

June 2025

VAS ART SPOTLIGHT

FEATURED ARTIST THIS MONTH IS **Joseph Garavito**

Originally from Houston, I grew up in Monterrey, Mexico, surrounded by creativity. My mother, an art major, filled our home with artistic energy and still explores new painting techniques. I started drawing at five and never really stopped. In high school, I discovered comic book art and became fascinated with inking. Finding my mom's old Rapidographs helped me refine my line work even further.

*R*ediscovering identity through ink:
from childhood drawings to bold,
expressive linework.

Though I took a few workshops, I had no formal training. I later pursued architecture, and art became a quiet background activity. A few years ago, a major life shift led me to reflect deeply on my identity. In trying to reconnect with what felt authentic, I returned to drawing—exploring new subjects, sharpening my skills, and gradually regaining confidence. That momentum led me to



join the Visual Arts Society as a commitment to myself and my creative growth. My process begins with choosing a subject—sometimes a lone figure, sometimes a full scene. I strive for strong silhouettes, clean negative space, and a sense of motion. My architectural background brings structure; my comic art roots bring energy. I work in black and white, relying on light and shadow to shape my compositions. Using a range of pens and brushes, I build contrast and depth on smooth, hot-pressed paper. For me, art has become a way of rediscovering who I truly am.

Author: Joseph Garavito

IN OTHER NEWS....

VAS has a new board member! Welcome Vicki Richardson-Halsell - Member-at-Large! We are very happy to have you join the board!

Join a Local Glass Artisans Group! Elisa Marchand and Anna Lowary are getting a Glass Artisans group started here in the community! Anyone and everyone is welcome to join. If interested, please contact Anna Lowary email amlowary@yahoo.com | ph. (312) 213-4012

Design an Album Cover! Zac Clifton, a country music singer-songwriter is looking for an artist to design his next album cover! Interested? Reach out to Zac at zaccliftonmusic@gmail.com or (832) 278-3422 with samples of your work.

Add the Aggieland Art Trail App to your Phone

1. Go to aggielandarttrail.app
2. Sign Up (it's free)
3. Checkout, add your info and complete the order
4. You will receive the link to your mobile pass in the email.
5. Once you are logged into your pass in Chrome on your Android phone and you want to make it an app on your phone, you must be in Chrome browser. You can follow the directions given in FAQs in the top banner.
 - If you see the 3 dots on the top right side of your screen, proceed directly to Step 8.
6. Hold your finger on the 3 horizontal bars at the bottom right on your screen (don't click, hold). Up pops the Chrome info.
7. Pick Open in Chrome Browser
8. tap the 3 dots in the top right corner and look for "Add to Home screen"
9. The app will be installed.

Note that you win awards for visiting the art featured on the Aggieland Art Trail by accumulating points! !

List of Community Galleries

[Benjamin Knox Gallery & Wine Bar](#)
[Brazos Glassworks](#)
[Cushing Memorial Library & Archives](#)
[Degallery](#)
[Forsyth Galleries](#)
[INTERSECTIONS \(home of the Brazos Spinners & Weavers Guild\)](#)
[J. Wayne Stark Galleries](#)
[Perrine Winery](#)
[Tavo Coffee Co.](#)
[The Arts Center of Brazos Valley](#)
[The Frame Gallery Downtown](#)
[The Parker-Astin](#)

Local Audience for your Art

Display your art on VAS virtual gallery: If you would like to have your art showcased in our virtual gallery, please fill out this [FORM](#) | **Display your art around town:** If you would like to have your art displayed in local businesses, fill out this [FORM](#). These local venues are always showing new art; be part of their rotation! | **Sell your art:** [First Saturday Art Market](#) held @ Degallery from 11am-4pm starting again in Sept.

VAS Artists Displaying their Art

Jacqui Miller's Work Accepted into Prestigious International Exhibitions. Jacqui Miller has achieved international recognition with the acceptance of her artwork into two juried exhibitions celebrating women in art. Her pieces were selected for Celebrating the Women's Day, Women-2025, sponsored by Exhibizone.com, and International Women's Day Femina-2025, sponsored by Gallerium.art. Both exhibitions are held under the umbrella of Biafarin, a leading Canadian art organization that supports and showcases visual artists across all mediums worldwide. Explore the exhibition catalogs here: [HERE](#) and [HERE](#). | **Jaimie Laydish** will have her own art show at [The Arts Center from June 12 to August 2](#). Go see over 50 of her pieces displayed in both of their galleries: the main gallery and the upstairs gallery | **Theodora Krc**

has her art displayed at Aloft College Station Hotel and Perrine Winery | **Wendy Keeney-Kennicutt** is displaying her art at the Brazos Center | **Mindy Austin & Wendy Keeney-Kennicutt** have art displayed at Tavo Coffee Co. If you would like to have your art displayed / sold in businesses around town, go [HERE](#).

Workshops

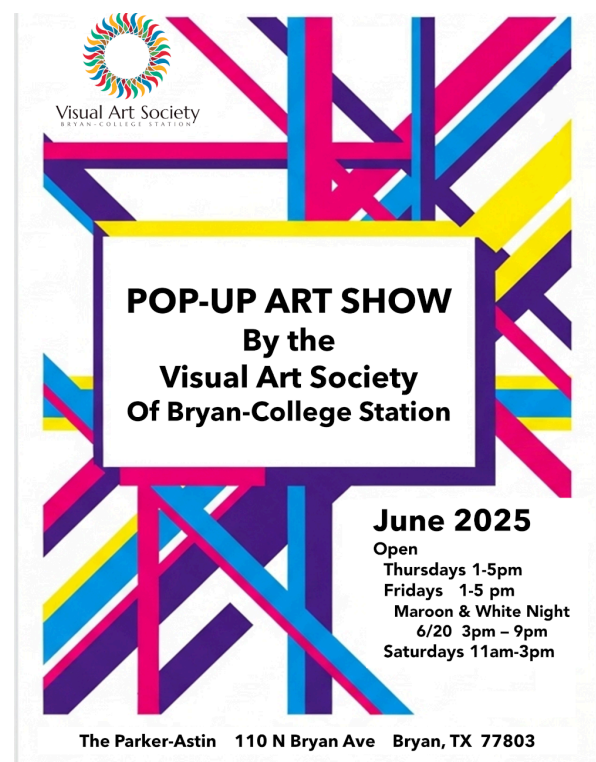
[DEGALLERY](#) | [Wendy Keeney-Kennicutt Brazos Watercolor Retreats](#) | [Sabra Delyn Wilhelm DeLyn Atelier Fine Art & Teaching Studio](#) | [Lisa Miller Laughing Parrot Studio](#) | [Tim "Pops" Vanya T.W. Vanya Fine Art](#) | [Mary Skow \(watercolor\)](#) | [Chris Wilson](#) (watercolor) | [Jaimie Ladysch](#) Encaustic Photography & Encaustic Arts | [Robyn Glass](#) (drawing, watercolor, paper-cut, colored pencil) | If you teach, we will advertise your business. Contact Wendy at president@visualartsociety.org.

VAS member, Joel Kitchens has published a book [San Antonio and Its Missions. Three Centuries of History, Memory, and Heritage By Joel Daniel Kitchens](#). This book claims San Antonio's five Spanish Colonial-era missions are "sites of memory," as defined by French historian Pierre Nora. By that definition, the missions are an enduring, and deeply-rooted part of the city's heritage. As both sacred spaces, as well as being some of the top tourist attractions in the state, the missions continue to serve some of the original religious and educational functions that began three centuries ago on what was then a remote site on the frontier. In 2015, the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization recognized the missions' importance to Texas and beyond by awarding World Heritage Site status to these buildings. By taking a 'deep dive' into the primary sources, this project explores how and why the Spanish built the missions, what happened to the missions after the Spanish colonizers left, and how and why the missions came to weigh so heavily in the American imagination and identity (particularly after the 1836 Battle of the Alamo, and the arrival of the railroad in 1877 which connected San Antonio to the national

web of iron and steel), even into the twenty-first century. The primary sources include Spanish Colonial documents, census data, travel narratives, advertisements by railroad companies, tourist guides, and even the buildings themselves.

Parker-Astin Gallery & VAS: A New Collaborative Exhibit

Thanks to Iva Banik's initiative,, five VAS artists—Theodora Krc, Stacey Mayer, Joel Kitchens, Vicki Richardson-Halsell, and Wendy Keeney-Kennicutt —will participate in a special month-long show at the [Parker-Astin Gallery](#) open on Thursday, Friday and Saturday (see poster).. This is not a traditional exhibit. Participating artists are responsible for staffing the gallery and managing sales. This show is an exciting experiment and a chance to explore what it would mean for VAS to have a shared space. | A 10x10 space has been offered for \$150/month—artists would manage sales and coverage. Thanks to all participating artists for your commitment and flexibility!



Note: There will be no VAS Art Spotlight in July or August. We will resume in September. HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!

