



The Well Crafted Word

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

www.thedelrayartisans.org



Artists and Gardeners

On Earth Day, many Del Ray Artisans hung up their smocks and aprons and donned their overalls to ready the DRA garden for the new season. With Jordan Wright as the lead green thumb, it was the best turn out ever with nearly 20 volunteers—several of whom kept at it late into Sunday evening. Jordan exclaims, “Everyone had great fun!”

The DRA gardeners planted 23 new plants into the garden including Nandinas, Hydrangea, and Azaleas. They divided, transplanted and repurposed several other spe-

cies and Ron Blank and Roy Wright labored all day to install the drip hose under the sidewalk. Thanks guys for correcting a potential hazard.

Huge thanks go to: Margaret Slipek, Joyce Starvis, Jane DeWeerd, Ellyn Ferguson, Alice Eichers, Kimberly Tyler, Joyce Wagner, Ron Blank, Dale May, Pat Oliver, Charlotte Landis, Karen Schmitz, Catherine Huddleston, Angela Wright, Jacob Clark, Roy Wright and Pedro—who at 5 feet tall is the hardest working garden assistant pound for pound—cheers and gratitude to all!

Invite all of your friends and family to enjoy the gardens and the goodwill that they bring to the Gallery, its guests and to the Del Ray community at large.

If you have plants that you would like to donate to the garden, please contact Jordan Wright at 703.549.1548. Both sun-loving and shade-loving annuals and perennials are needed to fill out the garden.

Happy “Art Camp” Campers Kids • July 23-27

July’s Del Ray Artisans Art Camp is looking for a few Happy Camper Kids for “Kids Creative Arts Adventure” July 23-27 for ages 8-12. Coordinators Karen Schmitz and Donna Bryne have developed a FUNderful program including painting, print making, drawing, sewing and even writing and performing a short filmed skit.

This super value even includes a swim & splash along with a healthy lunch for \$275 with a special early-birdie rate of \$250 be-

fore June 15. Registration at www.TheDelRayArtisans.org.

Also, this is a fun way for DRA members to help fulfill their volunteer hours helping young artists while even learning a few creative techniques for themselves!

Members & friends wishing to volunteer or donate to a “happy camper” scholarship please contact Donna at dbmarketing@verizon.net or 703.839.3673 or Karen.schmityk@yahoo.com.

Wish You Were Here... A Travel Show for June

Get your boarding passes ready for the travel show, *Wish You Were Here...*, at the Del Ray Artisans. All Aboard for a journey that explores artists’ travel experiences, both near and far, real and imaginative, through drawings, paintings, journals, mixed media, and ceramics. See the preview during First Thursday on June 7 from 6 to 9 p.m.

There is a rumor that Las Vegas Elvis and Hollywood Marilyn may make an appearance at the Friday, June 8 opening reception from 7 to 10 p.m. So, let’s dress with a travel destination in mind... pith helmets, cowboy hats & chaps, Kimonos and Hawaiian shirts are encouraged!

Mark your calendars for Sunday, June 24 from 2 to 4 p.m. for an Artist Journaling Workshop by Co-curator Brian Z. There is a \$10 supply fee. Register online at www.TheDelRayArtisans.org.

For information, contact curators Joe Daily at joeartizan@verizon.net or Brian Z at 703.343.5745, b_z_jazz@excite.com.

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



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



Thank you to the Alexandria Commission for the Arts for its continued support.

Featured

Submitted by Karen Schmitz

What DRA's Infamous Peer Critique Can Do For You!

1. **Reveal your latest creations** and get a honest gentle opinion on your artwork from several art veterans and fresh faces—even a very mature 15 year old who just wowed everyone with his suggestions and insights! (I thought he was 23).
2. **Group helps make recommendations** on color usage, perspective, visual focus, and even techniques.
3. **Hear suggestions on how to breathe new life** into those unfinished pieces that have you stumped—maybe the results will be a successful NEW work that dazzles!
4. **Find out how other artists are pricing** their work and what goes into titling a piece. Our veterans have the low-down on dollars and sense for naming.
5. **Learn priceless info on framing** and professional presentation.

If you have an idea for the Featured Five, please send it to the editor at DRAeditor@gmail.com.

Cash Corner

By Juli R. Branson, Fundraising Co-Chair • fundraising@thedelrayartisans.org

Free money for artists abounds. The hard part is knowing where to look. It's getting harder to find these opportunities, as funding organizations prefer to give to established organizations rather than individuals.

One of my jobs as Fundraising Co-Chair for Del Ray Artisans is to search for grant opportunities to fund DRA's programs, this newsletter, our Web site and more. In this position, I occasionally run across grants that go directly to artists. Starting next month, I will publicize opportunities for individual artists, as I find them, here in this new column "Cash Corner."

While you wait for me to dig up some opportunities, you can pull together a few things that are pretty standard for all grant applications:

- **Artist's Resume:** Listing shows in which your work has been exhibited—juried and non-juried, the month/year and where. Include any art-related volunteer work, and any art classes or workshops you've taken.

Do not include the traditional job listings unless they are art-related, such as managing an art gallery.

- **Artist's Statement or Narrative:** A one-page description of your work that complements the resume. If you are looking for a grant to support a particular show of your work, then describe how your work and the show theme are unique. If you are looking for a grant for support of your overall portfolio, then describe the progress of your work—where you are and where you want to go. Tell your story.
- **Art Samples:** Many artists don't take the time in advance to identify their best works and produce good photos to include with your resume—usually requested as slides, or .jpg or .pdf files on CD. Be prepared for grant deadlines that often come up quickly. (In fact, I expect to have one for you soon with an August deadline!)

I hope that helps for now. Look for your newsletter next month and opportunities to help fund your projects!

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

Words, Art, and Poetry All Member Show, Workshops Educate and Entertain

From the opening reception to the well-attended special events, the spring All Member Show was a resounding success.

Based on numerous comments received from members and visitors throughout the run of the show, *Words, Art, and Poetry* offered a little something for everyone,

presented DRA in a positive, professional light, and opened some new doors for community involvement and outreach.

Educational and entertaining events such as the special workshops and *Yockadot Poetics Theatre Festival* complemented the creative versatility of DRA members showcased throughout the three weekends in April.

New DRA members Jenny Nicholson and John Gaudet generously shared their unique expertise with two special workshops. Nicholson, a profes-

sional calligrapher, introduced her students to the art of making beautiful letters. Gaudet educated his audience on



Enjoying fine art and conversation at DRA's All Member Show, *Words, Art and Poetry*.

all aspects of papyrus and guided participants in making their own papyrus paper. Gaudet authored *The Iron Snake*, a novel that explores the influence of the rail-

road in Africa. He is available for talks with book groups and will be appearing at the Duncan Library in the near future. For more information, visit www.TheIronSnake.com.

Members took the "suggested" theme, Words, to heart, as 56 of the 103 works exhibited incorporated words. Three cash awards were presented to Alice Kale, Best in Show, and honorable mentions to Patricia Uchello and E.A. Scheid.

Continued on page 4

Welcome New Members

- **Jeanne L. D. Tift**
Photography
- **Geré Riley**
Arts Enthusiast
- **Colleen M. Corrigan**
Acrylics, mixed, recycled art, woodworking
- **Bryan K. Jernigan**
Tissue paper art on watercolor artist paper
- **Rebecca M. Thomas**
Writer / Art Supporter
- **Lynne Grossman**
Acrylic, collage, pastel, photography, jewelry, drawing
- **Pamela Underhill**
Mixed/ painting, drawing, sculpture
- **Sherry Hutchinson**
Photography
- **Holly Kable**
Fiber
- **Elizabeth D. Schafer**
Painter of Music, mixed media
- **Megan Coyle**
Student Artist

Members at Art-O-Matic

Congratulations to DRA members, and former board members, Laurel Lukaszewski and Victoria Walchak for being highlighted in the Washington Post for their contributions to Art-o-matic!

Excellent Opportunity

Come on Down! Get in the swing of things by joining the DRA Board. Excellent opportunity with fast-moving non-profit, unlimited opportunity for rapid advancement, experience not necessary, salary non-existent, but loads of benefits. Immediate openings for Vice President, Gallery Coordinator, Curator Coordinator. Direct inquiries to Linda Elliff at lleliff@aol.com or 703.360.1265. Résumé not required.

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: Juli Branson,
Kathryn Brown, Linda Elliff, David Kosar,
Karen Schmitz, and Daniel Wise.

Submission Deadline: 5th of the month
preceding publication (7/5/07 for the August issue).
Editor: DRAeditor@gmail.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JUNE

7	6 - 9 p.m.	First Thursday Preview
8 - July 8		<i>Wish You Were Here...</i> Show
8	7 - 10	Opening reception for <i>Wish You Were Here...</i>
10	5 - 7 p.m.	Peer Critique
13	7 - 10 p.m.	Life Drawing
16		Cinema Del Ray* — <i>Curious George</i>
20	7 - 10 p.m.	Life Drawing
24	3 - 5 p.m.	Artist Journaling Workshop

JULY

1	5 - 7 p.m.	Peer Critique
5	6 - 9 p.m.	First Thursday Dance Performances
11	7 - 10 p.m.	Life Drawing
21		Cinema Del Ray* — <i>Over the Hedge</i>
25	7 - 10 p.m.	Life Drawing
23-27		<i>Art Camp</i>

AUGUST

2	6 - 9 p.m.	First Thursday Preview of <i>4-Artist Show</i>
3 - 26		<i>4-Artist Show</i>
5	5 - 7 p.m.	Peer Critique
8	7 - 10 p.m.	Life Drawing
18		Cinema Del Ray* — <i>Night at the Museum</i>
18		Board Retreat
19	4 - 6:30 p.m.	General member Meeting & Pie Contest
22	7 - 10 p.m.	Life Drawing

SEPTEMBER

6	6 - 9 p.m.	First Thursday Preview — <i>Fall All Member Show</i>
7-Oct. 7		<i>Fall All Member Show</i>
8-9		<i>Alexandria Festival of the Arts</i> (in Old Town)
16	Noon - 4 p.m.	Card making Party

* Cinema Del Ray—located in field next to Gallery

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Since DRA is a 100 percent volunteer organization, the success of this show would not be possible without the talents and help of many individuals (members and non-members), who generously donated their time. Co-curators Candace Clifford and David A. Kosar, extend kudos and deep appreciation to all who supported this effort, especially: Jean Schwartz, awards judge and also for her guidance in organizing the exhibit; Royce Flowers, for the gorgeous centerpiece and continued support of DRA, and the following DRA members who

helped install the show, provided food and assistance for the opening reception, gallery sitting, cleaning, etc.: Mary Beth & Michael Flowers, Nikal Kereci, Paryaneh Limbert; Oldrich & Margarete Halubar, Barbara Halubar, Rob Rudick, Ron & Phil Tickerhoff, Polly Lange, Mike Greycor, Sheila George, Carole DeLang, Kay Graf, Lucy Johnson, R.F. & Lynn Wyvill, Lynne Grossman, Kathryn Brown, Romy Horford, Karen Schmitz, Quinn Ramsey, Dian McClagherty, Tim Burgansky, Madeline Ramsey, Karen Croley, Donna Lynne Lofver,

Chad Brady, Patricia Uchello, Amoret B. Bunn, Carol Davenport, Leslie Wilder, Alexandra Nutbohm, Skeeter Scheid, Dorothy Gould, Mary Anne Taylor, Alice Kale, Lynn Grillis, Rhoda Seligmann, Barbara Stickell, Rosalie Savini, Theresa Kulstad, Mareille Mariano, Debra Singleton, Mara Burk, Jennifer Webb, Jill Amstutz, Tom Nyerges, Tara Hardman, Roger Jackson, Kay Bailey, David Talmage, Charlena Cunningham, Sylvia Leaver, Cathy Messina, Constance Zabowski, and Nina Tisara.