

NEWSLETTER

Julia Garnett Offers Advice

"Have fun, enjoy it, make a mess."

Julia Garnett is a painter and a teacher of art. She's displayed at ArtPrize and the Ann Arbor Art Fair. She sketches constantly, and doesn't worry about the looks of whatever she's sketching. "Whatever you make is fine. Have fun, enjoy it, make a mess," she says.

Some might say the technique she describes is an example of tapping into the power of the subconscious mind.

She presented four components to achieve success in drawing:

Practice, Practice, Practice

- "Draw wherever you are. It doesn't have to be good," she says. "You can't do it enough." Ms. Garnett recommends maintaining a sketchbook. She carries one wherever she goes for "doodling." She documents her thoughts by doodling and writing in free form.

Play - "Allow yourself to play," she recommends. She talks about sketching without an objective in mind, just allowing a free flow of what comes out on paper.

"Sometimes you work things out and don't even realize it," she says, referring to unconsciously solving problems related to the production of art through sketching.

Plan - Sketching is critical in moving toward artwork. Her



Photo by Fred Bruey

Artist Julia Garnett offers tips on sketching at the JCAA Meeting on November 17.

sketching is personal and she doesn't usually share her sketching, but it helps set her up for artwork. Sometimes she'll sketch, then print the sketch, and then color the print to help plan her artwork. Sketching helps to formulate art in her mind.

Proceed - You shouldn't think too much about drawing. "Just do it," she says.

Julia distributed ink pens, paper, and an example of possible doodling patterns. JCAA members were offered the chance to experiment with sketching.

New Projects Proposed for the New Year

Beginning in January, 2016 JCAA members will have the opportunity to work on art in an **open studio** at the Ella Sharp Museum. The studio, located near the hallway leading to the Granary, will be open on the Tuesdays on which there is no JCAA meeting. Studio hours will be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The room must be left in the condition it was in prior to our occupancy. No fee. Try it out.

Squares and Circles Project

The JCAA will sponsor a project in which identical 16" x 16" pre-painted square panels with circles will be made available, and JCAA artists will prepare paintings on the panels which incorporate the circle. These will be exhibited at the Ella Sharp Museum. The idea behind the project is to see the range of creativity as artists respond to the constraints imposed by the square format and the circle. A nominal fee will be charged to cover the cost of the panels. The fee will be determined based upon the number of artists who wish to participate in the project.

JCAA and Art 634 announce the second annual **exhibition** of JCAA art at the Art 634 Gallery during the month of August, 2016.

Artist of the Month



December's Artist of the Month is Tom Boyer. Tom's painting is entitled, *McCourtie Meeting*. It was painted in Plein air at McCourtie Park, located at the intersection of S. Jackson Road and US-12. The painting is a watercolor.



JCAA member Cindy Clark takes a moment from her 'doodling' to focus on instruction offered by Julia Garnett at the Nov. 17 JCAA meeting



Jill Wagner Critiques Art

Artist Jill Wagner critiqued art at the JCAA meeting on Nov. 3. Twenty-four members offered art for critique. Two of those artists presented sculpture for critique. Ms. Wagner's comments and suggestions were both instructive and appreciated.

Member in the News

JCAA Member Gerald Hill received the Best-of-Show Award for his watercolor *Lakes End* in the Toledo Artists' Club 2015 Holiday Show. 37 works of art were in the show, submitted by 18 artists. This award marks the second year in a row that Jerry has taken the Best-of-Show Award. Congratulations, Jerry!

*JCAA wishes you
Peace, Joy, and Love
this holiday season, and
throughout the coming
year.*

Calendar

December 4, 11, 18 2015

Figure drawing at Ella Sharp Museum, 9 - noon. Dry media only. \$8.

December 8, 2015

JCAA Annual Holiday Dinner at The Country Club of Jackson, 6 p.m. Pre-registration required.

December 18, 2015

Portrait drawing at Ella Sharp Museum 12:30 to 3:00 p.m. \$8.

The JCAA Board

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Please contact any member of the Board if you have any comments, suggestions, or questions regarding the Jackson Civic Art Association.

The Jackson Civic Art Association (JCAA) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation which promotes the visual arts, and the skills of individual members in the greater Jackson, Michigan community through lectures, discussion, and mutual association. Membership is open to artists and those interested in art. Opinions expressed are the views of the editor and do not necessarily reflect the views of the JCAA. The JCAA may be contacted by mail at 3225 Fourth St. Jackson, MI 49203, or through our website at www.jacksoncivicart.org