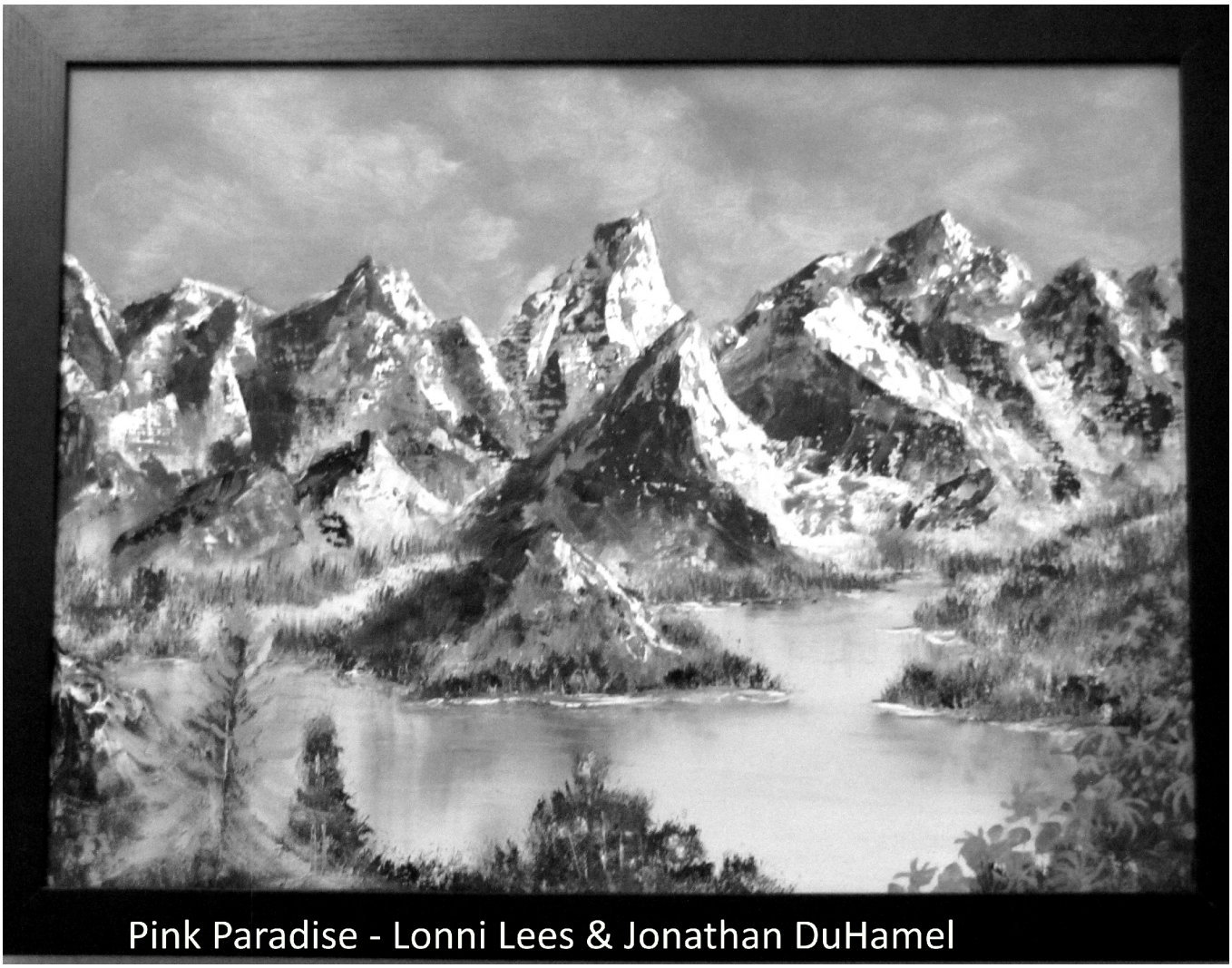
The Castle Voice

January-April, 2023 WomanKraft Art Center's Newsletter Volume 69



Pink Paradise - Lonni Lees & Jonathan DuHamel

388 S. Stone Ave. Tucson, Arizona 85701 (520) 629-9976
www.womankraft.org

Castle Voice

Mysteries of the WomanKraft Castle Center for Art, Education and Culture, Revealed!

WomanKraft is a Non-Profit Arts Organization founded in 1974 to claim, validate, and empower women artists and other under-represented groups.

Directors and Coordinators at WomanKraft

Director of Exhibits
Gayle Swanbeck

Director of School of the Arts and General WomanKraft Business
Gayle Swanbeck
(520) 629-9976 ext. 2

Membership Services
Barbara Achord - Coordinator
Mary Lou Griggs

Official WomanKraft Website (work in progress):
https://womankraft.org
Geno Davis
Mary Lou Griggs

Official WomanKraft Facebook Page (work in progress)
https://facebook.com/womankraft
Mary Lou Griggs

For more information, please call (520) 629-9976
Thursday-Saturday, 1-5pm

Castle Voice design by Jonathan DuHamel
Proofreader and Editor - Mary Lou Griggs

Thank You!

WomanKraft thanks the Arizona Commission on the Arts, our generous members, our gallery docents, theatre supporters and investors, clients, customers, and all our volunteers.

ARIZONA COMMISSION ON THE ARTS

In 1991, WomanKraft purchased the 1918 Queen Anne Victorian that is now the WomanKraft Castle Art Center. It houses our gallery, The School of the Arts, The Sanctuary, an all-natural beauty salon, and the Art Studio of Gayle Swanbeck in Studio #103. WomanKraft is located at 388 S. Stone Avenue, Tucson, AZ, 85701.

OFFICERS
Lydia Phillips, President
Ingrid Aspromatis, Vice President
Gayle Swanbeck, Treasurer
Nancy Martin, Secretary

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Gallery Schedule

Gallery hours: Thursday -Saturday, 1-5pm. Our docents will be masked. We ask the non-vaccinated to wear their masks for the safety of our community. Gallery hours: We are open Thursday - Saturday, 1-5pm.

Gallery ONLY is closed in January 2023. (Rummage Fair is - Fri/Sat, Jan. 13/14 and 20/21, 2023.)

FEBRUARY 4 - MARCH 25, 2023: HIDDEN
RECEPTION: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2023, 7:00-10:00pm
We're looking for artwork in all mediums that explore the hidden. It's when our imagination turns clouds into running horses, rocks that shape themselves into faces, tree trunks that become goddesses, yes, even Nature's camouflage for insects, birds, and animals. What secret image is hidden in the everyday? Deadline for submissions: Wednesday, January 25, 2023.

APRIL 1 - MAY 27, 2023: DRAWING DOWN THE MUSE
RECEPTION: SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 2023, 7:00-10:00pm
This is WomanKraft's 32nd annual Women-only exhibit. All mediums and subject matter accepted. Deadline for submissions: Wednesday, March 22, 2023.

JUNE 3 - JULY 29, 2023: SUNRISE, SUNSET
RECEPTION: SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 2023, 7:00-10:00pm
You guessed it… This exhibit is all about images of sunrises and sunsets. Realism to abstraction. All mediums accepted. Deadline for submissions: Wednesday, May 24, 2023.

Gallery ONLY is closed in August 2023.

SEPTEMBER 2 - OCTOBER 28, 2023: FALL FEVER
RECEPTION: SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2023, 7:00-10:00pm
Some folks get spring fever, but some of us get Fall Fever. This exhibit is all about colors and mysteries of autumn. All mediums accepted. Deadline for submissions: August 23, 2023.

NOVEMBER 4 - DECEMBER 16, 2023: THE HOLIDAY BAZAAR 2023
RECEPTION: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2023 7:00-10:00pm
Our first Holiday Bazaar was 37 years ago at our rented location on Congress Street. It is still one of my favorites because we provide a venue for many local artists, an incredibly wide choice of fine arts and crafts, and it all retails between $1 and $100. We seek art that reflects the diversity of this holiday season from Christmas to Kwanzaa. All mediums and subject matter considered. Deadline for submissions: October 25, 2023.

Are you an artist interested in exhibiting with WomanKraft? Call 520-629-9976, Ext 2, for an appointment with Director of Exhibits, Gayle Swanbeck. Artists, please note: Shows are filled from first to respond. Deadlines indicate the LAST day works will be viewed, not the first. Hence, make contact ASAP. Call Thursday to Saturday from 1-5pm to speak to the docent on duty.
SCHOOL OF THE ARTS - 2023

WomanKraft School of the Arts

CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS
Welcome to the WomanKraft School of the Arts

Please note: Pre-registration is required for all students. All classes and workshops are free to low income people 50 years and older. This is made possible by the generous support of of individuals, board members, and those who pay workshop fees. Thank you. All classes and workshops are open to adults of all ages for listed fees. Your class fees help us offer more classes and pay instructors. **Fee students must pre-pay before you will be registered**. Please call (520) 629-9976 Ext. 2 to sign up for classes and workshops.

YEAR-ROUND CLASSES: STUDIO PAINTING WITH GAYLE SWANBECK, ARTIST, DIRECTOR OF EXHIBITS AT WOMANKRAFT, AND FOUNDER OF THE SCHOOL OF THE ARTS.

Studio classes are ongoing, join anytime, stop when you are ready. Learn oils, acrylics, or watercolors. Select your own subject matter and proceed at your own pace. Individual instruction is available as you need it. Class limit is 5 people. Classes Wednesday, 10am-Noon. Fee: $60 per 8 weeks. Supplies not included.

JANUARY

TREAT YOURSELF: THE MANI-PEDI
In the all-natural hair and body salon housed in "The Castle," the Sanctuary is offering a workshop to learn professional techniques and secrets for manicures, pedicures, and more.
Wednesday, January 4, 10:00am-12:00pm
Facilitator: Jordana Silvestri
Fee: $20, supplies included.

TURNING TRASH INTO ART - 2 PARTS
One person's trash, another person's art. We'll use donated broken jewelry, watches, recycled plastics and more to create figurative or abstract works. Then in the second half, we'll resin the piece for a rich finished artwork.
Part I: Tuesday, January 10, 1:30-4:30pm
Part II: Tuesday, January 17, 1:30-2:30pm
Facilitator: Gayle Swanbeck
Fee: $20, supplies included.

WATERCOLOR COLLAGE - 2 PARTS
Create unique patterns, while learning many watercolor techniques, then tear, cut, and collage your patterns into works of art.
Part I: Wednesday, January 18, 10:30am-12:30pm
Part II: Wednesday, January 25, 10:30am-12:30pm
Facilitator: Gayle Swanbeck
Fee: $20, supplies included.

A WOMEN'S SALON - PART 1 OF 4
"New! Wednesday, January 18, 1:30-3:30pm will be the first organizational gathering of women of all ages to help determine the directions the attending women wish to explore. Good conversations, art projects, community projects, writing, performances... It's all up for consideration. Bring a treat if you can; coffee and sparkling water will be served. Please wear a mask while the winter Covid and flu season marches on. The gatherings are:
Session I: Wednesday, January 18, 1:30-3:30pm
Session II: Wednesday, February 15, 1:30-3:30pm
Session III: Wednesday, March 15, 1:30-3:30pm
Session IV: Wednesday, April 12, 1:30-3:30pm
Facilitator: Gayle Swanbeck
Fee: Free! And bring a treat if you can.

POETRY, PROSE, AND STORYTELLING
This workshop is offered only once a month. It is open to both women and men. Writers of all levels will work on their skills through writing exercises, sharing, and gentle critiques. The goals will be to develop your own style of writing, and to gain personal comfort performing your work.
Tuesday, January 24, 1:30-3:30pm

Facilitator: Gayle Swanbeck
Fee: $5, supplies included.

PAINTING WITH OIL STICKS - 2 PARTS
You'll learn to create beautiful artworks with this unique oil painting medium. It will free up your style!
Part I: Tuesday, January 24, 6:30-8:30pm
Part II: Tuesday, January 31, 6:30-8:30pm

COLLAGING CHAIRS
Come help us beautify our classroom chairs! This workshop will teach the techniques of collaging with magazine imagery and special papers like mulberry, banana, tissue, etc. We've just bought new chairs and they really want to be collaged.
Thursday, January 26, 1:30-4:30pm
Facilitator: Jacquie Dinnie , Fee: FREE.

BEADSTRINGING JEWELRY
You can make your own beautiful jewelry in this workshop, while learning how to use special tools and techniques to create long-lasting and unique pieces. Hey, it's fun, to boot!
Thursday, January 26, 6:00-9:00pm
Facilitator: Terri McGuire
Fee: $20, plus $10 supply fee, payable to the instructor (if you are a fee student).

WISE WOMEN'S WRITING WORKSHOP
You can attend one or all of these popular workshops. Learn to tap your infinite wisdom, and playfully connect with your inner writer. We'll journal with writing exercises, topics, and creative surprises.
Friday, January 27, 10:00am-12:00noon
Facilitator: Ingrid Aspromatis
Fee: $20. * Or all four for $40.
* Other WWWWs are on Fridays - Feb 24, Mar 24, and Apr 28 - same time, same place.

RESIN FRAMES: 2 PARTS
Using a 5"x7" picture frame, you'll design and execute your assemblage. In the second session, you'll seal it with a thin coat of resin. It is a way to turn the ordinary into the extraordinary.
Part I: Friday, January 27, 1:30-4:00pm
Part II: Saturday, January 28, 1:30-2:30pm
Facilitator: Linda K
Fee: $25, supplies included.

FEBRUARY

DRUMMING FROM THE HEART
Always wanted to join a drum circle, but were afraid to ask? This class will unblock that fear. Journey into the sacred and moving experience of drumming. Instruction in basic hand patterns and rhythms will allow you to continue on your drum adventure. Drum rental available. Attend one or all of these sessions. Read on for details.
Thursday, February 2, 1:30-3:00pm
Facilitator: Susan Danos
Fee: $10 for each class, * Or all three for $25. Drum loaner by donation/or tip, payable to instructor each class.
* Other DFTH classes are on Thursdays - Mar 30, Apr 13 - same time, same place.

TREAT YOURSELF: THE FACIAL
In the all-natural hair and body salon housed in The Castle, The Sanctuary is offering a workshop so you can learn professional techniques and secrets for facials, skin care, aroma therapy, and more.
Wednesday, February 8, 10:00am-12:00noon
Facilitator: Jordana Silvestri
Fee: $20, supplies included.

ONCE JUNK COLLAGING
We've all damaged functional objects - scratched a shelf unit, chipped a lamp base, stained an end table. Here's your chance to turn junk into art. We'll use specialty papers like mulberry, banana, and others, possibly even collage images to cover the flaws. Bring along your own damaged object or use one of ours. I've saved wall clocks, waste baskets, journal covers, and more. Trash into Treasure is just a few techniques away.
Thursday, February 9, 1:30-4:30pm
Facilitators: Jacquie Dinnie and Gayle Swanbeck.
Fee: $20. Supplies included, but let us know if you're bringing your own "once junk."

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

USING WATER COLOR PENCILS
We'll create an 8"x10" simple landscape using some tubes watercolors for backgrounds, but from there on out, we'll be learning to use the pencils to create lovely detailed imagery. You'll also have a chance to play with water soluble Inktense and Graphitint pencils.
Friday, February 10, 10:30am-12:30pm
Facilitator: Gayle Swanbeck
Fee: $20, supplies included.

RESIN PLATES: 2 PARTS
Using a dinner plate, you'll design and execute your mosaic. In the second half, seaing it with a thin coat of resin. It's a way to turn the ordinary into the extraordinary.
Part I: Friday, February 10, 1:30-4:00pm
Part II: Friday, February 17, 1:30-2:30pm
Facilitator: Linda K, Fee: $25, supplies included.

FLAT STAINED GLASS MOSAIC: 2 PARTS
Create an 8"x10" mosaic with an abstract or realistic design while learning to use the tools and tricks of the medium. It's great fun, and stained glass is always beautiful.
Part 1: Saturday, February 11, 1:30-4:30pm
Part 2: Saturday, February 18, 1:30am-2:30pm
Facilitator: Traci Kelly
Fee: $25, supplies included.

A WOMEN'S SALON - PART 2 OF 4
This is the second organizational gathering of women of all ages to help determine the directions the attending women wish to explore. Good conversations, art projects, community projects, writing, performances… It's all up for consideration. Bring a treat, if you can; coffee and sparkling water will be served.
Part II: Wednesday, February 15, 1:30-3:30pm
Facilitator: Gayle Swanbeck
Fee: Free! Bring a treat, if you can. (Remaining dates are: March 15 and April 12.)

GOURD ART - MAKE A RATTLE: 2 PARTS
A gourd can be used for many things. In this class you will learn to make a gourd rattle, full of colors and designs, and beaded down with strings. Join our drum teacher, Susan Danos, and create your own musical instrument. Limited to four students.
Part I: Thursday, February 16, 1:30-3:30pm
Part II: Thursday, February 23, 1:30-3:30pm
Facilitator: Susan Danos
Fee: $20, supplies included.

ABSTRACT DRAWING PRISMACOLOR PENCILS
Here's an opportunity to play with Prismacolor pencils and techniques that will help you understand and create a beautiful piece of abstract art.
Thursday, February 16, 6:00-9:00pm
Facilitator: Terri McGuire
Fee: $20, supplies included.

WISE WOMEN'S WRITING WORKSHOP
You can attend one or all of these popular workshops. Learn to tap your infinite wisdom, and playfully connect with your inner writer. We'll journal with writing exercises, topics, and creative surprises.
Friday, February 24, 10:00am-12:00noon
Facilitator: Ingrid Aspromatis, Fee: $20.

OILSTICKS AND MONO PRINTS
You'll design, using oil sticks on a glass pane, (8"x10"), and pull up to three prints. A final application of paint will "clean up" your image, and you'll walk away with a reverse glass painting as well.
Tuesday, February 28, 6:30-8:30pm
Facilitator: Mary Theresa Dietz
Fee: $20, supplies included.

POETRY, PROSE, AND STORYTELLING
This workshop will meet once a month and is open to both women and men. Writers of all levels will work on their skills through writing exercises, sharing, and gentle critiques. The goals will be to develop your own style of writing, and to gain personal comfort performing your work.
Tuesday, February 28, 1:30-3:30pm

Facilitator: Gayle Swanbeck
Fee: $5, supplies included.

MARCH

DRAWING WILD ANIMALS
March 3rd is World Wildlife Day, and you'll be learning how to draw some wildlife using some remarkably easy techniques. Participants will select our subject(s) - mammal, bird, or reptile. We
l be using charcoal and graphite to execute our images.
Thursday, March, 2, 1:30-2:30pm
Facilitator: Gayle Swanbeck
Fee: $20, supplies included.

MOSAIC ROOF TILES: 2 PARTS
Using clay roof tiles and glass half-rounds, glass squares, and stained glass, you'll mosaic your own design creation. We use the tiles to edge our walks and plant beds.
Part I: Friday, March 10, 1:30-4:30pm
Part II: Friday, March 17, 1:30-3:00pm
Facilitator: Linda K
Fee: Donate your tile to WomanKraft? Class is free. Take it home? Class is $25.

MOSAIC GARDEN STEPPING STONES: 2 PARTS
Learn to use glass cutters, nippers, etc. It's fun, functional, and always successful.
Part I: Saturday, March 11, 1:30-4:30pm
Part II: Saturday, March 18, 1:30-3:00pm
Facilitator: Linda K
Fee: $25.

TREAT YOURSELF: THE MANI-PEDI
In the all-natural hair and body salon housed in "The Castle," the Sanctuary is offering a workshop to learn professional techniques and secrets for manicures, pedicures, and more.
Wednesday, March 15, 10:00am-12:00pm
Facilitator: Jordana Silvestri
Fee: $20, supplies included.

A WOMEN'S SALON - PART 3 OF 4
This is the third organizational gathering of women of all ages to help determine the directions the attending women wish to explore. Good conversations, art projects, community projects, writing, performances… It's all up for consideration. Bring a treat, if you can; coffee and sparkling water will be served.
Session 3: Wednesday, March 15, 1:30-3:30pm
Facilitator: Gayle Swanbeck
Fee: Free.

POETRY, PROSE, AND STORYTELLING
This workshop will meet once a month and is open to both women and men. Writers of all levels will work on their skills through writing exercises, sharing, and gentle critiques. The goals will be to develop your own style of writing, and to gain personal comfort performing your work.
Tuesday, March 21, 1:30-3:30pm
Facilitator: Gayle Swanbeck
Fee: $5, supplies included.

COLLAGING FRAMES WITH MULBERRY PAPER
As long as a frame is structurally sound, it can still be saved, as a matter of fact, customized and made better. Primarily, using mulberry paper, you can cover all dings, scratches, and flaws with a selection of colors and textures that create a beautiful frame for artwork.
Thursday, March 23, 1:30-4:00pm
Facilitator: Jacquie Dinnie
Fee: $20, frames and supplies included, or bring your own frame, 10"x14" or smaller.

WISE WOMEN'S WRITING WORKSHOP
You can attend one or all of these popular workshops. Learn to tap your infinite wisdom, and playfully connect with your inner writer. We'll journal with writing exercises, topics, and creative surprises.
Friday, March 24, 10:00am-12:00noon
Facilitator: Ingrid Aspromatis
Fee: $20.

FOAM PRINT MAKING
In this workshop, you'll be making prints using sheets of polystyrene foam. The foam sheets can be easily drawn on and imprinted with any firm object, stamp, coin, etc. You'll also learn what a reduction print is and how to create one.
Tuesday, March 28, 1:30-3:30pm
Facilitator: Mary Theresa Dietz
Fee: $20, supplies included.

DRUMMING FROM THE HEART
Always loved percussion, but were afraid to try it? This class will unblock that fear. Journey into the sacred and moving experience of drumming. Instruction in basic hand patterns and rhythms will allow you to continue on your drum adventure. Drum loaner available. Attend one or all of these sessions. Read on for details.
Thursday, March 30, 1:30-3:00pm
Facilitator: Susan Danos
Fee: $10 for each class. Drum loaner by donation, payable to instructor each class.

BEADED BOOKMARKS
Using a wide variety of beads, you'll create a beautiful and distinctive bookmark while learning the tools and tricks of jewelry-making.
Thursday, March 30, 6:00-8:00pm
Facilitator: Terri McGuire
Fee: $20, supplies included.

APRIL

TREAT YOURSELF: THE FACIAL
In the all-natural hair and body salon housed in The Castle, The Sanctuary is offering a workshop so you can learn professional techniques and secrets for facials, skin care, aroma therapy, and more.
Wednesday, April 5, 10:00am-12:00noon
Facilitator: Jordana Silvestri
Fee: $20, supplies included.

A WOMEN'S SALON - PART 4 OF 4
This will be the last of four organizational gatherings of women of all ages to help determine the directions the attending women wish to explore. Good conversations, art projects, community projects, writing, performances… It's all up for consideration. Bring a treat, if you can; coffee and sparkling water will be served. Please wear a mask in case the winter Covid and flu seasons march on into spring. We'll meet at the WomanKraft Castle, 388 South Stone Ave. Call 520-629-9976 ext. 2 to register or to ask any questions. If no one is available to accept your call, please leave a brief message with your name and phone number, and we'll get back to you. Final session.
Part 4: Wednesday, April 12, 1:30-3:30pm (Check next Castle Voice for more such gatherings.)
Facilitator: Gayle Swanbeck
Fee: Free! Bring a treat, if you can.

DANGLERS AND WINDCHIMES
In this workshop, you'll use an abundant selection of repurposed treasures, learn to use copper wire to create durable suspension for all-weather display, and have a lot of fun while acquiring new skills.
Thursday, April 6, 1:30-4:30pm

THE ART OF COLLAGE
You'll be learning how to create intricate and creative collages that peek past the ordinary. We'll use magazine images and special papers made from banana, mango, rice, and mulberry.
Saturday, April 8, 1:30-4:30pm
Facilitator: Gayle Swanbeck
Fee: $20, supplies included.

POETRY, PROSE, AND STORYTELLING
This workshop will meet once a month and is open to both women and men. Writers of all levels will work on their skills through writing exercises, sharing, and gentle critiques. The goals will be to develop your own style of writing, and to gain personal comfort performing your work.
Tuesday, April 11, 1:30-3:30pm
Facilitator: Gayle Swanbeck
Fee: $5, supplies included.

DRUMMING FROM THE HEART
Always loved percussion, but were afraid to try it? This class will unblock that fear. Journey into the sacred and moving experience of drumming. Instruction in basic hand patterns and rhythms will allow you to continue on your drum adventure. Drum rental available. Attend one or all of these sessions. Read on for details.
Thursday, April 13, 1:30-3:00pm
Facilitator: Susan Danos
Fee: $10 for each class. Drum loaner by donation/tip, payable to instructor each class.

MOSIAC MURALING: 2 PARTS
We're continuing the muraling on the School of the Arts bathroom walls. You'll have the chance to learn design, layout, cutting stained glass, affixing pieces, and grouting. Class size is limited to three (3) and each will rotate skills so that all have a chance to experience muraling fully.
Part I: Saturday, April 15, 1:30-3:30pm
Part II: Saturday, April 22, 1:30-3:30pm
Facilitator: Traci Kelly
Fee: $10, supplies included.

PAINTING WITH OILSTICKS: 2 PARTS
You'll learn to create beautiful artworks with this unique oil painting medium. It'll free up your style!
Part I: Tuesday, April 18, 1:30-3:30pm
Part II: Tuesday, April 25, 1:30-3:30pm
Facilitator: Mary Theresa Dietz
Fee: $20, supplies included.

TREES IN MOSAIC STAINED GLASS: 2 PARTS
April is National Arbor Day month, and in this workshop, you'll create a mosaic stained glass tree. Using an 8"x10" flat glass support, you'll learn the needed skills to design, cut, and affix stained glass pieces into a beautiful piece of art.
Part I: Thursday, April 20, 1:30-4:30pm
Part II: Thursday, April 27, 1:30-2:30pm
Facilitator: Gayle Swanbeck
Fee: $25, supplies included.

STAINED GLASS MOSAIC VOTIVES: 2 PARTS
Learn to use glass cutters, nippers, etc. It's fun, functional, and always successful.
Part I: Friday, April 21, 1:30-4:00pm
Part II: Friday, April 28, 1:30-2:30pm
Facilitator: Linda K
Fee: $25, supplies included.

BEADSTRINGING JEWELRY
You can make your own beautiful jewelry in this workshop, while learning how to use special tools and techniques to create long-lasting and unique pieces. Hey, it's fun, to boot!
Thursday, April 27, 6:00-9:00pm
Facilitator: Terri McGuire
Fee: $20, plus $10 supply fee, payable to the instructor (if you are a fee student).

WISE WOMEN'S WRITING WORKSHOP
You can attend one or all of these popular workshops. Learn to tap your infinite wisdom, and playfully connect with your inner writer. We'll journal with writing exercises, topics, and creative surprises.
Friday, April 28, 10:00am-12:00noon
Facilitator: Ingrid Aspromatis
Fee: $20.

Left to right: Patricia Steele, Gayle Swanbeck, Mary Lou Griggs, Ingrid Aspromatis (Photo by Mo Bike)

WISE WOMEN'S WRITING WORKSHOP
by Ingrid Aspromatis

So it is coming up to 15 years that the group has been meeting at WomanKraft. That is quite a long run! We meet once a month and playfully and "seriously" connect to our inner writers and magical thinking is allowed and encouraged.

I believe what makes it work is that it promotes connection, sharing, inspiration, nurturing and creativity. And there is an element of surprise with the writing that comes out.

Through our writing we develop a bond and closeness. We really get to know each other and welcome this so much.

But don't take my words only, let me share a testimonial: "Ingrid blends a touchstone of honesty, humor and a penetrating authenticity in her support and inspiration of others as they seek their own unique writer's voice and unfolding story. She is a muse to those fortunate and wise enough to join her open circle."

Here is wishing many more years for our "Wise Women" group. May we continue to create and be heard.

SOWING AND GROWING SEEDS OF IDEAS
by Patricia Steele

Did you know that the castle house on S. Stone Avenue is really a B&B? Not an “Air B&B.” It’s an “S B&B” - Spiritual Being Becoming.

WomanKraft School of the Arts is a laboratory of sorts where seeds of ideas are stirred into a cauldron percolating possibilities.

A place where it is okay to just "Be" and taste the courage to reflect and relax into our questions. Perfect recipe for all the art, poems, music, laughter and tears manifested.

Add heaping cups of diversity and the brave heart of self forgiveness.

Stir us up good, Gayle. Don't forget double doses of rowdy joy. We need that the most.

Ingrid Aspromatis arranges the jewelry in the cabinet on the north wall of the fireplace room.

WISDOM - SHARING AND CARING
by Mary Lou Griggs

WomanKraft's Wise Women's Writing Workshop is one of the first classes I took at the Castle in 2015.

I love the care and creativity Ingrid brings as our leader.

The setting, sense of safety and support, writing and sharing our words - sentimental or fearsome, sad or delightful - all contribute to our wisdom du jour.

It's a wisely-guided forum for women, whose wisdom brought us together. When we're finished, we're sustained in the glow of the wisdom we've discovered, new inspirations and insights nurtured by the camaraderie and caring atmosphere. We wiser women are a blessed gift for all.

WHAT IF?
by Maureen (Mo) Bike

A frog was actually a prince, a pop-eyed, short and warty little man who loved you?

A Big Wind arose from a Black Hole and the first ones jettisoned away were politicians?

We were made of rubber and happily bounced through our day?

Everything was actually beautiful?

The truth was undeniable, irrefutable, and trusted?

Everyone could keep their opinions to themselves and smile at others with love?

I was homeless and a young woman?

WHAT IF… by Suo Mynona

What if I could go back in time to the day I met my husband? And what if I'd been able to foresee how things would be after our 17 months of marital co-habitation, and overall four years (to the day) of marital misery, to know how it would turn out. Would I have turned my back and run away as fast as I could? I'll never know.

What if? What if? Way too many unanswerable questions… I choose to just keep living in reality. At least I am able to know what's happening in the here and now.

LAST WORD
by Ingrid Aspromatis

What will your last word be? My last word could be just like Steve Jobs…"WOW!" Or "Open the window so my soul can fly out!"
Or "I see the Light!"
Or "It was real and it was fun!"
Or …Perhaps, just Silence!

THANKS, UPDATES, AND OPPORTUNITIES
by Gayle Swanbeck
There is so much to be grateful for. So, let me start with all of the people who have donated so generously to WomanKraft with cash, art donations, and rummage fair items. Many of our Board Members have gifted in much higher amounts than in previous years. Thank you, Terri McGuire, Darlene Kirk, Nancy Martin, Jacquie Dinnie, Mary Lou Griggs, and several who wish to remain anonymous. These donations have allowed us to pay consultant fees for at least a few of the many hours our members log in here. Art donations have been amazing, too. Many of these contributions overlap because when we first sort through, we select premium pieces to tag as Art Donations, add to the School of the Arts resources, allow members to purchase supplies they need, and finally the Rummage Fair fills up with treasure upon treasure. Thank you, Nancy Martin, Darlene Kirk, Jasper Kasper, Jonathan DuHamel, Gayle Swanbeck, Lonni Lees, Barbara Richardson, David Craig, and the

estate of Brenda Rentfro. I'm sure I've forgotten some names - I am sorry - and some have asked not to be named. Check out the announcement about our January Rummage Fair for more details, and take our thanks to heart for your gifts of dollars, goods, and labor.

2024 will bring us to our 50th year as a Non-Profit Arts Organization. Each and every person who has worked or played with WomanKraft over all these years, whether it's been for a moment of for decades is why we're still here. Still growing, and still giving so much to our community. Blessings on us all.

Jordana and David Silvestri have been helping to maintain our outdoor spaces; raking, trimming, sweeping, etc. They've also done our floors in the Gallery and have done some larger repairs to the walls in The Sanctuary. (That's Jordana's all-natural hair and body salon. Check out opportunities for more info.) Ingrid and I have continued, space-by-space, to clean, sort, and toss stuff It's amazing to feel and be organized once again! Mary Lou and I straightened out our Arizona Corporation Commission Status, which hadn't been filed correctly in 2020. Our 990's (yearly financial report to the IRS) from 2019 - 2020 have finally been straightened out, and this year, we figured out how to file electronically with the help of a free service - a non-profit itself - that aids small non-profits like WomanKraft.

We're welcoming board member/artist Gerrie Young into the Artist's Studio #102. Gerrie will be taking on the grounds-keeping jobs as well.

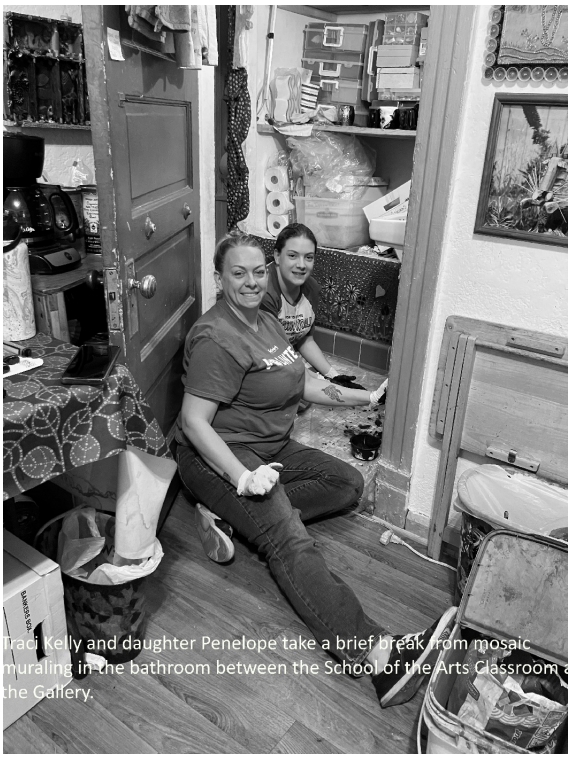
Geno Davis has been doing virtual tours of each exhibit as well as posting updates on our website. Thank you so very much, Geno! Those who log on to check out the tours, please let us know how user-friendly the experience has been.

Traci Kelly, with help from her daughter, Penelope, have continued working on the School of the Arts bathroom mosaic mural. It's looking so good, and there will be a workshop offered this trimester, taught by Traci, to finish off yet another section. (This Muraling workshop can be found in the School of the Arts schedule in mid-April. If you're interested, sign up soon, as this unique opportunity is limited to three students.)

December 3rd was our birthday party for WomanKraft's 48th year as an organization and our 30th year at the Castle. Beverages, pizza, and dessert were provided. This was an event for members, volunteers, and current artists. James Aspromatis provided wonderful background music with his Victor Talking Machine from his music collection. And grandson of Ana Yañez, Robert Villa, provided lovely violin music. Both music makers had an attentive and grateful audience. Even some dancing! We had a good turnout and a lovely time.

Ingrid Aspromatis and Gerrie Young enjoy dancing to the beat of the music

Robert Villa plays violin onstage


Traci Kelly and daughter Penelope take a brief break from mosaic muraling in the bathroom between the School of the Arts Classroom and the Gallery.

At the end of the party, Ingrid and James Aspromatis have a moment together.

RUMMAGE FAIR! BARGAINS, DONATIONS, HELPERS...

The annual WomanKraft Rummage Fair is second and third weekends in January, 2023.
Dates/Times: Friday/Saturday, January 13/14, 2023, 10:00am to 4:00pm and Friday/Saturday, January 20/21, 2023, 10:00am to 4:00pm
Donations: We are accepting Rummage Fair Donations. Please follow these guidelines:
Boxes must be sturdy and have lids, or fold-overs, so we can stack them.
All clothing or fiber material must be clean and gently-used.
Clean clothing for any weather is accepted. Winter clothes especially welcome.
All items must be clean and serviceable.
All electric and electronic items must work properly.

Call to make an appointment to drop off donations at: 520-629-9976. If a human doesn't answer, touch 2 to leave a message, including your name and number and a date you'll be available.

Helpers Most Appreciated Before, During, and After the Rummage Fair:

We need helpers for setting up the Rummage Fair beginning the first week of January, then during the open hours, and finally, for cleanup afterwards.

Call 520-629-9976. If a human doesn't answer, touch 2 to leave a brief message, including your name and phone number and when you're available to help, and we'll get back to you soon.

We look forward to working with you on this, our biggest fund-raiser of the year!

OUR WEBSITE

Geno Davis has been getting our website more and more functional. It is, and always will be, a work in progress, by updating content on a more timely basis than ever before. With Geno's virtual tours, including the exterior, Gallery, School of the Arts, and The Sanctuary, as well as current and previous art exhibits, we hope you check it out. Our aim is to provide a user-friendly experience. Geno's five-plus years of virtual tour experience in various markets has has sharpened his skills to a remarkable level. His virtual tours are modifiable in order to present the best foot(age) forward, depending on what you need. You'll find his portfolio at: GenoDavisPhotography.com, and his phone is: 520-661-8587.

THE SANCTUARY

The Sanctuary is an all-natural, full-service salon located here at 388 S. Stone Avenue. You'll receive personal care in a beautiful, safe, tranquil setting at fair prices. And you'll be supporting a local business. Contact: Jordana Silvestri for appointments at 520-882-6280.

OPPORTUNITIES

Don Proffitt has proven himself as an excellent handyman through his work at WomanKraft and at the homes of several people who have called upon him. He is accomplished in many types of handiwork and, if he believes he cannot do your job, he'll tell you up-front. If you're interested in seeing about work you need done, call him at 520-257-7995, and leave your name, number and a brief message.

If you're having car trouble, Tony's Automotive has been recommended by Don Proffitt and Gayle Swanbeck who've both had good work done by him at very reasonable prices. Call Tony at 520-882-3645. His repair shop is at 130 S. Olsen, a little southeast of Campbell and Broadway.

CALL TO ARTISTS

Our upcoming season of exhibits in listed on Page 3 of The Castle Voice and is also on our website, https://www.womankraft.org. Call WomanKraft at 520-629-9976 ext 2, Thursday through Saturday, from 1:00-5:00pm to set up an appointment with Gayle Swanbeck to view your work.

A PAINLESS WAY TO DONATE TO WOMANKRAFT

If you are an Amazon shopper, consider helping WomanKraft through the AmazonSmile Foundation. To select us as your preferred charity, login to https://smile.amazon.com, search for WomanKraft, then select it. And then? Just start shopping, and always use the above link so that the contribution will occur with each order. AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the charity you choose with NO charge to you. Learn more at https://AmazonSmile. We sincerely appreciate if you'll consider this. Every little bit helps.

WomanKraft
388 S. Stone Ave.
Tucson, AZ 85701
(520) 629-9976
www.womankraft.org

Photo by Jonathan DuHamel

WomanKraft Art Center

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Open Thursday - Saturday
1:00 - 5:00 P.M.

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