THE CRAFTY ARTIST

Newsletter of the

Ballina Arts & Crafts Centre Inc.

NOVEMBER 2026

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Although the month of September gave us a taste of the coming Spring, the month of October has been rather wet and humid.

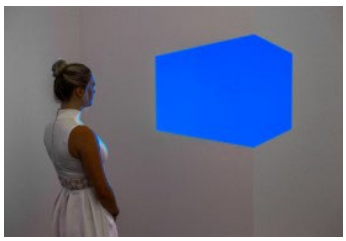
The Grace Cruice BACCI Exhibition that displayed some stunning art works at the NRCG over two months has now finished. Seven art works were sold, a great outcome for some of our members. In November, our group will be holding an exhibition at the Masonic Hall in Ballina, and I suppose you are all in the process of creating and adding finishing touches to your works. I hope that this summer exhibition will be as successful and I look forward to seeing it all.

Recently I travelled to Grafton, the town was riot of colours with the jacaranda and the silky oak trees. A lovely springtime display!

I also saw an exhibition at the Grafton Regional Art Gallery. I liked both works of art that are on long term loan from the National Gallery of Australia with support from the Australian Government as part of Sharing the National Collection.

Launched in 2023, Sharing the National Collection supports the National Gallery to work with regional and suburban cultural institutions across Australia to share works of art from the national collection on long-term loan.

Turrell's Shanta II (blue) 1970



Considered the "master of light", James Turrell is known for installations combining natural light and artificial colour to transform exhibition spaces. I really appreciate his quote: "You don't get to tell people how they should see something. It is only something you demonstrate".

Anish Kapoor's Hollow, 2012



Sculptor Anish Kapoor's conceptual work pushes the boundaries of the medium and is known to challenge audiences.

Wishing you all a wonderful end of year. Enjoy the summer season and see you all in the new year.

Have a great month.
Françoise

I look forward to seeing you at our group's end-of-year celebration on Tuesday, 1 December at Geoff's place in Ballina starting at 5.30 pm.

REMINDER please RSVP by email to Geoff (Geoffrey.maclean@gmail.com) as soon as you can to help with numbers of people attending. The invitation has all the details**;** a copy of invitation is at the end of this newsletter.

WHAT'S COMING UP?

Last monthly meeting for 2026:

Date:	Tuesday, 3 November 2026
Time:	5.00pm for 5.30pm start
Show & Tell:	Robin McGuiness
Location:	Boardroom Cherry Street Sports Club Cnr Cherry & Bentinck Streets Ballina

LENNOX NEWS

Why Every Artist Should Consider a Newsletter !

When I was thinking about what to write this month I was reminded of the importance of newsletters. Some of our members already send a monthly newsletter to their followers, and it is something worth considering if you are working to develop and sell your art.

An artist newsletter is one of the most valuable tools you can use because it gives you direct access to your followers without relying on social media algorithms.

Why does an artist newsletter matter?

- ***Greater reach:*** Social media platforms may show your posts to only a small proportion of your followers unless you pay for advertising. An email newsletter is delivered directly to your followers' inboxes.
- ***Independence and security:*** Algorithms change, accounts can be restricted and platforms may disappear. Your email list gives you an audience that you control. I lost access to my Facebook and Instagram pages for several months, which made me realise how vulnerable it can be to rely on social media as your main sales and communication tool.
- ***Stronger sales and support:*** Email allows you to build meaningful relationships with collectors, share your work directly and encourage ongoing support.

What do followers want from your newsletter?

Your newsletter should offer more than a sales pitch. Followers want to feel connected to your creative process and understand the stories behind your work. Consider sharing:

- ***Works in progress:*** Include photographs and updates from your studio.
- ***Stories and inspiration:*** Explain the ideas, experiences, and inspiration behind a particular piece.
- ***Exclusive benefits:*** Offer early access to new collections, private sales, or special discounts.

A consistent, genuine newsletter can help you stay connected with your audience, strengthen collector relationships and create new opportunities to share and sell your art.

Wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday season.
Lesley Ryan



Fiona Katauskas has used her art to make statements about AI. *(Supplied: Fiona Katauskas)*

CREATIVE ARTISANS GALLERY NEWS

Shop 1 & 8, Wigmore Arcade
River Street, Ballina

Opening hours are:

- Monday to Friday: 9.30am to 3.30pm
- Saturday: 9.30 am to 12 noon
- Closed: Sundays and Public Holidays

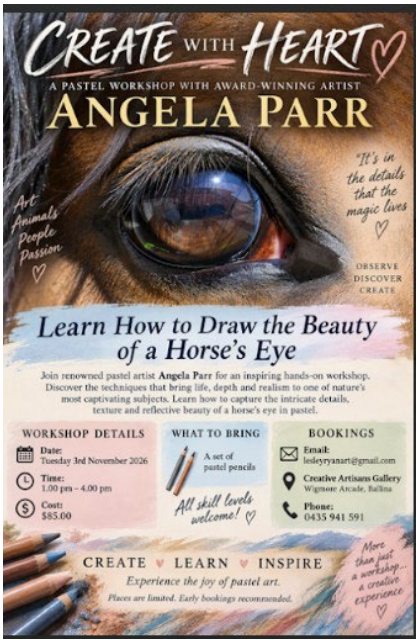
For enquiries and to keep up with exhibitions, workshops and special events, contact us via email at info@creativeartisans.org.au, or follow us on Facebook.

Cheers
Pauline Rutten




Create with Heart
Introduction to Creating with Coloured Pencil
A Workshop with Kylie Hadler
Explore
Learn
Create
Be Inspired
Kylie is a local tutor, who specialises in working with coloured pencils.
She was a finalist in the Jacaranda Drawing Prize with her coloured pencil artwork.
This course will cover materials, versatility and creativity of this medium whilst you create your own drawing.
Suitable for artists at all levels.
Materials supplied.
DATE
Monday
2nd November
TIME
9.30am to
12.30pm
VENUE
Ignite Studios
Crane Street,
Ballina
COST
$80.00
Bookings:
lesleyryanart@gmail.com
or drop into Creative Artisans Gallery
Wigmore Arcade, Ballina
0435 941 591
All are welcome
Art feeds the soul


JEWELLERY
WORKSHOP
Create. Connect. Wear.
Craft your own unique pieces using resin, pigments, natural elements and metal findings.
Participant Fee:
$90
Duration:
3 hrs
Number of Participants:
Min: 3 Max: 8
Venue Address:
Ignite Studios Conference Room
Time:
1.00 to 4.00 pm
Date:
Monday 2nd November
through
Creative Artisans Gallery
NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED
ALL MATERIALS PROVIDED
TAKE HOME YOUR CREATIONS!
BOOKING
Creative Artisans Gallery,
shop 1& 8 Wigmore Arcade,
River St. Ballina
E: lesley@creativeartisans.org.au
P: 0435941591
INSPIRED BY THE OCEAN
RELAXING & CREATIVE
PERFECT FOR ALL LEVELS
UNIQUE PIECES MADE BY YOU


CREATE WITH HEART
A PASTEL WORKSHOP WITH AWARD-WINNING ARTIST
ANGELA PARR
Art
Animals
People
Passion
"It's in the details that the magic lives"
OBSERVE
DISCOVER
CREATE
Learn How to Draw the Beauty of a Horse's Eye
Join renowned pastel artist Angela Parr for an inspiring hands-on workshop. Discover the techniques that bring life, depth and realism to one of nature's most captivating subjects. Learn how to capture the intricate details, texture and reflective beauty of a horse's eye in pastel.
WORKSHOP DETAILS
Date:
Tuesday 3rd November 2026
Time:
1.00 pm – 4.00 pm
Cost:
$85.00
WHAT TO BRING
A set of pastel pencils
All skill levels welcome!
BOOKINGS
Email:
lesleyryanart@gmail.com
Creative Artisans Gallery
Wigmore Arcade, Ballina
Phone:
0435 941 591
CREATE ♥ LEARN ♥ INSPIRE
Experience the joy of pastel art.
Places are limited. Early bookings recommended.
More than just a workshop... a creative experience


Create with Heart
Creative Workshop . Artsmart Drawing
KACHO-GA
Observational Drawing & Painting
with Jamie Hoile
Jamie Hoile has spent many years working with schools, universities and students. He will be presenting a course of observational drawing and painting skills focusing on Kacho-ga, a traditional Japanese art genre that translates literally as "pictures of birds and flowers."
Develop your skills in:
• Observation and drawing from nature
• Composition and design
• Painting techniques
• Colour and line
• Creative expression through the natural world
Inspired by Nature
WORKSHOP DETAILS
DATE
Tuesday 3rd November
TIME
9.30am to 1.00pm
COST
$85.00
VENUE
Ignite Studio
Crane Street, Ballina
BOOKINGS
lesleyryanart@gmail.com
or
Creative Artisans Gallery
Wigmore Arcade, Ballina
0435 941 591
Observe
Create
Draw
Paint


Create with Heart
Art
Inspiration
Connection
A MIXED MEDIA WORKSHOP
with
Janet Bidewell
FABRIC PAINT
GELLI PLATE
BEACH SCENES
LANDSCAPES
CREATIVE PLAY
In this workshop Janet will be showing students how to use fabric paint in various forms and how she uses a gelli plate as part of her practice. She will be focusing on a beach scene but heading into doing landscapes.
Explore
Experiment
Be Inspired
Date
Thursday
5th November
Time
9.30am to
1.00pm
Venue
Ignite studios,
Crane Street
Ballina
Cost
$95.00
all materials
supplied.
Booking
Lesleyryanart@gmail.com
or visit
Creative Artisans Gallery,
Wigmore Arcade Ballina
telephone 0435 941 591
Art feeds the soul...

BACCI AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

As artificial intelligence (AI) erupts across the world, as artists and crafters we are under attack from AI generated, manipulated, and inspired art.

There is a growing trend in allowing some form of AI to be used for entries into art shows however there appears to be very strict guidelines on recording the details of the use on entry forms. Some examples of these guidelines are "*cannot form a substantive part of the artwork, entrants warrant they hold all necessary rights and consents for any material or likenesses used by AI tools*." (from Tweed Regional Gallery)

BACCI decided, after careful consideration in 2024 at a monthly meeting, that it will **not** accept AI as it's *shows are intended to showcase work made through human artistic practice*, without reliance on generative AI. The vote was unanimous.

BACCI is committed to supporting and presenting original, human-created artistic practice. To protect the integrity, authenticity and creative process of members participating in BACCI shows, **BACCI does not accept** works that have been created, generated, copied, substantially assisted, or materially influenced by artificial intelligence (AI).

All works by members of BACCI, displayed at our shows, must be the original work of the submitting artist, and must be created through human artistic practice.

BACCI does not accept works that have been:

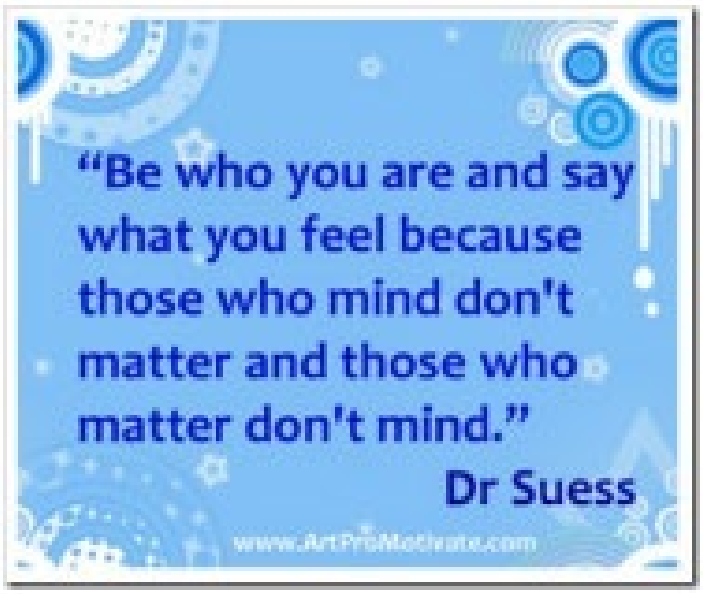
- generated in whole or in part by AI
- relied upon AI to produce, alter, transform, or materially develop the artwork
- copied or reproduced from AI-generated content.
- substantially edited, manipulated, enhanced, or completed using generative AI
- inspired by or derived from AI-generated work or AI-generated concepts, where the AI output has materially influenced the resulting artwork
- produced through a process in which AI has materially contributed to the conception, development, execution, or final presentation of the work

The above statement applies regardless of whether the AI-generated or AI-assisted material remains visible in the final work.

By submitting work to shows organised by BACCI, members confirm that their work complies with this statement and represents their own independent creative practice.

Andrew Watson





Ballina Wave Magazine
re 'Artist of the Month'

Ballina Wave have given a monthly space to a BACCI member, titled '***Artist of the Month***.'

Details needed for article are:

- 200 words about you and your work (it would also be great if you could mention BACCI)
- 2 x JPEG photos (these can be of you and your work or just your work
- email your Ballina Wave artist profile (as a word document) and your pictures and to Rosie (ballinabacci@gmail.com) by the 1st of the month
- if you are unsure how to do the above, maybe a family member or friend could help you
- please also please email this document and pictures to Maria (mariaheaton@hotmail.com), she will post this on BACCI's Facebook page
- it would be great if all members could take advantage of this opportunity, ***please*** email your document and pictures to Rosie (ballinabacci@gmail.com)

Do you have anything to share, (eg art info, travel adventures, and/or photos)? If so, please contact Rosie about your story – you can either mail or email your story and photos, (remember to include your name) to:

The Secretary BACCI
PO Box 111
Ballina NSW 2478

OR

E ballinabacci@gmail.com

Cassino Art Gallery

The "***On the Small Side***" exhibition, which is the last exhibition for 2026, will be opening from Saturday, 7 November, and will run until Thursday, 12 December.

Your entries which can be in any medium as long as they are no larger than A4 in size.

All questions welcomed either by email to the Gallery, or by phone to the number below.

Maree Beek, President
Cassino Art Gallery
0439 308 620




BACCI
INVITATION
BACCI MEMBERS CHRISTMAS PARTY
YES ,YOU MAY BRING A PARTNER
TUESDAY 1ST DECEMBER 2026
5.30 PM START
39 CLAVAN STREET, BALLINA
PLEASE BRING A PLATE OF FOOD,
DRINKS AND A
$10.00 KRIS KRINGLE GIFT
FOR UNDER THE CHRISTMAS TREE
(YES FOOD CAN BE HEATED IF REQUIRED)
RSVP BY EMAIL TO GEOFF
(FOR NUMBERS I NEED TO KNOW HOW MANY)
geoffrey.maclean@gmail.com