



The Kiosk

January-February 2024 | June Parsons, Editor



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Greetings!

This past year has been one of renewal and change for LSAA! The Bylaws have been rewritten and updated. We had a fun and successful Annual Meeting and Potluck. Some new officers have been elected to the board. Committees have been established to manage the various activities of our group. But we still have work to do!

Art Talks have been scheduled for 2024, to add an educational outreach to our activities. Be sure to put our January and February Art Talks on your calendars, starting with Mokuhanga Blockprinting on January 9th, The Group of Seven on January 30th, and The Lady in Gold on February 20th.

A celebration for Art On the Rocks founder, Anita Meyland, is being planned for March 5th and will take place at NMU's Northern Center. An art educator will be presenting a program in May that will show parents, grandparents and educators how to teach children to draw in a way that also helps them learn about science and other subject areas as well. We have other interesting and informative monthly programs planned!

January is the month for our annual membership drive. Please take the time renew your membership by mailing a check, paying at a meeting, or through PayPal at our website lakesuperiorartassociation.org. If you have a change of address, phone number, or email address, please send in the Membership Form, or email the updated info to lsainfo4u@gmail.com. Membership includes our LSAA newsletter, The Kiosk, via email. If you would like a printed copy sent to you, please send in an additional \$15 to cover the cost of printing and postage.

We need volunteers! LSAA is in need of a Treasurer. Please consider volunteering for this important position. We will also need volunteers for the Anita Meyland event, Art On the Rocks, the Fresh Coast Plein Air Festival, the Annual Meeting, committees and other LSAA programs and activities. Email LSAA at lsainfo4u@gmail.com for more information about these volunteer opportunities.

Wishing you peace, good health and happiness in 2024!

~Lynn

President, LSAA

Mark Your 2024 Calendar

January 1 Applications for Art on the Rocks go online

January 9, 2024 Mary Brodbeck: Mokuhanga Woodblock Printing. LSAA Member meeting and program: PWPL Shiras Room 6:30-8:00pm

Tuesday, January 11 Marquette Art Muses Inagural gathering. Similar to a monthly book club, but art prompts will be chosen instead of books! Open to the public. Contact lbuckmar2@yahoo.com or message 906-399-9824. Courtyards Restaurant 5:30pm

Tuesday, January 30 Lynn Buckland-Brown: Canadian Group of Seven PWPL Shiras Room 6:30-8:00pm

Saturday, February 17 Dog Dayz Reception PWPL 1:30-3:00pm

Tuesday, February 20 Judy Parlato: Fiber Arts "Lady in Gold" PWPL MACC Studio 6:30-8:00pm

Tuesday, March 5 Anita Meyland: First Lady of the Arts Presenters: Jack Deo and Ann Hilton Fisher NMU Northern Center Peninsula Rooms 6:00-9:30pm

Tuesday, March 19 Art Talk: Theo McCracken PWPL MACC Studio 6:30-8:00pm

March 31 Art on the Rocks Application Deadline

Tuesday, April 16 Field Trip to the NMU Art and Design Studios

June 24-29 Fresh Coast Plein Air Festival with an "Afterglow" Painting Party on June 30.

July 27-28, 2024: Art on the Rocks

October-November: LSAA Members' Exhibit



Lady in Gold
Judy Parlato
Fiber

Group of Seven

In the 1920s a group of adventurous artists sought out pristine wilderness landscapes. They believed that a distinctly Canadian art style could be developed through direct contact with nature. The Group of Seven is best known for its paintings inspired by the Canadian landscape, and for initiating the first major Canadian national art movement. The artists in this group painted together from 1920-1933, mostly plein air, in a style that challenged European traditions and gained global recognition.

Learn more about the Group of Seven at Lake Superior Art Association's Art Talk on Tuesday, January 30, beginning at 6:30pm, in the Shiras Room at Peter White Public Library. Lynn Buckland-Brown will be the presenter. The program is open to LSAA members and the public. There is no fee to attend.



Northern Lake
c. 1923
Lawren S. Harris
Oil on canvas

"Lady in Gold"

Judy Parlato, LSAA fiber artist from Gwinn, will demonstrate the process she uses in creating art quilts. Judy accepts every design challenge presented to her, which usually stretch the boundaries of traditional quilt design. Striving for improvement as an artist, Judy takes painting and quilting related classes locally and online.

Multimedia artists as well as fiber artists will enjoy Judy's journey as she recreates the painting by Gustav Klimt, "Lady in Gold" in fibers and quilting. Mark your calendars for February 20th, 6:30 in the MACC Studio of PWPL.

An Interview with Mary Brodbeck

LSAA is pleased to sponsor an Art Talk by Mary Brodbeck, whose woodblock prints of the Great Lakes watershed use traditional Japanese Mokuhanga woodblock print techniques. She will be presenting January 9th at 6:30pm in the Shiras room of the PWPL.



What initially piqued your interest in this style of art?

After a decade-long career as a furniture designer in a corporate setting, I wanted to turn my creative focus to something that was more closely related to nature. I wanted to become a landscape artist and taught myself color woodblock printmaking in Western techniques originally. Then, when I entered graduate school at Western Michigan University, a couple of professors saw something in my work that prompted them to encourage me to study in Japan. I took their advice and jumped at the opportunities that became available as a graduate student at WMU.

How would you characterize the style of Mokuhanga woodblock prints?

"Moku" means wood, and "hanga" means print. So if you see the word mokuhanga, it means "woodblock print made in the Japanese tradition." This means using brushed-on water-based color pigments and pressing with a handheld tool called a "baren." Comparing Japanese and Western methods is like comparing watercolor painting with oil painting. The methods and materials affect the look or "style" of the final product. The Japanese methods are more akin to the look of a watercolor painting.

Historically, what are some of the iconic works in this medium, and why have they become such icons?

The most famous image of a Japanese woodblock print, perhaps in the whole world, is Hokusai's Great Wave. Hokusai (1760–1849) worked in series during his long and productive career. This allowed audiences to connect to the progression of a theme, especially the revered Mt. Fuji. During Hokusai's time the Japanese were just beginning to use perspective, an influence from the West, so there was a newness to his work too.

Hiroshige was another famous woodblock print artist from that era and was also very prolific. Prints by both Hokusai and Hiroshige looked exotic and entirely new when introduced to Western eyes. Now, a couple of centuries later, those prints have retained their magic for many - including for me!



What are the traditional tools used for creating these prints? How do they differ from the tools and processes used in Western woodblock printing?

In both Japanese and Western tradition, woodblock prints are created by the relief method - the oldest reproduction process on paper. The relief method is where a design is carved into a plank of wood, inked, and then paper is placed on top of the block and pressed to transfer the design. The carving tools differ slightly between Japanese and Western processes, but they don't affect the final product in any significant way.

(Continued on the next page)

Since Japanese woodblock prints are most often multicolored, there are separate blocks for the separate colors. A particular Japanese device called "kento," a little paper shelf, is carved into each block that allows for the alignment of all the colors. Other differences between Japanese and Western processes include: using a brush instead of a roller to apply the colors and using water-based pigments instead of viscous, tacky ink.



Imagine
A warm, pine-scented evening
inspires contemplation.
woodblock print
10.25" x 14"
2020

In what ways have you evolved with the Mokuhanga process to create a style that reflects your own originality?

My visual style remains close to the same since I first began nearly 30 years ago though maybe now it's more refined. (Other people might see my work differently though.) I try to keep my goals within reach and work in series of four. Each series has its unique look, for instance with the color palette, vantage point, or subject matter.



Ascend
Moon and reflection along a
tree-lined lakeshore, Ontario.
woodblock print
10.25" x 14"
2017

For you, what is the most challenging aspect of this art style?

Having the time. It just takes a lot of it.

What do you intend to convey with your art? For example, would it be a visual that expresses a mood, an image that captures the essence of the reference, a personal story or experience, a sense of the Mokuhanga tradition?

Through contrast, and a vocabulary of shapes and colors, I express my reverence for nature while also telling stories about place in my work. Additionally, the mokuhanga process suits my particular sensibility in a Zen kind of way and I love the materials and the traditions.

A.I. and Art

CAN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE CREATE REAL ART?

The controversy began last August when artist Jason Allen won an award at the Colorado State Fair's digital arts competition for his image, *Théâtre D'opéra Spatial*.



Théâtre D'opéra Spatial by Jason Allen Jason Allen via Discord

But he had help. When Jason posted his victory online, he mentioned that he created his work using Midjourney, an artificial intelligence (A.I.) program that turns text into images.

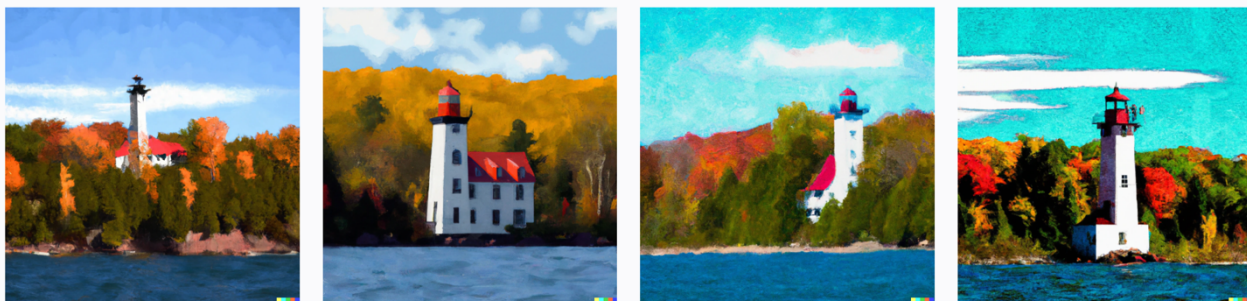
Suddenly the significance of something called “generative A.I.” rocked the art world. Can computers create art that is indistinguishable from work created by humans? Is a machine-created image really art? Will A.I. make artists obsolete?

How does this generative A.I. work? I thought I'd give it try. I have an account with an A.I. called ChatGPT, which allows me to get answers to questions, and generate paragraphs of text. (I did NOT use it for this article!) But to generate visual images, I had to use DALL-E and pay \$20. That allowed me to generate 100 images. Okay.

I was provided with a space to enter a description of the image that I wanted DALL-E to create. Here's what I entered:

Create an oil painting of the Marquette, MI lighthouse in the style of Claude Monet, as seen from the water looking toward shore, on a partly cloudy day in the month of October where trees with fall foliage line the lake shore.

DALL-E produced four images that don't exactly look like the Marquette lighthouse and certainly are not a Monet, but could pass for an average attempt at an impressionist painting.



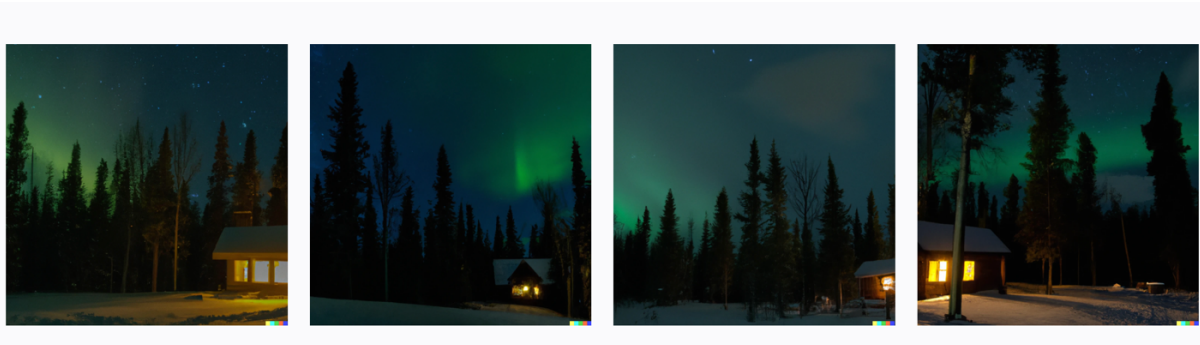
You could laugh this off. “Oh well, these are just digital images. They are only displayed on a computer screen. They are not real paint on canvas.” And you would be right. Yes, for now. But as artists, we know how easy it is to use a large format printer to print on canvas. You can bet that at this moment someone is inventing a device to render these images with a machine that holds a paintbrush.

Anyway, I continued to experiment. It was sometimes frustrating. For the image on page 1 of this Kiosk edition, I wanted DALL-E to paint an artist in a BLUE jacket. DALL-E insisted on making the jacket red, no matter how I worded the instructions. (Continued on the next page.)

But I was more successful with other images. Either I got better at issuing instructions to DALL-E, or the A.I. decided to be more cooperative.

I rather liked the images DALL-E produced based on the following description:

It is nighttime in the forest. There is a small rustic cabin with a light on in one window. The cabin is surrounded by trees and there is snow on the ground. In the sky above the trees, the aurora borealis shines with green, blue, and gold light.



Then I changed up the description just a bit, and DALL-E channelled Van Gogh. Here's the description:

An oil painting with palette knife. Nighttime in the forest. There is a small rustic cabin with a light on in one window. The cabin is surrounded by trees and there is snow on the ground. In the sky above the trees, the aurora borealis shines with green, blue, and gold light.



And since we have been focusing on wood block prints recently, I asked DALL-E to create a wood block print by issuing the following simple instruction:

A woodblock print of a dramatic primeval forest at night with a 3/4 moon rising.



I was rather pleased with the results, artistically, but became worried about how easy it would be to print these images on high-quality paper with good printer ink. To the untrained eye, they could be difficult to distinguish from original block prints, and surely would pass for "prints" of an original work.

Where do DALL-E and other A.I. platforms get the knowledge to create these images? That is yet another story. Tune in to the next edition of The Kiosk to find out.

Article by June Parsons for The Kiosk

News Notes

CONGRATULATIONS!

LSAA members, **Marlene Wood**, **JoAnn Shelby**, **Charlie Stewart**, and **Ben Bonsack** were juried in to the Bonifas Northern Exposure exhibit this year. Lovely work for this prestigious gallery in Escanaba.

THANK YOU, BRENDA PATRICK

As 2023 was winding down, **Brenda Patrick** stepped down from her role as LSAA Treasurer. We thank Brenda for her service to the organization in the important role of keeping the books, managing finances, collecting annual dues, and maintaining the membership list.

LSAA EVOLVES

With the approval of new bylaws and nonprofit filings, our organization is now officially LSAA, Inc, doing business as Lake Superior Art Association. **John French**, our association Web manager maintains our Web site, lakesuperiorartassociation.org. Thank you, John!

U.P. ARTS AND CULTURE ALLIANCE

The Upper Peninsula Arts and Culture Alliance (UPACA) is a 15-county group comprised of Artisans and art organizations, historians and culture bearers, as well as allies in related sectors such as tourism and recreation, local and regional government and economic development. You can find lots of art resources at <http://www.upacalliance.com/> and follow on Facebook.



LSAA EXHIBITS 2024

The annual LSAA Members Exhibit and the Challenge Exhibit will take place in the PWPL Deo Gallery in **October and November 2024**. This is a change from previous years, when the shows took place in the spring. Look for more information in later issues of The Kiosk.

WANTED: TADYCH'S SLIPS

LSAA is still collecting **Tadych's Marketplace (formerly Econo Foods) receipts** for the "We Share" program for non-profits. Twice a year, LSAA turns in our saved receipts for cash. In past years, LSAA has received \$500-\$3000 dollars from this program. Please mail your slips to LSAA, P.O. Box 9, Marquette, MI 49855 or deposit slips in the drop box on the pedestal across from the Deo Gallery in the PWPL.

KIOSK SUBSCRIPTIONS

If you, or someone you know, is not receiving The Kiosk or emails from LSAA, please let us know. You can send contact info to lsainfo4u@gmail.com.

SUBMIT YOUR NEWS

Awards, recognitions, events, gallery receptions, stories, new media—anything of interest to other artists and LSAA members—submit your ideas to The Kiosk, lsainfo4u@gmail.com. Deadline for the March-April issue is February 15, 2024.

Call for STUDENT ARTISTS Grades K-8

BOTH PUBLIC & HOME-SCHOOLED

DOG DAYZ of WINTER Art Show

CENTERED ON A THEME OF:
Winter - Animals - Dog Sledding

ARTWORK DROP-OFF Wednesday, February 14 th 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM Lower Level of Peter White Public Library	RECEPTION Peter White Public Library Saturday, February 17 th 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Artwork requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must be labeled with:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Artist First & Last Name- Grade- School Name/Home• 2D Art needs to be mounted on construction paper with one-inch border to help hang.• Any 3D art will be on tables.	Artwork Pick-Up Friday, March 1 st 3pm to 6pm <i>Hosted by</i> macc MARQUETTE ARTS & CULTURE CENTER

For more information e-mail: mtuccini@chartermi.net

Calls for Art

ART ON THE ROCKS APPLICATIONS

Applications for Art on the Rocks go live January 1st. Deadline: March 31st. The 2024 event will be held Saturday July 27 10:00am – 6:00pm and Sunday July 28 10:00am – 4:00pm. This juried event takes place in Mattson Lower Harbor Park and is growing every year. More information at the Website: marquetteartontherocks.com.

LIVE ART AND WORD CONTEST

February 15, 2024: Submission deadline

West End Suicide Prevention is accepting entries for the fourth annual LIVE Art & Word Contest. Submit any type of art that addresses the theme Mental Health Awareness. More info at www.greatlakesrecovery.org/live-art-word-contest.

BARB SYMON SCHOLARSHIP

Submissions due by June 6th, 2024

The Barb Symon Scholarship was established by Charles Symon in memory of his wife Barbara who was a highly respected weaver and a founder of the East Ludington Gallery. This scholarship is offered to encourage further study in an artist's field of arts or crafts. <https://bonifasarts.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/BarbSymonScholarshipAppInsert2023.pdf>

THE U.P. THROUGH MY LENS: A PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

January 5 Submission deadline.

Exhibit: January 11 - February 22, 2024

What does YOUR U.P. look like? Submit to the Bonifas your best shots of the U.P. They can be nature, landscapes, cityscapes, pets, boats, home, etc. Entry fee. <https://bonifasarts.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Photography-web-app-2024.pdf>

BONIFAS MEMBERSHIP SHOW

Submissions due by March 26

June 27 – August 8, 2024

Reception: June 27, 6:00 – 8:00pm

The Bonifas Membership Show, has encouraged artists to share their creative explorations at every level of ability. This show is open to all artists 18+ who are current members of the Bonifas. All work must be the artist's own design, original in concept and execution, and not previously exhibited in the Bonifas Gallery. Entry fee.

WATERFRONT ART FESTIVAL

Applications must be received by July 21, 2024

Event: Saturday, August 3rd, 2024 10:00am – 4:00pm

The Bonifas is calling all our artists and food vendors to register for this year's Waterfront Art Festival. Now is the time to register and be a part of the biggest Waterfront to date! This is a juried show. Artists who have not participated in the past 2 years of Waterfront Art Festival or Holiday Art Fair will need to send images or samples of your work ahead of time to be considered for the 2024 Festival. Entry fee.

You're Invited!

Celebrate the History of Arts and Culture in Marquette

A Presentation by Jack Deo and Ann Hilton Fisher: Anita Meyland, First Lady of the Arts

March 5th 6:30 – 9:00 pm

NMU Northern Center, Peninsula Rooms 1 & 2

Social hour with appetizers, coffee, and cash bar

Silent Auction to benefit the Lake Superior Art Association
Scholarship honoring Anita Meyland and awarded on merit
annually to a full-time Art & Design student attending NMU

Anita Meyland was a prominent advocate of the arts during the 1950s, 60s and 70s. In 1950 she organized Marquette's first Art on the Rocks event. She was a contributing member of local art and music organizations and taught classes in painting, pottery, scrimshaw, quilting, spinning, pewter, beading, candle-making, woodcarving, and even ironwork! Her personal style was retro chic, so have fun and (if you like) come dressed in your retro cocktail outfit.

Presented by the Lake Superior Art Association

Tickets: \$25

Available at the LSAA monthly meetings and Marquette
Arts and Culture Center, Peter White Library

