



Celebrating the Art of Making . . .

January 2017

The Well-Crafted Word

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

www.DelRayArtisans.org

Simply Abstract January 6-29, 2017

Opening reception: Friday, January 6, 7-9pm

Del Ray Artisans' (DRA) *Simply Abstract* juried exhibit opens Friday, January 6 with a reception from 7-9pm at Del Ray Artisans gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria. Patrons will see how local artists and members released their inner energy to create abstract two- and three-dimensional works of art. This exhibit is juried by nationally known abstract artist Marsha Staiger. Curators Betsy Mead and Judy Lynn will award prizes for best artwork. Come mingle with artists and art appreciators during this unveiling of the exhibit. The show also features our ever-popular marketplace with *art-to-go* and runs from January 6-29. For more details, visit DelRayArtisans.org/event/simply-abstract/

Also, in conjunction with this exhibit join us for:

1. **Movie Night:** Saturday, January 14 from 7-9pm, featuring the 2000 biographical classic, *Pollack* starring Ed Harris. Admission is free. Popcorn and refreshments available. Movie is rated R. Adults only. Donations appreciated.
2. **Hands On: Collaborate Abstractly:** Saturday, January 28 from 2-3:30pm. This is a workshop where students partner up to create unique abstract art in different styles. Come and discover the diversity of abstract art! Workshop Fee: \$35 members / \$50 non-members. Materials Fee: \$10. See: DelRayArtisans.org/event/hands-on/



Welcome, New Members!

- Cassie Smith

Help Wanted for Simply Abstract Exhibit

Get started on those 2017 volunteer hours! Help at *Simply Abstract* receiving on Sunday, January 1 or Monday, January 2 from 6-8pm. Also needed are one or two good hands to help hang the show on January 3 and 4—you will be directed to place artwork on walls at the curators' direction. Finally, one or two individuals are needed to help manage opening night festivities. If interested, please contact Betsy Mead at egmead@gmail.com

It's EASY to get credit for your volunteer hours

Log in your 2016 volunteer hours NOW. Josh needs all those 2016 accumulated volunteer hours as soon as possible!

Don't look for that book behind the desk to log in your hours, and don't make a special trip to the gallery! Just send an email to Joshua Oliveira, our Volunteers Director. Let him know what you volunteered for, and how many hours you spent volunteering. That's all there is to it! Josh will do all the bookkeeping for you! Sooo easy! Email Josh at Volunteers@DelRayArtisans.org

Card Party 2fer (Two-fer)

Start the New Year by "arting" at two back-to-back card party mini-fundraisers to benefit the February *Lovers* show and help restock the gallery. February's curator Bonnie Holmberg would relish cards that evoke love, happiness, joy and the "all occasion". Socialize and learn some new tricks all while giving back to DRA. Free, and all supplies and snackies provided. "Cardie queens" Theresa Kulstad and Karen Schmitz are hosting all the fun.

Come on **Sunday, January 15, 2-5pm**, or **Monday, January 16, 5-8pm** to Del Ray Artisans at the Colasanto Center, 2704 Mt Vernon Ave, Alexandria, VA 22301. Cardmakers who cannot make the parties but would like to donate handmade greeting cards can drop off cards at *Lovers* art receiving Jan. 29 & 30, 6-8pm. Please no inside written messages. DRA will provide clear sleeves. Got Questions? Contact Karen at schmityk@yahoo.com



Volunteer Opportunity!

Be the Chair of the Web Posting Committee! The Chair is responsible for:

- maintaining the spreadsheet of media outlets DRA volunteers post to for the Web Posting Committee.
- making sure Web Posting Committee members have what they need to get their tasks done.
- checking in with committee members and providing backup if needed.
- contacting new volunteers regarding joining the committee.
- keeping the Directors of Communications and Technology in the loop of committee changes.

The Chair's tasks are not significantly time-consuming. You can be as active as you wish in this role. If you wish to grow the role, you may want to scout out additional media outlets for posting and actively recruit new committee members. Interested? Contact Betsy Mead at egmead@gmail.com

Gallery Without Walls @ Ease Yoga!

DRA's Gallery Without Walls (GWW) program is expanding with a new show up the street at Ease Yoga and Cafe, 3051 Mount Vernon Avenue. Our new partner, Ease Yoga combines the opportunity for yoga and massage with a cafe that offers fresh pressed juice, coffee or tea, homemade kale chips, artisan sandwiches, and other delicious fare.

The art exhibit at the yoga studio is *Waterworks Revisited* featuring selected pieces from the November show. The yoga studio is just a short walk from Del Ray Artisans' gallery, and the exhibit runs through the end of February. Join us on Saturday, January 14 from 4-6pm at the yoga studio for a reception with the artists! For more information, please contact GWW@DelRayArtisans.org

Holiday Market 2016—Success with lots of help!

Holiday Market vendors grossed approximately \$35,000 in sales, and donated 10% back to DRA. That's a \$500 increase in donations over last year.

I jumped in as Office Manager in mid-November, in the middle of the Holiday Market preparations. I had no idea what was required to make this event happen. I didn't know where to begin! And then I discovered my "volunteer army"! Dozens of volunteers stepped up to the plate to make this market happen, and it still wasn't easy! We had too many of one kind of medium or not enough of another. We messed up on spacing. We forgot things! But our volunteers worked together selflessly as a mighty force...Yes, a true army of volunteers. They saw when things needed to be done and went well beyond their basic obligations to accomplish what needed to be done.

I learned the true meaning of volunteerism, which is the heart of DRA. What is volunteering? I like this definition: "To choose to act in recognition of a need, with an attitude of social responsibility and without concern for monetary profit, going beyond one's basic obligations." It's from the introduction to [By the People: A History of Americans as Volunteers](#) by Susan J. Ellis and Katherine H. Campbell. It describes our DRA volunteers.

So, I wish to express my gratitude with a BIG warm "Thank You" to: Dani Keith for organizing the market from June to November; Dawn Wyse Hurto for picking up numerous tasks in November, and using her extraordinary organizational skills to "keep us all in line"; weekend captains Nancy Kline, Tracy Wilkerson, and Steve Lally; merchandise table organizers Dawn Hurto and Josh Oliveira; and volunteers Ellyn Ferguson, Joe Franklin, Nancy Galib, Donna Gallo, Gale Goldfarb, Linda Hill, Dawn Hurto, Nicole Mahoney, Liz Martinez, Marianne Milian, Jenny Nicholson, Josh Oliveira, Diana Papazian, Claudia Ringel, Kevin Sherlock, and Kathleen Stoner, who staffed the table and greeted Market visitors.

Heartfelt Thanks to our vendors and volunteer army!

—Betsy Mead, Office Manager



A sampling of wares for sale at the December 2016 Holiday Market.

Photos provided by vendors Lisa Zolandz, Nancy Kline, Christine Vinh, Stephen Lally, Joyce Wagner, Genevieve Lynn, Shelly Habel, and Becky Barnes.

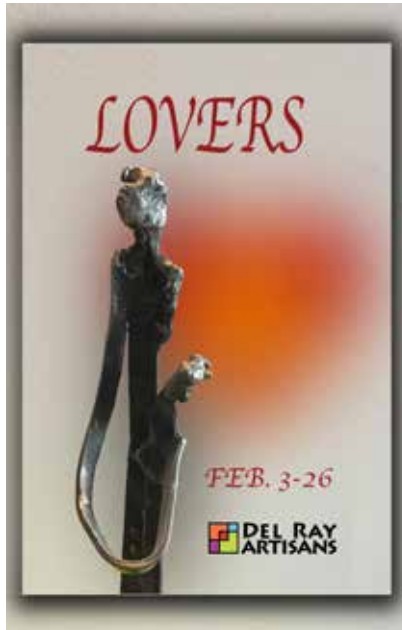
Get Ready for *Lovers*, a DRA Members-only Exhibit!

Call for Entry Due: January 20
Opening reception: Friday,
February 3 from 7-9pm
Exhibit Dates: February 3-26, 2017

Broken hearts, far apart, still together, despite the weather. *Lovers* will celebrate the spirit of Valentine's Day throughout the month of February. This show features Del Ray Artisans members' interpretations of affectionate pairings of diverse types.

DRA Fundraiser: Artists' are also asked to contribute handmade cards to be available for sale during this exhibit. Artists can pick up blank cards at the gallery during January and drop them off at DRA as they are completed. For card making details, please contact Karen at schmityk@yahoo.com

See DelRayArtisans.org/category/cfe/ for additional details. Curators: Bonnie Holmberg, mochajumbi@gmail.com and Miles Liss, mcl679@gmail.com



Art Swap is coming in February!

Save the date for Sunday, Feb. 12, 2017 from 4-6pm. It's our annual Member meeting and art swap! After a brief meeting to discuss DRA business, the fun begins! It's easy to participate. All you need to do is contribute at least one art-related item. Then you will get to select an item to take home with you from a wide array of wondrous supplies which another member no longer needs or uses. What hidden treasures await? Don't miss out on discovering that unique, hard-to-find, long-awaited, no longer available gem. Questions? Contact Drew Cariso at Membership@DelRayArtisans.org



Happy Anniversary, Del Ray Artisans! 1992-2017

In 1992 a few neighbors in Del Ray, who regularly walked their dogs together, decided the area needed an arts organization. They created the Arts Resource Foundation ("ARF" in reference to the dogs) as an umbrella organization. Del Ray Artisans, in support of the visual arts, was the first established entity under the umbrella. In 2017 Del Ray Artisans turns 25 years old!



Through the years DRA has helped bring positive foot traffic to the Del Ray neighborhood and greater Alexandria. Our presence in Del Ray has helped improve the neighborhood and business district. In 2017, we will be celebrating our 25th Anniversary with a reception, special programs, celebrations and funding a Legacy project. Specific details will be announced soon.

A 25th Anniversary t-shirt has been designed by Cameron Turner and Josh Oliveira, and will be on sale beginning January 6. Be sure to get one as there will be times during the year when you will benefit from having it!

*Images from prior Art Swap
Membership Meetings*



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.

2017 Board of Directors

- **President, Kim S. Joy**
President@DelRayArtisans.org
- **John Bordner, Vice President**
VP@DelRayArtisans.org
- **Stephen Lally, Treasurer**
Treasurer@DelRayArtisans.org
- **Nancy Kline, Assistant Treasurer**
ATTR@DelRayArtisans.org
- **Kathryn A. Brown, Secretary**
Secretary@DelRayArtisans.org
- **Michele Reday Cook, Past President (Advisory)**
PastPresident@DelRayArtisans.org

Directors

- **Sean Crumley, Archives**
Archives@DelRayArtisans.org
- **Rita Schooley, Communications**
Communications@DelRayArtisans.org
- **Marlin Lord, Community**
Community@DelRayArtisans.org
- **Kathy Turner, Curating**
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- **Kurt Peterson, Facilities**
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- **Joe Franklin, Fundraising Events**
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- **Cheryl Lavoie, Grants & Sponsorship**
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- **Drew Cariaso, Membership**
Membership@DelRayArtisans.org
- **Outreach (Open Position)**
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- **Michele Reday Cook, Programs**
Programs@DelRayArtisans.org
- **Dale Spivey, Technology**
Technology@DelRayArtisans.org
- **Joshua Oliveira, Volunteers**
Volunteers@DelRayArtisans.org
- **Lydia Walter, Youth Programs**
Youth@DelRayArtisans.org

Calendar

January 2017

- 1-2 **Simply Abstract** accepted artwork drop off
- 6-29 **SHOW: Simply Abstract**
curators: Betsy Mead & Judy Lynn
- 6 Opening Reception, 7-9pm
- 8 Life Drawing, 9:30-11:30am, Gesture (clothed)
- 9 Partners in Art, 2-4pm
- 10 Board Meeting, 7pm
- 11 Life Drawing, 2-5pm, Short/Long (clothed)
- 11 Life Drawing, 6:30-9:30pm, Long
- 14 **Pollock** Movie Night, 7-9pm
- 15 Card Party 2fer, 2-5pm
- 16 Card Party 2fer, 5-8pm
- 25 Life Drawing, 2-5pm, Short/Long
- 25 Life Drawing, 6:30-9:30pm, Long
- 28 Hands On: Collaborate Abstractly Workshop,
2-3:30pm
- 29 **Simply Abstract** artwork pick up
- 29-30 **Lovers** accepted artwork drop off

February 2017

- 3-26 **SHOW: Lovers**
curators: Bonnie Holmberg & Miles Liss
- 3 Opening Reception, 7-9pm

More information at: DelRayArtisans.org/calendar/

February 2017 cont.

- 5 Life Drawing, 9:30-11:30am, Gesture
- 6 Partners in Art, 2-4pm
- 7 Board Meeting, 7pm
- 8 Life Drawing, 2-5pm, Short/Long
- 8 Life Drawing, 6:30-9:30pm, Long
- 12 Member Meeting/Art Swap, 4-6pm
- 14 Sweet Treats & Poetry, 6-8pm
- 22 Life Drawing, 2-5pm, Short/Long
- 22 Life Drawing, 6:30-9:30pm, Long
- 26 **Lovers** artwork pick up
- 26-27 Through the Looking Glass** accepted artwork drop off

March 2017

- 3-26 **SHOW: Through the Looking Glass**
curator: Josh Oliveira
- 3 Opening Reception, 7-9pm
- 5 Life Drawing, 9:30-11:30am, Gesture (clothed)
- 6 Partners in Art, 2-4pm
- 8 Life Drawing, 2-5pm, Short/Long
- 8 Life Drawing, 6:30-9:30pm, Long
- 14 Board Meeting, 7pm

Join or renew your Del Ray Artisans membership today!

Visit DelRayArtisans.org/membership/ for details.

Other Key Contacts

- **Betsy Mead, Office Manager**
Gallery@DelRayArtisans.org
- **Eileen O'Brien, GWW Curator**
GWW@DelRayArtisans.org
- **Betsy Mead, Newsletter Editor**
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- **Melanie Bikowski & Liz Martinez, Weekly eNews Editor**
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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.

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



