



"Sweet April showers do spring May flowers." – Thomas Tusser

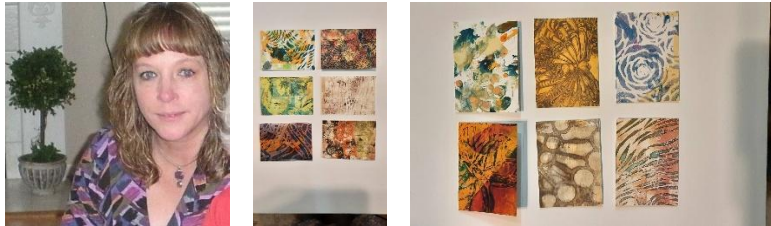
This month's newsletter contains all the various and exciting activities our art society is offering. Please come out and support our regional artists by taking advantage of all these fun and interesting events.



>>> Crayola Support for the Arts: FAAS is thrilled to share that we have received a generous grant from **Crayola** in support of our ongoing efforts to strengthen and celebrate the arts in our region. It is truly an honor to partner with Crayola as they continue their remarkable commitment to fostering creativity and enriching our community. **Thank you, Crayola, for your outstanding support of the arts and for helping us grow opportunities for artists and art appreciators alike throughout our area!**



>>> **This Month's FAAS Meeting:** Our next general meeting will take place on **Wednesday, May 13th at 7:00 PM** at the **Faith Lutheran Church Community Room** (2012 Sullivan Trail, Easton, PA - Rear entrance). The presenter will be **Laurie Winiarski** who will demonstrate the unique art form of **Gel Plating**. Please remember to bring your latest artwork for "Show and Tell". We will again have a free raffle for a piece of artwork open to all attendees.



Presentation/Demonstration Description: Laurie will be presenting a brief history of monoprinting and an introduction to the gel plate. She will review the gelplate and tools used to spread paint and make marks on the plate. A brief overview of different techniques will be covered. Session will continue with a hands on demonstration (wear painting clothes) where participants can get their hands dirty actually using the gel plate. Users will be able to do 1-3 prints depending on level of complexity of their design. If you've never used a gel plate, this will provide a unique hands on experience for all ages!

Bio: Laurie Winiarski is a retired Business Executive who worked in the High Tech Industry as a Sales Executive and Director of Business Development. In retirement, Laurie has followed her love for creativity and started exploring different art mediums. Interests include: Gel Plate Printing, jewelry making, drawing (zentangle/zendoodling), watercolor, hand dyed paper. Laurie began her journey into gel plate printing about two years ago. This journey has expanded into a desire to teach other adults how to use art as a creative outlet and to learn to play again. Gel Plate Printing holds many mysteries. The Gel Plate process can be extremely simple or it can have varying levels of complexity. This is what is so appealing with the entire process – anyone at any skill level can experiment and just have fun.

Contact: To contact Laurie with any questions or for more information on her art please email her at l.winiarski177@comcast.net



>>> **FAAS March Meeting Thank You!**: A sincere thank you goes out to **Josie Braithwaite** who demonstrated how she creates her beautiful and unique pottery! Her presentation was very enlightening and informative and the attendee participation was fun. Be sure to visit her amazing **Jersey Clay** studios in Wharton, NJ. Also, thank you to Josie and Erik Chuss for donating very nice prizes for our monthly raffle. Here are the links for Josie:

Website/ Social Media/ Contact:

Instagram : @hex_pottery Email: hexpottery@gmail.com

Website: HEX Pottery

Society/Supply website: www.jerseyclay.com Facebook : Hex Pottery



>>> **FAAS "May Flowers" Exhibit at the Cottage! Continues Thru May:** Be sure to come out to see our current exhibit at the Cottage; **"May Flowers"** The exhibit will run through **May 31st**. There are **27 Artists** who have submitted **53 beautiful floral themed pieces**. Additional dates for viewing the exhibit are **Sundays in May from 11:00 AM until 1:00 PM** as well as **Wednesdays from 7 - 8 PM** (except May 13th) and by appointment. For questions or for more information regarding the exhibit please email us at www.hemlockart.com or www.forksart.org

The opening reception was a real success with a large turnout! The feedback was all very positive. Congratulations to **Karen Harrod** for winning the "Viewers Choice" award and to **Emily Bell** for winning the 2nd place award. We wish to thank **Hannah Ehret** for the delicious light food and

refreshments, guitarist **Ryan Bradley** for his music that added the perfect ambiance to the evening, and the **Gift Box Floral & Garden Shop** who kindly donated a nice floral arrangement for the viewer's choice award.

>>> **"May Flowers" Picnic - Sign up now:** We will be hosting a spring picnic at the Cottage on **Saturday, May 30th** from **12 PM to 3 PM**. The Cottage will be open for viewing the "May Flowers" exhibit. FAAS will be providing hamburgers, hot dogs and beverages. The picnic is free and open to the public, i.e. you do not have to be a member to attend. We just ask you bring a side dish or your favorite dessert. You can sign-up for the picnic by emailing us at info@forksart.org or at our May meeting.



>>> **CALL TO ARTISTS - "Summer Vibes" Exhibit at the Cottage:** We are currently accepting applications to our next exhibit in June at the Cottage! **Summer Vibes:** a gallery exhibit featuring "summer vibes", from sun-soaked scenes to abstract interpretations of the season's feel, all are welcome to apply. The **exhibit will run from June 6th thru July 17th**. The **Submission Date** deadline for the show is **May 29th**. The **Opening Reception** will take place on **Saturday June 6th from 5 - 7PM**. Additional dates are by appointment only. The FAAS Cottage, 700 Zucksville Road, Easton PA.

We invite artists to submit works that capture the ephemeral essence of "Summer Vibes". All fine art media is welcome, but there are limited entries for pedestal pieces. Maximum size: less than 24 inches in any direction. Sculpture and 3D pedestal pieces must be less and 12" in any direction. Work will be accepted upon approval. The exhibit is open to artists who reside in the Lehigh Valley and Phillipsburg area. Entry fee is \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members. Submit your entry at www.hemlockart.com. You can arrange to view the exhibit after the opening by email us at info@forksart.org or to arrange a day and time to www.hemlockart.com.

>>> **ACE Annual Easton Arts Tour!** The Arts Community of Easton is excited to announce their **Easton Arts Tour** official date of 2026 - **May 16th & 17th from 11 AM to 6:00 PM!** Join ACE for a weekend of art! Discover local artists, participate in creative making, add a piece to your art collection, check out our members' small works show at the Sigal Museum, and most importantly come learn more about us and our creative community. If you are interested in the following please contact ace.abigaildiazcrofts@gmail.com :(1) ACE artists who would like to vend at the Arts Tour; (2) Studios or local businesses that wish to be added to our tour map; (3) Volunteers interested in helping out with the info and activity table.



The Forks Area Art Society's art classes and sessions will continue through the winter. Many of the classes are filling up so sign up now to ensure you get a space!

>>> **Nancy Sullivan** is continuing her **Acrylic Painting** class and her **Beginners Drawing** class on **Thursday's 6pm to 8pm**. You'll first learn how to draw the item you choose then learn the steps in bringing the photo to life with paint. Each class is \$30. for members and \$35 for non-members. Space is limited. To reserve a place in her class please contact Nancy directly at nancysfancies@outlook.com

>>> **FAAS Painting and Drawing Event at St. John's:** A great opportunity to paint or draw a live model in costume. This month's model is **TBA**. The session takes place on **Wednesday, May 13th from 12:00 to 3:00 PM**. If painting, please bring a drop cloth. A light lunch and beverages are included. Fee for model and food is \$15.00. All skill levels are welcome. Limited to 20 artists. RSVP requested. Contact Charlie Hanson at bchanson1@rcn.com to let him know you will be attending. St. John's Gallery, 330 Ferry Street, Easton PA 18042. Park in Church parking lot, enter at the red door, push the bell for Gallery, someone will let you in.

>>> **No Meeting This Month - FAAS Writers Group Session:** Hosted by Charlie Hanson the meetings takes place monthly at The Cottage (700 Zucksville Road, Forks Twp). **The May session will not be held** due to a vacation but the next session will be scheduled in June. Space is limited. This free group is for new and established writers who have a story to tell or who want to share their creative work. For more information please contact Charlie at bchanson1@rcn.com.



>>> **Solstice Magic: Join us for Firefly Sunprints in the Woods!** : As the days reach their longest, join us at the FAAS Cottage for a unique Summer Solstice celebration. Our **Firefly Sunprint Workshop** invites **young artists (ages 4 and up)** to explore the intersection of art and nature. We'll start with a short foraging walk through the cottage grounds to find the perfect ferns and leaves. Using a historical photographic process called cyanotype, children will arrange their finds alongside firefly silhouettes to create "night-sky" prints using only the sun's rays! While our prints dry, we'll enjoy seasonal solstice snacks before adding the finishing "glow" to our fireflies with mixed-media gold and yellow markers. It's a perfect afternoon of woodland exploration and creative discovery. The workshop takes place on **Saturday, June 27th** from **12:00 to 2:30 PM** at **the Cottage**, 700 Zucksville Road, Easton PA. It is free and open to the public. Snacks and materials will be provided.



>>> **New Art Sessions - Feral Craft Club!** Unleash your raw creativity with the **Feral Craft Club**. We're a collective of bold and defiant makers, crafting modern, alternative and rebellious crafts. This isn't your grandma's

craft club. No apologies, just fearless crafting. Feral Craft Club is inspired by the *Sh*tty Craft Club* by Sam Reece which is a "uniquely empowering guide that allows burnt-out, pressured people to accept their imperfections and find inner calm with whatever sh*tty thing they can make."

This monthly meet-up is a safe place to make, craft, and let go of life's demands. We welcome every level of creator from those who are curious to those who have way too many art supplies laying around (I see you.) Expect to glue rhinestones to trash, make grown-up friendship bracelets, snarky cross stitch, and or a fleet of origami stars— every month we will do something different! Join us for mocktail nights, punk rock night, and stupid award night.

The next session takes place on **Monday, June 15th** at **6:00 PM** at **the Cottage**, 700 Zucksville Road, Easton PA. Future sessions will take place on the 3rd Monday of each Month. **Ages 21+ BYO**. There is a \$20 suggested donation per class for materials. Register now, as space is limited.

>>> ACE Monthly Community Workshop at the FAAS Cottage: Note: This event has been rescheduled from April. The **Arts Community of Easton (ACE)** is inviting all artists to come **celebrate Earth Day** at our **Gelli Garden workshop** on **Tuesday, May 19th** from **4:30 to 6:30 PM** with special guest **Kylee Tirado** to create nature-inspired gelli prints. To show our appreciation, we'll be creating and contributing gelli print garden labels & decoration for the historic Easton Cemetery's Garden. Come out, touch grass, make art, and share your appreciation for our mother Earth. Future monthly sessions will feature a different themed subject every month. There is limited space so dm or email ACE at info@eastonart.org to register for the workshop. The event takes place at the Cottage, 700 Zucksville Road, Easton Pa (Forks Township). The event is free and open to all. Light refreshments and snacks will be provided. Hope to see ya there!

>>> The Gallery at St. John's Art Show: The Gallery at St. John's next show will be **"People, Places & Things"** runs **May 17th thru June 7th**. The **Opening Reception** will be held on **May 17th**. You may submit four pieces of artwork; three are guaranteed to be included, with more accepted if space allows. There is a \$10 entry fee which must accompany your registration. Drop-off of artwork will be May 15th from 10 AM to 1 PM. Registration forms are available from the St. John

website, www.stjohnseaston.org/ministries/gallery The Gallery hours: Sundays only 12-3 pm. St. John's Gallery, 330 Ferry Street, Easton PA 18042. Park in Church parking lot, enter at the red door, push the bell for Gallery, someone will let you in. Free. Open to the public.

>>> The Arts Community of Easton (ACE) Monthly Meeting: The next ACE meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, May 12th** from **6:30 to 8pm**. The meeting will feature **Kailey Atkinson** and her interdisciplinary mixed media art. The meeting will take place at **Lafayette College's Media Room 2, 248 N. 3rd Street**, Easton PA. ACE Monthly Meetings are free and open to the public.

Board Member Openings: The Forks Area Art Society is accepting applications from current members for two open board positions: Secretary and Events Coordinator. These volunteer roles require only a few hours per month and play an important part in supporting the mission and operations of FAAS. Members interested in serving on the board are invited to contact us at info@forksart.org.

Membership Dues for 2026 are now being accepted. If you haven't already done so, please renew your membership or consider becoming a member to help us defray the cost of our many activities and events throughout the year. The cost is \$20 for an individual and \$30 for a family. Dues can be paid in person at our monthly meetings or by emailing us at info@forksart.org.

Art & Fine Craft Classes – Instructor Opportunities: FAAS is offering any art and craft instructors the opportunity to provide classes at the Cottage. The instructors can set their fee for the classes. You will need to provide proof of Child Protection Training if teaching children or youth classes. If you are interested in providing a weekly, monthly, other(?) class please contact us at info@forksart.org for more information.

Members Benefits at the Cottage : In addition to the opportunity to teach a class at the cottage, we invite you to utilize our free art library which contains over 100 books for reference and inspiration. We also offer opportunities for creating, exhibiting, and learning about art through the

generosity of our members and volunteers. If you need a frame, we have many donated frames of various sizes available at no cost to FAAS members. Contact us at info@forksart.org to arrange pickup.

Crayola Advisory Panel - Volunteers Needed: Children &

Teenagers Crayola is looking for volunteers for their **Advisory Panel**. It is a wonderful opportunity for children to have fun participating in focus groups where they will have an opportunity to share their thoughts and/or test new product ideas to help Crayola develop the best products for our kids. Crayola is currently seeking **children between 2 and 17 years old** for upcoming focus groups. If you have any children or know of any children who would like to participate, please visit <https://www.crayola.com/advisorypanel> for more information and to register for the advisory panel.

FAAS Cottage, 700 Zucksville Rd., Easton, Pa. 18040

Website: www.forksart.org

Instagram: [@forksartsociety](https://www.instagram.com/forksartsociety)

Facebook: www.facebook.com/forksareaartsociety