

Brooks-Anderson, Ames featured artists

"The Spirit of Being" is a body of unique artwork by two of Backstreet's finest artists, Pattie Brooks-Anderson and Stephanie Ames. The public is invited to a catered reception on Saturday, March 14, from 3 to 5 p.m., with guitarist Michael Erbrant.

Pattie Brooks-Anderson, vice-president of Backstreet, brings to her unique signature watercolor-ink paintings education, experience and a profound essence of the spirit she experiences.

She reaches past the art of drawing into the submerged artist within.

For her, painting channels a universal place found in quiet.

She loves animals. Through her technique and use of whimsy, she captures their sense of spirit, the same sense of spirit she feels in creation. She seeks to relay this sentiment to her viewer, in kindred agreement with universal appeal.

She fashions a golden thread conveying the emotion that she feels creating and imparts that to her audience.

While ambling in forests, on beaches, practicing Qigong or experiencing its inspiring language, an image often appears.

Other times she has no idea in mind. A mental picture expands while creating.



Pattie Brooks-Anderson and Stephanie Ames will have their work featured at Backstreet Gallery through March.

COURTESY PHOTO

"I often don't know what I'm painting until close to completion. As the painting develops, messages seem to come

through a source greater than myself," said Brooks-Anderson.

Her children's book is a story that gathers many of her best works all in one place.

Ames, a masterful photographer, checks tide tables or sun/moon charts. She knows where to film stunning sunsets, high tide splashes against rocky shores, and when to capture the light bathing a form, in a mood, a feeling.

To ensure photographing the image she envisions, she may spend hours or days waiting for the right light to spill its magic on her subject.

She has developed technical skills to the point where she is confident that she can display the image the way she wants.

Seeking to capture the intensity, the emotion she experiences on location relays similar reactions to the viewer.

Her passionate photographs embody the spirit with which she reaches beyond the subject and finds its essence.

Playing his fine flamingo guitar, Erbrant will entertain during the March 14 reception.

The musician can be seen and heard around Old Town practicing and chatting with folks as he goes.

Hillsbery watercolor class for beginners in March



Hillsbery's watercolor "Sunrise and Shadows"

Award winning local artist Carole Hillsbery will be offering several classes beginning March 28.

The first class, Absolute Beginner's Watercolor Class, will demonstrate the various watercolor techniques and colors Hillsbery uses. She will also teach the basics, such as what materials to purchase and where, a discussion of what watercolor is all about, terminology, color washes, mixing etc. It's a relaxed time to ask

questions, see if you enjoy her style, and to take pictures. The first class is free and will not require any painting.

The class, set for Saturday, March 28, will be from 10 a.m. to noon.

There is a limit of 12 participants. To reserve to spot, call 541-997-8676 or email Charlene Wilson at charwilson66@gmail.com.

Future classes will be held on Thursday, April 23, 30, May 7 and 14.



A Taste of Florence Dining Guide

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Mo's Restaurant

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