

# Flourish

EAST VALLEY ARTISTS'  
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

## PRESIDENT'S NOTES

BY CAROLE CAMERON

Happy New Year! Isn't that what we say? It's just another day, another month so why the big deal about an additional orbit around the sun? It offers us a restart, a day of renewal. Pull the plug on our personal computer and let all our systems reboot and reload. What's your plan for inspiration and motivation in 2024? I have been taken by the colors around me, the sky and crazy cloud formations.

EVA23 changes have been a resounding success. We have engaged in new experiences, gone out on group activities, included more members that couldn't make it to Thursday meetings, signed up new members, and had more opportunities to share our work with each other. We had a fantastic annual show and we ended the year with a fun holiday get-together. See article below on 2023 recap of events.

It's time to pay 2024 membership and webpage dues; a bargain at any price. If you don't have your own artist page on the [eastvalleyartists.com](http://eastvalleyartists.com) website, consider having one. Think about joining the board so you can be part of planning. We need help in various ways, one being helping with our social media presence.

This month reprises one of our favorite events from 2023, a trip to Petroglyph ceramic studio on Tuesday January 23rd.

Carole



*Margie and Shelly at the EVA Holiday Party*

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## 2023 YEAR IN REVIEW BY CAROLE CAMERON

*Let's see a recap of 2023 events.*



*Strolling San Jose's South  
First Fridays art walk in April*

**January:** We held our delayed holiday EVA Party at Sarah Nguyen's house. Much fun and good food ensued.

**February:** We had a demo by acrylic marker artist Jemal Diamond. He wowed all of us on the use of paint markers and many of us ran right out and bought a bunch. He challenged us to title his work and some were very creative indeed.

**March:** We had two great events. We went to Petroglyph ceramic studio and participants were surprised how enjoyable and freeing it was painting pieces of greenware. The results were fantastic. We also had a demo by abstract artist James Ong, who made our brains connect new circuits we didn't know we had.

**April:** We met downtown in SJ for dinner and visited First Friday open museums including Works and Chopsticks Alley. We also had a Saturday trip to Santa Cruz to go art supply shopping at Lenz Arts and then on to the beautiful "Kiss My Glass" stained glass store. We happened upon a wonderful hamburger place along the way. Yummo.



*Hadi's show reception  
at the Triton in May*

**May:** We trotted out our wares for the Berryessa Art Festival. We came away with some good times together, some lessons learned, and an understanding of heat exhaustion survival. It was a one-day heat wave. We also made a group trip to the opening reception and to view Hadi Aghae's brilliant solo show at the Triton Museum in Santa Clara. The whole and aggregate of his work blew our minds and inspired.

**June:** Demo with portrait oil painter Michael O. Rogan. He taught us many nuances of portraits that can make a remarkable difference in the results.



## 2023 YEAR IN REVIEW [CONTINUED]



*Sri and Hadi at the San Jose Rose Garden*

**July:** A perfect day at the San Jose Rose Garden and nature photography walk with our own Sriharsha Annadore. He taught us so much about the capabilities of our cellphone cameras that we knew nothing about. We left making better compositions and better photos than ever. Amazing. We also had an EVA meetup at the Coffee Cup on Toyon. Michelle at the Coffee Cup has been a big supporter of EVA, offering their walls for a rotating display.

**August:** We had our EVA annual BBQ at Jennifer Wool's lovely hillside home. Beside the good potluck, the sunset is the thing.

**September:** Best EVA show ever! The first annual show in a few years was well organized and beautifully displayed. It was remarkable to see the artwork delivered and quickly transformed into the great design that read so perfectly from the entrance to a full walk around. Kudos to all!



*Our November demo artist, Angelo Lopez*

**October:** We had a group trip to Candi Yu's Show at the Los Altos library and visited Carolyn Meredith's open studio in San Jose. We also went as a group to the annual Olive Hyde opening reception and show in Fremont.

**November:** We had a demo with cartoonist Angelo Lopez. We learned up close about the complex process of drawing cartoons and learned so much about the long history of book illustration. Also, we visited the Kristin Lindseth-Rivera and George Rivera Opening Reception at DeAnza's Euphrat Museum. Kristin's perfectly representative buildings force you to peek in and explore.



*Carole handed out awards at the EVA Holiday Party*

**December:** Ended the year as we started it with a holiday EVA Party at Carole Cameron's house. Special honors were given to Julie Cline and Sarah Nguyen for keeping the machine of EVA going with the beautiful newsletter, the website, Artist of the Month uploading and voting, and other systems. Also, honors to Shelly Woolvin for being the leader and organizer of the annual show. The show came off without a hitch due to Shelly's leadership.

# ARTIST OF THE MONTH ONLINE

*Congratulations to our AOMO winners  
for the month of November!*

Entries for the AOMO contest should be emailed to us at [eastvalleyartists@gmail.com](mailto:eastvalleyartists@gmail.com) by 8:00 pm on the third Wednesday of each month.

January AOMO entries are due on January 17th.

## FIRST PLACE



Hadi Aghaee - No Business Like War Business  
acrylic on canvas, 48 x 48



# ARTIST OF THE MONTH ONLINE

## SECOND PLACE



Carole Cameron - Stockholm from Our Room  
acrylic, 36 x 12

## THIRD PLACE



Julia Cline - Purple Throughway  
mixed media, 7 x 5

## FOURTH CATEGORY - MOST EFFECTIVE USE OF DARKS



Lina Melkonian - Shades of Springtime  
oil, 24 x 36



# ARTIST OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to our 2023 winners for Artist of the Year. Wendell received the most points throughout the year. Carole and Julie both submitted entries in every month's competition. Great job everyone!



## ARTIST OF THE YEAR - WENDELL FIOCK



*Photo by Eileen Hamper*

## MOST FREQUENT PARTICIPANT (TIE) - JULIA CLINE AND CAROLE CAMERON



*Photo by Jeanne Wardrip*

## FOURTH CATEGORY

# January TRANSITIONS

The fourth category for January is “transitions.” You may think of transitions technically as moving from light to dark or rough to smooth in a medium, or in subject matter as a caterpillar changes into a butterfly. You may think of it abstractly or concretely as you leave 2023 and move into 2024. Capture a single transition or show us the meaning of transitions in your work, or approach your project from an angle that completely surprises all of us.

# February SELF-PORTRAIT

In February, we invite our artists to create self-portraits. The self-portrait can be traditional or non-traditional; i.e. it can be of something that represents you, something that is central to your self or your world view. It could be a collection of your favorite things or the things that annoy you most. Maybe there is more than one you and a collection of paper mache figurines would represent you much better than a portrait. We’re giving everyone a heads-up on February’s Fourth Category now in hopes of getting some interesting results for the extra time for self-reflection!



Photo by [Toa Heftiba](#) on [Unsplash](#)



## EVA OPEN STUDIOS

For a while now, the EVA board has been toying with the idea of hosting a series of open studios to give our members a chance to show their workspaces and current projects. As artists, we know how inspiring it can be just to see another artist's space. But it's also an opportunity to get new eyes on our work if our members invite friends to join the visit.

At the January board meeting, we tentatively planned a monthly open studio series starting in the spring, with Hadi volunteering to take a slot in April. Sarah is also interested in having one at her house, possibly with art activities.

EVA would help publicize each open studio event by posting on our social media and publishing it in our newsletter.

Another idea is to simply collect images of our artists in their studios. We could even publish these in a book or online.

## ARE YOU IN?

**Would you like to open your studio up for a visit?**

Send us an email with a photo of you in your studio, or post in our Facebook group to let us know.



*Photo by Hadi Aghaee*



## REMINDERS

### 2023 SALES AND USE TAX

Don't forget! Sales and use tax returns are due at the end of the month for artists who file those each year.

### ARTIST WEBPAGE

Did you set a resolution to expand your web presence in 2024? Do you need a place to direct people when they ask to see samples of your art?

Get this accomplished today by adding a personal artist webpage to your annual membership. You'll have a whole page to display your best work, including links to your social media. Visitors can contact you directly via email. At only \$10 for the entire year, it's an amazing deal.

Check out the many examples of existing EVA artist pages here: <https://www.eastvalleyartists.com/artists>

If you already have an EVA artist webpage, now is the time to make changes. Email Julie & Sarah at: [eastvalleyartists@gmail.com](mailto:eastvalleyartists@gmail.com).

## EVA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

It's time to renew your membership for 2024.

Make your check payable to "EVA" or "East Valley Artists" and mail it to our treasurer:  
Candy Yu - 2718 Royalvale Way, San Jose, CA 95132

\$40 INDIVIDUAL

\$50 FAMILY

\$10 STUDENT

+\$10 FOR EVA PERSONAL ARTIST WEBPAGE

If you're interested in taking on a board position or another more active role in EVA in 2024, we'd love to hear from you!



# NOVEMBER DEMO: PEN & INK AND ACRYLIC WITH ANGELO LOPEZ

BY HADI AGHAEI

On Nov 16th, East Valley Artists (EVA) was fortunate to host Angelo Lopez ([Angelo Lopez Illustration](#)), an award-winning cartoonist, as its final demonstrator of 2023. Lopez's cartoons effortlessly blend humor with a profound commentary on social and political issues. His mastery of detailed drawings reflects an impressive skill set, complemented by a wealth of knowledge about influential cartoonists from current and the past who inspire his work. Engaging and insightful, it was truly a pleasure to listen to him as he shared his expertise and demonstrated his creative process.

*Photos by Hadi Aghaei*





## EVA MEMBERS VISIT TWO NOVEMBER ART SHOWS

BY HADI AGHAEI AND SARAH NGUYEN

The end of 2023 saw many, many art shows and events. EVA members ventured out together to attend two: “Facing Home” featuring the work of George Rivera and Kristin Lindseth-Rivera at the Euphrat Museum, and “It’s a Total Street Show” featuring the work of Susan Harding-Palmore and Chris Stevens-Yu at WheelHouse of Willow Glen.

The exhibition opening at Euphrat Museum of Art in Cupertino was truly remarkable. Kristin Lindseth-Rivera's captivating structural sculptures and George Rivera's thought provoking and inspirational large-scale painting held the audience in awe. The realistic and intricately designed miniature objects in the interior of the structures kept attendees engaged, sparking curiosity and exploration.

The captivating photographic exhibition at WheelHouse of Willow Glen, the creations of artists Susan Harding-Palmore and Chris Stevens-Yu seamlessly unite in a unique exhibition, where the distinction between their works blurs into a captivating convergence. Their photography converges not only in subject matter but also in style, leaving viewers intrigued as they discern the artistry without being able to attribute each piece to a specific artist.

These stunning black and white photographs share a common thread of impeccable composition, skillfully using light and shadow to create a visual symphony. Each frame is a masterpiece and of my personal preference; capturing spontaneous moments of everyday life, memorializing the essence of ordinary people in their most authentic and unguarded states.

Susan Harding and Chris Stevens-Yu skillfully craft a shared vision, where their individual talents harmonize to elevate the beauty found in the simplicity of the human experience.

*Photos by Hadi Aghaei*



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# HOLIDAY PARTY 2023

A great wrap-up to a great year. Enjoy these snapshots from this year's holiday party at Carole's.

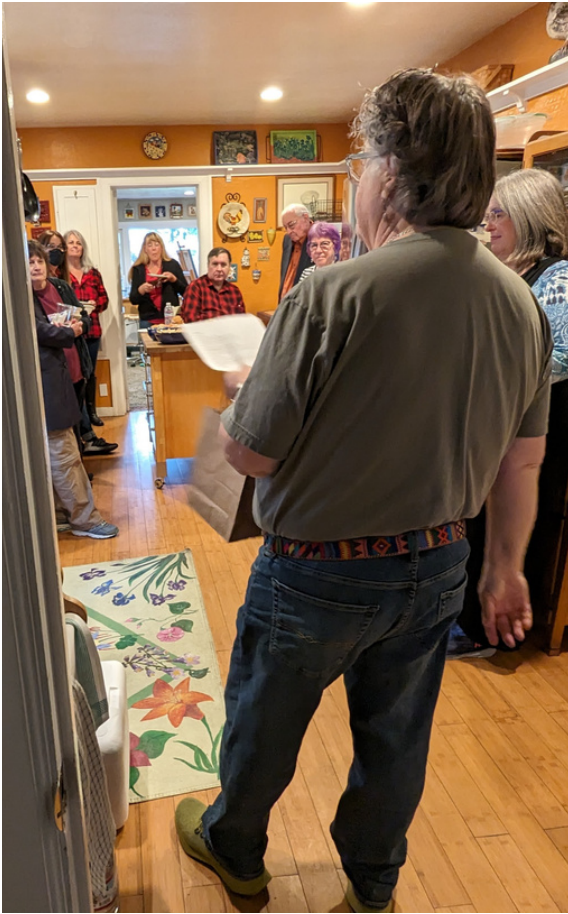
*Photos by Eileen Hamper*





# HOLIDAY PARTY 2023 [CONTINUED]

*Photos by Eileen Hamper*





# UPCOMING EVA EVENTS

## JAN 23 PETROGLYPH MEETUP



Get ready to kick off 2024 with some fun. Join us for a meetup at Petroglyph in Willow Glen to decorate a piece of ceramic greenware. If you've never been to Petroglyph, check out [their website](#) to see how it works.

**We recommend bringing a pencil, tracing paper, and an image you want to create on your piece to save time!**

**When:** Tuesday, January 23 at 11:00 am

**Where:** 1140 Lincoln Ave. #5, San Jose, CA 95125

**Cost:** Sitting fee + the price of the piece you choose. On Tuesdays the sitting fee is half-off, so it will only be \$7.



# UPCOMING EVA EVENTS

## FEB 15 DEMO WITH SUSAN HARDING: PHOTO PAINTING / COLLAGE



New EVA member Susan Harding will demonstrate techniques combining painting with photographs to create interesting collages. Join us in Fellowship Hall at Foothill Presbyterian Church for our first in-person demo of the year.

**When:** Thursday, February 15 at 6:30pm

**Where:** Fellowship Hall - Foothill Presbyterian Church  
5301 McKee Rd, San Jose, CA 95127

**Cost:** Free





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**ARTIST PANELS FOR RENT**

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✉ **SARAH J.L. NGUYEN**  
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**Demo Scheduling:** Hadi Aghae  
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## CONTACT US

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