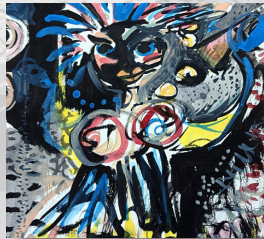


TODAY

FEBRUARY 2026





The newest member of our
NPAA Board

Bryan Toy will be our
Director/Exhibitions

*He excels at being a visual arts educator,
illustrator and cartoonist*

WELCOME Bryan

And a huge **thank you** to the
current members of the Board

Greg Zbach

President and Acting Treasurer
Artist Member Photographer Digital Art



Sarah Hlusko Everhart

Secretary
Friend of NPAA



Bryan Toy

Director/Exhibitions
Artist Member Visual Arts Educator Illustrator/Cartoonist



Tara Shannon

Director/Scholarships
Artist Member Digital Paintings



Daniel Austin

Director/Memberships
Artist Member Watercolor Paintings



Stacie Keyes

Director/Communications
Friend of NPAA Public School Teacher



Steve Mik

Director/Publicity
Artist Member Painter Public Artist



Marsha Cisek

Director/Advisory
Artist Member Fiber Art Mixed Media



Robert Martin

Director/Advisory
Artist Member Painter Oil & Acrylic



Bob Otis

Advisory to the Board



James R. Steadman, Esq.

Advisory to the Board





Art, for me, is a way of reaching back through time to connect with humanity's earliest impulses. I reference the world around me, both real and imagined, while incorporating elements from history, science, architecture, mythology and the human form. My preferred mediums are oil, graphite and colored pencil.

Justin Elliot Poole is originally from Kittanning, PA. He attended Edinboro University of Pennsylvania obtaining a BFA in Animation and Masters in Painting. Previously employed for 20 years as a sculptor, Justin now works from his home studio in Waterford, PA. In his free time he loves attending museums, art shows, listening to podcasts and going to Presque Isle.

Instagram: @justin_elliot_poole





Gwendolen Rhoads

Meadville Area Senior High was awarded The Robert Sajewski Memorial Scholarship and will attend Douglas Education Center to study special effects and filmmaking



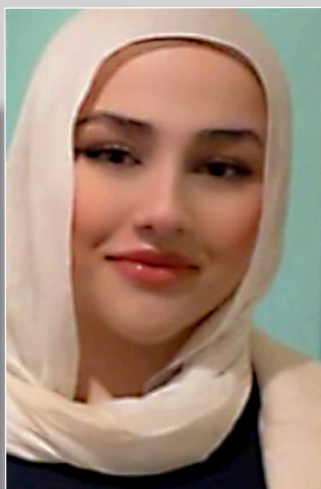
Sofia Garcia Rodriguez

Fairview High School was awarded The NPAA Scholarship and will attend Pennsylvania Western University to study animation



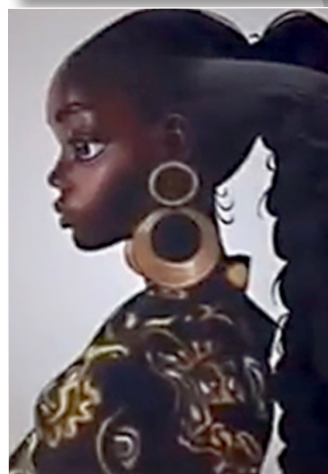
Eva Kari

Northwest Pennsylvania Collegiate Academy was awarded The NPAA Scholarship and will attend Penn State to study architecture



Lora Nikolova

McDowell Intermediate High School was awarded The Robert Sajewski Memorial Scholarship and will attend college to study architecture





On behalf of the NPAA, I cannot fully express how grateful I am for the warmth, joy and meaning everyone brought to the 2026 NPAA Scholarship Event. Thank you for making it an unforgettable evening. Together, we are truly creating opportunities for student artists through exhibitions, education, and scholarships; and this year's celebration exemplified that spirit. We were thrilled to set a new attendance record, welcoming over 100 guests — including the NPAA Board, our Erie Insurance family, Erie Art Museum staff, NPAA members, students, families and friends — who packed the Customs House basement gallery to standing room only.

The buzz of conversation, the smiles, and the excitement in the room made every frozen step to the door more than worth it. From the music that gently set the tone to the food, coffee, and hot chocolate that kept everyone cozy, the evening felt like a true gathering of community. Listening to our students speak about their work was a beautiful reminder of why we do this: to uplift young voices, encourage creative risk-taking, and open doors for the next generation of artists.

Thank you for showing up, cheering on our student artists, and for standing with us in this meaningful work. We look forward to next year. With heartfelt appreciation, **Tara Shannon**



Tom Hubert's ceramic work will be featured in the River Gallery 21st Ceramic Invitational Exhibition with an opening reception Saturday February 7th, 3-6 pm. You can visit the River Gallery website for a complete list of participating artists and images of all the work in the show at rivergalleryarts.com



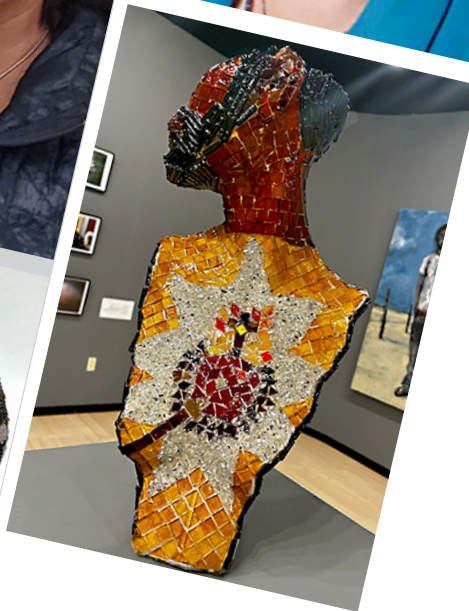
Barbara Yerace's exhibit entitled "Sacred Life" will be on display April 4 - May 3, with the Opening Reception April 4, 5-7 pm at Cray Art Gallery 511 Market Street Warren, PA 16365

Barb is currently showing at the Pure Imagination Show at City Gallery from January through February and at the 3rd Women's Biennial January 30-March 27, 1020 Collective, 1020 Holland St., Erie PA Wednesday, Thursday & Friday, 11-6 Saturday, 10-5 Sunday, 1-6 pm



Jodi Staniunas Hopper

is showing at the 3rd Women's Biennial A Celebration of Women in Our Region January 30-March 27, 1020 Collective, 1020 Holland St., Erie PA Wednesday, Thursday & Friday, 11-6 Saturday, 10-5 Sunday, 1-6 pm



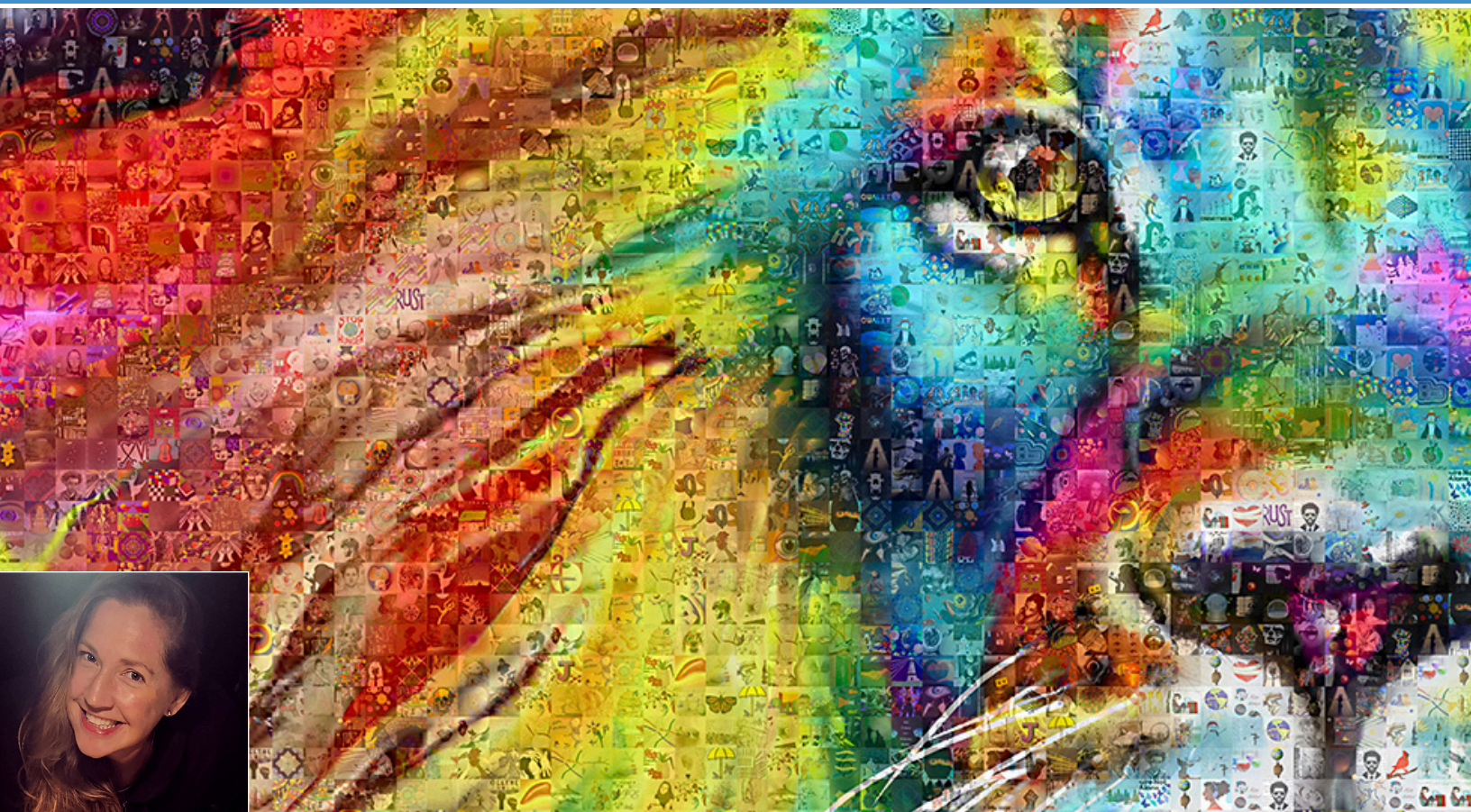


Kim Kloecker will be teaching a six week beginner class entitled "Intro to Watercolors" at the Erie Art Museum starting March 5-April 9 from 6:30-9:00 pm. Visit the museum's website for more details. erieartmuseum.org



Greg Zbach has an exhibit entitled Second Reading at Werner Books & Coffee





On Thursday, February 5th, Erie's Public Schools unveiled a student-created mural at Northwest Pennsylvania Collegiate Academy.

Created by art students under the direction of instructor **Tara Shannon**, "We Are More Than the Narrative: Layers, Lines, and Voices" honors student voice as a force for challenging deficit-based narratives about urban schools and Erie's Public Schools, affirming students as storytellers shaping the district and the community. The mural is part of the "Dismantling the Deficit" project and was made possible by Erie community researchers, and the generous financial support of Penn State Behrend's School of Humanities and Social Sciences.



CITY GALLERY



Jamie Borowicz was voted the winner of a competition held during the 2025 NPAA Holiday Party at City Gallery to have an exhibition during 2026. He would like to use this opportunity to have a collective show of artists who are connected to Mercyhurst College/Mercyhurst Prep. It is their 100th anniversary this year and as an alumni of the college and a teacher at both, he is fully aware of the role Mercyhurst has played in creating a very rich artistic community in Erie and would like to celebrate that with fellow alumni.

"I know there are a number of NPAA members who are faculty or former faculty and a number who are alumni of one or both schools.

I'd like to invite those members to participate.

The current plan is for the month of April."

If interested, please contact Jamie at **jborowicz@mpslakers.com** for information and more details about the upcoming show.

Look forward to hearing from you.

Thanks.



Fourteen well-known Erie area artists — several past and present members of the Northwestern Pennsylvania Artists Association — are represented in the 2026 calendar, produced by one of Erie's premier printing companies, Printing Concepts.

Featured in the 12-month calendar are: Shelle Barron, Jamie Borowicz, Passel Helminski, Rich Holmgren, Tom Hubert, Vitus Kaiser, Joseph Plavcan, Jamie Keim-Pomorski, Kim Kloecker, Brad Lethaby, Mary Rosiak, Betty Schabacker, Tara Shannon, and Jean Stull.

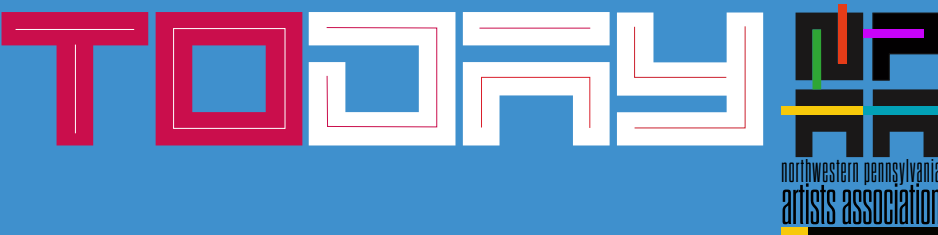
Additional quarterly calendars, produced by Printing Concepts contain eight recent works by NPAA member, Mary Rosiak.

**Dues
Reminder**

- ✓ Membership dues.
- ✓ 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.





FEBRUARY 2026 MEMBER NOTES

2026 UPCOMING SHOWS

1. 10|20 Collective July-August 2026
2. D'Hopkins Denniston Gallery Spring/Summer 2026
3. Wintergreen Gorge Pop-Up Erie Cemetery Association August 2026
4. City Gallery Holiday Show December 2026

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 Committee Crew. Anyone looking to make a difference and have your voice heard in the future of the NPAA?

MARCH 2026 TILL NEXT MONTH