



# The Well Crafted Word

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

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

## DRA Brings "Southern Surge" to Alexandria by Way of Mississippi



*Hats and Spices* • acrylic collage • Rita Meadows

"...Your generosity is beyond comprehension. We are so touched that you all have gone so far above and beyond just hosting a show. Thank you, thank you, thank you."

—Ruth Thompson,  
The Arts, Hancock County, Miss.

**S**outhern Surge runs March 2 through April 1, 2007. The exhibition showcases the work of Hancock County, Mississippi artists. The event features *Mississippi Market* – a collection of Hancock County's arts and crafts, artist workshops, live music and artist talks. For more information visit [www.TheDelRayArtisans.org](http://www.TheDelRayArtisans.org).

**Special gallery hours during *Southern Surge* are: Fridays 6 - 9 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Sundays noon - 6 p.m.**

## Mark Your Calendars for April All-Member Show

**C**onsult with your Muses and get those creative juices flowing. *Words*, the April all-member show, is just around the corner.

Receiving dates at the gallery for art work are **Friday, April 6, from 6:30-8 p.m., and Saturday, April 7, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.** *Words* opens Friday, April 13 and runs through April 29.

The call for entries form was e-mailed earlier to all DRA members, inserted in this edition of *The Well Crafted Word*, and is available on DRA's Web site.

Plans are well under way, and curators Candace Clifford and David A. Kosar are busily putting the final touches on the show, including some fun and

exciting events. One such event is the *Yockadot Poetics Theatre Festival*. *Yockadot* will perform in the gallery on April 28 (see *Yockadot* article on page 4). We are also putting together demonstrations/workshops on altered books and calligraphy. We will post more information on the DRA Web site as it becomes available.

As with any DRA show, help is needed in many areas including hanging artworks, mailing show announcements, providing food and staffing the opening reception, and gallery sitting. Volunteering is a great way to not only be a part of this exciting show and DRA but also to meet the 10-hour, membership volunteer requirement.

### Southern Surge Calendar of Events

Friday, March 2 (7-10 p.m.) *Southern Surge* • Opening reception (Free)

Saturdays & Sundays, March 3 through April 1 (4:30 p.m.) • *The Art of The Storm*—an inspiring film about survival, compassion, love of art and how the art community rises above and beyond. (Free)

Saturday & Sunday, March 3-4 (10 a.m. - 4 p.m.) • Collage workshop with artist Lori Gordon. Mixed media with a focus on handmade papers. Registration required. Contact Joan Ulrich at [ulrichclay@aol.com](mailto:ulrichclay@aol.com) or 703.660.2382. (Fee: \$140-DRA members / \$160 nonmembers)

Monday, March 5 (7 p.m.) • *Visual Music*, a presentation by artist Liz Schafer. Discussion and demonstration of her relationship with music to the color, form and texture found in her paintings. (Free)

Friday, March 16 (7-9 p.m.) • *Community and Southern Hospitality—Hancock County (Miss.) Style*, a presentation by artist Schonda Sweeney. Live Acoustic Delta Blues with a side order of Sweet Tea & cake! (Free)

*Workshop schedules are subject to change.*

If any member is interested in helping with this show, please contact Candace at [jclifford@earthlink.net](mailto:jclifford@earthlink.net) or David at 703-836-5483.

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Many thanks to **Royce Flowers**, our monthly sponsor, for the lovely arrangements seen at every opening.



## The Well Crafted Word

A Publication of The Del Ray Artisans

The Del Ray Artisans, founded in 1992, is a non-profit community arts group whose mission is to foster a community of artists and art supporters who are a viable source for the development, teaching, and furtherance of appreciation of the arts through exhibits and events for members and the diverse populations in the City of Alexandria, the communities of Northern Virginia, and the greater Washington metropolitan area.

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ALEXANDRIA  
COMMISSION  
FOR THE ARTS

Thanks to the

Alexandria Commission for the Arts  
for its continued support.

Please respect the copyrights of each artist.  
No use may be made of any artwork without the express,  
verifiable permission of the originating artist.

# Featured

Submitted by Karen Schmitz

## Art Supply Catalog Must-haves: Just e-Mail or Call to Request One or All Five!

1. **Dick Blick Art Supplies** • 800-828-4548 • [www.dickblick.com](http://www.dickblick.com)  
*Some of the best deals on-line*
2. **Daniel Smith Fine Art Supplies** • 800-426-7923 • [www.danielsmith.com](http://www.danielsmith.com)
3. **Light Impressions** • 800-828-6216 • [www.lightimpressionsdirect.com](http://www.lightimpressionsdirect.com)  
*A leading source of archival supplies*
4. **Cheap Joe's Art Stuff** • 800-227-2788 • [www.cheapjoes.com](http://www.cheapjoes.com)
5. **Graphix Dimensions** • 800-221-0262 • [www.pictureframes.com](http://www.pictureframes.com)  
*Inexpensive picture frames and framing materials*

If you have an idea for the Featured Five, please send it to the editor at [DRAeditor@gmail.com](mailto:DRAeditor@gmail.com).

## Call For Entries: Del Ray Artisans Spring Art Sale

The fourth annual *Spring Art Sale* is scheduled for Saturday, May 5, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., in Colasanto Park, adjoining the gallery. We'd like to build on the success of the past three years, and need your participation to make this happen. It's a great opportunity to display your new creations as well as clear out your studio of art work in need of a new home. All participants must be members of Del Ray Artisans, and all work sold must be created by the artist.

Contact Rob Rudick at [robrudick@yahoo.com](mailto:robrudick@yahoo.com) or 301.270.2323. A form is included in this month's newsletter. This is a rain or shine event, so pray for sun. Artists must provide their own shelters and tables. A few spaces are smaller and do not require shelters. Space may be limited, so respond early. We are looking for a wide diversity of disciplines. Artists may share a booth. A participation fee of \$35 plus 10% of sales is required. We also need a few volunteers to help with putting on the sale, and we need a volunteer to produce posters for the event.

## Card show sealed with a BIG YIPPEE!

The *House of Cards 2* show filled the gallery with over 600 cards by 33 card-ists. Card sales were brisk with over \$1,600 in sales opening weekend!

Several artists even pushed the envelope—with ceramic cards by Romy Hosford, glass cards by Jennifer Webb and accordion-style cards in candy mint tins by co-curator Barb Boehm.

YIPPEE! Card-ist Awards went to Kay Bailey, Alice Kale, Maria Kennedy, Theresa Kulstad, Susan Slattery and Joan Ulrich. The winning cards were custom framed by co-curator Karen Schmitz and Alexandria Picture Framing for a dollar-a-chance raffle!

A special SWAK to harpist, Eve Watters for journeying from Charlottesville and DRA member Sally Coler for providing her with accommodations.

Additional smooches to Brian Marquis of Marquis Graphics, Brett and Jen Chappell, Courtney Clark, Beverly Hissrich, Laura "Cousin" Parker, Roy Wright, Royce Flowers and Janice Yahres. YIPPEE!

## Join DRA as an Artist or Supporter ☐ Renewal ☐ New Member

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
First Middle Initial Last

Corporation Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip

Home Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ e-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Artist ☐ Media \_\_\_\_\_

Unless contributing as a Corporate entity or Friend of DRA, I understand that as a DRA Active Artist member I will contribute a minimum of 10 volunteer hours annually. These are hours non-related to the requirements of an exhibiting artist in a DRA show, as all exhibit participants are required to gallery sit or assist with other aspects of an exhibit in which they participate. Please indicate below your areas of interest:

**COMMUNICATIONS:** ☐ Mailings ☐ Newsletter ☐ Public Relations; **FACILITY:** ☐ Gallery Maintenance ☐ Gardening; **FINANCE:** ☐ Grants; **FUNDRAISING:** ☐ Solicitation ☐ Special Events; **GALLERY:** ☐ Curating/Co-curating ☐ Hanging Shows; **HISTORIAN/ARCHIVIST:** ☐ Photograph Albums/Scrapbooks; **MEMBERSHIP:** ☐ Data Input ☐ Sponsor/Corporate Solicitation; **OUTREACH:** ☐ Community Events/Activities; **PROGRAMS:** ☐ Art Camp ☐ Class Instructor ☐ Member Events; **VOLUNTEER:** ☐ Telephoning; ☐ JUST ABOUT ANYTHING

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Dues: ☐ \$500 Gold Corporate; ☐ \$250 Silver Corporate; ☐ \$35 Friend of DRA; ☐ \$35 Active Artist; ☐ \$50 Household; ☐ \$10 Student/Senior/Disabled

Dues payable to DEL RAY ARTISANS and mail with this form to:

Del Ray Artisans, Attn. Membership, 2704 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria, VA 22301

## Welcome New Members

- **John C. Boehm**  
Printmaking and Watercolor
- **Constance Springer Zabowski**  
Multi-media, Altered Art
- **Nina Schwartz**  
Oil on Canvas
- **Jenny Nicholson**  
Calligraphy
- **Blair W. Swanson**  
Handmade Cards
- **Lori Deckert**  
Mixed Media, Fiber



Nude Study by Joan Ulrich

## DRA Life Drawing Open Studio is Up and Running in 2007

Approximately twice a month, a stealthy group of DRA artists and friends come to the gallery to draw from a nude model.

The group is small allowing for input on pose, lighting, and length of pose. Artists freely move around the room searching for the best angle, and on occasion the whole group opts for a single three-hour pose.

"No matter your medium, we all have to keep our fundamentals in tune, and to me there's nothing more basic than working directly from life," says Joan Ulrich, who is primarily a clay artist.

If you haven't been to life drawing open studio yet, here's what to expect: each evening there is a designated host, who will help you get oriented in the gallery. Bring your own paper, supplies and an easel, if you need one.

The model starts promptly at 7 p.m., so arrive early to get acquainted and settle in. If you're unable to be on time, please come anyway. The gallery door will be locked, but knock and the host will let you in. They will help you quietly join the group and get set up.

The host will collect your fee, \$8 for DRA members, and \$10 for non-members, cash and checks accepted.

The evening typically starts out with about ten minutes of gesture poses, short poses which are held for a minute or less. Then we progress to longer drawings, three or four 5-minute poses followed by 15- or 20-minute poses or whatever suits the group! Short breaks happen about every half hour, or as needed by the model. We have a moment to stretch, admire our drawings, or grab a snack. We finish at 10 p.m.; however, on occasion the model will offer to stay a bit longer if needed to finish our masterpieces.

So, jump in, and take advantage of this opportunity to work from the model in our casual open studio. The upcoming dates are: March 14 and 28, and are always posted on the website, [www.thedelrayartisan.org](http://www.thedelrayartisan.org).

Questions? Contact Jamee Telford at 703.842.7542 or [wrecker17@yahoo.com](mailto:wrecker17@yahoo.com) or Barbara Robinson at 703.683.6951 or [brobins123@gmail.com](mailto:brobins123@gmail.com).



## Gallery Hours

Saturday: noon - 4 p.m. • Sunday: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

The gallery is open during all events and performances.

Contributors this month include: Barbara Boehm, Kathryn Brown, Candice Clifford, Linda Elliff, Theresa Kulstad, David Kosar, Karen Schmitz, Joan Ulrich, Jim Wickman and Daniel Wise.

Submission Deadline: 5th of the month

preceding publication (4/5/07 for the May issue).

Editor: DRAeditor@gmail.com

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### MARCH

2-April 1		<b>Southern Surge</b>
3-4	10 a.m.-4 p.m.	Collage workshop with Lori K. Gordon
4	5:30-8 p.m.	Peer Critique
5	7 p.m.	"Visual Music" — Free talk by <b>Southern Surge</b> artist, Liz Schafer
12	7 p.m.	Del Ray Citizens Association <i>Meet 'n Greet</i>
13	7 p.m.	DRA Board Meeting
14	7-10 p.m.	Life Drawing
16	7 p.m.	"Community & Hospitality..." — Free talk by Hancock County artist, Schonda Sweeney
28	7-10 p.m.	Life Drawing

### APRIL

6	6:30-8:30 p.m.	Receiving for <b>Words</b> (All Member Show)
7	10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Receiving for <b>Words</b> (All Member Show)
10	7 p.m.	DRA Board Meeting
13-29		<b>WORDS, ART &amp; POETRY</b> (All Member Show)
15	5-7:30 p.m.	Peer Critique
18-Sept. 14		<b>Art in City Hall III</b>
28		<i>Yockadot Poetry Theatre</i> performances

### MAY

3	6-9 p.m.	First Thursday Preview
4-13		Student Art Show
5		Spring Arts & Crafts Sale
18-27		Master's Thesis One-artist show (Shawn Heller)
19	8-10 p.m.	Cinema Del Ray & DRCA House & Garden Tour

## DRA Gallery Becomes Alexandria's Premier Alternative Performance Venue

Come out April 28 to the climax event of the first Yockadot Poetics Theatre Festival to experience the cutting-edge crossover between poetry and performance... and of course artwork. Yockadot Poetics Theatre Festival is performing at the gallery in conjunction with the April all-member show **Words**.

A growing national artistic movement at this crossover point between contemporary poetry and experimental theatre is defining itself as *Poetics Theatre*, reflected in the title of our festival; and you'll hear the dramatic stylings of the first theater company to come out of this movement—"New York poet Rodrigo Toscano's Collapsible Poetics Theater, at 8 p.m.

Then, at 9 p.m., it's Ffrummsbo! Straight outta Baltimore-Buffalo!—Ffrummsbo!, a mini-festival of text performance

featuring Blaster Al Ackerman, John Eaton, Megan McShea, John Berndt, Rupert Wondolowski, David Franks, Buffluxus, and Kevin Thurston.

You'll never see wilder or more shocking old-timers on or off the stage than Blaster Al or David Franks, nor more innovative and intelligent up-and-coming young 'uns than the likes of Megan McShea and Kevin Thurston.

With the whole lineup, it's an extravaganza. Between performance art and the poetry reading, evolving beyond spoken word, there's text performance—there's Ffrummsbo!

Is this performance or a party? You decide.

