

The Art League of Germantown, Inc. www.alog.org

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President's Message

October 2022

Dear Members.

I always look forward to our annual September meeting show-and-tell, our chance to show off to members what we have been working on and to see what is going on in everyone else's mind. This year, we changed things up a little. During the pandemic, I collected images of artwork, along with descriptions, and I created a slideshow, allowing members to speak to their work. For the ten or so years before that, we put our work out on tables, and, splitting the group in two, one group stood with their work while the others visited them. Halfway through the meeting, we switched roles. At my first ALOG show-and-tell, we all sat in a circle, and one by one, each member stood in the center and showed their work. So, in many ways, this year we returned to that first show-and-tell I had participated in. I loved how I got to hear about everyone's work.

One guest, hopefully a member-to-be, said she was looking into joining an art league because she was an artist, but she didn't have any artist friends. That hit close to home for me, because that was exactly why I came to ALOG. I had been exploring some aspects of photography that I hadn't done before, but I didn't really have friends that considered themselves artists. Since joining ALOG, though, I feel every member has become a friend. So, now I have many friends who are local artists, and that has inspired me to do much of the work that I do. I hope this guest does indeed join

ALOG, and I hope that she will pass on that spirit that we all have to surround ourselves with artists and their art. I am interested in knowing why you joined ALOG.

See you soon, Thom

"Art should be something that liberates your soul." – Keith Haring

"You get whatever accomplishment you are willing to declare." – Georgia O'Keeffe

"It doesn't matter how the paint is put on, as long as something is said." – Jackson Pollock

"If I knew what the picture was going to be like, I wouldn't make it." – Cindy Sherman

"I paint flowers so they will not die." – Frida Kahlo

"I don't think about art when I'm working. I try to think about life." – Jean-Michel Basquiat

October Meeting

By Kendra Biddick

Dear Members,

We will be holding our Wednesday, October 5, 2022 membership meeting live at BlackRock from 7:15-9:15 pm.







Product News

By Linda Thompson

I have seen an announcement from the Daniel Smith Co. They are discontinuing making original oils to make way for an expansion in water-soluble oils. It is interesting that this must be profitable. Many oil painters I have known have felt they can't get the same buttery feel painting with water soluble oils. ALOG members might be interested in hearing about this. Daniel Smith is a respected company for paint pigments. Here is the announcement:

IMPORTANT PRODUCT UPDATE

Dear valued customer.

I have made the decision to discontinue the DANIEL SMITH ORIGINAL OIL COLORS, as well as the DANIEL SMITH ORIGINAL OIL MEDIUMS.

After four decades of making these products, it's a difficult decision to stop their production. This is being done to make room for a future line expansion of our existing DANIEL SMITH WATER SOLUBLE OIL COLORS and DANIEL SMITH WATER SOLUBLE OIL MEDIUMS, which are made with the same pigments and binder. In fact, everything about these two product lines is the same, from the ingredients to the machines used to produce them. The only difference is the Linseed Oil and Safflower Oil have been modified to make the paint easily cleaned with water – no solvents required!

I am so very grateful and appreciative of your patronage over the years and thank you so much for using our products in your artwork. We wouldn't exist without you.

We have many more innovative products in the works - stay tuned!

John Cogley Owner/CEO



Time to Renew Your Membership

September is the beginning of ALOG's year and it is the time to renew!

ALOG IS CELEBRATING ITS FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF ONLINE MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Simply go to <u>ALOG.ORG</u> and choose the Membership tab. ALOG is accepting online payments of dues for ease of renewal.

You may also register at our September meeting if you prefer to pay your dues with cash or a check. If you have any questions about membership renewal please contact Lori Myers: lmyers1761@live.com

Remember, Membership Dues must be received in order to participate in our shows.

ALOG needs your Facebook skills!

The Board is looking for someone to take over the position of social media coordinator. The main focus of this position is promoting our meetings and shows to the wider world on our public-facing facebook page. We would like someone who is also willing to add value to the page in other ways so that people have a reason to keep coming back to learn more about art or virtual art shows or classes around the world. If you are interested, please contact Kendra Biddick at kendra.biddick@gmail.com.

Featured Artist - Laurie Hartman

Fused Glass Artist

My first exposure to glass was in a stained-glass class at Black Rock Center for the Arts, in Germantown, Maryland. Upon completion of the class, I dove into a fused glass workshop and that is where I found my slot in the art world. I began making fused glass plates at local glass shops and in classrooms and soon decided to open my own studio. Two kilns later, and many cuts to show for it, I have grown as a glass artist.

I have shown my creations at many local art shows and won several local and international awards. I am a scientist by training and my background speaks to my design aesthetics. My artwork is linear and geometric, and my inspirations include Frank Lloyd Wright, Yaacov Agam and Piet Mondrian. I also enjoy creating whimsical pieces and I aim to make people smile.

















Autumn Art Beckons at City Galleries

by Marylou Bono

Swirling autumn leaves are ushering in a richness of art offerings to Gaithersburg! The season promises a return from the dearth of the past two years to satisfy art lovers over the coming months. Several exhibitions linger from late summer and others open in October. Gallery Program Coordinator Jaree Donnelly is excited about the new season—"Covid really created havoc in our scheduling, and we are still catching up with bringing in exhibits that had to be postponed. We are happy that we can finally share exhibits that had been initially planned in 2019 and 2020."

Bright spots are an additional gallery at the Benjamin Gaither Center, a rejuvenation of the Arts Barn's City Shop and a 20th year celebration of the Arts Barn. It is an opportune time to reacquaint yourself with the City's galleries or see them for the first time. You may even find pieces to enhance your surroundings or develop a passion for a new artform! Arts Administrator Linda Bloom commented on the Arts Barn's 20th year celebration—"We have planned an entire year of special arts programming, with many programs free or at a nominal charge, and accessible to the public. Everyone is invited to explore their creative selves by taking an art class, seeing a theatre or musical performance, visiting our public art collection or enjoying an engaging exhibit in one of our galleries throughout the City. It's all waiting for you!"

The gem called the Arts Barn is featuring photography, metal sculpture and fine crafts. Through October 2nd, visit a joint offering—"Photography on Unusual Surfaces" and an "Invitational Metal Sculpture Exhibition." These two exhibits and the upcoming "Sisterhood II: Fine Crafts" will remind you not to overlook the variety of innovative media and artisans who create work other than painting. Curated by Mary Weiss Waldhorn, "Sisterhood II: Fine Crafts" is a Covid-delayed exhibit intended for 2020 to mark the centennial of women's suffrage and features work by 11 women in embroidery, fiber art, weaving, glass, polymer and epoxy clays, beading, assemblage, ceramics, wood and printmaking. Opening October 7th, the exhibition runs through November 19th and includes a meet the artists joint reception with the show at the Mansion on Thursday, October 13th at 7 pm.

Tucked inside the Arts Barn, the City Shop has for many years featured the fine arts and crafts of local artisans for your shopping pleasure. Earlier this year, Manager Anne Cherubim published a call for local artists to submit applications for their work to be included in the shop. "The idea to have artists apply every year keeps things fresh and challenges artists to think about how to refine their work and process. We work with artists creating high quality work, showing professional-level artistic and technical achievement. New artists also bring new visitors who may not have been to the Arts Barn or known about it before.

Visitors to our performances, as well as people taking classes here regularly, peruse the shelves and often leave with something unique and handmade."

Established in 1896, the Washington Water Color Association brings their "Relief from the Heat" exhibit to the Kentlands Mansion. President Anne Albright commented, "Our theme is a thought on not only the 'relief' of the heat of the weather as we move from summer to fall, but also the 'heat' and stress of not being able to do things together as an association. Our members were so pleased to have the opportunity to work together in hanging our 51 pieces by 15 member artists. We hope that visitors to the show find 'relief" and calm in their day while viewing these beautiful paintings." Open since August 26th, the exhibit features work using forms of watermedia such as watercolor, gouache, acrylic and water-soluble graphite. The exhibit runs through January 22, 2023 and will share an artist's reception with the Arts Barn's exhibit on October 13th at 7 pm.

ALOG member Noelie Angevine has a piece in the exhibit entitled "On the Gaspé Coast". It is shown on the next page of the newsletter. Noelie provided this backstory.

Some people have the concept that watercolors are "pretty"...That they are even "shallow" at times. To my way of thinking, a piece of art, in **any media**, communicates.

I visited the Gaspé Peninsula in Quebec when I was a child, taking a trip with my parents and my then seven brothers and sisters. It was heaven for us and we stayed on Bonaventure Island, across from the coast. We could look out at the point of land portrayed in my painting. We could also see the huge Percé Rock. We saw storms and gorgeous dawns and overwhelming sunsets. We went out in tiny fishing boats to fish and to see the gannetts, the wild seabirds that flock to the cliffs in summer to raise their young.

I have visited this place a number of times. In travelogues, the Gaspé is portrayed as a "romantic, beautiful place to visit", with a rich history of fishing. It is not always so romantic. It can get quite lonely, especially in the winter. Dangerous storms sweep in from the St. Lawrence River over its rugged coast. The name Gaspé comes from the Mi'kmaq word gespe'g, meaning "end", referring to the end of the land.

Unfortunately, Percé has become increasingly overbuilt because tourism is a way for it to survive.

I used this painting to remind myself and others of the real spirit of the Gaspé. I didn't want to paint a "pretty watercolor". I wanted it to be moody, just as it can be.



The Activity Center at Bohrer Park Gallery is a unique space allowing visitors to view art up close, particularly larger works. Opening on September 9th is the "Hispanic Heritage Celebration" curated by local artist Roxana Rojas-Luzon. Roxana expounded, "Hispanic artists want to offer the community a complete vision of what it means to be Hispanic. Our works not only represent what we left in our countries of origin and our nostalgia, but also our daily joys and struggles—what we are living and learning here every day. They are a fusion of imagination, experiences and richly varied influences. Our Hispanic heritage is intrinsic in our imagery and colors—what we learned as children: love for our families, landscapes, faces and traditions. All this is rendered not only realistically but also figuratively, abstractly and even surreally." Join the artists at a reception at the gallery on September 15th at 7 pm. Roxanna has pieces in the show, which are shown on the next page of the newsletter.

Through September 30th at the Benjamin Gaither Center Gallery see "Art is Ageless," a multimedia exhibit featuring photography, drawings and paintings by BGC members. Opening on October 21st is "Maryland Waterways," a juried charitable exhibition in partnership with GPARC Arts & Culture Alliance (a non-profit group closely associated with the City). The exhibit features juried work to help support conservation efforts for the Chesapeake watershed. GPARC member Jaree Donnelly commented, "Maryland artists were asked to submit images of their pieces and a jury composed of GPARC members and professional artists reviewed the submissions and chose the work. Something

very special about this exhibit is that it is a charitable effort, and a portion of artwork sales will go to the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. The GPARC team felt strongly that they not only wanted to provide an opportunity for artists to exhibit, but also to provide education about protecting the watershed and hopefully providing funds to help preserve the environment. The exhibition is part of GPARC Arts & Culture Alliance's Art & the Environment initiative, which also includes the annual Storm Drain Art Contest and the Paint the Plows Project." The exhibition is on view through January 16, 2023.

The City of Gaithersburg is a leader in the County for their dedication to art through diverse offerings and venues as well a willingness to showcase Maryland artists. If you have missed in-person art, enjoy the opportunity to be reawakened with these engaging presentations. For detailed information on all exhibitions, visit the City's website at https://www.gaithersburgmd.gov/recreation/visual-arts.





Blue Embrace Red Leaves



Green Leaves



Artlinesby Lynne Haussler Oakes

Poetry

Art and Love I am a painter.

Each time you pass the image I have given you, you gaze yet again upon my message that I trust may touch your soul ~ You.

I have just read the last poem on the last page of a book written by an old friend. Each night I read a few more until now, this night,

I have read them all.

I learned what I perceived upon seeing him again after some 50 years.

The conversation was only moments long and yet I understood quite clearly who he had become, and perhaps always was.

It was something I did not know all those years ago where we only passed in high school hallways. He is full of love and sees into things to their essence, to their soul.

In reading his work, I could see what he saw in the way he put the words together. I regret that I cannot pass by those poems posted on some wall.

To pass by them daily and have them put their instant magic on me.....
The way one passes some paintings and is instantly touched with
Truth's Flame.

Beauty's Purpose

Artists, artists everywhere
Paint the world with colors
Your dancing and your poems.

Let others be enchanted Let your create abound What you do is priceless. It turns the world around.

Beauty of the highest order Is the gift you bring To a pock-marked planet That needs great songs to sing.

Turn disorder into order Darkness into light Put your visions forward Restore all spirit's sight.

Contact Lynne at artlines@alog.org.



From the Drawing Board

By Bill Mapes

As I mature as an artist, I have tried to be clear minded and challenging in my art vision. I accept whatever small growth I achieve on my art journey. Many times, it is "two steps forward, one step back". But I

take whatever I can to improve my work. Make no mistake, these steps are self-imposed and many times slow in occurring. I have in the past worked in a flurry for several weeks until I have exhausted my desire to paint. I then will not work for days, even weeks at a time except for workshops and live sessions. That time of inactivity is not totally lost and is productive in thinking and evaluating my body of work. When I return to the easel, I am recharged and energized to work again. I find that most times there is an improvement, no matter how small, in my work. It may be in vision, or color choice, or values... It is there and, I conclude, a product of my inactivity from actual painting.

That was before the pandemic. For the first year of the pandemic, I did not work as much. I suppose, like most of us, it was an adjustment period to a new world routine. The second year of the shutdowns something happened. I had this energy and desire to work again. This time it was different. My zeal was accelerated. My desire to paint more intense. My production was exponential. In an artist sense, I caught fire. I was working faster, looking harder, and making better decisions. I also "upped my game" and challenged myself more in approach in color and composition.

In looking back over the months, trying to rationalize what and why this was happening, I came up with an ambiguous hypothesis. I believe that the radical shift in life because of the shutdowns caused a reset of my "boot drive". It gave me time, without the strain of an imposing schedule, to give my mind the opportunity to clear out the clutter and focus on the more important values in my life. Art has always been a passion and a prime mover away from working, providing, and living. Without sacrificing my basic tenets of life, I now found a renaissance in my art. It has provided me an unburdened innocence, much like I experienced when attending art school. I am still busy with life's tasks, but my art time has become a private sanctuary unto itself. I am enjoying painting more. I am devoted to teaching and finding it a wonderful way to pay forward all the instructors who worked with me over the years. My art and its experience have become self-fulfilling in my life. It is my hope that all of you have had or will have a similar experience in your lives.

It is simply a joy to work and create art. Embrace it...

Contact Bill at fromthedrawngboard@alog.org.

Upcoming Art Opportunities

Bresler Residency

In honor of VisArts patrons, Fleur and Charles Bresler, VisArts invites applications and proposals from local, national, and international artists for a four month residency at VisArts at Rockville. This residency provides a unique opportunity for a dynamic individual artist or collaborative artist team to create a new body of work, evolve an existing body of work or develop a project in a stimulating, supportive environment. Studio space is provided free of charge.

Submission Deadline: Nov 20, 2022

Entry Fee: None More Information

National Juried Photography Exhibition

The National Juried Photography Exhibition is held biennially in November at the Delaplaine as part of FOCUS, our month-long celebration of photography. Artists residing within the U.S. are invited to enter up to three (3) photographs for consideration.

Submission Deadline: Oct 8, 2022

Entry Fee: \$35 per artist (\$25 if the artist is a current

member of the Delaplaine)

More Information

Light and Shadow

Where there's light, there must be shadow. Whether an artist knows it or not, light and shadow are essential to all forms of art, either as the subject of the piece, or the material being used to create it. From the dramatic chiaroscuros of the European Renaissance to the interactive and immersive experiences of Mary Corse and Yayoi Kusama, light and shadow continuously fascinate artists. Pieces that play with this dynamic are eligible for MFA's 5th annual Light and Shadow exhibition.

Submission Deadline: Nov 2, 2022

Entry Fee: 1 or 2 entries \$35 (MFA Members \$20).

Additional 4 entries \$5 each.

More Information

Art in Embassies

We are always looking for new artists and artwork to be a part of exhibitions. This registry offers a registered artist the exposure to our internal curators, who have the responsibility of researching and selecting the artwork for all exhibitions and collections. Artists who sign up to be included in the registry are not yet ART in Embassies artists, and should refrain from using that term in CVs, etc. A registry artist will not have an artist card in the main AIE website section until they are included in an exhibition, nor are they searchable in the main search function of the website.

Submission Deadline: Ongoing

Entry Fee: None More Information

Photography Now

BlackRock Center for the Arts is now accepting entries for a juried photography exhibition, "Photography Now". For this exhibition, we are looking for innovative photographic approaches to abstraction and look forward to selecting artists focusing on a wide range of techniques, from incamera and post-processing methods to creating or finding abstraction out in the world and placing a lens in front of it. Submission Deadline: Oct 13, 2022

Entry Fee: \$20 More Information

<u>Cumberland Valley Artists and Photographers</u> Exhibitions

An annual tradition since 1933, the Cumberland Valley Artists and Cumberland Valley Photographers exhibitions showcase, celebrate, and support artists of the Cumberland Valley region.

Submission Deadline: Nov 9, 2022

Entry Fee: \$15 per entry

More Information

Formatting Guidelines for Submitting Photographs

Photographs of our artwork and events are an important way to publicize our craft and art league. Here is the format for submitting images for our newsletter, website Gallery page, Facebook, etc.

Each image should be 180 dpi or greater and 4" or larger on the longest dimension of the image

ALOG Member Discounts

 Art Galaxy Framing - discounted framing for ALOG members. https:// framinggermantownmd.wixsite.com/artgalaxy



BlackRock News

BlackRock Center Hours: Monday – Friday 10 AM – 6 PM

BlackRock Art Classes and Workshops

No classes are listed at present.

ALOG Cares

Ruth Sentelle has a large parcel of cards, notes and good wishes waiting to be sent to any ALOG friends and family members who could use a little encouragement, thoughtful praises or even some sunshine. Kindly let her know at ruthiam@yahoo.com or text to 240-449-9063.

She is eagerly waiting to send out positive thoughts in the mail. Receiving a note in the mail could brighten someone's day.

Let's remember to show that ALOG CARES!

ALOG Goals

- Provide members with the stimulation to thrive in their personal art goals, and to foster creativity.
- Encourage enthusiastic support and appreciation for art and for other artists' work.
- Contribute to the surrounding community in furthering art awareness and education.

Our meetings are generally held on the first Wednesday of each month, September through May, at 7:15 p.m.at BlackRock Center for the Arts, 12901 Town Center Drive, Germantown, MD, in the Germantown Town Center on the corner of Rt. 118 and Middlebrook Road (across from the Safeway) or online during Covid-19 restrictions.

ALOG is a group of professional and amateur visual artists fine crafters and art appreciators organized to further the careers of its members and to bring an appreciation of fine art and crafts to the community. ALOG draws members from throughout Montgomery County. Learn more at www.blackrockcenter.org.

Calendar of Events

View <u>www.alog.org</u> for updated information. Our meetings are currently held virtually. Watch our monthly announcements for confirmed speakers and other details.		
Sep 7, 2022	ALOG Show and Tell	
Oct 5, 2022	Luc Fiedler, Metals sculptor	
Nov 2, 2022	Debra Halprin, Giclee prints and digital restoration of art and photos	
Dec 7, 2022	Carrie Waller, watercolor (by Zoom)	
Jan 4, 2023	Critique night before spring show (by Zoom)	
Feb 1, 2023	Melinda Lowy, Quiter	
Mar 1, 2023	Leslie King, Potter	
Apr 5, 2023	Cristin Cash, Talk about African or Asian influence on American art	
May 3, 2023	Hoesy Corona, multidisciplinary artist (by Zoom)	