clamped down as if my thumbs were hay
And this my friends is how I got
Those short stubby thumbs you keep starring at.
So all of you hear my excellent advice
A crocodile never appreciates when you are nice.

Written by Elke Goodno 9/23/2018



Art Event News

Destination Art Associate Artists 2021 Exhibition

May 3 - June 12 In the Gallery and Online
online at www.destination-art.net

National Watercolor Society

2021 NWS Member Exhibition (Online Only)

May 1 - June 27, 2021

www.nationalwatercolorssociety.org

Online Juried Shows

Entry portal for various art shows from around the country

OnlineJuriedShows.com

2021 San Pedro Art Association Harbor Wide Online Student Art Competition and Exhibition

Participants must be between ages 4-18 and schooled in the greater harbor area. Deadline for online submission June 20, 2021 - Send jpg photo or video clip by text to (310) 612-1949, (310) 831-2928 or email to spaa@sanpedroart.org Please include student's name, phone or email, grade and school. Entry form at sanpedroart.org. One entry per student.

Pastel Society of Southern California

Make Your Mark! 2021, International Online Open Exhibition – Entry Deadline July 15, 2021

psscwebsite.org

Palos Verdes Art Center

PVAC90: Past, Present & Future
year-long 90th Anniversary Exhibition

pvartcenter.org

Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute

Virtual art exhibit from Sept. 18-30, 2021. An in-person show may be added, depending on future conditions. The theme is "Cultural Heritage." The show is open to all artists of any heritage, using any medium. The exhibit will be posted at www.jci-gardena.org.

For an application and more information go to:

<https://www.jci-gardena.org/2021-online-art-show.html>



Destination: Art – Classes and Workshops

Christopher Cook - Fundamental Oil Painting Skills, Zoom –

Chris Cook – oil, May 15, 2021 \$60

Find Your Voice - Critique with Frank Minuto, In Studio – Frank Minuto

all mediums, Jun 3-Jul 1, 2021 \$150

Contemporary Watercolor with Louisa McHugh, Zoom – Louisa McHugh – watercolor, June 2-30, 2021 \$145

Contemporary Watercolor with Louisa McHugh, In Studio – Louisa McHugh – watercolor, June 2-30, 2021 \$145

Christopher Cook - Abstract Realism in Oil, Zoom

Chris Cook – oil, Sat. June 19, 2021 \$80

Start to Finish: Designing a Layered Painting in Watermedia, Zoom – Liz Walker – watermedia, Sat. June 26, 2021 \$60

Pastel Landscape with Joe Mancuso, Zoom– Joe Mancuso – pastel, July 15-16, 2021 \$95

Pastel Landscape with Joe Mancuso, In Studio – Joe Mancuso – pastel, July 15-16, 2021 \$95

Teresa Saia - Expressions of Light: Creating Dramatic, Dynamic Landscapes – Teresa Saia – pastels, July 23-25, 2021 \$390

Paint-Ins

Tuesdays 10:00am-3:00pm, \$15 each, \$10 for Assoc. Artists, Drop in, no registration

www.destination-art.net

Sign up on line.

Destination: Art offers a variety of art classes and workshops to provide our community with quality instruction, a comfortable environment and support to improve technique and knowledge. Destination: Art continues to hold classes in pastel, oil painting, watercolor, mixed media and drawing.

Instructors are award winning artists, and classes are kept small, granting students the best learning opportunity. If there is an art skill you wish to learn please provide the information by contacting Destination: Art.

(310) 742-3192

LocalArtists@destination-art.net

www.destination-art.net

1815 W. 213th Street, #135

Torrance, CA 90501

Hours: Tu, Fri, Sat 11:00 am - 5:00 pm

Sun noon - 4:00 pm