



The Art League of Germantown, Inc.



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President's Message

December 2018

Hello, ALOG Members –

I hope you had a lovely Thanksgiving holiday. The next several weeks should be super busy -- as usual for this time of year.

ALOG members have stepped up so many times during this past year to share what they have. Whether you gave time, muscle, money, ideas, encouragement to a fellow artist, or even a bit of your special creativity... as a group ALOG members have been wonderfully generous.

One final opportunity in 2018 is our 3rd Annual Holiday Art Supply Drive, which this year is benefitting the Stepping Stones Shelter in Rockville. For this, we ask you to bring a small art supply item, new and unwrapped, to our December meeting on Wednesday, 12/5. It should be something suitable for kids (pre-schoolers through 15 years of age). Even the smallest item will mean a great deal for this important community organization that provides emergency shelter, permanent supportive housing, and post-shelter support to homeless families with children.

Members who wish to participate but are unable to attend the meeting can arrange with another member to bring their item to the meeting, or contact one of our board members for assistance. And thanks to our member Astrid Adler who said "yes" when we asked her to create a large holiday card that all of us could sign to accompany our

donations. And to Keith Mounts who said "yes," he will box up and deliver our donations in time for the holidays.

ALOG members say "yes." It's one of the many things that make us such an amazing group!

Thank you, everyone, for your kindness and generosity throughout the year! My personal best wishes to each of you for a happy holiday season.

Here's to a wonderful, artful 2019.

Marge

The imagination is a powerful tool. An artist can use it to show others the world as he sees it and to bring others into his dream of what the world could be.

- David R. Becker

A person without imagination is like a teabag without hot water.

- Alan Fletcher

Absent imagination and artistic vision, we are blind to the wonders of creation.

- David Allio

December Meeting - Colored Pencil on Wood

by Arlene Crafton
ALOG Vice-President

ALOG Meeting December 5, 2018, 7:15pm
Speaker: Amanda Spaid
Location: BlackRock Center for the Arts

A Maryland native, Amanda attended the School of Art and Design at Montgomery College in Silver Spring (formerly the Maryland College of Art and Design), and earned a degree in Fine Arts. From there, she attended the Columbus College of Art and Design in Ohio, where she earned her Bachelor's in Illustration. She is currently a fine artist and illustrator in the DC Metro area.

Artist Statement: I've had experience in probably a dozen mediums, but my favorite (so far) is colored pencils and other dry media on wood. I've always found pristine white canvases and delicate, smooth paper daunting, but with wood there's already a drawing in process. I carefully select and cut each panel for a particular grain depending on the piece and let the wood describe rippling water or clouds, strands of hair, or a simple, warm glow to help my subjects shine. I love the warm ground, the natural texture, and the movement it gives to my subjects. My hope is that my work inspires people to slow down, take a deep breath and appreciate the beauty of the natural world.



November Meeting - Vintage Dresses and Invented Royalty

by Keith Mounts

Our speaker, Karen Peacock, demonstrated a part of her artistic process and discussed her work. These photos are a sampling from the evening.



Thank You Laurie

by Keith Mounts

Laurie Hartman was the show chair for our massive fall show, Colors and Composition. The show was a multiple week gallery show at the Black Rock Center for the Arts. Members had work in all the galleries and many of the hallways of the center. Bringing it together was a much larger undertaking than our typical shows and Laurie did a wonderful job leading the effort, aided by numerous ALOG members who curated, hung the show, cleaned, worked shifts in the galleries and provided refreshments. It was a fantastic team effort and the show won praise from many visitors. As a token of our appreciation, Laurie was acknowledged and given a token of appreciation at the November meeting.



From the Drawing Board

By Bill Mapes



This time around I want to talk about oil paint. The first thing that I want to mention is the difference in quality versus the cost of oil paints. This is just a matter of proportions of filler and pigment which makes up the paint. Basically, the cheaper brands (student colors) contain larger amounts of filler and lesser amounts of pigment. The more expensive brands of paint contain the reverse. More pigment means that the paint will cover better, retain its vibrancy when thinned, and tint more effectively. This said, I use various brands of paint; student grade and the most expensive. It is a choice of color for me. For example, Yellow Ochre is a different color from brand to brand. Once I found the one that gave me the most satisfaction for my palette, I use it.

Holbein oil paint is one favorite of mine because the paints are consistent in body viscosity and richness throughout their line of paints. Another favorite brand of paint I use is Lukas Oils (German). Lukas has been around for quite a while, in fact, van Gogh used Lukas paints.

Over the years I have accumulated a large amount of paint. The problem with acquiring too much paint is that the tubes tend to dry out before you get to use it. One thing I found that helps preserve paint "in waiting" is to seal it using a food vacuum system. This dramatically limits the air that comes in contact with the paint tube and radically reduces the drying of the paint.

Another pitfall with tubes of oil paint is leakage. There is nothing more frustrating than a leaky tube of paint in your box. Often, by the time you discover it you have paint all over your hands and practically everything else you touch. There is no workable cure to patch the leak on a tube of paint. Every time you squeeze paint out the pressure pushes paint out of the leak as well as the opening in the tube. Short of throwing the tube away, as well as, putting up with the leak there is only one answer. Re-tube the paint. You can purchase empty aluminum paint tubes from your art supply source to save the paint. The procedure can be messy but with a little patience, a palette knife, and a pair of disposable gloves you can easily master the process.

Learning to re-tube paint comes in handy for several other reasons and problems. Many artists will pre-mix colors that they often use on their palette and tube the paint. This guarantees the same mix when used and saves time in mixing the color every time you paint.

There are two other good annoying reasons to re-tube paint. Have you ever bought a new tube of paint and went to use it and out comes a flood of oil with the pigment? Alternatively, have you ever opened a new tube and found the paint painfully thick to squeeze out of the tube. The causes for both may be a lack of thorough mixing at the factory and/or simply a settling and separation while in storage. Either way it is annoying. In both cases, re-tubing the paint is an answer. Once the original tube is emptied out (I use a large piece of tempered glass) it is easy to remix with a palette knife. It may be necessary to separate out some of the oil in the case of too much oil and in the case of thick paint adding oil will do the trick. You can regulate the paint consistency that you prefer in both instances.

Paint is expensive and worth saving when possible. Re-tubing paint is a workable solution to keeping your paint costs under control.

Upcoming Art Opportunities

Emerging Curator Program 2019

VisArts invites applications from emerging curators to work with an experienced mentoring curator to develop and present an exhibition.

The VisArts Emerging Curator Program offers a unique opportunity for an emerging curator to work with an experienced mentoring curator to develop and present an exhibition and to assist in the presentation of the mentor's exhibition. In an effort to develop expanded education programming/enhanced visitor experiences, the 2019 Emerging Curator and the Mentoring Curator will also focus on developing tools, templates, technological enhancements and funding strategies to support public programming that promotes social interaction, creative exchange and audience engagement.

Submission Deadline: January 11, 2019

<https://visarts.submittable.com/submit/98812/emerging-curator-program-2019>

Urban Landscape

We are looking to artists for interpretations either as precise depiction of space, and the relationship between art and architecture, or the shift of attention to a vague notion of psychological and intimate investigation of the inhabitants. Perhaps, a blend of romanticism with realism that reveals how culture enlightens the splendor of a city. Open to all artists working in any traditional or contemporary media.

Submission Deadline: January 12, 2019

Entry Fee: \$35 for up to three entries submitted. \$5 per each additional entry.

<https://www.entrythingy.com/d=stonebrancharts.com#dashboard>

Freedom: Art as the Messenger

The Cato Institute, located in Washington D.C., is a public policy research organization dedicated to the principles of individual liberty, limited government, free markets, and peace. For its inaugural exhibition, the Cato Institute welcomes artists working in any medium to address the concept of FREEDOM: ART AS THE MESSENGER. We are living in an era where people are finding their combative voice but having little conversation or dialogue. The goal of this exhibition is to provide a medium for that conversation. This exhibition invites all investigative points of view in all media; 2-D, 3-D, audio, and video. A full spectrum of interpretation is invited—whether personal, emotional, general, realistic or imagined, communal, or individual—addressing Freedom in all its manifestations through art.

Submission Deadline: January 11, 2019

Entry Fee: \$32 for up to eight entries submitted. \$5 per each additional entry.

<https://www.entrythingy.com/d=cato.org?start=list#dashboard>

Street Scenes

MFA (Maryland Federation of Art) invites all artists to enter its 4th Street Scenes competition. \$500 in awards. Juror: Melanee Harvey, Howard University. The exhibit will be held February 15 - March 31 at the MFA Online Curve Gallery in Annapolis, Maryland. Any original 2-D or 3-D work that depicts what resonates with you in towns and cities, large and small, will be considered.

Submission Deadline: January 11, 2019

Entry Fee: \$32 for up to eight entries submitted. \$5 per each additional entry.

Submission Deadline: January 15, 2019

Entry Fee: \$35 for up to two entries submitted. \$5 each for up to 4 additional entries.

<https://mdfedart.com/wp4/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/StreetScenesWEBFINAL2019-1.pdf>

Art on Paper

MFA (Maryland Federation of Art) invites all artists residing in the United States, Puerto Rico, Canada, and Mexico to enter its 42nd annual Art on Paper competition. Any original 2-D or 3-D work created on or of paper (excluding digital photography), that includes but is not limited to, collage, artist book, origami, printmaking, painting, sculpture, analog photography, and more, will be considered by the juror.

Submission Deadline: January 24, 2019

Entry Fee: \$40 for up to two entries submitted. \$5 each for up to 4 additional entries.

<https://mdfedart.com/wp4/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/ArtOnPaper2019WEB3FINAL.pdf>

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

Artlines

by Lynne Haussler Oakes

Art and Love

(You must read a poem more than once for its measure to again touch your soul.)

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.

Life Lessons I learned in Art Class or It's All About Perspective

It's all in how you look at it.

You can ignore it, but it will remain there until you confront
it and do something about it.

Don't let yourself get swallowed up in the details. It's all
about the big picture.

For the most part, soft edges are better than hard edges.

You can only change what you realize needs changing.

Let it be your inspiration, not your dictator.

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.

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 @ 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!



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

Art for the Soul

According to researchers from the American Journal of Public Health, the impact of visual arts activities include "reductions in stress and anxiety; increases in positive emotions." Art for the Soul is the perfect workshop to destress, relax, and focus on the calming and creative effects of creating thoughtful and fluid pieces of art. Students will learn true artistic techniques while producing amazing projects which will range from realistic to abstract and 2D to 3D. This class is judgement free, where the focus is less about creating exact replicas, or following strict rules, and more about creating beautiful pieces, while connecting with your inner creativity.

1 Day Workshop | \$45

Saturdays | 2:30-5:30 PM

[219.7963.1](#) | **Saturday, January 12th**

[219.7963.2](#) | **Saturday, January 26th**

Instructor: Marta Lautz

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. 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 are 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.

This class does not include a materials fee. Students will be required to purchase their own materials for this class. Materials include a sketch book, pens, gel pens, HB art pencils and small set of dry watercolor paints. Materials must be purchased and brought to the first class..

4 Day Workshop

Saturdays | 9:30-11:00 AM

Early Registration: \$102 | Regular Registration: \$112

[219.7793.1](#) | **4 Weeks | Meets 2/2-2/23**

Instructor: Brian Mason

The Art of Drawing

In this course, students will learn the techniques of drawing using charcoal, sanguine, color pencils, and oil and soft pastels, to capture a variety of interesting subjects including still life scenes, models, and more. Students will explore the elements of art including line, shape, form, value, and texture, as well as the principals of composition and perspective and be introduced to the grid system and other methods of drawing. Students will be asked to complete work at home.

This class does not include a materials fee. Students will be required to purchase supplies for class including a drawing pad, charcoal sticks, pencils, etc. Full supply list will be provided at the first class.

Sundays | 2:00-3:30 PM

[219.7161.1](#) | **8 Weeks | Meets 1/15-3/5**

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

Instructor: Walkiria Torrealba

Painting with Oil and Acrylic

In this fun and informative course, students will learn painting techniques and develop basic drawing skills. Focus on the elements of art: shape, color, value, and texture, while working with models and still life, as well as using pictures and grid system. Projects will begin in class with some pieces needing to be completed at home and brought back complete the following class.

This class does not include a materials fee. Students will be required to purchase supplies for class including a paper pad, small box of acrylic paints and oil paints, brushes, etc. Full supply list will be provided at the first class.

Tuesdays | 6:00 -7:30 PM

[219.7311.1](#) | **8 Weeks | Meets 1/20-3/10**

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

Instructor: Walkiria Torrealba

Watercolor

Experience the vibrant, fluid, and beautiful world of watercolor in this exciting class designed for students with some experience with the medium. Students will learn to create works using the elements of design, including line, shape, texture, volume, color and more. Principals of design, including balance, emphasis, proportion, rhythm, and variety will also be discussed. Techniques for handling brushes, paint, and paper will be taught, however the main focus of this class will be on design and composition.

This class does not include a materials fee. Students will be required to purchase supplies for class including watercolor brushes, a mixing pallet, paints (Cotman or Van Gough student grade or profession paints), and professional watercolor paper. Supply list will be distributed during the first class.

Fridays | 6:30 -8:00 PM

[219.7291.1](#) | **8 Weeks | Meets 1/11-3/1**

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

Instructor: Brian Mason

Art Lessons are a Gift!

Lynne Oakes has Gift Certificates if you care to give someone special a present of art lessons! Lynne teaches drawing and painting (oil & watercolor) to students age 10 to infinity! Contact Lynne at (301) 428-9288



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.

Calendar of Events

View www.alog.org for updated information.
Most of our meetings will be in the Kay Gallery at the BlackRock Center for the Arts. Watch our monthly announcements for confirmed speakers and other details.

Dec. 5 2018	Amanda Spaid - colored pencil on wood
Jan. 2 2019	Tony Glander - fused glass
Feb 6 2019	Ksenia Grishkova - "Where, How and What: Artwork for Art Shows, Juried Exhibitions & Competitions" (she is the director of Touchstone Gallery in DC)
Mar. 6 2019	Crystal Parmele - Placing Watermarks on Digital Images for Copyright Protection
Apr. 3 2019	Margaret Polcawich - polymer clay and sculpture
May 1 2019	Margaret Hluch - "My Textile Art: A Life's Journey"

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.