



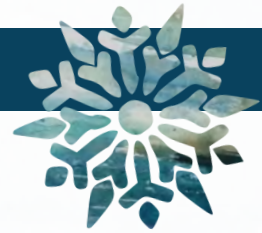
BLAINE ARTS COUNCIL

# NEWSLETTER



January 2025

## Annual General Meeting - January 9, 2025



Happy New Year!

I hope you have all had wonderful holidays, filled with laughter and love. I am so grateful for the many blessings 2024 has brought our organization, and I am so excited to see the wonders 2025 has in store!

January 9th will bring our 2nd Annual General Meeting. We will spend the first part of the meeting looking back on 2024, with time for questions, chatting with our fellow members, and some sweet snacks from our fabulous members, L & L Bakery to enjoy!

By December 31st, an online survey will be emailed to all active members focusing on opportunities to participate, member feedback, and additional Arts Council information. Among the opportunities are the two Committee Chair positions below. Please let us know how you would like to support the arts in Blaine. Could it be through one of these opportunities, or something we've yet to even dream. We are excited to hear your thoughts!

The current Chair positions available are:

**Membership Committee Chair** – There are 2 Committee members interested in supporting. If you would like more information on this position, please contact [membership](#).

**Events Chair** – The main event focus is the annual fundraiser at the end of July. There was a wonderful team last year, so I am sure that will be the case again in 2025. For more information, please contact [Gaye](#).

Last, but not least, there is still time to participate in the End of Year fundraising campaign. If you know anyone who would like to support the arts in Blaine, please send the link and know that they will be helping our arts organization grow into its full potential. ([LINK](#)) Thank you! See you on January 9th! My best to you all, and as always, thank you for your partnership.

Margaret Owens  
Board President

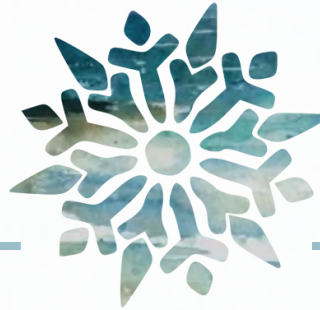
GRACIOUSLY HOSTED BY:



# Blaine Art Gallery & Gift Shop - 922 Peace Portal Drive

## January Show

JANUARY AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR MONTH



**GALLERY HOURS**  
Thurs 11-4  
Fri and Sat 10-5  
Sun 12-5

The Blaine Art Gallery is hosting a month of literary works and those who illustrate them during the month of January. Artists showing are Barbara Davis-Pyles, Keren Taylor, Jean Ferrier, Judy Newland, Helen Worley, Georgia Donovan and the K-8 art students of the Blaine School District.

We're very excited to invite the students within the Blaine School District to display their works in the Gallery under the guidance of Mrs. Becky Martin, the K-8 art teacher for the Blaine HomeConnection; a parent-partnership program within the Blaine School District. The exhibit features a diverse collection of projects from students in grades K-8, highlighting various artistic media and techniques.

We've scheduled two events for the month: a storytelling afternoon with Barbara Davis-Pyles, and a creative writing workshop with Keren Taylor.



Cloth art by Judy Newland

## Participating Artists

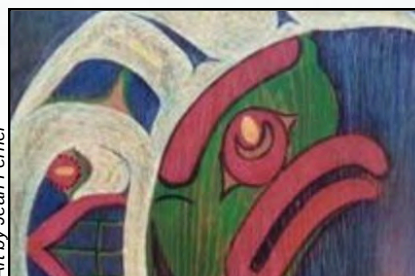
### JEAN FERRIER

*Calligraphy, mixed media, Native American art*

Through calligraphy and handmade books, her work concentrates on themes related to the natural world and continues to be sold in Port Townsend and in Skagway, Alaska.



Art by Jean Ferrier



Art by Jean Ferrier

### JUDY NEWLAND

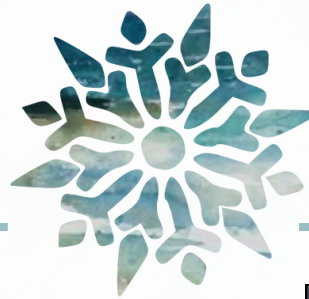
*Cloth art*

Cloth contains stories and sharing these stories and techniques with others is my greatest joy. My eco-dyed stitch books carry memories and history within the threads to share with others. These little books can be used for stitching practice or writing your own story with thread. Making connects my heart and hands.

# Blaine Art Gallery & Gift Shop - 922 Peace Portal Drive

## January Show

JANUARY AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR MONTH



**GALLERY HOURS**  
Thurs 11-4  
Fri and Sat 10-5  
Sun 12-5

### Participating Artists

**KEREN TAYLOR** *Visual artist and writer*

Keren Taylor's artwork will be shown during the month of January and she will be offering a writing workshop for teens and young adults on January 18.



Painting by Keren Taylor

**HELEN WORLEY** *Photographer and writer*

Helen Worley's "Hope Lives in a Garden – a tale of whimsy and healing", is illustrated by Blaine artist, **Georgia Donovan**. This small book is about big ideas written from the perspective of a stuffed monkey named Nutmeg. Together Helen and Nutmeg challenge the conventional metaphor of battling cancer and offer the holistic approach of a garden.



Written by Helen Worley

### Student Art Showcase



Blaine HomeConnection, the parent-partnership program within the Blaine School District, is thrilled to showcase student artwork at the Blaine Art Council gallery during the month of January! The exhibit features a diverse collection of projects from students in grades K-8, highlighting various artistic media and techniques. Under the guidance of teacher Mrs. Becky Martin, students created pieces inspired by historical artists and their unique approaches to artmaking.



We hope you'll join us for this very special month. For more information about the January Author and Illustrator Month, participating artists, or student showcase, contact us at [gallerychair@blaineartscouncil.org](mailto:gallerychair@blaineartscouncil.org).



## Blaine Art Gallery & Gift Shop - 922 Peace Portal Drive

*New Day and Time!*

**2ND SATURDAY DOWNTOWN**

# *Art Walk*

**JANUARY 11 - 4:00-6:30 pm**

Our 1st Friday Downtown Art Walk is moving to 2nd Saturday! We're hoping those of you coming into Blaine for the day will stop by on your way home after supporting your local businesses. And those of you coming in for the evening will begin at the gallery and then go on to see the wonderful artworks displayed at local businesses who have partnered with us.

*Begin*

at the **Blaine Art Gallery** at 922 Peace Portal Drive. Check out our amazing artisans' work, enjoy coffee from the Railway Café, hot cocoa for the kids and cookies made by our very own BAC members.

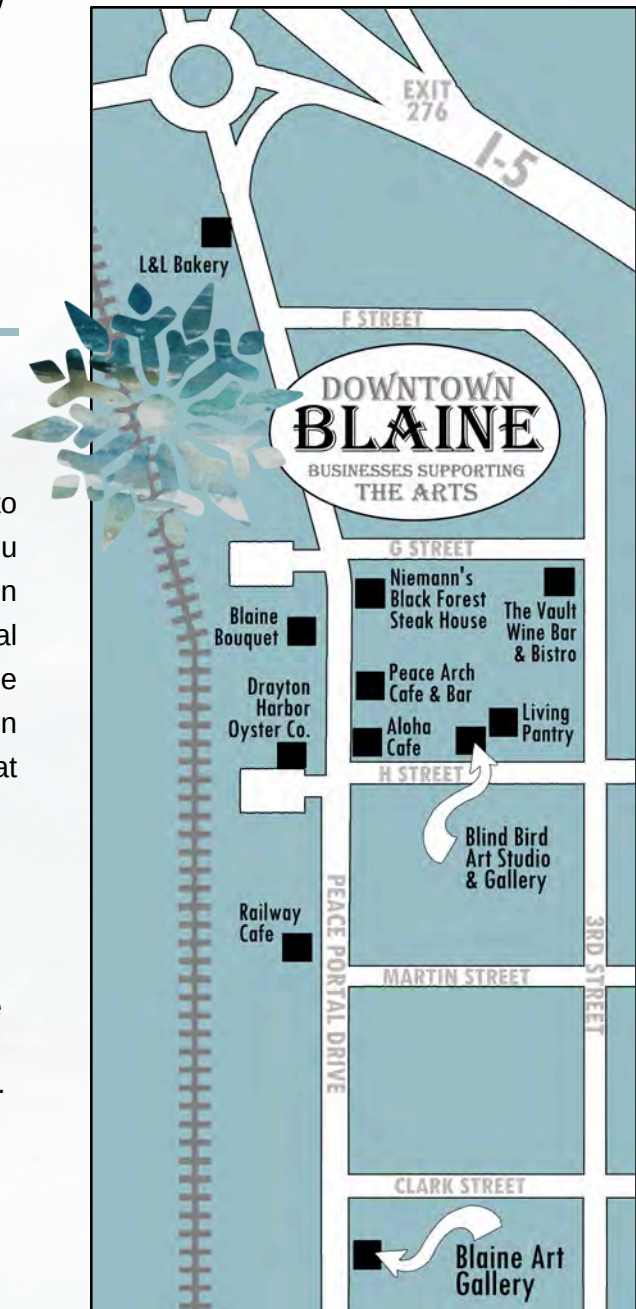
*Continue*

to **Blind Bird Art Studio** at 264 H Street and see BAC member, Shawna Morris' artwork while she paints live during the event.

*Also,*

enjoy the many things Blaine's local businesses have to offer and see more of our members' artwork gracing their walls!

We are grateful for our partnerships with Blaine's local business community and look forward to growing our impact in 2025!



**Aloha Cafe**

**Drayton Harbor Oyster Company**

*(Artist: Kim Morris)*

**L & L Bakery** *(Artist: Michelle Kamrath)*

**Niemann's Black Forest Steak House**

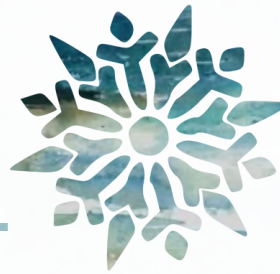
**Peace Arch City Cafe** *(Artist: Helen Worley)*

**The Vault Wine Bar** *(Artist: Gordon Nealy)*

# Blaine Art Gallery & Gift Shop - 922 Peace Portal Drive

## Gallery Events

JANUARY AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR MONTH



This special event features two exciting programs for the community: a delightful children's book reading with celebrated author Barbara Davis-Pyles, and an engaging writing workshop led by acclaimed author and writing mentor Keren Taylor. **Both events are FREE and open to the public, but registration is required.** Contact [gallerychair@blaineartscouncil.org](mailto:gallerychair@blaineartscouncil.org) to register.

### Barbara Davis-Pyles: Children's Book Reading

January 11, 2025, 1pm – 3pm

Join beloved children's book author, Barbara Davis-Pyles, for a story time reading from all four of her delightful books: *Grizzly Boy*, *Stubby the Fearless Squid*, *Cliff the Failed Troll* (Warning: There Be Pirates in This Book!), and *Nobody Likes Frogs: A Book of Toadally Fun Facts*. Perfect for kids and families, Barbara's storytelling brings her imaginative worlds to life. Please bring a pillow, beanbag chair or your favorite snuggly and cozy up by the fire with hot cocoa and cookies to enjoy Barbara's wonderful books.



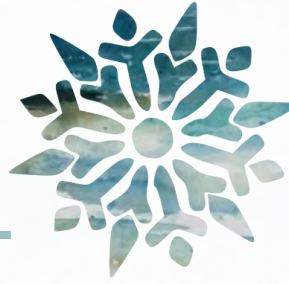
### Keren Taylor: Writing Workshop

January 18, 2025, 1pm – 3pm

Get inspired! Enjoy a creative writing workshop with Keren Taylor, founder and director of [WriteGirl](http://WriteGirl.org) and Bold Ink Writers. Teens and young adults welcome. Gain some insights and techniques for tapping into your imagination. From mystical lands to visual poetry, take a journey where all your senses will come alive. No writing experience needed. All participants will receive a gift journal. Join us to write, surrounded by exceptional art and books with a view of the ocean!

These events promise to inspire and connect the community through the power of words and creativity. Please contact [gallerychair@blaineartscouncil.org](mailto:gallerychair@blaineartscouncil.org) to register.

## Gallery News



# DECEMBER

We had a stellar month in the gallery for December! Christmas in the Gallery was a huge success, selling lots of art and enjoying the enthusiasm and support of all who came in to see and purchase unique gifts for their loved ones. The raffle was also a great success raising money for the gallery. As folks came in to check out the art, we sent them on a "treasure hunt" to find the raffle items and invited them to purchase tickets for the drawing on the 22nd. Many were very supportive and had a good time finding and listing the raffle items they'd like to win. Thank you to all who made it happen: the Northern Light Publication, Blaine by the Sea, those who distributed flyers, and most importantly, our artists and members.



The raffle results are in! We sold 133 tickets and made \$570 in sales!

Thank you to all who participated and congratulations to our winners!

## CALL TO ARTISTS

### Call to Artists for February

Join us in **Celebrating Love in the Gallery.**

How do you express love through your art? What evokes that spark of creativity that drives you to produce art sharing those feelings of love? Is it color, nature, music, a lyric, or a poem? How does that spark become a piece of art in your chosen medium? Is it photography, sculpture, painting, poetry, fiber art, glasswork, or collage?

February in the Gallery will be devoted to a show of your works of love. Think outside the box and let your creativity flow in your medium of choice. The idea is to offer something different to folks, giving them an opportunity to share their love with a unique gift of art.

We're looking for 3 to 5 submissions from each artist. We're still working out some of the logistical details. Please email the gallery chair if you're interested and/or have questions. Let me know your medium and number of works you'd like to show. We hope to bring some new ideas and ways to celebrate the "month of love."

[gallerychair@blaineartscouncil.org](mailto:gallerychair@blaineartscouncil.org)



# 2024 Year-In-Review



## JULY 04 *Opening of the Blaine Art Gallery*



♥  
*A Special Thanks*  
to the 2024  
Gallery  
Committee!



Thank you, 2024 Gallery Committee members: Faith Worthley (Chair), Christy Schroeder-Lloyd, Doug Parent, Gordon Nealy, Kay Dee Powell, and Lyn Rackley!

## JULY 26 *Wave En Blanc & Art Festival*



♥  
*A Special Thanks*  
to the 2024  
Event  
Committee!



Thank you, 2024 Event Committee members: Gaye Sawicki (Chair), Christy Schroeder-Lloyd, Dave Sawicki, Diane Butts, Jesse Hughs, Kay Dee Powell, Ken Owens, Kim Morris, Margaret Owens, Margie Miller, Marilyn Muelbach, Rachel Hughs, Sara Weaver, and Steven Magallon!



# 2024 Year-In-Review



## 1st Friday Downtown Art Walk



## Meeting Presenters, Thank You!

FEBRUARY  
ROCK MORRIS



AUGUST  
MARGARET OWENS



APRIL  
VAUNE AINSWORTH



OCTOBER  
HELEN WORLEY



MAY  
CHRISTY SCHROEDER-LLOYD



NOVEMBER  
BONNIE VENTURA



DEC 12 Member Holiday Party





## BAC Member Happenings & Opportunities



### **BARBARA DAVIS-PYLES**

On the first Tuesday of every month, BAC member Barbara hosts "Write Here Right Now" at the Blaine Library from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. If you're ready to work on that book you've always wanted to write, this is the time and place!

### **DIANE & PAUL BERG**

Diane teaches painting classes every week at the Senior Center: Watercolor classes each Tuesday from Noon to 1pm, and Acrylic classes 12:30 to 1:30pm each Wednesday. Diane and Paul teach Zentangles every week at the Senior Center from 10am to 11am each Tuesday.

### **GEORGIA DONOVAN**

Georgia is working on three commissions this month and her Cannery Girl series is being featured at the *Alaska Packers Assoc Museum* on the Semiahmoo Spit. [Museum Information](#)

### **HARMANNA ANTONIA KUNST**

Harmanna is representing her late husband, Johannes Kunst's art work at the *Cordata Gallery* until the end of January 2025.

### **JAMES ROBINSON**

James is offering an online, still-life & photo drawing course for pencil, for beginners to advanced. If you would like more info, visit [Online drawing course info link](#), or contact James at [jamesbaby356@gmail.com](mailto:jamesbaby356@gmail.com).

### **JONATHAN JAKOBITZ**

Jonathan is exhibiting a selection of watercolors at Art Off the Clock: A Group Exhibit by Library Staff, running Dec 16 through Jan 22 at the Deming Library.

### **MOTOKO LEWIS**

Motoko illustrated the book *The Adventures of Wonky Willy*, by author Kerry Claire. The book is available through Amazon ([Amazon link](#)), with a book reading to be held at *Village Books* on Jan. 18 at 2 pm.

### **ROCK MORRIS**

Rock is currently in the *Whatcom Artist Studio Tour Group Show* at Whatcom Museum through January and just finished his WAST solo exhibit at It's About Time Cultural Arts Center in Ferndale. Also, he will be showing at the *It's About Time Cultural Arts Center*.

### **RON STERLING**

Ron's ducky Christmas display won the 2016 and 2017 Charles Griswold Award for Newport Shores, Bellevue Community Best Exterior Display. Check it out at 433 9th Ave, Blaine.

### **SHAWNA MORRIS**

Shawna owns and operates the *Blind Bird Art Studio Gallery* at 264 H Street; Ste B in Blaine, and opens her gallery as part of our 2nd Saturday Downtown Art Walk. Be sure and stop by! She also has three pieces of art featured at the Jansen Gallery in Lynden, until January 11, 2025.

## BAC Member Happenings & Opportunities



### 2025 MEETING PRESENTERS & NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES!

Our **January 2025 Annual General Meeting** is approaching where we will be reviewing 2024 and discussing our 2025 focus. **Artist Networking at the General Meetings** is our Adult Show & Tell, and is super fun! Thank you to all of our members who have graciously shared their talents with us this year. See below for 2025 open opportunities to be a presenter at a general meeting and share what you do with us!

Jan 9 - <b>2025 Annual General Meeting</b>	Jul 10 - <b>Open</b>
Feb 13 - Michelle Kamrath	Aug 14 - <b>Open</b>
Mar 13 - Adult Show and Tell	Sept 11 - Adult Show and Tell
Apr 10 - Gordon Nealy	Oct 9 - <b>Open</b>
May 8 - Keren Taylor	Nov 13 - <b>Open</b>
Jun 12 - Adult Show and Tell	Dec 11 - BAC Holiday Party

---

*Join the Blaine Arts Council Team!*

**Membership Chair Needed:** We are looking for a new membership chair. This responsibility involves managing the membership list, communicating with members regarding their membership status, membership correspondence, and membership and sponsorship enrollment. Also, name tag management, greeting, evening enrollments, and keeper of tags at the General Meetings. **If interested, contact:** [communications@blaineartscouncil.org](mailto:communications@blaineartscouncil.org)

**Events Chair Needed:** The main event focus is the annual fundraiser at the end of July. There was a wonderful team last year, so I am sure that will be the case again in 2025. For more information, please contact [Gaye](#).

---

20  
25

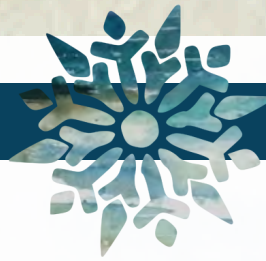
### SHOW YOUR ARTWORK IN 2025!

**BLAINE ART GALLERY:** Show and sell your artwork in the Blaine Art Gallery and/or sell your smaller format art, such as prints and/or less expensive items in the Gallery Gift Shop. If interested, follow the link below and fill out the form. This will give us the opportunity to get you scheduled for your Gallery and/or Gift Shop debut.

**For information, contact:** [gallerychair@blaineartscouncil.org](mailto:gallerychair@blaineartscouncil.org)  
[GALLERY PARTICIPATION FORM](#)



## Support the Arts



### WHAT A DIFFERENCE A YEAR MAKES!

2024 has been a whirlwind of a year, with significant growth for the Blaine Arts Council. We opened the Blaine Art Gallery, began the popular 1st Friday Downtown Art Walks, held our successful annual events: The Wave En Blanc Evening Fundraiser & Art Festival and the Sea to See pop-up art event. Yet, there is so much more we would like to do. There is still time to help us meet our year-end goal to the Blaine Arts Council. We have a generous matching donor, so anything you give will be doubled. As you can see, we are so close! Your gift will support the Blaine Art Gallery, help us engage with the Blaine schools' art, music, and theater students, and continue to grow our reach to create Blaine as an art destination for all of Washington. Thank you, we are truly grateful for your support!



Blaine Arts Council  
Fundraising Committee and Board

[DONATE NOW](#)

## Welcome New Members!

WE WISH TO WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS TO THE BLAINE ARTS COUNCIL.

Cheryl Smith | Chris Bongirno | Rick Whitaker

## 2024 BAC Business Members

HERE'S TO OUR AMAZING BLAINE ARTS COUNCIL BUSINESS MEMBERS!

Cascadia Financial Health | Dana Murphy | Hill's Chevron | L & L Bakery  
Robin Anthony | Ron Sterling | Tamara Olson

## 2024 BAC Patrons

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTNERSHIP AND SUPPORT!

Amanda West | Ani Ashford | Bonnie & Shane Ross  
Chris Bongirno | Pamela S Duska | Tara Helene

*Share  
With Us!*

We want to know all newsworthy items about your art and you! Shows, awards, where your art will be, art items you would like to sell or trade? **Please submit information by the 25th each month to: [communications@blaineartscouncil.org](mailto:communications@blaineartscouncil.org)**