

May 2009

## "Paint" Alexandria 2009, May 16 & 17

Join us for "Paint" Alexandria 2009, our annual two-day, all-media plein air event. For \$40, artists of all media and skill levels may join us as we visually explore and interpret historic Old Town. Registered artists may participate in as many sessions as they like. "Paint" Alexandria 2009 will be held May 16 & 17.

This year "Paint" Alexandria is expanding across the river to include a special sunset session with nationally known plein air painter and Art League instructor Sara Poly. Transportation will be provided to all participants on the National Harbor Water taxi, courtesy of the Alexandria-National Harbor Water Taxi/Potomac Riverboat Company.



### Saturday, May 16:

10am-12noon:

**Frank Fierstein:** explore Old Town on foot with this abstract photographer and let him show you his unique visual perspective.

**Steve Fleming:** demonstrating and composing a loose watercolor.

12:30-2:30pm:

**Peter Ulrich:** composing a loose watercolor.

**Rob Liberace:** demo in oil at the Carlyle House Gardens.

3-5pm:

**Daniel Wise:** paint along the waterfront as Wise leads you through his process that includes thumbnail sketches, value based underpainting, and soft pastel application techniques.

**Fred Markham:** landscape painting in oil.

7-9pm:

**Sara Poly:** capturing the sunset from National Harbor in oil.

### Sunday, May 17:

10am-12noon:

**Jim Steele:** photographic walking tour of Old Town.

**Avis Fleming:** sketchbook drawing in pen, pencil, or watercolor.

12:30-2:30pm:

**Marsha Staiger:** use your senses to expand upon the landscape through color concentration, simplification of form, and strength of composition using acrylic and mixed media.

**Bobbi Pratte:** getting a good start in oil or acrylic.

3-5pm:

**Kurt Schwarz:** atmospheric landscape painting in oil.

**Ted Reed:** exploring the figure in landscape.

*We thank Burke & Herbert Bank & Trust Company for sponsoring "Paint" Alexandria 2009.*

## Election of The Art League's Board of Directors

Directors are elected by the active membership at the annual meeting on Sunday, June 14 at 2:00 pm in the Gallery. Ballots with instructions will be mailed to voting members shortly.

### Slate of Nominees, 2009–2010

#### President:

**Betsy Anderson** has been an Art League member since 1970. Torpedo Factory studio artist, 1980 - present. Assistant Executive Director of The Art League, 1982 - 1988. Art League President 1998 - 2004. Commissioner, Alexandria Commission for the Arts, 2000 - 2006.

#### First Vice President:

**Nancy Pane Fortwengler** was educated at American University, Washington, DC, with a BA and Masters work in Journalism, Government, and Public Administration. Her career includes positions within the international diplomatic community, business, development, and performing arts administration. She has been a student at The Art League School for 22 years, an exhibiting member for many of those years, and a volunteer.

#### Second Vice President:

**Jane McElvany Coonce** has been a member of The Art League for over 15 years. She is the president of the Arlington Artist Alliance and has served on The Art League Board for three years.

#### Secretary:

**Betsy LeBleu Curry** is an Educator and Fine Artist. As an educator, she was a classroom art teacher for 10 years, an Art Consultant for the Houston Public Schools (responsible for the art programs in 49 schools of all levels), art teacher for the Museum of Fine Arts' Scholarship program for exceptionally gifted children and a former student of the same, and a writer of the first state art curriculum. She also was a Master Instructor at the University of Houston. In the fine arts, she has been in national and local juried shows, past president of Potomac Valley Watercolorists, a board member of The Art League on and off for over 25 years.

#### Treasurer:

**Ellen Fishbein:** Following a 17-year career as an attorney and business/legislative advisor, with a Juris Doctor degree from Duke University School of Law and a Masters in Taxation from Georgetown Law Center, Ellen is now a full-time artist and business owner specializing in oil paintings, murals, watercolor caricatures, and painted furniture.

#### Members-at-Large

**Duke de Planque** is a returning Board Member. He has been an Art League member since 1996 and has maintained his membership in the Bin Gallery since 1997. He is a strong proponent of the benefits of volunteering to both the individual volunteer and The Art League, as he wrote in last month's Tidings.

**Bill Doying** retired from the Federal Trade Commission, where he primarily served as Deputy Bureau Director for Management and Budget of the Bureau of Competition. Following Yale College and Yale Law School, he was on active duty as a Naval officer from 1965 to 1969. He has been enrolled in Art League classes since 2002, coming to specialize in watercolor, and joining the League early in his student career.

**Maggie Garten** joined The Art League seven years ago and quickly became an avid student. Entering this new world turned into a life-altering experience for her, shedding her conventional way of thinking (a result of 27 years in the military) and she embraced a new way of seeing everything. She progressed from knowing NOTHING about art to being a burgeoning artist.

**Jane Louise McGavin** has actively been involved with The Art League as a student, volunteer, and board member for over 25 years. She is a watercolorist. She graduated from Albright College in Reading, PA with a BA in Psychology and Physiology.

**Diane Tesler** has been a member of The Art League since 1973 and an instructor in painting at the Art League School for over 30 years. She has a studio at the Torpedo Factory Art Center, where she is probably best known

for her paintings of abandoned cars and trucks. She has had a number of one-person and museum shows and credits the Art League with providing a foundation for her professional life.

**Joyce Jarrett Thor**, a Senior Executive with NASA, retired in 1993 and started her own consulting firm. Jarrett-Thor International, Inc. did Management consulting around the world for over ten years. She has always loved the arts and she and her husband founded JarrettThor Fine Arts in Colonial Beach, VA in September 2007. They both enjoy classes at The Art League and enjoy running the gallery with well known artists, such as Robert Librace and Ross Merrill plus 11 others.

**Patricia Uchello** holds an MFA from Pratt Institute in Painting, as well as a BFA in Painting, cum laude, from Tulane University. Patsie, as she's better known, has been involved at The Art League for the last 20 years, studying under many of its noted instructors, and working in sales in The Art League Store. She currently volunteers on the hanging committee.

**Ed Yawn** has spent the past 29 years lobbying Congress and federal agencies for a major trade association, the Edison Electric Institute. His primary areas of emphasis have been environmental, natural resources and energy legislation. He holds a Master of Agricultural Economics degree from the University of Florida. Ed is a landscape photographer and has been involved in The Art League for the past six years.

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### Message from Board Member-at-Large, Jane Louise McGavin

My husband and I had busy lives. We had seven children and he had a busy OB-GYN practice. But children grow up and you need other outlets for your energy and interests. I began to take art classes at local art societies and local colleges. One of my art classes was at The Art League. The classes at The Art League pleased me because of the variety of classes, and the quality of the teachers and students. So now I have been associated with the League for over 25 years. I would recommend our school and League to anyone interested in art and wanting to continue and grow in art. There are many opportunities here.

Jane Louise McGavin  
Art League Board Member-at-Large

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## Gallery News

### "Progression," Suzanne Yurdin's Solo Artist Show

Suzanne Yurdin's abstract paintings emerge from her subconscious. Her compositions are not planned or preconceived. She allows her work to flow freely and intuitively, not predetermining composition or palette. **"Progression,"** which represents a series of Yurdin's work created over the last two years, documents and reflects the tone of her life at the time each piece was created.

Yurdin's compositions are marked with bold color, texture, and strong lines. Creating a textured surface through collage, assemblage, and the use of mixed media is her trademark. Music is a driving force behind her work, and listening to all different genres of music has a unique influence on her brushwork, mark-making, and color choices. "You can almost tell what I was listening to while painting each piece."

The time leading up to Yurdin's solo show was filled with disruption in her personal and creative life. "I had never stopped and started so much work before, and the challenge of completing it was daunting. But I was able to find a way to connect all the work that this period of time represents. Exhibiting some of the older work with the newer ones shows a progression and creates unity where there was none. I learned a new, albeit, challenging way of working towards an artistic goal. I acknowledged the past. I worked through the present with an eye towards the future and made a progression that inspired my creative process."



"Shifting Tide"

### **May All-Media Show, Juried by 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 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 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.

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### **June All-Media Show with an Emphasis on Sculpture**

#### **Juror, Jay Hall Carpenter**

Members may enter work of any media, both 2-D and 3-D. Juror Jay Hall Carpenter is a well-known sculptor who has lived and worked in the Washington, DC area for over 30 years. He is best known for the 500 works he created for the exterior of the National Cathedral. In addition to the Washington Cathedral, Carpenter recently won competitions to create an eight-foot bronze of Maryland State Comptroller Louis Goldstein for the State Capitol in Annapolis, and a life-size bronze and granite sculpture of Jim Henson and Kermit the Frog for the University of Maryland, where Henson was a student in the 1950s. His work can be viewed at [www.jayhallcarpenter.com](http://www.jayhallcarpenter.com)

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### **July Show, "Black & White"**

Works may be black and white in color or hue, or they may explore the concept of black and white in terms of political or social issues. Color works will not be excluded. This show will be juried by Catronia Fraser, owner of Fraser Gallery In Bethesda.

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### **Bin Gallery Notes & Orientation for 2009-2010 Membership**

If you have been juried into at least three membership shows since July 1, 2008 you are eligible for Bin Gallery membership during the 2009–2010 year. Annual dues for Bin Gallery membership are \$50 for all two-dimensional artists. Dues for three-dimensional artists and pastel artists (those who cannot display work in the bins) are \$30. Bin dues are in addition to your annual \$65 gallery membership. You must pay your gallery membership dues in order to be a Bin Gallery member.

A letter will be mailed in the middle of June to all those who are eligible for Bin Gallery in the upcoming year. Orientation meetings will take place on Friday, June 12, 3:00–4:00 pm, Sunday, June 14, 3:30–4:30 pm, and Thursday, June 18, 6:30–7:30 pm. All eligible members who want to join the Bin Gallery must attend one of these meetings. If you've been a member previously, attendance is not required but highly recommended so you can learn about the changes for 2009–2010.

\*Don't forget that we have a bin for local scenes. This is a good time of year to update your work in the bins and check the closet to see if you have work that needs to be picked up.\*

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### **April Juror's Dialogues and Award Winners:**

#### **"Reused/Recycled," juried by Joe Hicks**

"Material is the underlying basis of this show." Joe Hicks, juror of The Art League's "Reused/Recycled" show, wanted to see materials given a new function while maintaining their original identity.

Opening up his mind to what the term "recycling" encompassed, Hicks read beyond the surface of each piece to try and discover a more meaningful or clever message. "I thought about recycling in the broadest sense – not only in regards to recycling materials and physical objects, but memories and experiences as well." *Read the full juror's dialogue online or pick-up a copy in the gallery.*

**"Reused/Recycled" Show Award Winners:** Board of Directors Award: Liz Roberts. Honorable Mention: James Mallos, Charles Sabin, Pamela Viola.

### **All-Media Show, juried by Daniel Shay**

"A fine work of art must surpass craft all the while aligning with the artist's personal vision and what is meaningful to the artist. An artist must paint, create what he or she knows and what is visible to them," states Daniel Shay, juror of the April All-Media Show at The Art League.

Just like all musicians in an orchestra must play in accord to create a beautiful symphony, all technical elements in a visual work of art must come together to create a harmonious piece. Shay believes that one element isn't more important than another; all are equally important in order to achieve success. *Read the full juror's dialogue online or pick-up a copy in the gallery.*

**All-Media Show Award Winners:** Marshall Award: Paulette Warwick. Carol Bruce Pastel Award: Kelly St. Clair. Honorable Mention: Leslie Blackmon, Susana de Quadros, Susan Feller, Janice Geiger, Jane Jordan, Roslyn Latto, Michele Reday Cook, Ernest Sinnes, Fierce Sonia, Marsha Staiger, Robert Tetro, Judith Wengrovitz.

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### **News Update about the Washington Square Sculpture Show**

We recently learned that the Lerner Corporation, owner of the Washington Square building, is, unfortunately, canceling all exhibits through the end of this year. Our juror for this year's planned exhibit, Rebecca Cross, selected 25 works out of a total entry of 67 pieces. As an alternative to the Washington Square venue, the juried work will be on exhibit in The Art League Gallery from August 6 – September 7, 2009 during the "Scapes" exhibit, our annual landscape show. The landscape show is one of the most popular and well-attended exhibits of the year and partnering it with the sculpture show will engage an even broader audience. We look forward to a successful collaboration. The awards will be presented at the Second Thursday reception on August 13, 2009 at 7:00 pm.

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### **School News**

**Summer is on its way!** Registration for the Summer Term begins on May 4. Plan a vacation at home by signing up for a new class or exploring a new artistic medium. Five day Art Camp is an ideal way to introduce a child to an array of creative media. We also have specialty five and three day camps that concentrate on specific disciplines such as ceramics, sculpture, jewelry, drawing, and cartooning. Visit our website or call the School office at 703-683-2323 to inquire about our summer offerings in adult courses, youth classes, and camps.

**There is still time to sign up for a Spring class.** Some classes have not yet started:

Portrait and Figure in Oil with Marjorie Forgues begins on May 2. Colored Pencil with Arlene Weinstock begins on May 16, and Delna Dastur's class Contemporary Mix: New Methods – Old Materials begins April 29.

**The Ceramics Associate Program has one space available!** Experienced ceramic artists interested in pursuing their work in a dedicated ceramic studio should apply by submitting a portfolio of their work. For more information, call the School office at 703-683-2323.

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### **Mother's Day flowers at Whole Foods Market, Old Town Supporting The Art League Share the Love for Mother's Day!**

Whole Foods Market Alexandria has paired up with The Art League for a Mother's Day Special. Whole Foods Market Alexandria is making a \$4 donation to The Art League with your pre-ordered purchase of either a rainbow mix of colorful tulips or a pink potted hydrangea flower for only \$14.99

The Art League will receive \$4 for each item you pre-order. To place your Mother's Day floral order, please visit [www.lovewhereyoushop.net](http://www.lovewhereyoushop.net) and select the Alexandria store location. All payments will be made at Whole Foods Market Alexandria store on your pick-up date. This online donation program runs through Tuesday May 5.

Come order a Mother's Day bouquet for a special mom you know, and support The Art League by doing so.

## **"Paint" Alexandria Corporate Sponsorship Opportunity**

We are still seeking corporate sponsors for "Paint" Alexandria 2009. Burke & Herbert Bank & Trust Company is our lead sponsor for the 2009 event. We are also offering partner organizations the opportunity to sponsor the individual plein air sessions for \$200. In return, the sponsors receive myriad publicity and recognition opportunities. If you know of or work for a company or organization that would be interested in sponsoring a session, or if you are interested in learning more about the 2009 sponsorship and publicity opportunities, please contact Kate Gelatt in the Development Office at [kateg@theartleague.org](mailto:kateg@theartleague.org) or 703-519-1741 x 17.

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## **Travel Workshops**

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

**June 14 - 23, 2009**

#### **Plein air painting**

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.



*by Peter Ulrich*

#### **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**

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](mailto:margaretc@theartleague.org)

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## **Opportunities for Artists at The Art League and Beyond**

### **Potomac River Regional Art Show, July 10 - August 9**

The first 100 pieces (not artists) registered by mail-in application will be accepted. Show is not juried but is judged for awards after hanging. Artwork is to be delivered and picked up in person or by your representative, with signed note from artist by July 8. Entry deadline: Application form (available in The Art League Gallery) must be postmarked by June 8. Show dates: July 10 - August 9 at JarrettThor Fine Arts in Colonial Beach, VA. Questions may be directed to Kathy Waltermire at 804-224-4480 or Connie Canby at 804-224-9984.

### **"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, that 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.

### **Open Call for Artists of All Media to Exhibit Original Work at the 2009 "Red Bull Art of Can"**

"Red Bull Art of Can" is a national juried exhibition featuring artwork in a variety of media that have one thing in common—they are all inspired by "Red Bull" or crafted from the iconic blue and silver cans. The juried exhibition is open to anyone with a flair for creativity and the talent to transform an original concept into a compelling piece of art that can be shared with a public audience. Sculptures, paintings, digital/graphic designs and various forms

of mixed media will all be considered. Will be held at Union Station in Washington, DC this October. Application deadline is May 15. Learn more at [www.redbullartofcan.com](http://www.redbullartofcan.com).

### **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](http://www.delaplaine.org).

### **Central Virginia Watercolor Guild, September 4 - 26, 2009, McGuffey Art Center, Charlottesville, VA**

The deadline is June 16, 2009, and the juror is Betty Calabria. Artists may submit two 5" x 7" photos of two paintings. There will be 10 cash prizes awarded. For prospectus, entry form, and more information e-mail [jetta2@comcast.net](mailto:jetta2@comcast.net) or pick one up in The Art League Gallery.

### **Art in City Hall, "Our Town"**

The upcoming Art in City Hall exhibit will feature images of Alexandria or works about Alexandria, the diverse population that makes up our city, the varied daily activities of the city, and the historical events that define what Alexandria is today.

Receiving is Saturday, July 18, 10:00 am–2:00 pm at City Hall. The exhibit will be featured at City Hall from July 20, 2009–January 8, 2010. A complete "call to artists" is available in The Art League Gallery.

### **From Rose O'Donnell, Gallery Director:**

One of our members, Dick Schneier, wrote these notes to help those of us who are entering outside competitions. Artists should enter shows beyond The Art League. There are many excellent opportunities in our area to exhibit your work. It's great for your artistic resume. I'm always thrilled to count the number of our members listed in The Washington Post who have exhibits throughout our area.

Rules for entering competitive shows:

Follow the rules. This sounds simple, but many venues will automatically disqualify your entry if you fail to follow their guidelines. Examples of rules that are commonly NOT followed are:

- a. Incorrect file names for digital entries.
- b. Embedding jpeg files in a folder or in a presentation program such as Powerpoint or "Picasa."
- c. No self addressed stamped envelope (SASE). Needed by most venues to notify you of your acceptance (or rejection) and to return your entry materials.
- d. Failing to properly label slides. No one wants his or her work presented to the juror upside down and/or backward.
- e. Slides with blank areas not taped over.

***Check our blog, [theartleaguegallery.blogspot.com](http://theartleaguegallery.blogspot.com), for more opportunities and happenings.***

## theartleague

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school: 703.683.2323  
store: 703.548.8127  
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## Calendar

### 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!**

### June 2009

June 1/Monday, 6:30–8:30 pm: **RECEIVING**, All-Media Show with an Emphasis on Sculpture, and Bin Gallery.

June 2/Tuesday, 10:00 am–12:00 noon: **RECEIVING** continues.

June 4/Thursday: **"Fabrications,"** Nancy Pane Fortwengler's Solo Artist Show opens.

June 11/Thursday, 6:30–8:00 pm: Opening Reception for All-Media Show and **"Fabrications."** Awards presented at 7:00 pm.

June 12/Friday, 3:00–4:00 pm: Bin Gallery Orientation meeting.

June 14/Sunday, 2:00 pm: Annual Meeting in the Gallery.

June 14/Sunday, 3:30–4:30 pm: Bin Gallery Orientation meeting.

June 18/Thursday, 6:30–7:30 pm: Bin Gallery Orientation meeting.

June 20/Saturday, 10:00 am–2:00 pm: Pick-up of all work in current "Art in City Hall" Show.