

Teri Jo Ritz is primarily a self-taught artist who discovered a love of oil painting a number of years ago and it has remained her primary medium ever since. She especially loves to paint trompe l'oeil paintings as she loves the challenge of creating the illusion of dimension and the details that are needed to make the objects appear as realistic as possible. A few years ago, Teri was asked to participate in the Lockport Sweet Chalk Festival and discovered the world of street chalk art and the challenge of working on a very large scale. She continues to utilize similar techniques that she uses in her oil paintings to give her street art dimension. She has very much enjoyed participating in this festival as well as Chalkfest Buffalo.

Teri Jo is a member and past president of the Williamsville Art Society and a member of the Fine Art's League of Buffalo. She has participated in many area art shows over the years and teaches an "Oil Painting in a Day" class at Hyatt's All Things Creative. She also creates artwork for theater posters for The Towne Players of Ken-Ton where she has performed in a number of productions as well. Teri has been active in community theater for over 25 years and has appeared on several local stages during that time. She has thoroughly enjoyed singing with friends in an acapella trio.

Teri Jo is going on her 33rd year as an Erie County employee, the last 25 of which she has had the privilege of working within the community as a Probation Officer.