



The artist focus for the month of October at the Alma Community Art Center is Laurie Lehman. She is a mid-Michigan artist whose home and studio sits on a few quiet acres in Stanton, Michigan. This quiet setting provides the inspiration and atmosphere for her work.

She returned to her love of painting after retiring from landscape design; watercolor and pastel are her mediums of choice. "I paint with enthusiasm seeking the mood of a landscape or subject at hand." Her subjects are varied from people and pets to still life; however, landscapes are a favorite.

While completing her Bachelor of Landscape Architecture at Michigan State University, she participated in two foreign studies; one located in Mexico and the other in the Netherlands. These experiences helped to broaden her cultural interests and art appreciation. Laurie has studied with many artists in workshop settings and some of these include watercolor artists Don Andrews, Mary Whyte, Joe Fettingis; pastel artist Jim Markle; and wildlife artist Rod Lawrence. Her current exhibits are in Jerry's Paint Store and Montcalm Area Art Association at Braman Center Montcalm Community College, Greenville. She is the chair of the Montcalm Area Art Association, and member of the Great Lakes Plein Air Association, Grand Valley Artist of Michigan Art, and Rogue River Art of Rockford.

Laurie has just completed a true painting challenge. She painted and completed a picture a day during the month of September. She worked on all types of subjects and then posted the completed work on Facebook at the end of each day. It was a challenge which allowed her to really concentrate on the subject and to improve on her work.

Laurie will be our next instructor for our Uncorked Painting Session which is scheduled for Thursday, October 17 from 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm at the Alma Elks Club, 1400 Warwick Drive, Alma. The subject for this class is Day 29 of Laurie's daily painting challenge and is a fall setting of a barn and trees. The \$30 fee covers all materials for the class and light snacks will be provided. Because the Uncorked Painting Sessions are so successful, we are scheduling one session on the third Thursday of each month. Class size is limited so you need to pre-register to reserve your spot. You may do this by visiting our website at www.alma-cac.org/events or call 989-463-8366 or stop by the Art Center at our

temporary location at 312 Woodworth Avenue in Alma. We are open Tuesday through Friday from 11:00 a.m. until 5:00 pm with Thursday evening staying open until 6:00 p.m.

The Art Center also offers classes for individuals or for small groups. You will be able to schedule the time that works for you and will get individual attention. If you are looking for a special way to celebrate someone's birthday or just a fun and creative time, call and schedule an "Arty Party." Young and old will enjoy this opportunity.

The Alma Community Art Center would like to announce the Farmer's Market Mural Contest. It is a chance to see your design turned into a 23 X 50 mural on the rear wall of Beacon and Bridge on the corner of Superior Street and Pine Avenue. This contest is open to students in 7th – 12th grade that reside in Gratiot County. Entries must be turned in to the Art Center by October 19, 2013. The theme of the design is Agriculture in Gratiot County, (fields, farmers, tractors, wind farms, live stock, fruits, vegetables, etc.) The winning design will be announced on October 24, 2013 at the Fall Festival. All design concepts must be on the entry form and accompanied by a Consent and Authorization form which can be downloaded at www.alma-cac.org/events.