

Artists and community connecting to create and celebrate visual arts!

March 2008

■ March 2008 General Meeting Lee Akins, Clay



Lee Akins, our March presenter, has been a Professor of Art at Collin County Community College in Plano, Texas since 1988. He received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from The College of the Dayton Art Institute in Dayton, Ohio in 1975 and a Master of Fine Arts from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas in 1986, with a major in Ceramics. His work has been featured in numerous solo exhibitions in and around Dallas and in many international venues including the Other Gallery, the Banff Center, Banff, Canada, and Pottery Lovers Gallery, Taipei, Taiwan since 1980. He has participated in selected group exhibitions throughout the United States such as the *Hecho en Dallas* in 2006 at the Latino Cultural Center, *Hotter Than A Texas Summer*, University of North Texas in 2001, and *Materials Hard and Soft*, Center for the Visual Arts in Denton in 1987. These solo and group exhibitions are just a few of those listed in Akins' curriculum vitae. His work has been reviewed by the arts critics of *The Dallas Morning News* and the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, as well as in many ceramics-related publications. In 2004 Akins received a "Historical Glazes" Study Grant from Collin Community College and in 1988 he received a public commission from the Nichols Hills Park in Oklahoma City, OK for four cast aluminum sculptures. Recent publicity about his 2006 solo exhibition at the 14th Street Gallery in Plano included the following statement: "Akins seeks to combine figurative imagery with the format of the traditional vessel. The vessel has historically been a powerful metaphor of the body, with each part of the pot being named for the corresponding area of the body. A full lip, a gentle curve of the neck, a rotund belly or a broad shoulder combine to provide animation to the pot."

Akins' artistic statement contains an interesting description of the metaphor for the body as seen in clay vessels. "Some are predominantly male, some are a synthesis of male and female, but most are female forms inspired by fertility figures found in most early cultures. The Venus of Willendorf and the stone carvings of the Cycladic culture are some of the most powerful to me. My most recent work strives toward an elegant organic form, one that is obviously a hand-made object, but has an internal natural order. My pieces are coil-built of terra cotta clay. Coiling allows me to control the form while the joining marks provide an inherent rhythm to the surface. The terra cotta gives a warmth to the colors, yet allows a wide choice of finishes. Peeling paint and mossy rocks provide sources of inspiration for the color and textures of my work."

Akins recently announced that he and his wife will move to Taos, New Mexico in May, where he will establish a pottery studio, in addition to doing some part-time teaching. The title of his presentation for us is "Coil Building Large Vessels." He will be demonstrating how he creates his pieces out of terra cotta clay.

Carmen Underwood



High School Art Competition winners (l to r): Lisa Rogers (BOS), Rachael Sexton (1st), Katie Hickerson (2nd), and Tori Smyth (3rd). More on page 2.

Mark Your Calendar

- March 20** ■ Artist's Day Out, GDAC Craft Room, 9am- 1pm
- March 22** ■ Giles Critique Group - Contact Jackie Haugen 972.317.1546
- March 28** ■ Smith Critique Group, TBD, 10am- 1pm
- March 29** ■ Denton Black Chamber of Commerce 11th Annual Banquet - Contact Kerry Goree 940.382.9100



Denison Spring Art Tour

March 29-30, 2008

www.smalltownbigart.com/arttour.htm



Denton Arts & Jazz Festival

April 25-28, 2008

www.dentonartsjazz.com



26th Annual Sherman Arts Festival

September 20, 2008

Visit www.shermantx.org and click on their logo for art vendor applications and art show information.

■ Ken Hosmer Watercolor Workshop - Waiting List



Poppies, watercolor, 2004

The VAST Program Committee is proud to announce that a Watercolor Workshop with Ken Hosmer is scheduled for Sept. 9-12, 2008 at the Center for the Visual Arts. Cost for this workshop is \$200. The workshop is currently full, but you may add your name to the waiting list by contacting Jo Williams (texjo@msn.com or 940.383.1092).

Ken Hosmer of Nebraska is a popular workshop teacher. He has been teaching workshops for over 20 years throughout the United States and exotic locations such as Italy, Greece, and Mexico. "He is respected for his calm, supporting manner and unique use of color." (website) He has published a number of articles in *The Artist's Magazine* and *Watercolor Magic*.

Lynne Cox

- High School Art Competition
- Ken Hosmer Watercolor Workshop - Waiting List
- Members Doing Great Things
- Mary June Impson Scholarship Fund

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**Interested in joining?
Visit us on the web!
www.VASTarts.org**

High School Art Competition

One of the ways that VAST encourages young artists is to sponsor an annual high school art competition. The 2008 competition was a wonderful evening and an excellent opportunity to see the work being produced by the students in our community. Congratulations to everyone who participated in this year's competition. Compass Bank in Denton hosted a reception for the winners in their bank lobby.

Argyle High School

Adan Castor
Camille Abernathy

Denton High School

Samantha Cogley
Mary Dermid

Flower Mound High School

Jenny Vincent
Al Salazar

Guyer High School

Morgan Everhart
Shellby Payne

Lake Dallas High School

Terra Henderson
Tori Smyth - 3rd Place

Liberty Christian School

Lisa Rogers - Best of Show
Rachael Sexton - 1st Place

Marcus High School

Shaun Jones
Katie Valee

Northwest High School

Sarah Miller
Meagan Yenter

Pilot Point High School

Lori Hayes
Cheyenne Brooks

Ryan High School

Heather McGuire
Katie Hickerson - 2nd Place

Sanger High School

Shelby Gange
Shauna Schiada

Selwyn High School

Kara Scanlon
Camryn deWet

The Colony High School

Karrie O'Casey
Javier Tellez



Lisa Rogers, Best of Show
Untitled, pencil



Rachael Sexton, 1st Place
Untitled, charcoal



Katie Hickerson, 2nd Place
Untitled, colored pencil



Tori Smyth, 3rd Place
Stomping the Cicadas, mixed media

VAST Financial Report 3/02/2008

Inwood National Bank

Certificate of Deposit

January 26 Balance:	5,770.07
Int. Earned:	25.73
February 26 Balance:	\$5,795.80

Money Market Account

January 1 Balance:	2,557.61
Int. Earned:	8.67
March 1 Balance:	\$2,566.28

Wells Fargo

Checking Account

January 26 Balance:	13,862.22
Deposits:	6,040.78
Withdrawals:	(2,566.62)
March 2 Balance:	\$17,336.38

Savings Account

January 7 Balance:	\$500.00
Int. Earned:	.12
March 2 Balance:	\$500.12

TOTAL CASH ASSETS (3/2/2008): \$26,198.58

Members Doing Great Things

Cate Robbins has been accepted into two shows this spring: *Opposites Attract* – a national art competition at San Jacinto College South in Houston through March 20th and *Rising Eyes of Texas* – a statewide student show at Rockport Center for the Arts March 5 through 29th. She has also been voted the right to have a solo show in Gallery010, the student gallery, at Texas Woman's University. The dates for her show are March 8 through 28th. **Ernie Benton** has two pieces accepted into the Texas Visual Arts Association's *2008 Digital Art Exhibition* in The Plaza of the Americas Building gallery, through March 19th. He was accepted into the Denton Arts and Jazz Festival and will be having an exhibition titled *The Blues and Jazz Experience* with friend and fellow artist Daggi Wallace at the Irving Arts Center in the Carpenter's Hall Lobby from April 5th thru September 21st. The Irving Arts Center is located at 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd. in Irving TX. A reception will be held on April 27th. **Darla Bostick** has ten paintings and photographs on exhibit at Tierney's Tavern and Café, 208 E. Main St., Lewisville through April 15th. She also had a piece accepted by the Society of Watercolor Artists in their 27th Juried Art Exhibition which will be held in the Fort Worth Central Library from March 30th to April 27th. **Joan Hart** will be exhibiting her art, *We are Ladies, a Series*, at The Chestnut Tree in Denton in March and April.

2007-2008 Monthly Programs

March 6, 2008	Lee Akins – Clay
April 3, 2008	Dave Maxwell – Watercolor
May 1, 2008	Kelly Donahue-Wallace – Art History
Regular meetings are usually held at 7pm at the Center for Visual Arts, 400 East Hickory St., Denton, TX.	

Mary June Impson Scholarship

June Impson was the inspiration for setting up a VAST scholarship fund, and it was a cause near and dear to her heart. Three years ago the Mary June Impson Scholarship fund was created to directly support artists in their endeavors to improve their artistic skills and abilities. Through this fund VAST continues to provide scholarships to many artists who, due to financial reasons, might otherwise be unable to participate in our educational workshops.

The individuals listed below, in memory of June, recently contributed \$760 to the VAST Mary June Impson Scholarship fund and general fund. These donations are a testament to how many folks loved and appreciated June.

Jane Bayne
Betty J. Boim
Claude Cheek
Ellen Chenoweth
Evalyn Coulter
June Dalton
Patricia Fekete
Millie Giles
Helen Impson
Shubha Mantri
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Muir
Dorothy Pond-Smith
Marie Renfro
Dorothy Thetford
Carmen Underwood

We also received a \$400 check from the sale of one of June's paintings at Loren Impson's Massage Institute in Arkansas. The sale was to the Turtle Cove Spa. Loren donated his 20% commission to us. This was a result of June's very generous nature in donating the sale of specific paintings to VAST.

Scholarships are funded from the annual interest earned on the VAST Certificate of Deposit and Money Market accounts at Inwood Bank. Donations to the MJI Scholarship fund will be deposited into our money market account until they can be added to our CD where they will earn more interest which will better assist our scholarship applicants.

We appreciate June and her family for supporting VAST and we thank each of you for remembering June in this special way!

Lynne Cox and Jo Williams

Letter From the President

Thank you for understanding the lack of a March letter from me. I am enjoying my time with Brady and looking forward to seeing you at the April meeting featuring VAST member Dave Maxwell.



■ Calls for Entries

Visual Artists of Cedar Hill (VACH)

Deadline: March 20

\$2,500+ in cash and prizes, including a \$400 cash Best of Show. Open to all artists age 18 and over. Membership in VACH is not required for entry in the show. A printable copy of the prospectus and entry form is available at www.thevach.org.

5th Annual Hecho en Dallas/Made in Dallas

Deadline: April 15

Juried exhibition showcasing recent unexhibited work by professional artists who are active in the Dallas/ North Texas region. Open to professional artists who reside within Dallas, Collin, Denton, Ellis, Hood, Johnson, Kaufman, Parker, Rockwall, Tarrant and Wise counties. No entry fee. Submit work created within the last 18 months. Artwork in all fine art mediums will be considered (paintings, sculptures, works on paper, photography, etc.). Work should be less than 15ft. overall (height + width + length), with no one dimension measuring more than 7ft.

45th Annual SWS Membership Exhibition

Slide Deadline: June 1

Juror: Ratindra Das. Prospectus online at www.SWSwatercolor.org. Awards Reception Fri., Sept. 26 7-9 p.m. at Art Centre of Plano.

CLASSIFIED AD:

Register for Darla Bostick's Art Retreat/Workshop. Ghost Ranch, Santa Fe, NM 25-29 October. Includes Photography/Watercolor/Drawing/Journaling! 8 spaces left! darla6000@yahoo.com or 940.320.5660.

■ Art Around Town

Center for the Visual Arts

Meadows Gallery
Materials Hard and Soft
Through March 20

Gough Gallery
Youth Art Month
Through April 6

UNT Union Gallery

Arthur Peña - Painting
March 21 - April 3

UT Dallas

Visual Arts Building Main Gallery
Texas Visual Arts Coalition
Through March 22

UnNatural Disasters
March 28 - April 18

Kimbell Art Museum

Picturing the Bible: The Earliest Christian Art
Through March 30

McKinney Avenue Contemporary

Square Gallery
David Dreyer: Recent Paintings & Sculpture

Large Gallery
David Gibson: Ephemeral Moments

New Works Space
David Everett: Sculpture
Through April 25

Dallas Museum of Art

J. M. W. Turner
Through May 18
Young Masters: Advanced Placement Student Art Competition
Through May 4

Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth

FOCUS: Banks Violette
Through April 13
MARTIN PURYEAR
Through May 18

Please send information you wish to have included in *Vision* by the 15th of each month to: [Caroline Latawicz, deepsrcr@gmail.com](mailto:Caroline.Latawicz@gmail.com).

Vision is published the last Monday before the last Thursday of each month, September through May.

\$50 Voertman's and \$25 Recycled Books
Door Prizes

Lee Akins
Clay
March 6, 2008

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VISION

visual arts society
of texas

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