

Portland Botanical Artists Circle - re. first meeting, Nov 17, 2012

Attending: Gina, Jane, Janene, Laurie, Janet, with Connie Ratti arriving a few minutes before the meeting ended.
Hi everyone,

Location:

Meriwether's restaurant at 26th and NW Thurman.

10 - noon, 12:30

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Let's all come prepared to:

- talk a little about ourselves and our work,
- articulate what we would like to get from / give to, such a group,
- share ideas about meeting logistics,
- discuss local resources we know about, for the kind of work we're doing,
- more?

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I've also invited local botanical artist, Rene Eisenbart (cc'd here) into the group and haven't yet heard from her. Rene was for many years the botanical illustrator for the Oregonian. She is currently teaching botanical art at the Oregon Society of Artists in Goose Hollow. I saw her give a demonstration of her large, botanical close-ups in loose, vivid watercolor at OSA and was impressed with her range, professionalism, talent, and generosity. I hope she can join us. Here's a link to her blog:

<http://renesnews.blogspot.com>

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A proposed meeting format:

Maybe the first half or so is devoted to each of us bringing art in to share, and if wanted, ask for feedback, help, etc., and/or just talk about what we're working on.

With the 2nd half (these portions don't have to be exact!) devoted more to group issues.

Some things we might want to consider talking about:

Individual issues:

- People weigh in on their work, ask for feedback or help, etc., talk about personal goals.

Big picture:

- Coming up with a mission statement (let's look at the Reed Turner Artists group, and others)
- Publicity
- Outreach - talk about local institutions we could work with for shows, demos, etc.
- Website
- Creating a member list with contact info including name, email address, phone # and website
- Importance of entering juried shows (a couple to note listed below):

Following in the Bartram's Footsteps <http://www.asba-art.org/exhibitions/bartram>

Weird, Wild, and Wonderful <http://www.asba-art.org/exhibitions/weird-wild-and-wonderful>

And maybe go over the exhibitions listed in the latest Journal to see if we should be getting our stuff into other shows.

- Who knows people in Seattle, at Pacific NW Chapter? Should we introduce ourselves somehow?

Gina, it would be great if, for now and going forward, you would consider yourself our secretary.

As we go along we can create a more formal process for assigning various responsibilities - so that everyone is involved.

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These are some of my thoughts.

Please weigh in with whatever you'd like to discuss, and reply all when you do.

I think these monthly meetings won't offer time enough to include drawing and painting, but if people want to get together for that purpose, (and I know I do!), the meetings are a good place to make those connections and plans.

Also, fyi, I sent a note today to the chapter liaison at ASBA asking that the contact info for our area be changed to my information. I'll let you know what I hear back.