

Artist of the Month—Ellen Trien



I am an import from New Jersey, living down here almost 3 years. I was an ice skater as a child, a competitor, but I realized that wasn't for me. Competing made me very nervous. I continued to skate, teaching figures and hockey. When my children grew up, I went back to college and became a Special Ed teacher. I went on to get my Masters in Human Resources and became a drug and alcohol counselor. I opened my own business working with inner city children. When I closed my business, I went back to teaching skating full-time until we decided to move to Florida.

I have been drawing as long as I can remember. My dad was an architect and he loved cartooning, so he would draw a cartoon and I would copy it. Over the years I have worked with different mediums. I enjoy acrylics as it is instant gratification. I don't have to wait for the paint to dry to fix my mistakes. Two years ago, when my husband died, I took a class in collage (dyeing my own papers and making a picture with the paper) and fell in love with it

I find painting is a wonderful way to express myself and it has been a life-saver for me.

