

artist corner

By **Amy Moglia Heuerman**, Old Naples resident

CONVERSATION WITH ARTIST AMY MOGLIA HEUERMAN

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Amy & Family

Naples beckoned when I was at a crossroads in my life and looking to put down new roots. I considered Palm Springs, CA, and Pawley's Island, South Carolina. But the Gulf of Mexico lapping at Naples' shores proved irresistible.

In 2013, I rented a home in Old Naples for a few months and fell in love with it. I saw clearly why our area is called the Paradise Coast. I made the move permanent and quickly thereafter felt the sand in my toes.

All the elements of the good life are in abundance here: Friendly, safe, clean, pretty, great dining, and a wonderfully cohesive and generous community. Plus, the Gulf and the spectacular skies stir my soul.

The blessings of my new home were amplified when I met and married Paul Heuerman, a Naples attorney.

I got into the swing of the social life in Naples through volunteering at Guadalupe Center, the Immokalee-based charity which cares for and educates underprivileged children. As I became more deeply involved in the organization, I began to support it in my own way by painting a large mural in the children's reading room. The experience was a catalyst for my second career in the arts.

Previously, I was an illustrator of children's books, games, and other merchandise through my company of 20 years, Bear Hug Designs. The work was the culmination of a lifetime of drawing fanciful and whimsical drawings of animals and scenes that appeal to children. As the company grew, my administrative and executive roles took me away from what I loved best: the art.

Painting that mural at Guadalupe Center re-awakened my creativity and, inspired by the sea and sky, I have since devoted my time and passion to acrylic and mixed-media paintings of what are often called coastal abstracts.

Horizons are a prominent feature in my paintings. They express hope for a better life and a better world, like the one we Neapolitans call home.



Amy with friends at Hats in the Garden

Amy and Paul











Amy and Paul with their dogs Button and Toby









Social Distancing, one of Amy's new inspirations

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