

Visual Artists of Cedar Hill

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Editor: Marca Sue DeLacerda

marcasue@marcasue.com or artmagic1952@yahoo.com

www.thevach.org

The President Speaks

Dear Members,

Our 2nd Annual Judged Show, the **Cedar Hill Regional Art Exhibit**, is almost here! I hope everyone got his or her entry forms submitted on time. There will be many prizes and \$\$ awarded.

Instead of our regular meeting on Thursday, April 16, we are asking all members to meet from 7:00pm to 9:00pm that evening at the Recreation Center to help us hang the art for the show. Everyone in attendance will have a chance to win a great Door Prize, so come on out and help set up the show. There will be no Mini-Show or Monthly Project for April, and no refreshments will be served.

See you on April 16 for a great evening of art and artists sharing.

Happy creating,
Barbara Bailey
President, VACH

APRIL MEETING OF VISUAL ARTISTS OF CEDAR HILL: In lieu of a regular meeting on Thursday evening, April 16, we are encouraging all members to meet from 7:00pm to 9:00pm at the Recreation Center to help us hang the art for the Cedar Hill Regional Art Exhibit.

WHEN: Thursday, April 16, 2009, 7:00 – 9:00 pm

WHERE: Cedar Hill Recreation Center, 310 E. Parkerville Rd., Cedar Hill, TX

NO DEMO ARTIST FOR THE APRIL MEETING

VACH is open to all artists and anyone interested in learning more about the visual arts. For additional information, contact Barbara Bailey at barbara@thevach.org

MEETING DATES:

Thursday, April 16, 2009 at the **CEDAR HILL RECREATION CENTER**

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Unless noted otherwise all meetings are 7 P.M. at Zula B. Wylie Library, 225 Cedar St., Cedar Hill

What Happened Last Month

WINNERS OF THE March MINI-SHOW

1st Place – VET

2nd Place – Marca Sue DeLacerda

3rd Place – Elisabeth Schlij

DOOR PRIZE Winner: Carol Cull

Participants in the March project “Irish Blessing – A Wish for a Friend”:

Carol Cull

Marca Sue DeLacerda

VET

Following is an editorial by Marca Sue DeLacerda. These are her opinions and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the other board members of The Visual Artists of Cedar Hill.

THE FUTURE OF VISUAL ARTISTS OF CEDAR HILL

Editorial

ARTICLE III. – OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Association are as follows:

- a. To promote and enhance appreciation of the visual arts in Cedar Hill and the surrounding communities.
- b. To provide opportunities for visual artists to meet, encourage, inspire, motivate and challenge each other, and share ideas, resources, and interests.
- c. To provide opportunities for artists to learn more about various methods and materials used in creating works of visual art.
- d. To support exhibits and shows of member’s artwork in the community.

The preceding is a section of The Visual Artist of Cedar Hill bylaws. It is the reason for the organization’s existence. Have we failed? No one seems interested in truly promoting the organization and thus the arts. That is clear from the lack of attendance of meetings, the lack of anyone willing to step up and take any of the offices necessary to keep the organization alive. There is a vast community of artists in the Best Southwest area and they either are not aware of the organization or perceive we have had

nothing new to offer. Perhaps it is time to step back, regroup, and find a different approach to promoting the arts. I am reading a book written by Makoto Fujimura. He is a current member of the National Council for the Arts and accomplished artist. In this collection of essays and speeches he presents some very thought provoking questions and theories. Here is a quote from his essay “Why Art?”

‘But I do on occasion go back to that question, “why art?” because it was a question I addressed to myself in a diary for a creative writing class in college many years ago. My professor wrote back in his comments, “Your questions are valuable, and I encourage you to push that question further, as many of the writers and artists have done in the past: Why live? Perhaps that’s why we need the arts. By continuing to create and imagine a better world, we live. We have no alternative today. The path of apathy, the path of cynicism, and the path of the terrorist have incarnated their realities in our backyards. To have hope is no longer an optimist’s escapism—it is the only path to the future.”

Tolstoy is quoted to have said “Art is not a pleasure, a solace, or an amusement; art is great matter. Art is an organ of human life, transmitting man’s reasonable perception into feeling.”

Have we done all we can to promote the visual arts? Have we reached out to the other arts to collaborate in programs for the public? Have we truly worked to better the lives in our community? We use the name of one of the Best Southwest Cities in our organization’s name, but have we truly reached out to that community or the surrounding communities to offer fresh, new, inviting content? The Duncanville Library exhibits and our April art exhibit and sale are fine starts, but as creative persons, we could do so much more. I count myself in the number of slackers in actual work, but it does not mean I am not constantly thinking of ideas. I do admit I need help and resources in implementing these ideas. That is the whole point of coming together to share a common thread, is it not? So folks, the final question is does Visual Artists of Cedar Hill live on to grow and accomplish the objectives set forth three years ago? Are we just about winning a gift certificate for art supplies?

The answer to that question will be given by your attendance at the May meeting. If it is impossible for you to attend the May meeting, please express your ideas and opinions to me at artmagic1952@yahoo.com, or Barbara Bailey at barbara@thevach.org.