



Alberta  
Foundation  
for the Arts

January 2023

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EDMONTON ART CLUB

[edmontonartclub.com](http://edmontonartclub.com)

# EAC

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cover: photo by Mary Fran Fitzgerald

# CHRISTMAS GIFT EXCHANGE



# Happy New Year!



## Our January Critic

Jayne Willoughby

\*Certified Professional Co-Active Coach, Coach Training Institute, Certification & Leadership. The CTI training programs have trained more than 35,000 coaches, consultants and managers worldwide over the past 20 years.

<https://www.jaynewilloughby.ca>

Mary Frances Fitzgerald



drama as therapy, improvisation, art therapy techniques, and writing and photography as therapeutic tools, culminating in the notion of creative arts therapy. In semi-retirement I happened upon acrylic pouring, so I decided to give it a try and went the ‘self-taught’ route. I was also volunteering at Wellspring Edmonton, where many art forms and wellness activities were available for those living with or surviving cancer. Meanwhile viewing numerous pouring videos, I could feel the paint flowing and the vibrancy of the colors, and the movement in design. I thought, “I can do this!” Ha ha! It was when I started taking workshops with the Edmonton Art Club, I knew I needed that social engagement to learn from the talent

of others. Quietly, I began to learn how to think about my painting endeavors as an art form.

While readying my canvases for adjudication, and for the Christmas meeting I sat with my canvasses and I found a common theme. I realized the feeling that allowed me to state that my acrylic painting is about movement and colour. After listening to the art stories at the Christmas gathering, I can say my gratefulness to the Edmonton Art Club is filled to the brim. One year from now, I will sit with my canvases once again and will delight in the growth of my learning and expression.

Mary Frances Fitzgerald, B. Ed, M. Ed

**artzbymzfitz: expressive arts and wellness group**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/926944734502244>

**artzbymzfitz facebook page**

<https://www.facebook.com/mzfitz>

**Wellspring Edmonton brochure**

<https://wellspring.ca/edmonton/wp-content/uploads/sites/11/2022/02/New-Brochure-7.pdf>



*Welcome to my world!*

**A** SA LIFE-LONG EDUCATOR AND LEARNER, I keep learning. I always tell my students that learning is a social activity. Yes, we can learn in isolation, however, as we age, broaden our scope and synthesize our experiences we create our intrapersonal, interpersonal, and artistic voices—whatever they may be.

My Grandmother Elsie ensured I had piano lessons all through my school years with the idea that I would always have a way to support myself as a private piano teacher. While in junior high, I started teaching piano to the neighborhood kids. By the time University rolled around I wanted to learn more, and piano was put aside, however, the foundation of music within my mind, body, and spirit was embedded. In the following years, I was introduced to the wonders of creative drama and storytelling. Through teaching drama and theatre I realized that numerous students were finding their personal and artistic voices.

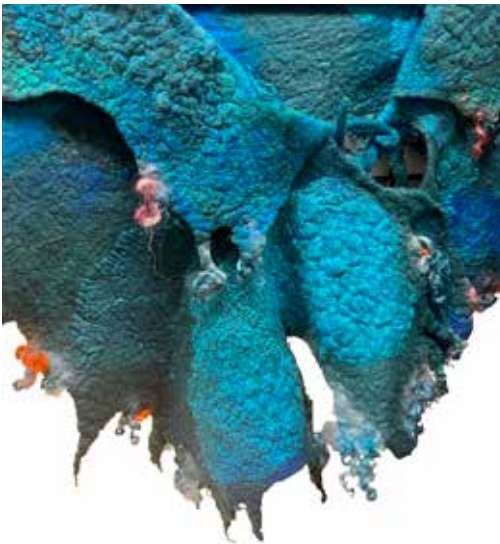
Thus, exploring this notion, I knew I needed to learn more about expressing one’s voice, and thus, my formal involvement in the world of psychology and counselling in education.

Always interested in finding ways to support others uncover their voice, I also learned about movement therapy,



# NEW MEMBER ART

## Yvonne Bilan-Wallace



JUST IMAGINE if the carpenter arrived to build your dream home with only a single screwdriver. Would you be surprised?

I am sure you would agree our world is a chaotic and intriguing place. As a mixed media artist my tool box has more than just textile, or just paint or just one brush. It has many tools and materials that play separately and together. They help me find just the right way to depict what I see and want to say.

It was a pleasure to recently share my varied artistic pursuits with the Edmonton Art Club. My return to exploring art started with making art quilts 20 years ago. I loved textiles and this was a way to “paint” with fabrics. Printing a photograph on fabric allows you to add texture to an otherwise 2D image by “painting” with thread on a sewing machine. Wool felting I’ve found to be a versatile medium lending itself to beautiful landscapes, sculpture and wearable art.

I like to switch the tools I am using to stay inspired. Winter is all about felting and painting in water colour and acrylics, summer is time to be outside with a sketch book. It is also time to “eco print” on paper and fabric and experiment with local plants in my dye pots. All year long my camera is a constant companion and recently photoshop elements has become an important part of my design toolbox.

In the end art is about expressing yourself. Understanding how to use compositions, design and colour is all part of the journey you take regardless of the tools you use.





*Michaela Yannish*

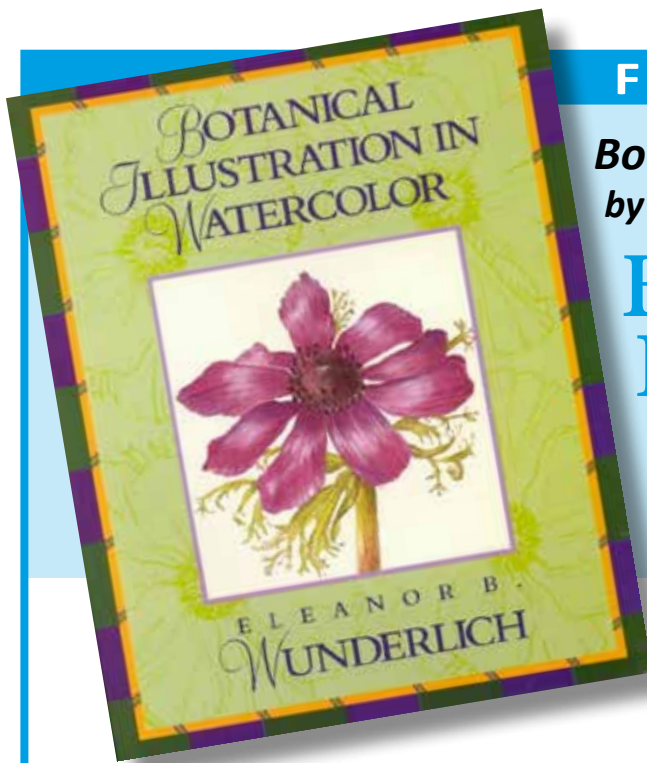
I'M ONE OF THE MANY artists that have drawn, painted, and created as long as they can remember. As a young child, I refused to use colouring books because I disliked the idea of colouring in someone else's original artwork. So I would make my own pictures. This led to me learning how to draw and paint so I'd have my own work to 'colour in'.

I've always been interested in medieval inspired art and folktales, and using art to illustrate a shared feeling. I adore historical fiction and hope to have my paintings show a snapshot of the fantasies that take up space in my mind.

I graduated from MacEwan's Fine Art diploma program in 2019, and have since spent that time learning new techniques and experimenting with different mediums. I now consider myself an oil painter and a digital illustrator.

I'm so thankful to have joined the Edmonton Art Club in 2022. I feel lucky to have a little art community to look to for inspiration and knowledge. I look forward to what 2023 may bring, for both the club and my personal art practice.



**Book Reviews***by EAC Librarian, Barb Stachow***BOTANICAL  
ILLUSTRATION IN  
WATERCOLOR***by Eleanor B. Wunderlich*

**W**HILE PHOTOS CAN ASSIST in helping record the elements of Botanical plants, no photograph can substitute for being able to see the actual plant. Photographs show the viewer a lifeless, static picture with elements of the actual structure missing or blurred. When the artist attempts to copy another artist's work in any form, it will result in an uninteresting or even flat portrayal. Works by other artists need to be carefully studied and it remains to be said that no two works of art will ever be the same. You can use other people's work for guidance and

ideas, but using nature as your subject is always the preferred option.

This book goes into explanations of colour, mixing colours and paint colour selections. There is a section on special colour challenges for Botanical Illustrators. The colour of botanical subjects presents many artists with a specific set of problems. This book goes into details regarding the spectrum of colours in botanical subjects.

Drawing and planning the design, as well as botanical accuracy are covered. The author deals with the use of shapes when drawing flowers as well as buds, stems and leaves. Pictures are used as the author illustrates examples of the thickness of leaves, the delineation of leaf edges, and the structure of flowers from the back (a view not often shown in flower paintings).

*This book is available for loan from the Edmonton Art Club library. Contact Barb Stachow for more information.*

## HEADS UP...

**UPCOMING WORKSHOP!**

The Society of Western Canadian Artists and The Edmonton Art Club will be jointly hosting an oil / acrylic workshop by Kelvin Sawatzky, an extremely talented landscape and portrait painter from Fort McMurray, on Friday, March 31st and April 1st at Signworks (15607-100A Ave NW Edmonton). Kelvin will do a landscape demo on Friday evening from 6:30 to 9:00 pm and artists are invited to follow along or work on a project

of their own choice. There will be individual instruction on Saturday as painters complete their paintings. The class will be limited to 12 participants, so register early by contacting Donna Chamberland at 780-250-7414 or [donnachamberland@shaw.ca](mailto:donnachamberland@shaw.ca). Workshop costs are \$155 (includes snacks) for members of either club and \$170 for non-members.

Kelvin's work may be viewed at his website: [www.kelvinsawatzky.com](http://www.kelvinsawatzky.com) or at his Gallery at Zorzos.



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*<https://artistically-speaking.com>*

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## *An Ode to Plein Air Painting*

(sung to the tune of “My Favorite Things”)

*by Casey Chevront*

*A little something to hum while you’re out there creating...*

Sunshine on water and shadows on rushes,  
New RayMar panels and Rosemary brushes,  
All of the insights a good workshop brings –  
These are a few of my favorite things.  
Finding the right track when GPS fails you;  
Hiking in though there’s a storm that assails you.  
Finding that one view that makes your heart spring –  
These are a few of my favorite things.  
Cadmium Orange and fresh tubes of yellow,

Chatting with hikers who stop to say “Hello”,  
How good it feels when your painting just sings –  
These are a few of my favorite things.  
When the cap sticks,  
When the rig falls,  
When the weather’s bad –  
I simply remember my favorite things,  
And then I don’t feel  
so sad!

  
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**“Go into the arts. I’m not kidding.  
The arts are not a way to make a living.  
They are a very human way of making life more bearable.  
Practicing an art, no matter how well or badly,  
is a way to make your soul grow, for heaven’s sake.  
Sing in the shower. Dance to the radio. Tell stories.  
Write a poem to a friend, even a lousy poem.  
Do it as well as you possibly can.  
You will get an enormous reward.  
You will have created something.”**

*Kurt Vonnegut*



## Annual General Meeting

### • What To Expect

- An annual meeting shall be held in January for the election of officers and the reports of the president and the treasurer. Other reports may be presented as deemed necessary by the executive.
- Unless authorized at any meeting, no officer or member shall receive any remuneration for work done for this organization.
- Election of officers shall be by nomination at the December meeting as required. Such term of office shall be for two years. No officer shall be eligible for more than two consecutive terms in the same office except for the treasurer, who at the request of the executive may continue for a determined time.
- Election of officers is the mandate of the Past President. Our past president is Rhea Jansen.

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**WEBSITE INSIGHT**

## ABOUT THE ACACA



As your newest EAC member, I will tell you what happens when you believe you are volunteering for the Edmonton Art Club and end up becoming the Vice President of the Alberta

Community Art Clubs Association (ACACA). I get excited by the thought of exploring art across Alberta. Wow, what an opportunity! I also get to share our EAC events with ACACA, and vice versa.

The goals of the ACACA are to foster and maintain instruction in art and to develop an interest in the knowledge of art and culture in the communities throughout the province.

At our December 10, 2022, ACACA meeting I learned a number of things:

Betty Dean is the ACACA newsletter editor. Thank you to Betty who is one of the generous artists from our EAC. (A round of applause, please)

Edmonton belongs to two Zones, the Central Zone and the Northern Zone. The Central Zone representative is Joyce Boyer who lives in Edmonton and the Northern Zone representative is Hans G. Rohner who is also the historian of the ACACA.

The ACACA Casino will be held at the Yellowhead Casino

in the 3rd quarter of 2023. I understand that the 3rd quarter dates are chosen out of a hat, so we do not have Casino dates at this time.

It takes about 20 people to participate in the Casino events. We have two back-to-back nights.

The purpose of ACACA is to promote the work of artists and at the art shows the artists sell their work. The ACACA does not sell the work.

The ACACA was created in 1968 under the direction of Professor Harry Wohlfarth from the Faculty of Extensions, University of Alberta.

Many on the ACACA board are members of CARFAC. Canadian Artists' Representation/le front des artistes canadiens <https://www.carfacalberta.com/>

CARFAC's excellent website has a Tools for Visual Artists section in their website <https://www.carfac.ca/tools/>

Some resources available through CARFAC National are free to everyone and for other tools, you will need to email them and provide your CARFAC Alberta membership information.

I will keep our EAC updated in this newsletter. I know I have much to learn and what I know as a lifelong educator is that learning is a social activity.

Let's do this!

Mary Frances Fitzgerald

## We know there is more to painting than paint.



Our role in the arts community has been to provide artists with the best tools to meet their needs. This includes an obligation to provide the most complete information available on artists' materials from our laboratory, research, and collaboration with other innovators and material scientists. Since 1980 we have been champions of the acrylic medium with the GOLDEN Acrylic brand; in 2010 we were entrusted with the legacy of an amazing oil paint.

Williamsburg Handmade Oils, and in 2014 we introduced a **totally modern watercolor with QoR**. We also know that

there is more to a paint company than making paint. We've been delighted to share the story of Golden Artist Colors, its growth, its legacy and its commitment to social responsibility. As artists redefine our concepts of traditional media, we embrace the opportunity to challenge perceived limitations and capabilities of painting and seek to empower artists everywhere. *The mission for Just Paint remains: inform and empower artists in the realization and preservation of their creative vision.*

# JUST PAINT

Published by Golden Artist Colors, Inc.

Subscribe to the free Just Paint Newsletter here at <https://justpaint.org/>

# THANK YOU!

Thanks to Colours, Delta Art and Drafting Supplies, The Paint Spot, and the Strathcona Art Society for their ongoing support in helping to distribute the EAC newsletters!

And thanks to the following businesses who give generous discounts to EAC members!



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As the primary arts resource and grant-funding body in Alberta, the Alberta Foundation for the Arts helps to unleash the potential of every artist through funding, arts promotion, and capacity-building. We provide behind-the-scenes support to artists and arts organizations, giving them the power to inspire minds, encourage expression, foster creativity, and contribute to Alberta's economy. From story time at local libraries to annual festivals on neighbourhood streets, the arts are active in your community. Albertans celebrate and support the arts as artists, volunteers, donors, and attendees at local arts events and activities. Experience, celebrate, and take pride in the arts—they're all around you!

Read more at [affta.ab.ca/home](http://affta.ab.ca/home).



CARFAC  
ALBERTA

Visual Arts Alberta – CARFAC is a Provincial Arts Service Organization funded provincially and municipally that provide a communications hub between members of the visual arts community and the general public. Visual Arts Alberta – CARFAC is the affiliate for the national arts organization Canadian Artists Representation/le Front des artistes canadiens (CARFAC) in the province of Alberta.

**CARFAC Alberta Office & Project Space:**

3rd Fl., 10215-112 St., Edmonton, AB

Hours: Wednesday to Friday, 10–4pm and Saturday 12–4pm

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