

theartleague

tidings

February 2011

Donations of Artwork Needed for Patrons' Show!



Tickets for the 2011 Patrons' Show went on sale the weekend of January 15 and within two days we were sold out!! We've had an enormous amount of interest from the public this year, and we need your help to make this year the most successful Patrons' Show ever.

For each work of art donated valued at \$175 or more, we are able to sell an additional \$175 ticket to the event. **In order to sell more tickets to the event, we need more donations of artwork.** The gallery will happily accept donations of artwork anytime! Artists may donate any number of framed pieces, and artists who donate two or more framed pieces may donate as many additional unframed works as they like and we will frame them for the show.

The Patrons' Show is a fantastic opportunity to show your work before a broad audience. Hundreds of art patrons come through the gallery during the weeks of the Patrons' Show, thoroughly studying each piece while contemplating their choices, and all donated artwork is also exhibited online on our Flickr site. Our Flickr site had 47,000 hits last year!

There are many prizes awarded during the Patrons' Show. **The \$1000 Clemente Prize** will be presented to the artist whose piece is selected first during the drawing. This special award is sponsored by Mr. & Mrs. C. Daniel Clemente, who have been so generous in funding the Amelia T. Clemente Family Award and the Eleanor Boudreau Jordan Award each year. Another new award, **The \$250 Geri Gordon Award**, will be presented to the artist whose work is selected by the First Choice! raffle winner. This award was funded by an anonymous donor to honor artist and former Art League School Director Geri Gordon. The juror will present **four \$100 Marian Van Landingham Awards** for the pieces deemed best in show. And the **\$100 Charles E. Beatley, Jr. Popular Vote Award** will be selected by vote of the ticket-holders.

We also need as many volunteers as possible to pull off this huge event! Please contact the gallery (703-683-1780 or galleries@theartleague.org) if you are interested in volunteering.

Dates to remember:

Receiving Dates for Donations of Artwork: February 7, 10:00 am - 8:30 pm (Work can also be delivered anytime between now and February 7)

Dates of show: February 9 - 20

Late hours for viewing: Thursday, February 10, 6:00 - 9:00 pm; Wednesday, February 16, 6:00 - 9:00 pm; Thursday, February 17, 6:00 - 9:00 pm

Drawing: Sunday, February 20, 5:00 pm

January Juror's Dialogue and Awards

January 2011 All-Media Exhibit

January 6 - February 7, 2011

Juried by Lee Newman

Juror's Dialogue with Erica Fortwengler

"I'm looking for a spark of a statement – a piece that's not just of something, but also about something, and that has the visual, technical elements to support it," stated January juror Lee Newman.

When jurying an exhibit, Newman looks for how a piece performs as a work of art, rather than an illustration or a graphic design. The work must also have the formal compositional and design elements to support it.

Newman found that while many of the unselected works were crafted well, they lacked a clear hierarchy of elements to help guide the eye through the piece. He noted that some of the subject-oriented works were not juried because the subjects' surrounding spaces were not appropriately developed. Newman observed that in the other subject-oriented work, the color surrounding the subject was decorative rather than structural, and this is why he chose not to include them in the exhibit. Please visit our website to read the full article.

Award Winners

The Ross Merrill Award: M.M. Panas

Ross Merrill, former Chief of Conservation at the National Gallery of Art (1983-2009) passed away at home on December 15, 2010 after a two and a half year battle with multiple myeloma. Ross built one of the most respected conservation departments in the world, by bringing together a productive and innovative team of conservators and scientists, expanding the staff from 15 to 55 people, establishing new conservation positions and departments, and laying the political and financial groundwork in the museum for the expanded scientific research department as it exists today. Ross also taught classes, workshops, and travel workshops for The Art League School. The Ross Merrill Award was established in his memory and is funded by those who were touched by his artistic life. A memorial will be held on February 12 at 2:00 pm at St. John's Methodist Church in Springfield. If you are interested in contributing to the award fund, please contact develop@theartleague.org.

Second Place: Betsy Anderson

Third Place: Carol Leadbetter

Honorable Mention: Jill Banks, Marsha Brown, Kathleen Craig, Anne Crown Cyr, Jack Daily, Mary Deleyiannis, Arlie Hammons, Laurence Kamlot, Gwen Lewis, Betty Ann MacDonald, Saeed Marefat, James McGivney, Jacqueline Saunders, Donnie Seale, Jo Ann Tooley, Meg Walsh, Lee Gerry Wertheimer, Cristy West, Ann Zahn

March Gallery Exhibit: "Carnivalé"

Receiving: Monday, March 7, 6:30 - 8:30 pm and Tuesday, March 8, 10:00 am - 12:00 noon.

Juror: David Page, sculptor and adjunct professor at Towson University and Corcoran College of Art+Design.

Reception: Thursday, March 10, 6:30 - 8:00 pm. Awards at 7:30 pm.

Awards: TBA

About This Exhibit: For this exhibit, the Art League invites artists to explore the meaning of the word "carnival." Consider the parades and feasts of the centuries-old pre-Lent festival, Carnivalé. Keep in mind alternate definitions of carnival, which evoke circuses, revelry, sideshows, and merriment. Theme shows at the Art League Gallery are created to stretch the member artists' minds and are up for interpretation. To find out more about this exhibit, please visit our website.



M.M. Panas

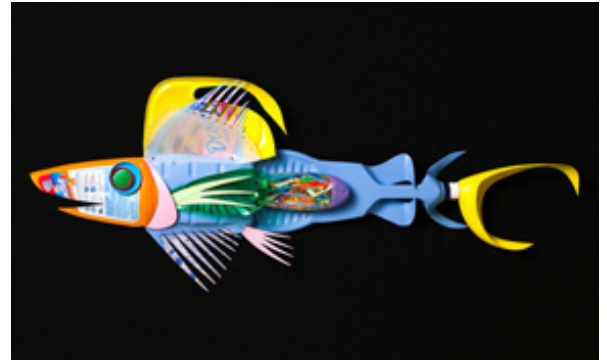
Opportunities for Artists

Need Some Fresh Ideas for the April Exhibit "Remains?"

A great way to expand your horizons and to create something new is to enroll in **David Edgar's March Workshop Fantastic Recycled Plastic!** This workshop is open to artists of all levels. Create fun and colorful sculptures from consumer-based recycled materials.

March 26 - 27, \$185

Novices and experienced artists alike discover the exciting artistic potential of post-consumer recyclable plastics. Creating sculptures from these materials is fun and results in lightweight, colorful, unique artworks. Orientation to materials and equipment, demonstration of fundamental techniques, and examples of both large and small assembly projects are covered. The goal is to complete two or more pieces daily. Students need to bring their own clean plastic containers and a selection of basic hand tools.



Edgar is a guest instructor from Charlotte, North Carolina where he is retired from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte as an Associate Professor of Art. Previously Edgar served for three years as the chair of the Art Department and was Associate Professor of Sculpture at Ashland University in Ohio. He is also the former Executive Director for The Armory Art Center in West Palm Beach, Florida where he served for 12 years. In keeping with his studio work in a wide range of materials, his exhibition history reflects over 25 years of consistent activity with his artwork, which is represented nationally in corporate, institutional, and private collections.

School News

Consider Taking a Class or Workshop

There is still time to sign up for the winter term! A great class for those new to jewelry creation is *Dawn Benedetto's Silver Jewelry The Easy Way -- Wax Modeling*. Other great courses yet to begin are: *Felting: Expanding the Possibilities with Renate Maile-Moskowitz*; *The Art of Transformation with Rosemary Lockett*; *Jewelry Projects with Gretchen Raber*; *Beginning Darkroom Photography with Gregory Vershbow*; and *Landscape Painting: Outdoor to Studio with Sara Linda Poly*. Many of our classes may be joined in session for a prorated amount. Call the office to inquire about availability of courses you may be interested in. Winter workshops are also available - check out our website!



Dawn Benedetto

In the Know About Snow

"How will I know if classes are cancelled?" This is a frequent question this time of year and the school uses several methods to communicate weather-related cancellations or delays.

1. The Art League Website - www.theartleague.org (A scrolling emergency message appears on the top of the homepage when there's a change in schedule and information will also appear at the bottom of the homepage.)

2. The School Office voice message at 703-683-2323 (Due to volume of calling you may have to call more than once to get the recording.)

3. Television - TBD Channel 8, ABC Channel 7, WUSA Channel 9, WTTG Fox Channel 5

4. Facebook - check our Facebook page, www.facebook.com/theartleague

Spring Registration

Spring registration starts on Monday, February 7. Browse all of our classes and workshops in the catalog, or better yet online, to keep up with any changes or additions since publication. Please call with any questions.

2011 Student/Faculty Show

This annual exhibit will be featured from February 23 - March 6, 2011 in The Art League Gallery. Come see the wonderful work our students and faculty created in the past year. Submission guidelines for our students and faculty are available online as well as in the school office. We're still looking for volunteers, so please call the school office if you are interested in helping out!

Receiving: Monday, February 21, 10:00 am - 12:00 noon, and 5:30 - 8:30 pm only.

Closing Reception: The reception and awards presentation will be on Sunday, March 6 from 2:00 - 4:00 pm with awards at 3:30 pm. Please note that artwork must be picked up following the reception.

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.

Art Travel Workshops

Visit our website to read more about these workshops and download the informational brochures.

The Coastal Towns of Southern France: Le Cote de Vermeille, "Vermillion Coast" Plein Air Painting with Peter Ulrich May 22 - 29, 2011

Just south of the French Riviera lies the rugged and indented coastline of the Cote Vermeille. The sienna colored earth and rocky formations gives this locale its name. The Pyrenees sweep down to the sea, and nestled amongst the inlets lie charming little seaside towns and coastal villages that were frequented by French artists in the early 1900's. Collioure is one of these beautiful little coastal gems. Henri Matisse and Andre' Derain painted every corner of this scenic little port.



Photo by Margitta Haniff

Open to painters of all media. An emphasis will be placed on capturing the effect of light in this exquisite coastal locale. Good drawing, effective composition, clean color, and strong values will be stressed. Peter is an experienced international artist and his vast library of painting journals attest to this. He has painted in many locales – especially in the British Isles and France. A prolific and rapid painter, Peter is able to pass on a great deal of information in a short amount of time. Students will paint in at least two locations each day. Daily demos, individual guidance, and group critiques in a relaxed and productive atmosphere are on the agenda.

\$1,725 per person, double occupancy.

Solomons Island, Maryland: Plein Air Painting The Harbor and Lighthouses with Bobbi Pratte May 20-21, 2011

Discover and capture on canvas the unspoiled and uncommon beauty of Solomons Island, a quiet waterfront fishing village where the Patuxent River meets the Chesapeake Bay. Painting locations include the historic Drum Point Lighthouse, and other idyllic coastal locales. Please call for additional information/itinerary.

For reservations or information contact:

Margaret Cerutti: 703-683-1780 x 13 | email: margaretc@theartleague.org

Board Message

By the time you read this, The Art League's winter session of classes will be underway. I am writing this, however, on the eve of my first class of the winter session. Like a kid about to start my first day of school after a long summer vacation, I am both nervous and excited. I set about the familiar task of scraping off my palette and setting out fresh paints. I am a little giddy as I pack up my oils and brushes, and set my canvas and supplies by the door in anticipation of tomorrow's class.

Why should I, a seasoned art student, have butterflies in my stomach and an extra skip in my step? After all, my last class was only a month ago in late Fall. Why do kids feel the same way before starting a new school year.

I call it the Tabula Rasa syndrome. It is the opportunity to start afresh, the limitless possibilities of what I may create over the course of nine weeks, and the challenge of the blank canvas. There is also the excitement of catching up with my art friends, sharing stories about the holidays, travel nightmares and family challenges. And there is the opportunity to make new friends, as there are always a number of new comers to each class.

On the eve before my very first class at The Art League seven years ago, I experienced this same duality of emotions. In addition to nervousness and excitement, I also feared that I would discover that I really had no art talent at all-that all I had was a passion grounded in fantasy; I feared that I would be a failure as an artist.

What I learned over the course of seven years is that being an artist is a passion grounded in fantasy; that's what creativity is! The sky's the limit in terms of what you can create. No one judges your choice of subjects or your manner of creative execution. You may get some helpful pointers from class mates and certainly from your teacher (that's why you paid to take the class in the first place, right?), but no one will tell you that you are crazy to paint a close-up of a can of soup.

So dare to take that first step into the classroom. For those who have taken classes in the past, but have fallen off the art wagon for whatever reason, get back on that horse and reawaken your art passion. Embrace those feelings of excitement and fear. It's never too late! Contact the school office for more information about classes and workshops.

Ellen Fishbein
Art League Board of Directors
Treasurer

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Featured in the 2010/11 Catalogue for Philanthropy.

"One of the best small charities in the Greater Washington region."

We appreciate the support from the Virginia Commission for the Arts, National Endowment for the Arts, Alexandria Commission for the Arts, United Way/CFC.

theartleague

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Calendar

February 2011

February 7/Monday, 10:00 am - 6:00 pm: Receiving donations of artwork for the Patrons' Show fundraiser.
February 16/Wednesday, 6:00-9:00 pm: Gallery open to view the Patrons' Show.
February 20/Sunday, 5:00 pm: Patrons' Show drawing in the main hall of the Torpedo Factory.
February 21/Monday, 10:00 am - 12:00 noon and 5:30 - 8:30 pm: Receiving in The Art League Gallery for the Student/Faculty Show.

March 2011

March 6/Sunday, 2:00-4:00 pm: Closing Reception for the Student/Faculty Show
March 7/Monday, 6:30-8:30 pm: Receiving for **Carnivalé**.
March 8/Tuesday, 10:00 am-12:00 noon: Receiving continues.
March 10/Thursday, 6:30 - 8:30 pm: Opening reception for "**Carnivalé**" and Barry D. Lindley's solo exhibit "**Watermarks.**" Awards presented at 7:30 pm.