



Celebrating the Art of Making . . .

April 2016

The Well-Crafted Word

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



Creatures from the Sea Art Exhibit

April 1 - May 1, 2016

Artists bring to life the aquatic worlds' frolicking, fanciful, sensual, beautiful, and beastly creatures in *Creatures from the Sea*. Prepare to swim with Sirens, Tritons, and Naiads, or their fellow aquatic travelers from oceans, rivers, or lakes. Imagine a

world of watery creatures of all kinds ready for you to explore and observe! Jump in and join us at our **opening reception on Friday, April 1 from 7-9pm**. We will have special guests from the **Alexandria Seaport Foundation** joining us to mingle with the fishes, creatures, and—oh, yes—the artists, patrons and all those who enjoy the arts. Enjoy some light snacks and bask in the watery wonderland that is waiting for you!

The exhibit runs April 1 through May 1, 2016 at Del Ray Artisans gallery. Gallery hours are: Thursdays 12-6pm; First Thursday (April-September) 12-9pm; Fridays and Saturdays 12-9pm; and Sundays 12-6pm. The gallery is free, open to the public, and handicap accessible.

For more information, visit www.TheDelRayArtisans.org or contact the curators Veronica Barker-Barzel (jewfroart@gmail.com) and Tom Kelly at (watsueast@aol.com).

DISCOVER the MANY FACES of ART during Spring2ACTion

Join us on Spring2ACTion day, **Wednesday, April 20**, for a full day of free activities. To showcase our multi-generational, multi-faceted artists, Del Ray Artisans will host 24 hours of activity with the theme: *DISCOVER the MANY FACES of ART!* Stop by and see the *Creatures from the Sea* exhibit and participate in events throughout the day and evening. To volunteer for these activities, email Brandy Lellou at Fundraising@DelRayArtisans.org.

Schedule of Free Activities, for all ages, on Wednesday, April 20:

12am–5am: Virtual gallery - Check out our diverse group of artist profiles posted on Facebook and Twitter all night long.

5–10am: Breakfast in the gallery - Stop by for pastries, coffee, tea and some inspiration for the day. **Jenny Nicholson**, State Department Calligrapher and Protocol Officer, will give a show and tell on how she incorporates art in her daily work.

11–1pm: Meditation & yoga - Come join us for yoga and relaxation meditation sessions.

2–5pm: Life drawing session with live, clothed model. This session is FREE! Bring your sketchbook and pencils to participate. All skill levels welcome.

6pm-Midnight: Evening reception with Artist Talk from **Guy G. Jones**, bedhead photo booth, music, raffle and more! Don't miss it!

Place a Spring2ACTion donation now through April 20 at bit.ly/dra-spring

Welcome, New Members!

- Norman Bridges
- Sarah Canzoneri
- Luke Day & Elizabeth Peterson
- Rachel Grodsky
- Angelika Shafer
- Almudena Sison
- Lillian Trettin

President's Message

Spring is here and with it comes Spring2ACTion, a 24-hour online event that encourages everyone to contribute to Alexandria's nonprofit organizations! Spring2ACTion, on April 20, is the perfect opportunity for you to show your support for DRA and other nonprofits in the community. I know many of you already give generously to DRA, and I appreciate all that you do.

This is an opportunity to introduce your friends, family and colleagues to DRA and show them the impact art has on the community.

Other opportunities abound so be sure to read the Weekly eNews or check the calendar to see what exciting events are "springing" up.

Happy Spring and remember to keep art in your heart!

—Kim S. Joy, President



*Jenny Nicholson
demonstrating calligraphy
during Art on the Avenue 2013.*

I Filed for an Extension! GUAC Instructor Proposals Deadline Extended to April 15

We are accepting proposals for events & workshops for Grown-Ups Art Camp (GUAC), which will run **June 27 through July 15, 2016**. If you've got something to show and share, why not get paid and receive the rewards of teaching someone how to make, improve, and grow with art! Do you have a project that you think others could learn in a day? Is there a technique you've found that has helped you as a maker? Show others how engage in creative play! Or perhaps you can teach us about the business of art? (Remember: instructors will be paid!) Seeking all mediums: writing, poetry, journaling, drawing, painting, knitting, crochet, photography, sculpture, beading, jewelry making, etc. **submit by April 15**. Proposal forms may be found at TheDelRayArtisans.org/CFE. For more details, contact Theresa Kulstad at Programs@DelRayArtisans.org.

Secrets of the Paper Garden Sunday, April 17 from 2-5pm

Member Debbie Mezzetta leads this fun and intricate workshop teaching the secrets to making breathtaking, realistic paper flowers. This cheery workshop will cover all the materials, including the beautiful, imported Italian papers, flower patterns and skills you will need to create different types of flowers. You leave with your hand-made beautiful flowers, as well as information and guidance in print for future use. Members fee \$36, non-members fee \$46, plus a \$6 supply fee. Registration at: bit.ly/dra-paper-flowers



"Lean In" by Suzanne Vigil
won Best in Show during the
"March Melee" exhibit.

Free Open Life Drawing Session on April 20

On Wednesday April 20 from 2-5pm, DRA is hosting a FREE Life Drawing session at the gallery. If you haven't attended one of our open sessions, take this opportunity to come and draw from one of our talented live models. Bring your supplies and arrive early to get a spot. See page 4 for additional upcoming sessions.

All skill levels are welcome. The regular fee for a three-hour session is \$10 for DRA members and \$12 for non-members. Two-hour sessions are \$8 for members and \$10 for non-members. If you have questions, contact Katherine Rand at 703-836-1468 or LifeDrawing@DelRayArtisans.org.



"Opal" by
Katherine Rand

March Show a Success!

The *March Melee* exhibit received 180 submissions, about half of which were accepted. The curators, **Kathy Turner** and **Joshua Oliveira**, were very gratified to have had such a large and enthusiastic response to this call for entry. The show looked fantastic and had several sales. The reception was very well attended and the show impressed visitors. Artwork awards included:

Best in Show

- Suzanne Vigil, *Lean In*

Curators' Choice Awards (alphabetically)

- Marcel Artes Deolazo, *Plate 4 Throwing in Arguments*
- Yasmine C. Iskander, *Volcano*
- Guy G. Jones, *Bunny boy*
- Lillian Trettin, *Malevolent Brew and Benevolent Brew*

Special thanks to volunteers **Marcel Artes Deolazo** for adjusting our lighting; **Maria Illingworth** for assisting with hanging the show; **Cameron Turner** for giving a fantastic presentation, helping with hanging, and helping design promotional materials; **Dawn Wyse Hurto** for tech support; our office manager **Dani Keith** for printing labels and many other office chores that contribute towards a successful show; and **all the participating artists** who volunteered time at the reception, gallery hosting, and with show receiving and take down. We could not put on an exhibit without all of your support.

Spring Art Market Apply by April 16

Spring has Sprung! Join DRA in its tradition of outdoor art markets on **Saturday, May 7 from 10am-4pm**. Perhaps you tucked in this winter creating and have some fresh inventory showcasing your talents? Never tried an art booth? This may be just the way for you to dip your toes in this fun way to show. One of the first open air markets of the season makes this a great opportunity to showcase your works.

This is an outdoor, family-friendly, rain-or-shine event at the park adjoining the gallery. Participating artists must apply to sell their original handmade artwork. **Applications are due April 16**. Questions may be directed to Programs@DelRayArtisans.org. Details at TheDelRayArtisans.org/CFE

Monday Fun Night Cardmaking April 25 - FREE!

Let's have fun making greeting cards **Monday, April 25 from 6-9pm**. All supplies included with plenty of art encouragement by hostesses: Theresa Kulstad, Jenny Nicholson and Karen Schmitz. Donations appreciated for take home cards. All skill levels and ages welcome with no registration required to get "arty"!

- Make Cards for Mother's Day (May 8)
- Make All Occasion Cards for DRA
- Make Cards to share DRA Sunshine

If you know members who need their day brightened by a card during difficult times, email Gale at Sunshine@DelRayArtisans.org.

Also, "cardies" who are not able to attend parties can still donate handcrafted cards to restock the display. Please no written inside messages. Just contact Karen at 703-232-4526 or schmityk@yahoo.com.

Gallery Without Walls

Gallery Without Walls (GWW) current shows, *Around The Next Corner* at the Vola Lawson Animal Shelter and *Partnerships* at VCA Alexandria Animal Hospital, have generated a lot of interest and several sales to-date. These shows run through May 15, 2016. Don't miss them! On May 15, GWW is hanging two new shows...

Streets Meets Glass is coming to the Vola Lawson Animal Shelter on May 15. Find out what happens when street art and glass art converge. Del Ray Artisans and the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria partner to present *Streets Meets Glass*, a family-friendly art exhibit at the Vola Lawson Animal Shelter (4101 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22304). This exhibit features artwork by EG Mead and Joshua Oliveira and runs May 15-August 15. Join us at the reception on Friday, May 20 from 7-9pm at the animal shelter.

A Call To Service at VCA Alexandria Animal Hospital runs May 15-September 25 and features how the nature of service to others, whether it is given or received by humans, animals or a combination thereof, has a positive impact on individuals, communities, countries and, maybe, the World. *A Call To Service* highlights VCA Alexandria's dedication to working with the nonprofits Guiding Eyes, Veterans Moving Forward, and the Wildlife Rescue League, as well as providing emergency support to local police and other animal rescue groups. The VCA Alexandria Animal Hospital is located at 2660 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. **Entries are due Saturday, May 7.** The Call for Entry is located at TheDelRayArtisans.org/CFE

For more information on the GWW exhibits, visit TheDelRayArtisans.org/GWW or contact LG Mierke Animals@DelRayArtisans.org.



"Faster" by Charles Butler

often based on fantasy, nightmares, hallucination, and the imagination. Opening Reception is on Friday, May 6 from 7-9pm at Del Ray Artisans gallery. Details at www.TheDelRayArtisans.org

2017 Proposals for Art Exhibits - Due Wednesday, June 1, 2016

DRA is soliciting show proposals for 2017. DRA strives to offer exhibits that reach a broad and diverse audience, encourage artistic development, and represent a wide variety of art forms. Contact Kathy at Curating@DelRayArtisans.org for more details.



"Old Guard In-Step" by Lewis Smith is featured in the "Partnerships" exhibit.

Framing Discount is New Benefit to DRA Members

DRA members can now receive generous discounts on all their framing needs at **Alexandria Picture Framing Company** (110 S Fayette St, Alexandria VA 22314, 703-684-1262). Whether you need a complete custom frame or just matting for your readymade frames, you will get a 20%+ discount. Artists can purchase sheets of matboard, foamcore, glass, wire, and more. Stop by and see Karen from Wednesdays through Sundays for framing advice and pricing.



Cameron Turner presenting on March 14.

Distribute Show Postcards

Thank you to the DRA postcard distributor who dropped off *March Melee* postcards at shops in the Bradlee Shopping Center! This simple act brought two very enthusiastic "never been to DRA before" attendees to Cameron Turner's Generative Digital Art presentation. They left with smiles on their faces, membership forms, newsletters, and exhibit information.

Please take postcards and make an extra effort to sprinkle them in coffee shops, libraries, eateries, parties, community centers, bulletin boards and just about everywhere. Share with everyone!

Save the Date: A special Members' Benefit Program is planned for **Tuesday, May 24 from 7-9pm** at the gallery. Mark your calendar! Details coming soon.

Looking forward to June...

The *RESPECT: Unsung Heroes in Uniform* exhibit is our chance to recognize and honor the individuals behind the uniform—not just the 'obvious' professions (fire, EMS, police, military)—but all uniformed professions.



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

703.838.4827
TheDelRayArtisans.org

Gallery Hours:

Thursday: noon-6 pm
First Thursday:
(April-Sept.) noon-9 pm
Friday: noon-9 pm
Saturday: noon-9 pm
Sunday: noon-6 pm

Submission Deadline: 15th of the month
Editor: Newsletter@DelRayArtisans.org

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

2016 Board of Directors

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- **Dawn Wyse Hurto, Technology**
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- **Joshua Oliveira, Volunteers**
Volunteers@DelRayArtisans.org
- **Martha Garcia, Lydia Walter, Pat Hickey, Youth Programs**
Youth@DelRayArtisans.org

Calendar

April 2016

- 1-May 1 **SHOW: *Creatures from the Sea***
(Curators Veronica Barker-Barzel & Tom Kelly)
- 1 Opening Reception, 7-9pm
- 4 Partners in Art, 2-4pm
- 6 Life Drawing, 2-5pm, Short/Long
- 6 Life Drawing, 6:30-9:30pm, Long
- 7 First Thursday (Hats Along the Avenue),
open until 9pm
- 12 Board Meeting, 7pm
- 15 **GUAC Workshop Proposals Due**
- 16 **Spring Art Market Applications Due**
- 17 Life Drawing, 9:30-11:30am, Gesture (clothed)
- 17 Secrets of the Paper Garden: Hand-dyed Paper
Flowers Workshop, 2-5pm
- 20 Spring2ACTion events:
 - Breakfast, Jenny Nicholson Gallery Talk, and
Card Making, 5-10am
 - Meditation & Yoga, 11am-1pm
 - Life Drawing, 2-5pm, Short/Long (clothed),
FREE LIFE DRAWING SESSION!
 - Reception, Guy Jones Gallery Talk, and
Bedhead Photo Op, 6pm-12am
- 25 Card Making Party, 6-9pm

More information at: calendar.TheDelRayArtisans.org

May 2016

- 5 First Thursday (Dog Days in Del Ray),
open until 9pm
- 6-29 **SHOW: *Surrealism*** (Collaboration with
Union 206 Studio, Curator David Heckman)
- 6 Opening Reception, 7-9pm
- 7 Spring Art Market, 10am-4pm
- 9 Partners in Art, 2-4pm
- 10 Board Meeting, 7pm
- 11 Life Drawing, 2-5pm, Short/Long
- 11 Life Drawing, 6:30-9:30pm, Long
- 22 Life Drawing, 9:30-11:30am, Gesture
- 24 Member Meeting/Benefit Program, 7-9pm
- 25 Life Drawing, 2-5pm, Short/Long
- 25 Life Drawing, 6:30-9:30pm, Long

June 2016

- 1 **2017 Show Proposals Due**
- 2 First Thursday (Paint Del Ray), open until 9pm
- 3-26 **SHOW: RESPECT: *Unsung Heroes in Uniform***
(Curator Tracy Wilkerson)
- 3 Opening Reception, 7-9pm
- 6 Partners in Art, 2-4pm
- 8 Life Drawing, 2-5pm, Short/Long

Join or renew your Del Ray Artisans membership today!

Visit TheDelRayArtisans.org/Membership for details.

Other Key Contacts

- **Dani Keith, Office Manager**
Gallery@DelRayArtisans.org
- **Eileen O'Brien, GWW Curator**
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Visit ArtsEventsAlexandria.com for performing and visual arts happenings in Alexandria. Del Ray Artisans is a member of Alexandria Convention & Visitors Association and Alexandria Arts Forum, who make possible this website.

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