Westport River Watershed Alliance
Fifth Annual Winter Art Show

Oars & Paddles

Saturday, February 24 through Saturday, March 10, 2018

Reception & Silent Auction
Saturday, March 10

Dede Shattuck Gallery
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DeDee Shattuck Gallery
Thank you for attending WRWA’s fifth Annual Winter Art Show “Oars and Paddles” at the Dedee Shattuck Gallery.

This booklet shows the artists that contributed to the show, their art work, and information about themselves and their inspirations. We are so grateful for their efforts and hope that you will visit their websites or studios and support their creative endeavors.

Some of our contributors are not full-time artists, but wanted to contribute their talents and take part in the winter art show in support of the Watershed Alliance; so you will see that not all entrants provided web pages, photos or studio information.

Our thanks to all the folks who donated old, unused oars and paddles for this art show.

This program book was funded in part by a grant from The Westport Cultural Council

Our thanks also to Dedee and Bill Shattuck for their generosity, and to Westport Rivers Winery, Buzzards Bay Brewing and Ketcham Traps for their contributions.
My art evokes the natural beauty of coastal New England, the ocean, beaches, farms, and wild life are my inspiration.

I strive to pare down and find the essence of my subject matter by abstracting shapes and exaggerating color.

Straddling the edge of realism and abstraction is the most exciting and challenging aspect of my art.

This piece was inspired by our wide variety of sea birds and my collection of sea glass gathered over the years from Horseneck Beach.
My piece for the WRWA Winter Art Show was done using oil paints. The oar was sanded, handle stained, and paddle gessoed in preparation for a pencil sketch, followed by oils. It is protected against color changes or fade. My contact and available works for sale are displayed at [www.ashley-ainsworth.com](http://www.ashley-ainsworth.com). Commission schedule is available upon request.

Email: bertiegracestudio@gmail.com
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Josie Richmond Arkins

Coat Rack

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7 South of Commons Rd. Little Compton, RI

1.401.635.2169

THE ART CAFE
A GALLERY
COFFEE TEA ESPRESSO
This spectacular creature is the spirit of the northern wilderness.

The loon’s wails and beauty have always appealed to me, truly representing one of nature’s gifts.

Ray Audet
The Lure of the Loon

Email: audetc@aol.com
Phone: 508-415-8377
In this piece, the weathering and life of the oar was embraced through sculptural additions. Weaving barnacle like growths throughout the oar, it invites the audience to consider it as if it were an old relic dug up from the sea.
I have painted a picture of Stage Harbor Lighthouse in Chatham, MA on the paddle and wrapped two sections of the oar with rope. Acrylic paint was used throughout. The name of this work is titled "Sailing to Stage Harbor" I am the owner of The Vintage Barn in N. Dartmouth, MA and have a number of painting depicting local scenic views in acrylic and oil.

We are currently closed for the season (opening in late March) but my artwork can be viewed via Facebook under The Vintage Barn Dartmouth.
It takes a short amount of time for the moment of conception to be realized. Seeing the whole thing, seeing its potential, then figuring out all the steps needed to bring it into being, which may take up to a week or more. When I start something, I go through to the finish until I'm done.

There is always a driving concept and/or narrative that develops in the process. With this object I began to envision, *a red oar rowing silently to the shore.*
Stanley Cornwall
Antique Circa Early 1900’s Wooden Canoe Paddle With Eastern Brook Trout Portrait

Eastern Brook Trout
Salvelinus Fontinalis
Size varies greatly, depending on water temperature, productivity and food sources. The average length of a 3 year-old Brook trout in New England lakes is 13.3”. However, same age trout from different lakes range from 7.5 to 17.5”. Stream populations are typically slower growing than lake populations. Some high elevation Trout populations mature and reproduce at lengths smaller than 6”. Color is variable, depending on habitat, Brook trout can be distinguished from other members of the trout family by the dark, wavy, worm-like line on their back and the white leading edges of their fins, including the tail.

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John Cummings

2 Oars

For JC, it's all about pausing to appreciate and capture the beautiful setting in which we live. These scenes need no enhancement. Once printed, photos are assembled, laminated, cut to size and adhered to the surface with a final clear coat or two. "Anyone can do this. You just have to be in the right place at the right time and observe this beautiful place."

Cheers! JC.

Easterly view of Westport Point across the West Branch of the Westport River at twilight.
Faith Duarte
Flowers On An Oar

I have loved creating art my whole life. Before I could write I drew pictures and would create stories to go with them. As I’ve gotten older it has become difficult to go far without a sketchbook.

I plan to study Art in the Fall at BCC and am currently a senior at Westport High School.

My paddle has been influenced by the flowers that I often draw. When I was younger I wanted to learn to create very realistic fire and as my drawing evolved the fire turned into these flowers. My process of making these designs usually involves sketching out the flower and then outlining the design in black, after that I shade in the flowers with my desired colors. I imagine my audience as group of younger people who are interested in the design but my mom loves the colors in my art.
Utilizing low relief (bas-relief) techniques, this piece comes as an extension of one particular ongoing project - a semi-abstract floral series entitled *Plant Life*. Instead of approaching the paintings of this body of work as 'still-lifes', I have attempted to play with the lines between the microscopic and the macroscopic by charging canvas space with references to (what I am thinking of as) 'a life-giving cosmos'. In this series I have found myself crawling like an insect through the soil of memory seeking clues from previous summers rather than working from direct observation ~ hopefully evoking fragrance and, at even closer inspection, a peek into the depths of 'outer' space.
David Formanek

TULI KUPFERBERG MEMORIAL JINGLE SHELL STICK

The Memorial Jingle Shell Stick honors American poet Tuli Kupferberg (1923-2010, a founder of the seminal (he would certainly approve the term) radical rock group The Fugs. Tuli survived a jump from the Manhattan Bridge into the East River, (misreported by Alan Ginsberg in *Howl*—his back broke.) Varieties of the jingle stick, his signature instrument, are known around the world: the batih, kuttepiel, Lagerphone, Mendoza, Mendozer, monkey stick, Murrumbidgee River rattler, pogocello, stumpf fiddle, ugly stick, or Zob stick.

*Anomia simplex* L. is the nacreous, usually lemon yellow or orange sorbet-colored Jingle Shell of western Atlantic waters. The tough thin shells, responsive to location, are highly variable almost to the point of formlessness. Byssal threads passing through an opening in the under shell fix it to rocks. Oyster farmers distribute jingle shells to encourage oysters to build reefs.

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"I've tried to create a picture and to use colors that will elicit the light-hearted feelings that we experience in summer, in this beautiful coastal town. Despite it being a cold winter, as I painted I could imagine the feeling of a walk on the town beach - with warm sand and a southwest breeze."

jrfreddo@hotmail.com
Gay Gillies

My paddle is inspired by the lives and art of the Canadian Inuit people. Their simple creations are narratives of their continuing symbiotic history with the environment. A narrative to take to heart.

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Jamaica Plains, MA
Perrin Gardent
No Bones About It
Rita Gardent

Bee Happy

A Windy Day

My inspiration for this oar is from a trip I took to Italy. Driving along the highway in Tuscany we came upon miles and miles of sunflowers. I had to stop and walk into this sea of yellow. The bright yellow colors reminded me of the sun and the hum of the bees was incredible. I enjoyed the moment.
"As a painter and a printmaker, I love the combination of lines and multiple images. Using the same image over and over creates a strong statement. The simplicity of a day at the beach becomes something special. While painting my oar,( which I found on the beach), I tried to keep in mind as well to respect the texture and the natural patterns of the wood to incorporate into my painting.”

Salt Works Studio
thesaltworks.com
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Follow me on Facebook at Saltworks Studio
Barbara Healy

In the Wind

Whether I am boating or bird watching, the Westport River brings me closer to nature.

Oar - acrylic paint with spar varnish

Website: Barbarahealypainter.com
A friend gave me this broken oar blade. I looked at it and decided to let the grain dictate a beginning of the composition. Then, as the piece evolved the title popped into my head.
Oars are functional tools. When I designed my oar, I wanted it to continue to serve a function. The shape of the oar loosely resembled an Edison light bulb. This inspired me to create a lamp, which would showcase the original structure. I used nautical colors and textures to blend the original purpose and the new purpose of the oar.

web: elizabethkingpainting.com
email: eking01@alumni.risd.edu
Fred Kracke
Transom and Oar Table

Kracke Kreations
fekracke@hotmail.com
The wonderful texture of this weathered, well used oar is what drew me to it. The oar was lightly brushed to remove debris prior to applying three coats of spray lacquer to preserve the character only time can create. A four layer was brushed on to adhere the metal leaf to the oar as well as three top coats of same. The fish are acrylic paint applied using a palette knife, layer upon layer, creating their own unique texture. Intricate details and stripes were added and then topped with two coats of tinted varnish. The 11th in a series called Funky Fish. Suitable for indoor or protected outdoor display.

Jlawdesign.com
Alexandria Mauck

Like-an-Oar

In the last ten years the woods in Westport have had an increasing amount of lichen growth. Lichen is a symbiosis between different organisms - a fungus and an alga. To me it represents the inevitable change that is inherent in our universe.

I endeavor to embrace change, admire its beauty and the infinite possibilities. The lichen on this oar was found on the ground after a snow melt on my walk to the Point. I named the piece Like-an-Oar because someone will like an oar enough to donate to the Westport River Watershed Alliance which has a symbiotic relationship with our community’s ever-changing nature.

I can not guarantee that the lichen will last stuck to this oar any more than I can guarantee that our community will stay as it is. This too shall change.

The artist, Alexandria Mauck is a 30 year resident of Westport with a strong appreciation for the natural beauty that Westport and the surrounding communities offers. She has her own portrait photography business that she runs out of her home studio at Westport Point. Her photography work can be seen in South Coast Almanac or on her website at http://www.alexandriamauck.com

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This is “Bobby’s Oar”, inspired by the legendary Bobby Orr who re-energized hockey in New England during his time with the Boston Bruins.

Throughout most of his career he wielded the Victoriaville Pro hockey stick with his iconic two strand black tape job.

This oar is dedicated to Bobby and everything he has done for the sport of hockey.

Parker G. Mauck
(508) 496-8682
pgmauck@gmail.com
Judith C. McLean attended Norton Schools for twelve years, and graduated from Mass. College of Art with a BFA in Drawing and Painting, with Art Education as a minor. She has loved Westport for as long as she can remember.

I chose an oar that had black tape punctuating the shaft—the blade was my view of Westport Harbor. But it must be all on one piece, so a quote from long ago surfaced, “Home is the sailor, home from the Sea.” It seemed to fit the space perfectly.

Something magic happens here in the meeting of two rivers and the ocean. The softness of the air, the cries of the gulls and so much water. Robert Louis Stevenson said it first, and said it best. Westport caught me eighty years ago, and it has not let me go.

Judith C. McLean attended Norton Schools for twelve years, and graduated from Mass. College of Art with a BFA in Drawing and Painting, with Art Education as a minor. She has loved Westport for as long as she can remember.
Oar photo and information not available at press time.

The art work is on display in the gallery.
Nancy Shand
"Scrimshaw paddled -
the Passage of Time"

I decided to incorporate an old tiller from our Ensign along with old oar locks. Then I decorated each side with etched images of fossil fish and fossil horseshoe crabs.

Website: [www.nancyhartshand.com](http://www.nancyhartshand.com)
Phone: 401 6251176
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Reflected light is captured in the shifting shades of blue and rippling lines, encapsulating bubbles, currents and undulations left behind as the oar cuts through the surface of the water. The mesh of wire encompassing the oar is reflective of the web of pollution intruding on our waterways.

kristinsstreet@gmail.com
Lucy Tabit
Bee-ing Present

Although I am not a political person, I have been advocating for nature's pollinators by working behind the scenes to push through legislation proposing to keep harmful chemicals out of our environment to protect our pollinators for the last four years and have found that it is a daunting task. While this process takes its course, the environment is still at our mercy.

This paddle represents, for me, our environment that is deteriorating around us by its appearance and the image of the bee a tribute which signifies what great harm these creatures are facing - an experience I have learned through my two decades of beekeeping. The paddle is covered in beeswax I harvested - a scented reminder of what could be lost in the delicate balance of our ecology. I am generally a pysanky artist, who uses beeswax to create symbolic geometric designs on delicate eggshells. Here, I have burned the bee image into the beaten paddle and preserved it in beeswax as a symbol and reminder of the delicate balance in our environment.
Hana Tabit  
**Hope Springs Eternal**

I'm a self taught artist from Westport and I've drawn for as long as I can remember. I gathered much inspiration from other members of my family, who were fantastic artistic role models, and I eventually developed my own style: cartoon realism. While paint and I are young acquaintances, I chose to use it for this paddle instead of my usual medium, markers and ink.

The paddle I've created is a statement to the resilience of nature in spite of the harm being done to it. Within the panel, a mother-nature type figure kneels before an icy blue reflecting pool in a perpetual state of winter. Her green dress and rosy complexion hint at the hope of spring, and the bright red cardinal presents another faint hope of recovery. Although the figure is too weak to fully stand, she is still elegantly dressed and exudes poise and dignity as she kneels in the snow. In addition to her pose, the beaten quality of the paddle and the winter landscape is symbolic of the damage being done to our environment.

I am currently attending Bishop Stang High School and plan on majoring in chemistry in college this fall.
Kate Turner
Memphis Rugrats

kkenny275@gmail.com
Michael Walden
Dream

Maintaining the simplicity of a bond, as frantic masculinity takes hold of a contemporary generation divided on what makes a man masculine. Shedding these constraints is freedom and truth. A dream.

Michael Walden, born in North Adams, MA is an artist based in Coastal New England. A BA from Framingham University and a year abroad lead to a MFA from Boston University in 1996, specializing in art education.

In 2014 Walden was awarded a second MFA from Mass Art. In 2018, Walden completed a month long residency at the Vermont Studio Center. He was named two-time recipient of the Returning Residency Program at the Fine Arts Work Center, (2016-17) and was a returning artist within the Resident Artist Series at the Gallery Ehva, (2011-13).

His works have been viewed at the Leslie Lohman Museum in New York City, Bakker Gallery, ArtStand, and Arnheim Gallery.
Nancy Bogle Westfeldt

Antarctica

I have spent so much of my life in the outdoors: in the mountains and by the ocean, and it is these landscapes that are the resources for my paintings and ceramic work. This Fall I was fortunate to go on an expedition to the Falklands, South Georgia and the Antarctic Peninsula with a company called One Ocean. The landscapes and wildlife were like nothing I had ever seen before, and will stay embedded in my memory for the remainder of my life.

On this oar, one side depicts some of the King Penguins which inhabit sections of the island by the thousands and also a Black Browed Albatross which species was almost extinct due to the number of rats that were once brought to the island by whalers and sealers.

The other side of the oar shows Gentoo Penguins and a Chin Strap from Antarctica. In the colonies we saw, the penguins numbered in the hundreds. Also included on the oar is a depiction of a Wandering Albatross. The peace and solitude with only seeing wildlife is an adventure worth taking.

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Jim & Nancy Whitin
‘Rowing-Up Stick

For children or grandchildren

Measure your little schoolies as they ‘row up
A fun growth stick that will follow you wherever you may move.
No need to mark up the wall—
don’t leave childhood history behind.

nancywhitin.com
The art is in the wood ~ my goal was to create a functional, as well as artistic, piece.

This sturdy coat and boot stand was inspired from a very old weathered and worn oar which is held in place by an industrial farm relic known as a rotary hoe wheel.

The forged iron wheel shaft is buried in two large wooden rounds to stabilize the stand and function as a resting place for shoes and boots. A cast iron five-armed Octopus serves as the hanger for coats.

The oar and wooden rounds have been stained with wood dye to enhance the wood grain. The piece is made to be disassembled for ease in transport.

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Corey Windham
_Oar Locks or Oar Lox_

Acrylic paint, watercolor paint, ink, safe door, keys and padlocks.

In order to properly row a boat, a mariner needs oarlocks. I tend to take things literally and things fall apart from there.

My oar is two sided: on one side there are oar locks, on the other side is oar lox.

On the “Oar Locks” side there are padlocks, combination locks, and an assortment of keys that have mysteriously accumulated in a drawer over the years.

(I must at this time thank my close, personal friend, Sean Quigley, for making this piece “safe” for viewing.) Inside the safe there is a collection of bank notes, or puns with diminishing returns: illustrations of Davy Jones (of the Monkees), pirate booty and pieces of eight.

On the other side of the oar an Atlantic Salmon is depicted. Salmon is filleted, brined and becomes delicious lox. Therefore, we have “Oar Locks or Oar Lox.”
Sarah Tappen Windham
Oar-ament

Acrylic paint, gold leaf, velvet ribbon, brass tacks and gold trim. I was attracted to this oar because of the squared off section of the shaft. This section does not seem to serve a function so I came to think of it as more decorative. Hence, ornament or “Oar-ament”.

Helen Woodhouse
Blue Heron

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Yufei Xiao

Seasons

I am always interested in incorporating the original texture of the material into the artwork. While composing the painting, I tried to portray the birches along the indentations of the paddle. By doing so, the erect and lively birches blend with the wooden colors.

I also observed the dusty grey at the back gradually shading to ochre as I flipped over the paddle, which inspired me to paint the wood transforming from winter to spring.

For me, the beauty of the landscape is to catch the subtle but detectable changes in silence and to accept everything that happens naturally.

Moses Brown High School
Student
Inspired by a newfound enthusiasm for rowing with Dharma Voyage, this paste paper and “dunyet” adorned oar brings together many elements of the charmed life I’ve enjoyed living along the Westport River.

First, “dunyets” is the name my kids assigned to beach glass, smooth enough to keep - “Is this one done yet?” Creating designs on the indigo and white paste paper involves mixing acrylic colors into a rice flour paste that is washed onto wet paper. Patterns and images appear by lifting paint from paper using rollers, hand made by my ad hoc collective of crafting friends. The wooden oar was purchased along with a Muskoka Livery Skiff made in Ontario, Canada, circa 1900.

The delight of spying a dazzling sapphire dunyet in the sunlit sand, the soul settling calm of early morning rows at Hixbridge and sharing such times with friends, new and long loved, are just a few of the rich gifts of Westport River life.
Yue Zi

Bloop Bloop

The contrast of the light circles between the black marks of the sharpie makes the piece pop and playful.

Moses Brown High School Student
Didn’t get to take a paddle home?

Don’t worry, you can take home a mini paddle for a suggested donation starting at $10. These mini paddles were made by students from Westport High School, Bishop Connolly High School, and Tiverton High School. As part of their community service, they spent a combined 20 hours painting these paddles to contribute to our Oars and Paddles Winter Art Show.

Thank you, art teachers and students from Westport High School, Bishop Connolly High School and Tiverton High School:
Judy Cronin - lead teacher/instructional coach Unified Arts Department, Dartmouth HS, Greg Sampl, Art Teacher Bishop Connolly HS, Michelle Borges, Art Teacher Westport HS.

And thanks to our Commonwealth Corps Educators Angela Hilsman and Victoria Quennessen for organizing this project, and for their ongoing one-year service at WRWA.
Westport River Watershed Alliance
UPCOMING EVENTS & PROGRAMS 2018

Saturday, March 3 ♦ Brushes & Brews

Sunday, March 4 ♦ WRWA Annual Meeting at Bittersweet Farm
Brunch at 11:15 ♦ $25 per person
Business Meeting at 12:00 ♦ Speaking Program: Jeremy Grantham

Wednesday, April 18 ♦ Electronics Recycling at Westport Town Hall

Saturday, May 5 ♦ Annual Beach Clean-Up ♦ Town Beach

Saturday, June 9 ♦ RIVER DAY ♦ Free Riverfront Festival at Head of Westport Town Landing

Saturday, July 14 ♦ Summer Concert at Westport Rivers Vineyard
Jonathan Edwards & Jon Pousette-Dart ♦ 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, August 11 ♦ Annual Summer Gala

Registration is Open for WRWA's Summer Coastal Ecology Program

The Westport River Watershed Alliance is again offering a variety of fun, hands-on summer science program for kids ages 3-16. Visit the web page or contact Shelli Costa at wep@wrwa.com.

For more information visit www.westportwatershed.org
or call 508-636-3016

For monthly updates on WRWA events and programs, subscribe to our free RIVER NEWS publication. Email outreach@wrwa.com.
Westport River Watershed Alliance & The Narrows Center for the Arts

Summer Concert
At Westport Rivers Vineyard

Jonathan Edwards —— and Jon Pousette-Dart

Saturday, July 14, 2018
5:30 - 8 p.m.
Gates open at 5:00
Rain Date: July 15

Tickets:
WRWA Members: $40
Non-members: $50
At the gate: $60
Available at:
www.westportwatershed.org
www.narrowscenter.org
Order by phone 508-636-3016

Sponsored by

Join the Westport River Watershed Alliance at their annual free Riverfront Festival!

A Westport tradition • Family Fun since 1984

River Day
Saturday, June 9, 2018
10 am to 3 pm
Head of Westport Landing (corner of Drift Rd. & Old County Rd.)

• Raptor Show • Fun activities for kids • History Tour • Music by the Gnomes •
• Food & Beverages • Exhibitors and Vendors •
Oar, Repurposed

So many ideas for the oar abandoned
left aloft on the rafters
standing on end in a far dark corner
separated from its lost or broken other

So many ideas for the oar—its blade
for painting, signage, or sculpture
its shaft for shelf support
or hanging fabric, the whole of it painted
or given feet for a coat rack
or—Why, who’d have thought
for a whacky piece of pop art, marbles in its blade
allowing the passage of opaque light

For the odd oar whose varnish has faded & peeled
whose scar in the rowlock shows the wear
of miles long
forgotten

of destinations forgotten also
whose sweat-stained handle reveals landings
never reached

so many reinventions for the oar
itself initially planed & sanded, utilitarian

So many dreams for the oar
held by the artist rowing
with one oar in the water
over the far reaches
nevertheless getting there
getting it right, reaching the island, starlit
of transformation, an idea older
than Ovid, primitive as fire

O Oar
dance with me hold me never LET ME GO!

—Richard Dey

Offshore Press 2017
WRWA Membership supports our science and education programs.

Now is a good time to renew your membership, or if you are not yet a member, please consider becoming one!

Westport River Watershed Alliance
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Winter Art Show 2018 ♦ Oars & Paddles