

Artist of the Month—Gigi Hayes-Polk



My husband and best friend Ray and I moved to the village of Belvedere in 2020. Prior to moving here we alternated living in Cape Cod, MA, Kailua-Kona and Waikiki Hawai'i and traveling in our RV across country. I am originally from Buffalo, New York and my husband is from Northern California. We love to travel the world and learn about different cultures.

I'm proud to say I have raised 4 children on my own and now have 9 grandchildren. Together with my husband we have 7 children and 13 grandchildren.

I have an extensive background in advertising from my father's company "Hayes Advertising." My father was an artist as are many in my little family.

I then followed my Passion into the medical field. I was an RN hospital nurse and when my children were grown I started travel nursing, my 1st assignment being in Hawai'i. My 2nd year out there was when I met my husband.

20 years ago we were on a cruise in Australia and our ship skipped many ports. This left me to find something to do. They had an onboard art class and that is where I found my passion in watercolors. I have expanded since moving to The Villages and have interests in pottery and many more thingswhen I find the time!

Last year was my 1st contest here. I won 1st place with the VAA "Arts Around The Square!" I won 3rd place in an art show up against a tough group of professional artists in Cape Cod at the creative art center.

My favorite style of watercolor painting is with just 3 colors and making your own colors with layers.

