



# The Gallery of Art in Giving

Every art purchase funds innovative childhood cancer research

## Art in Giving honors 2 grant recipients of the Rachel Molly Markoff Foundation



Guests listen to Gary Markoff as he welcomes everyone and introduces Dr. Filbin (3<sup>rd</sup> from left) and Dr. Baker, (4<sup>th</sup> from left)

On April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022 members of Art in Giving gathered to honor the recent Rachel Molly Markoff grant recipient, Dr. Mariella Filbin, Co-Director, Pediatric Neuro-Oncology Program at Dana Farber, and the new grant recipient for 2022/2023, Dr. Suzanne Baker, Director, Brain Tumor Research Division at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Dr. Filbin described the utility behind her current work in utilizing single-cell transcriptomics to better understand the mechanisms underlying pediatric neuronal tumors. The dinner was full of conversation and laughter as well as discussions of art and culture. Not only did Eliane and Gary Markoff bring together scientists, and board members but also a few of the artists of Art in Giving making the dinner truly an environment of collaboration. **Lina Bagepalli**



Dr. Filbin and Dr Baker, converse with Dr. Vicky Richon, Scientific Advisory Board Chair and Dr. Debasish Roychowdhury, honorary board member for life!

Dr. Suzanne Baker, recipient of the 2022/2023 Rachel Molly Markoff grant, describes her research project.



Diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma (DIPG) is a devastating brain tumor that arises in the brainstem and occurs almost exclusively in children. It has been shown for many different types of cancer that the environment surrounding a tumor, including different types of normal cells, blood vessels and proteins produced by the surrounding cells can significantly affect the ability of a tumor to survive, expand and spread. There is growing evidence that signals from neurons or nerve cells can promote brain tumor growth.

In our DIPG studies, we have been collaborating with Dr. Jiyang Yu, a computational biologist at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, who developed sophisticated approaches to evaluate candidates that may control how entire networks of genes are turned on or off. His approach has helped to discover therapeutic vulnerabilities for different types of cancer. Dr. Yu found that many of the candidates controlling gene networks in DIPG are known to be important in neuron signaling.

We are grateful to Art in Giving and the Rachel Molly Markoff Foundation for supporting our project to investigate whether targeting these candidate genes is important in neuronal signaling which could be an effective way to slow or stop DIPG growth.

**Our deep appreciation to Alexandria Real Estate Equities. Inc. and BioMed Realty for their generous sponsorship.**

Gallery [Art in Giving](#) welcomes 4 new artists



[Sheila Farren Billings](#)

[Todd Brugman](#)

[Lina Bagepalli](#)

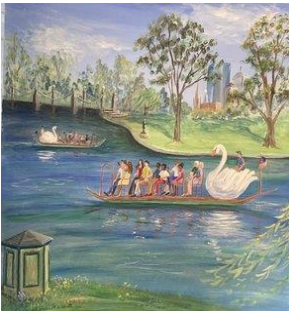
[Deborah Peeples](#)

"May my art give your heart as much happiness as it has given mine. During my teaching career, I witnessed the struggles of children with various physical challenges. It warms my heart to know that my paintings can both give joy to those who acquire them and also help in this crucial fight against childhood cancer."

"My art does not illustrate the subject, it is the subject, it is the embodiment of the subject; all the unique ineffable ways the universe emotes, embodied as a physical, plastic mass on canvas."

"My work captures the vibrancy of nature, utilizing color and texture to transport you to a dreamlike and celestial place."

"I find humor and playfulness in color. The vibrant, saturated colors I use reflect the way I surround myself in life, and through them I process my emotional response to the world. I'm often surprised to see the clothes I am wearing mirror a color on my palette."



## Amramp moves to Randolph, MA.



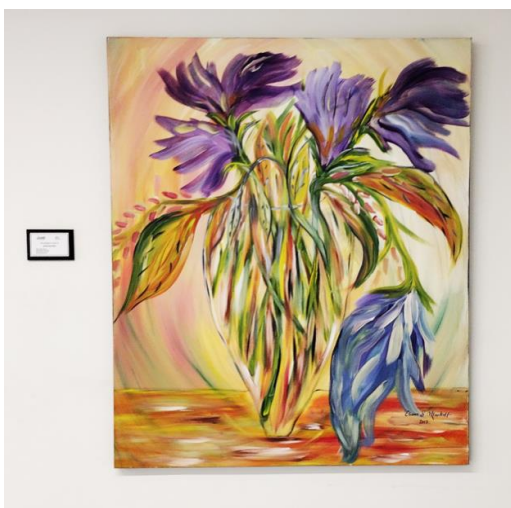
"The mosaic moves me very much. I love it because I recognized it right away as the four seasons before I knew the title. It just makes me smile every time I walk by it!"

Anne Hayes, CFO



Amramp, the company that "makes Life accessible" adorns its new building with 2 art pieces from Art in Giving.

Pictured above are Justin Gordon, CEO, Anne Hayes, CFO and Audrey Markoff-Dunn, mosaic artist. Audrey proudly displays the mosaic, *Frankie Valli*, outside the entrance of the new Amramp building in Randolph. The legs you see belong to her husband, Greg Dunn.



Pictured at left is *Purple Passion* in honor of founder

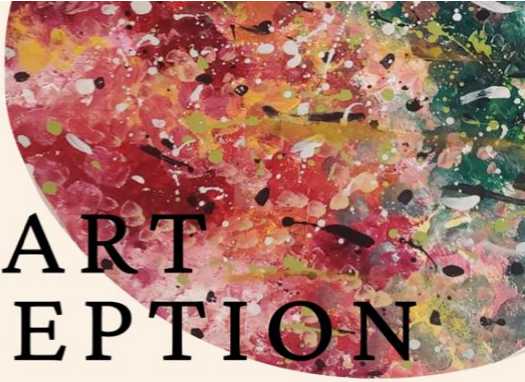
Julian Gordon





## We hope to see you on June 16<sup>th</sup> at Flour Bakery.

If you can join us for the reception, generously hosted by BioMed Realty, please reply to [Andrea Windhausen](#) or to [Eliane Markoff](#)





# ART RECEPTION

CELEBRATING THE NEW & EXISTING  
PIECES OF LINA BAGEPALLI,  
JOHN HIMMELFARB, ELIANE MARKOFF

June 16, 2022  
4:00-6:00 PM

Flour Bakery  
40 Erie Street  
Cambridge

 **BioMed Realty**  
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 **ART in  
GIVING**

*Thank you for reading the newsletter*

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