

today

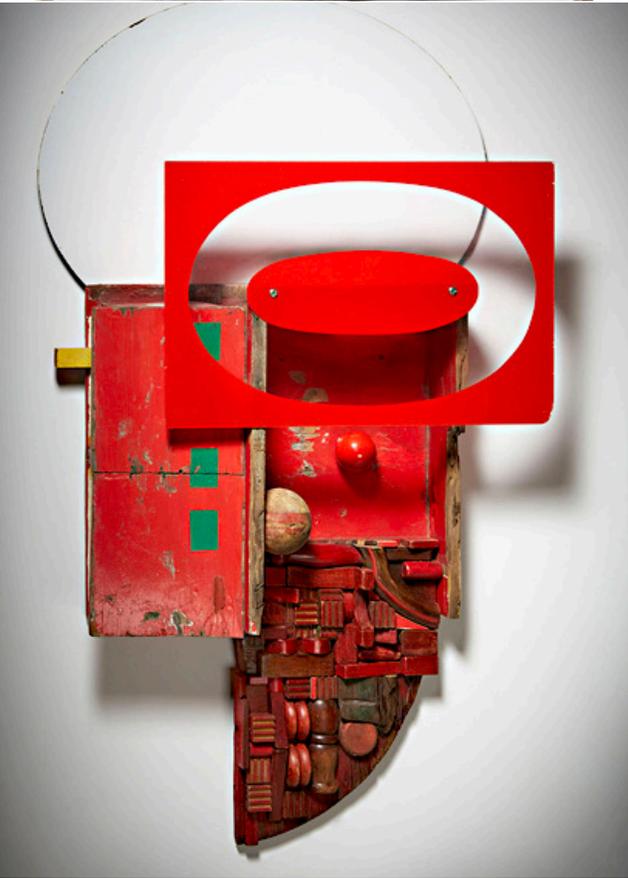
DECEMBER 2025





MEMBER FEATURE

Fran has been repurposing the detritus of America into new and fantastic uses since he first learned to draw as a small boy. His mother brought him huge billboard paper sheets that were blank on the back, and he spent hours upon hours on his hands and knees filling them with doodles. He has an affinity towards glass eyes, multi-colored dryer lint, and bowling balls. He will glue canvases for painting onto desk-tops or paint directly onto the canvas of army medic stretchers. "The material has meaning," he says, explaining his philosophy. "Everything has meaning."



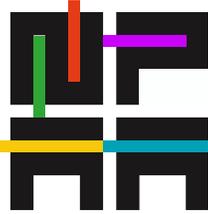
Fran Schanz was born in 1945 in Erie, Pennsylvania. He graduated with a BFA in painting from Mercyhurst College and a MFA in three dimensional art from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania. He has proven to be one of the areas most imaginative and prolific artists.

For Fran, art is life. Fran claims he can "make serious art out of anything," and all evidence shows that to be fact. Fran has been making serious art from every experience and item that has come his way since he was quite young. From being drafted to Vietnam and coming home wounded; the hard knocks he's taken in the past have always been the source of his imaginative art. There's no doubt that whatever materials life provides him with in the future, wondrous and fantastic things will ensue.



northwestern pennsylvania
artists association

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NPAA
Holiday Party
City Gallery
Gallery Night
December 12
5:00 - 7:00 pm
Wine & Beer
Pot Luck



HOLIDAY SHOW 2025

CITY GALLERY

1503 State Street, Erie, PA
GALLERY NIGHT

Holiday Party Friday, December 12, 5-7pm

NPAA members and friends plus one

Food catered by Cali's: veggies/ranch dip/gourmet cheese/meat/premium fruit
spinach/artichoke dip/cocktail meatballs/jumbo shrimp/veggie potstickers

Beer/wine supplied by the NPAA

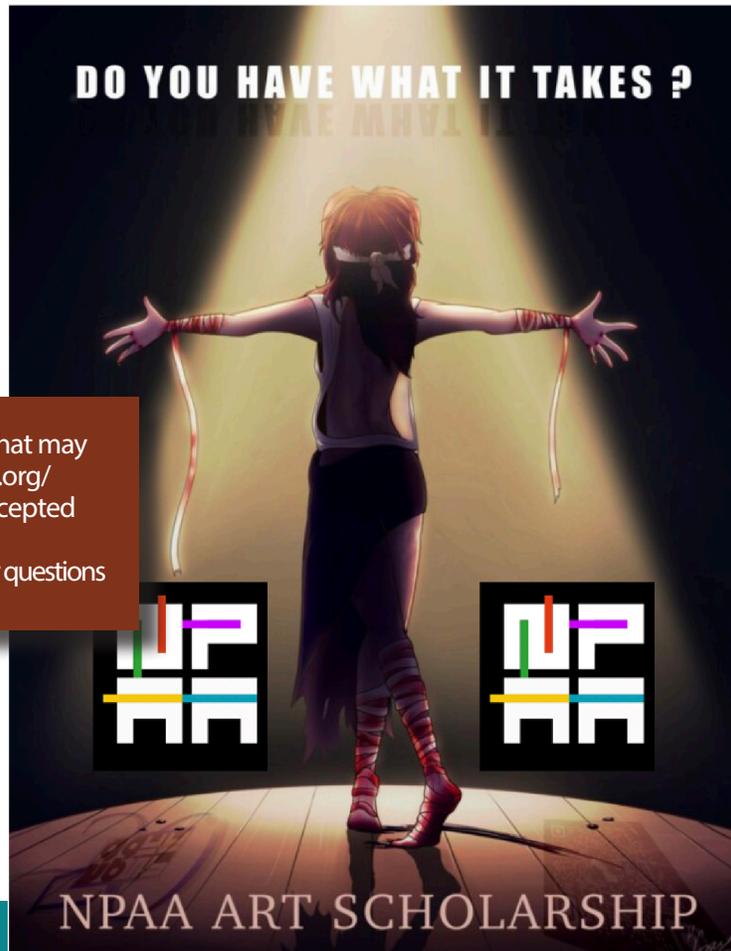
You are welcome to bring pot luck and desserts, but not necessary





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MEMBER NEWS



Know a high school senior that may be eligible? Visit npaaonline.org/scholarship. Submissions accepted until January 8th 2026. Email tshannon@eriesd.org for questions

The NPAA is once again excited to announce its ongoing commitment to fostering artistic talent in the region. For over two decades, we've proudly awarded more than \$112,000 in scholarships to graduating high school seniors, empowering them to pursue their dreams of studying art at the collegiate level.

This year, NPAA is especially proud to highlight its partnership with Erie Insurance, which has generously raised funds in memory of the late Robert Sajewski. A revered graphic designer and passionate advocate for the local arts scene, Bob's legacy lives on through the Robert Sajewski Memorial Scholarship, ensuring that his spirit continues to inspire future generations of artists.

Looking ahead to 2026, NPAA is honored to collaborate with the Erie Art Museum and Erie Insurance to further support and nurture young talent in our community. But we need your help. You can play a vital role in this mission by contributing to the NPAA high school scholarship endowment fund.

Join us in making a difference. Visit NPAA Scholarships to learn more and donate. Together, let's empower the next wave of creative minds and keep the arts thriving in Northwestern Pennsylvania.



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MEM
BER
NEWS



Erie Art Museum

103RD ANNUAL SPRING SHOW



SUBMISSIONS OPEN!

DECEMBER 1ST 2025 — FEBRUARY 1ST 2026

erieartmuseum.org/spring-show

Submissions for
the 103rd Annual
Spring Show
will open
December 1st, 2025
and close
February 1st, 2026.
View the prospectus
and learn about the
juror, Jenny Kendler.

Image: Bill Miller, TV Dinner, 2022, 102nd Annual Spring Show



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MEMBERS ON VIEW



Dan Niebauer's original custom designed heart pendants in 14K white, yellow, rose or two tone gold. A great gift for your special someone and you can wait for the choice gem added customization.



Kathe Umlauf was accepted into an internationally juried exhibition at the Wild Heart Gallery in Redlands California. The show is entitled "ROAR" the Art of Cats 2025. It's an online show.



Barbara Yerace has blown glass ornaments on display at the Annual Holiday Bazaar at 1020 Collective 1020 Holland Street Friday December 12th and Saturday December 13th





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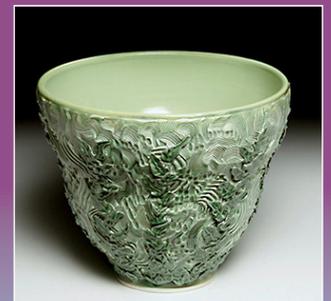
Passle Helminski's painting *Breaking Free* displayed at the Winter Blues All-Media National Juried Exhibition at the Fredericksburg Center for the Creative Arts December 2025-January 2026



Greg Zbach currently has an exhibition at Werner Books, 3608 Liberty Street, Erie, PA Monday, Tuesday and Friday 9am-6pm Wednesday and Thursday 9am-8pm Saturday 9am-6pm Sunday 10am-4pm



Tom Hubert has a show of his ceramic work at Crary Gallery, 511 Market Street, Warren, PA. The opening reception was held Saturday, December 6th. The show runs through the month of December.





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MEM BER NEWS



OPPORTUNITY Mercyhurst University is looking for a co-coordinator for the Center of Arts in Society. You can direct questions to Jodi Staniunas Hopper jstaniunashopper@mercyhurst.edu

MEMBERS ON VIEW To be included in future issues of the Newsletter, send info along with images of your work about upcoming shows, exhibits and/or lectures that you'd like everyone to know about to Stacie Keyes at stacieboca123@gmail.com

NPAA WEBSITE Always looking for new work (images) that we can feature on the Home page on both the slide show and the Gallery. Send hi-res images (approx. 2M each) to Jack Stone at sjconnects@gmail.com . . . *or questions if you're not sure.* We're also willing to help any member who would like to update or create their portfolio page

OPEN BOARD POSITIONS Treasurer and at year's end Director/Exhibitions Anyone looking to make a difference and have your voice heard in the future of the NPAA?