



# Newsletter

April 2019

Verdugo Hills Art Association, P.O. Box 8059, La Crescenta, CA 91224  
[verdugoarts.org](http://verdugoarts.org) Jeanne Windoffer, Editor, [VHArt\\_News@yahoo.com](mailto:VHArt_News@yahoo.com)

## Watercolor Demonstration by Pradeepa Thirumulu

April 5, 7:00pm at the La Canada Community Center, 4469 Chevy Chase Dr.



Pradeepa was born and brought up in Chennai, India. She graduated in electrical engineering from Anna University India. She moved to the United States in 1998 and currently resides in Azusa.

After coming to the US Pradeepa developed a deeper interest in drawing and sketching. She is mostly self-taught but attended a few classes and workshops while bringing up her family. She is very versatile and works in many mediums including watercolor, oil, acrylic and pastel. However, watercolor really challenges her. She has been teaching watercolor for more than 10 years at the Arcadia Community Center. She believes in continuous learning as she



strongly feels one lifetime is not enough to learn the intricacies of art, especially watercolor.



Her paintings have been exhibited in many places, Temple City, at the Los Angeles County Fair, Mid-Valley Art Association and at the Creative Arts Group, and won many prizes. She is currently in the "In Bloom" exhibition of Creative Arts Group.

After seeing paintings like those presented here, we're looking forward to her demonstration at our next meeting.



## President's Letter

by Sue Peacock

In my chorus competing world we are regularly warned to not speak negatively of anyone else's performance. They or their friends might hear us, and it--our opinion or gossip--reflects on us as well. As I was waiting for the security guard to return to the Alhambra City Hall lobby, a woman came in. She walked through the exhibit looking at everything. She mentioned she is an artist. Most of her comments were harmless, innocuous. Then she came to one painting and said, "Now this is a painting!" She continued with comments like, "this is perfect...why didn't this get a ribbon?.. this is the only one worth even looking at," etc. In thinking back I realized I would have been insulted if I had entered anything. Yes, it is a lovely painting, but the judge didn't select it for whatever his reasons were. I am very proud of our artists. There is a wonderful assortment in this exhibit, a great representation of our members' works. Thank you everyone for your participation. Congratulations to all our winners!



Please come to the artists' reception on March 20 from 5-7. If you are able, we ask for donations of finger food. VHAA will provide the beverages (non-alcoholic) and all the set up items. (More details elsewhere in the newsletter).

We learned from this show that for the next exhibit at Alhambra City Hall in October, we highly recommend paintings or photos framed *no smaller* than 16x20. We are bouncing around some ideas of having a theme for the show, such as Fall, or for judging not by our categories of representational, non-representational and photography, but possibly by topic, such as: still-lives, seascapes, or people which I understand is something other clubs do. Each topic would receive ribbons based, as we do

*President's Letter - continued from p. 1*

already, on the number of artists who entered in each topic, as well as the number of entries. I would love some feedback on either of these concepts—of an overall theme or awards given within specific topics.

Thank you as always for your help and participation.

Sincerely,

Sue Peacock, President

## VHAA Artists' Reception at Alhambra City Hall

**Come enjoy the reception on March 20 from 5:00 - 7:00pm, Alhambra City Hall, 111 S. First St.**

See all the wonderful paintings, and enjoy some snacks and beverages with your fellow artists!

There is plenty of free parking available with street parking, an underground lot below the library next door, and a four-story parking tower across the street. If you are coming from the north, the parking lots are south of Main Street just before you arrive at city hall. The driveway for the underground lot will be on your right, and the tower is on the left. The elevator from the underground lot will put you on the library plaza; the next building is city hall. If you want dinner after the reception that section of Main Street is lined with many restaurants. If you want specific information regarding the directions or possible restaurants, Sue Peacock has offered to help. Contact her at [suesingsbass2@gmail.com](mailto:suesingsbass2@gmail.com)

**Exhibit dates: March 4 - 29, 2019, available Monday through Friday, 8:00am - 5:00pm**

**Reception: March 20, 5:00 - 7:00pm**

**Exhibiting artists make arrangements to pick up your paintings at city hall on March 29, 9:30 - 10:30am**

## Shaney Watters - Demo Review *by Angela Alvarenga*

Shaney Watters gave a beautiful demonstration on how she paints on wood panels. She says she is self-taught through trial and error. To start a painting, she selects a panel and sands it down. She then stains the panel and uses an adhesive to apply gold or silver leaf. The gold leaf is “composition gold leaf,” usually made with copper, zinc or brass. Once the gold leaf has been applied, she then does a sketch with a light burnt sienna.



Watters paints in oils because she likes to push the paint around. She applies her first layer using a photo reference of her subject. She starts with the actual color of the animal but then uses various colors to make it fun. She begins with a mid tone, and continues painting from darks to lights. She uses broad strokes and comes back in for the detail. She blends on the panel so the strokes look more like hair. Watters ends with the eyes because she feels like it is a payoff. She sometimes uses alcohol pads as an eraser to remove gold leaf and reveal the wood panel.



To apply the resin, she first protects the sides of the wood panel with painter's tape. She uses resin that is specifically made for art and must be mixed. Watters pours the mixed resin directly onto the dried painting. The resin is self-leveling but she sometimes uses a scraper to move it around. With some designs, she randomly pours the resin to give a splash effect. Bubbles may appear in the resin and may pop on their own or she uses a small torch to pop them.



Watters is truly a master with her technique and wonderfully captures her love for all animals in every piece she creates. She often sells her pieces at Art Fairs and will bring work along to keep her occupied. She is also training to become a volunteer docent at a local zoo where she has picked up many fun facts on animals!



## Artist of the Month by Angela Alvarenga



**Duane Stroh** won first place in the Open Category for Artist of the Month for his photograph, *Offshore Wind*. The photo was of a beautiful wave coming up onto the shore. Duane was inspired to take this photograph from years of surfing in Southern California since he was a teen. He has always loved watching waves and noticed the waves are the best when they are blown offshore. He received his first camera in high school and still takes a camera with him everywhere he goes. He loves to take photos when the surf is good, but also loves to be surfing when the surf is good.

Duane came into art through ceramics. He took his first pottery class in 1968 at a junior college. He has a home studio and is actively involved with the La Canada Flintridge Community Center where he can glaze his pottery and participate in craft fairs. Duane was especially honored to have one of his ceramics given to President Barrack Obama as an inauguration gift.

*Every artist was first an amateur - Ralph Waldo Emerson*

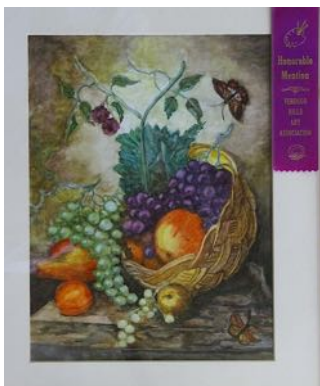
## Exhibition at Alhambra City Hall

Congratulations to our award winners! Everyone is welcome to the artists' reception March 20. Thanks to Nikki Thomas, David McCully, Sue Peacock, and Jeanne Windoffer for hanging the art, and to Richard Scott for the great jurying.

Best of Show	Kimberly-Ann Talbert	Photograph	<i>Matilija with Bud</i>
First	Pepe Apablaza	Watercolor	<i>Going Home</i>
Second	Jay Ewing	Watercolor	<i>Camarillo Ranch Victorian</i>
Third	Dora Giordano	Oil	<i>The Old Mill House</i>
Hon Men	Maria Bonoli	Acrylic	<i>The Harvest, Still Life</i>
Hon Men	Lee Johnson	Watercolor	<i>Here's Looking at You!</i>
Hon Men	Jeanne Windoffer	Watercolor	<i>Oh, Look Now!</i>



All Exhibiting Artists: Remember to pick up your paintings  
Friday, Mar 29, 9:30-10:30!



*REMINDERS and NOTES*

VHAA members [Julie Crouch](#), [Devorah Friedman](#), [Betty Glass](#), [Lee Johnson](#), [Sandy Rooney](#), [Nikki Thomas](#), and [Jeanne Windoffer](#) will have art on display at the Mid-Valley Arts League exhibit Mar 21 - May 18 at Chaffey Community Museum of Art.

MVAL will host **Saturday in the Park** with the Masters on April 6, info at their website: [midvalleyartsleague.org](http://midvalleyartsleague.org)

The [Watercolor West](#) prospectus for their Fall exhibition will be available April 2 at the website: [WatercolorWest](#)

**Art of the Garden** tour is hosted by Creative Arts Group April 14. See their website for details: [CreativeArtsGroup](#)

[Pepe Apablaza's](#) painting was used for the Cambria Art and Wine Festival publicity posters/flyers this past January. Congratulations!

Upcoming Events

March 20 - VHAA Reception  
at Alhambra City Hall 5pm

April 5 - Pradeepa Thirumulu - WC Demo

April 27 - John Byram Workshop

May 3 - Golden Arts Materials

June 29 - Joseph Stoddard - Workshop

Like us on FACEBOOK!  
Verdugo Hills Art Association

2018 - 2019 Key Contacts

**President** - Sue Peacock  
626-282-2852  
[suesingsbass2@gmail.com](mailto:suesingsbass2@gmail.com)

**Demonstrators** - Nikki Thomas  
323-394-2165  
[nikkithomas1@gmail.com](mailto:nikkithomas1@gmail.com)

**Membership** - Suzanne Bitterman  
818-307-2485  
[sbitte8670@aol.com](mailto:sbitte8670@aol.com)

**Newsletter** - Jeanne Windoffer  
818 240-2104  
[VHArt\\_News@yahoo.com](mailto:VHArt_News@yahoo.com)

**Workshops** - Arda Derian  
[aderian5@yahoo.com](mailto:aderian5@yahoo.com)

**Artist of the Month** - Angela Alvarenga  
[angela.roberson@gmail.com](mailto:angela.roberson@gmail.com)



Verdugo Hills Art Association, P.O. Box 8059  
La Crescenta, CA 91224

Next Meeting  
April 5

Next Board Meeting  
April 8