

## **Belmont Art Association Meeting: January 25, 2023**

**Location:** This Zoom meeting was brought to order by Co-Chairs Naomi Ellenberg-Dukas and Dari Paquette. There were 17 people present.

**Attendees:** Nicole Bernstein, Jessica Caruso, Diane Covert, Jennifer Dubost, Naomi Ellenberg-Dukas (Co-Chair), Irene Fairley, Martha Heller, Syndee Holt, Kirstin Ilse, Anne Katzeff (webmaster), Jessica Lomeli, Janet O'Malley, Lauren Palmer-Merrill, Dari Paquette (Co-Chair), Nan Rumpf, Janet Smith, and Jane Wentzell (Recording Secretary).

### **Business Meeting**

1. Utility box update: waiting for notification from Belmont Cultural Council on grant application status.
2. Lexington Open Studios has invited the BAA to participate in their two-day event on 5/20-21. It is held at two indoor and outdoor locations, plus home studios. Karen Berman-Mulligan will be using her front lawn and has room for a few additional interested artists. Early registration ends on 1/31 (\$50) and thereafter goes up to \$75. Volunteers are requested.
3. Lauren Palmer-Merrill: The Belmont Farmers' Market (Hal Shubin) is allowing artisan vendors this coming season for the first time. There is a fee required for a vendor table of \$400 for the season. It would be around \$25/week per vendor for the table. Everyone who sells would be required to have liability insurance, but it can be a simple single day policy. Thus overhead would be around \$75 per vendor. BAA members would receive priority scheduling. Lauren has offered to manage scheduling and curating the vendors in order for the BAA to have a designated weekly table. Every market week (June-October) would feature a different vendor at the table. No resale or mass-produce items are allowed. Decisions will be made by around Valentine's Day by the BFM on vendor acceptance.
4. Reminder: BAA's annual \$35 membership fee is due by the end of January.

### **Presentation**

Tonight's presentation, "Photo Tips from a Pro," is by Syndee Holt. Syndee has a degree from Brooks Institute of Photography and is a polymer clay expert who has been a brand ambassador for Sculpey for over 25 years. She has written over 100 magazine articles on diverse topics of professional photography, polymer clay, and more, and has filmed over 40 television segments. Residing in the southwest United States, she loves plants and color and has lived in the same house for 68 years.

Syndee gave an informative and entertaining guide on how to take better photos of both 2D and 3D artwork, including discussion on depth of field, studio setup, and retouching faces in Photoshop for better portrait photography.

Meeting notes by Dari Paquette, BAA Co-Chair