

The Castle Voice

January - April, 2024 WomanKraft Art Center's Newsletter Volume 72



388 S. Stone Ave. Tucson, Arizona 85701 520-256-7455
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

Directors of Exhibits

Gayle Swanbeck
Terri McGuire

Directors of School of the Arts and General WomanKraft Business

Gayle Swanbeck
Terri McGuire
520-256-7455

Membership Services

Barbara Achord - Coordinator
Mary Lou Griggs



Official WomanKraft Website

<https://womankraft.org>
Geno Davis
Mary Lou Griggs

**For more information, please call 520-256-7455
Thursday-Saturday, 1-5pm**

Castle Voice design by Jonathan DuHamel
Proofreading and Editing by Mary Lou Griggs,
Ingrid Aspromatis and Gayle Swanbeck

Thank You!

WomanKraft thanks Long Realty, our generous members, our gallery docents, investors, clients, customers, and all our volunteers.



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. Gerrie Young #102, and Nicole Young, Ladyship Productions upstairs main building. WomanKraft is located at 388 S. Stone Avenue, Tucson, AZ, 85701.

OFFICERS

Lydia Phillips, President
Gayle Swanbeck, Treasurer
Nancy Martin, Secretary

BOARD MEMBERS

Ana Maria Yañez
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Debra Jacobson, PhD.
Gerrie Young
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Joanne Pritzen
Jordana Silvestri
Mary Lou Griggs
Nicole Young
Terri McGuire

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Gallery Schedule

Gallery hours: Thursday -Saturday, 1-5pm.

Gallery ONLY is closed in January, 2024

FEBRUARY 3-MARCH 30, 2024: BLACK AND WHITE AND SHADES OF GRAY

RECEPTION: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2024, 7:00-9:00pm

Back by popular demand, this exhibit is in all mediums, but only in black, white and shades of gray. No color in the art or presentation. We invite viewers, especially at the reception to attire in black and white and shades of gray. Deadline for submissions: January 24, 2024.

APRIL 6-MAY 25, 2024: DRAWING DOWN THE MUSE

RECEPTION: SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2024, 7:00-9:00pm

It's the 33rd annual women's exhibit. No theme, all mediums. Show strong and proud in this decades long tradition celebrating women in the arts. Deadline for submissions: March 20,2024.

JUNE 1-JULY 27, 2024: WINGS

RECEPTION: SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 2024, 7:00-9:00pm

Butterflies, bees, bats, birds, real creatures with wings, but there is also the fantasy world of dragons, flying horses, fairies, cupids, griffins and more. This show accepts all mediums and all flights of creative imagery. Deadline for submissions: May 22, 2024.

Gallery ONLY is closed in August, 2024

SEPTEMBER 7-OCTOBER 26,2024: OUR WILD WEST

RECEPTION :SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 7-9pm

Seeking art that represents our amazing western states from the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific Coast. As an artist how do you perceive our Wild West? All mediums accepted. Deadline for submissions: August 24,2024.

NOVEMBER 5-DECEMBER 21,2024:HOLIDAY BAZAAR

RECEPTION: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 7-9pm

Our first Holiday Bazaar was 38 years ago at our rented location on Congress St. It is still one of our favorites because we provide a venue for many local artists, an incredibly wide choice of fine arts and crafts, and it all retails between \$1and \$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 20,2024.

Gallery ONLY is closed in January, 2025

Are you an artist interested in exhibiting with WomanKraft? Call 520-256-7455 for an appointment with Gayle Swanbeck or Terri McGuire, Directors of Exhibits. 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.

PLEASE NOTE NEW WOMANKRAFT PHONE NUMBER: 520-256-7455

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 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 520-256-7455 to sign up for classes and workshops.

YEAR-ROUND CLASSES: STUDIO PAINTING WITH GAYLE SWANBECK, ARTIST AND 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

DRUMMING FROM THE HEART

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.

Thursday, Jan 4, 1:30-3pm

Facilitator: Susan Danos

Fee: \$10 each class. Drum loaner by donation, payable to instructor.

PROMOTING YOUR ART ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Learn the latest, helpful tips and trends to get exposure by utilizing social media to promote your art on Facebook, Instagram and TikTok. Class is taught by Womankraft's own social media handler.

Monday, Jan 8, 1-3pm

Facilitator: Nicole Young

Fee: \$25. *Bring your phone fully charged.*

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, Jan 24, 10am-Noon

Facilitator: Jordana Silvestri

Fee: \$20, supplies included.

DRUMMING FROM THE HEART

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.

Thursday, Jan 25, 1:30-3pm

Facilitator: Susan Danos

Fee: \$10 each class. Drum loaner by donation, payable to instructor.

WISE WOMEN'S WRITING WORKSHOP

Learn to tap your infinite wisdom and playfully connect with your inner writer. We will journal with writing exercises, topics and creative surprises.

Friday, Jan 26, 10am-Noon

Facilitator: Ingrid Aspromatis

Fee: \$20 or *all four for \$40.* Other workshops on Fridays, same time are: Feb 23, Mar 29, Apr 19.

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

POETRY, PROSE AND STORYTELLING

The work produced in this workshop will be determined by its participants needs: poetry, prose or storytelling. Writing exercises will be done in class, previous works can be brought for input, all in a safe and nurturing environment. Everyone is welcome.

Wednesday, Jan 31, 1:30-3:30pm

Facilitator: Gayle Swanbeck

Fee:\$10.

FEBRUARY

SACRED DOLLS: 2-PARTS

In Part 1, learn how to create a doll and choose natural materials to embellish it. You'll make the Sacred Doll support structure.

In Part 2, complete with artwork, symbols and affirmations. Share positive stories, good memories and energy. Materials supplied, but bring some from home that symbolize your delight, and share with others. Rejuvenate your creative spirit and connect to the Sacred Universe!

Part 1: Thursday, Feb 1, 1:30-3:30pm

Part 2: Thursday, Feb 8, 1:30-4:30pm

Facilitator: Gerrie Young

Fee: \$20, supplies included.

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, aromatherapy and more.

Wednesday, Feb 7, 10am to Noon

Facilitator: Jordana Silvestri

Fee: \$20, supplies included.

COLLAGING VOTIVE CANDLES

You will be creating beautiful, tall votive candles using special paper, like mulberry, rice, tissue, etc. Two votives are included in your supplies. They make lovely gifts or enhance the artistic ambience of your home.

Thursday, Feb 8, 10am-Noon

Facilitators: Gayle Swanbeck and Jacquie Dinnie

Fee: \$20, supplies for two votives included.

Additional supplies, \$5/each.

GARDEN STEPPING STONES: 2 PARTS

Learn techniques to make your very own garden stones. Add color and whimsy to your yard or garden. Learn to use glass and tile while having creative fun.

Part 1: Friday, Feb 9, 1:30-4:30pm

Part 2: Friday, Feb 16, 1:30-3:30pm

Facilitator: Linda K

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 1: Saturday, Feb 10, 10:30am-12:30pm

Part 2: Saturday, Feb 17, 10:30am-11:30pm

Facilitator: Traci Kelly

Fee: \$25, supplies included.

DRUMMING FROM THE HEART

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.

Thursday, Feb 15, 1:30-3pm

Facilitator: Susan Danos

Fee: \$10, each class. Drum loaner by donation, payable to instructor.

BEAD-STRINGING JEWELRY

You can make your own beautiful jewelry in this workshop, while learning to use special tools and techniques to create long-lasting and unique pieces!

Thursday, Feb 15, 6-9pm

Facilitator: Terri McGuire

Fee: \$20, plus supply fee, paid to instructor.

MAKING HANDMADE PAPER

It's easy, it's fun. You'll use 100% recycled paper to create new art paper using simple tools and methods for quick, successful results.

Saturday, Feb 17, 1:30-3:30pm

Facilitator: Caroline Latron

Fee: \$20, supplies included.

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

PAINTING WITH OIL STICKS: 2 PARTS

You will learn to create beautiful artworks with this unique oil-painting medium. It will free up your style!

Part 1: Tuesday, Feb 20, 6:30-8:30pm

Part 2: Tuesday, Feb 27, 6:30-8:30pm

Facilitator: Mary Theresa Dietz

Fee: \$20, supplies included.

DANGLERS AND WINDCHIMES

In this workshop, you will use an abundant selection of repurposed treasures, learn to use copper wire to create durable suspension for all-weather displays, and have a lot of fun while acquiring new skills.

Thursday, Feb 22, 9:30am-12:30pm

Facilitator: Jacquie Dinnie

Fee: \$20, supplies included.

WISE WOMEN'S WRITING WORKSHOP

Learn to tap your infinite wisdom and playfully connect with your inner writer. We will journal with writing exercises, topics and creative surprises.

Friday, Feb 23, 10am-Noon

Facilitator: Ingrid Aspromatis

Fee: \$20. All four for \$40. Workshops on Fridays, same time: Mar 29, Apr 19.

MARCH

BEGINNING WATERCOLOR: 2 PARTS

In Part I, you will learn some drawing and watercolor principles on sample illustration boards to explore your visual language. Experiment with a variety of papers and brushes, along with several mediums to make textures and patterns for amazing results.

In Part II, assemble your collages into a cohesive unit with additional design elements. Venture into Zen doodling, stencils, and stamps to liven up your watercolors. Also use colored pencils, pastels and other mediums over the dried watercolors for a dynamic finish.

Part I: Wednesday, Mar 6, 1:30-3:30pm

Part II: Wednesday, Mar 13, 1:30-3:30pm

Facilitator: Gerrie Young

Fee: \$20, supplies included.

ARTFUL DENIM REVIVAL

Bring a piece of denim clothing you wish to revive and re-design into an original garment of wearable art!

Thursday, Mar 7, 1:30-4pm

Facilitator: Nicole Young

Fee: \$20, supplies included.

FLAT STAINED GLASS MOSAIC: 2 PARTS

Create an 8x10" 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 I: Friday, Mar 8, 1:30-4:30pm

Part II: Friday, Mar 15, 1:30-3pm

Facilitator: Linda K

Fee: \$25, supplies included.

INDOOR MOSAIC MURALING: 2 PARTS

We are continuing the muraling on The School of the Arts bathroom walls. You will have the chance to learn design, layout, cutting stained glass, affixing pieces and grouting. Class size is limited to 3, and each will rotate skills so that all have a chance to experience muraling fully.

Part I: Saturday, Mar 9, 1:30-4pm

Part II: Saturday, Mar 16, 1:30-4pm

Facilitator: Traci Kelly

Fee: \$10, supplies included.

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, Mar 13, 10am-Noon

Facilitator: Jordana Silvestri

Fee: \$20, supplies included.

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

DRUMMING FROM THE HEART

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.

Thursday, Mar 14, 1:30-3pm

Facilitator: Susan Danos

Fee: \$10 each class. Drum loaner by donation, payable to instructor.

COLLAGING FRAMES WITH MULBERRY PAPER

As long as the frame is structurally sound, it can still be saved, as matter of fact, customized and made better. Primarily, using mulberry paper, we can cover all dings, scratches and flaws with a selection of colors and textures that create a beautiful frame for artwork.

Thursday, Mar 14, 1:30-4:30pm

Facilitator: Jacquie Dinnie

Fee: \$20, frame & supplies included, or bring your own frame, 10x14" or smaller.

OIL STICKS AND MONOPRINTS

You'll design, using oil sticks on a glass pane (8x10") and pull up to three prints. A final application of paint will "clean up" your image and you will walk away with a reverse glass painting as well.

Tuesday, Mar 19, 6:30-8:30pm

Facilitator: Mary Theresa Dietz

Fee: \$20, supplies included.

STORYTELLING

In this workshop you produce a short story from your life, and learn simple but important skills, to help you perform in public. It's world-storytelling day!

Wednesday, Mar 20, 1:30-4:30pm

Facilitator: Gayle Swanbeck

Fee: \$20, supplies included.

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, Mar 21, 1:30-4pm

Part II: Thursday, Mar 28, 1:30-4pm

Facilitator: Susan Danos

Fee: \$20, supplies included.

ABSTRACT DRAWING WITH 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, Mar 21, 6-9pm

Facilitator: Terri McGuire

Fee: \$20, supplies included.

LEARNING PERSPECTIVE

In this workshop, you'll learn how to draw with 2- and 3-point perspective for perfect architectural rendering and diminishing perspective in Nature.

Friday, Mar 22, 1:30-3:30pm

Facilitator: Gayle Swanbeck

Fee: \$20, supplies included.

WISE WOMEN'S WRITING WORKSHOP

Learn to tap your infinite wisdom and playfully connect with your inner writer. We will journal with writing exercises, topics and creative surprises.

Friday, Mar 29, 10am-Noon

Facilitator: Ingrid Aspromatis

Fee: \$20. All four for \$40. Final workshop, Friday, Apr 19.

APRIL

DRUMMING FROM THE HEART

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.

Thursday, Apr 4, 1:30-3pm

Facilitator: Susan Danos

Fee: \$10 each class. Drum loaner by donation, payable to instructor.

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

USE SOCIAL MEDIA TO ATTRACT FANS AND SELL YOUR ART!

We artists are creative entrepreneurs, the visionaries of Imagination and now the publishers of our own stories. So, let's dive in together to explore tips and tricks to best showcase your artistic vision. Document your journey with the goal of attracting fans and selling more art, with Nicole, WomanKraft's Social Media Handler.

Date: Monday, Apr 8, 1-3pm

Facilitator: Nicole Young

Fee: \$25. *Bring your phone FULLY-CHARGED.*

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, aromatherapy and more.

Wednesday, Apr 10, 10am to Noon

Facilitator: Jordana Silvestri

Fee: \$20, supplies included.

DANGLERS AND WINDCHIMES

In this workshop, you will use an abundant selection of repurposed treasures, learn to use copper wire to create durable suspension for all-weather displays, and have a lot of fun while acquiring new skills.

Thursday, Apr 11, 9:30am-12:30pm

Facilitator: Jacquie Dinnie

Fee: \$20, supplies included.

MINIATURE ALTARS

Using small tins and small recycled treasures, you'll create a miniature altar that speaks to your spirituality and creativity. Feel free to bring your own treasures and/or select from our wide variety.

Thursday, Apr 11, 6-8pm

Facilitator: Terri McGuire

Fee: \$20, supplies included.

RESIN PLATES: 2 PARTS

Using a dinner plate, you'll design and execute your mosaic. In the second half, we'll seal it with a thin coat of resin. It's a way to turn the ordinary into the extraordinary!

Part I: Friday, Apr 12, 1:30-4pm

Part II: Friday, Apr 19, 1:30-2:30pm

Facilitator: Linda K

Fee: \$25, supplies included.

FLAT STAINED GLASS MOSAIC: 2 PARTS

Create an 8x10" 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 I: Saturday, Apr 13, 1:30-4:30pm

Part II: Saturday, Apr 20, 1:30-3pm

Facilitator: Traci Kelly

Fee: \$25, supplies included.

PAINTING WITH OIL STICKS: 2 PARTS

You'll learn to create beautiful artworks with this unique oil-painting medium. It'll free up your style!

Part I: Tuesday, Apr 16, 6:30-8:30pm

Part II: Tuesday, Apr 23, 6:30-8:30pm

Facilitator: Mary Theresa Dietz

Fee: \$20, supplies included.

LIGHTS AND SHADOWS

This is a drawing class that shows you how to create a 3-D look on paper or canvas, through shadows and highlights. It's all in the light source and a few simple techniques.

Thursday, Apr 18, 1:30-3:30pm

Facilitator: Gayle Swanbeck

Fee: \$20, supplies included.

WISE WOMEN'S WRITING WORKSHOP

Learn to tap your infinite wisdom and playfully connect with your inner writer. We will journal with writing exercises, topics and creative surprises.

Friday, Apr 19, 10am-Noon

Facilitator: Ingrid Aspromatis

Fee: \$20.

DRUMMING FROM THE HEART

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.

Thursday, Apr 25, 1:30-3pm

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Facilitator: Susan Danos
Fee: \$10 each class. Drum loaner by donation,
payable to instructor.

LET'S DRAW TREES

It's arbor day today. What better time to learn to draw trees. It's fun and much easier with a few tried and true techniques in your skills box.

Friday, Apr 26, 1:30-3:30pm
Facilitator: Gayle Swanbeck
Fee: \$20, supplies included.

NEWS & COMMENTS

UPDATES & THANKS

The big project of Sep/Oct has been the renovation of one of our upstairs rooms. It sits above our first floor porch entry to the gallery and classroom. It had become a messy storage area with no rhyme or reason. Don Proffitt has taken everything out, pulled down the bad wall and ceiling panels, replaced damaged supports, dry walled, patched and painted it all. We now have a well-ordered storage room for cleaning products, tools and supplies. It also includes a small workspace for future projects. Great job, Don! The only downside is that it has left us with a pile of debris awaiting a dump run. Hopefully by the time this has come to print, our back parking lot and upstairs hallway will be cleaned and beautiful again.

Other completed work includes the transplanting of 6/7 Eve's Needle cacti. They had been planted between the back wall and the handicap ramp. A not so good choice. The Eve's Needle seems to love the western exposure and has grown rapidly making it difficult to weed the ground and difficult to reach the wooden boards for maintenance and repairs. The wood artfully conceals some rather unattractive pipes. We'll be planting lower, slower-growing vegetation. By the way, thanks David Silvestri for the transplanting job, linseeding our gate, upstairs backdoor and the wooden boards. Thanks for cleaning off the flat roofs of studios #103, #102 and The Sanctuary.

Gerrie Young has been doing a fine job keeping the grounds, sidewalks, patio and porch clean even with the challenges of repairs going on. As mentioned above, one of the problems with repairs is that before the new can be installed, the old has to be stacked somewhere. Where is that fairy with the magic wand when you need one? Probably off partying with the elves. They don't seem to be working at night either.

We discovered at our September reception that for the first time in decades of trying credit card machines, Pay-Pal, etc, that it would now be to our advantage to have something like Square in place. Terri McGuire jumped right in and got it up and running for our November reception. We have now been able to see a significant rise in completed sales. Some folks think we have been a bit slow joining the 21st Century, but we have always accessed and then let our need for new technology dictate our embracing of it.

Speaking of technology, thank you, Nicole Young for making a valuable connection with Bianca Morales of the Tucson Sentinel. That online article caught the attention of Brooke Chau from KGUN-9's Good Morning, Tucson. Terri McGuire's interview aired in October and many new November artists' reception attendees came because of that coverage, creating enjoyable new contacts, good sales, pleasant interactions, and even a couple of new members.

We are also happy to be adding some instructors, classes and workshops.

Check out the new School of the Art's schedule: "Papermaking" with Caroline Latron, "Sacred Dollmaking and a 2-part "Beginning Watercolor" class with Gerrie Young. Nicole Young will be offering two opportunities (January and April 2024) "Promoting Your Art on Social Media." Our classes and workshops are small, 4-5 students maximum, so register as soon as possible to assure your spot.

Terri McGuire and I completed the filing of Fiscal Years 2022/23, 990s, our annual IRS financial disclosure. It was Terri's first time dealing with these

NEWS & COMMENTS

forms and they can seem daunting. True to form she has shown a rapid learning curve. You are such a pleasure to work with, Terri. Our next bookkeeping adventure will be the filing of the 1099 Misc Income by the end of January. We have committed to a once a month bookkeeping meeting that will allow us to smoothly keep abreast of our needs and requirements.

Our December 2nd party celebrated WomanKraft's entrance into her 50th year as an Arizona non-profit arts organization. It's been an amazing journey filled with struggles and successes, joys and tribulations, laughter and tears, but we are still here. New and familiar faces moving forward together into a promising and exciting future. Perhaps that future includes you! Here's to the next fifty years!

Several women drummers, including, Jasper, Ashitari, and Susan Danos were very popular, and some reception attendees joined the jam session. Check out our drumming workshops facilitated by Susan Danos.

I wish to thank the generous donations from some of our Board Members and private individuals in this last trimester. Thanks to Susan Benson and Susan Fleming for their donations that allowed us to buy all new chairs for the patio and porch. Thank you Barbara Achord for using your time and money to replace our broken yard rake. Thank you Joe Watson for stepping in to help hang the Holiday Bazaar. Thanks to MaryLou Griggs, James and Ingrid Aspromatis, Terri McGuire and Gerrie Young for being that crew. Thanks go out to Nicole Young, Terri McGuire, MaryLou Griggs and Gerrie Young for their work at the November Artists' Reception, the November Thanks and Giving pARTy and December's 50th year Birthday Party.

If you liked the homemade cookies, candy, mini-quiches and cream cheese veggie pinwheels served at our 50th, please contact "Yummies by Phyllis" 520-990-8722 for her complete menu of handmade delights.

Thanks go out to Nicole Young for continuing to post WomanKraft footage and information on Facebook

(app symbol is the Castle Voice) and Instagram (app symbol is womankraftartcenter). Thank you, Geno Davis, for continuing to create and post current Virtual Tours, and WomanKraft information on our website (womankraft.org).

Special thanks go out to our docents: Ingrid Aspromatis, MaryLou Griggs, Terri McGuire, Nicole Young, Barbara Kasper and Jacquie Dinnie. Besides doing their usual wonderful jobs keeping our Gallery open, they have been getting trained on the new smart phone and using Square to accept sales, donations, memberships and workshops. Thanks also to Jonathan DuHamel for his photographs and Castle Voice design, MaryLou Griggs for proofreading and editorial work, and Ingrid Aspromatis for entering it all in and working with Jonathan, me, MaryLou and our printer, Allegra.

Thank you, Jasper, for continuing to keep our Castle clean, Caroline Latron for maintaining our scrapbooks, and Barbara Achord and MaryLou Griggs for their time and labor on membership services.

I must admit loving it when I get to share our successes and continued growth with you, our readers. I get to live with the sense of these moments practically every day. WomanKraft is a lot of work, all done by so many of us, but it has always been worth it. It is why I have spent so much of my life in joyfulness. It is why I am sorry to see my workday end and am eager to go back to it. I wish that everyone could take the steps in their lives that would let them know the joys of being a part of something bigger than themselves. This part seldom involves money or power. The actress, Sarah Bernhardt, in the early 20th Century said, "It is by spending myself that I become rich."

I have been with WomanKraft for about 45 years of her 50. Many of those years involved a lot of unpaid hours. It did, however, pay me with free mentors and lessons in the business of, as well as, the act of making art. These given hours had little cash return, but eventually brought to fruition our Gallery, the School of the Arts, affordable artist studios, a

NEWS & COMMENTS

performance space and the ownership of our beautiful Castle. I have spent much of myself, willingly, and am so very, very rich, even though it seldom involved money or power. Thank you, everyone, for your generosity, named or anonymous. We are here because of all of us, but please know, we hold each individual in love and gratitude... Gayle Swanbeck

ANNUAL RUMMAGE FAIR

January 12, 13, 19 and 20, 2024 are the dates for our next rummage fair. Two consecutive Fridays and Saturdays, 10am-4pm. We're accepting donations of all clean and working items. Deliveries to Womankraft can be made year round Thursday-Saturday 1-5pm. Please use cardboard boxes that can close so we can stack your donations and use our space to its best advantage. Call 520-256-7455 for any questions. Thank you in advance for helping us create this very popular event and making it a success. We also need workers for set up, working the fair itself, and delivery of unsold goods to other Tucson organizations that can also benefit from your generosity. See you there.

ANNUAL BOARD MEETING

Saturday, January 6th, 10am-Noon, 2024 is the time for our annual board meeting. This year we will be voting on Darlene Kirk replacing Ingrid Aspromatis as our Vice President. If you cannot attend, a mailed in vote (yes or no) will be counted at the meeting. Thank you Ingrid for your years of service. Ingrid will continue as our Friday docent, help with the installations of our exhibits, the Castle Voice and the rummage fair.

DRAWING DOWN THE MUSE EXHIBIT

This year's 34th Annual Drawing Down The Muse Exhibit, Apr 6-May 25, 2024 will be offering three major highlights. Firstly, a memorial retrospective of the works of Linda Wallace (1951-2023), exhibiting a sampling of her fine arts. Works will be offered for sale with proceeds going to Humane Society of S. Arizona and Womankraft. We wish to thank Eric Hew, Linda's husband of 35 yrs, for working with us to bring this opportunity to see her work again and honor her many talents.

Next, Allison Hugher has donated a beautiful silk screened lotus pattern wall piece by Susan V. Chambers, one of Womankraft's (1974) founding mothers.

Finally, I'll let Nancy Skreko-Martin, the creator of the next piece offered, give you the details in her own words.

ART DONATION FOR DRAWING DOWN THE MUSE

As a founding mother of Womankraft, I am delighted to be able to donate NINE BLOCK EMERGENCE SPIRAL PLUS 6 for inclusion in the 2024 Muse show. It is an excellent opportunity for lovers of women's art to obtain the last available piece of my FACES series and to support probably the last surviving Woman's gallery in the USA. For further information about me, my work, and the FACES series please visit my website: artfactswest.com N. Skreko Martin



WomanKraft
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Photo by Jonathan DuHamel

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