

Board Chairman Frank Giordano honored as he passes the torch

When Frank Giordano became Studio Incamminati's board chairman in 2008, the school was already making waves in the art world. However, under his leadership, the school reached new heights as he helped guide it through a number of milestones. He helped the school earn accreditation by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design, making it one of the first schools of its type to earn it. Accreditation laid the groundwork for an International Visa program opening up the world to our program and the ability to offer Federal Student Aid. Frank also was a major force behind our partnership with Chestnut Hill College giving young artists the chance to do studio work at Studio Incamminati and earn a degree. His fundraising skills led to an eightfold increase in our donor support.

"Frank was instrumental in Studio Incamminati's growth," said President Jay Pennie. "He has helped us in so many ways, from establishing governance to introducing our artists to the Philadelphia scene."

Giordano remains active on the board, serving as chair of the Nominating Committee and on the Building and Development committees. He is succeeded by William Daniels, managing director at Ariane Capital Partners LLC. "Frank's successes leave the school well positioned to take its next steps," said Daniels. "I'm eager to follow him and help lead the school to even greater success." ♦

(At top) Besides a commemorative cake, Frank received a print of Nelson Shanks' *Sophia, An Anthology*; (At bot.) From left: Jay Pennie, Debbie Webster, Ali A. Houshmand, Ph.D., John Chionchio, Richard Rossello, Frank Giordano, Leona Shanks, Dottie Giordano, William Daniels



Naturally, 15th Anniversary Celebration offers excitement



For Studio Incamminati artists, realism is at the heart of their art. So, it's appropriate, for the school's *15th Anniversary Celebration*, that friends and supporters will gather at Willowstreams, an ecologically significant landscape. The 37-acre, Bryn Mawr, PA, property is laden with grasslands, upland forest and native plants, the perfect place to come together and celebrate the school's accomplishments and look to its future.

Studio Incamminati artists will be painting landscapes while engaging guests with lively discussions about art. A *farm-to-table* themed dinner complements the beautiful natural setting. Live and silent auctions will be led by auctioneer extraordinaire George H. McNeely whose knowledge (BA, Art History, Princeton; MBA, Columbia Business School) and business skills (Christies, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum) place him in high demand. ♦

Studio Incamminati's 15th Anniversary Celebration
Willowstreams • Sunday, June 11
3824 Darby Road, Bryn Mawr, PA
For tickets studioincamminati.org/events

Studio Incamminati welcomes your support. For information, please call Jay Pennie at 215.592.1918.

Artist accolades

Level Four student **Michela Mansuino** was awarded a residency from the Arts Council of Fairfax County, VA. Her program, “Cultural Landscape: Past Present and Future,” challenges middle school students in her hometown of Great Falls to consider the cultural landscape of the United States from an historical and personal perspective. ♦



VESSELS, Jason Patrick Jenkins, Oil on linen, 16 x 20 in.

Fourth year student **Jason Patrick Jenkins** was named a finalist in the Art Renewal Center’s 12th International ARC Salon. This year’s competition featured eight categories and drew 3,196 entries from more than 1,300 artists from 63 countries. ♦



Manitou Galleries, Santa Fe, one of the Southwest’s foremost galleries, featured more than 50 works of art from 31 Studio Incamminati faculty and alumni in a highly successful month-long exhibition.



Instructor **Dan Thompson’s** artwork and artistic philosophy were profiled in *The Artist’s Magazine*.

Alumni news

Studio Incamminati Fellow **Barbara Zanelli** exhibited her work at the 7th annual Friends and Neighbors Invitational at the 40th Street Artist-in-Residence Program, 4007 Chestnut St. The program offers West Philadelphia artists studio space, assists with career development and promotes visual arts in the 40th Street area. Barbara’s works were also featured at the Beauty Gallery, Newtown Square, and Frameworks Gallery, Philadelphia. ♦



CHOCOLATE AND VANILLA, Barbara Zanelli, Oil on linen, 5 x 10 in.

Studio Incamminati Fellow **Shira Friedman** was a finalist in International Artist magazine’s Still Life challenge. Her work also was featured in the New Year’s Group Show at F.A.N. Gallery, 221 Arch St., Philadelphia. ♦

Joseph Dolderer conducted a master class at Gallery G, Bangalore, India, to illustrate the principles of painting and discuss how Western and Eastern art have influenced each other. Current fourth-year student Jay Varma acted as translator for a question-and-answer session during the painting demonstration. ♦

Ruth Miller’s work was featured in the National Hunger Awareness Week Exhibition, Legend Galleries, 230 N. 21st St., Philadelphia. The exhibition aided the Bethesda Project which provides emergency shelter, permanent supportive housing, and low-income, independent housing for homeless in Philadelphia. ♦



(Top, l. to r.) DAVE AND MUFFY, Ruth Miller, Oil on canvas, 16 x 20 in.; PARTY'S OVER, Jarred Fisher, Oil on panel, 11 x 14 in.; Peter Kelsey’s commission portrait unveiling at Dickinson School of Law

Jarred Fisher, an instructor in our educational partnership with Doane Academy, was one of 20 artists whose work was accepted into Gallery 25N’s (www.galleries5n.co) virtual international exhibition, “Still Lives.” ♦

Instructor **Peter Kelsey’s** commission portrait of former Pennsylvania Attorney General LeRoy Zimmerman was unveiled at the Dickinson School of Law, his alma mater. ♦



WHITE ONION, Shira Friedman, Oil on panel, 10 x 8 in.

◆ ALUMNI PROFILE ◆

Jeffrey Allon

Jeff Allon was already an experienced artist when he began studies at Studio Incamminati in 2005. He had painted murals and taught art



in Philadelphia and Israel and been an artist in residence in Italy.

But, he wanted to do more and a Philadelphia Inquirer article about an art studio teaching painting and drawing from life, lured him to the new school.



DRIED ETROGS.
Oil on canvas, 12 x 9 inches

“I remember my first day. (long-time instructor) Robin Frey handed me a piece of charcoal and I said, ‘But, I don’t do charcoal, I paint.’”

Jeff soon embraced charcoal drawing, a key aspect of the school’s innovative curriculum, and went on to paint and graduate.

He’s been painting, drawing and teaching in Jerusalem for the last seven years in schools and studios, among them the International Cultural Center for Youth, Jerusalem Studio School and Djanogly Center for Visual Arts. He said there is a small but growing realist art scene that he’s glad to part of. Jeff earned the title “Artist of Highest Distinction” from the Arts Committee, Ministry of Immigrant Absorption in 2010. He recently returned to Philadelphia for a workshop and said it felt good to be back.

“My experience at Studio Incamminati—not to sound cliché—but, it was life transforming. From a professional standpoint—and finding a purpose—it was the best thing that ever happened to me.” See more of Jeff’s work at allonfineart.com

Stephen Early returns to faculty

Instructor Emeritus Stephen Early, so much a part of the birth and growth of Studio Incamminati, is returning as a faculty member. After a period of painting and teaching in California, he recently returned to his hometown Philadelphia. A Studio Incamminati alumnus, Steve served as Nelson Shanks’ assistant at the Art Students’ League in New York, and was among the group of pioneering artists who helped create the school. He was one of the school’s original instructors, a teaching fellow for six years and part of the faculty team that fashioned the school’s renowned curriculum.

An accomplished instructor, he has taught workshops around the country including American Artist magazine’s “Weekend with the Masters Intensive: New York City” and was chosen as a faculty member at the Portrait Society of America’s annual conference. He has won numerous awards including being chosen one of “12 Artists to Watch in 2012” by American Artist magazine.

Steve’s work has been showcased in numerous exhibitions including The National Arts Club, NYC; Freeman’s, Philadelphia and S.R. Brennen Fine Art, Santa Fe. His work also is part of many private collections. Steve was one of four studio artists chosen by The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia for Face to Face: The Craniofacial Program Portrait Project. His art was chosen for the George Lucas project “Star Wars: Visions.” ◆



UNTITLED,
Oil on linen, 16 x 8 inches



Studio Incamminati hosted an exhibition of works produced by Project HOME residents who participated in a foundational drawing course taught by Studio Incamminati Instructor Dan Mahlman and Fellows Rachel Pierson and Barbara Zanelli. Representational art training helps artists see the “big picture,” develop motor skills and utilize critical thinking—traits useful for transitioning homeless. The program was funded by Studio Incamminati board member Richard Rossello, owner of Avery Galleries, Bryn Mawr.

For the seventh consecutive year, Studio Incamminati will present an exhibition and sale of artists’ and alumni works in conjunction with the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra’s annual gala. This year’s event is March 10 at The Union League of Philadelphia. Proceeds benefit students of both schools.



“Forever in Fashion: Costumed Portraiture from the Italian Renaissance to the Present” featured a painting demonstration by Studio Incamminati artists Darren Kingsley, Peter Kelsey, Natalie Italiano, Katya Held, Rob Goodman and Rachel Pierson. Their subject was baritone Luis Ledesma in full opera costume. A companion presentation by noted artist/scholar Patrick Connors explained how, for centuries, artists have used clothing to tell the subject’s story. The event was in partnership with Ciao Philadelphia, a series of events sponsored by the Italian Consulate.



Facebook Livestream features Studio Incamminati artists

Three Studio Incamminati artists—Kerry Dunn, Darren Kingsley, Lea Colie Wight—working simultaneously will present a painting demonstration streamed on Facebook. In addition to online viewers, an in-house crowd will be on hand. Moderators will offer commentary and field questions from both audiences.

“We’re very excited to utilize this interactive technology to showcase our artists and the realist art movement,” said Studio Incamminati President Jay Pennie. “Not only will viewers will be able to watch these highly regarded artists on their desktop, phone or tablet, they can ask questions and leave comments.”



Three Artists, Three Paintings: A Facebook Livestream Event

Saturday, March 25

12:30 P.M.–4:30 P.M.

Meet our new board member



Steven Alan Bennett has excelled in both business and public service. As former Executive Vice President, Chief Legal Officer and Corporate Secretary of the United Services Automobile Association, a diversified insurance/financial services provider, he helped his company meet the financial needs of America’s military and their families. Among his numerous corporate roles: As a member of the company’s executive committee he maintained oversight of 1,000 persons working in legal, compliance, regulatory, and legislative affairs. He previously headed the legal departments of Fortune 25 companies, Bank One Corporation and Cardinal Health, Inc.

In addition to his corporate success, Bennett has a lifelong commitment to civic, philanthropic and cultural arts. A founding trustee of the Center for Thomas More Studies, a University of Dallas academic research center, he currently serves as vice chairman of the San Antonio Symphony Board, where he chairs the Governance Committee. President Clinton appointed him to the Board of Trustees of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.

He and wife, Elaine, are active supporters of The Children’s Village, an orphanage providing shelter and K-12 education to AIDS orphans in Kenya. They are also avid art collectors with an extensive collection of figurative realist paintings by contemporary women artists. Works from their collection have been displayed at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Jacksonville, FL and the Delaware Art Museum, Wilmington, DE.

Thanks to your help, it’s a successful journey

It was an amazing week for our alumni. And, for our school. One graduate traveled 5,775 miles from Israel to attend a workshop here. Another logged 7,933 miles to present a workshop in India.

As we celebrate our 15th anniversary, events like these give me so much to be excited about. Our faculty and students continue to be recognized by the art community at the local, national and international levels. But, it may be our alumni that illustrate just how much we’re realizing the vision begun more than a decade ago. Take a look at Alumni News section of this newsletter and you will see what I mean. It not just Israel and India. It’s Atlanta and Albuquerque. It’s Maine and Maryland. It’s gratifying to see Studio Incamminati alumni making their artistic marks by teaching others the principles learned at our studio and by practicing those principles themselves.

Our other outreach ventures are no less impressive. There’s *In Your Town*, which brings our workshops to other regions and our work with teens at Doane Academy in New Jersey. Our drawing classes for individuals transitioning from homelessness, presented with partner Project HOME, show our commitment to innovation and responsiveness.

Fifteen years ago, when our mission was set by founders Nelson and Leona Shanks, Studio Incamminati wanted to do more than produce the highest

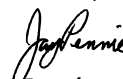
quality artists. And, while it has certainly done that, the school has produced so much more. It is producing careers. “...our students will master the practices needed to develop rewarding careers and lives in the arts,” states the mission. Take a look at work of these fine artists and you’ll agree, it’s “mission accomplished.”

But, we could not have accomplished our mission without your continued volunteer work and financial support. The names in this newsletter represent the finest and most generous supporters of our mission.

I would like to particularly recognize our longtime Chairman, Frank Giordano for his thousands of volunteer hours and his ongoing financial support. I am pleased that he will continue that same volunteer spirit in his new board role as Chair of the Nominating Committee of the Board.

It’s been a long journey, but I can see much more ahead. We are so grateful for everyone’s help that is listed. Thank you.

Sincerely,


President

In grateful recognition *continued from back cover*

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- The International Association of Pastel Societies
- The Union League of Philadelphia
- Urban Promise Academy

Meet some of our new artists

Studio Incamminati's newest class comes from a variety of backgrounds and interests. However, they all share a passion to become great artists.



ANDREA HART

Previous life: Art School studio manager, artist apprentice, gallery attendant

Andrea says she was drawn to the school after talking to friend/mentor Steve Perkins, a regular Studio Incamminati workshop instructor, who extolled the school's strengths: consistent curriculum, lots of model time, and student body camaraderie. Andrea says she's seen dramatic improvement in both her understanding and her ability to execute pieces. "I can see very well how the areas I am working on now relate to the future and it is very exciting for me."



JESSICA MARDON

Previous life: Banker in London

Jessica's In Your Town Seattle workshop with Instructor Kerry Dunn was the game changer. She says she instantly identified with the unique mix of realist style with contemporary color taught at Studio Incamminati, something a studio tour confirmed. "At Studio Incamminati we are being taught how to retrain our visual perception..." she said "We are learning the craft of drawing and painting and in the process we get to transform ourselves by mastering a skill."



PATTIE REMMEY

Previous life: Worked with troubled youth and children with special needs and for various family businesses.

Familiar with Nelson Shanks' art, Pattie took many workshops finally enrolling in the Advanced Fine Art Program. "I would not want to be in any other art school. I'm so grateful that the best-suited art school for me is right here in my own city."



SCOTT WOYAK

Previous life: Software engineer

While exploring art career possibilities, Scott attended the school's Open Studio sessions where he was swayed by the quality and dedication of students and faculty. "While there is certainly tons of quality education...I've been even more pleasantly surprised by the supporting and caring environment that exists. I've met faculty and students that have impressed me for their talents and their qualities as human beings."



HALLIE ZELLER

Previous life: Business analyst at a software company (master's degree in Mechanical Engineering). Still work part-time as software engineer.

Online searches drew her to the school, but a studio tour—especially the walls of artwork—sealed the deal. "By learning to improve my skills as an artist, I'm also improving myself as a person. Studio Incamminati has taught me patience, dedication, humility, and the ability to see the big picture."

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Co-founder and Artistic Director

Studio Incaminati

School for Contemporary Realist Art

340 North 12th Street ▪ Suite 400
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Studio Incaminati exists to meet the needs of students eager to learn the aesthetic and philosophical techniques and principles of humanist realism.

In grateful recognition of all who have contributed gifts of \$100 or more to Studio Incaminati this past year (September 2015–August 2016)

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