

ABOUT THE FEATURED ARTIST WHOSE ARTWORK IS IN THE CASES

Martha Stevenson *Artist and Teacher*

239-910-0798 paintingmartha@gmail.com

Growing up in northern Ohio and the Buffalo, New York area, Martha was an artist even before she knew she was an artist! With a creative father and an imaginative mother, school projects always had extras. Maps were made on wood, then enhanced with paint, nails and string. Texture, dimension and media were always a focus, which stuck for a lifetime. Now as an adult (and SW FL resident since 1984), Martha's work is cheerful, colorful, whimsical and varied, using lots of different surfaces. The media may be acrylic, watercolor, markers, pen and ink - and the list goes on. Martha never stops painting and never stops learning, taking online classes locally and from instructors around the world.

Martha also teaches art classes online using Zoom. As a teacher, Martha is encouraging and sharing - always leading student painters to discover their own abilities and styles. Her lifetime of classroom experience teaching technical classes endows Martha with the ability to communicate color and techniques, so painters need not rely on a line drawing. Art provides connections to good friends, good times and good confidence. Art is an especially important part of Martha's life.

Artwork by Martha Stevenson



Be sure to see the next page for information about the four other talented artists whose artwork is on display in the cases!

ABOUT THE OTHER TALENTED ARTISTS IN THE CASES

Bobbi-Jo Napoletano, Debbie LaCavera, Deb Booker-Foley, Sharon Yanz

Included in this showing are works from some of Martha's artist friends and her very talented daughter-in-law (and mother of her one grandchild!).

* **Bobbi-Jo Napoletano** hails from Pittsburgh, PA. She studied art in college, applying her talents to her many hobbies and on various theater sets, props and costumes. She now works in film as a sound tech/boom operator and is secretary for the local movie union. Bobbi-Jo lives on a small farm and is as familiar with a paintbrush as she is driving a skid steer. On her recent visit to Florida, she played with foam clay and acrylics, creating the fantastic pieces shared in this exhibit.

* **Debbie LaCavera** has displayed her art in a prior showing at Cape Coral Library with Martha's, and they have taught many in-person classes together. They share very different techniques and a love for variety and exploration. Beginning her painting journey after retirement, Debbie Lacavera is a many talented artist. Starting with acrylics, Debbie expanded to watercolors, mixed media and, most recently, drawing. Debbie believes that constant learning and expanding your boundaries keeps your art fresh. The one project she's most proud of is painting cards for seniors in assisted living facilities, meals on wheels, and similar agencies. This project has grown to now over 125 painted cards per month.

* **Deb Booker-Foley** assists Martha with teaching on Zoom. She has a unique and eye-catching style. Her passion is art, and she works in many mediums. Watercolor is her favorite. She moved to Cape Coral 25 years ago from Ohio. Deb is self-taught and shares Martha's passion to teach adults to create their own masterpieces. Deb takes over Zoom classes when Martha runs off to see her beloved grandson. Starting in January 2025, Deb will teach the Zoom classes once a week.

* **Sharon Yanz** is our beloved snowbird, living in North Fort Myers half the year, and Wisconsin the other half. She began her art journey in 2016 and is already a watercolor master with impressionistic style. Sharon is never afraid to try out other media and techniques. Not a day goes by when Sharon isn't out there enjoying friends, the weather, art, and a happy life.