



RVCC Projects Presents: “Learning from Nature” – A Plein Air Painting Exhibit

Exhibiting Artists: Mary Bourdon, Alison Clew, Betsy Holmes, Karen Little, Heidi Lorenz, Sara Rae, Chris Rollins, Felicity Sidwell

Claremont, NH — River Valley Community College is proud to present **Learning from Nature**, a lively art exhibit celebrating the timeless tradition of plein air painting. The show features the work of eight talented artists who have participated in the Library Arts Center’s open plein air painting group, guided by artist and arts educator Heidi Lorenz.

Inspired by the words of Vincent van Gogh, “*One can never study nature too much and too hard,*” this exhibit invites visitors to experience nature through the eyes of artists who have immersed themselves in landscapes both near and far. From sunlit fields and forested trails to mountain vistas and charming town scenes, each piece reflects the unique beauty of its locale.

The plein air group, hosted by the [Library Arts Center](#) in Newport, NH, is a drop-in series that meets in various inspiring locations throughout the year. Artists gather to draw, paint, sketch, or photograph the natural world in the company of fellow outdoor art enthusiasts. “It’s an opportunity to create a fun community of artists, to be inspired, creative, adventurous, and to be amidst nature in all seasons,” says Lorenz.

The term *en plein air*—French for “in the open air”—describes both the practice of painting outdoors and a philosophy of capturing nature as it is experienced. Popularized by the Impressionists in the 19th century, plein air painting continues to offer artists a direct, unfiltered connection to the world around them. RVCC Projects is thrilled to collaborate with the Library Arts Center and this dedicated group of painters to bring this exhibit to life. “*Learning from Nature*” will be on view at River Valley Community College through January 2026, offering a beacon of warmth and light during the colder months.

Exhibit Dates: September 22, 2025, through January 9, 2026

Opening Reception: Wednesday, October 8, 12-1pm

Location: RVCC Projects at River Valley Community College, 1 College Place, Claremont NH 03743

Admission: Free and open to the public

For more information, please visit www.rivervalley.edu/gallery or email RVCCGallery@ccsnh.edu

RVCC at Claremont

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