

Roberta Barnhardt

Roberta was born in National City, California. Her family moved to Montana when she was eight and eventually on to Bismarck a few years after that. She considers herself a North Dakotan as this is where she calls home! Roberta and her husband Ed have three grown boys and are very happy to be living in the home Ed's parents owned north of Mandan.

After trying several art forms, her heart finally landed on long arm quilting. She has been a self-employed professional quilter since 2003. In 2016 Roberta became the lone Certified Zentangle Teacher in the state after taking training in Rhode Island. She teaches as often as she has the opportunity and loves watching beginners fall in love with art. Roberta is often heard stating, "Zentangle on everything that's not moving"! When one of the Midstate Porcelain Artists invited Roberta to join the guild... she was immediately hooked! She is now creating beautiful jewelry using those "dependable quilting/Zentangle designs" on porcelain pendants!

Roberta finds drawing on Zentangle tiles just as relaxing as drawing on rocks, shoes, face masks, trash cans, greeting cards, porcelain and much more. Along with being relaxing, Zentangle drawing will also clear your mind and let you be freely creative. There are no mistakes and that makes each piece/project perfect and original!

Roberta is anxious to continue learning from the fellow guild members and plans to create more beautiful art using the pen nib and porcelain paints to create additional original art. Who knows what she will create next... there is no end to learning?



Vicki Benzmiller

Vicki lives in Coleharbor by Lake Audubon. Vicki attended school in Underwood, ND. She received a degree in Dental Assisting from CAVTI in Canby, MN and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Management and Accounting from Minot State University, Minot, ND. She worked as a Dental Assistant and an Accountant. Vicki is active in her church quilting program and is auditor of the financial books. She is also clerk of the local township board, handling all the financial paperwork. She also is involved with the financial records of a local daycare and manages the paperwork for her family's farmland. Vicki is the treasurer for the Midstate Porcelain Art Guild.

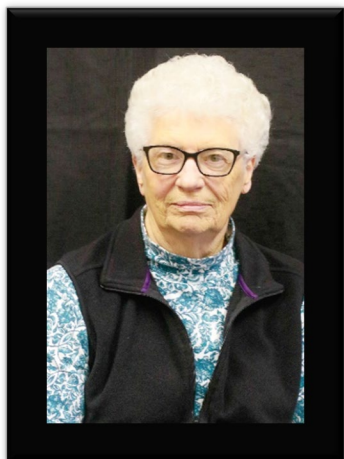
Vicki enjoyed taking art classes in college. She takes watercolor classes from different artists who come to our area to teach or online classes. She takes weekly porcelain lessons with a local artist. She also belongs to the International Porcelain Artists and Teachers and the World Organization of China Painters. Vicki's love of art began when she got her first box of crayons and scissors. She loved what she could make and thought it was beautiful. Vicki was drawn to porcelain painting because of the transparency of the paint. Porcelain painted art looks like you can reach in and touch an item. The colors are amazing. There is no instant gratification with porcelain painting. Each layer of color is done in sequence, fired, and painted again. Porcelain painting has taught me patience, love of color, and the satisfaction of creating something. I love sharing my art with others.



Della Hartgrove

Della Hartgrove was born in Minot, ND and graduated from Minot High School. She married Claude Hartgrove and followed him wherever his railroad career took him. They eventually ended up in Soby, Montana. Della owned and operated an art and craft store there. Eventually Claude was moved to New Salem, ND. Della followed him to New Salem where Della still resides. Sadly, Claude died young. Art is what Della knew and loved. She was able to support herself and her kids through teaching art and selling her art. Della's love of art was nurtured by her father who was also an artist although he didn't support his family through his art. Della spent hours at her father's side painting along with him. Della tried all mediums. Her beautiful work came to be known around the area. Her most popular item to paint was the family's cream cans. The customers brought in their cream cans so Della could paint scenes from their family farms on them. Della has painted over 502 cream cans. Della has work exhibited in local businesses and homes as well as foreign countries.

Della has tried all mediums and taught many of them including ceramics, china painting, and others. Painting is a social activity for Della. She enjoys the visiting and interaction with other artists. Della likes the learning and trying new things that art offers. That is one of the reasons that china painting is her favorite medium. Della was a very successful china painting teacher, teaching over hundreds of students in several cities. Some things she enjoys about china painting is that it is a process where you see changes and progress with every painting and firing of your work. As Della paints she gets into her painting and feels that it becomes a part of her. Della has sold a lot of art but the pieces that mean the most are the art that her family loves and cherishes.



Marvel Klingenstein

Marvel and her husband owned and operated a dairy and grain farm. Marvel kept busy with her family and helping her Marvel Klingenstein is a lifelong resident of North Dakota. She grew up in the Hannover and New Salem area. Marvel graduated from the New Salem High School.

husband on the farm. She did find some time to begin taking china painting lessons with a china painting group.

Marvel took a six-week class in china painting. That was the beginning of her love for this art. She took seminars with different teachers when possible so she could learn more about china painting.

The subject she loves the most is the North Dakota Prairie Rose which she paints on plates, mugs, boxes, and other pieces of china. She uses her painted pieces as gifts to her family and friends. She has also sold pieces. Marvel is particularly fond of the cancer mugs which she paints. They are donated to the Bismarck Cancer Center where they are given to patients with cancer.

Painting gives Marvel a feeling of happiness, self-worth, and an overall good feeling that she painted something challenging and beautiful for herself and others to enjoy. Marvel enjoys her time spent with fellow china painters in the Midstate Porcelain Art Guild.



Vida Womacks Klocke

After receiving degrees in commercial and graphic design, Vida was employed in graphic art departments in Minnesota and North Dakota. She continued commercial freelance work after college. Porcelain painting became her hobby in 1981 and her business in 1990. In 2005 Vida began teaching porcelain painting classes locally and currently travels to teach in many states and porcelain art schools around the country.

Vida is a member of the MidState Porcelain Art Guild of western, North Dakota, Bismarck Art and Galleries Association, past board member of the International Porcelain Art Teachers and current board member and are director of the world Organization of China Painters. She has been selected to teach at the WOCP's Museum in Oklahoma City, OK again in 2022. BAGA held the first ever porcelain exhibit featuring her pieces in 2012. In 2019 Vida received their Citation Award for her contributions in promoting the arts. In 2011 Vida was commissioned by the NDCA to create 100 limited edition hand painted ornaments for its fifth annual promotion of the arts. Her pieces have been featured in porcelain art magazines. She currently lives in Underwood, ND with her husband Jerome. Vida's goal as an artist and teacher is to keep this beautiful art of porcelain painting alive by sharing her knowledge with other artists and combining traditional techniques with the newer modern techniques of textures, enamel, fiberglass, and lusters. Keeping the fine art of oil on porcelain alive introducing painters to the fine art and planting the seed of excitement with what can be created is her goal as an artist and teacher.



Grace Kuntz

Grace was born and raised in Richardton, North Dakota. She graduated from St Mary's Academy in Richardton.

Grace has many interests which led her to many different fields of employment. Grace worked as a hair stylist and managed her own salon. She also worked as a florist. She worked in the dental field with different areas of dental care for many years.

Grace and her husband moved to Wisconsin for eighteen years. They were more than happy to move back to North Dakota in 2018 and be closer to their family.

Grace has many hobbies and interests which range from Cooking, taking care of her family, hunting with her family, and Art with an emphasis on china painting.

Grace began studying china painting with Ella Saylor in Bismarck in 1982. Ella's passing left Grace without a teacher. Grace met the Midstate China Painting Guild members at the Capitol Affair where they were demonstrating their art. Grace joined the group and began painting again. She takes weekly classes and enjoys painting with a group that helps each other further learning. Grace takes part in seminars with local and out of state teachers to continue learning. Her enthusiasm for china painting and learning adds to the enjoyment of those in class. China painting gives Grace the opportunity to paint pieces that her family likes and cherishes.



Vicky Larson-Schmidt

Vicky Larson-Schmidt grew up on a farm near Oakes, ND. She attended a one-room country school for four years. The rest of her education was in the Oakes Elementary School and Oakes High School. Vicky received a bachelor's degree from Valley City State College and a master's degree from the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks.

Vicky taught at the early childhood and elementary levels for 36 years. Her teaching experience led her to work in Great Falls, Montana, Flasher, North Dakota, and Bismarck, North Dakota. She and her husband now reside north of Hazen, North Dakota.

Besides artistic interests, Vicky is an avid jig-saw puzzler, enjoys gardening, and the outdoors. Vicky is a long-time member of the Salem United Methodist Handbell Choir. Vicky and her husband Tom enjoy riding their Harley in their spare time.

Vicky enjoys dabbling in various art forms, especially pastels, oil, and acrylic painting, as well as china painting. She finds that being a current member of the Midstate Porcelain Art Guild is instrumental in growing and learning from her other guild members about the art of china painting.

Vicky says that involving herself in the art world has enriched and continues to enrich her life in many ways, and the friendships made along the way with fellow artistic thinkers is priceless.



Linda Maize

Linda Maize is a lifelong resident of North Dakota. She grew up on her grandfather's homestead near Hannover. She graduated from Center High School and received her bachelor's degree from the University of Nebraska in Lincoln and her master's degree from Minot State University. Linda taught elementary school for forty years.

Linda's hobbies include painting in a variety of mediums. Her favorite mediums are china painting and pastels. Linda's other interests are Quarter Horses, reading, education, gardening, and traveling. Linda is a member of the Bismarck Art and Galleries Association, the Bismarck Downtown Art Cooperative, and the Midstate Porcelain Art Guild.

Linda started doing art later in life. She finds it relaxing and satisfying to be able to paint plates, ornaments, and items for special occasions in her friends and family's lives. Art is an outlet for creative energy and relieving stress. Linda's favorite projects in china painting include wedding plates, first ornaments for infant's first Christmas, and special ornaments that are a remembrance of special events in the lives of family and friends. The most appealing part of art is the challenge each project brings. Each one is a learning experience that keeps an artist thinking and learning. The wide variety of special effects in china painting make it so appealing to Linda because of the constant learning and growing as an artist. The projects create a curiosity that keeps her wanting to do more.



Luann Selvage-Allsworth

Luann hails from the southeastern plains of Colorado, but has been proud to call Hazen, North Dakota home for 7 years. She and her husband Rod have 3 daughters and 8 grandchildren.

She considers herself “semi-retired”. Prior to the years maintaining the family cattle ranch, Luann spent several years as the Unit Coordinator in the Emergency Room of a local regional hospital. Splitting her time, she also worked several years for a Civil Engineering firm and in Architecture Engineering while pursuing a degree in Civil Engineering. Not one to settle on a single career, she was the co-owner of an antique store. Beginning in high school she spent 18 years working as a runway and print model.

In her spare time, Luann is an avid nature lover, photographer, and writer. Combining her passion for birds and nature with photography to become an award-winning photographer. Picking up a paint brush, she also dabbles in watercolors. She rediscovered her love of porcelain painting after a 42-year hiatus. She currently serves as the President for the Midstate Porcelain Artist Guild.

Combining her love for photography and painting she finds this quote the sum of her artistic endeavors.

“I want to live in a Bob Ross world...I want happy little
Trees and lazy, easy waters...I want to have the brush
Strokes of my life be known as happy little accidents. I
Want to create my world in a gentle voice with a squirrel
On my shoulder” -author unknown