

# The Springfield Art Guild Artist of the Month for January 2012 is: Mary Rose Janya



Ever since I was in elementary school I have enjoyed sketching and painting. My first “real” oil painting was a paint-by-number kit, but I quickly realized that I could have more fun and freedom doing my own paintings. I amassed a fine collection of Walter Foster art books, some of which I still have.

I’ve always been attracted to watercolor because of its fluidity, expressiveness, and vibrance. More recently, I’ve done mixed media works with gesso, gel, rice paper, watercolor, and acrylics. Each painting is an adventure!

Why paint? It’s that desire to capture a magical moment – the way the morning light shimmers on the pond, the joyfulness of jazz, the rhythm of a dance, the warmth of friends sharing coffee at a cafe. I like to paint people engaged in activities they love—music, sports, reading, painting, etc. I also like to paint outdoor scenes to help people appreciate the beauty and fragility of the Earth and the need to take care of her.

The Springfield Art Guild has been an important part of my life. I’ve taken classes with accomplished SAG artists including Judy Wengrovitz, (one of the founders of SAG), Roberta Lintner, and Darlene Kaplan. SAG provides a great opportunity to come together and share with other artists.

**Contact Mary Rose at: [mrjanya@cox.net](mailto:mrjanya@cox.net)**

