

theartleague

tidings

April 2009

Early pick-up from March Show – Sunday, April 5, 4:00 – 6:00 pm.

The gallery will be closed for our biannual painting/clean-up on Monday, April 6 so all artwork in the March shows should be picked up Sunday between 4:00-6:00 pm.

Come help paint the gallery

Monday, April 6 from 10:30 am – 3:30 pm. Join a great group as we patch and paint the walls of the gallery, restoring it to its original glory. If you sign up to help, you can enter your work for the April shows when you come in to paint. The March painting session was cancelled due to inclement weather, so this work is overdue and your assistance is very much needed! Please call the gallery at 703-683-1780 or e-mail roseo@theartleague.org if you're interested in helping out even for a couple of hours.



"Paint" Alexandria 2009, May 16 & 17

Check your inbox soon for details regarding our popular all-media, plein-air event. \$40 will still cover a weekend of painting, sketching, drawing, and photographing along the waterfront and historic Old Town, with more instructors at exciting new locations. Stay tuned!

April Gallery Shows

There are two shows this month. Artists may enter two pieces in each show. Acceptance in each show counts separately towards Bin Gallery membership.

"Reused – Recycled"

This show is open to works only made completely from recycled or reused materials, this must include framing and presentation. This is your chance to have some fun. Use found objects to create an intriguing composition or sculpture. Joe Hicks will jury this exhibit.

Joe Hicks is currently a Professor of Ceramics at The George Washington University and Gallaudet University. Hicks' most recent works are large clay drawings exploring the relationships of memory and traverse between earth material and the human experience. Some of Hicks' recent exhibitions were at CAOS on F, a new gallery in Washington DC, and "The Myth of Permanence" in conjunction with NCECA at Standard Clay Company in Pittsburgh, 2008. **On April 9 at 6:00 pm, prior to the opening reception, Hicks will speak about jurying the show.**

All-Media Show

Daniel Shay will jury the April 2009 All-Media exhibit. Shay supervises the hanging crews that install paintings at the National Gallery of Art. In 1984, the same year Shay went to work as an exhibit installer at the National Gallery, he discovered his unique drawing and driving technique. On a trip to the northeast, Shay took the wheel from his wife, painter and collage artist Loretta Russo, and continued working on a picture he'd begun while she was driving. He took to the technique naturally and now finds it triples the time he has to make art. April Awards – Marshall Award, Carol Bruce Pastel Award.

"Roots & Wings," Christine Giammichele's Solo Show

"My work is about portraying the beauty that will be lost in the world if we don't do something to preserve it."

Through her artwork, artist Christine Giammichele strives to inform and inspire by depicting the intricate connection between endangered species and their habitats. "Roots and Wings," Giammichele's solo artist show of works which raise awareness of often unseen endangered species in our environment, will be featured at The Art League Gallery, April 9 – May 4, 2009.



Giammichele's mixed media works explore the symbiotic relationship between endangered birds, flora, and pollinator insects. "We don't realize how delicate and interconnected all the elements, forms of life, and habitat are in our environment until the survival of one of them is threatened." Over-development of habitats, pollution, human encroachment, and global warming are dangers to all forms of life.

Often starting with a monotype that serves as the "DNA," or backbone, of the piece, Giammichele incorporates gouache, pastel, and painting into the image. The scripts that adorn each piece reveal the family name, species name, wingspan, and general background information about the life forms in the artwork. Seeking to achieve a tactile quality, Giammichele concentrates on texture and layering in her work.

"I like the idea of getting this important message out in a beautiful way. I'm passionate about influencing kids and upcoming generations. They're the ones who can continue to make a lasting difference"

Giammichele's artwork has been exhibited in group and solo shows nationally. She attended the Parson's School of Design in New York. She will donate a portion of her proceeds from this show to the Anacostia Watershed Society.

May All-Media Show

Juror, Joy Turner Luke

Joy Turner Luke is a painter and owner of Studio 231 in Sperryville, Virginia, where she conducts intensive courses on color and artists' paints. She also lectures widely on these topics for art schools and other groups with a specialized interest in color. Among the organizations in which she has been active are the Inter-Society Color Council, where she has served as president; the Munsell Foundation; the Advisory Board of the Munsell Color Laboratory at Rochester Institute of Technology; National Artists Equity Association; and the American Society for Testing and Materials, where she has been instrumental in establishing standards for art materials.

Message from Your Board

I'd like to take this segment of Tidings in a different direction this month.

No one needs to be reminded of the tough economic times (when this is being written in mid-March). But I am not here with a tin cup asking for donations this month. You ALL came through magnificently for our Patrons' Show in February -- whether you contributed one or more of the 650 pieces donated or whether you were a purchaser of one of the 550+ tickets sold. I am so proud to be a member of an organization that responded in such an awesome manner. Artist, student, teacher, member, benefactor, and volunteer -- our collective hats are off to you!

So much of what needs to be done to keep your Art League functioning is done by our volunteers. I shared a personal reminiscence with the Board during our recent retreat where we addressed the results of the survey. Betsy Anderson asked if I would share it with the membership in the April Tidings. So here it is.

I had been an exhibiting member for four or five years. I'd show up at Receiving, put my pieces in, and leave. I'd see fellow artists talking, laughing, interacting, sharing tips -- in short, for many it was an enjoyable social outlet in addition to receiving. But I was like many who came, submitted, and then came back to pick up the unselected works.

One day the Gallery Director stopped me and asked me, by name, if I had any updates to my resume. She said it hadn't been updated in several years. I didn't know she knew who I was. She also asked if I could help with one of the mass mailings. So I did.

At the next Receiving, several of the volunteers I worked with spoke to me, and I began staying longer. From there, it was a short step to volunteering to help hang the shows. And I found I knew even more people at Receiving for the next show. As a side benefit, I found that the quality of my work improved as a result of hanging the shows -- I found myself looking at the pieces from a different perspective. I was hooked.

What conclusions did I draw from the experience? Simply this: The Art League is our organization. We get out of it what we put into it. I have found over the years that the members are very supportive of one another. Let's all look around us for new faces and do what we can do to make them feel welcome, wanted and needed.

Duke de Planque
Member-at-Large, The Art League Board-of-Directors

Patrons' Show Wrap-Up

This years Patrons' Show was the most successful show ever. A huge thank you to each of you who donated artwork. We had 650 works of art donated and sold 550+ tickets. This leaves us with a healthy cache of works for the 2010 Patrons' Show. Our patrons commented that this was the strongest show they had ever seen. We are grateful to our many volunteers without which this event would not happen. It takes over 100 people and hundreds of hours to make this important fundraiser take place each year. Thank you!

Patron's Show Awards

The Patrons' Show juror was Scotty Huber, former director of The Art League Gallery and well-known local artist.

Marian van Landingham Awards

Deanna Boling, Three of a Kind, Pastel
Christine Cardellino, 4th of July Parade, Acrylic
Wendy Donahoe, Avery at Twelve in 1465, Graphite/Oil on Panel
Marilyn Spindler, Through the Window, Oil on Linen

Honorable Mention

Betsy Anderson, Winter Marsh, Oil on Paper
Pat Barron, Things Said and Unsaid, Prismacolor & Relief Print
Pam Coulter, Vista from San Juan Island, Oil
Eva Jacobs, Small Canal in Venice, Oil
Norma Lasher, Propinquity on Duke St, Oil
Jan Moffatt, Late Summer, Acrylic
Cindy Richmond, Gina in Dry Dock, Oil
Tom Roberts, Autumn Dawn, Archival Photograph
Paul Salmon, Little Irish Creek, Watercolor
Brenda Townsend, Vista from San Juan Island, Oil
H. Trainor Roden, Oil Trucks Never Die, Photograph

Charles E. Beatley Popular Choice Award

Paulette Warwick, One Step at a Time, Fiber

Opportunities at The Art League and Beyond

Artomatic Registration

Registration to be a part of Artomatic 2009 opens online Friday, March 27.

The tenth anniversary of this event will run from May 29 – June 5 at Half Street's 55 M Street, SE – blocks from Nationals Park – atop the Navy Yard metro in DC's Capitol Riverfront Neighborhood. Artomatic is unjuried, and all artists are welcome. Registration is on a first-come, first-serve basis and will end when space is filled. Artomatic.org will have all the information you need to know by March 27. For registration questions, email register@artomatic.org. To volunteer, email volunteer@artomatic.org.

Sculptors of The Art League

Submissions for the show are being viewed by the juror. Artists will be notified regarding accepted pieces in mid-April and will be provided with additional information for receiving.

"In The Flesh II" at The Target Gallery, July 22 - August 30, 2009

"In The Flesh Part II" is an exhibition that focuses on contemporary figurative art. This opportunity is an all-media exhibition that is open to artists nationally and internationally, who work in this genre. The juror is Andrea Pollan, founder and curator of the Curator's Office in Washington DC. The deadline for entries is May 11, 2009.

2009 Virginia Fall Foliage Festival Art Show

All artists, media, and subjects invited to be juried into a 10 x 11' exhibit space. No commission taken from sales. Full prospectus available at www.svacart.com.

"Faraway Nearby," June 18 – July 31, 2009

"Faraway Nearby" is a juried exhibition of contemporary fine art and craft in celebration of GRACE's 35th anniversary. The juror is Dale Martin Lanzone, president of International Public Art Marlborough. The deadline is Sunday, April 5, 2009. For the full prospectus, visit www.restonarts.org.

The Delaplaine Visual Arts Education Center Regional Juried Exhibit 2009

The Delaplaine Visual Arts Education Center (DVAEC) invites artists living or working within a 75-mile radius of Frederick, MD to submit work in any media for this annual exhibit. The juror is Anett Couwenberg, and the deadline for entries is May 8, 2009. For more information, visit www.delaplaine.org

The Trawick Prize: Bethesda Contemporary Art Awards

The Bethesda Arts & Entertainment District is currently accepting applications for The Trawick Prize: Bethesda Contemporary Art Awards. Up to 15 finalists will be selected to display their work in an exhibition during the month of September at Heineman Myers Contemporary Art in downtown Bethesda, and the top four winners will receive \$14,000 in prize monies. All original 2-D and 3-D fine art including painting, photography, sculpture, fiber art, digital, mixed media and video will be accepted. The deadline for submission is April 20, 2009. The full prospectus is available at www.bethesda.org.

Gallery Notes

NO CLIP FRAMES!

Recently we have had a larger number of members submitting "clip" frames for jurying. If you are unsure if you have a clip frame, please refer to this image. Clip frames cannot be hung in The Art League gallery. Our framing requirements are listed here for your review.

Please note that any special framing requirements must first be approved by the gallery director prior to submitting for jurying.



1. All work must be framed unless using a "gallery-wrapped canvas."
2. All works on paper, including watercolors, drawings, prints or photographs, must have a glass or plexiglas cover.

3. Gallery-wrapped is defined as having no staples or tacks visible on fronts or sides of canvas.
4. Edges of canvas works must be finished either by painting around the edges or painting the edges a solid color.
5. All work must have wire securely attached to the frame of the piece using screw eyes or d-ring hooks.
6. No taped or clip frames are allowed. If you are unsure if you are using a clip frame please ask the gallery staff for help.
7. No tape can be visible on the front, back or sides.
8. Backing and mats must be archival, acid-free.

Bin Gallery Notes

Please be sure to sign-in your piece on the sheets located in the bin gallery on receiving day. This is the list used to create the label for your piece, so you want it to be clear and accurate.

The Art League Lending Library

A wide variety of books are available for loan in The Gallery, ranging from art history to artist techniques and media. Art League members, instructors and students may check out books for two weeks by filling out their name and that day's date on the library card in the back of the book and filing in the library card box. The catalog may be viewed online at: <http://www.librarything.com/catalog.php?view=artleague>

School News

2009 Student Show Award Winners

Dennis Davis Award, Susan Sherman

Jennie Lea Knight Creativity Award, Glenn Roberts

Potomac Valley Watercolorists Award, Linda Holz

Equal Merit Awards: Juliet Arnaute, Sally Ann Baynard, Eugene Cecil, Sherry Ferguson, Deena Hunkler-Sanks, Christine Imgrund, Douglas Kingsbury, Susannah Parnin, Soline Krug, Cristina Leckie, Amy Lourie, Susan Maguire, Sam Miller, Christopher Moniz, Anthony Neville, Susan Sherman, Natalia Wang, Nancy Whitfill, Lucinda Vavoudis, Ellen Young

Spring Workshop Season

We are in the midst of our Spring Workshop season, but that doesn't mean that it's too late to sign up for any of the upcoming workshops! Here are a few of our exciting choices that await you—as always, if you have any questions about availability in these courses, please call the school office at 703-683-2323.

Elements of Landscape with Steve Fleming

Saturday, April 4 – Sunday, April 5, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm, \$170

Gouache for Field Studies and More with Diane Tesler

Saturday, April 4 & Sunday, April 5, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm, \$170

Beyond the Fold: Bookmaking and Pop-Up Books with Nancy Johnson

Saturday, April 4 & Sunday, April 5, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm, \$170

Basic Figure Construction with Malone Samuels

Saturday, April 4 & Sunday, April 5, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm, \$170

Woodblock Printing the Modern Way with Steve Prince

Saturday, April 4 & Sunday, April 5, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm, \$160

Thinking Inside the Box: Stories from Scrap with Rosemary Lockett

Saturday, April 4 & Sunday, April 5, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm, \$170

Graphite Drawing with Lisa Semerad

Friday, April 3, 3:30 pm – 9:00 pm, Saturday, April 4 & Sunday, April 5, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm, \$255

Spring Class Registration!

We're currently registering for our Spring 2009 set of classes—don't wait until it's too late! Many classes will begin the week of April 13. Feel free to call the school office at 703-683-2323 to find out if your class of interest still has space available. We also have many new fiber classes that were not offered in the past, so please remember to check our website with the most up-to-date information.

Art Camp Faculty & Interns

As the school gears up for a big summer season, we will be interviewing instructors for our summer camps. Those with expertise in teaching drawing, painting, sculpture, ceramics, photography, or mixed media to children of all ages are encouraged to apply. Innovative projects and high energy are musts! Part-time and full-time internships for college credit are also available. For details please contact Art Camp Coordinator, Ali Wunder, in the school office at 703-683-2323 or by email at aliw@theartleague.org.

Announcement from the School

Welcome Blair Meerfeld!

We are pleased to announce the engagement of Blair Meerfeld as the Art League School's new Ceramics Department Chairman. Colorado-born and raised, nationally recognized ceramist Blair Meerfeld enjoys incorporating native clays and materials into his work. He often uses salt-glaze on his work and traces his interest to years of studying and collecting historic salt-fired pots from Europe and North America. His influences range from architecture to farm machinery. Blair has graced the cover of such publications as Ceramics Monthly and has been a featured artist in Clay Times. Blair will be joining us on June 1, 2009—please welcome him to The Art League family and the DC–Metro area.



Founders of SOHO Program Receive "Making a Difference Award"

The Art League's Alice Merrill and Linda Odell of Alexandria Court Services, creators of the SOHO project, were awarded the "Making a Difference Award" by the Alexandria Commission for Women. This award honors a woman who serves as a change agent in her community or as a role model for other women. Both Merrill and Odell were honored on Monday, March 30 during the 29th Annual Salute to Women Awards Banquet.

Upcoming Travel Workshops



Plein Air Landscape Painting in Fredericksburg, Virginia at the Belmont Estate, Home of Gari Melchers with Bobbi Pratte

Saturday, April 18, 2009, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

View the extensive art collection in this home which dates from the 1790's and paint the magnificent estate gardens. The spring colors should be exceptional as this is the first Saturday following Easter.

\$75, painting on grounds only.

\$85, painting including the house/art collection tour. (Tour ticket may be less and is dependent on group size.)

Call 703-683-1780 x 13 to register

Also NEW... Bobbi will be teaching a Plein Air Landscape Class at The Art League, on Thursday mornings, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm beginning April 23. The session is seven weeks and the cost is \$150.

Istanbul, Turkey, Ankara and environs including Cappadocia with Gwen Bragg

June 4 – 15, 2009

Plein air painting

Explore Turkey, home of 13 civilizations and three great empires. The “cradle of civilizations,” boasts a treasure trove of historic art and architecture, as well as decorative arts and traditional handicrafts. Gwen has painted here before, and is familiar with all the prime locations, including the Blue Mosque and the Spice Bazaar. Experience the area of Cappadocia, unique in all the world for its geographic volcanic tufa formations referred to as “fairy chimneys.” If you travel to Turkey, you must experience this natural wonder! In ancient times, humans hollowed out homes and constructed underground cities (to escape invaders) utilizing these formations. There will be an additional airfare charge (approximately \$200 per person) for a domestic flight within the country to this region, but it is an adventure not to be missed. The itinerary includes five nights in Istanbul, two in Ankara, and three in Cappadocia. \$2,995 per person. Limited single rooms are available at an additional charge.

English Villages and Gardens: Painting the British Landscape, The Cotswolds with Peter Ulrich

June 14 - 23, 2009

Plein air painting

This is a wonderful opportunity for plein air painting in one of the most intensely scenic areas of England. Located approximately two hours west of London, the Cotswolds encompass ancient villages and towns rich in some of Europe’s finest domestic architecture. Situated here are the uniquely beautiful and historically protected thatched cottages of this region. Visits to Bampton, Cloanfield, Woodstock, Burford, Windrush House, and Blenheim Palace, home to the 11th Duke of Marlborough, are on the agenda. \$1,995 per person, double occupancy. Limited single rooms and some larger rooms are available for an additional charge.

Looking Ahead ...

October 2009 - Napa Valley, California: Plein Air Painting in the Vineyards with Bobbi Pratte

Combine the worlds of art and wine, paint the vineyards and visit impressive art collections.

April 2010 - Rome, Italy with Robert Liberace - stay tuned for details!

Please call to have your name placed on an interest list, or for questions or additional information please contact Margaret Cerutti at 703-683-1780 x 13, or by email: margaretc@theartleague.org

theartleague

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Calendar

April 2009

April 5/Sunday, 4:00-6:00 pm: Early pick up of works in all March shows.

April 6/Monday, 6:30-8:30 pm: RECEIVING, "Reused – Recycled" and All-Media

April 7/Tuesday, 10:00 am-12:00 noon: RECEIVING continues

April 7/Tuesday, 6:30-7:30 pm: Early pick up of unselected works

April 9/Thursday, 6:00 pm: Joe Hicks, juror of "Reused – Recycled," will speak about jurying the show.

April 9/Thursday, 6:30-8:00 pm: Opening reception for "Reused – Recycled," All-Media, and Christine Giam-michele's solo show, "Roots and Wings." Awards announced at 7:00 pm.

April 19/Sunday, 2:00-4:00 pm: Reception and Awards presentation for April Shows.

May 2009

May 4/Monday, 6:30–8:30 pm: RECEIVING, All-Media Show and Bin Gallery.

May 5/Tuesday, 10:00 am–12:00 noon: RECEIVING continues.

May 5/Tuesday, 6:30–7:30 pm: Early pick up of unselected works.

May 7/Thursday: "Progression," Suzanne Yurdin's solo show of mixed media works opens.

May 14/Thursday, 6:30–8:00 pm: Opening Reception for All-Media show and "Progression." Awards presented at 7:00 pm.

May 16 & 17, Saturday & Sunday: "Paint" Alexandria 2009!