

## Two Rivers Art Gallery Celebrates its 13th Year!

The Wenatchee Valley has creative talent that is exhibited daily at an out-of-the-way art gallery at the bottom of 1st Street.

Two Rivers Gallery is an artist-run gallery of over 100 members. Opening 13 years ago with the help of grants & the talent of its first board members, the gallery has become a place for artists to exhibit their work and the community to have an art experience and learn from the many activities the gallery provides.

### Survival in Hard Times

Our business model suggests that the gallery could go on in perpetuity. How can a business operate during its first 4 years of a recession and be financially stable and the last two years of a pandemic? The secret is that our community supports the arts. Gallery membership has over 30 local businesses who are supporting members at \$125 annual membership or are like-kind members. Other members have pay \$50 a year plus \$10 per month to exhibit their work. The gallery has a commission of 30% on sales. Members participate to make the gallery a success.

### Two Rivers Gallery is Wenatchee's Art Gallery

Enterprising board members, most whom have business experience and all who have a passion for art, make the cooperative a success. The talent of our local artists & their ability to keep exciting exhibits fuels interest in the visual arts. Two Rivers Gallery is Wenatchee's art gallery established in the historic downtown and is the only artist run gallery in North Central Washington.

### First Friday at Two Rivers Gallery

On the First Friday of each month a new show is presented, a featured artist is introduced and local musicians help provide the atmosphere. Complimentary refreshments were



provided by the members before the pandemic. During the 3 hour reception crowds of art lovers pulse through the gallery show rooms, meeting friends and having an art experience. Local art, local music, and local wines make good company.

### Partners with the Gallery

Before the pandemic: The gallery artists participate with community partners. The Wenatchee Symphony Orchestra invites the gallery to have a mini-exhibit at some of their concerts. The Performing Arts Center shows an artist's work on display. The Wenatchee Senior Activities Center exhibits a featured artist every 2 months. Sixteen gallery artists were invited to show their

paintings at the Cottage Inn Restaurant.

### Plein Air Paint Outs

The gallery participates in community values. Each year the gallery holds a contest that encourages artists to paint a subject on site. The 2015 Paint Out was at Ohme Gardens as a tribute to 75 years as one of America's great award winning gardens.

The 2014 contest focused on Castlerock, the latest prominent Wenatchee feature added to the city park system. Paintings were judged and winners were on exhibit through August. Other plain air contests included the 20th year of the Apple Capital Loop Trail and Saddle Rock

inclusion into the city park system. The gallery always focuses on subjects important to the community. In 2018 we had local artists choose a Wenatchee feature to paint. In 2019 it was the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the nationally acclaimed Ohme Gardens just outside of Wenatchee city limits. In 2020 'Paint A Bridge' was the local theme. In 2021 the Washington State Apple Blossom Festival returned and it provided fun activities to paint. This year, 2022 will focus on the local wine industry.

### Our Members

Most of our members are local artists, professional and emerging artists of all ages, all abilities and even from far off places like Southern California, Alaska, Russia, and all parts of Washington State. We have Ginger Reddington an encaustic artist from Twisp, Milo Mirabelli (passed in 2019) a local wood carver who showed in major galleries throughout the country, artist Jan Cook Mack & Robert Wilson, who's artworks were exhibited in New York & other major cities, Jerry Kinney, who studied in France and Russia. We have noted local cartoonist Dan McConnell who's cartoons are in the local Wenatchee World Newspaper and local Good Life Magazine, Readers Digest And Mad Magazine.

Celebrating his 97th year Ken Duffin, WWII veteran, watercolorist / oil painter & retired from Boeing, acclaimed for his work with designers and architects. Artists who have passed but not forgotten such as Bill Reese, who had his own art gallery in Wenatchee & became one of the Northwest's finest Western artists. Hollywood cartoonist Les Garcia who's non-objective abstract art splashed vibrant colors throughout the gallery. Walter Graham, one of the most prolific and well known artists came to Wenatchee from Chicago where he had made his fortune with the Sears catalog. Walter painted murals and established himself as the most sought after artist in North Central Washington. Bronze artist Larry Gay has shown his art throughout the West and is one of the few living artists to have his work accepted in the permanent collection at the C.M. Russel Museum in Great Falls Montana. Also Jerry Goroski, former director of the Russel Museum is a business promoter of Two Rivers Gallery.

Our second featured artist in 2009 was Frederick M. Johnson of Dryden,

WA. He saw a need for an artist gallery open to all in North Central Washington and provided the funding for two years of rent at the Exchange Building. It was revealed that Fred himself was an artist who studied art in Paris, France at the prestigious Academie Julien. Fred wanted a place for local artists to show their talents & share them with the public. Fred's paintings were featured at a First Friday reception. The exhibit continued for two months & sold over 16 original oil paintings. Fred gave the proceeds to the gallery for operating expenses. His generosity will not be forgotten.

New members continue to join and become part of Wenatchee's art gallery. Many of our members could be called emerging artists and are popular as their works are hanging in many homes here and around the country. Our youngest artist joined as a fifth grader and showed her artworks that were given first place awards in school contests. Membership is open to all ages and abilities.

### A Place to Learn

Two Rivers Gallery is an artist run art gallery and a place for local artists to show their talents. It is

also a place to take classes in art that are not available to learn elsewhere.

Our very first class was teaching preschoolers in oil painting (Ginger \_\_\_). Others were Photography in Alaska (Al Piecka), How to use your digital camera (Reed Carlson), Creating clay figures for children (Martha Flores), Private lessons in oils (by Jan Cook Mack) ongoing, Arts and crafts such as pine needle weaving and sip n paint (Kmbri Bond) ongoing, Pastel painting (Annie Jones), Pastel Painting taught in cities across America (Jen Evenhus), Drawing & cartooning (Dan McConnell), Sip and paint classes for Seniors in rest homes, Colonial Vista and Highline Senior Living (Russ Hepler), Sip and paint classes at local wineries (Barbara Bainard), Drawing the human face (David Luyben), How to paint in Plein Air (Rod Weagant), Family classes in acrylic painting (Marsha Thornton), Terry Johnson had an open invitation for all to learn how to work with clay at his studio.

As new members join the list of teachers continues to grow. About twenty artists join the gallery each year. Presently (3/5/2022) we have

*Make Creative Discoveries at the*

# Arts Festival

*Riverwalk Park - Downtown Chelan  
June 25th and 26th, 2022*

*Dozens of Talented Artist Exhibitors*

Unique

Inspired

Original

*Also Featuring:*

- Childrens' Activities
- Silent Art Auction
- Music
- Food

*The Lake Chelan Arts Festival is produced by the Lake Chelan Arts Council*

*For more information visit our website: [www.artinchelan.com](http://www.artinchelan.com)  
or contact us at: [artinchelan@gmail.com](mailto:artinchelan@gmail.com)*

*A Big Thank You to Our Sponsors:*





over 100 artist members.

The Wenatchee Watercolor Society meets monthly to develop art skills. They have an art show annually each April at the gallery.

Some of our artists have taught classes at Wenatchee Valley Community College. Cartoonist Dan McConnell has taught drawing and cartooning there and provides cartoons for local publications.

Two Rivers Gallery is a resource for the local Wenatchee Community College art students who are often given assignments to come study what they see.

Saint Joseph school has had students visitations where the children chose five favorite artworks and to choose one to write a fictitious story about. They then made the stories into a book giving one to the gallery.

Member and Wenatchee High School teacher Reed Carlson brought his photography students to present their photographs to share as the featured artists of the month.

The Gallery participated in a show by autistic youth and placed their work

on exhibit in the gallery two years in a row.

### RECOGNITION IN THE COMMUNITY

- Two Rivers Gallery has been voted 'Best Gallery in the World' by readers of the Wenatchee World Newspaper for several years.

- Our artists have earned awards: Each year an artist painting is chosen for the official poster of the Washington State Apple Blossom Festival. Walter Graham, Jan Cook Mack, William S. Reese, Brad Brisbane, Marti Lyttle, Kmbri Bond, Ken Duffin, Nicki Isaacson, Lynn Brown, Rod Weagant.

- Other contests some entered and won were Festival of Trees and or Best of Pybus, or Art in the Parks.

- Many of our member artists have been written up in local, State & National publications for their talent.

- Walter Graham received the Governors Award for Excellence in

art by Governor Gary Locke.

- The gallery sold an artwork to Governor Jay Inslee at a drop-in visit at a First Friday reception.

- Clay artist Terry Johnson sold several of his pots to actor and art collector Rainn Wilson when he last visited his father in Wenatchee.

- Autistic artist Randy Adams sold one of his acrylic paintings to a local doctor.

- Artist Ken Duffin was commissioned by Boeing Airplane Company to paint the first 747 in flight. His watercolor paintings have won awards across the country.

- Presently we are regaining a normal atmosphere with face masks no longer required and after a three month statewide shut down of all businesses across Washington due to a worldwide pandemic. We will hope that the gallery can come out of these difficult times as we did during the 2009+ recession.

Artfully yours, Jan Theriault

### Notes of Interest:

- The Wenatchee Watercolor Society are presently exhibiting work at the Confluence Health Radiology/Oncology department.

- Prospectus: The Prospectus for May/June is attached. NOTE: Intake will take place on Sunday and Monday, May 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.


- First Friday Report: Our April 1, First Friday was a quiet night with less attendance than usual. Sales amounted to \$322.00. Wine donations were \$60.00.

- Pandemic Mask Requirement: Few people chose to wear masks at the First Friday opening. After review of the number of cases and local hospitalizations for Covid, it was agreed to lift the mask requirement and make masking a personal choice of the guests and members.

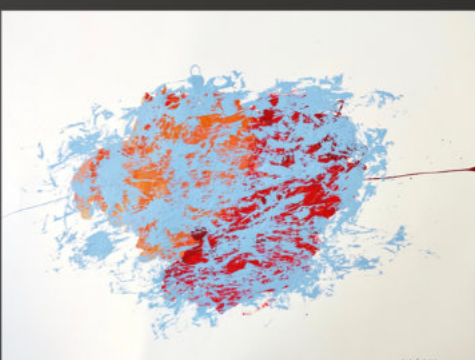
- Northwest Public Broadcasting has given us free advertising for the month of January.

- The gallery Board has a Zoom meeting on May 3 at 2:30 pm. with

Pybus Art Presents  
**ART ALLEY**  
HONORING ROBERT WILSON



Grand Opening Reception:  
First Friday, May 6th  
5:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
at Pybus Public Market



*Heart, oil on canvas*

**Wilson's original concepts are spiritual manifestos.  
His art has a solitary voice that is musical, poetic, and free.**

*Heart*

the Community Foundation Board to get to know us and discuss our grant request.

- Sheri Trepina Exhibit Coordinator, will be meeting with the Presentation Committee at 1pm May 2 to set the May/June show.



- Welcome to membership Christian Sanchez. Christian lives in the Yakima area and started his training as a docent on April 2.

- New Business Supporter: Craig Lawrence of the Computer Resource and Information Group is our newest corporate sponsor. Craig has worked on our gallery computers in the past and as a member he will give us 3 complimentary PC checkups per year, 2 hrs complimentary trouble shooting and repair and additional services at a 25% discount. We appreciate businesses who want to support the visual arts. Like Kind members are as important as those who pay an annual fee of \$125.

- The Bio Book is a place to learn about our members. When you have free time as a docent, thumb through the bios of our members and get to know who they are.

All members should have a write up in the book as we are sometimes asked for a copy of the bio by a guest who may have made a purchase.

- Sasha Syssoeva has been chosen to be this years artist to design the Washington State Apple Blossom poster. Congratulations to Sasha for her informative interview in the

April Foothills Magazine. Another great interview by Jaana Hatton with photos by Luke Hollister. The gallery has free copies available

- Art teachers: We have enough room for classes of up to 8 students. It might be safe to start up a small class as we have seen with Marsha Thornton's class.

We have members asking for classes. The doors could be kept open & fans on. You might even ask for masks to be worn.

**HELP!**

- If you work with or buy from a business or possible benefactor, invite them to join the gallery as a supporter of the local visual artists.

- We could use a librarian to store our books, replace those that have been purchased and sell our most expensive donated books on line.

- We could use a new audio system with a half dozen speakers that could be used to stream music throughout the gallery.

- We could use a replacement for our entry glass case. The last light made its final flicker.

In celebration of our 13th anniversary we have updated the recognition of those that help make our community art gallery important to North Central Washington.

The work is not complete as good things happen or will happen that will be included at the next writing.

May 6th thru May 27th at

# TWO RIVERS ART GALLERY

Featuring

## The mystical art of Phyllis Emmert



Phyllis is a northwest artists, illustrator and sculptor. She has been painting for most of her life. Since "retirement" you will find her almost every day in her studio. She is self taught, mostly by looking at the great artists whose work she admired and just plain trial and error on the way to her own path. She is captivated by light and shadow, texture and movement.



Emmert has shown in both solo and group shows in various galleries in Washington. She is in public and private collections nationally and private collections internationally.



### Solo Shows:

Woodside Braseth Gallery  
1983 | 1986 | 1987 | 1989 | 1992

### Group Shows:

Woodside Braseth Gallery-1988, 1989 Poncho, 1983  
Harvest of the Arts-1989 Critics Choice, Seattle Times-1989  
Amenities Gallery, LaConner WA-2002  
Art House Design, Olympia WA, Art Walk-2018  
Confluence Gallery: The Beholden Eye-2018, Birds and Bees, 2018  
Fangs of my Heart, 2019, Wit & Whimsy-2019  
Seattle Art Museum-2020



**First Friday ~ May 6, 2022 ~ 5-8 pm**

Music by harpist Suzanne Grassell • Local wines by Jones of Washington



**Gallery hours: Wednesday - Saturday 11-4 pm & Sunday 1-4 pm**

102 N. Columbia (bottom of 1st Street) • [2riversgallery.com](http://2riversgallery.com) • 509-888-9504

TWO RIVERS GALLERY  
May/June 2022  
ART EXHIBITION PROSPECTUS

Check our website - [www.2riversgallery.com](http://www.2riversgallery.com) for our latest show

Exhibit Entry Fee \$20.00  
Checks or Cash

- May 1, 2 **(Sunday & Monday)** Members Artworks Entry  
for our May/June shows **10:00am-2:00pm**
- May 6 Gallery opens for **First Friday** 5-8pm featuring:  
  
Whimsical painter PHYLLIS EMMERT  
Music by harpist Suzanne Grassell  
Wines by Jones of Washington
- May 29 **MID-ENTRY** for new members & members who  
were unable to exhibit in May.  
(Call Russ Hepler for an appointment 509-470-5944)
- June 3 **FIRST FRIDAY** 5-8pm featuring:  
  
Watercolorist REBECCA BASSETT  
Music by Patric Thompson on Base &  
Glenn Isaacson on piano  
Wines by White Heron Cellars
- June 26,27 **(Sunday & Monday)** Members Artworks Entry  
for our June/July shows **10:00am-2:00pm**

