## **ART JUNCTION STUDIO TOUR**



The Art Junction Studio Tour was a big success! Thank you to all those who were able to take part in all of the festivities.

## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

Soldier Art Workshops at Fort Bliss are looking for volunteers to assist in a number of ways to keep the project running smoothly and efficiently. If you can devote your time and efforts please volunteer today.

Opportunities include:

- Schedule artists for workshops and pop up art
- Organize supply closet
- Looking for artists to volunteer to hold workshops
- Looking for artists to give one day pop-up art
- (small stipend will be included for pop-up art classes)

Please call John Robbins at 915-309-1891 or Karla Zanelli at 915-534-7377.

EPAA is also looking for volunteers. As a members arts organization, it important for everyone to get involved and work together to keep the EPAA strong and relevant. Please volunteer today!

What we need help with are:

- Web manager for the EPAA Website
- Saturday Greeters at the Crossland Gallery
- Yearbook Committee
- Fundraising for Exhibits
- International Eye of the Camera
- Arts International 2016

Please call Karla Zanelli at 915-534-7377

## HISTORY OF EPAA - PART III





Barbara McBrown has a long history with the El Paso Art Association. She served on the Board of Directors and has held every office except Treasurer. She is a past EPAA President serving in 1972 and has been chairman of many art shows.

Back in 1966, I was thrilled to meet many El Paso artists, mostly at church. I met Kate Ball, Eugene Thurston, Jan Herring, Lavora Norman and so many more. Holly Thurston Cox was my friend and student at Texas Western College.

When I was 9 years old in the fourth grade at Crockett School, my teacher told my mother, "Always give Barbara art lessons." My mother did and I started winning blue ribbons in High School, El Paso Women's Club, etc.

The El Paso Art Association put art shows up in The Plaza Park. The city of El Paso gave the area to the organization. The members would volunteer to put up two-by-fours and then stretch chicken wire real tight all around the park. The members would then buy a 4'x8' stretch of wire for \$6 or \$8 to display their paintings for the whole world to see. I loved hanging my paintings on the chicken wire around The Plaza Park.

I made friends with Jan Herring (she liked me). In those days you had to be voted into the El Paso Art Association with two sponsors. Jan and her friend sponsored me and a committee had to visit your studio to view your paintings and then recommend you to the members of the organization. In 1967, I was a new member of the association.

The first strip mall business center was built on Montana Street called Chelmont Shopping Center. The El Paso Art Association again got volunteer members to build tripods out of two-by-fours and stretch the chicken wire all the way down the mall and the members again bought space and hung their paintings at Chelmont Center. After that we went to Bassett Shopping Mall where we the hung our paintings indoors, yeah! We hung inside the mall as long as they would welcome us. Oh, the good old

-Barbara McBrown