



June 2021

PO Box 871 / 607 Mena Street, Mena, AR 71953
479-394-3880

email@MenaArtGallery.org
www.MenaArtGallery.org

Gallery Hours:
Wed – Sat 10 am to 3 pm



The Folk & Fiber Show is ready for you!!!

This past Sunday the National Show Committee came in to take down the 2021 Small Works Show. It was sad to see it go. Then on Monday, the Folk & Fiber crew hung the new show and, **Voila! New Show!** (*I had to look up how to spell 'voila' . . . not a word I tend to use every day.*)

Both crews will tell you there is no “voila” to it, other than the fact they have wonderful art to work with. Hanging and taking down shows is a lot of work! We have people who make it look easy, and they are all volunteers. You will be amazed, as always, at this new show.

First Place \$75 - Bridget Sigler for her merino / silk shawl
 Second Place \$50 – Penny Brickman for her “Dance to the Beat” handmade drum
 Third Place \$25 – Jim Brace for his “Prehistoric Fish”

People’s Choice will be awarded at the end of the show, \$25 each for Folk & Fiber

Everything in the show is for sale. It’s never too early to start thinking about gifting, and there is some really cool stuff for you to check out.



Thank you, Hal and Jo, for your support of the Gallery.

See this at American Artisans!
\$400

Small Works Show People's Choice Winner!



"Red Parasol"

Watercolor by

James Brantley

Congratulations, James!

Artwork: Harold Knight



Practicing an art,
no matter how
well or how badly,
is a way to
make your soul grow,
for heaven's sake.
Sing in the shower.
Dance to the radio.
Tell stories. Write a
poem to a friend,
even a lousy poem.
Do it as well as
you possibly can.
You will get an
enormous reward.
You will have
created something.

Kurt Vonnegut



Lowell Thomas, a long-time member of the Mena Art Gallery, passed away June 19th. He is survived by his wife, Jolean Thomas. Lowell could always be counted on to enter any show featuring photography. You recently saw three of his photos in the 2021 Ouachita Expressions Show.



Lowell's family asked that memorial contributions be made in his name to the Polk County Library or to the Mena Art Gallery.

Check out our Member Galleries on our website. Does yours need updating? Would you like to have a new one? Let's do it! Contact the Gallery.

The 2021 Small Works Show

Lynn says: "Delightful!"

If I was allowed only one word to describe the show just ended, delightful would be the word. For almost two months we had 87 works, all 16" X 16" or smaller, gracing the walls of the Mena Art Gallery. Hundreds of people came in to enjoy the work.

I have found, when you ask someone to vote for their favorite, it generally causes them to look at things carefully. They make mental notes and narrow down their choices, going back to look again in order to make a decision.

While "Red Parasol" won (see it on page 2), every work in the show received votes. "Fall Feast" was another favorite of many folks, specifically pre-teen boys and adult men who had either been to Alaska on a fishing trip or dream of going one day.

Kathy Kirch of Gardner, KS is the artist behind this work.

Thank you to all the artists who entered! You made a lot of people happy!



"An artist is not paid for his labor but for his vision."

— James McNeill Whistle



**A note from the
Chairman,
Tiffany Lane**

What a joy it is to live in an area that provides four distinct seasons, though the HEAT is not a favorite. It's a great time to stay inside and work on some ART!

So, did you know that our gallery is non-profit, and survives mostly through donations? I'm constantly amazed at how much our gallery provides to our community on the smallest of budgets. However, we want to make a larger impact in the Mena's Downtown Art District, and to do that...we need to be able to offer classes and other outreach endeavors. At the end of the year, many organizations look for donations – but I would like to implore you to give us a "Christmas in July" present: a donation to the Mena Art Gallery. Every little bit helps, from \$5, \$10, \$20 – you would be amazed at how those dollars make a difference in our ability to make an impact and keep the gallery thriving.

Come by the gallery, enjoy our latest show – and help us with a small gift, if you can!

CASH MOB DATES

for the remainder of 2021

July 10

August 14

September 11

October 9

November 13

December 11

Mena Art Gallery is owned and operated by SouthWest Artists, Inc., a non-profit corporation, and support is provided, in part, by the **Arkansas Arts Council**, an agency of the Department of Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism and the National Endowment for the Arts, as well as local businesses and individuals. Donations are tax deductible and help ensure the continuing work of bringing art to the community of Mena and the surrounding area. Sponsorships and donations can be made on our website at www.menaartgallery.org

If you prefer to have your name removed from our mailing list or would like to be removed from our email list please send an email to: email@MenaArtGallery.org or call 479-394-3880

Membership in Mena Art Gallery is available at several levels:

Student: \$10:00 Individual: \$25.00 Family: \$45.00 Sustaining: \$5 (or more) Monthly

Membership forms are available at the Gallery or on the website www.MenaArtGallery.org

We encourage you to become a member in this progressive artistic community and hope you will remember Mena Art Gallery in your estate planning by leaving a legacy for the arts within the community for future generations.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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The Executive Director of the Gallery is Lynn Greenwade. 479-394-3880 Gallery / 479-234-5440 Cell