



The Art League of Germantown, Inc.

www.alog.org

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President's Message

May 2017

The end of this "ALOG year" is fast approaching, and it's a good opportunity to look back on a busy and exciting year in which I hope you've been energized by our shows and our meetings, had a chance to meet other ALOG artists, and kept on moving forward with your art.

At this year's ALOG meetings, wow, what a range of things we learned, including using Photoshop filters; painting with an iPad; and using color theory. We tried out the hottest new art materials and learned about one another's art endeavors over last summer's break. From fellow ALOGers we learned about working with live models and about the art of needle felting; and we got a glimpse of John Duke's art journey from his early days, even before he joined ALOG. Thanks to Maritza for all our great programs!

Our shows were wonderful. We had another successful ALOG Artists at Work exhibit plus demos at AutumnGlow in October, plus neat special events associated with the show -- a live model drawing session, a panel discussion on photography as art, and a scavenger hunt for kids. At our just-finished 2017 Shades of Spring show, we introduced the Small Works Gallery upstairs while our traditional 2D and 3D work was on exhibit in the Kay Gallery. We presented another juried show at the Kentlands Mansion in Gaithersburg, and participated in BlackRock's August Open House with ALOG artists showing work out on the Black Rock lawn. Thanks to Carol Moore for heading up AutumnGlow and Shades of Spring, to Bill Mapes for heading up the Kentlands show,

and to Pat Choquette for organizing the lawn exhibit. And thanks to ALL who served on show committees and volunteered in countless other ways to make all these opportunities happen! Thanks, too, to every member who used our first-ever Shades of Spring Promotion Day to help get the word out about the show. And thanks to every exhibiting artist for sharing your talents and your creative success.

This year, we held an art-supplies drive during the holidays, and ALOG members really came through! We donated an impressive array of art materials to Children's Hospital through the Sam Moore Blood/Toy Drive held annually by Rocky Hill Middle School in Clarksburg. Thank you, all!

Throughout the year, each and every ALOG board member has been hard at work to help ensure ALOG's continuing growth and success. Members of the board serve in so many roles, and together with our amazing members, we ensure that BlackRock hangings and receptions are properly staffed; we plan and publicize ALOG shows; schedule our monthly programs; keep members informed of meeting and show activities through e-mails, newsletters and the website; map out activities for the coming year; and always try to think of how ALOG can best serve all of us. Thank you, ALOG board!

And thank you, ALOG members, for a wonderful year! Watch for news about our year-end celebration coming up in June, and I hope you'll all join in. Please continue to actively participate with ALOG in every way you can. And speak up if there's something you'd like to do in the year ahead. We welcome everyone's participation!

See you soon –
Marge



Photo by Lynne Oakes

A visitor at Shades of Spring enjoys the scavenger hunt.

Getting to Know Your Fellow Artist

May 3rd, 2017 at 7:15 PM - Kay Gallery

Our last meeting of the year will be a meeting like no other. An organized fun evening exchanging ideas and information.

Come prepared to enjoy yourself.

At the end of the meeting we will have a "swap art supply"
BRING ONE / TAKE ONE.

See you then.

Maritza Suárez-Valenti

ALOG Vice-President



Ann Boyer - Fiber Artist

By Keith Mounts

At our April member meeting Ann Boyer introduced us to felting. A slide presentation showed us Ann's early introduction to wool via the sheep her family had on their farm. As she progressed in her felting art Picasso's early work influenced her portraiture. Ann explained the wet felting and needle felting techniques and showed us how she uses items such as golf tees, feathers, brooches and boas in her felt sculptures. Then the group got to create their own needle felting creations with the supplies Ann generously supplied. As we might expect, our fellow artists quickly took to the medium and had a great time producing some fine pieces.



THANK YOU ALOG!

By Carol Moore – ALOG Show Coordinator

I am so proud of ALOG for pulling together to make this year's Shades of Spring Show and Sale one of the best ever!

We could not have a sale if it weren't for our very talented ALOG members that created truly beautiful artwork for the sale and who worked as a team to make this year's spring show a big success.

A big THANK YOU goes out to our amazing and dedicated Show Committee. The following members served on our show committee this spring:

- Sheryl Winans - 3D Coordinator
- Maritza Suarez – 3D Assistant
- Carol Moore - Show Chair
- Jaree Donnelly - ALOG Treasurer
- Lori Myers - Cashier manager, mailing label data Input
- Julio Sotomarinno – Graphic Designer
- Matt Baker – Take-in coordinator
- Bill Mapes – Registration and communications (BONUS POINTS - even though he could not participate)
- Peter Wuttke – Mailing labels (BONUS POINTS – even though he could not participate)
- Erin Bliss – Public Relations & Advertising
- Pina Barry-Scott – Reception Coordinator (BONUS POINTS – even though she could not participate in the show!)
- Linda Thompson – Registration and Show Hanging Coordinator
- Marge Wasson – Our new feather flag and show programs
- Arlene Crafton – Door Prizes and People's Choice Awards
- Thomas Germer – Social Media and Email Communications

Many thanks to Ann Burton for her continued support as our BlackRock liaison and to Steve Baena from BlackRock who solved our Wi-Fi problems and helped ALOG secure our sales with a reliable signal! Thank you to all of the BlackRock staff that assisted ALOG during our sale.

It is an honor to serve and to be a member of this wonderful and talented organization. Let's get started on creating for the fall!

Thanks to my work everything's going well; it's a great consolation. - Claude Monet

The essence of all beautiful art, all great art, is gratitude. - Friedrich Nietzsche

One looks at life as a gift, a painting of lights and darks, each defining the other, not a series of good and bad things. Giving thanks, and often, frees the spirit and makes the heart secure. - Fay Bohlayer

I have walked this earth for 30 years, and, out of gratitude, want to leave some souvenir. - Vincent van Gogh

From the Drawing Board

By Bill Mapes



It is almost May and with it comes the last meeting of our ALOG year until the fall. Summer is coming and with it our lives and schedules will become more complicated in a much warmer and pleasing way.

So what do you have planned for your art this summer? The weather will be inviting and getting out will be easy and enjoyable. Excellent art opportunities will be available everywhere: Art exhibits in galleries and museums are learning events; workshops and open art sessions are instructive; and creating with friends is always fun. These are all rewarding investments in time. However they may not be available all the time within your busier schedules. Will your art fit in? If not, what are the alternatives? There is one that is simple and easy: a sketch pad and a pencil.

A sketch pad and pencil is convenient enough to carry with you wherever you go every day. I keep an extra in my car so I don't miss any opportunity. Think about all the times in your average day you find yourself with idle time: those few minutes you have left on your lunch hour; time traveling on Metro; waiting at a doctor's office or getting your car serviced; and other spare moments..



Here is an example: I was at The Music Café in Damascus to see a Celtic group, "Mike Rocke and Friends," a couple of days before St. Patrick's Day. I took a 6"x8" sketch pad, pencil, and kneaded eraser. We were seated close to the stage and I was able to make this sketch of Mike Rocke.

Drawing from life is simply the best exercise to strengthen your art skills. There is no substitute and it is always available. Take advantage of each and every opportunity and, with patience and dedication, it is guaranteed to make you a better artist. Trust me and try it.

Have a fun and productive summer.

"In one gallery they actually had a notice which said, 'No Sketching'. 'How obnoxious!' I said, 'How do you think these things got on the walls if there was no sketching?' - David Hockney

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.

Frederick County Art Association

The next Member's Meeting is Monday, April 10th, 7:00 p.m., at the Delaplaine Visual Arts Education Center.

The guest speaker is Elisabeth Vismans, award-winning artist, art instructor, and workshop facilitator who will lead us in a creative exercise of "Intuitive Painting".

Please mark your calendar and join us for what should be an interesting evening...and bring a friend!

Private Art Classes

Are you missing some pieces in your art techniques?

Years ago I realized my art ability was hampered because I lacked the technical understanding to draw and paint the way I wanted. I found a teacher that filled in the blanks and my painting ability got better and better. Perhaps this is your situation and you'd like to know more about how to improve your drawing and painting. I'd be happy to share what I now know with you.

Call me to talk it over!

Lynne Oakes
(301) 428-9288



BlackRock News

BlackRock Center

Gallery Hours:

Monday-Friday 9 AM to 5 PM

Saturday 10 AM to 5 PM

Sunday closed.

BlackRock Art Classes and Workshops

Available online www.blackrockcenter.org

Relief Sculpting

Explore the versatility of Pastalina Modeling Clay. Pastalina is an oil base modeling clay easy to manipulate. This media allows students to create astonishing, detailed semi 3D artwork that can be displayed as a painting. Students benefit from the manual dexterity while learning about art concepts to create effective and aesthetic compositions. The projects in this course are designed to explore creativity and to sharpen observation. Our main inspiration will be the environment.

Saturdays | 2:00 PM-3:30 PM | [317.7051.1](http://www.blackrockcenter.org)

10 weeks | Starting 4/1

Early Registration: \$345/Members \$330

Regular Registration: \$355/Members \$340

Includes \$10 materials fee

Instructor: Marta Lautz

Pop Art: Abstract Expressions, Neo-Dada and Combines

Learn about the art and life of Robert Rauschenberg and his "Combines." Use non-traditional materials and objects to create unique pop art. Explore Abstract Expressionism, New-Dada and Pop Art through the art of Jasper Johns and Allen Kaprow. Students will use paint, pastel and elements of collage to create art in techniques of the Pop Art greats.

Thursdays | 6:30 PM-8:00 PM | [317.7632.1](http://www.blackrockcenter.org)

10 Weeks | Starting Thursday 3/30

Early Registration: \$345/Members \$330

Regular Registration: \$355/Members \$340

Includes \$10 materials fee

Instructor: Natalya Parris

Russian Tea Culture – Through the Eyes and Art of Great Masters

Learn about the art and life of Russian painters Nikolay Bogdanov-Belsky (1868-1945), impressionist Seergei Vinogradov (1869-1938), and Vladimir Makovsky (1846-1920). Enjoy traditional Russian tea and create works inspired by those artists.

Wednesdays | 6:30 PM-8:00 PM | [317.7661.1](http://www.blackrockcenter.org)

10 Weeks | Starting Wednesday 3/29

Early Registration: \$345/Members \$330

Regular Registration: \$355/Members \$340

Includes \$10 materials fee

Instructor: Natalya Parris

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.

Please note: This class does not include a materials fee. A supply list provided on the first class for students to purchase their own supplies.

Tuesdays | 6:30 PM-8:00 PM | [317.7311.1](http://www.blackrockcenter.org)

8 Weeks | Starting Tuesday 3/28

Early Registration: \$265/Members \$250

Regular Registration: \$275/Members \$260

Instructor: Walkiria Torrealba

Painting Animals with Pastels and Acrylic

Be inspired by the animal kingdom in this class where students will learn how to use pastels and acrylic to paint various animals. Instruction about basic principles of color, composition and perspective are included as well as techniques using pastels and acrylic. Combine your love of art and animals in this enriching and fun class.

Please note: This class does not include a materials fee. A supply list provided on the first class for students to purchase their own supplies.

Sundays | 2:30 PM-4:00 PM | [317.7271.1](http://www.blackrockcenter.org)

8 Weeks | Starting Sunday 4/2

Early Registration: \$265/Members \$250

Regular Registration: \$275/Members \$260

Instructor: Walkiria Torrealba

Upcoming Art Opportunities

The Pennsylvania Watercolor Society's

38th Annual International Juried Exhibition

Open to all artists 18 or older, working with water media on paper. All work must be original, finished after May 2014, and not previously shown in any Juried exhibition or the PWS members show. Your source material must be your own design or your own photograph. No prints, copies, class work or digital work allowed. Collage elements must be less than 10% and comprised of water media on paper. No diptychs or triptychs. Submission Deadline: May 15, 2017 (midnight EST)

http://www.pawcs.com/html/juried_show.html

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

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.

May 3 2017	Get to Know Your Fellow Artist	Kay Gallery
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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.