

today

FEBRUARY 2025





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2025 BIENNIAL



BIENNIAL Exhibition at Tom Ridge Center

- July 1 – September 30
- Opening Gala Reception Saturday July 12 5–9 pm
 - Music, wine, beer, catered food
- Peak summer visitor time
- Upstairs gallery
 - Gala downstairs for staging and artists demonstrations
- Cash awards including Best of Show



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The Northwestern Pennsylvania Artists Association (NPAA) is proud to present our eighth juried Biennial to be held in the Erie Art Museum's historic Customs House. Madeline Gent, the Executive Director of the Associated Artists of Pittsburgh, Juried the exhibition.

The Biennial officially opens November 15th, 2023. The show continues through March 16th, 2024. The reception is on Thursday November 16th from 5 to 7pm. NPAA will be presenting six awards. There will be appetizers and a cash bar.



History of the Biennial

From the beginning inspiration in 2009, the Biennial is second only to the Scholarship Exhibition as the NPAA's longest running tradition. Under the leadership of past President's Tom Ferraro, Kris Risto and Alexa Potter, the legacy of the Biennial has continued to flourish and thanks to the continued stewardship of Greg Zbach, we look forward to the 9th Biennial this coming summer at the Tom Ridge Environmental Center.

2009	Nuts & Boltz	1020 Holland
2011	Erie/Meadville	1020 Holland
2013	Lovell Place	
2015	Under The Clock	Boston Store
2017	West Erie Plaza	
2019	Erie Art Museum	
2021	Erie Art Museum	
2023	Erie Art Museum	
2025	TREC (upcoming)	





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Thanks to all our Board members past and present who work tirelessly to make the NPAA Proud.

NPAA Board

Greg Zbach

President and Acting Treasurer
Artist Member Photographer Digital art



Marsha Cisek

Director/Exhibitions
Artist Member Fiber Art Mixed Media



Tara Shannon

Director/Scholarships
Artist Member Digital Paintings



Daniel Austin

Director/Memberships
Artist Member Watercolor Paintings



Steve Mik

Director/Publicity
Artist Member Painter Public Artist



Robert Martin

Director/Advisory
Artist Member Painter Oil & Acrylic



James R. Steadman, Esq.

Advisory to the Board



WELCOME New NPAA Board Members

Tara Shannon

Is a multimedia artist from Erie, PA. She specializes in a wide variety of mediums inspired by nature, including realistic and abstract digital arts. She graduated from PacWest Edinboro where she earned her BFA-FAC majoring in painting and her Masters in EDLEAD. Tara is a Visual Arts instructor for the Erie School District where she teaches fine arts studio classes at NWPA Collegiate Academy. She is the mother of three children, Aislin, Cassidy and Michael.

Daniel Austin

Grew up in Chicago and spent two years in missionary service in Taiwan before graduating from Brigham Young University with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Russian and Mandarin Chinese languages. He obtained his Juris Doctorate with honors from Columbia Law School in 1986. He has traveled extensively in Asia and has recently returned from living and teaching business law at Wenzhou-Kean University in Zhejiang, China. Daniel's painting style can be described as photo-realism in watercolors.

Steve Mik

Grew up in Erie and graduated from Mercyhurst Prep. Steve is deeply involved in the local art scene. He works with The Looking Glass Art Project, which focuses on large-scale public art installations. He is also a teaching artist with Erie Arts and Culture, where he introduces and educates students about all types of art, helping them to harness their creativity and channel it into an expression of their experiences that strengthens their sense of community.



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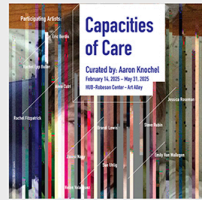
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Posts

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Capacities of Care

Posted by: Anne Cutri on Sat Feb 08 2025



Capacities of Care | Curated by Aaron Knochel Art Alley | HUB-Robeson Center February 14, 2025 – June 1, 2025 Reception Date: February 14, 2025 | 4 - 6pm University Park, PA - HUB-Robeson Galleries is excited to present Capacities of Care, a group exhibition curated by Aaron Knochel, Associate Professor of Art Education in Penn State's School of Visual Arts, showcasing artworks thematically engaged with care ethics as a multidimensional space of relation that needs tending and sustenance. Capacities of Care is on view in Art Alley from February 14th, 2025 – June 1st, 2025. All are welcome to join us for a celebratory reception on February 14th from 4 - 6pm in Art Alley, HUB-Robeson Center. There is a blossoming understanding of the impact of the arts on the health and wellbeing of our communities and institutions. Whether it be in the medical humanities or advances in neuroscience and the impact of the arts (or neuroarts), there is a growing need to understand how creativity, aesthetic experience, and critical practice may impact our capacities of care. The capacities of care is a concept framework to understand and explore how care relationships manifest in our lives in distinct and interconnected ways. The capacity of care framework includes five interlinking domains: • self-care: acts in consideration of one's own wellbeing • caregiving: acts invested in the wellbeing of another • care receiving: awareness of another's contribution to one's own wellbeing • community care: collective acts whereby individual and group considerations for wellbeing are exchanged • artificial care: awareness of nonhuman, sometimes technological, contributions to wellbeing Works in the exhibit, which include painting, photography, sculpture, textile, and new media, weave these capacities together in nuanced ways from the deeply personal to the collective, asking questions of what it means to care for ourselves and for others in times of uncertainty. Aaron D. Knochel is a mixed methods researcher, curriculum theorist, and artist with interests in transdisciplinary learning, critical social theory, and media arts. He has worked in various visual arts learning spaces, including schools, museums, and community arts programs, both domestically and internationally. Most recently, he was a 2022-23 Fulbright Scholar in the Digital Culture program at the University of Bergen, Norway. Capacities of Care is a part of a larger effort in research creation in arts in health focused on care ethics, creative practice, and narrative inquiry. Knochel's research project led by an interdisciplinary team of Penn State faculty titled "Expanding Capacities of Care: Methodological and Pedagogical Opportunities in Narrative Ethics and Creative Inquiry for Nursing Education and Professional Development." The project has many different activity streams from developing art exhibitions to workshops engaging creative practice and resilience for healthcare and educational professionals. The research is jointly funded by Penn State's College of Arts & Architecture and Huck Institutes of the Life Sciences. Featured Artists: Eric Berdis, Rachel Epp Buller, Anne Cutri, Rachel Fitzpatrick, Brandi Lewis, Zsuzsi Nagy, Jessica Roseman, Steve Rubin, Sue Uhlig, Helen Valasquez, & Emily Van Wallegen. For more information on this and other exhibitions, contact HUB-Robeson Galleries at (814) 865-2563, or visit their website at studentaffairs.psu.edu/hub/art-galleries. Class, student organization and office visits are welcome! Email Galleries@psu.edu with inquiries. Keep up to date with HUB-Robeson Galleries by signing up for their Listserv or follow them on Instagram @hubrobeson galleries. Contact: Robert Sparrow Jones, Curator and Senior Gallery Manager, HUB-Robeson Galleries (814) 865-2563, rkj5315@psu.edu

<https://studentaffairs.psu.edu/hub/art-galleries/upcoming-exhibitions>

[Add Comments](#)

Comments

Show Opening: GGG Friday February 28th 5-9pm "Conversations"

Posted by: Leah Humphries on Tue Feb 04 2025



A collection of vibrant mixed-media pieces will be on display from February 20th through March 22nd. Love to see you there!

www.leahartstudio.com

[Add Comments](#)

Comments

Intro to Drawing Class

Posted by: Kim Kloecker on Sun Feb 02 2025



I will be teaching an Intro to Drawing Class at the Erie Art Museum starting February 25 thru April 1. If you know anyone interested please share the information! All the details can be found on the Erie Art Museum Website. Thank you!

<https://www.erieartmuseum.org/intro-to-drawing>

[Add Comments](#)

Comments

We have three new events by members posted on our NPAA Website Bulletin Board

Anne Cutri Capacities of Care reception date February 14

Leah Humphries has a show opening Friday February 28

and Kim Kloecker will be starting a drawing class soon.

Remember the bulletin board is for all members to keep NPAA and the world up to date on member shows, classes, awards and all art related happenings.

Please also remember each NPAA member has access to their own personal space on our website. This is how you post on our bulletin board and update your online portfolio. You have total control of your portfolio and can update at any time. You can also update contact info.



northwestern pennsylvania
artists association

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- ✓ **Membership dues coming March 1st.**
- ✓ **An electronic invoice will be emailed to members March 1, due March 31.**
- ✓ **Dues will remain \$60 for members and \$35 for friends.**
- ✓ **Members are encouraged to use the link within the invoice and pay using a credit card.**
- ✓ **This method of payment saves time and greatly streamlines our accounting processes.**
- ✓ **We ask that you please refrain from sending a check if possible.**

Thank you.





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MEM BER NEWS

A REMINDER Members . . . continue to refer to our npaaonline.org calendar and bulletin board and update your online portfolios

NEW 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.* Also we're willing to help any member who would like to update or create their portfolio page

The MEN of NPAA EXHIBITION at Octagon Gallery in Westfield, NY
From November 7th, 2025 thru December 5th, 2025

ALREADY LOOKING AHEAD City Gallery Holiday Show December, 2025
Once again our Holiday Party

CONSIDERATION Volunteer to be a NPAA Board Member

