



The Well Crafted Word

a monthly publication of the **Del Ray Artisans**...since 1992

www.thedelrayartisans.org

New Work for a New Year

Richard Wyvill

Regardless of how the year 2009 has treated you, it is almost over and 2010 is fast approaching. It is time for a fresh look at our art.

The January show will be a new works show, so only **new** work will be shown. This means that qualified work cannot have been exhibited in any other shows or gallery settings, ever. If it is 20 years old and has hung in your home all that time, it is technically qualified. However, I encourage everyone to submit your latest and (I hope) greatest work. The purpose of this exhibit is to show the world what we are doing now, not in the distant past.

As an aid to the visitors of the gallery, each exhibitor will be asked to provide a short statement about their current art. It can be anything that you think is relevant. Some typical examples are:

- I am trying a new medium _____
- I just became unblocked and am focusing on _____
- I am fascinated by the work of _____ and am trying to incorporate some of his/her _____ into my work

This will be a cash and carry show, so when your piece is sold, you will have the opportunity to replace it with another new work, if you choose. I know this involves having some spare work on hand, but dealing with that type of situation is a delightful problem.

The show will run from the opening on Friday, January 8 through Sunday, January 24. Drop off dates will be Sunday, January 3 and Monday, January 4, 2010. So you still have plenty of time to get some work together.

As a bonus feature, this show will feature a workshop, "Messing Around with Creativity" on Sunday January 17 from 1-3 pm. There will be a separate description and sign up sheet at the gallery, starting in December.

ALSO, for this show only, DRA is planning to join the 21st century (a little late, I know) and use electronic announcements and postcards. This means **no** paper postcards will be mailed out to individuals with an email address on file. You will get your notice of the show through email. If your email address is not on file (or worse yet is outdated) you have some time to update your information.

UpBeat OffBeat Auction Update

Great News! The UpBeat OffBeat Auction was a big success despite the gloomy weather. While we missed our financial projections, we came very, very close; raising more than \$10,000.

There were more than 40 live auction pieces of furniture, and every piece sold. Our Auctioneer, City Councilman Rob Krupicka, was wonderful! For being a first-timer as an auctioneer he was a natural, engaging the crowds and talking up the bid to get the best price possible. He accomplished this with a lot of humor and a sincere desire to help this event be a hit.

More than 150 people attended—one estimate suggested a head count of 170. Because there was so much movement between the Silent Auction and the Live Auction halls at the Durant Center, an accurate count just wasn't possible.



And the Results Are In!

On October 27th at the General Membership Meeting, members unanimously elected the 2010 DRA Board of Directors. The members of the new Board, whose responsibilities start on January 1, 2010, are:

Officers

President: Linda Silk
 Vice President: Kurt Peterson
 Secretary: Monica Wise
 Treasurer: Anne Moffitt

Directors

Communications Director: Paige Ireland
 Community Representative: Nora Partlow
 Curator Coordinator: Michele Reday-Cook
 Facilities Director: Marlin Lord
 Fundraising Co-Directors: Barbara Boehm & Linda Elliff
 Historian Archivist: John Hiller
 Membership Director: Kathryn Brown
 Outreach Co-Directors:
 Randy Scheessele & Margaret Slipek
 Programs Director: Sue Galvin
 Volunteer Director: Lesley Hall

All Board members look forward to making 2010 the very best year yet for Del Ray Artisans. All members are encouraged to celebrate the art of making by making use of their talents, making a commitment to be active at DRA, and making new friends!

DRA Exhibition Year 2010

January 8 - 24

New Works for a New Year: State of the Art in Del Ray

Richard Wyvill curator richard@rfwyvill.com

February 5 - 21

Artioms: Idioms, clichés and word phrases expressed in art

Tracy Wilkerson curator tlwideas@comcast.net

March 5 - 11

Women in Art: Body of Work

Ellyn Ferguson curator elferguson@netzero.net with
Vivienne Lukacs and Beverly Hansen

April 2 - 25

What's Your Bag?

Theresa Kulstad, Karen Schmitz, curators,
tkulstad@verizon.net, schmityk@yahoo.com

May 7 - 16

TCW Student Show

21 - 30 Master Thesis, Amanda Wright

June 4 - 27

Undecided: A Dialogue Between Artist and Viewer (All-Member Show)

Betty Plummer curator plummer.betty@epa.gov with
Michele Reday Cook

TBA

Global Rhythm

Matthew Tito Cuenca curator matthewcuenca@gmail.com

26 - 30 ART CAMP

August 6 - 22

Board Showcase

September 3 - 19

Gathering of the Legends

Nina Tisara project director gecko@tisaraphoto.com

October 1 - 24

Once Upon a Time

Christina Richardson and Laura Bell curators
christina@figaroconsulting.com

November 5 - 21

Blue: An Interpretation (All-Member Show)

Betsy Mead curator betsynead31@starpower.net

December 3 - 5

Holiday Market

ARTIOMS

ARTIOMS (ahrt ee-uhm s): **verb.**

*To express idioms, clichés and
word phrases in your artwork*

- Includes poetry readings, a calligraphy workshop, and learning how to market yourself with words

- Appearing February at the DRA gallery!

Note: Watch for the Call for Entry in the January newsletter and in December e-blasts.

“Messing Around with Creativity” Workshop – Lynn H. Wyvill

Whether you are a working artist or you haven't picked up a crayon since grammar school, the “Messing Around with Creativity” workshop is for you. Everyone is creative, but most of us never fully explore that idea. That's what this workshop is designed to do. We'll spend two (2) hours focused on finding and expressing the creativity that is buried within you. During this fun, interactive, hands-on workshop, we explore how the creative process works so that you can apply it not only to traditional artistic pursuits, but to life in general. Absolutely no art experience is necessary, just an open mind and a willingness to play, discover and have fun. The workshop will be held Sunday 17 January from 1 to 3 pm in the DRA gallery.

Contact: Lynn Wyvill, 703-548-3940 **Fee:** \$10.00

Register: On-line or Gallery Sign-up Sheet

Curators' Corner

Michele Reday Cook

First, a big thank you to the artists who submitted fabulous art during 2009! And a second big thank you to our curators, artists and DRA volunteers who, in addition to their creative efforts, contributed their time, expertise, labor, and sometimes money—we couldn't have done it without ya!

Now, looking forward to an exciting 2010 exhibition year, we want to draw your attention to some new ways of doing things:

- We have a very full schedule of shows this year. Most shows will run for only 3 weeks and will usually open on the 1st Friday of each month.
- We have scheduled more time between shows. This will give our curators additional time to plan and execute more thoughtful presentation of the selected artworks.
- We will be asking our curators to be more selective in their acceptance of artwork submitted for each show. Artists, please make sure your work is “ready for presentation”—finished, framed, or mounted, and ready to hang or display. Work must be new or recent—not previously shown at DRA.
- We encourage our new or beginning artists to enter our shows—especially our All-Member shows, in which you are guaranteed to have a piece of art displayed. Just contact the curator(s) for advice on submission requirements and how to give your art a professional finish appropriate for our gallery.

Our 2010 shows are diverse and unique. Curators are offering artists new and exciting approaches to making and exhibiting art. Submission requirements and deadlines will vary from show to show, so be sure to read your “Call for Entry” forms carefully. Call your curators for help!

We have a team of curator coordinators and curator advisors to help make each show a success, but we still need all of you—if your work is selected, you are required to gallery sit, help with hanging or take-down, and help with the reception. Your participation in these activities is a critical element of having your work displayed in our gallery.

So, fellow artists, start drawing, painting, sculpting, photographing, designing and building your art now!

Handmade Cards Priced to (ho) (ho) GO!!

Cards are Ready to Go-Go! Thanks to DRA's card-making parties, there is a new array of spectacular cards priced to sell from \$2 to \$6! Say NO to store bought cards and say GO-GO YES! to artfully handmade ones. Double bonus offer: You get an original and 100% of the sales price supports DRA's programs.

The selection ranges from holiday-inspired to every day, all purpose cards each of which is looking for a good home to cheer. To participate in future fun events, please contact Karen at schmityk@yahoo.com.

Join DRA as an Artist or Supporter **Renewal** **New Member**Name _____
Title First Middle Initial Last

Additional Name _____

Organization/CorporationName _____

Address _____

Phone Home (_____) _____ Street City State Zip
Cell (_____) _____ Work (_____) _____

e-mail _____

 Artist Media _____**Patron**

- \$1,000 Platinum
- \$500 Gold
- \$250 Silver

*Patrons are considered Active Members and have exhibition privileges. Volunteer hours are not expected.***Active Member**

- \$75 Household
- \$50 Individual
- \$25 Senior (62 & over)
- \$25 Student/Disabled (circle one)

*All Active Members enjoy privileges of exhibiting in shows and are expected to contribute a minimum of 10 volunteer hours per year. This does not include volunteer commitments for exhibiting in shows.***Friend**

- \$35 Friend of Del Ray Artisans

*Friends may participate in workshops, classes, and programs as members. Friends do not have exhibition privileges. Volunteer hours are not expected.***All membership levels above receive DRA mailings, including the newsletter**I would like to receive DRA mailings: electronically via regular mail both ways

I would like to make an additional donation to Del Ray Artisans in the amount of \$_____.

I would like to make an additional donation to the Del Ray Artisans Ted Eichers Memorial Art Scholarship in the amount of \$_____.

Please indicate committees you are willing to serve on, to meet your 10 hour volunteer commitment:

- | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Communications | <input type="radio"/> Newsletter | <input type="radio"/> Website | <input type="radio"/> Publicity | <input type="radio"/> Archives | <input type="radio"/> Administrative | <input type="radio"/> Financial |
| <input type="radio"/> Fundraising | <input type="radio"/> Grants | <input type="radio"/> Facilities | <input type="radio"/> Gardening | <input type="radio"/> Volunteers | <input type="radio"/> Outreach | <input type="radio"/> Shows |
| <input type="radio"/> Programs | <input type="radio"/> anything DRA needs. | | | | | |

Signature _____ Date ____/____/____

Checks payable to: DEL RAY ARTISANS. Mail to: Del Ray Artisans, Membership, 2704 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria, VA 22301 or pay online at www.thedelrayartisans.org**Is it Time to Renew your Membership?**

If your mailing label indicates that your membership expires in December, then it is a great time to renew.

We are exploring new, different, faster, greener ways of communicating with you – please make sure we have your current e-mail address so we can be sure to reach you.

April Asked “What’s Your Bag?”

In four short months, artists will be asked to think “inside and outside the sack” for the “What’s Your Bag?” exhibit. Interpretation: purses, containers, satchels, bolsas, cases, backpacks, etc. All mediums are encouraged. Think: drawings, collages, paintings, ceramics, jewelry, photos, sculptures, items made of bags and of course actual functional and non-functional handbags!

Fun & Funky Curators Theresa Kulstad & Karen Schmitz are giving artists a “clutch-up” time to create. So...please let your clever cat out of the bag! For info, contact tkulstad@verizon.net or schmityk@yahoo.com. Your tote is the limit.

Accolades - Art Work Published

DRA member, fine art photographer JLD Tiftt (Jeanne), has a photograph published in the November 2009 issue of *Northern Virginia Magazine*, on page 128 in the *Sphere After Words* section.

The magazine editor, responding to DRA publicity about the Illuminations exhibition, or “Board Show”, in August, sought Jeanne out as one of the exhibitors in that show. Jeanne keeps her works available in hi-res digital form suitable for publication on her web site at www.jldtiff.com, and was

therefore able to offer a selection from which one was chosen to print. It makes a nice additional tear sheet to add to her portfolio!

This is a direct result of the communications channels opened and strengthened by DRA’s Communications Director, Paige Ireland. Since DRA is receiving more notice outside Del Ray itself, members are encouraged to have hi-res digital images of at least some of their artwork ready to go upon request.



Nicholas A. Colasanto Center
2704 Mt. Vernon Avenue
Alexandria, Virginia 22301

703.838.4827
www.thedelrayartisans.org

Gallery Hours:
Thurs: noon-4 pm
Fri: noon-9 pm
Sat: 10 am-9 pm
Sun: noon-6 pm
The gallery is open during all events and performances

Submission Deadline: 5th of the month
Editor: DRAeditor@gmail.com

Del Ray Artisans 2010 Calendar

December 2009

2 Open Life Drawing, 2 – 5 pm
4 - 6 Holiday Market,
Tracy Wilkerson, thwideas@comcast.net
8 Board Meeting, 7 pm

January 2010

8 - 24 **New Works for a New Year:**
State of the Art in Del Ray
Richard Wyvill curator richard@rfwyvill.com
13 Life Drawing, 2 – 5 pm
17 WORKSHOP Messing Around with Creativity
1 – 3 pm
27 Life Drawing, 2 – 5 pm
31 Card Making Party

February

5 - 21 **Artions: Idioms, clichés and word phrases
expressed in art**
Tracy Wilkerson curator thwideas@comcast.net
10 Life Drawing, 2 – 5 pm
24 Life Drawing, 2 – 5 pm

March

5 - 21 **Women in Art: Body of Work**
*Ellyn Ferguson curator elferguson@netzero.net
with Vivienne Lukacs and Beverly Hansen*
10 Life Drawing, 2 – 5 pm
24 Life Drawing, 2 – 5 pm

April

2 - 25 **What's Your Bag?**
*Theresa Kulstad, Karen Schmitz, curators,
tkulstad@verizon.net, schmitzyk@yahoo.com*
7 Life Drawing, 2 – 5 pm
21 Life Drawing, 2 – 5 pm

DRA Life Drawing in December

Join us for our last life drawing session of 2009. Drop in to the gallery on Wednesday, December 2nd from 2-5 pm to practice from our live model. We will be focusing on long poses that day so bring your supplies and join us.

The fee for each session is \$8 for DRA members and \$10 for non-members. If you have any questions, please contact Katherine Rand at 703.836.1468 or katherine@katherinerand.com.

Special thanks to the Alexandria Commission for the Arts, the Virginia Commission for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts and the City of Alexandria for their continued support of Del Ray Artisans, a 501(c)(3) organization

Many thanks to Royce Flowers for providing such spectacular arrangements for our opening receptions.



2009 Board and Key Personnel

OFFICERS

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LindaSilk1@verizon.net

Vice President

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kfpeterson@gmail.com

Secretary

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Treasurer & Asst. Treasurer

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Kathryn Brown
mglai@aol.com
neonkanb@aol.com

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@gmail.com

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norapartlow@yahoo.com

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jldtift@cox.net

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catniphaze@yahoo.com

Fundraising Co-Directors

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lleliff@aol.com

Historian Archivist

John Hiller
jw2hiller@verizon.net

Membership Director

Vacant

Outreach Co-Directors

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Margaret Slipek
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mslipek@comcast.net

Program Director

Vacant

Volunteer Director

Vacant

Newsletter Editor

Vacant

DRA Web Curator

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