



Coming Events

Ending Our 2022 – 2023 Season

All Events Subject to Covid-19 Rules:
Masks are No Longer Required Inside
the Clubhouse.

All Member Critique

Tuesday, May 2, 7:00 PM

Board of Trustees

Wednesday, May 10, 4:30 - 6:30 PM

Spring Signature Exhibition,

Opening Night, Friday, May 12,
6:30 - 9:00 PM

Annual All-Member Business Meeting & The Big Lift Kick-off

Friday, May 19, 6:00 PM

Duveneck Memorial Service

May 29, 10:00 AM

Sketch Group

Mondays, 1 - 4:30 PM
Thursdays, 7 - 9:30 PM

Summer Schedule

Critique and Sketch Group continue through the Summer as regularly scheduled.

Online Exhibitions

[Founders' Week](#)

[Sketch Group](#)

[Portraits](#)

[Critique Group](#)

[Mt. Adams and Beyond](#)

[Non-Figurative](#)

and [More](#)

Publications

[Dragonfly Newsletter](#)

[Imagine](#)

CAC [YouTube](#) Channel



A close-up view of the proposed facade colors of the CAC facility

Revitalizing CAC

And Then Covid Struck

In the summer, 2019, a group of 35 Club Members met to give the Board insight into how they wanted the Club to focus on our future. Covid changed everything. Club programming had to change gears, came to a halt and then went online for two years. Most of us did not know what Covid-19 was except that it could be deadly. We did not know how long it would last, or what the world would look like when Covid left us.

The Emergence of a New CAC

Club leaders knew we had to keep moving, even if we could not meet in person. The time was too critical to the Club's future. Zoom enabled us to continue with the work of the Club. It was during those two years that the essence of a long-term strategy took shape. This was done even though we didn't know for sure how the "old" CAC would yield to a "new" CAC.

Don Schuster, the Club President realized it was time to revitalize the Club. He enlisted the Board of Trustees and other members to bring forward their ideas for a comprehensive strategy. The changes being considered were substantial and would take time to get the work done. Eventually the tasks ahead were organized into four phases:

A 10-Year Revitalization Plan

Phase 1: Increase Club Outreach and Visibility

Phase 2: Refurbish CAC's Appearance to Show we are an Art Club

Phase 3: Increase Access for Members and the Public with Open Hours

Phase 4: Improve Functionality of Facility

May 19, the CAC Annual All-Member Business Meeting

Oh, How Boring!

Give up a Friday night for a Business Meeting?

You must be kidding!

Is there any good reason to be at this annual membership gathering?

You might not know this, but as Members of the Cincinnati Art Club we are actually owners of the Club. That gives us a financial responsibility to make sure the Club is being run as a sound business—your business. Attending the Business Meeting is the most

efficient way to understand how CAC is being managed.

Would you let others manage your checkbook? If your family members were pondering spending \$300,000 to improve the appearance of your home, wouldn't you want a voice in that discussion?

Is there a business strategy? What progress have we made on improving Club financial stability. What priorities will give the greatest return? How are we going to raise \$300,000 to improve the appearance of the Club building? What ideas do you have on how the Club better serves your needs?

We Entered Phase 1

Time flew by, along with floods, fires, tornadoes, and hurricanes. It was also a busy 10 months at the Club as we slid into executing key parts of Phase 1. We began working on raising the Club's visibility across the Tri-State. We formed a plan to reach out to the news media. We published our first issue of Imagine magazine. We developed a concept for low-cost Continuing Education classes. We expanded our community outreach with the new ART for Kids program for elementary school children. We launched new, more interesting themes for our gallery exhibitions. We began a safe way to hold our monthly member meetings as we gradually reopen the clubhouse.

Now, We Enter into Phase 2

It is a time to look back at our past 10 months and to look forward at our future. It is time for our Annual Business Meeting on May 19th where we, as Members of the Club, will gather and set course for the coming year.

Also during this Annual Business Meeting, thanks will go out to the four Board Members who are ending their tour of duty. The results of the election will be announced and we will welcome their replacements.

Be sure to put the Annual Business Meeting on your calendar to hear about Phase 2 – the \$300,000 planned revitalization of the appearance of our building. What will it look like and how are we going to raise the money.

Dragonfly Member Newsletter



CINCINNATI ART CLUB
Cultivating Creativity

The Dragonfly is published for and by
members of the Cincinnati Art Club

Cincinnati Art Club

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VICE PRESIDENT..... Michael Paolercio
SECRETARY.....Louann Elliott
TREASURER..... Steve Hart

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President's Message from Don Schuster



Endings and New Beginnings

As you have probably heard, our Club has taken on the challenge of raising the funds to renovate the exterior of our clubhouse. We are launching this campaign during the Members' Meeting this month, Friday, May 19th. This project will take another great effort by the Club, equivalent to funding our first clubhouse and building this, our second, and the Board of Trustees wants you to hear all about it! Your attendance at our Members' Meeting is important to both you and our Club as a whole. We will also have a wrap up of this years' activities and a financial report. Please plan on attending! RSVP at dinner@cincinnatiartclub.com.

At the start of the 2021-2022 Season, I told the Board of Trustees that I didn't want to be elected President for the coming year. We were just coming off the 3rd year of my holding down that post and traditionally our Presidents serve for just two years. The Board asked me to stay on and I agreed. We were still breaking out of the effects of COVID and I caved.

Then same thing happened at the start of this year! I informed the Board that this was it, I will not serve a sixth term all in a row! I have gotten great enjoyment working with all the great volunteers that help make this such an outstanding organization. I have two years yet to serve on my term as a Board Member and will continue working to make our Club great. Thank you all for your support!

Yours in artistic pursuit,
Don

Capital Campaign Work Continues

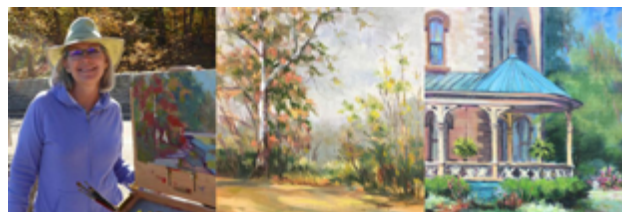
Substantial preparation for donor solicitation has been made by the Capital Campaign Committee (Co-Chairs: Joe Stewart and Christine Kuhr; the team: Gary Eith, Dale Wolf,

and Kathryn Al-Lamadani). The first donor kickoff brunch was on April 22. The Campaign itself will launch to the public during the Annual Business Meeting on May 19th to reach potential donors who are out of town for the summer.

The campaign theme "For the Love of Art" is central to establishing how we benefit the people of Greater Cincinnati who are interested in visual art. Everything the Club does "For the Love of Art" aligns with our mission to spread the love

and knowledge of visual art. It shifts us from an internal member focus to public outreach. The campaign logo will be on all campaign marketing materials: our PowerPoint presentation, website, emails, event invitations, etc.

Nancy Achberger's New Outdoor Oil Class



Nancy Achberger will help you identify your focus, simplify your subject, and provide advice on how to move forward with outdoor painting. This class is for artists with some painting

experience. Nancy will be teaching for 4 weeks on Fridays, beginning June 2. This class paints at different locations around Milford each week. Call Nancy at 513-505-2928 for information and to sign up for this expert class. Cost: \$140.

Mueller and Bodine Put CAC on the Map

David Mueller and George Bodine starred at the recent OPA National. Both Club members made sure the world knew about our Club and city when they swept up two ribbons with amazing vertical paintings.



"The Black Dress" by David Mueller



"Searching" by George Bodine

David was awarded the 2023 Gold Medal in the Master Signature Artist Division for his painting "Black Dress." In addition to the status, this award also includes a cash prize of \$7,500.

As a Master Signature member of OPA, David showed with 26 other Master Signature artists for this year's top honors. When asked about receiving the National Exhibition Gold Medal, he revealed that he was unable to attend the exhibition, "I

was at home on Award Night and I knew my painting was up against the stiff competition. I was trying to log into the awards ceremony but could not get a connection so I called in to get technical assistance. When the phone rang, I thought the call was to give me assistance with the connection. Instead, Liz from OPA gave me the good news that I was awarded the Gold Medal! Wow! In a split second, I had a meteoric upward shift in mood. I am, of course, humbled and grateful. It is a true honor."

David looks for inspiration in everyday simplistic beauty. "My work is usually about aesthetics/simple beauty, many times

without a story other than what the viewer brings to it. One of my favorite things to balance in a composition is something decorative with something figurative. This painting is a good example of my playing with the abstract pieces of simple figurative elements complimented with design elements intended to enhance each other and hopefully make a beautiful overall package."

Back in Charleston, there was more excitement!

George Bodine had traveled to see the exhibition. "The gallery was filled with incredible paintings. It was beautiful to see. The awards ceremony was filled with suspense. Everyone was hoping to get an award. When it came to the Figurative Award Category I was proud of my painting, 'Searching.' Then it came time for the category awards. From the podium, I could hear, 'And now, for the Figurative Award of Excellence.' I vaguely heard my name and it hit me. I had a "Best Of" in my category! Now I could pay for our hotel room."

George was also unable to be at the opening ceremony but was pleasantly surprised when he arrived the next day and was notified that he had won the John August Dietrich Memorial Figurative Award of Excellence. George reflected on the award, "I think figurative work is the most difficult type of painting and I was pleased to be recognized in this category."

After touring the exhibition, George had a conversation with the owner and director of the Reinhart Gallery. "I made sure he knew that two of the awardees hanging in his gallery belonged to members of the second oldest artist's club in America, the Cincinnati Art Club."

Board News



Kay Hurley Named Newest Signature Member – She won the Second Place People's Choice Award at the recent Club Holiday Party but this month **Kay Hurley** grabbed

a bigger prize. The Signature Review Committee recommended and the Board confirmed her as a Cincinnati Art Club Signature Member.

Our 2023 Scholarships – The Scholarship Committee reported that there were 17 applications from Mt. St. Joe, UC DAAP, Xavier, Northern Kentucky University, and the Art Academy of Cincinnati. Donations allowed extra funding for the awards this year. Receiving the highest score, Yara Yeoma from the University of Cincinnati DAAP, earning a \$1,250 scholarship to continue her studies. Just points behind were Khanhha Ha and Aly Senger, both

from Northern Kentucky University and each also awarded \$1,250 scholarships. Alice Croft, Xavier University, and Molly Rahtz, UC DAAP, were awarded \$650 scholarships. **Kathryn Al-Lamadani** chaired our committee which also included **Tom Post, Christine Kuhr,** and **Louann Elliott.**

Two New Members

Jill Griffin and **Robert Sanker** have joined CAC.



Jill is a Cincinnati area native and lifelong resident. She works as a freelance User Interface Designer and is focused on charcoal portraits. Portraits

are significant in that they strengthen and celebrate interpersonal connections. Jill attended the Art Academy of Cincinnati and holds BFAs in Drawing and Visual Communication Design. For 5 summers during college, she drew pastel portraits at King's Island for Kaman's Art Shoppes.

After working in design for several years, Jill began to study cast drawing, landscape and still life painting with Richard Lushek. Currently, she moderates open figure drawing at Manifest Drawing Center on Thursday evenings and has been attending CAC's sketch group on Mondays. Jill and her family live in Loveland. She is excited to be a part of CAC's community and rich art history.

Duveneck Memorial Ceremony

Join us on May 29 for our annual Memorial Day ceremony, at Duveneck's gravesite when we pay homage to Frank Duveneck and all the Club Members who have done great things for the Club, our city, even our nation. This ceremony commemorates all this Club has done for 130 years. Readings written by previous Members to honor notable figures within the Club, a Club tradition since 1921. The ceremony begins at 10:00 AM, Mother of God Cemetery in Covington, Kentucky.

Delicious Signature Show Comin' Up, Which Piece Will Be Tastiest?

By **James Pendery**, Exhibit Chair

On May 12, from 6:00 - 9:00 PM, the Art Club will host the annual Signature Show. This is a show by our highest, Signature level members. The show will also be open Saturday, May 13, and Sunday, May 14, both at 1:00 – 4:00 PM.



Artwork from last year's Spring Signature Members' Exhibition. "Winter Fair" by Claire Nichols, "Corset" by Christine Kuhr, "Moriarty" by Cecilia Brendel.

Top artists have always been celebrated throughout history. Tales of excess could be told. The Club, in accordance with that bejeweled tradition, offers its top members this show, just twice a year. Club Signature Members know their stuff and we all can learn a lot just by exploring how they create such tasty art. This is our chance to get to know them personally. Getting to know them and talk about art with them can further our careers. Remember "like attracts like."

I know a few people who work in a chocolate shop (Maverick at Findlay Market) and they say everybody loves them because they smell like chocolate. Such pheromonic deliciousness could attach to the art crowd as well. Please take this opportunity to immerse yourself in excellence.

"Pictoribus atque poetis." Painters and poets have always had the license to dare anything.

Member News

Eunice Bronkar's Passing

Early member, Eunice Bronkar passed peacefully on April 11, 2023 at the age of 88.



Eunice received her B.F.A. and M.A. in Art Education from Wright State University, and taught for over 30 years. She began her teaching

career at the Springfield Museum of Art in Ohio and later as a Lead Teacher and Assistant Professor at Clark State College in Springfield, Ohio.

Eunice was a talented artist who received multiple awards for her work. Her art is represented in many public and private collections, and in addition to many individual shows, she

exhibited extensively in over 100 area, state, regional, and national juried exhibitions.

Passing of Patrick Romelli

Long time member, Patrick Romelli passed away on March 28, 2023 from Alzheimer's disease. He was 83 years old.

Born a creative spirit, Patrick graduated from The Central Academy of Commercial Art to

start a career as an illustrator during the golden age of advertising. A true individual and independent thinker, it took a few short years of working for an agency to decide to strike off on his own. This led to decades of working independently doing what



he loved and supporting his family to great success. Patrick worked at the business he built until his retirement years, but the word retirement never entered his mind. He shifted his creative passion to oil painting. Patrick made a name for himself as a prolific painter creating hundreds of paintings over the years which he sold through shows and galleries. Most now hang in collections and are being enjoyed in homes throughout the country.

Featured in the Masthead



The Masthead this month features a painting by Christine Kuhr. It is a 24" x 24", Oil on Panel and is featured in the 2022 Spring Signature Members' Exhibition.