

***What Inspires Me About Art?***  
*Women of Vision—ECS-HA Art Show 9/27/08*

***Mary Cleland***

Watercolor, my chosen form of expression, flows onto the paper to form lines and shapes describing my life and the environment in which I live.

***Marilyn Fairman***

Natural light and its play on the day have always drawn me outside. Painting on location has taught me to search for unexpected light and unusual color combinations that only occur in nature. This focus helps me through the painting process as the scene subtly changes. My hope is that the love I have for the open air is reflected through my paintings.

***Dolores Haberek***

Just driving or walking and observing the peaceful views of our area makes me want to paint. I hope to impart this feeling of amazement at what I see to the viewer.

***Alexandra Higgins***

It helps to be fearless when you're testing your creative skills in new disciplines. There is no success or failure. It's the doing that is the success. Stay focused on the goal, knowing that there is a creative solution. You may not be able to figure out what **that** is for a long time. My latest work has been oil paintings on windows. I like the capacity of light behind the window and hanging the piece where light can interact with the paint, either behind it, in front of it, or around it. My garden has had a lot of influence on my subject matter and I find that it continually changes the way I look at how and why I choose the subject matter that I do.

***Linda Hinkle***

Design is everywhere, but it is the artist who takes joy in the basic elements he or she sees and uses it for inspiration. Cropping an image down to its core elements, then enhancing color, shape and pattern discovered within those boundaries is critical to my work. Employing multiple techniques and layering images into a single piece is important to my visual statements.

***Gretchen Dawson Jewell***

Architectural line and form have always held my interest. I like to challenge my work to produce a successful composition by focusing on a specific part of a complete object. I have explored this imagery through the medium of printmaking and have produced etchings in both black & white and color.

***Linda Kollar***

My art is a window to my inner self. The realism depicts years of training of the mind and body while the abstract portrays my craving to break away and paint with my soul.

***Juliet Konieczny***

I am mostly inspired by nature: the beautiful clouds, trees, flowers and vistas all around me. In my paintings, I hope to bring the peace and tranquility I see to the viewer.

### ***Chris Nelson***

[Christine Nelson is the sister of Johnstown resident Anita Hanaburgh]

My art, both in pastel and photography, is inspired by the creatures great and small that inhabit the Pioneer Valley of Massachusetts, especially the sheep and lambs that graze in my meadow during all seasons when the grass is green. Most of my motivation comes from my own backyard. I am lucky enough to live on several acres at the edge of a wetland where many creatures both wild and domesticated allow me to observe them. Happily in retirement, I am able to devote valuable time to photographing and painting the myriad verities of life around me.

### ***Dorothy Quick***

My childhood dream was to become an artist. With God's inspiration, I am able to capture the beauty of His creations.

### ***Cindy Sheeler***

These paintings depict "women with attitude" and as always my work is whimsical and fun. I feel as I'm creating my work that I want to be having fun and hope the observers feel the same way.

### ***Lynne Sweet***

As an artist, what inspires me? Nature. Flowers. The golden light streaming under retreating storm clouds. Colors. The splash of ink and paint on paper. Great art in museums. Starting with tradition and hoping to transcend it. Space and form. The excitement of participating in the creation of beauty.