

## Member Newsletter February 2021

### Exciting News!

The TAG Gallery plans to reopen in April for the annual juried Spring Show. There will be no particular theme, and the juror is Monette Mark. See prospectus (p. 4) for more details.

### April Gallery Re-Opening!



Fundraising efforts continue with a “dinner out” event on March 23 at LaRocca’s Pizza.

### Executive Committee

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### The *Temporary* Closure of TAG Art Gallery Continues through March

For the safety of our volunteer staff and our art patrons alike, the Executive Committee has decided to keep the gallery closed for the month of March.

*The Topeka Art Guild supports and promotes the visual arts and art education through public programs and exhibitions of original work.*

## Highlights of the February 9, 2021 Executive Committee Meeting

- The gallery will re-open in April with the juried Spring Show.
- Local ceramicist Monette Mark will be the juror.
- A fundraiser is planned at LaRocca's Restaurant (Gage near 29th St.) on March 23.
- A consulting firm is being considered to help bring TAG back to its mission and goals as the pandemic eases in coming months.
- Next meeting March 9 at 4:00 (note earlier time) via Zoom. All TAG members may attend.

### Congratulations to:

Pradeep Bangalore and Becky Drager whose art is featured in NexLynx Gallery's *10-Year Retrospective*

Fred Hsia and Suzy Smith who won awards at Southwind's *Jane Stephens Memorial Watercolor Show*. Other participants are Phyllis Cory, Connie English, Lila Bartel and Naomi Cashman. Diane Lawrence was one of the jurors.

### Upcoming deadlines:

Symphony in the Flint Hills Art Auction — March 1

Entry Day for TAG Spring Juried Show—March 28



Many thanks to LaRocca's Pizza for partnering with us in our March 23 Fundraiser!

While the gallery is closed, we will be keeping TAG on people's minds using social media and our website to show off our art. Sixteen members (those who shared with us) were profiled on Facebook and the Website in January and February, but we need more member input as we continue to stay closed through March. ***Please contact Kris Luber if you have something to share.***

The webpage is updated frequently, and more timely announcements and gallery promotions are shared on Facebook.

[www.TopekaArtGuild.org](http://www.TopekaArtGuild.org)

Are you following the Topeka Art Guild on Facebook?



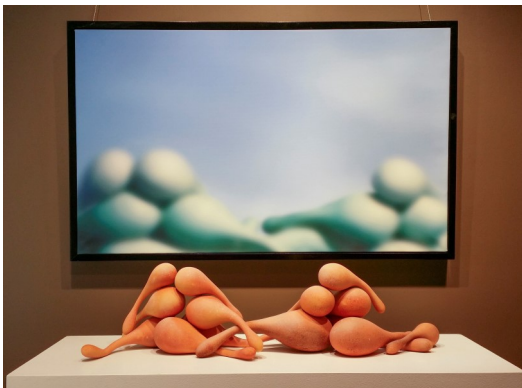
***The views expressed in the art are an expression of the individual artist and not necessarily those of the Topeka Art Guild as an organization.***

## Monette Mark—Spring Show Juror

A native of Topeka, Kansas, ceramic artist Monette Mark explores the tactility and sensuality of clay through sculpture and utilitarian forms, while incorporating different materials into her final installations. Monette began ceramics and painting as a teen, then moved into graphic design creating illustrations for McGraw-Hill in New York City. Coming full circle back to Kansas, she cemented her love of clay by attaining her MFA from Wichita State University. After teaching ceramics for 8 years at Washburn University she wanted to share clay with the emerging arts community starting Fire Me Up Ceramics & Fine Art Studios in 2018.



### Artist Statement



*Glimpse*

Curiosity is the main theme of my work, whether it is the desire to know something, explores something or the perception of something being strange. Using quirky objects and vessels, I seek to create interest out of commonplace occurrences. The encounters we have with everyday objects and surroundings, like doorknobs and landscapes, become ordinary and predictable. Where utilitarian vessels are meant to be touched allowing interaction, my sculptures are visual expressions of how objects can be transformed into undulating scenes alluding to strange discoveries.

I use the language found in ceramic vessels as a metaphor for the body to create inquisitiveness. The ceramic vessel reflects human attributes both in terms of physical description referring to a lip, shoulder, belly, or foot, but also in terms of character. This perceived human element accentuates the relationship between the vessel and body. By transferring the idea of sensuality and beauty associated with the physical properties of curves, folds and recesses that comprise the human figure, I evoke the desire to discover something new. Unexpected appendages and openings present an opportunity for inquisitiveness and interaction, while using a ceramic body to create a landscape elicits the possibility of exploration. Ultimately, I take pleasure in creating objects of playful indulgence, forms and surfaces that provide an experience that sparks a desire for curiosity.

## Topeka Art Guild's 2021 Prospectus for the Spring Show



5331 SW 22<sup>nd</sup> Place

Topeka KS 66614

**Exhibition Dates:** March 31<sup>st</sup> – May 29<sup>th</sup>

**Entry Date:** Sunday, March 28th, between 2:00 & 4:00 p.m.

**COVID-19 Precautions:** because of COVID-19 we can only allow 10 people in the Gallery at a time.

**Eligibility:** All works must follow the following criteria or be removed from the show. All artists are eligible.

*Original work done only by entering artist*

*Not shown before at the Art Guild*

*Completed in the last 2 years*

### **Entries:**

2D entries must be appropriately framed or gallery-wrapped and have hanging wire properly secured on the back.

3D shall not exceed 48" in any direction, be pre-assembled and stable without outside support.

**Prizes:** \$300 for 1st Place; \$200 for 2nd Place; \$100 for 3rd Place; \$50 for People's Choice. Four Honorable Mention ribbons will also be awarded.

**Entry Form:** Entries must be presented with an entry form and the entry fees paid to the Topeka Art Guild and Gallery at this time, unless prior arrangements have been made. Artwork accepted in the show must be picked up by Sat., May 29th, 5:00 p.m., unless other arrangements have been made.

**Juror:** Monette Mark

**Acceptance:** Artists will be notified of entries not accepted into the show within 5 days of entry day.

**Entry fees:** \$20 (\$30 for non-members) for the first piece and \$10 for each additional piece, with a limit total of 5 pieces, as space allows. Entry fees are not refundable.

**Student fee:** is \$5 per piece with a limit of 3 pieces.

**Sales:** All entries must be available for sale. The Art Guild will retain a commission of 45% (or 30% commission plus 12 hours of staffing time).

**Liability:** While utmost care will be taken in handling of all art works entered, the Topeka Art Guild shall not assume liability for any loss and/or damage to art work entered. All persons working with this exhibition shall be held blameless for any and all liabilities arising from this exhibit.

**Advertising:** The Art Guild shall have the right to reproduce any work for the purpose of advertising online, in our newsletter and in the newspaper.

**The views expressed in the art are an expression of the individual artist and not necessarily those of the Topeka Art Guild as an organization.**

785-273-7646 [www.topekaartguild.org](http://www.topekaartguild.org) Follow us on Facebook.