

TO: Editors, Feature Writers and Event Listings

SUBJECT: Art Related Special Events

Date: March 25, 2026

PRESS RELEASE

Contact: James Dymont

E-mail: director@thebrush.org

The Brush Art Gallery and Studios

256 Market Street, Lowell, MA 01852

<http://www.thebrush.org>

978-459-7819

Event: An Evening for Vanna Howard

Date: April 25, 2026

Time: 6:30PM

Location: Long Meadow Golf Club

165 Havilah Street, Lowell, MA 01852

Ticket Link <https://thebrush.org/HonoringVanna.htm>

Lowell, MA – “An Evening for Vanna Howard” will be held on April 25th 2026 at the Long Meadow Golf Club in Lowell at 165 Havilah Street in Lowell. The Board of Directors of The Brush Art Gallery & Studios would like to invite you and your organizations to join us as we honor Vanna for her service to the cultural community.

As a public servant, Vanna Howard is a natural leader and is very approachable and generous with her time. Often seen at nonprofit events, city events, and art receptions, she intrigues community members with her never-ending schedule.

Vanna moved to Lowell in 1991 when she was hired as a bilingual secretary. She became the first Khmer woman to serve in the Massachusetts General Court. She gained experience working for Congresswoman Niki Tsongas as a Constituent Services Representative (2008 to 2015) and as Regional Director (2015 to 2019).

She has served as a member of the Massachusetts House of Representatives from the 17th Middlesex District since January 2021. In 2023 Vanna sponsored a resolution to recognize Cambodian Genocide Remembrance Day, that was adopted by the House.

Vanna has been a longtime supporter of the arts and the studio artists at the Brush Art Gallery and Studios, Merrimack Repertory Theater, Girls Inc., the Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association and countless other organizations in Lowell.

Howard was sworn into the Massachusetts Senate on March 18th as the first Cambodian-American state senator in the United States. She won a special election to replace Senator Ed Kennedy who passed away in October.

Early Sponsors Include: Richard K. & Nancy L. Donahue Charitable Foundation, Rockland Trust, Johanna Bohan Riley, Gallagher & Cavanaugh LLP, Jack Moynihan & Carolyn Walsh, Gail-Ann Brodeur & Howard Martin, Rosemary Noon & Paul Marion, Greater Lowell Community Foundation, Joanne & Andy Bergamini, Michael Breda, Michael G Conway Insurance Agency, Yun-Ju Choi, Diane & John Healy, Michael H. Lally, Peg Shanahan & Ahmad Shouman, George Duncan, Katy Barry, Realtor®.

Please join us as we honor Vanna Howard for her service to the cultural community. Ticket prices start at \$135/person, with various levels of sponsorship available. Your participation in this event will help us continue our outreach programs and our commitment to using art to address social and environmental issues. For more information, please call 978-459-7819, or email Jim Dymant at director@thebrush.org.

The Brush Art Gallery and Studios is located in the Lowell National Historical Park across the courtyard from the Visitor Center. This dynamic and captivating place was originally founded by the Lowell Historic Preservation Commission, U.S. Department of the Interior in 1982. The Brush presents museum-quality exhibitions, educational programs, and has collaborated with many other nonprofit groups. Artists occupy studio spaces where they interact with and educate the public on a weekly basis. Studio artists produce paintings, illustration, photography, jewelry, sculpture, ceramics, quilts, and hand crocheted items. Associate artists display work in the common area. The Brush Art Gallery and Studios is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization, and is supported by Lowell National Historical Park.

Photo Credit: City Scape by Paul Richardson

Photo Credit: Vanna Howard by Jennifer Myers

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