

Marilyn Belschner/Shawn Codgill

The Sandhill Crane's beauty is amazing, as captured by Marilyn Belschner in her drawings and pastels. Marilyn is a native of Nebraska with over seventy years of art experience. She has studied extensively in an independent manner with contemporary artists in Nebraska, Idaho, Colorado, New Mexico, Italy and Spain. To see more of Marilyn's work, go to www.marilynpastelartist.com.

Pat Branting

Pat grew up loving the outdoors along the Platte Rivers, nearby lakes, and beautiful sandhills surrounding North Platte, Nebraska. She graduated from the University of Nebraska with a BA in education and an art minor. Moving to Bozeman, Montana in 1976, she continued to paint and be inspired by mountains, lakes, and rivers. With her two sons, she spent countless hours over the years hiking, observing, photographing and painting the Montana landscape. The wildlife present in this setting influences much of her work. Retired from a teaching career of 34 years, she now devotes her time to painting.

She participated in workshops and classes from numerous professional artists who have helped and inspired her over the years.

Light is the key ingredient for each subject, from nature's little treasures to majestic mountain scenes. Observing the exciting shapes and colors, her paintings depict a passion of the natural world. Painting figures, landscapes, flowers, and wildlife in natural surroundings with the light creating a special mood is especially inspiring for her. Visit Pat Branting's website at www.patbranting.com.

Mary Ann Carson

Mary Ann Carson has always loved art and photography. She wants to share the beauty she finds in our world with others, including her daughter who practices the art of photography alongside her mother. Horses are their passion and their photography reflects their untamed spirit. The ancient Egyptians believed that the eye of the horse brought good fortune, so in their collection of photos, you will see their interpretation of this legend.

Kathy Chase

Kathy Chase and her husband, Dave, are from Grand Island, Nebraska and have always loved road trips. They have been married for 44 years. After their three daughters were grown and their nest was empty, they hit the road often.

She received a new Canon DSLR camera from Dave and began photographing everything in sight. It wasn't long before the old rustic Nebraska barns began to catch Kathy Chase's eye and inspire her heart. Dave quickly joined in and used his eagle eye to find many barns she had overlooked. After a few more outings, she realized that God was awakening in her a creativity and passion previously unknown.

In 2013 Kathy Chase was forced to leave her job of 18 years due to the pain and fatigue of post-polio syndrome, knowing that she needed more rest. One day she said to Dave, "I think we should photograph at least one barn in each of Nebraska's 93 counties!"and "A Nebraska

Barn Journey" began. She photographed the first one in Greeley County in January of 2012 and was hooked!

After that, Kathy Chase never left home without her camera and a map with the Nebraska counties clearly marked. It was difficult to find a barn in some counties and they had to drive up and down a lot of roads to find one. Kathy Chase and her husband realized that they would have the best chance to spot the barns hidden by the trees or cornfields in the late fall or winter.

Due to the constraints of the post-polio syndrome, she usually shot photos from their truck window or from a position of standing on the running board. Kathy Chase always takes photos from public roads so she didn't need permission to take them. It would have been very difficult to track down the owners of the barns since many barns appeared to be deserted, though they would have loved to hear their barn stories. :(

Five years and thousands of miles later Kathy Chase and her husband shot their last Nebraska county barn in Kimball County in January 2017!

Kathy Chase's plan has always been to create a coffee table book of their barn collection. (And by now they had photographed over 500 barns, numerous windmills, old country churches, and vintage cars and trucks among other things.) However, the plan changed when she saw a Nebraska composite and realized it would be the perfect way to display and enjoy the whole journey in a beautiful and unique way!

Timothy Wright, owner of Timmy's Treehouse Printing in Omaha, took the time to instruct Kathy Chase in using Photoshop to place the barns in each county of the Nebraska template he had designed. Seven hours later it was finished. He then artistically fashioned and printed the acrylic Nebraska composite available to view or purchase in the Crane Trust Nature and Visitor Center Gift Shop.

Kathy Chase originally thought this was just a personal journey for Dave and her, but along the way they have been blessed by hearing many of your childhood memories of barns and the joy that seeing them brought to you. 10% of her profits will go to fight Human Trafficking. Visit her website at kathychase.smugmug.com.

Kristine Chavez

Kris started taking photos with a Brownie Instamatic. It wasn't until after graduating from Nebraska Wesleyan that she got into photography using manual cameras and film. A brief stab at developing her own photos was gratefully interrupted with the gift of a digital camera.

The Nebraska Master Naturalist program brought a bounty of opportunities for Kris to photograph nature. Through encouragement from her sister and good friend, she entered her first photograph in a juried art exhibit. It was accepted. The desire to share her photography with others has taken precedence over selling. When her art can also benefit places like the Crane Trust, she has been honored to display her photography.

Kris has had exhibits in Nebraska, Minnesota, Kansas, and Iowa. Her photography is in homes throughout the Midwest. Currently, in addition to the Crane Trust Art Exhibit, she is also at Connect Gallery in Omaha, NE.

Kris is married to Carlos. They have three children and three grandchildren. She taught for 33 years before taking early leave. Photography, travel, kayaking, hiking and spending time at the family cabin are her hobbies and stress relievers.

Julie Crocker

Julie Crocker is a rural Nebraska native. Her art is recognized nationwide. She has won numerous local and state awards including: Ducks Unlimited 1988 Nebraska Artist of the Year and Ducks Unlimited Sponsor prints, 1993 and 1995 Nebraska Habitat Stamps, 1990, 1994, and 1996 Nebraska Trout Stamps, 1993 Award of Excellence Fonner Grand Visions Art Show, 1995 Featured Artist at the IMAX Theatre in Hastings Yellowstone Show, art published in 2000 in the book 'Legends of the Crane', John Mayer Award of Excellence 2006 and 2009, numerous Merit and Honorable Mentions at Art in the Park, Best of Show in 1995, 2000, 2005, 2007 at Wings Over the Platte Art Show and Competition and the 2010 Featured Artist at Wings Over the Platte at the Stuhr Museum in Grand Island, Nebraska.

"I enjoy working in a variety of different mediums including: oil, pastel, acrylic, and watercolor. I also do wood carvings, sculpture and papier mache'. Wildlife is one of my favorite subjects. I have spent many hours hunting, observing, photographing and sketching. I try to balance composition, color and subject to create a painting that looks realistic but at the same time is also a quality piece of art."

"The natural beauty I find in nature, along with the love I have of birds and animals, is what inspires me to paint."

Julie is very active and involved with nature and wildlife conservation programs donating her art work each year to support such causes. Her art is on display at the Mossy Pond Art Studio in Chapman, Nebraska.

Paul Filsinger

Paul is a Nebraska born photographer originally from Norfolk and now lives in Shelton just a few miles west of the Crane Trust Nature and Visitor Center.

He is a full-time professional portrait photographer accredited by the National Association of Professional Photographers. His wildlife photography has been featured in numerous publications including NEBRASKAland Magazine and several of his photos are displayed at the Crane Trust Nature and Visitor Center.

Ingrid Finn

- **Nebraska Native**—born in St. Edward, NE
- **Farming family**, lived in Columbus, North Bend, Laurel, and later moved to Omaha and then Millard. Then lived in York, Hampton and Dubois, WY then returning to Minden, NE.
- **College**—College of St. Mary – Omaha, York College – York, Kearney College, U of WY
- **Married**—3 children and 8 grandchildren.
- **Worked NE**—Jewelry Store in York, Interior Design firm – Aurora
- **Worked WY Schools**—Publications classes – 16 years: Graphic design, Newspaper, Yearbook, Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator and InDesign, Photography, and Jewelry and Marketing classes.
- **Retired teaching**—moved to Minden, NE – to be closer to family.

Art History

- **Always liked to draw**—loved drawing dollhouse rooms, then drawing people and animals and rural barns. Ingrid Finn is **influenced** by her surroundings and loves Native American cultures and being out in nature, hunting, fishing, and collecting rocks. She has been lucky to have creative jobs. Wyoming had amazing mountains and wildlife and Nebraska has amazing grasslands.
- **Joined**—art clubs, entered National and local art competitions, lots of workshops, Artist in Residence in local schools, judged county fair art.
- Loved **watercolor** painting the best, transparency to the opaque gauche and added ink touches.
- **Detail work**—really enjoy adding details to a painting, it really makes the art work come together.
- **Bead classes** from a Shoshone Indian woman – made lots of beaded items.
- **Silver Smith classes**—using gemstones and silver. Studied under a master silver smith.
- **Artist influences**—Zolton Szabo, Karl Bodmier watercolors from the 1830's, and Wes and Rachelle Seigrist, who paints **only** miniatures. Ingrid Finn took a workshop from them and has used their books to help inspire her paintings.

Deb Goodenberger

Deb Goodenberger has been painting the rural landscape of Nebraska for over 15 years. Her choice of media is pastel because, as she states, “There is an intimacy and directness when painting with pastels that I find very appealing”. Ms. Goodenberger’s landscapes are mostly created from photographs and drawings gathered while exploring the country near the farm where she lives with her husband of 38 years. For the past few years, she has been experimenting with high intensity colors and rich darks in her paintings. While traveling the backroads, or even driving to and from work, it is the “light” that captures her attention and the basis of most of her work.

Ms. Goodenberger teaches art at McCook Public Schools, located in southwest Nebraska. She has also facilitated Pastel Landscape workshops for adults. She is a signature member of the Association of Nebraska Art Clubs as well as the Western liaison for the Nebraska Art Teachers Association. Ms. Goodenberger’s art has won numerous awards and her painting, titled “Evening Drive”, was chosen for the Nebraska Life Magazine’s Art Award in 2015. Her art was also accepted by the online magazine, nebraskaruralliving.com. Ms. Goodenberger’s art is hanging in many homes and businesses throughout western and central Nebraska and Kansas.

Desiree Hajny

Desiree Hajny has been involved in the arts for the past 31 years, as a teacher in both the public and private sectors, as the author of eight books, as a contributor to seven others, and contributing author to several periodicals in the US and Europe. Desiree has been creating wood sculptures of her mammals full time since 1985. Today, Desiree's carvings can be found nationally as well as internationally. In competitions she has garnered nineteen best-of-show honors, over one hundred first place awards and six people's choice awards. In April of 2003 Desiree was the third recipient of Woodcarving Illustrated Woodcarver of the year.

Commissions include Disney Animal Kingdom and the National Forest Products Association.

Visit her website at <http://hajny.fineartworld.com>.

Jerry Hall

Jerry Hall has been a Lincoln, NE artist in wildlife art since he turned 60 years old. His art of butterflies, birds, and wildlife, such as big cats, wolves, elephants, deer, etc. are done with Prismacolor Pencils. Jerry Hall has always loved nature and wildlife, and he grew up spending a lot of time outdoors. He then had an urge to depict nature and wildlife. Several years after retiring from a career as an engineer, Jerry Hall decided to pursue his dream of doing wildlife art. Most of his art pictures are originals, with some pieces available in giclee and prints. See his work online at <http://jerryhallart.com/gallery>.

Abby Jensen

Born and raised in Nebraska, Abby has always had a love of the outdoors and all kinds of animals. Growing up on a farm, she had the chance to be around horses, sheep, chickens, cats, dogs—the list goes on. These opportunities instilled a passion for life in Abby that still holds true today. Also, from an early age Abby had a camera in her hand. The grand-daughter of a newspaper photographer and daughter of a photography hobbyist, she was always taking photos.

Following high school, she traveled to Dallas, TX to study art and photography at Southern Methodist University. Graduating with a Bachelor of Fine Arts, she immediately went into the restaurant business, logical! Following 3 years of owning and operating her own restaurant, she began her telecommunications career with Great Plains Communication in Blair, NE. Then in 1998, she made the move to Colorado and Level 3 Communications in Broomfield. After almost 10 years in corporate America and living in Colorado, she realized that her love of the outdoors, animals and photography was needing some attention—she needed to make a change and pursue her passions.

In 2002, she picked up her camera once again and began photographing horses and her next business was born. For 8 years, she traveled the country from farm to farm photographing some of the most beautiful horses in the world. Following the economic downturn which effected the horse industry tremendously, she began filling her time by photographing wildlife. Following some success in the field, NEBRASKAland Magazine picked up 2 of her stories. This was the confirmation she needed to commit to wildlife and nature photography.

Through Jensen Photography, Abby has developed a honed eye for stunning landscape photography accurately capturing a wide array of locations. Abby's stunning photography brings to life the best of the Yampa Valley, American Midwest, the wilds of Alaska and the Hudson Bay as well as the plains of Kenya and the lush regions of Peru.

In addition to a talented eye, Abby brings an extraordinary amount of patience to her work, waiting for hours to capture the perfect shot. This patience is evident in the many images capturing animals in their most natural repose.

Having a Fine Arts Degree from Southern Methodist University, Abby is a classically trained photographer. She holds strong to her classically trained eye and approach to photography. Using very little technical enhancement, her images are true to nature. Searching for light that dances and capturing moments in time is her ultimate goal. Having a love and respect for wild places in the world, conservation and the safety of the wildlife is close to her heart. She only photographs animals in their natural habitat.

Steamboat has been a special place for Abby since the age of 12. Having traveled from Nebraska to Steamboat for the holidays during her early childhood and teen years, she has been attached to this remarkable area since she was a little girl. Abby knew that one day she would become a resident of Steamboat. In March of 2012, Steamboat officially became her new home town. Of course, there were business reasons for the move. Wildlife and nature are abundant in Steamboat Springs, Routt County, Jackson County, Moffatt County, and her new home is not far from Rocky Mountain National Park, Nebraska, Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks. Shortly after her arrival in Steamboat, she became an owner at Circle 7 Fine Art. After its closing in 2016, she and other local artists opened Pine Moon Fine Art in September of 2016. Proving to be the right step in her career—showing in a gallery filled with amazing artists helps to show case her work, as well as challenge her artistically. For more information, please visit her website www.jensen-photography.com.

Jean Jensen

Jean Jensen grew up in Lewellen and Oshkosh, Nebraska. Inspired by a mother who encouraged art and with a wider sense of the world, Jean attended the University of Nebraska and then moved to Chicago where her love of art and the Impressionists grew during many visits to the Chicago Art Institute while earning her degree in anthropology. Determined to see the world, she travelled through Europe, worked on a dig in Israel and then moved to Kenya.

Jean returned to Western Nebraska with a new perspective and rekindled her love of the natural beauty of this largely untouched area. She loves the raw emotive power of brilliant colors. For the past thirty-five years, she has engaged in self-study and workshops, developing her skills in watercolor, pastels and oil as she captures the essence of flowers, people and local landscapes.

Jean has attended the Autumn Art Workshop for twenty-five years and is currently on the board. She lives near Lewellen where she and her two brothers are the exhibiting artists and owners of the Most Unlikely Place gallery and café. Jean's dream is to turn Lewellen into the Taos of Nebraska. Jean's work can be seen at www.jeanjensenart.com.

Ron Jensen

Ron Jensen has been taking photos ever since he picked up an old folding camera at the age of six. The camera had a hole in the bellows which rendered it mostly useless; but by the age of eight, Ron's parents had given him a brand-new Kodak Brownie Hawkeye, and he has been making pictures ever since.

Though the balance of his professional career has been spent in offices, in his spare time, Ron has been an avid outdoorsman his entire life. Thus, it was natural that his photographic interests would eventually turn to wildlife, landscapes, and outdoor sporting events. And it is probably just as natural that eventually, he would take steps to share his art with others, as he does with this exhibit.

Increasingly interested in both wildlife conservation—especially the preservation of predators—and wildlife photography, Ron has over the past few years traveled literally thousands of miles from Alaska to South Africa almost always accompanied by his wife Cindy—a talented photographer in her own right—to capture photos of some of our most exotic

creatures. In addition, Ron is passionate about expansive western landscapes, where, as he says, “The sky goes all the way to the ground.”

A licensed pilot for over four decades, Ron has recently revised his website to include a section of aviation photographs. With that addition, he says the site includes all of the things he enjoys photographing, except “dogs, race cars, and my marvelous family.”

On a technical note, most of the photos on his website were originally shot in camera RAW and edited with Light Room and/or Photoshop Elements. Ron does not use High Dynamic Range processing and essentially edits these photos only to the extent he might have edited black and white photos in his basement darkroom, back in the seventies.

Kris Khan

Kris Khan is an artist who works with fabric the way a painter works with paint, or a sculptor works with clay. Textiles are Kris Khan’s medium for interpreting the beauty of the built and natural environment around her. Her work is influenced by her life experiences as a nurse, parent, traveler, and friend. She is also inspired by the work of modern artists such as Wolf Khan and Nancy Crow. Kris Khan likes to work with natural fibers in vibrant, saturated colors. Her works are free-motion quilted on her home sewing machine and sometimes are embellished with special fibers, beads, or found objects. Kris Khan’s designs usually evolve in an improvisational manner, and are sized from very small (6” square) to bed-sized (80”x96”). She creates her machine quilting designs by doodling on paper, and by replicating patterns seen in the natural world, such as waves or leaves.

Kris Khan has loved fabric and fibers since she was a child, and she taught herself to sew doll clothes at the age of 8. She was given her first sewing machine at age 14 and has never put it away since. Kris Khan first tried quilting in 2002 when her arm was in a cast, figuring she could make quilt blocks one-handed. 144 blocks later, she had made her first quilt and has never looked back. She fell in love with the pure design of quilt making – no curves to accommodate, no drapes to be fitted to windows. In 2011, she retired from her nursing career to focus exclusively on her art.

Kris Khan currently works in a studio at Hot Shops, an old building in Omaha divided into about 50 artists’ studios. It is something of a tourist destination and, as such, she receives many visitors to her studio while working. Interacting with the public, explaining what she is doing, and describing her artistic process, are some of Kris Khan’s favorite things about her work. She finds people to be fascinated by the sewing machine, and by the realization that quilt making really is as labor-intensive as it looks. Kris Khan always points out that the first quilters (and still some today) complete the entire process by hand; in the old days the work was done by firelight or candle light!

Terry Koopman

Terry Koopman has been in the world of photography for over 40 years. He cut his teeth on film, but has embraced digital technology. Terry Koopman realized that as the world keeps getting faster and more convenient, we just don’t stop and take a look at the beauty around us. A flower, a stream even a cloud has a God-given beauty that should not be taken for granted. His mission is to capture the beauty that abounds in our everyday life and transform it into a piece of art that can be appreciated every day. Check out more of his work at <https://terrykoopman.com>.

Shelia Litke

Shelia Litke, from Blue Creek Pottery, has featured her pottery at the Crane Trust Nature & Visitor Center gift shop for a couple of years now. We enjoy describing to visitors how she makes a variety of pieces, using real burned-on bison hair, each with its own unique squiggly pattern.

Each pot is bisque fired and later the bisque is heated in the kiln and the bison hair is laid against the hot surface. The hair attaches itself to the hot pot and begins to burn. As the ash forms, a small deposit of carbon is absorbed into the clay surface, leaving a permanent trace of the bison hair. Catch up with Shelia on Facebook at Blue Creek Pottery.

Judy Martindale

Jude Martindale lives in Lincoln, Nebraska, near the single largest migratory gathering of cranes in the world. She studied biology and art in college and earned a masters degree scientific illustration. Jude paints cranes in several different artistic styles in her attempts to capture the exuberance and vitality of these birds. Her art celebrates their lives and helps protect them now and for the future. View her work at judymartindalefineart.com.

Jim McClelland

Artist Jim McClelland has earned numerous awards and grants over the years. Limited edition prints of his work have been issued in support of the National Wildlife Federation, Nebraska Wildlife Federation, National Quail Foundation and Wild Wings Galleries. His work has also appeared in books illustrations, greeting cards and on postage stamps, and gallery exhibitions across the country and in Europe.

Jim Miklavcic

Jim Miklavcic was born and raised in Illinois where he spent most of his time in the woods. Yearly trips to Wisconsin and Minnesota enhanced his knowledge and love for wildlife and nature.

He doesn't remember when the dream of becoming a wildlife artist started; it was always there. He doesn't remember learning to draw; he just always has. "It just came natural to me. The bulk of an artist's training has to come from the heart. The desire to learn seems to be an obsession and a never-ending process."

Over the years, Jim worked in design and architecture. He started to pursue his art in earnest in 1985 when he moved to Florida. He now resides in Lincoln, NE where he continues to paint and teach art classes. "I realized my art was more than a hobby to me, it was deep inside and the pull was too great to ignore. I also saw the important role wildlife artists can play in educating the public to problems facing wildlife and habitat. Our forests, along with its wildlife, is our heritage."

Michael Miller

Jeff Moravec

Jeff Moravec, who makes his home in Minneapolis, Minnesota, is a photographer, writer and journalist who specializes in outdoor subjects.

Moravec's photography work is devoted primarily to wildlife, most notably raptors. Each winter, he drives thousands of miles in search of snowy owls, great gray owls, and eagles. He has photographed the sandhill crane migration in central Nebraska numerous times. The photos in this exhibit were all taken during those spring migrations.

Moravec covers a wide variety of outdoor subjects, including backpacking and camping, for numerous publications, including the Minneapolis Star Tribune, where his articles and photography can be found regularly in the Outdoors Weekend section.

Pam Newell

Pam Newell's passion is to create glass designs with visual depth and texture that celebrates the unique character of glass and captures experiences from her travels.

The layering process begins with a blank sheet of glass, much like a painter's canvas. She then builds layers using techniques such as: glass agglomeration, fritography, and pallet-knife painting – kiln firing between each layer to achieve visual depth and develop the rich colors. Additional depth is added in the thoughtful selection of various colors, shapes, and sizes of glass. A typical piece undergoes four kiln firings before completion.

Using a combination of these unique layering and texturizing processes, developed during her 25 years of experience, Pam's initial sketches are transformed into eye catching, lifelike designs.

Jack Nordeen

Jack Nordeen has been photographing wildlife in Nebraska professionally for nearly 40 years. He is from St. Edward, Nebraska, and growing up in the 60s, spent time learning how to hunt and fish in the Beaver Creek area with his father and three brothers. Nordeen's time in the woods led him to discover the amazing artistry nature provides.

When he was young, Nordeen thought the beauty of the nature he was seeing would make wonderful photographs. Though he had no formal photography education, Jack learned how to take amazing photos which are nationally acclaimed. He has photographed wildlife and landscape throughout Nebraska, Wyoming, South Dakota, Colorado, Alaska, Arizona, New Mexico, Kansas, Iowa, and Montana. He has over 300 images published in magazines such as *Nebraska Life*, *Nature's Best Photography*, and in Nebraska State Travel guides.

In 1999, he was highly honored from the International Library of Photography Annual Competition.

In 2004, Nordeen received a highly honored award from *Nature's Best Photography* magazine's photography competition—The Winland Smith-Rice International Photography Awards.

To see more of Jack Nordeen's work, visit <https://nordeen.smugmug.com/>.

Adrian Olivera

Nebraska is a special place that really grows on you throughout time. You have the Rockies to the West, the Badlands to the North, the big cities to the South...Nebraska is surrounded really by immediate visual beauties. The real hidden treasures of Nebraska lie right on the surface (prairie) and beneath it (rivers and vibrant sandstone). This is the Nebraska Adrian Olivera has come to know...a side that not many have seen or do not know exists. It is his hope that one day, you too will see the hidden treasures of this stretch of land. You can see more of Adrian Olivera's work at <https://adrianolivera.com/>.

Cheryl Opperman

Journey into a captivating world of sunswept limestone contours, mysterious ancient architecture, majestic elk crossing misty waters, and the crimson cheeks of a curious child captured through the eye of award-winning photographer Cheryl Opperman. Her bold images provide a vivid bridge directly into the heart of countries, indigenous peoples, wildlife, and landscapes spanning the globe.

An extensive list of credits for organizations and publications including the American Humane Association, Overseas Adventure Travel, The Denver Post, Ducks Unlimited, Apple and the National Geographic Society result from her alluring exploration of over 20 countries on seven continents. Cheryl's esthetic compositions, artistic use of light, and exquisite detail have been honored with several prestigious awards including the Grand Prize in professional category of the "Ultimate Image of Earth" international contest for Earth Day 2000, the "People in Nature" Category Winner in the 2003 Nature's Best International Photography Awards, First Place for Travel/Tourism photography in the 2004 International Photography Awards, First Place "Birds" in the professional category of the 2006 National Wildlife Federation Photography Awards, and the "Wildlife" Category Winner in the 2015 Windland Smith Rice International Awards. She has been interviewed on camera by 9News television in Denver, Colorado, the Luminous Landscape, and Smithsonian Earth. She was also featured as a leading female nature photographer by Outdoor Photographer Magazine.

Her photographs have been displayed in solo and group exhibitions across the country at notable venues including the Temple Hoyne Buell Theater, Boettcher Concert Hall, and Denver International Airport in Denver, Colorado and the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in Washington DC.

Employing the power of photography to inspire interest in the environment and other cultures, she has presented slide shows or classes on various topics to schools, camera clubs, the Intermountain Regional Headquarters of the National Park Service, the North American Nature Photography Association, and the Crane Trust. Cheryl is a 1992 honors graduate of Brooks Institute of Photography in Santa Barbara, CA holding a Bachelor of Arts degree in Industrial/Scientific photography.

Jennifer Radil

Jennifer Radil uses vintage maps, paint, pencils, and coiled string, to create collaged topographical maps unlike those you've seen in any atlas. Local fauna is also a subject matter of interest. A registered art therapist and teaching artist, she balances facilitating creative

opportunities for others with creating her own work, out of her Hot Shops studio. See more of her work at jenniferradilstudio.com or, even better, visit her studio in North Downtown, Omaha.

Rick Rasmussen

Rick Rasmussen is a native of Central Nebraska and has been an avid nature and wildlife photographer for over 35 years. While he has traveled to many locations around the world to capture captivating images of nature and wildlife, he is best known for his timeless images of the Sandhill Crane migration near his hometown. Rick has received numerous awards including two international awards in Nature's Best Magazine. He has also been published in Nebraskaland, Nebraska Life, Wyoming Wildlife and Duck's Unlimited magazines. His images not only capture the beauty of nature, but they are an important symbol of his commitment to its preservation.

Diana Robinson

Diana Robinson Photography photos tell stories about places she has been, people she has met and wildlife she has encountered. Visit her website at www.dianarobinsonphotography.com.

Roy Swoboda

Born and raised in Northeast Nebraska, Roy Swoboda's parents and grandparents knew every wildflower, songbird, and wild animal that made a home on their woods, water, and prairies.

He took to photography at a young age, in pursuit of capturing a brief moment of the beauty of the outdoors. Roy Swoboda has been pursuing the ultimate outdoor thrill ever since. This pursuit has taken him from just outside of his door, to the wilds of Alaska, and everything in between.

As a mentor, Roy Swoboda has been able to share his knowledge through outdoor programs with hundreds and hundreds of children. Photography has given him another chance to share a glimpse into his world and the wonders of the outdoors with everyone.

Published numerous times, his award-winning photography has been featured in Nebraska Life Magazine as well as other publications. Driven to share a smile and a memory, Roy Swoboda started a program to ensure that Nebraska Life will be in EVERY nursing home in the state. You can help by visiting his Facebook page: facebook.com/wildfocusphotography or website: wildfocusphotography.com.

Susan Tubens

A passion for drawing began in childhood but Susan Tubens did not begin painting until many years later. Initially using acrylics, she began painting in oil in 2017. Learning this craft has been invigorating and fulfilling and Susan Tubens was fortunate to study under an exceptional artist, Paula Wallace, in Omaha, Nebraska.

Susan Tubens lived in Florida for many years before moving to Vermont, Nebraska, and now West Virginia and living in diverse areas of the country has provided a never-ending source of inspiration. She takes her own reference photos and works primarily in her studio.

Landscape painters try to capture moments in time, depicting not only what they see but how those moments make them feel. Susan Tubens is drawn to the expanse of sky, ocean and land and hopes she can convey the beauty she sees to you. Visit her website at <https://susantubensart.com>.

Paula Wallace

Paula Wallace is a working artist, maintaining a studio at the Hot Shops Art Center in Omaha, Nebraska. In addition to fine art, Paula has worked as an illustrator and muralist, a curator and an arts facilitator. She has been involved in liturgical and public art, interior design and privately commissioned work. Paula also collaborates regularly with other artists, writers, and musicians.

Much of her work as an artist began years ago and likely, truth be told, at the very beginning—woven into her DNA and nurtured with crayons and love. She studied formally at Iowa State University and the University of Iowa, in addition to a smattering of coursework in Ireland, Chicago, and elsewhere.

Much of her work has found its genesis in literature, theater, music, or the spiritual. While most of her work is figurative with an emphasis on the human face, her range of styles may be from representational to whimsical. Often, she employs an uncluttered or almost austere background, permitting the viewer to be wholly engaged with the subject of the painting or print, concentrating on the intimacy of that encounter, the imperative of a glance or gesture.

Art is the language of her work: to delight in beauty and to share the human experience are aspects of that language.

Her work is held in many private and public collections, both here and abroad. Visit her website at www.paulawallacefineart.com/.