



The Art League of Germantown, Inc.



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Even better is when you get to make art with your ALOG friends! It's so much fun to spend time together with friends doing something that you all love. You get to chat about art supplies, and perhaps even try materials you've never used before. You flip through each other's sketchbooks. You talk about artists whose work you admire. You get to go to gallery shows and exhibitions together. You learn from each other. You encourage each other. Push one another. And inspire each other. And that, above all, is one of the great joys of being an ALOG member.

See you soon!
Marge

President's Message

May 2018

The artist's life can be a solitary life. If you work from home, you may go days without speaking to another human being. You may need the quiet to come up with your next big idea. Being alone enables you to block out all distractions as you strive to create good work you hope will earn you a spot in a prestigious gallery show – or at least pay the rent. When the creative juices are flowing, you can work for hours without a sense of the passage of time or of anything happening outside the walls of your studio. The focus is solely and intently on your work.

But a solitary life does not have to be a lonely life. Thirty-five years ago, Lynne Oakes, a working artist, decided she needed to meet other artists and those interested in the visual arts, so she founded the Art League of Germantown. Lynne wisely understood that “art friends” are an essential part of a creative life.

One of the best things about being an ALOG member is the opportunity to become friends with other like-minded individuals. Many of us have learned how to properly frame artwork, photograph our work, and enter shows from our fellow ALOG members. This group is immensely talented, and includes graphic designers, photographers, art teachers, painters, jewelry makers, glass artists, sculptors and more who generously share their time and talent with others.



Photo by Bill Mapes
Shades of Spring open art session with Nataliya as our model

My Journey as an Artist

May 2018 Member's Meeting

ALOG Meeting May 2, 2018

Speaker: Pritha Srinivasan

Location: BlackRock Center for the Arts

Pritha Srinivasan is a self taught watercolor and mixed media artist who has been drawing and painting since childhood. Her watermedia paintings strive to evoke a powerful emotional response through the use of vibrant color and bold contrasts. She is especially drawn towards the dynamism of movement as well as the challenge of capturing the quiet stillness within a moment. She wishes to create visual wonder, seeking inspiring images from poetry, her own photographs, and world travels. Her hope is that through her art, the viewer will feel that life, while constantly changing, is deeply beautiful and mysterious.

Pritha Srinivasan is a self taught watercolor and mixed media artist who has been painting and creating art from childhood. As she grew older she chose a professional path as a licensed clinical social worker, giving her an opportunity to use art as a way to heal those that had been through traumatic experiences. Her longstanding passion for drawing and painting remained constant. However, it was really only after a sudden move to Japan with her husband did she more fully embrace and embark upon her own artistic journey, incorporating much of her world travels into her artwork. She has exhibited her award winning watercolors both internationally and in the

U.S, from Seattle to many well known local Maryland venues, including juried shows at the Strathmore Mansion, The Kentlands Arts Barn, Sandy Spring Museum, and Black Rock Arts Center.

You can view some of Pritha Srinivasan's work on her Facebook page: <https://m.facebook.com/pritha.srinivasan?fref=nf>



Shades of Spring Photo Gallery

by Craig Higgins



Artlines

by Lynne Haussler Oakes

Out of Ideas?

Maybe you will find it amusing that as I write this last article for our 2017-2018 year, I was out of ideas! Then I started thinking of the times I've been out of ideas for my next painting and what to do about it.

It went like this for me: I'd be totally immersed in a current painting and pouring all my creative juices into it. I would finish it and then BAM! The Land of Nothingness yawned in front of me. Really? How could that be? I know I'm a creative person, but to have no idea of what I'd do next? This happened every once in a while until finally a new idea took hold, or I'd get a commission which would spark other ideas.

So I decided to do something about it for the next time my ideas seem scarce.

There are many things in this world that interest me, things I like, ideas to explore, places I've been, photos I've taken, poems and stories I've written. So I decided to start putting these potential ideas in a notebook (or 2 or 3) so that if I hit the dry desert of 'no ideas', I can go to these pages and stir up something that is of authentic interest to me.

I've used these any number of times. I have not, nor will I ever, create new art from all of them. But they have served to stimulate ideas that were born out of my genuine interest. What are these things? They are photographs from newspapers, human interest sorts of things. They are other artist's work that reminds me of something of importance to me. They are fragments of things I've collected for my collages. They are photographs I've taken for the sole purpose of painting from them. They are a list of ideas I keep adding to. So running out of ideas is no longer an issue!

If you ever have such a problem, maybe this could help you and you will never be staring into the Land of Nothingness! In truth, there is no such thing as a scarcity of ideas. In truth, ideas for your artwork is an endless fountain. Keep it turned on!

Linda Ely at the April 2018 Meeting

by Keith Mounts

Linda was born in Washington, DC. She attended University of Maryland in College Park and holds a Bachelor's Degree in Secondary Art Education. She worked as a guard at the National Gallery while attending

UMD. She was also a part of the [MacDowell Colony](#) for a time.

Linda's demonstration was about salvaging paintings. She salvaged several on this memorable evening. She ripped them in two, painted over them and made clear the benefit of not getting overly attached. Among her thoughts were these.

- If you think your work is good, it probably isn't, or at least know one really know if it is.
- We don't know if a work is any good while we are working on it.
- Any change one in a painting requires changing 50 other things.
- Use ways to trick your brain, like looking into a mirror.
- Degas would take his works off people's walls and repaint them.
- Rip up the painting and work with the shards.
- Remember - everything changes.
- If you don't like it, repaint it.
- Use medium in ways it wasn't intended.
- Use Ph neutral glue, someone may buy it and it should be made to last.
- Think about what you can do to a piece quick, so you don't hate it so much.
- Use Behr house paint to cover areas.
- No guilt.



From the Drawing Board

By Bill Mapes



Is spring finally here? I do know that our May meeting is the last meeting until September. What a busy and memorable year for the art league. The 'freshman' class of new members has brought wonderful talents and energy to ALOG in this our 35th anniversary year. This fall we will have our gallery exhibit at BlackRock as part of our anniversary celebration. Focus your energies and talents this summer to create your best for this banner exhibit.

Summer also brings plenty of fun distractions, family trips, and home projects. Find time for yourself to work developing your art. Personally I have decided to open up my palette. By that I mean that I want to use more color in my paintings. Taking chances and experimenting with color moves me out of my comfort areas but also brings exciting challenges and results. I love finding colors hidden in the subjects I paint. Think out of the box this summer and experiment with your art and push the envelope. Create your own challenges. You will be surprised how exhilarating it can be, as well as a great deal of fun.



Quick sketch of Nataliya from our spring show open drawing session.

As always I would be remiss if I didn't mention my continued support for sketching and drawing. A simple pencil, eraser, and small sketch book easily goes everywhere you go. Keep a small kit in your car so that you have the freedom to sketch wherever and whenever you have the chance. Opportunities will fill idle time when you

are away from your studio. Repetition will always lead to improvement. Have a great summer.

Upcoming Art Opportunities

Number Presents: Art of the South 2018

Number Inc. announces a call to artists for a juried art exhibition, July 27 - September 2, 2018 at Crosstown Arts in Nashville, Tennessee. Juror: Brian Jobe. Open to all artists 18 and older working in any media, and residing in AL, AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MD, MO, MS, NC, OK, TN, TX, SC, VA, Washington, D.C., or WV. Entries must be original works created within the last 2 years. Reproductions not allowed. Works previously exhibited at Crosstown Arts are ineligible. All work must weigh 60 lbs or less and measure no larger than 48" in any direction.

Submission Deadline: May 20, 2018

Entry Fee: Artists may submit up to three images with an entry fee of \$35

<https://numberinc.submittable.com/submit/109943/number-presents-art-of-the-south-2018-juried-exhibition>

Introducing American Landscapes: Scenes from the Americas

MFA (Maryland Federation of Art) invites all artists residing in the United States, Puerto Rico, Canada and Mexico to enter its 18th annual American Landscapes competition. Following entry guidelines, any original 2-D or 3-D work depicting a landscape from one of the Americas* will be considered (*North America, Hawaii, Central America, Caribbean & South America). The selected works will be on exhibit at MFA's Circle Gallery from August 23 through September 22, 2018.

Submission Deadline: June 14, 2018

Entry Fee: \$40 (MFA members, \$25) for one or two entries and \$5 each for up to four additional entries.

<https://mdfedart.com/portfolio/97/>

Eastern Regional Juried Exhibition of Traditional Oils

Oil Painters of America announces a call to artists for a juried art exhibition, October 28 - November 25, 2018 at McBride Gallery in Annapolis, MD. \$11,500 in awards, including \$4,000 Best in Show. Juror: Kathy Anderson OPAM. Seeking oil paintings in the traditional, representational style.

Submission Deadline: August 24, 2018

Entry Fee: \$30 for one entry; \$45 for two

<http://www.oilpaintersofamerica.com/events/exhibitions/2018/eastern/2018-eastern-prospectus.pdf>

Thank You to ALOG Members for Volunteering at BlackRock

By Noelle Angevine

Thank you to the volunteers who have worked with BlackRock as a part of our partnership agreement. Many of you have worked at as many as four or five events, if not more. The BlackRock gallery hanging and the Artists' receptions have all been successful experiences thanks to your generosity.

Astrid Adler
Ellen Sherfey
Hang Nguyen
Michele Foshee
Renee Dhillon
Noelle Angevine
David McKeown
Lori Myers
Rosanne Cuttitta
Tom McCafferty
Natalie Wisniewski
Carol Moore
Margaret Polcawich
Valerie Haber
Hang Nguyen
Kendra Biddick
Mars Davis
Bonnie Mayhew

Jean Finkleman
Matt Baker
Sandra Fretwell
Leigh Partington
Virginia Chandler
Hiral Joshi
Cynthia Wolff
Jean Finkleman
Arlene Crafton
Marian Carmody
Maritza Suarez-Valenti
Lia Haber
Florenca Castelbianco
Renee Dhillon
Suneetha Rangu
Jackie Detrick
Kelvin Oseji

Art Classes in the Summertime!

The Joy of Art Studio on Little Seneca Lake is ready for you this summer! Come and learn things you would like to know about drawing and painting.

Lynne Oakes teaches individuals or pairs of students in various media.

It is a beautiful, restful place where you can enhance your art skills.

Call Lynne at (301) 428-9288 to talk it over!



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.



BlackRock News
BlackRock Center
Gallery Hours:
 Monday-Saturday 10 AM to 5 PM
 Sunday closed.

**See Our Next Newsletter in September for
 New Classes and Workshops**
 Available online www.blackrockcenter.org

**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.

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		
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 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.