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## ArtServe Exhibition\_Why I Volunteer

My Artwork:

**It's Always the Danger You Don't See Coming**\_acrylic\_24"x24"\_\$1800

**It's what we see in the mirror**\_acrylic w metallic pigment undertones\_24"x24"\_\$3200

Art Statement:

**It's Always the Danger You Don't See Coming** is a narrative portraying the threatened Florida Everglades. The creatures of the everglades have always understood the dangers that surround them. The dangers they hear and see and sense. But pythons were introduced illegally when thoughtless people released them into the wetlands. Soon they became the slithering silent hunters that threaten the animals who have always called the everglades home; and have disrupted the delicate balance that exists within.

**It's what we see in the mirror** is part of my series of birds that reflect human constructs and emotions. In this narrative work we are looking through the eyes of a vulture, to show how it is only the one looking into the mirror who really sees their inner self. It doesn't matter how the world sees the vulture; because it is the vulture's inner beauty and purpose in life that is reflecting back.

## WHY I VOLUNTEER

To volunteer is to believe in a mission that lives beyond the present, making a better world to pass on to future generations. It's a way to network with like-minds and share our skills & knowledge freely. Honored to have been juried, in 2010, into the NAWA organization (whose mission it is to make women more visible in the art world), I became President of the Florida Chapter a few years after moving here (in 2017). I have furthered NAWA's mission by encouraging artist members, from *all* parts of Florida, to step into board positions and meet via Zoom; thus making it possible to coordinate shows throughout our entire State. In 2020, during the pandemic shut down...while others felt isolated...we built a camaraderie by so many of us volunteering our time for online art salons, workshops, presentations & talks. Because of those who generously volunteered their time, we learned and were inspired by each other's talent! Finding time to volunteer may not always be easy, but it's good for the soul. And, along with many hands which make light work, those hands can raise us all up. Volunteering is an opportunity to become greater than when we exist only for our self.