

SUMMER 2021

serving the KIA, our members and the community since 1955



**Welcome Summer!** To "stay green" and stay with-in our limited budget, we're once again sending a digital newsletter to share updates, events and our future going forward into 2022. You may print your copy of *FOCUS* by going to our website [KalamazooArtLeague.org](http://KalamazooArtLeague.org) and clicking on the link under "Newsletter." There will also be a limited number of printed copies at the KIA reception desk.

## Moving Forward!

Because of your support the past year, we were able to maintain our quality lecture series without missing a beat. THANK YOU! While we couldn't meet in person, we were able to bring you interesting and informative speakers from all over the country. The response to our virtual lectures far exceeded our expectations with more than 75 people tuning in each month. If you were unable to enjoy any of our lectures, you can find them under **Programs/Lecture Series** on our website [KalamazooArtLeague.org](http://KalamazooArtLeague.org)

Through the end of 2021, as per the KIA's safety protocols, we will continue with our Zoom lectures for October, November and December. Beginning in February we anticipate beginning our traditional in-person lectures/receptions in the the auditorium at the KIA. Keep your fingers crossed!

The various Art League committees were busy all year, and have exciting news to share!

## Gift Memberships Fund

Do you know someone who enjoys art, learning and good company, but are hesitant to make the financial committment by joining both the KIA **and** Art League? We can help!

A couple of long-term Art League members have established a Fund to provide up to 30 joint Kalamazoo Institute of Arts and Kalamazoo Art League memberships for the

2021-22 upcoming season, beginning July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. The fund's objective is to introduce new members to the KIA and Art League or bring back those whose memberships have lapsed. This Donor Restricted Fund is called **Kalamazoo Institute of Arts + Kalamazoo Art League—Sharing Our Love of Art Gift Memberships Fund.**



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If you know of someone who would enjoy becoming a member of the KIA and Kalamazoo Art League, please let us know! And if that person is you, let us know too, by completing and submitting the form found at the back of this newsletter or on our website [KalamazooArtLeague.org](http://KalamazooArtLeague.org).

The goal of the Memberships Fund is to expand access to the KIA and Art League, and bring inspiration, appreciation and joy to more people.

Applications will be reviewed confidentially by the Donor Committee and recipients will be notified by a member of the committee. ■

## A Message From Our President

### Karen Matson



Dear Art League Supporters,

*It looks like we're finally seeing the light at the end of the long epidemic tunnel. I hope each of you were able to maintain some sense of normalcy and are happily enjoying summer in good health with family and friends.*

*The pandemic didn't stop the KIA or Art League from moving forward, developing alternative ways to keep our members safe without compromising the quality experiences you've been used to. I really can't thank all of you enough for your continued support with your participation in our lectures and your generous donations during our "membership dues suspension." We initially faced our situation with great apprehension, but we soon realized, because of YOU, we were going to make it. The Board of Directors kept their nose to the grindstone developing new opportunities, organizing the 2021-22 Lecture Series, and even optimistically planning depARTure adventures for next spring and summer. Thank you Team Art League!*

*We still have lots of work to do and we hope you will continue checking our website for updates, schedules, fun facts and virtual experiences! [KalamazooArtLeague.org](http://KalamazooArtLeague.org). We hope to return to our quarterly newsletter in the fall, but still with uncertainty on our shoulders, we encourage you to make the site your GO TO source for everything Art League. And speaking of websites, be SURE to check out the KIA's new site—very user friendly, loaded with information and opportunities, and visually pleasing overall. [KIArts.org](http://KIArts.org).*

*I hope to see you all at our first virtual lecture on October 13 via ZOOM, and even better, face-to-face after the first of the year! Take care and be well...*



## Our Philosophy

**We demonstrate appreciation for our special relationship with the KIA by providing support for their mission and enhance its reputation as well as our own.**

**We actively seek to create an environment that is welcoming and comfortable to all individuals seeking enrichment through study and appreciation of the visual arts and we strive to include participation from diverse segments of our Southwest Michigan community.**

**We laugh and remember to enjoy our work and be thankful for the outstanding art that surrounds us.**

# KALAMAZOO INSTITUTE OF ARTS

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## MUSEUM HOURS

Wednesday-Saturday: 11 am to 5 pm

Sunday: 12 pm to 4 pm

Monday-Tuesday: CLOSED

## GALLERY SHOP HOURS

Tuesday-Saturday: 11 am to 5 pm

Sunday: 12 pm to 4 pm

Monday: CLOSED

The KIA recommends all visitors pre-book their gallery visit on our website at [kiarts.org/connect-visit/plan-your-visit](https://kiarts.org/connect-visit/plan-your-visit). Walk-ins are welcome but we cannot guarantee availability.

Don't forget the Kirk Newman Art School's fall classes will be starting in September! You can register online at [kiarts.org/educate-learn/kirk-newman-art-school](https://kiarts.org/educate-learn/kirk-newman-art-school). There also is a full agenda of upcoming ArtBreaks and Book Discussions ready for you to enjoy through the rest of 2021. We encourage visiting [KIAarts.org](https://KIAarts.org) for the most up-to-date information.

## EXHIBITION HIGHLIGHTS

### *Unveiling American Genius*

MARCH 1, 2021-DECEMBER 31, 2022

This reimagining of the KIA permanent collection illuminates the ingenuity and innovation that arises from all corners of American society.

### *West Michigan Area Show*

JUNE 4 - SEPTEMBER 1, 2021

Enjoy the talent and creativity of our area's artists.

### *Yun-Fei Ji: Tall Tales of a Scavenger*

JUNE 12, 2021-SEPTEMBER 5, 2021

By reimagining Chinese ink painting techniques that date back to over one thousand years, Yunfei Ji creates satirical works that explore the intersections of history, current events, traditional Chinese culture, and contemporary global culture.

## A Message From The KIA Executive Director



### **Belinda Tate**

*Greetings Art League members,*

*I am thrilled to welcome you back to the KIA this summer and fall as we increase our open hours in the galleries and expand our onsite class offerings in the Kirk Newman Art School.*

*Our staff team is busily planning for the return of onsite programming this fall, including ARTbreaks, Art Detectives, book discussions, docent-led tours, and Thursday evening lectures by artists, curators, and creative change-makers. Check our newly redesigned website ([www.kiarts.org](http://www.kiarts.org)) for the most up-to-date information and ticketing.*

*I look forward to everything that we can achieve together for our shared community. Certainly many things have changed in the last year, but I hope you will find that many things have also remained the same: here at the KIA, we are still committed to a vision of the arts for everyone. And, your support allows us to achieve more of that vision every day. Thank you for all that you do to contribute to our shared success.*

*In gratitude,*

**Belinda Tate**

# Thank you donors!

July 1, 2020 through July 1, 2021

Because of your generous donations, the Art League has been able to continue offering quality lectures through this past year. With this year's waiver of our membership dues, we tightened our belts responsibly without sacrificing quality lectures and supporting online events at [KalamazooArtLeague.org](http://KalamazooArtLeague.org).

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| Janae Aasen               | Peggy Napier                            |
| David and Barbara Brose   | Lora Painter                            |
| Janice Brown              | Priscilla Pedraza                       |
| Linda Compton             | Paul Rahn                               |
| Jim Cupper                | Dianna Rajchel                          |
| Diane and Randy Eberts    | Joseph and Helene Reish                 |
| Susan Eckhardt*           | Lois Richmond                           |
| Judith Farmer             | Louise Robeck                           |
| Mikael Getachew           | Stephanie Robinson                      |
| Linda Ginsberg            | Jim Rojas                               |
| Christina Griffin*        | Ruth Rowe                               |
| Veronica and Bassam Harik | Linda Rzoska                            |
| Linda and Joe Kanamueller | Elaine Seaman                           |
| Sue Kovats                | Jane Schley                             |
| Nelly Kurzmann            | Roy Secor                               |
| Donna Lambert             | Paula Shelhamer                         |
| Marilyn Lee               | Jill Shires                             |
| Sandy Linabury            | Katheryn Steadman                       |
| Sue Lyons                 | Nancy Troff                             |
| Betty Upjohn Mason        | Mary Tyler                              |
| Karen Matson              | Anne VanGiessen                         |
| Mary McCormick            | Pat Viard                               |
| Becki Moffett-Moore       | Joann Yochim*                           |
| Kym Mulhern               | <i>• In memory of Roberta Alexander</i> |

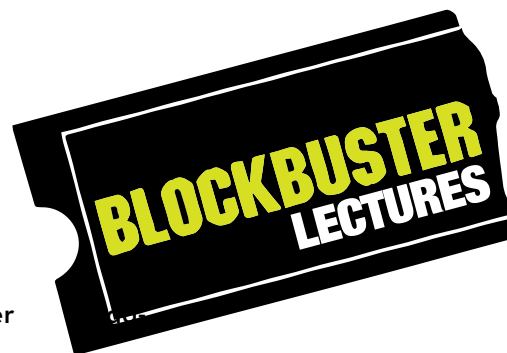
## Reflecting and Remembering Those Lost

This past year has been a difficult one. The pandemic has often separated us through times of loss. If you would like to acknowledge a passing with our Art League community in a future issue of *FOCUS*. Please email details to us at [ArtLeagueKalamazoo@gmail.com](mailto:ArtLeagueKalamazoo@gmail.com).

## Exciting New Initiative!

### *The Kalamazoo Art League Legacy Fund*

A Legacy Fund was established to honor two long-term Board and Art League members who have given meaningful years of service to our organization—Barbara Brose and Nancy Troff. The purpose is to augment the lecture series so we can provide "blockbuster" lectures, such as Robert Wittman's *PRICELESS! True Tales from the FBI's Real Indiana Jones* in 2019. This year, we are honoring Barbara Brose and Nancy Troff, who have stepped aside from their committee work to pursue other ventures. Thank you for your years of service! ■



## 2021-2022

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Given the uncertainty of the past tumultuous year, the Board of Directors agreed to extend their terms through the 2021-22 season. As you know, a digital vote was taken via email in May by all current KAL members, and the slate was unanimously elected. We are very excited to welcome three new members to our Board of Directors—Jim Cupper, Mary McCormick and Effie Kokkinos. They all bring a wealth of expertise and talents which will help us move forward with our mission to support the KIA and provide the community and our members memorable and enlightening lectures and events.

If you would like to join any of our committees, we welcome your involvement! Please let us know via email [ArtLeagueKalamazoo@gmail.com](mailto:ArtLeagueKalamazoo@gmail.com) how you would like to participate.

We will meet you all face-to-face in January, but until then, we hope to "see" you at our virtual lectures beginning in October.

**Karen Matson** President

**Sue Kovats** Vice President

**Diane Eberts** Past President

**Judith Farmer** Secretary

**Kym Mulhern** Co-Treasurer

**Doreen Thomas** Co-Treasurer

**Laura Cathcart** Hospitality

**Jim Cupper** New Board Member

**Cat Crotchett** Programs

**Diane Eberts** Programs + depARTures

**Susan Eckhardt** Communications

**Veronica Harik** Membership

**Nancy Kern** Communications

**Effie Kokkinos** New Board Member

**Sue Kovats** Membership

**Karen Matson** Communications

**Mary McCormick** New Board Member

**Kym Mulhern** Membership

**Sally Pritko** Engagement

**Stephanie Robinson** Programs + Parliamentarian

**Julie Taborn** Communications

**Doreen Thomas** Historian

**Maya Mokrzam** KIA Liaison



## 2021–2022 Lecture Series

Join us for our exciting 2021 - 2022 Speaker Lineup

**October 13, 2021** | 10 a.m. (Zoom)

**NIR SHAFIR—*Forging Islamic Science***

*“As fakes and fictions enter our digital bloodstream, they start to replace the original images, and transform our baseline notions of what actually was the science of the past.” Dr. Shafir reveals the many ways forged Islamic science undermines our ability to understand the past and how it influences us today.*

**November 10, 2021** | 10 a.m. (Zoom)

**BROOKS ANDERSON—*Contemporary Luminism: Realism in the Modern Context***

*A landscape painter known for his gifted handling of composition, detail and clarity of light, Anderson will discuss his artistic development and the experience of translating atmosphere and natural phenomena into artistic expression.*

**December 8, 2021** | 10 a.m. (Zoom)

**JILL HOY—*The Work of Jon Imber***

*Jon Imber (1950–2014) was an American artist who experimented with different influences, styles and subject matter all his life, from figurative painting to landscapes to abstraction. Jill Hoy, his wife, will introduce us to Jon’s passion for art making and its ability to create transformative experiences—his lasting legacy.*

**March 9, 2022** | 10 a.m. KIA Auditorium

**RENI GOWER—*Artist as Curator: Taking Your Show on the Road***

*Known for her curation of thought-provoking traveling exhibitions, Gower will take us behind the scenes and show us how she brings exhibitions to life.*

**April 13, 2022** | 10 a.m. KIA Auditorium

**KELLY CHURCH—*Black Ash Basketry***

*Kelly Church’s nationally recognized role as an Ottawa & Pottawatomi Culture Bearer involves much more than her exquisite artistry. Her work as a black ash basket maker connects ancient tradition with “issues that affect us all...especially those who come after us if we do not act today.”*

**May 11, 2022** | 7 p.m. KIA Auditorium

**ROBERT BRUEGMANN—*Art Deco Architecture***

*A historian of architecture, landscape, preservation, urban development and the built environment, Dr. Bruegmann will discuss general and regional Art Deco architectural characteristics. A Chicago depARTure focusing on this style will follow in June to continue our Art Deco experience.*

## ZOOM LECTURES—October, November, December, 2021

To participate in these virtual lectures, members must RSVP via email to [artleaguekalamazoo@gmail.com](mailto:artleaguekalamazoo@gmail.com). You'll receive a ZOOM invitation link from Diane Eberts prior to each lecture.

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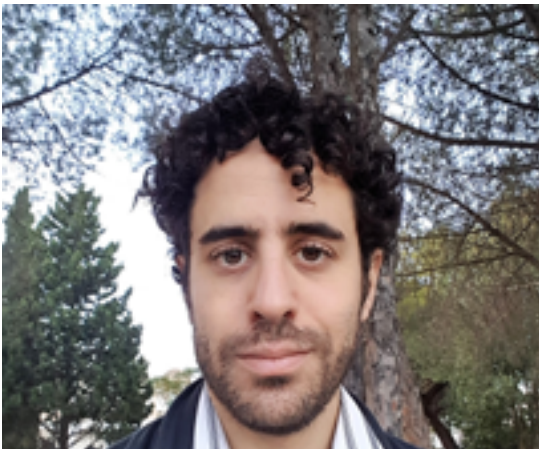
Wednesday

**OCTOBER 13, 2021**

10:00 am • ZOOM/Virtual Lecture

### NIR SHAFIR

Assistant Professor, Department of History  
University of California, San Diego



#### ***Forging Islamic Science***

Theft! Murder mysteries! Stolen works of art. These themes are already familiar to Art League audiences of past years. Looking into Professor Shafir's studies of forged Islamic paintings inspired us to continue the Art League's (harmless) crime spree. An expert on the history of how material culture has shaped the intellectual, scientific, and religious life of the Ottoman Empire (1200-1850) and the larger Middle East, Dr. Shafir has discovered forged art in respected museums as

well as in the Grand Bazaar. In addition to greed, Dr. Shafir reveals other nefarious motives for creating and exhibiting them. It's a large story with complex moral implications.

Dr. Shafir conducts his research in nine languages. In addition to his studies at Harvard (A.M.), University of California (Ph.D.) he has studied at the American University in Cairo, Hebrew University in Jerusalem, universities in Turkey and Manchester University in England. His Ottoman History Podcast [ottomanhistorypodcast.com](http://ottomanhistorypodcast.com) is the most popular podcast/radio program on the history of the Middle East and the Islamic World. He interviews academics about their new research and helps them present their findings to a popular audience. ■

Wednesday  
**NOVEMBER 10, 2021**  
10:00 am • ZOOM/Virtual Lecture

**BROOKS ANDERSON**  
*Landscape Painter*

## ***Contemporary Luminism: Realism in the Modern Context***

A landscape painter known for his gifted handling of composition, detail and clarity of light, Anderson will discuss his artistic development and the experience of translating atmosphere and natural phenomena into artistic expression.

His charged landscapes of sweeping perspectives are an exploration into the power of contemporary landscape painting. A painter of great skill, he allows the brush and the application of paint to speak for the emotions we feel when interacting with nature. His work is incredibly moving. Anderson is currently represented by the Addington Gallery in Chicago, and Cooper and Smith in Essex, Connecticut, and his paintings



reside in numerous corporate, private and museum collections. His landscapes were featured in the seminal book, *Spirit of Place: Contemporary American Realism in the Landscape Tradition* by John Arthur. His work was purchased by the Philbrook Museum in Tulsa and included in the museum's multi-city exhibition—"Green Woods and Crystal Waters: The American Landscape Tradition." This year the Art Museum of Sonoma County is exhibiting his work in a comprehensive retrospective: "LANDSCAPE: Awe to Activism."

It is in his new series of large-scale, spiritually evocative paintings that his vision opens up and aspires to majesty. Here he portrays the landscape in a contemporary context—pristine, modern meditations on land, sea, and sky, as if there is a divine structure beneath the surface. There is a riveting, imminent, and haunting quality to these numinous paintings of the natural world. Brooks Anderson, who lives in northern California, relishes the act of painting, responding to what is happening on the surface of the work. He builds up layers of vibrant, transparent color, while simultaneously harnessing an energy in the composition. Anderson dives beneath the surface appearance of his subject matter to discover something irresistibly profound. ■



## IT'S ALWAYS A GREAT TIME TO JOIN ART LEAGUE!

- Free admission to all Art League lectures
- Member discount rate on all Art League depARTures
- Special invitations to private events
- Subscription to *FOCUS* newsletter
- Members-only Docent tours
- Continued support of Art League

ART LEAGUE is a motivated and dedicated volunteer organization founded to organize an annual lecture series at the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts. Since 1955, lecturers have been selected from across the US representing the forefront of experts who create, curate, study or write about art. Art League programs promote understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of the visual arts for its members, the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts and our community. ■

*Invite your friends to join!*

Enjoying the Art League has never been easier! Just print the membership form at the end of this newsletter, fill in the information and send a check to our NEW mailing address:

**Kalamazoo Art League**  
**PO Box 2223**  
**Portage, MI 49081**

*yummy!*

*from the kitchen of Laura Cathcart,  
Art League's Chef Extraordinaire!*

If you swooned over Laura's truffles at one of our lecture receptions, you will definitely want to take the time to make these!

### Cappuccino Truffles

12 ounces white chocolate  
1/2 cup heavy cream  
1 teaspoon instant coffee (I use espresso powder)  
1 pinch salt  
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract  
4 tablespoons butter—at room temperature  
12 ounces dark chocolate melting wafers or candy coating

1. Melt white chocolate either in a double boiler on the stove or in the microwave at 30 second intervals.
2. Combine the heavy cream, instant coffee, salt and vanilla extract in a small saucepan over medium high heat. Bring to a simmer but do not allow to boil.
3. Once it is simmering pour the hot cream over the melted white chocolate and whisk to combine.
4. Once the cream and chocolate are completely combined and smooth, add the butter and whisk in.
5. Press a layer of cling wrap on top of the white chocolate mixture and let it sit at room temp until cool, then refrigerate until firm enough to roll into 1-inch balls.
6. Melt the dipping chocolate or candy coating. Using a dipping tool or folk, dip the truffles into coating, then put them on parchment paper to cool and set.



# Annual Membership Registration

*Annual memberships are valid from July 1–June 30*

**Make checks payable to Kalamazoo Art League**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Method: cash \_\_\_\_\_ check \_\_\_\_\_

- Art League dues are \$40/person and you must be (or become) a member of the KIA
- Please confirm that you are a member of the KIA here: \_\_\_\_\_
- May we use your information in an Art League directory? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ New Member \_\_\_\_\_ Renewing Member \_\_\_\_\_ Rejoining Former Member
- \_\_\_\_\_ Please contact me to discuss how I may participate on committees

## Membership Benefits

- Free admission to Art League's dynamic lecture series—showcasing highly regarded artists, curators and other scholarly speakers from all over North America
- Invitations to members-only events
- Advance notice and discounts for depARTures day trips and overnights
- Discounted KIA Docent Tours
- Fun and friendly networking and socializing with members, artists, experts, and an enthusiastic community that appreciates and supports the visual arts
- *FOCUS* newsletter and emails

Send your payment and this form to:

**Art League Membership  
PO Box 2223  
Portage, MI 49081**

**Serving the KIA, our members and the community since 1955**



**Sharing Our Love of Art  
Gift Memberships Fund**

**KIA + KAL**

*COVID-19 has somehow made every life obviously more precious—  
and the power of art more precious, too.*

**Annual Dues: \$55 for KIA + \$40 for Art League**

**A group of long-time Art League members want to help engage new members to the Kalamazoo Institute of Art and Kalamazoo Art League** or bring back those whose membership has lapsed over time. We've created a **Sharing Our Love of Art—Gift Memberships Fund**. If you know of someone who would enjoy becoming a member of the KIA and Art League, please let us know! And if that person is you, let us know too, by completing and submitting the form below. So far, generous donors have provided the means for us to enroll at least 30 funded members this year through June 30, 2022. All memberships will be equal, and information about who receives a funded membership will be confidential.

***Complete the form below and mail by August 10, 2021***

**Confidential, 2550 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49009**

***Individual recommended for Gift Membership***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State and Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I am applying for myself \_\_\_\_\_ I am applying for someone else \_\_\_\_\_

*If you are recommending someone else for the Gift Membership, you have the option to provide your name and contact info to share with the Selection Committee only. Nominators will remain anonymous to the recipients unless you choose to personally share this info with them.*

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact info: \_\_\_\_\_

On the back of this form, please tell us more about the person you are recommending and why you believe this person would enjoy and appreciate a gift membership.

**For more information please visit our website: [KalamazooArtLeague.org](http://KalamazooArtLeague.org)**

*Kalamazoo Art League, serving the KIA, our members and the community since 1955*