

Art in the Time of Covid

April, 2021

It's still pandemic time but with vaccines and some light at the end of the tunnel many of us are feeling some freedom. So what's feeding your creative juices now... or are you still languishing? We'd love to hear from you.

As you've seen in the course of [this newsletter](#), our sharing takes a variety of forms. We encourage you to participate by submitting your art and describing how it's been affected by Covid. We also welcome feedback and will pass along your comments to the artists. Contact covidart@raac.org.

Phyllis Northup

"Covid19 has brought with it much fear and anxiety for everyone as well as travel and stay at home restrictions. I have been exceedingly grateful for my art, for a comfortable studio to create in, and to live in an area surrounded by beauty. I challenged myself to do some creative work daily, and haven't missed a day in well over a year. It has helped me get through these difficult times.





Staying close to home has made me look more closely at what is in my own backyard. In addition to completing many paintings in the past year, I am currently working on a series of "Backyard Mandala" paintings, created from the treasures I find and collect as I ramble around the edges of my backyard and the woods behind. Even in late winter, there is beauty to be found in our backyards if we open our eyes to it. The close observation required in this project led to delight as signs of spring began to appear, with tiny buds and early blossoms on trees and plants, and the brighter greens of spring. Spring holds the promise of better days ahead!

Each walk feels like a treasure hunt as I keep finding more things that would work well in one of these paintings! What's in your backyard?

Three paintings from this series are now showing at Middle Street Gallery through this weekend May1-2. After that they are available on my website at www.phyllisnorthup.com.



The views and artwork published here do not necessarily reflect the views of RAAC and its Board.

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Questions, thoughts: email covidart@raac.org