



Celebrating the Art of Making ...

December 2010

The Well Crafted Word

a monthly publication of the Del Ray Artisans....since 1992 www.thedelrayartisans.org



Gallery is Decked with Boughs of Joy, Arts & Crafts—

**Come to the Holiday Market Reception
on Friday, December 3!**

It's here! The DRA holiday event of the season...

the ever popular, signature Holiday Market has arrived.

Come to the reception on Friday, December 3, from 6-9 pm. Bring a friend or two, and treat yourselves to holiday fare and shopping in a relaxed but festive atmosphere. Browse and purchase original and affordable works of art from twenty participating vendors for those special people on your gift lists or for yourself.



This year's one-weekend market offers art and handmade crafts ranging from pottery to fused glass to jewelry to fabric to photography and the ever popular greeting cards. Poinsettias will be available from West Landscapes LLC. **The Market will be open on Saturday, December 4 from 10 am-6 pm and Sunday, December 5, from noon-4 pm. The Bake Sale will also be open on Saturday and Sunday.**

Proceeds from the Bake Sale will benefit the local community.

— Tracy Wilkerson

*Make a perfect gift
or holiday decoration!*
Come to the...

**DRA Holiday
Mosaic Art Workshop**
Tues., Nov. 30 & Wed., Dec. 1; 7-9 pm
\$35 DRA members, \$45 non-members
(for both nights)



Be an ELF!

**Bring Your Best Holiday Goodies for
the Holiday Market Bake Sale or
Volunteer to Help at the Bake Sale!**



Warm up your ovens and help make DRA's Holiday Market Bake Sale the BEST EVER! **We need cookies, brownies, muffins, loaves, cakes, candies and any of your favorite, homemade and delicious holiday goodies. Food donations MUST be individually packaged AND priced when dropped off, as we do not have the materials needed to package them once they arrive at the gallery.** You can drop off baked goods on Thursday, December 2, from 12-8 pm; Friday, December 3, from 12-9 pm or Saturday, December 4, from 10 am-2 pm. Proceeds from the Bake Sale will benefit a local non-profit.

We could also use helpers to work two-hour shifts at the Holiday Market Bake Sale on Saturday, December 4, between 10 am and 6 pm, and Sunday, December 5, between noon and 4 pm. All you have to do is be at the gallery during your shift (come early or stay late to shop), put on a happy face, and sell baked goods to holiday shoppers! Please contact Tracy Wilkerson (703-501-1736 or DRA.HolidayMarket@gmail.com) if you have any questions or if you would like to help out at the Bake Sale. — Tracy Wilkerson

**Welcome, New Members
Who Joined in October!**

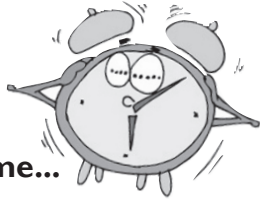
- Barb Aigen
- James Blackie & Household & Christopher D'Angelo - Photography
- Chris Feddersen - Photography
- Guadrin Hrizuk - Glass, Paper, Clay Prints
- Kathy A. Lawler - Acrylic
- Kathleen O'Brien - Photography
- Rebecca Pariseau - Oil, Acrylic, Mixed Media, Ceramic
- Andrea H. Schellman - Friend
- Dixon Vergaray

...And a very special Welcome to our 2010 Art Campers, all receiving a complementary one-year student membership, a benefit of attending this year's DRA ART CAMP!!

- Lindsey Berry
- Lilian Bisbee
- Olivia Bisbee
- Maeve Bradley
- Haley Caldwell
- Jacob Clark
- Maddy Dooley
- Beverly Estrada
- Michelle Gleeson
- Madeline Gyllenhoff
- Caroline Hill
- Maeve Hill
- Cieira Huff
- Sydney Khan
- Frannie Kruger
- Jaden McMillian
- Sophie Paczak
- Eliza Prian
- Jillian Schiele
- Gillian Sickler
- Julia Wagner
- Marc Wagner
- Beth Manilla-Smith
- Amarri Parker
- Chanel Robertson
- Anthony Ross, Jr.

Special Opportunity

Looking for some new and different matting/framing options for your artwork? DRA member Kelly Hutchinson, who owns a frame shop, is offering “pre-made” frames constructed from selected custom framing materials, at discounted prices. Frames will be available in various standard and irregular sizes although supplies will be limited. If you are interested, visit Kelly’s Art & Frame Shop at 510 N. Washington Street, Alexandria, VA on Dec. 2 or 3 from 6 pm to 7:30 pm or on Dec. 4 from 8:30 am to 10 am. Questions? Please contact Kelly Hutchinson at 703-549-3313 or visit www.KellysArtandFrame.com. — *Paige Ireland*



It’s Time...

Please check your newsletter mailing label to see if your membership expires in December. If so, renew today so you can participate in our exciting winter-spring shows! Just fill out and mail the form in the newsletter or renew on-line at our website. — *Kathryn Brown, Director of Membership, DRA. Membership@gmail.com*

Use PayPal on DRA’s New Website!

On the new DRA website, you can now sign up for workshops, make a donation, or renew your membership online and your credit card payment is secured through PayPal. **You do NOT need to have a PayPal account** in order to pay for anything on our website! As always, if a check is preferred, you can mail it in or drop it off a check at the gallery. — *Paige Ireland*

Corner

Curators’

Fellow Del Ray Artisans,

The 2010 exhibit year is ending on a successful note: “Blue” opened with lots of sales; and our Celebrating Movement exhibit and the Holiday Market are sure to do just as well. Next year brings even more excitement to our gallery with 3 all-member shows plus a special November exhibit open only to DRA members—and, 2 collaborations, one with Signature Theatre in March, and one with SPARK in October. Do check our newsletter and website for important submission and selection criteria for these shows.

Many of you have asked, and now, here it is: in July 2011, DRA now brings you “ART CAMP FOR GROWN UPS!” Our traditional art camp program for children continues; but either before or after, we will be offering one or two workshops that finish with weekend exhibits of art created during the workshops. We’re thinking, possibly a photography workshop? Or maybe a plein-air painting class? Tell us what you want to learn! Or perhaps you’d like to teach? More on this in upcoming issues...

This is my last column as curator coordinator. Next year, our monthly exhibitions will be in the able hands of Amy Bruce and Drew Carioso, and our experienced and knowledgeable curator support team.

Overseeing our exhibitions and working with talented, creative curators and artists for the last 3 years has been the most wonderful, fulfilling work I could ever hope to have. I certainly did not do this alone, and must thank so many of you, including Jeanne Tifft, who was my co-curator-coordinator for the first 2 years; Karen Schmitz and Linda Elliff patiently guided us through our “learning curve” for the first year; Tracy Wilkerson has worked tirelessly on several editions of the now on-line curators manual; Dawn Wyse Hurto has been our go-to person for all things remotely technical, electronic or digital, and reminding me about banners and other pesky details, with Gloria Vestal providing back-up. Thanks also to Theresa Kulstad (and to Karen) for their amazing artistic eyes, and to David Kosar for making me look like a better curator by stepping in and hanging art fast and beautifully. But most of all, thanks to our all the curators and artists who work so hard to make their artistic visions come to life. I have learned so much. This has been the best job in the whole world! I thank you all for making this so much fun.

In January 2011, I have the honor of being your new DRA President and I look forward to working with everyone in the coming year. —*Michele Reday Cook*

An Appreciation: Anne Leslie, the Paper Paintbrush Artist

Anne Reinhart Leslie passed away Oct. 19. One of a few American artists practicing silhouette portraiture using only scissors and black paper, Anne created life-like portraits in a few minutes. A welcomed guest at craft shows across the US, she said wiggly children were her specialty. Anne’s website is now a celebration of her silhouette art work (<http://www.shadowportraits.com/>).



Anne helped organize an exhibition of papercutting art from the traveling show of The Guild of American Papercutters at DRA a few years ago. I learned about DRA from her and joined because she recommended the group.

Anne was a Board Member of the Guild of American Papercutters of Somerset, PA (www.papercutters.org). She ran the artists tent at the Glen Echo Folk Fest. She did papercutting on Christmas Revels opening night and cut frequently at the Old Town kids books store on King Street. She loved Scottish country dancing, gardening, canoeing, playing the violin and viola. Anne retired as a biochemist for the EPA in 1998. To share images of her artwork or stories, please contact her son Eric Keller at robotball@yahoo.com. — *Marie-Helene Grabman*

Proposed 2011 Exhibition Schedule

By Michele Reday Cook. Curator Coordinator and Show Selection Committee Chair

By overwhelming popular request, our 3 all-member shows will have themes that offer unlimited possibilities. However, specific media may be emphasized.

JANUARY—**All-Member Show** “Baby, It’s Cold Outside” Connie Zabowski, curator

FEBRUARY—“Love Letters” Matthew Cuenca & Tracy Wilkerson, curators. Friday night events planned (e.g., “singles nights”).

MARCH—**All-Member Show** “Beyond Form—Expressing Art” and a collaboration with Signature Theatre Betty Plummer & Fareeha Khawaja, curators. Signature Theatre-DRA Gallery Without Walls exhibit in Signature lobby to run concurrently.

APRIL—All Area Artists Show “It’s Only Rock ‘n Roll, But I Like It!” Fierce Sonia, curator

MAY—Student Shows

JUNE—All-Member Figurative Show (title tba) Katherine Rand & Pamela Underhill, curators

JULY—“Art Camp for Grown-ups” (series of workshops ending in mini-shows) Scheduled for weekends before or after regular Art Camp

AUGUST—Board Showcase

SEPTEMBER—**All-Member Show** “Retakes And Transformations: Art From Everyday Life” Dawn Wyse Hurto, curator

OCTOBER—Collaboration with SPARK: writers/artists inspire/respond to what one other creates (date, subject tba) Amy Souza, Sparks curator & DRA curator tba

NOVEMBER—All-Photography Show Rob Rudick, curator (verbal commitment). The Show Selection Committee recommends juried, open to all area photographers, limit submissions to include more photographers selected, including those not previously selected.

DECEMBER—Holiday Market Tracy Wilkerson, curator 2-3 week cash & carry art show and sale (details & curators tba)

Member Meeting With A New Format Held September 23

DRA’s bylaws require periodic member meetings—and we have had some wonderful meetings over the years! We’ve also had a few disappointing turnouts, so your Board collectively has a few ideas to share! The well-attended member meeting on Sept. 23 was also a member benefit! We hired DRA member Lynn Wyvill, professional Creativity Coach, to lead a creativity workshop, and invited members to join in without charge.



The Board has several more ideas we want to carry out and we’re interested in your ideas that we might pursue.

Please share them with any Board member, or e-mail DRA.Membership@gmail.com. There’s a good chance we’ll keep our crowd pleasing winter “Art Swap” of materials and our remarkable summer BBQ/pie contest. We continue to look for and implement new, exciting ideas, and we’d love to hear from you!

— Kathryn Brown

Calling All Del Ray ABSTRACT Artisans!

Fareeha Khawaja and Betty Plummer will curate DRA’s multimedia all-member abstract art show in March—*Beyond Form: Expressing Art*, spotlighting painting. We seek the spiritual essence of things, the energy of color and line, the artist’s feelings, emotions, inspiration. As an added exhibit opportunity under our Gallery Without Walls program, DRA artists may submit selected abstract artworks from *Beyond Form* for a juried exhibit in Signature Theatre, for 8 weeks during the run of ART. I hope this inspires you to start painting! Questions? Contact me at 703-892-8638 or DRA.newsletter@gmail.com. — Betty Plummer

Running March 29 – May 22: ART by Yasmina Reza

A simple white canvas. A 200,000 francs pricetag. The real cost? Decades-long friendships. Enter the world of Yasmina Reza’s *Art*, where Serge’s purchase of an expensive, abstract painting raises questions about the nature of art and friendship. Set in Paris, the story revolves around three friends who find their previously solid friendship on shaky ground when Serge invests in a new painting.

signature

art



Volunteering at DRA

We’re improving on how we contact members for volunteer needs but we need your help! If you have a skill or would like to learn more about curating or running a workshop, contact the Board Director responsible for that area from the list on the back page or on the website, About DRA, Board & Committees. Not sure where you’re needed? Email DRA.Volunteers@gmail.com. — Tracy Wilkerson



Celeste Zabowski

Calling all Del Ray Artisans!

It may still be nice outside, but it's not too soon to anticipate ice, snow, sitting by a warm fireplace and... creating art for our January All-Member Show.

and ... "Sock it to Winter"
Running January 7 - 30, 2011

An art show to celebrate and remember all things good and bad about winter. Thinking about last year's endless snowy season might be the last thing on your mind, but pull out your "once in a lifetime" Snowmageddon photos, work inspired by the power of the storms, fond memories of warm and cozy fires or other winter's delights. Whatever your choice, show off your best works and help us support **Sock it to Winter** by donating a pair of new men's or women's socks to the **Carpenter's Shelter** with each work of art that you enter.

Along with the show Del Ray will also host a **sock hop** on Friday or Saturday (stay tuned...) to break in our new bamboo floor, enjoy Rat Pack music and, of course, collect more new socks as an entrance fee for each person.

Use the enclosed **Call for Entries for art submissions**. If you'd like to reach out to the community to collect more socks, help host the Sock hop, or want more details, contact Constance Springer Zabowski, at cspringer43@gmail.com. — *Connie Zabowski*



Did You Know...?



...You May E-blast DRA Members!

Submit art announcements and opportunities for possible inclusion in DRA's weekly e-blast. Send items to DRA. ebblast@gmail.com.

...DRA is a Member of Handcrafted Alexandria

Handcrafted Alexandria is a collection of 13 creative businesses in Old Town and Del Ray, each featuring one-of-a-kind handmade items and offering creative classes and materials for your own projects.



DRA Holiday Mosaic Art Workshop

Tues., Nov. 30 & Wed., Dec. 1; time: 7-9 pm each night; \$35, members/\$45, non-members (for both nights).

Looking for a perfect gift or decoration for the holidays? Recycle old Christmas decorations and ornaments into a one-of-a-kind holiday mirror, wall hanging or door piece. Use ribbons, ceramic pieces, coffee mugs, fabric or pins to create an original, unique mixed media piece.

A list of stores and web sites is available from which to buy additional items. Instructor Sally Coler will provide tools and ceramic adhesive. For a list of supplies or to purchase a 12x12" frame and mirror, email instructor Sally Coler at sallycoler@hotmail.com.



"Love Letters"

Feb 4 - 27

Curators: Matthew Cuenca & Tracy Wilkerson

Whether you have it, lost it, want it, avoid it, need it or ignore it; love has made all of us do some pretty crazy things. Throughout time artists, writers and musicians have used this constant struggle as inspiration to produce some of the most memorable artworks ever created.

"Love Letters" will exhibit a unique juried collection of love-inspired artworks paired up with the artist's love letter to the object of their affection. So please join us on February 4th as we eavesdrop on the private conversation between artist and admiration in "Love Letters".

— *Matthew Cuenca & Tracy Wilkerson*

Put the "FUN" in FunDraising!

Like planning fun events BIG or small? Have a knack for writing grants? Consider joining the DRA Board as a Fundraiser Director or Co-director. You could be helpful as a "Fun" raiser! Yes! Think outside of the paint tube with your events — raffles, auctions, collaborations, cause-parties, online ideas, grants, and whatever is new and improved. Move at your own pace and even gain fantastic new job skills for your resume or career change!



Gargantuan thanks go to our departing team, Barbara Boehm and Linda Elliff. These DRA darlings know how to put the Fun in DRA and will be missed. Come join the team! Inquire at DRA. Fundraising2@gmail.com, schmityk@yahoo.com, or call 703-317-9340. — *Karen Schmitz*

Join DRA as an Artist or Supporter!

Renewal

New Member

Name _____
Title First M.I. Last

Additional Household Members _____

Organization/Affiliation _____

Address _____
Street City State Zip

Phone Home () Cell () Work ()

E-mail Address(es) _____

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
Active Members enjoy privileges of exhibiting in shows and are expected to contribute at least 10 volunteer hours per year. This does not include volunteer commitments for exhibiting in shows.

Friend
 \$35 Friend of DRA
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 DRA Ted Eichers Memorial Art Scholarship for \$ _____.

I would like to make an additional donation to the DRA Art Camp for Youth for \$ _____.

Please indicate committees on which you will serve to meet your 10-hour per year volunteer commitment:

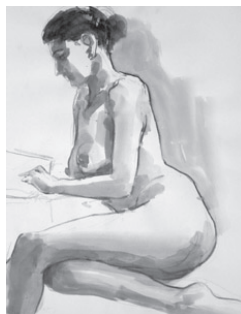
- Communications Newsletter Facilities Archives Outreach Anything DRA needs
- Fundraising Grants Publicity Volunteers Financial Other, special talents:
- Programs Website Gardening Administrative Shows _____

Signature _____ Date ____/____/____

Checks payable to: Del Ray Artisans. Mail to: Del Ray Artisans, Membership, 2704 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria, VA 22301, or pay online: www.thedelrayartisans.org.

**Free Gesture Drawing Session:
Sunday, January 9
from 9:30 am-12:30 pm!**

Learn how to capture the figure quickly and take advantage of dynamic short poses. Guest instructor Robin Croft will share an unusual exercise to encourage a fresh approach to seeing your subject.



He'll offer suggestions while we work from a live model. Bring a LARGE paper or newsprint pad and the following: red/black Conte, stick charcoal, woodless pencils, chalk pastel, brush and India ink.

The session is free but please RSVP to Katherine Rand at 703.836.1468 or DRA.LifeDrawing@gmail.com.

Regular Open Life Drawing Sessions

Practice drawing from our live models during an Open Life Drawing session at the gallery. All skill levels are welcome. Sessions are drop-in. No registration required. Bring supplies.

Dec. 8: 11 am-1 pm gesture; 2-5 pm short/long pose
Dec. 15: 11 am-1pm gesture; 2-5 pm short/long pose

Jan. 9: 9:30 am-12:00 pm (FREE gesture session!)
Jan. 12: 11 am-1 pm gesture; 2-5 pm short/long pose
Jan. 19: Life Drawing, 6:30-9:30 pm
Jan. 26: Life Drawing, 11 am-1 pm gesture; 2-5 pm short/long pose

Three-hour sessions: \$8, DRA members; \$10, non-members.
Two-hour sessions: \$6, members; \$8, non-members. See the website for details. Call me at 703-836-1468 or email DRA.LifeDrawing@gmail.com. — *Katherine Rand*



Nicholas A. Colasanto Center
2704 Mt. Vernon Avenue
Alexandria, VA 22301-1124

703.838.4827
TheDelRayArtisans.org

Gallery Hours:

Thursday: noon-4 pm
Friday: noon-9 pm
Saturday: 10 am-9 pm
Sunday: noon-6 pm

Submission Deadline: 5th of the month

Editor: DRA.Newsletter@gmail.com

Del Ray Artisans, founded in 1992, is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote art for the benefit of artists and the community.

2010-2011 Calendar

November

26 - 28 **SHOW Celebrating Movement**,
Tamara Wilkerson coordinator
dawnoftheday@comcast.net
26 Jazzy Art View, 7- 9 pm
27 Red Hot Salsa, 7-9 pm
28 Poetry Tea Party, 2-4 pm
30 **WORKSHOP Mosaic Art** 7-9 pm

December

1 **WORKSHOP Mosaic Art** 7-9 pm
3 - 5 **HOLIDAY MARKET**, Tracy Wilkerson
coordinator *DRA.HolidayMarket@gmail.com*
8 Life Drawing, 11 am-1 pm, gestures
8 Life Drawing, 2-5 pm, short/long poses
14 Board Meeting, 7 pm
15 Life Drawing, 11 am-1 pm, gestures
15 Life Drawing, 2-5 pm, short/long poses

January 2011

7 - 30 **SHOW Baby, It's Cold Outside!**
(All-Member Show) Connie Springer
Zabowski curator *zabowski@verizon.net*
11 Board Meeting, 7 pm
12 Life Drawing, 11 am-1 pm, gestures
12 Life Drawing, 2-5 pm, short/long poses
19 Life Drawing, 6:30-9:30 pm
26 Life Drawing, 11 am-1 pm, gestures
26 Life Drawing, 2-5 pm, short/long poses

February 2011

4 - 27 **SHOW Love Letters**
Matthew Tito Cuenca and
Tracy Wilkerson curators
mattbewcuenca@gmail.com
tlwideas@comcast.net
8 Board Meeting, 7 pm
9 Life Drawing, 11 am-1 pm, gestures
9 Life Drawing, 2-5 pm,
short/long poses
16 Life Drawing, 6:30-9:30 pm
21 **WORKSHOP Life Drawing**, 2-5pm
23 Life Drawing, 11 am-1 pm, gestures
23 Life Drawing, 2-5 pm,
short/long poses

March 2011

4 - 27 **SHOW Beyond Form: Expressing
Art** Betty Plummer & Fareeha
Khawaja curators
bplummer11@verizon.net
fareehambkhawaja@gmail.com
8 Board Meeting, 7 pm
9 Life Drawing, 11 am-1 pm, gestures
9 Life Drawing, 2-5 pm,
short/long poses
16 Life Drawing, 6:30-9:30 pm
23 Life Drawing, 11 am-1 pm, gestures
23 Life Drawing, 2-5 pm,
short/long poses

2010 Board of Directors

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DRA.President@gmail.com

Vice President

Kurt Peterson
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Kimberley Bush
DRA.Treasurer@gmail.com

Asst Treasurer

Vacant

Secretary

Monica Wise
DRA.Secretary@gmail.com

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Fundraising

Barbara Boehm
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Linda Elliff
DRA.Fundraiser2@gmail.com

Membership

Kathryn A. Brown
DRA.Membership@gmail.com

Historian/Archivist

John Hiller
DRA.Historian@gmail.com

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Lesley Hall
DRA.Volunteers@gmail.com

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Margaret Slipek
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Randall.M.Scheessele@hud.gov

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Registrar

Ellyn Ferguson
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Newsletter

Betty Plummer
DRA.Newsletter@gmail.com



On Getting New Faces to DRA...

- Drop off postcards wherever you go—cafes, medical offices, stores, libraries....
- Go to DRA's Facebook page and send friends invites to events.
- Email your friends a virtual postcard image invite.
- Snail-mail some postcards with a personal note.
- Help Curators with regular postcard distribution.

— Karen Schmitz

Special Thanks... to the City of Alexandria, the Alexandria Commission for the Arts, the Virginia Commission for the Arts, and the National Endowment for the Arts, 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.