

FAVA ARTIST INSTRUCTOR STAFF

Andrius Balukas - After getting his degree in drawing and painting, Andrius moved to New York to the fledgling new art community of TriBeCa to pursue his art career. He supported himself through graphic design for a variety of museums, galleries, and corporations, including the Museum of Modern Art and the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Andrius was one of the earlier graphic designers to utilize personal computers professionally for graphic work. He also supported a variety of interests in local filmmaking, particularly alternative cinema, and was one of the founders of the Film Forum theatre in Lower Manhattan. (You can view his work on the web at www.skystudioart.com)

Clif Barnes has been taking pictures since the third grade, and developing them since 1966. He has taught through FAVA and elsewhere for over 30 years and was the Oberlin Police Department photographer for 28 years. Clif currently serves on the FAVA Board of Trustees and is assisting in the formation of the FAVA Camera Club.

Lawanda Cavallo is an experienced ceramics artist and Oberlin resident of the past 14 years. She received an associates degree from LCCC in Independent Art Studies. Lawanda is currently pursuing a degree in Art Therapy.

Donna Coleman received her MFA in painting from Brooklyn College and her BFA from Rhode Island School of Design. She has exhibited her work in solo and group shows locally and throughout the New York and Washington D.C. areas. She has taught at Oberlin College and numerous public and private school art programs, she received an Ohio Arts Council Individual artist Fellowship in 2002 & 2007 and a grant from the George Sugarman Foundation in 2005.

Kathleen Digney received her BFA from the Cleveland Institute of Art and has worked as a professional artist for over 20 years. She began her career as a medical illustrator and graphic artist while accepting portrait commissions on the side. Currently she focuses on her portrait painting career and teaching. Kathleen has worked extensively with instructing both children and adults. Some of these classes include, but are not limited to, various painting mediums (watercolor, acrylic, oil painting, and colored pencil), drawing, and summer art camps for kids. She is a member of the Portrait Society of America.

Sheree Ferrato has been creating her glass art in stained and fused glass for more than 30 years. She has studied glass continually and at several different facilities including Cleveland Institute of Art, Cooper Art School, Narcissus Quagliata School of Glass Art, Bullseye Glass Co, Corning Glass and PGC. She puts her passion for nature and light into her fused glass works, and into her teaching. Her studio, Verite Glass Inc. is located in Avon Ohio.

P. Mark Johnson has been teaching art for 37 years. He has a BFA from Kent State University and has taught and attended workshops in Ohio, California, Chicago, Minnesota and Toronto. He has lectured on scrimshaw, lapidary, and jewelry making. His passion is jewelry and his pieces have been sold worldwide.

Karen Lough received a BA from Fairmont State College, WV, with an emphasis in fine art, design and photography. She is a life member of the West Virginia Watercolor Society, and has won several awards in juried and all-member exhibitions. At this time Karen is drawing, painting and photographing botanicals at the Cleveland Botanical Gardens. Karen is also a member of the Erie Shores Photography Club.

Rachel Mangan attended Lorain County Community College and Bowling Green University, where she studied Fine Art specializing in Photography. She has shown her work in local galleries since high school. She has diverse experience working with children, including work with a preschool as well as with Common Ground's Earth Camp for kids, where she was the Art and Craft Coordinator.

Elizabeth Meadows received her BFA from Carnegie Mellon and has been working with metal for over twenty years. She has taught welded and non-welded art at LCCC, Oberlin College and other area schools, and is a partner in Fairplay Stonecarvers in Oberlin.

James W. Peake has served as the FAVA Education & Outreach Coordinator since January of 2007. James is a graduate of Oberlin College, class of '06, where he earned a BA in Environmental Studies and minored in Studio Art. His studies in college focused largely on community based education, interdisciplinary learning and art. One of James' favorite art forms is origami, and he has extensive experience with teaching paper folding, especially with children.

Barbara Rollins is a signature member of the Ohio Watercolor Society. Her work is frequently on display at the FAVA gallery and sold in Uncommon Objects. Barbara also plays a very active role within the FAVA organization and serves on the FAVA Board of Trustees.

Susan Socotch is a graduate of Lorain County Community College and Bowling Green State University, where she received a BFA in Fiber Arts and Printmaking. She is an accomplished fiber artist, printmaker, bead artist, and author, and has shown her work in both international and local art venues. Susan is extremely excited to be teaching at FAVA and to share the joy of creativity!

Carol Spiros received a B.A. in art from CSU and continued her pottery studies at the Cleveland Institute of Arts and North Carolina's Penland School of Crafts. She has taught pottery to all ages at FAVA and Cleveland area arts centers.

Richard Thompson traveled around the world as a prominent hair designer and artistic trainer for over 25 years. Returning to the Chicago in 2003, Richard became a full-time artist with a wide variety of subject matter. Without the benefit of a formal education, he has established himself as one of the Midwest's most prolific assemblage sculptors and steampunk jewelers. Self-taught in all mediums, including oil paint on canvas, stone, brick, wood and metals.

William Warden is a retired art instructor having worked in the Lorain City Schools for thirty-two years. He is a graduate of Ohio State University with a BFA and has completed additional graduate studies at Kent State and Bowling Green Universities.