

MID-DEL ART GUILD



NEWSFLASH

www.mid-delartguild.com

June 2025 Newsflash

Meetings:
First Monday each month
(except Sept.) From 6:30
to 8:45 pm. In-person.

MIDWEST CITY LIBRARY
Auditorium
8143 E. Reno Ave. (East
of Midwest Blvd), OKC
73110
(behind the Fire Station)



Jude Tolar – “Floral Closeup in Pastels”

6:30PM May 5, 2025, at Midwest City Library

Jude Tolar, IAPS/MC, PSA, WAOW, OAG, PSNM, APAA* spent her childhood in SE Kansas and NE Oklahoma, exploring outdoors and drawing indoors. She graduated from College High School in Bartlesville, Oklahoma and

received a psychology degree from Oklahoma State University. She later spent two post-baccalaureate years studying fine art and illustration at the University of Oklahoma.

Her first art job was as the Staff Artist for the Metropolitan Library System of Oklahoma County (OK). After a long freelance career in graphic design/illustration, she turned to pastels, working mainly from life and en plein air. She has studied extensively with Clive Tyler, and with other notable pastel artists.



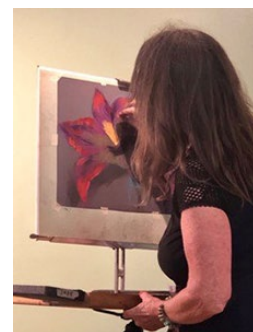
Jude finds beauty and joy in the world and portrays those in her pastel paintings. Her style is lyrical realism, filled with light and usually strong colors. She's known for floral and tree portraits outdoors and glass and floral subjects indoors. She prefers to work from life, using soft and hard pastels on sanded paper.



Her pastels have won numerous awards, including PleinAir Magazine's Plein Air Salon, Pastel Journal

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Facebook: Jude Tolar
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*Master Circle, International Association of Pastel Societies
Signature Member:



magazine's Pastel 100, and in juried international/national shows. She exhibits in juried shows and galleries, and has paintings in collections across the US and in France.

Jude is published in art magazines, art websites, and in The Encyclopedia of Pastel Techniques (2018). She's written for Plein Air Today/Outdoor Painter and Pastel Journal magazine, and gives pastel demos and workshops in Oklahoma and other states.



She is a Master Circle pastelist with the International Association of Pastel Societies and a Signature Member of Pastel Society of America and other art groups (see details below). She is also Vice President of the Oklahoma Pastel Society, and a Board member of Stillwater (OK) Art Guild.

When not painting, Jude can be found gardening, hiking, reading, or mowing. She lives in Stillwater, Oklahoma with her husband, their gardens, and a studio full of pastels.

Pastel Society of America
Women Artists of the West
Oklahoma Art Guild
Pastel Society of New Mexico
Distinguished Pastelist, Arizona Pastel Artists Association
Oklahoma Pastel Society, Vice President
Stillwater (OK) Art Guild, Board member

SCHEDULED EVENTS

(all events shown are in the MWC Library Auditorium, unless noted otherwise)

June 2 – Demo 6:30 pm: **Jude Toler** “Floral Closeup in Pastels”

July 7 – Demo 6:30 pm: **Janet Funk** “Scratch Board Dog Portraits”

Aug 4 – Demo 6:30pm: **Kari Boyce** “Wire Wrapped Pendants”

LOCAL ARTIST OPPORTUNITIES

Lost and Found Art project: Make small paintings, put our special label on back, seal in plastic bag and “hide” in public place. Labels will be provided at the meeting. You choose or make some paintings or drawings to “Lose on Purpose” to promote your art as well as to promote the Guild.



Thank you to Greg Stone

By Susan Schmidt



Greg Stone is a 10-year college English professor. He has no formal training in art but you wouldn't know it from his demonstration at the May 5th meeting. Professor Stone shared many hints and prepared a “Dramatic Landscape Painting Checklist” for the MDAG. It included such suggestions as the following:

1. Include strong contrasts between light and dark areas to create depth and drama.
2. Clear directional elements guide the viewer's gaze.
3. Use mood and emotion to create a specific emotional response.
4. Evoke a clear feeling (tranquility, uncertainty, power, tension, etc).
5. Omit unnecessary details.
6. Emphasize the most impactful features.
7. Compose design so light and shadow areas are distributed unequally.

Greg admires the work of Oregon artist Richard McKinley's landscapes in oils and pastels. Greg also agrees with Richard that you can't break the law but you can break the rules. For instance, most artists think you have to mat pastels but Greg has figured a way to frame his pastels to look like oil paintings. Instead of mats, Greg uses small spacers he buys as 5-foot long strips (FrameTek EconoSpace are peel-and-stick spacers which adhere to the glass. Available in clear and black in three sizes and easily cut with shears or a razor. Adhesive is on the 3/16" dimension with



three heights available to create a space of 1/16", 1/8" or 1/4".)

Art collectors like the option of displaying smaller sized frames without the

mats. Framing is cheaper and smaller frames leave more wall space for other art.

Generally Greg doesn't use fixative unless he is shipping a painting or putting it into a gallery. He recommends a product called Lascaux Fixative from Dakota Art Pastels where you can also buy the spacers (<https://www.dakotapastels.com>). Lascaux is a universal acrylic resin fixative suitable for many media, but particularly appropriate for soft pastel. It can cost





up to \$45 a spray can. He recommends a light spray from one foot away, turn, and spray again.

When plein air painting, Greg said, the world keeps on going so you need to know how to simplify; Listen to the main voice. In September of 2023 he entered a plein air competition in Virginia and did very well. He took many photos there such as the one chosen for MDAG. It rained for a couple of days. He calls that atmosphere in your paintings! He said there were lots of greens in the woods so he had to add interest and contrast to the scenes with other colors. In the scene he demoed, he added dull violet and orange.

Because of the way he paints in layers, Greg prefers 400 grit paper (White LuxArchival) which he mounts using masking tape on a foam board. He paints on an easel standing up so he can step away for better perspective. He starts with an underpainting in the darkest colors which he then brushes over with rubbing or isopropyl alcohol. Use rough cheap brushes. After brushing on the alcohol it looks like a wild mess. The messy looking process provides interesting shapes and shadows. Once dry



Greg is able to incorporate the results into subsequent layers to create more depth and interest. He says he likes the accidental results he can respond to. Serendipity.

Greg generally has an iPad photo on a stand close by when he paints in the studio.

He breaks his pastels in half so he can take more colors in his kit. He holds his pastels on the side with 2 fingers and his thumb for better control, rarely working with the ends of a stick, until the final details. Many pastel artists test their color choice on a scrap paper to the side but he prefers to hold it up to the photo or scene. If not the best color, he simply selects another color and covers the previous choice. With pastels you start with the darks and add lights. It is possible to cover black with white pastel.



Greg uses one or more jars to save leftover bits of pastel, keeping color families together. Quality pastels are expensive so he grinds the bits of pastel into powder

with a mortar and pestle, adds a few drops of distilled water and rolls up the mixture into new pastel sticks.

To pick up more hints, consider joining Pastel Society Tulsa (OKPastel.org) where Greg is a member. They offer reasonably priced pastel workshops, generally in NW OKC at Will Rogers Park on the second Saturday of most months. This author just showed up at the advertised demo by Patricia Ridge Bradley without even the need to preregister and then stayed for the workshop. It was very enjoyable.

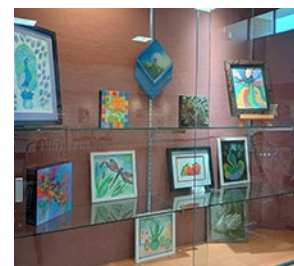


MDAG SMALL WORKS SHOW ENDS

ENDS Friday, May 30 at the MWC Library

Marilyn will meet us in the Library Lobby on Friday, May 30th between 4pm and 5:45pm for members to retrieve their work. If you are unable to be there, please try to arrange for someone else to pick up your paintings. **The library CLOSES and locks up at 6:00pm**, so don't be late!

For more information call Marilyn 405-412-0837.



Have Some Fun, Attend One or More Festivals

By Susan Schmidt

Just a few days ago I purchased the May issue of the Curbside Chronicle. The well written magazine is sold on street corners by formerly homeless people which helps them qualify and pay for housing. Ever since a friend told me how the program operates I try to buy a magazine each month. I like to donate \$5 to help out a bit more than the “suggested” \$2. May is almost over so I suggest you quickly find a sales person to not miss out on “Art For All.” The issue includes a map of OKC murals and public art. I have plans to go to at least three of the events.

The Fourth Fridays invites the public to enjoy OKC’s West Village District which is part of Film Row along West Sheridan and N Lee Avenues in downtown OKC. Music, food, drinks, pop up markets and dancing are being offered from 6 pm to 10 pm on the fourth Friday of each month from May thru October. The dates in 2025 include Friday May 23, June 27, July 25, August 22, September 26, and October 24. It is only \$50 to have space for a 10x10 ft tent along Sheridan Avenue. The MDAG might qualify for “Free” since it is a non-profit.

The Tour OKC Native Yards (T.O.N.Y.) presents its tour of 5 residential landscapes in NW OKC on Saturday May 24, from 9 am to 3 pm. It costs \$8 in advance or \$10 at the door. It includes plant sales at each location. Incorporating native plants into your yard helps wildlife and the environment. Check out the details at oknativeplants.org. I plan to start at the 6304 N Harvey Ave location which I believe is on the west side of Meridian and south of the NW Expressway.

Next is Sunny Dayz Mural Festival in South OKC near the Capitol Hills area. It is being held Saturday May 31 starting at 10 am. There are 30 new murals to see. I will be starting at 301 SW 25 Street. I’ve run out of time to write this article. But there is a lot more to consider in the Curbside Chronicle so don’t miss out.

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Hangin’ Around Town (HAT) — Sandra Patterson, chair 405/822-2885

Be sure to sign up at the next MDAG meeting to show your work at businesses in the area. *Hangin’ Around Town is a great opportunity to show your art (and free up some space in your house for two months at a time).* Signup sheets will be on the back table. The following months are scheduled:

1st National Bank Del City:
Candis Fredericksen Apr/May
June Rea Jun/Jul

Marks Pharmacy:
Marilyn Ragan for Apr/May
Candis Fredericksen Jun/Jul

OPEN Aug/Sep
Suzanne Henthorne Oct/Nov

Anthony’s Appliance:
OPEN for Apr/May, Jun/Jul

Midwest Dental:
Sandra Patterson Apr/May
Marilyn Ragan Jun/Jul

Pet Vet on SE 15th & Key Blvd.:
Cindy Van Kley Apr/May
Sandra Patterson Jun/Jul

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MDAG Officers and Appointed Positions 2025:

Executive Board:

President – Joan Faught (Proxy is Marilyn Ragan)
1st VP Show Chair – Marilyn Ragan (Proxy is Joan Faught)
2nd VP Program Chair – Margee Gaeddert (Proxy is Kara Gardner)
Treasurer – Kara Gardner (Proxy is Joan Faught)
Secretary – Sandra Sanchez
Member at Large – Ron Morgan (Proxy is Karen Dickerson)
Newsletter – Cindy Van Kley (Proxy is Susan Schmidt)

Appointed Positions:

Parliamentarian – Cindy Van Kley
Hospitality – Karen Dickerson
Hang Around Town – Sandra Patterson
Greeter/art competition – Dana Masters
Webmaster – Margee Gaeddert
Social Media – Marilyn Ragan



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Members' Choice Competition

Each month MDAG members have the opportunity to enter their work for voting by the members and by that month's guest artist. Congratulations to our ribbon winners! *Don't forget to bring a piece of art to the next meeting!*

NOTE: Those who won a Member's Choice ribbon in the previous month are not eligible for a Member's Choice ribbon, but may enter for a chance at the Judge's Choice ribbon. Instead of a number, they need to choose one of the "not eligible" signs to put by their painting.

May 2025 Winners



Judge's Choice June Rea

1st Place June Rea

2nd Place Susan Schmidt

3rd Place Joan Faught

Become a MDAG Member

Please introduce yourselves to any new faces you see at the meetings and make them feel like part of the family. If YOU have not yet joined, please take a moment now to fill out the membership form below and send it in with your check, or bring it to the next meeting. The member year runs January 1 through December 31. We want to see you and share our passion for art together. **Join or renew your membership.** Dues for single memberships paid after January will be **prorated at \$3 per month for the remaining months** of the member year.

Consider car-pooling to the meetings. **ART is more fun TOGETHER.** Sign up to share a ride at the next meeting!

Join Mid-Del Art Guild

Membership

type:

☐ New

☐ Renewal

☐ Single/\$35

☐ Student*/\$20

☐ Family**/\$40

☐ Business/\$40

Referred by: _____

Date: _____ Favorite Medium(s): _____

Name(s): _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

PHONE: Home _____ Cell _____

E-Mail (for newsletter) _____

*Must be enrolled full time as Art Major, with current Student ID, or aged under 19 yrs old

**Two family members residing in the same household

Make checks payable to: **Mid-Del Art Guild**

Mail to: **Kara Gardner, Treas. • PO Box 10393 • Midwest City, OK 73140**

Coloring Book Project: Chairman Marilyn Ragan hopes you will submit your **black and white line drawings** 8x10 on any Oklahoma Topics very soon so we can get this Mid-Del Art Guild Coloring Book project going.

Suggested topics:

State Symbols:

- **Flag:** The Oklahoma state flag features an Osage warrior's shield on a blue background, with an olive branch and a calumet (peace pipe) crossed in front. Seven eagle feathers decorate the shield.
- **Bird:** The scissor-tailed flycatcher is the official state bird.
- **Animal:** The bison is the official state animal.
- **Wildflower:** The Indian blanket (*Gaillardia pulchella*) is the official state wildflower.
- **Flower:** The Oklahoma rose is the state flower.
- **Tree:** The redbud is the state tree.
- **Rock:** Rose rock is the Oklahoma state rock.
- **Musical Instrument:** The fiddle is the state musical instrument.
- **Grass:** Indian grass is Oklahoma's state grass.
- **Reptile:** The Mountain Boomer or collared lizard is the state reptile.

Other Symbols and Identity Elements:

- **State Colors:** Blue and Gold are the state colors.
- **State Motto:** "Labor Omnia Vicit" (Labor conquers all things).
- **State Song:** "Oklahoma, My Native Land".

- **State Cartoon Character:** Gusty.
- **State Caricature Artist:** The Okie Artist.
- **State Butterfly:** Black Swallowtail Butterfly.
- **State Amphibian:** Bullfrog.
- **State Children's Song:** "Oklahoma, My Native Land".
- **State Monument:** The 76-foot-tall (23 m) Golden Driller.
- **State Insect:** Honeybee.

Places:

POPs and Round Barn in Arcadia, UCO Clock Tower, OCU Star building, Devon Tower, Scissortail Park and Bridge, Myriad Gardens, National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum, OKC Zoo, Science Museum, State Capitol, Quartz Mountain Lodge, Tulsa "Driller", Greenwood District, The Gathering Place park, "World's Largest Peanut" in Durant, cotton fields, Talimena Scenic Byway, Chickasaw National Recreation Area, Washita Battlefield National Historic Site, Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum, Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge, Medicine Park, Guthrie Historic District, Paseo District, Honey Springs Battlefield, Fort Gibson Historic Site, Cherokee National Capitol Bldg, First Americans Museum, OKANA, Turner Falls, Natural Falls State Park, Keystone Dam, Lake Eufaula, Lotawata Bridge, Ft. Reno, Price Tower in Bartlesville, Sequoyah's Cabin in Sallisaw, USS Batfish at the Muskogee War Memorial Park, Spiro Mounds, Oklahoma Land Run sculpture in Bricktown, and many, many more!

Cindy Van Kley, Newsletter Editor