

PERSPECTIVES Newsletter

February 2025

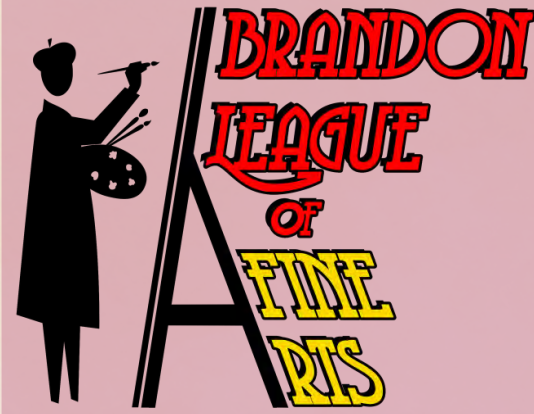
THIS MONTH'S DEMO

Bonnie Phillips will lead in a Stenciling 101 project using different mediums. Stenciling is as old as prehistoric man and has been dated as far back as 9000 years ago on cave walls. It is a well thought out way to reproduce the same pattern over and over.

Dictionaries state that a stencil is an impervious material in which openings have been cut out so that ink or paint may be applied to a surface.

Immigrants brought stenciling with them to the new world and used it for decoration in the home, on furniture and in works of art. Fabrics, clocks, mirrors, boxes, trays, floor covering, utensils, walls, ceilings, pottery and tin ware were stenciled in early homes.

Popular subjects were fruit, flowers and Shells. Later it was widened to include animals, ships, buildings and birds. Stencils may be hand drawn and cut.



JOIN US

February 17, 2025

6:30 pm



At Creative Junk Therapy

776 W. Lumsden Road
Brandon, FL

FEBRUARY'S MEETING
DEMO

Some examples of stenciling done by Bonnie:

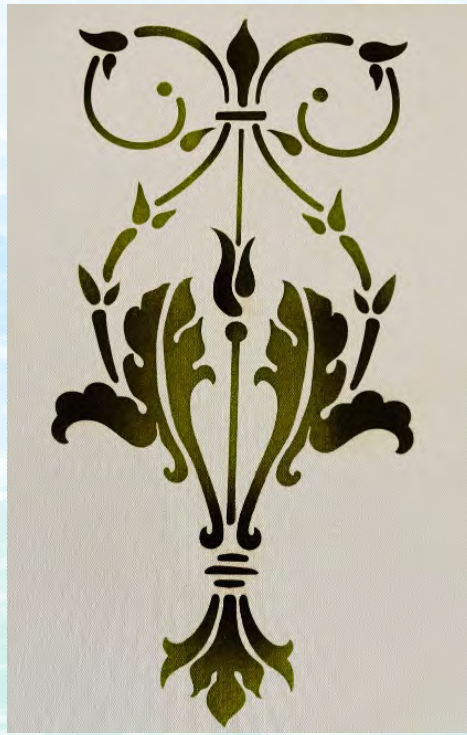
Cats On Fabric



Puff Stenciling



Traditional



Theorem Stenciling - cut so that
there are no Bridges.



A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

There are few things I regret in my life, nowadays considering even the bad or foolish as an invisible prompting to become better at art, friendships, and generally as a person. There were many opportunities in my youth I let pass by or was indifferent to, speculating that "my boat will be coming soon". Meanwhile a thousand ships sailed past and I watched undeterred with the self assurance that they were just not the right ones... Art Club...Naaaah. Photography Classes...it's not what I want...A group trip to the art gallery...I don't know those people...

Well after a few years rolled on and I reflected on the adventures that did not happen because "they weren't for me", it became apparent that I would require the ability to say to myself...Let's give this a try. Say YES when invited to do or see something different and new. Oh what a world was out there waiting for me to visit. So I will not regret, I will reflect. I will not let my lost possibilities shape me, I won't turn my back on the past but take today and start a whole new outlook on what could be.

We're artists...there's nothing like that in the entire world. So when that creative cruise liner comes by and others on it call out for you to jump on-board...Tell yourself...Let's give this a try.



David Bodo, President,
Brandon League of Fine Arts
bodoartworks@gmail.com

January Meeting



Still Life - Perspectives Collaboration

Participants at the January meeting worked on a fascinating project centered around still life drawing. Each artist interpreted the subject from different angles, contributing unique perspectives that will come together to form a collective artwork.

The highlight of this creative endeavor is the surprise animation by David Bodo, which promises to breathe life into each drawing. This dynamic presentation will seamlessly transition between the varying viewpoints, weaving a captivating narrative that showcases the diversity and creativity of the group.

Artist & SPOTLIGHT *Carol Stebbins*

Written by Guy Learn



Most of you probably know Carol from her consistent presence in our league functions. To say that she is a true asset to the league would be an understatement since she is an unusually active member, serving simultaneously in a variety of key roles. That said, I find it interesting that, just as with her league roles, the list of mediums that she has worked with also has quite a variety. This list includes pastel, watercolor, charcoal, ink, printing, batik, and mixed media. And if that list were not enough, she now intends to get into the three-dimensional realm, trying her hand at repousse' (metal works).

When asked if she had a favorite medium, she said that she felt the most satisfaction coming from her printing. Her work there was mainly with lithography (limestone block) and zinc plate. Both are quite involved processes that I could only begin to describe here, so if you're at all curious, I'm sure she'd be glad to discuss the subject in more detail.

Carol Stebbins



Carol is originally from the Canal Zone but moved to the Tampa Bay area in 1951. Then it was in 1967 that she began pursuing a Fine Arts degree at the young USF campus. Unfortunately, after three years of classes, I guess you could say that life started to get in the way of her schooling, and she had to step away. She had pretty much finished all the art curriculum needed for the degree, but some main-stream academic requirements remained a final hurdle to achieving a sheepskin. It wouldn't be until the 91/92 academic year that she would resume the effort and enroll in the International Academy of Design (here in Tampa) and finally earn her degree.

While her formal education didn't begin until 1967, her interest in art began long before. She explained that even as a preschooler, she was fascinated by art and her little hands were simply determined to create. But with no true art supplies, she would find burned matches in ashtrays and use them as one would use charcoal. Then for drawing paper she would find old envelopes to use as the surface for her creations; quite a determined attitude for one that young.

Carol Stebbins



As the years progressed, her interest evolved into a passion. But that passion still had the challenge of obtaining art supplies. So, with art being such an important priority to her, she again had to develop a solution. As a toddler, the “match and envelope” approach solved the problem, but now she needed more substantial supplies, and again, her creative mind found a way. I guess the term “starving artist” would be somewhat appropriate because her solution was to save her lunch money to use for buying the needed supplies.

Many years have passed since then and fortunately the monetary aspect is no longer an issue. There are still challenges, but now they are more specific to the creative process. She says it’s sometimes challenging, waiting for true inspiration. She doesn’t want to just participate in mere exercises and create generic meaningless art.

Her passion for art has created a desire to effectively pass on that same sense of inspiration of her works to others, and ideas for such pieces don’t always come easy.

Relating to inspiration, when asked about her favorite artists, Picasso and Dali were the first to come to mind. But while they inspired her, she hasn’t fallen into the common trap of trying to mimic an artist’s work. Instead, she seems to have fed from their creative mindset of diverting from the norm, but in her own way. Her favorite subject matter is “figure studies”, and it shows. Unlike some art or even photography that give a sense of an image being an instant frozen in time, some of her figure studies seem to defy the reality of being a single static image on paper and instill a sense of movement. It’s a style that I think Picasso and Dali could have appreciated.

Maybe as art league members, we should appreciate the fact that Carol is not more frequently visited by the muse of Inspiration, as it has allowed her time to lend her passion to the league and help it function. But as these inspirations do come, I’m sure we will get to see some impressive fruits of such inspiration on the walls of our art shows.

Exciting Upcoming *Events*



Art Outings

6140 Edward Medard Pkwy, Plant City, FL 33567

Join us for a rejuvenating artistic retreat where creativity meets the great outdoors. Whether you're a painter, sculptor, or prefer to sketch, this is your opportunity to connect with fellow artists in a serene natural setting. Bring your favorite art supplies and let the vibrant landscapes and fresh air fuel your inspiration. It's not just about creating art, but also about building a community that appreciates the beauty of nature and the joy of artistic expression. Don't miss out on the chance to refresh your mind and ignite your passion surrounded by like-minded creatives and stunning scenery.

More Exciting Upcoming *Events*

Show and Tell

Show and Tell openings for the coming year are available. Share your personal creative insights with the membership along with current or past art. Email BLFABrandon@gmail.com with your preferred month, starting with February, or sign up at the next general meeting, February 17, 6:30 PM at CJT for March, April and May.

BLFA fundraiser

BLFA fundraiser March 16, needs volunteers to assist with pickup, pricing and transport, and day of event participation. Email BLFABrandon@gmail.com with your availability dates and times. We had an incredible response to last year's fundraiser, let's put the 'FUN' in FUNDRAISER by donating and participating! (NO DROP OFFS AT CJT due to lack of storage space) the address to drop off donations will be provided by email, respond to BLFABrandon@gmail.com with request for address, availability to help, and if pick up is needed.





Join the Brandon League of Fine Arts

Membership Application

Please print legibly.

Name:

Phone:

Email:

Website:

Medium:

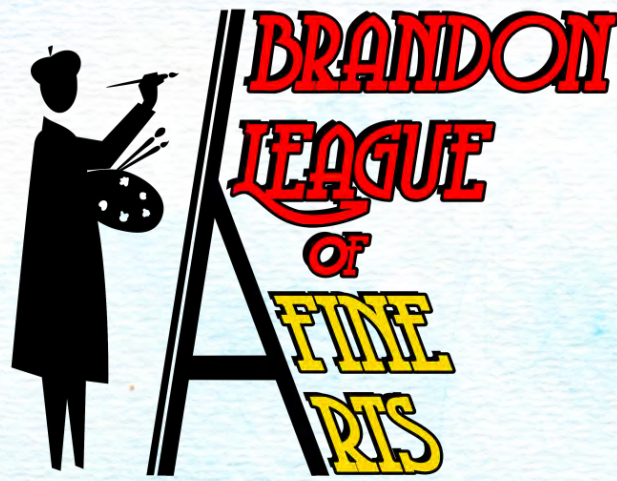
How did you find the BLFA?

Membership Type: ☐ Individual \$40 ☐ Family \$50

Cash or Check only please

Make checks payable to BLFA

Please contact BLFA if you would like information about volunteer opportunities.



The Brandon League of Fine Arts, established in 1959, is a vibrant organization dedicated to supporting and promoting the arts within the community. It serves as a gathering place for artists and art enthusiasts alike, offering a platform for creative expression and advocacy. Through various events, exhibitions, and educational programs, the League aims to enrich the cultural landscape and foster a deeper appreciation for the arts. Its long-standing commitment to nurturing artistic talent and encouraging public engagement has made it a cornerstone of the local arts scene, inspiring creativity and collaboration among its members and the broader community.



CREATIVE JUNK THERAPY

776 W Lumsden Rd. in Brandon
In La Viva Plaza • (813) 324-9777

Hours of Operation

Closed Mondays

Tuesday - 12 pm - 5 pm

Wednesday - Friday 12 pm - 7 pm

Saturday & Sunday 10 am - 7 pm

[Facebook.com/CreativeJunkTherapy](https://www.facebook.com/CreativeJunkTherapy)

www.CreativeJunkTherapy.org



Bay Area Cardiology Associates, P.A.

Committed. Passionate. International Cardiology.

BayAreaCardiology.com

Bay Area Cardiology Associates
13029 Summerfield Square Dr
Riverview, FL 33578

Bay Area Cardiology Associates PA
635 Eichenfeld Dr
Brandon, FL 33511

Bay Area Cardiology
TGH Health Plex - Off Felkenburg Dr,
10740 Palm River Road
Tampa, FL 33619

Thank You Sponsors

NEED MORE art in your life?

JOIN A CLASS!



BLFA Member Classes at Creative Junk Therapy

Visit Creative Junk Therapy's Event FB page and/or website for additional classes, schedules and fees.

[Facebook.com/CreativeJunkTherapy](https://www.facebook.com/CreativeJunkTherapy)

www.CreativeJunkTherapy.org



Oil Painting Open Studio

Chris Klein
Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
\$15/session or \$56/4 sessions



Kids Drawing Develop Your Vision

Chris Klein
3rd Wednesdays, 5-7 p.m.
\$10/session or \$35/4 sessions



Drawing Beginners & Beyond

Chris Klein
4th Saturdays, 3-6 p.m.
\$25/session or \$80/4 sessions



Creative Meetup Open Studio

Friday, Dec. 20, 7 - 9 p.m.
\$15 Per Person BYO Supplies and project



Watercolor Classes

Roxanne Tobaison
2nd Saturdays
Beginner - 10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Beyond Basics - 1:30 p.m. - 4: p.m.
Watercolor Open Studio (Assistance with projects) 3rd Fridays 1:00 PM
\$25 Per Person BYO Supplies
(+ \$5 Supplies Included)



Inspired Acrylic Painting

Sunday, Dec. 22, 3 p.m.
\$25 Per Person BYO supplies
(+ \$5 Supplies Included)



Colored Pencils, Pastels and More

Michele Young
Saturday, Jan. 24, 10:30 a.m - 1:30 p.m.
Beginner - \$20 + \$5 Supplies
Open Studio - \$15 BYO supplies



Paint Along with Bonnie!

Classes in oil, acrylic, watercolor, textile painting, pouring, collage, pen & ink, colored pencil and more.

Limit 5 students.

Individual instruction. First class FREE supplies.

Weds @ 10 a.m. & Thurs @ 6 p.m.

Iteachpainting@me.com (813)810-4885