



The Art League of Germantown, Inc.



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President's Message

April 2018

Artists in Action! We are!

Everyone's excited that ALOG is having another interactive Artists in Action! format for our Shades of Spring Show and Sale, Apr 11-15.

What makes this such a successful platform?

- It's a great blend of our 2-d exhibit, 3-d displays, demos, and special events
- We get to show visitors something about how we create our work – and visitors are always interested to know more about both the art and the artist
- It's an opportunity to learn a bit about what resonates with people about our particular work and gain useful feedback
- What a joy it is to spend a day or two talking to our fellow artists in this wonderful setting with the show as our backdrop

Very cool things happen here!

Speaking of cool things, I'm always fascinated by the idea of forecasting what's ahead in style and color. Think about the lead times that designers and manufacturers must work with – whether for clothing, interiors, print, product design and packaging, even commercial and industrial design - spotting trends (or setting them) is an interesting aspect of creativity. Forecasting these trends involves big money, is focused 18+ months ahead, and doesn't come with the benefit of computer models. Tough job. But probably FUN!

Consider Pantone's annual "Color of the Year." These are always inspiring and often reflective of our times, with names that are creative and evocative, like Marsala, Honeysuckle, Chili Pepper, Mimosa, Tangerine Tango. In 2016, the Color of the Year was actually two colors – Rose Quartz and Serenity – a warm rose tone and a cool tranquil blue, "reflecting connection and wellness...a soothing sense of order and peace." Then in 2017 came Greenery, a bright green shade that Pantone called "refreshing and revitalizing...symbolic of new beginnings."

For 2018, the Color of the Year is Ultra Violet! Pantone calls it a "dramatically provocative and thoughtful purple shade [communicating] originality, ingenuity, and visionary thinking that points us toward the future."

How fitting for this to coincide with ALOG's 35th anniversary!

So keep up your own originality, ingenuity, and visionary thinking. Looking forward to seeing everyone at Shades of Spring!

Marge



Salvaging Paintings

by Thomas Germer
ALOG Vice-President

ALOG Meeting April 4, 2018

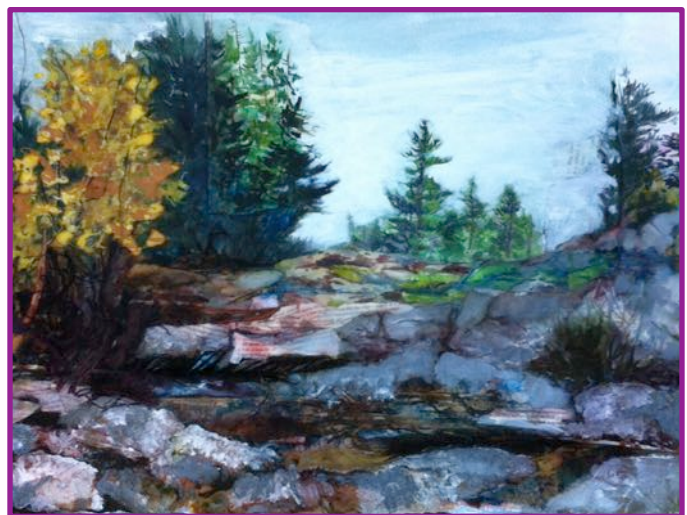
Speaker: Linda Ely

Location: BlackRock Center for the Arts

Linda Ely is a multimedia artist whose work includes embroidered landscapes, watercolors, mixed media, wearables, jewelry, knick-knacks, and bric-a-brac. She will be presenting a demonstration and talk about options for rethinking and salvaging paintings that are beyond redemption.

Linda Ely was born in Washington, DC. She attended University of Maryland in College Park and holds a Bachelor's Degree in Secondary Art Education. She is a recipient of numerous awards and honors and is a Fellow of the MacDowell Colony in Peterborough, NH. Linda's one person shows include: The Kennedy Center Canteen Gallery (Washington, DC); The Eastern Shore Arts Association (Fairhope, AL); and the George Meany Center (Silver Spring, MD). Linda's work has been featured in many group shows, including: "New England in Contemporary American Art", American Institute, (Taipei, Taiwan); Maryland Fine Arts National Juried Show (Annapolis, MD); Invitational Show, Maryland Arts Place (Baltimore, MD); Maine Center for the Arts (Rockport, ME); and the Farnsworth Museum (Rockland, ME). Linda's work can be found in private and corporate collections including, Olga Hirshhorn; Montgomery County Government (Rockville, MD); and Hughes Network Systems (Germantown, MD). Linda's commission work includes pieces for Eunice Shriver and Mel Gibson.

You can view some of Linda Ely's work at <http://www.lindaely.net>



Shades of Spring

by Laurie Hartman

April is one of the best times of year. The days are getting longer, the weather is warming up, the flowers are blooming, and...oh yeah...it's time for ALOG's annual Shades of Spring Art Show and Sale. This year is ALOG's 35th anniversary, celebrating 35 years of art. So, we are doing something special. We are going to demonstrate our art and show off our creativity with an Artists in Action Show. We have done this show format once before, but for those of you who have not had the pleasure I will lay it out for you.

Artists in Action is just like it sounds...come prepared to do some art. Saturday and Sunday we will line up the tables in the gallery and in the lobby and you will get to spend the day doing your favorite activity, your art. Come prepared to either demonstrate, show your materials, have photos, or make a video of your process. You can sell from your table. Have prints, originals, cards, photographs, 3-D art, etc... available.

You can still register at the member meeting on April 4th. For 2-D artists if you just want to submit pieces for the walls that is fine, limit of 2 pieces per person.

The schedule for the show is April 11-15, 2018. Take in is Monday April 9, 5-7pm, Show hanging will be on Tuesday April 10. Opening night is Wednesday, April 11 4-7pm. There will be a live model and a drawing session on Wednesday evening. Saturday and Sunday will be Artists in Action and Sunday will be everyone's favorite, the artist wine reception.

If you have any questions, feel free to e-mail Laurie Hartman at lauriejan103@yahoo.com.

Artlines

by Lynne Haussler Oakes

To Give or Not to Give

Has anyone ever asked you to give them one of your creations, a painting, a photograph, jewelry, etc.? It is something I have come across often with my students who are getting better and better at their art and then someone in their family, or perhaps a friend, wants to be given a piece of it. (This can apply to any type of artwork, of course!) How you handle this early in your career will set the tone for what you do in this regard from now on.

Of course you know what it took to create that art, and very likely the one asking for it has no idea what it takes to produce it. Most people don't. They think they are flattering and validating you in asking for it.

"That is a lovely painting. Could I have it? I know just the place for it."

"Oh honey! You're doing so well with your art classes! I'd love to have the flower painting."

"Your dad would love it if you gave him a piece of your work."

"That necklace with the blue beads would be perfect with my outfit. I'd be happy to take it off your hands."

Of course it is flattering to know someone wants to have your art and hang it on their wall. And if you are in the early stages of being an artist, you probably don't yet have an idea of how good you are, or do not yet have much confidence in your work. I also know of those who have been painting for ages who are less than confident in their work.

What consequence does it have when you are doubtful of your work? It saps you of the ability to 'defend' it! How can you stick up for it if you feel less than good about your efforts? And that is precisely what you have to do when someone thinks you should give them a piece of your work.

As a side note, the issue of confidence is one that can be gained by looking at your work in relation to that of other artists. If you are putting your work in a show, try to notice how it measures up to that of the other work there? Or when you attend art shows, how do you think your work compares? Confidence can also be improved by seeing how far you've come over the time you've been doing it. Of course most of us are striving to be better at our work than we now are, but if you are getting positive comments from others, LISTEN!

In the years I have been teaching, this issue of what to do when someone (usually a relative or friend) asks for a piece of your work comes up repeatedly. Students have asked me what to do and I have really looked at what solution could work for both parties. There is no way you want to offend someone that may be well-meaning in asking for your work, BUT you need to set the tone for such occasions so that you feel good about how it turns out. You become the teacher, so to speak, by teaching that your art has value.

Now we come to the concept of exchange. First, YOU have to understand it. Then you will be able to act accordingly with regard to others. Proper exchange is important. It doesn't have to be a money exchange, but an exchange that both feel good about. It tells the other person that what you have is worth something (you are not just playing around with your art). When they exchange something with you for that artwork, you will make your point. An additional benefit, an important one, is that they find that they have something of value to exchange as well. Everybody wins!

You may feel odd asking for money for your painting/art from a family member or good friend. So here is my solution based on the idea of exchange. First, validate the person for wanting your art and then give them a way to make it work. "I'm so pleased you like my work enough to ask me for it! How about if you make me one of your fabulous apple pies every month for the next four months in exchange for the painting? The price of this painting is \$75, but having your wonderful baking would be fine with me."

Of course you have to come up with what YOU consider to be a fair exchange. That means it has to be something you want as well as something they can do for you. Get creative about it! Maybe babysitting, or planting the spring plants you just bought for your garden, or walking your dog for a certain stretch of time, knitting you a beautiful scarf or taking you out to dinner and a movie. You get the idea! What you are doing is establishing the idea that art, YOUR ART, is worth something. In the future, when the same person asks for another piece of yours, you may have to say, "Well now, that's a 20 pie painting!"

J. Jordan Bruns at the March 2018 Meeting

by Keith Mounts

Yellow Barn Manager J. Jordan Bruns, demonstrated "alla prima" (at first attempt) painting at our March meeting. Nataliya joined him as model for the demonstration which concluded with a completed piece he began at the start of the meeting. During the meeting Jordan passed along a lot of information in an eclectic talk.

For example, painting is simple. There are just three steps. Identify colors. Mix colors. Apply colors. In addition, an unfinished-appearing painting contains great freedom.

Diego Velázquez was an early originator of the alla prima technique, which does not start with a drawing, in which the painting done all in one layer as opposed to the more traditional way of painting in layers. Style is like a crossword puzzle, go back later and fill in. No color is correct until the color next to it is there. There are three sins in creating: fear, impatience and laziness.

Some of Jordan's specifics:

- Makes his own panels, which require a lot of finishing to get a smooth surface. There are three coatings with sanding in between. An oil ground requires two weeks to pass between coats.
- He reuses panels if the painting doesn't work out. Enter orbital sander.
- Uses sable brushes which are suspended in safflower oil, which reduces how often the brushes need cleaning. He recently was using a brush that hadn't been cleaned in 28 days.
- He holds his palette knife on the pallet with a magnet.



Photo by Craig Higgins

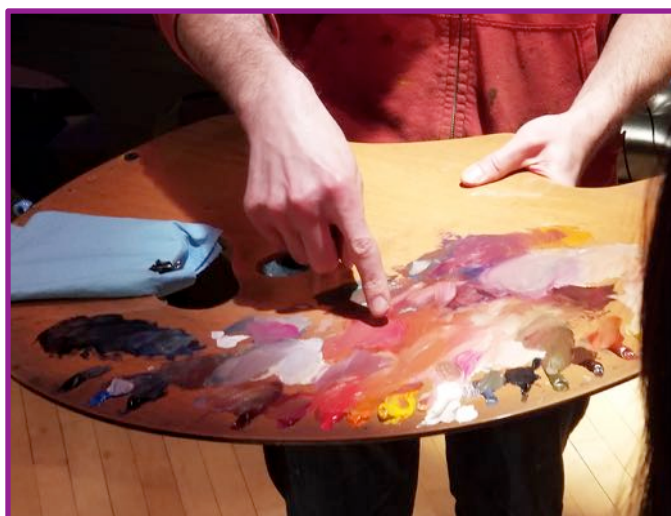


Photo by Craig Higgins

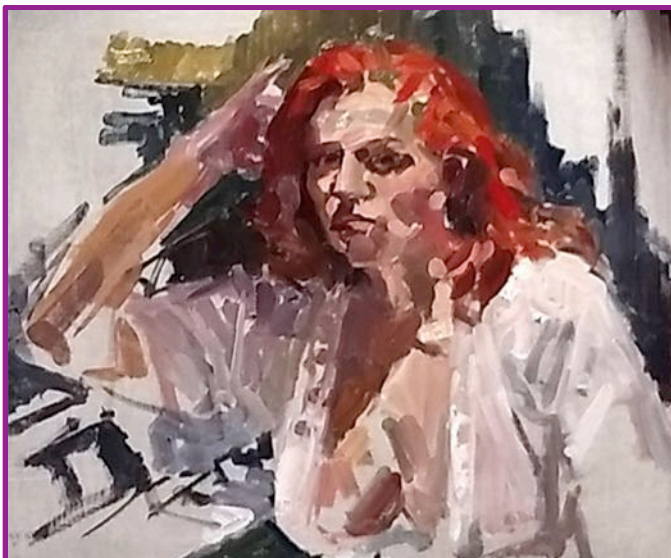


Photo by Bill Mapes

From the Drawing Board

By Bill Mapes



Our spring show, "Artists in Action" is on our doorstep. It is full of unique opportunities to demonstrate our artistic skills and promote our artwork. We are fortunate to have two wonderful open exhibits at BlackRock each year. Next year we will not only have our Kentlands Invitational Juried Exhibit in late January but we will also have a show at Glenview Mansion later in the fall. As we work through the spring and summer months keep these shows in mind so you are not pressured as the show deadline approach.

Back to our "Artist in Action" exhibit. We traditionally have had an open figure art session in conjunction with our "Artists in Action" show format. This year is no exception. On Wednesday, April 11th we will hold our open art session in the Kay Gallery from 4:00 – 7:00 pm. This open session is exclusively for ALOG members only. This year we will have the vivacious Nataliya as our model. Nataliya was the model for this past meeting's demonstration by Jordan Bruns. We will follow the traditional format by starting with quick gestures progressing to finish with a long pose. All dry mediums are welcome. If you bring a wet medium please bring a ground cloth. BlackRock will provide a limited number of metal easels. If you have a light portable easel it would be a good idea to bring it to ensure that you will have an easel for your use. Come early to set up and to ensure a vantage point of your liking.

No matter what subject matter you choose for your art drawing from life is a great tool for improvement. Mark your calendars and plan to join your fellow ALOG artists

Upcoming Art Opportunities

Paint It! Ellicott City 2018

A popular feature of the event is the Quick Draw competition – open to both juried and Open Paint artists – in which artists take a plein air painting from start to finish in just two hours. A pop-up exhibit and sale of work completed during the Quick Draw is fun for spectators and artists alike. Paint It! culminates in an exhibit of juried artists' work in our gallery, which features an opening reception and juror's award presentation. A one-night exhibit of work created by Open Paint artists is also on view, then moved to a temporary exhibit at

the Howard County Tourism Welcome Center in Ellicott City. Artists and visitors may view and purchase the finished pieces during the reception. Paint It! Ellicott City 2018 will be held July 5-9, 2018.

Submission Deadline: April 27, 2018

Entry Fee: \$30

<http://www.hocoarts.org/explore/opportunities-artists-arts-groups/exhibit-opportunities-apply/specific-exhibits/paint-it/>

Behind the Veil: Mythology, Fantasy, and the Human Psyche

Open Space Gallery at Stone Branch School of Art is sponsoring Behind the Veil: Fantasy, Mythology and the Human Psyche. From the beginning of time, humankind has created symbols and stories to both explain the world around us, and to give life to the landscapes of our dreams and imaginings. From Jung's archetypes, to ancient gods and goddesses, to fantastical creatures and places that exist only in the mind's eye, we invite artists from all disciplines to explore the realms of dreams, fantasy and mythology. Artists should focus on works that play with the boundaries of reality and draw upon legends and symbols from cultures throughout the world. Share your vision of the surreal, the impossible; your personal interpretation of the magic and mystery that lies within us all. All media are eligible. All artwork must be matted, framed, or otherwise made exhibition-ready.

Submission Deadline: April 22, 2018

Entry Fee: \$25

<https://www.stonebrancharts.com/call-for-art>

2018 All Botanicals

Contemporary Art Gallery Online encourages entries from all 2D and 3D artists regardless of their experience, education in the art field or where they may reside. This is an international competition and everyone is encouraged to participate. A group exhibition of all entrants will be held online at the Contemporary Art Gallery Online for thirty days immediately following the close of the competition for thirty days. Artists should submit their best representational and non-representational art related to the "ALL Botanicals" theme. The "ALL Botanicals" theme is considered to be any art which depicts flowers, herbs, leaves, plants and related floral subjects.

Submission Deadline: April 21, 2018

Entry Fee: \$15

<https://www.contemporaryartgalleryonline.gallery/2018-art-competition-all-botanicals>



BlackRock News

BlackRock Center

Gallery Hours:

Monday-Saturday 10 AM to 5 PM

Sunday closed.

BlackRock Art Classes and Workshops

Available online www.blackrockcenter.org

Drawing and Painting

In this fun and informative course, students will learn painting techniques and develop their drawing skills. Beginning students will learn fundamental techniques while intermediate and advanced students will refine their skills. This class is taught with a combination of group lessons and individual attention. Focus on the elements of art: shape, color, value, composition, proportion, rhythm, and texture. Projects will begin in class with some pieces needing to be completed at home and brought back complete the following class.

Tuesdays | 6:00-7:30 PM | 318.7311.1

8 weeks | Meets 4/10-5/29

Early Registration: \$204 | Regular Registration: \$214

Instructor: Walkiria Torrealba

Drawing and Composition

Building a strong foundation in drawing is key for many types of visual art. All skill levels are welcome in this enlightening and instructive class that will help you build and enhance your drawing abilities and techniques. Students will be introduced to basic art concepts and the application of these concepts such as sighting, object relationship, modeling and line quality. More advanced students will develop skills in composition, expression, and narrative. Students will even explore and develop mind, hand and eye coordination as a variety of subjects will serve as inspiration for your pieces. Various art mediums will be used throughout this class with a focus on techniques using pencil, charcoal, Conté and graphite. What a great way to spend a Friday morning, in this engaging class, drawing.

Fridays | 10:30-12:00 PM | 318.7951.1

8 weeks | Meets 4/13-6/8 (no class on 5/25)

Early Registration: \$220 | Regular Registration: \$230

Instructor: Marta Lautz

Exploring Watercolor with David Daniels

Taught by Mr. Watercolor himself, this class is designed to help students learn the art of watercolor while encouraging experimentation and self-expression. Students will explore paint application, color theory, composition, and most importantly setting personal goals. Individualized critiques and customized assignments will help you define and become the artist you want to be. This class is open for all skill levels and will help you create vibrant, personality

filled works of art.

Wednesdays | 1:00-3:00 PM | 318.7411.1

8 weeks | Meets 4/4-5/23

Early Registration: \$272 | Regular Registration: \$282

Instructor: David Daniels

Urban Sketching

Urban Sketching is an international artistic movement in which everyday people with a passion for drawing take time out of their busy schedule to sketch on location sites in a sketch book. As you fill your book it becomes an art journal of interesting people, places and landmarks. This class is designed to introduce student to the art of Urban Sketching. Focus is placed on helping you learn quick drawing techniques, improve your drawing skills and learn to ink and paint your sketches. Students will meet at BlackRock and then walk to various local spots to create their pieces. Once you learn this exciting new style you will be able to capture the energy and essence of your favorite places or even create an entire journal while on your next vacation. Whether you an accomplished artist looking to learn a new style or someone who is busy but wants to incorporate art into your life, this casual class is the perfect fit.

Saturdays | 11:30-1:00 PM | 318.7791.1

7 weeks | Meets 4/14-6/9 (no class on 4/28 or 5/26)

Early Registration: \$180 | Regular Registration: \$190

Instructor: Brian Mason

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

Gaithersburg Fine Arts Association

GFAA holds its monthly meetings on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Asbury Methodist Village, 201 Russell Avenue, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20877 in the Hefner Community Center Bldg. #12. More information is available at www.gaithersburgfinearts.org.

Drawing and Painting Classes

I'm here to help you in accomplishing your art dreams!
If you need a brush up, or feel uncertain about your drawing skills, or have issues with understanding color, call me and let's talk it over and see if my classes are what you were looking for to 'fill in the blanks'.
I teach drawing and painting (watercolor/oil).

Lynne Oakes
(301) 428-9288

lynneoakes@aol.com



ALOG Cares

Anyone who is aware of a member needing a little Cheer, Get Well Wishes, Congratulations or Thinking of You, please notify Ruth Sentelle, ruthiam@yahoo.com; answering machine @ 301-926-8909, facebook or in person. I have a great assortment of cards and a whole drawer full of good wishes, plus stamps, just waiting to be sent out. Let's keep in touch with others and let them know ALOG cares! Thank you.

Calendar of Events

View www.alog.org for updated information

We're lining up an exciting array of speakers for the year, and most of our meetings will be in the Kay Gallery. Watch our monthly announcements for confirmed speakers and other details.

Apr. 4 2018	Linda Ely	TBD
May 2 2018	Pritha Srinivasan	TBD

Please remember:

In order to meet our requirement and to vacate BlackRock by 9:30 PM, we need to end meetings by 9:15 PM and assist with putting the chairs away.

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 7:30 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).

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.alog.org or www.blackrockcenter.org.