



Celebrating 25 Years of Making Art . . .

February 2017

# The Well-Crafted Word

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

[www.DelRayArtisans.org](http://www.DelRayArtisans.org)

## Lovers

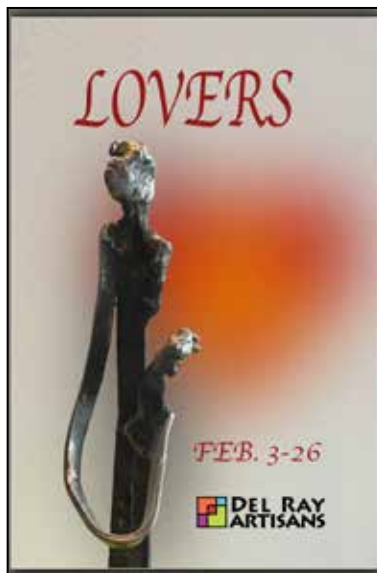
### February 3-26, 2017

Opening reception: Friday, February 3, 7-9pm

Del Ray Artisans' (DRA) *Lovers* exhibit opens Friday, February 3 with a reception from 7-9pm at Del Ray Artisans gallery, 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria. *Lovers* will celebrate the spirit of Valentine's Day throughout the month of February. This show features DRA members' interpretations of affectionate pairings of diverse types. For more information, please see [DelRayArtisans.org/event/lovers/](http://DelRayArtisans.org/event/lovers/)

Also, in conjunction with this exhibit join us for

- **Sweet Treats and Poetry:** Tuesday, February 14 from 6-8pm. Celebrate Valentine's Day with poetry readings! Come to this special event on your own, with friends, or with your Valentine. The evening will feature sweet desserts and poetry. You're invited to read a poem, either one you wrote or a favorite by another author, or just come to enjoy the readings by others. See: [DelRayArtisans.org/event/sweet-treats-poetry/](http://DelRayArtisans.org/event/sweet-treats-poetry/)
- **DRA Fundraiser:** Artists are asked to contribute handmade cards to be available for sale during this exhibit. Artists can pick up blank cards at the gallery and drop them off at DRA as they are completed. For card making details, please contact Karen at [schmityk@yahoo.com](mailto:schmityk@yahoo.com)



## Welcome, New Members!

- Nancy Ramsey
- Estelle Tobias
- Karen Waltermire
- Narcissa Weatherbee

## President's Message

Can you believe we are two months deep into 2017 already? This is going to be a memorable year for sure—our Anniversary is coming up! Look for highlights and updates in *The Well-Crafted Word* newsletter and get ready for some fun!

Also, there are lots of opportunities to volunteer this year so be sure read the eNews and reach out to Joshua Oliveira at [Volunteers@DelRayArtisans.org](mailto:Volunteers@DelRayArtisans.org)

Our Member Meeting/Art Swap is Feb 12. These meetings are always a lot of fun with crazy supply swapping action! And, if you're wearing your 25th anniversary t-shirt, there may be some special surprises in store for you! On the serious side, we will all hear what is planned for DRA for the year so be sure to come to the meeting and bring any unwanted or used art supplies to send to new homes, and make room in your home for some new "treasures".

Keep art in your heART.

-Kim S. Joy

## Thank you, Jane!

Jane DeWeerd was a delightful member of DRA for many years, and is responsible for suggesting our current location at the Colasanto Center. A vibrant person, Jane turned 90 last year—Karen Schmitz spearheaded an effort to send her cards which Jane loved. A talented artist in her own right, Jane collected art from friends and other professional artists. But since Jane's recent admittance into Goodwin House's Hope Garden (Memory Support) unit, she had to downsize her fine collection of art. What to do? Jane's niece Julie contacted DRA hoping that we might like to have Jane's collection, and that it would mean a lot to Jane if DRA could make use of the art—and Julie didn't want to give it to just "anybody". Julie donated 9 lovely pieces from Jane's collection to DRA, and YOU will have a chance to own part of it at DRA's 25th Anniversary Twisted Silver Auction in September. The works range in size from small to large and vary in media. Stay tuned for details! Thank you so much, Jane!



## Behind the Scenes

Much of what happens at Del Ray Artisans gallery is accomplished by volunteers. But there are two part-time employees who do a lot behind the scenes to keep the gallery running. Celeste Zabowski (our newest addition to the office staff) and Betsy Mead do a lot more than just greet patrons at the gallery. Did you know they stock the kitchen with paper plates, cups, napkins, and bottled water, and order office supplies such as tape, staples, paper, ink, pens and pencils? They also update the membership list, keep track of DRA's finances, work with the bookkeeper, pay bills, write checks for artist sales, send out letters, help with grants and a lot of other things. But they also help YOU! So, next time you're in the gallery and they seem busy...they are! Take a few minutes to say hello but then please let them get on with their work. They're busy behind the scenes for you! If you need assistance, contact Betsy at [Gallery@DelRayArtisans.org](mailto:Gallery@DelRayArtisans.org) and Celeste at [Assistant@DelRayArtisans.org](mailto:Assistant@DelRayArtisans.org)

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## Arty Facts!

- Art competitions formed part of the modern Olympic Games during its early years, from 1912 to 1948. The competitions were part of the original intention of the Olympic Movement's founder, Pierre de Frédy, Baron de Coubertin. Medals were awarded for works of art inspired by sport, divided into five categories: architecture, literature, music, painting, and sculpture. The juried art competitions were abandoned in 1954 because artists were considered to be professionals, while Olympic athletes were required to be amateurs. Since 1956, the Olympic cultural programme has taken their place. ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Art\\_competitions\\_at\\_the\\_Summer\\_Olympics](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Art_competitions_at_the_Summer_Olympics))

## Happy Anniversary, DRA! 1992-2017

The 25th Anniversary Committee has been busy planning celebrations for you throughout the year. Here is the lineup of major events:

- **March 19 (Sunday), 5-7 pm.** Michele Reday Cook is chairing the "Reflecting on Our Future" Silver Reception. From city officials to members to neighbors, this will be an event for the community to help DRA celebrate.
- **June 2 (Friday)** DRA celebrates 25 Years with an Evening at The Little Theatre of Alexandria's performance of the hilarious play, "Red, White, and Tuna". Chairs John Bordner and Angela Calos are planning a Silver pre-performance cocktail time and a special intermission.
- **September 28 (Thursday)** The Twisted Silver Auction is chaired by Kurt Peterson. Remember the Up-Beat Off-Beat Auctions from Del Ray Artisans' past? Well, this will be a mini version of those plus a Silent Auction all in the setting of Port City Brewing Company!

Save the dates on your calendar and stay tuned for more details. Questions? Or to lend a hand, email 25th Anniversary Chair Linda Elliff at [25years@DelRayArtisans.org](mailto:25years@DelRayArtisans.org)

### Where are they now?

This continues our 25-year retrospective, begun in January this year, in which we share brief tidbits with you monthly in *The Well-Crafted Word* newsletter.

DRA has continued on its path of community improvement through art since its formation in 1992, moving along Mount Vernon Avenue in its early years. As you know, DRA now calls 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue its home, gallery, and center for experiences for its members and guests. This location, the Colasanto Center, has a long history of its own starting in 1923 as a health clinic in the Town of Potomac. It was called the Jefferson District Welfare Center, and was actually in Arlington County until Alexandria annexed that part of the County.

The Center had other uses through the years, including a sewing room, a pre-school day care center, and a senior center. In October 1997, when DRA moved in, our first exhibit was called

*The Essential Del Ray*. We'll mention our other locations in another month, as we walk literally down memory lane. To learn more about DRA's history, please visit [DelRayArtisans.org/about/history](http://DelRayArtisans.org/about/history)



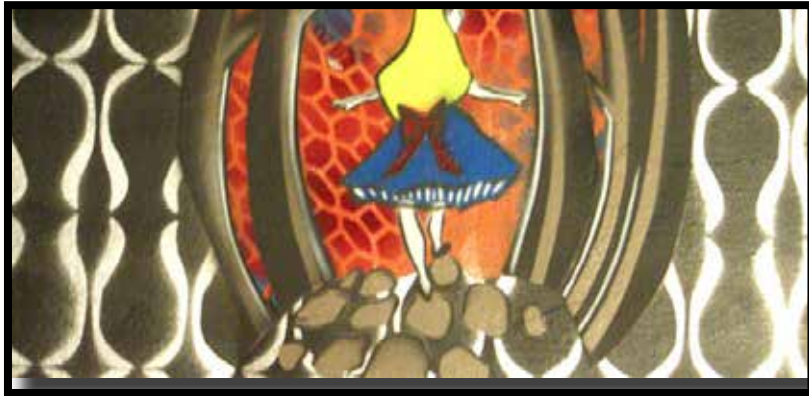
*Professional employees of the Arlington Health Department, Dec. 1929. Pictured from left to right: Henry Latane, MD; Director Peyton Chichester, MD; Sue Brown, RN; Sanitary Inspector Norbert Melnick; and Norma Davis, RN.*

## Through the Looking Glass Exhibit

Call for Entry Due: Monday, February 20 by midnight

Opening reception: Friday, March 3 from 7-9pm

Exhibit Dates: March 3-26, 2017



*"Down the Rabbit Hole" by Joshua Oliveira*

Have you ever captured on canvas a strange dream in which an orange queen ordered everyone's heads to be chopped off? Summon forth your most elegant and colorful Jabberwockies, chess pieces fighting to the death, and wild toothy grins. With no regrets, we will be excluding the mundane, conventional or commonplace imagery that brings soothing comfort. *Through the Looking Glass* challenges all area artists, amateur and professional, to capture the bizarre inner workings of the mind. Together we will be revisiting childhood, nightmare-ish fantasies, laced with peculiar characters, and perplexing backgrounds.

See [DelRayArtisans.org/category/cfe/](http://DelRayArtisans.org/category/cfe/) for additional details. Curator: Joshua Oliveira, [Joshua.OliveiraMartin@gmail.com](mailto:Joshua.OliveiraMartin@gmail.com)

## Partners in Art

Held one Monday afternoon per month

Looking for support as you strive to reach your art-related goals? Partners in Art is a group of artists that meets regularly to share goals, report on progress, obtain feedback on current artwork and discuss topics of interest to the group. Become a regular or drop-in with artwork if you are looking for feedback. Donations (\$1-3) greatly appreciated. Meet at the gallery from 2-4pm on Mondays, February 6, March 6, April 3, May 8, and June 5.

For more information see our online calendar at [DelRayArtisans.org/calendar/](http://DelRayArtisans.org/calendar/) or contact Katherine Rand ([Katherine@Katherinerand.com](mailto:Katherine@Katherinerand.com)) or Suzanne Tillman ([Zannet@verizon.net](mailto:Zannet@verizon.net))



## Save the Date! Art Swap, February 12

Don't miss this exciting Member Meeting and Art Swap on **Sunday, February 12 from 4-6pm**. Art swap begins after a short business meeting. Come prepared! Check your closets, trunks, attics, basements, birdhouses, and wherever else you may be storing those little-used, "you-thought-you-would-need-them-but-didn't" art supplies. Don't want to throw them away? Why not give them to someone else? All you need to do is contribute at least one art-related item to the swap, and you will get to select an item to take home with you from a wide array of wondrous supplies!



*DRA members from the 2014 Member Meeting and Art Swap looking for that PERFECT find!!*

OH, and don't forget to purchase and wear our special 25th anniversary t-shirt! The newsletter staff have heard that throughout the month mysterious and fun things could happen to those who are wearing one!

*President Kim Joy models a 25th Anniversary t-shirt, designed by Cameron Turner and Josh Oliveira.*



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
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- **Outreach (Open Position)**  
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- **Michele Reday Cook, Programs**  
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- **Dale Spivey, Technology**  
Technology@DelRayArtisans.org
- **Joshua Oliveira, Volunteers**  
Volunteers@DelRayArtisans.org
- **Lydia Walter, Youth Programs**  
Youth@DelRayArtisans.org

**Calendar**

**February 2017**

- 3-26 **SHOW: *Lovers***  
curators: Bonnie Holmberg & Miles Liss
- 3 Opening Reception, 7-9pm
- 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
- 20 *Through the Looking Glass* entries due
- 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

More information at: [DelRayArtisans.org/calendar/](http://DelRayArtisans.org/calendar/)

**March 2017 (continued)**

- 8 Life Drawing, 2-5pm, Short/Long
- 8 Life Drawing, 6:30-9:30pm, Long
- 14 Board Meeting, 7pm
- 19 "Reflecting on our Future" Silver Anniversary Reception
- 19 *Breaking the Glass Ceiling-The Sky's the Limit* entries due
- 22 Life Drawing, 2-5pm, Short/Long
- 22 Life Drawing, 6:30-9:30pm, Long
- 26 *Through the Looking Glass* artwork pick up
- 26-27 *Breaking the Glass Ceiling-The Sky's the Limit* accepted artwork drop off
- 31-Apr 30 **SHOW: *Breaking the Glass Ceiling-The Sky's the Limit*** curators: Heike Gramckow & Rachel Grodsky
- 31 Opening Reception, 7-9pm

**April 2017**

- 2 Life Drawing, 9:30-11:30am, Gesture
- 3 Partners in Art, 2-4pm
- 5 Life Drawing, 2-5pm, Short/Long (clothed)
- 5 Spring2ACTion fundraising event
- 6 First Thursday (Hats Along The Avenue), open until 9pm

**Join or renew your Del Ray Artisans membership today!**

Visit [DelRayArtisans.org/membership/](http://DelRayArtisans.org/membership/) for details.

**Other Key Contacts**

- **Betsy Mead, Office Manager**  
Gallery@DelRayArtisans.org
- **Eileen O'Brien, GWW Curator**  
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- **Betsy Mead, Newsletter Editor**  
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- **Dawn Wyse Hurto, Web Curator**  
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Visit [ArtsEventsAlexandria.com](http://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.



