

# 2021

## ARTS IN AGING CALENDAR

Baylor College of Medicine  
Huffington Center on Aging

We salute the “Arts in Aging” as a complement to a good life long lived. In this 26<sup>th</sup> Edition, we offer a retrospective featuring the works of artists past and present whose ages range from 77 to 94. The scenes and people they painted give us a glimpse of life across all continents and the eclectic “feel” of the calendar reveals the wonderful differences in people worldwide. Goethe correctly said, “*Science and Art belong to the whole World and the barriers of nationality vanish before them.*” Born in the last century, these artists remind us daily that older people make important contributions to the quality of our lives. Their creativity is timeless and the beauty their eyes saw we see in these wonderful works.

### CREDITS:

1. January – ***Evening Glow Yeppon***, Chris Blake (1939- ); private collection, Landsborough, Queensland, Australia. This innovative, award-winning artist uses pastels evoking soft, good feeling. Wouldn't you like to see the waning light of day over this neat Australian town? Now you have. This work was the featured selection for February 2019. Check out Chris' work at the Pastel Society of Australia, <https://ozpastels.com.au/>; and at his own website, <http://www.chrisblakeart.com/>. And you can follow this talented artist on Facebook at The Blake Studio.
2. ***Open Sail***, Arthur Turner (1940- ); Moody Gallery, Houston, Texas. Mr. Turner is another of those Glassell School of Art habitués but this time he is the teacher. His watercolors are well known among Houstonians and those elsewhere. He has been featured in the *Houston Chronicle* and enjoys a strong following in the Houston art scene. Aren't we the lucky ones who get to see butterflies outside and on canvases, too! Those do not migrate, do not die, and continue to delight our eyes because one artist thinks they are important subjects. This wonderful piece was the featured selection of February 2014. See more of Arthur's works at <http://www.moodygallery.com/Artists/Turner/Arthur.html>
3. March – ***Granddog Sunny and Crow***, Anne Eldredge Harris (1918-2012); collection/estate of the artist, Hockessin, Delaware. This computer-generated work of art was by the late Anne Harris, one of the most remarkable persons I have ever met. Her philosophy of life and her art were both admired greatly by all who had the good fortune to have known her. This “painting” was the featured selection of March 2012. We were informed of her death the previous month on 23 February. She was and is still missed.
4. April – ***Plum Blossoms***, Beth Muir (1944- ); private collection, Manhattan Beach, CA. This talented artist has perfected the Japanese Sumi-e style of painting with special brushes and paints made by the artist. She teaches this and other styles of art to the lucky seniors who attend the Older Adult Art Program sponsored by the Manhattan Beach Parks and Recreation Department. This beautiful work was the featured selection in April 2013.
5. May – ***Earth***, Kirby Attwell (1935- ); collection of the artist, Houston, TX. Retired Houston attorney turned artist via the Glassell School of Art (taught by Arthur Turner) gives us his glimpse of our beautiful, blue planet seen by “someone” from outer space with some of the

cosmos as background. Perhaps the viewer was Luke Skywalker or a Mandalorian. This work was the featured selection of July 2015. That month was chosen because July 20 of 1969 was the lunar landing of Apollo 11.

6. June – ***Halong Bay***, Jim Seigler (1930- ); collection of the artist, Houston, Texas. Mr. Seigler, age 91, paints from sun up to sun down in a studio two floors down where he lives. His mother lived to almost 100 and he says he has so many sketches to paint that he will need to live at least that long to use up what he sees on his many travels around the world. This is one of his works that was featured as the October 2011 selection. It catches the eye and makes one wonder what might happen if you were boating along that beautiful body of water so far away. Might you anchor and meet some people you are never likely to see again? Let us just say that happened.
7. July – ***Proud to Be an American***, John Holstead (1938- ); collection of the artist, Houston, Texas. This lawyer from one of Houston’s venerable law firms, practices his medium, namely watercolor, with the same dispatch that he does his cases at the bar of justice – with great skill and passion. His travels have taken him all over the world. Thankfully, we get to see a bit of his wonderful talent he produced as a class project at the MFAH Glassell School of Art. This painting reminds us of freedom and opportunity and that older people have interesting ideas, produce things that delight the eye, give us joy, and instill pride. This piece was the featured selection of July 2017.
8. August – ***Self Portrait***, Ronald Allerton (1936-2020), Victorian Manor, San Francisco, CA. A resident of a long-term care facility associated with the Institute on Aging in San Francisco, Mr. Allerton participated in the IOA’s Center for Elders and Youth in the Arts. His self-portrait captured my eye with the bold brush strokes and contrasting red and black colors. Perhaps his elegant visage captures your eye, too. It was the featured selection of December 2010.
9. September – ***Ditzum on River Ems in Ostfriesland***, Georg Hedrich (1943- ); collection of the artist, Hattigen, North Rhine Westphalia, Germany. This talented watercolorist’s work was the featured selection of August 2018. His depiction of landscapes, rural settings and river destinations in his part of Germany was brought to our attention by friends on Facebook. Follow Georg on Facebook and see his wonderful works. You will enjoy the “trip.”
10. October – ***Eco-Echo-Spaces***, HJ Bott (1933- ); private collection, Houston, Texas. Known as HJ, Harvey Bott is a prolific artist whose paintings and sculptures are emblematic of the DoV (Displacement of Volume) systems concept where shapes seemingly dissolve into each other, where curvilinear lines predominate. His work was inspired by 19th century Russian artist Kazimir Malevich who, upon returning from Paris where he first saw cubist works, began his odyssey of creating geometric shapes that were the foundation of Suprematism. This selection is illustrative of that genre and was the featured selection for November 2020. Aren’t we glad HJ’s innate talent developed to produce this and many, many more works that delight the eye with color, geometrical shapes, and sheer beauty. See some of his great works of art, indeed almost architecture, here: <http://hjbott.com/paintings-drawings-dov/1>
11. November – ***The Garden Gate***, Paul Sansom (1932- ); collection of the artist, Palm Springs, CA. Mr. Sansom, age 89, formerly of Austin, has a style of art that “invites” you into his works, especially this gate or what’s behind the gate. What or who awaits the visitor? Perhaps a Thanksgiving dinner? Mr. Sansom’s work was the featured selection of March 2009.

12. December – *Abbey Road*, David Adickes (1927- ); the Adickes Foundation Museum, Huntsville, Texas. Mr. Adickes, age 94, is an accomplished painter known more for his sculptures – e.g., in appreciation for the one of President Bush (#41) at the Houston Intercontinental Airport, he was invited to the White House and slept in the Lincoln Bedroom! He also did the Sam Houston Statue on I-45 just south of Huntsville. It is the largest sculpture in America other than Mt. Rushmore. David was fortunate enough to buy his old high school in Huntsville, Texas, turning the building into a neat, new art museum to hold his wonderful works. It is worth a trip to Huntsville to go see his collection. This piece of the famous British Invasion musicians who made magic at their Abbey Road Studio was the featured piece for September 2016.

N. B. These artists, like others around the world, give us hope that we can continue doing things very well in late life that we did as younger people. Our “days in the sun” do not stop after having reached a certain age. It is what we keep or start doing that counts. And whether deceased or still painting, their works live on beyond their own lives and improve the quality of lives of the living. Such is art!

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