



The Well Crafted Word

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

www.thedelrayartisans.org

As We Are: The Enduring Nude Opens July 3rd

DRA's July show, *As We Are: The Enduring Nude*, offers members and gallery visitors something a little different this month. First, we have not had a show of figurative art here recently, and we hope to see artists who have not exhibited at our gallery before. We are also featuring a group of artists who have been working with the live model on Wednesdays and will be offering a limited number of matted works on paper for the first time. And because the usual Friday opening falls on the 4th, we will instead host an "end-of-show" bash with food and drink, awards, and for the first time ever, an art auction.

The show opens July 3rd with artists doing demonstrations with the figure. Extended summer hours in the gallery continue during July.

Environmental Demonstration - Think Green!

Jesse Maines, from the City of Alexandria Division of Environmental Quality, helped kick off the First Thursday preview of THINK Green! with a featured demonstration on the impact of everyday life on our water quality. Jesse was a big, big hit -- the youngsters learned through his visual aids and the adults had many questions about his sample rain barrel. To make your own rain barrel at a workshop led by Jesse on July 12, check the city's website for details on time and location.

Heaps of praise and thanks go to Karen Schmitz and Jen Chappell for their successful green opening night using organic and earth friendly products. The environmentally correct exhibit makes us THINK Green!



Jesse Maines (right), City of Alexandria Division of Environmental Quality, talks with Jon Jennelle about how to capture and reuse rainwater, during the June 5 First Thursday preview of the Think Green art show. (Photo by David A. Kosar)

Garden Delight

Our beautiful garden shone in all its splendor as a stop on the Del Ray House and Garden tour. Jordan Wright and her green thumb volunteers had the garden looking its absolute finest. A lovely planter, donated for the occasion by Penny Spivey of The Garden Contessa, delighted visitors.

Building Spruced up by Volunteers

Have you seen the fresh paint in our kitchen and back hall? Little elves, better known as Alexandria City Employees, volunteered to take part in Spring for Alexandria 2008. Employees were given the day off to participate in community service projects. DRA was selected as a project site, and with equipment in hand, the wonderful volunteers from the Sheriff's Department and the Howard Gardner School painted parts of the Gallery and cleaned out the basement under the supervision of Gallery Assistant Tracy Wilkerson. DRA Board Member Courtney Bishop of the Alexandria Volunteer Bureau coordinated the entire day of community service. Our grateful appreciation goes to all who helped make our 'to do' list a bit shorter.

Remember... Art Camp!

July 28-August 1

wwwTheDelRayArtisans.org

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.and so much more!

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

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

Executive Committee

President

Linda Elliff

703.360.1265 • lleliff@aol.com

Vice-President

David Kosar

703.836.5483 • david.kosar@verizon.net

Secretary

Monica Wise

703.497.0401 • moniwise@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Marlin Lord

703.683.1112 • 703.836.2724 • mglai@aol.com

Assistant Treasurer

Kathryn Brown

703.549.5227 • neonkanb@aol.com

Directors

Communications

Carrie & Fred Schilling

703-379-2328 • info@schillingimages.com

Community Representative • Co-Directors

Nora Partlow

703.998.4533 • NPartlow@cbmove.com

Tara Hardiman

703.684.3297 • thardiman@prodigy.net

Facilities Director

Donn Grover

703-212-6971 • jdriver7@aol.com

Fundraising Co-Directors

Randy Scheessele

703.535.6510 • randall_m_scheessele@hud.gov

Gallery Coordinator • OPEN

Historian/Archivist

John Hiller

703.765.5715 • jw2hiller@verizon.net

Membership

Christina Richardson

703.683.2949 • christina@figaroconsulting.com

Curator Coordinator Co-Directors

Michele Reday Cook

703.548.2273 • mredaycook@mac.com

Jeanne Tiff

703.960.3873 • jtiff@cox.net

Outreach Co-Directors

Margaret Slipek

703.739.9283 • mslipek@comcast.net

Courtney Bishop

703.842.7542 • cdbishop21@yahoo.com

Programs Co-Directors

Jamee Telford

703.842.7542 • wrecker17@yahoo.com

Susan Frazier

703.980.1973 • susan@susanfrazierstudio.com

Volunteers

Barbara Boehm

703.838.6265 • barbxb@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor

LeAnn Pittman

draeditor@gmail.com

Web Curator

Roy Wright

roywright@comcast.net

Gallery Assistant

Tracey Wilkerson

tlwideas@comcast.net

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

Bake it for Bead it! 3

Get a head start on your entry for Bead It 3! Two workshops are scheduled in July to get your juices going. Learn to make polymer clay beads which are baked in the oven to harden. Then get going on stringing those handmade beads, or enter them as they are. There will be no excuses as to not having enough lead time to make a stunning bead or piece of jewelry, as the Call for Entry for the November show is in this newsletter.

Bead It 3! Workshops

Title: Basic Polymer Clay

Instructor: Susan Gantz

Date: Thursday, July 10, 2008

Time: 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Fee: \$30 DRA members; \$35 non-members

This introductory class will cover basic rules for conditioning, manipulating and baking polymer clay.

In addition, students will explore surface designs with dots and snakes, and learn elementary caning including stripes, jelly rolls, and checker boards. Class will cover variety of bead shapes, and techniques for creating holes, reducing and combining canes, and safe baking. Clay in at least two sharply contrasting colors is used.

Title: Beyond Basics Polymer Clay

Instructor: Susan Gantz

Date: Thursday, July 17, 2008

Time: 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Fee: \$30 DRA members; \$35 non-members

This class challenges students who are ready to explore color combinations, learn the characteristics of a variety of polymer clays, and begin to apply the basics in new ways. This may include covering pens, salt and pepper shakers, light switches, boxes etc., and three dimensional work (magnets, erasers, figures). Clay in black, white, and a palette of colors pleasing to the student are used in addition to the above basic equipment.

For both polymer clay classes:

Supplies: Needed supplies will be provided by the instructor for students' use. Instructor will have some tools available for students to purchase for their permanent use if desired.

Registration: Check may be sent to Gallery address below or register online at www.TheDelRayArtisans.org with credit card.

Maximum class size: 10

Location: Del Ray Artisans Gallery

Instructor Susan Gantz is a local Virginia artist who has mastered the techniques of polymer clay. In the 14 years she has been working in this medium, she has attended workshops with widely respected instructors and taught numerous classes. Her work is sold at local shows and featured in several area shops.

Bee Kind Kudos!

Many volunteers gathered to produce 155 recovery cover drain bottle holders along with small comforting notes for mastectomy patients at the gallery on Sat. April 5. These covers are a big boost to patient morale. Tremendous thanks to co-coordinators Theresa Kulstad and Jane DeWeerd, and volunteers Randy Scheessele, Renee Paregory, Mildred Fajna, Pat Oliver, Linda Elliff, Amoret Bunn, Millie Mateu, Charlotte Corcoran, Alice Eichers, Carolyn Turnbull, and Marie and Maurice Scheessele, Ellen Holden, Kay Graf, Shirley Cherkowsky, and Bridget Baylog. Packets of supplies and patterns will be on hand at the gallery for those wishing to take some.

www.TheDelRayArtisans.org



Nicholas A. Colasanto Center
2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria, VA 22301

703.838.4827 | www.TheDelRayArtisans.org

July Extended Summer Hours

1st Thursday: Noon - 9 p.m.

Thursday: Noon - 4 p.m. • Friday: Noon - 9 p.m.

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

The gallery is also open during all events and performances.

Contributors this month include: Linda Elliff, Jeanne Tiff, Candace Clifford, Tracy Wilkerson, Karen Schmitz, David Kosar, LeAnn Pittman, Kathryn Brown, Michele Cook

Submission Deadline: 5th of the month preceding publication.

Editor: DRAeditor@gmail.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY 2008

3 - 27		"As We Are: The Enduring Nude" Michele Cook & Joan Ulrich
3	6 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Opening of "As We Are: The Enduring Nude"
		Demos with Posed Models
3	6 p.m. - 9 p.m.	First Thursday Del Ray
4		Gallery Closed for Holiday
8	7 p.m.	Board Meeting
9	7 p.m. - 10 p.m.	Life Drawing
10	7 - 9 pm	Basic Polymer Clay Class
17	7 - 9 pm	Beyond Basic Polymer Clay Class
23	7 p.m. - 10 p.m.	Life Drawing Session
26	7 p.m. - 10 p.m.	Closing Reception "As We Are" Awards, Live Auction of Art
July 28 - August 1		Art Camp!

AUGUST 2008

7	6 p.m. - 9 p.m.	1st Thursday
8 - 31		Board Walk: An Art and Technology Journey Kosar, Telford, Wise, Rudick, Wright
8	7 p.m. - 10 pm	Opening Reception Board Walk
10	5 p.m.	Peer Critique
12	7 p.m.	Board Meeting
13	7 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Life Drawing Session
17	4 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	General Member Meeting, Pie Contest & Pool Party
27	7 p.m. - 9 pm	Life Drawing Session

SEPTEMBER 2008

4	6 p.m. - 9 p.m.	First Thursday Del Ray
12 - Oct 4		Picture Me! The Artistic Self Portrait in the 21st Century Daniel Wise and Christina Richardson
12	7 p.m. - 10 p.m.	Opening Reception Picture Me!
21	12 p.m. - 4 p.m.	Card Party

Master's Thesis exhibit of Jennifer Lea Hall a resounding success!

Del Ray Artisans held the Virginia Commonwealth University master's thesis exhibit of Jennifer Lea Hall from May 23 through June 1. The fabulous Bobwhites delighted the opening night crowd with their swingin' art rock and lounge numbers. As a result of her DRA exhibit, Jennifer was invited to be artist-in-residence in fall 2008 at The Henry Luce III Center for the Arts and Religion at Wesley Theological Seminary, in Washington, D.C. Jennifer begins work in the seminary studios this summer and in fall teaches painting to Wesley graduate students. The invitation from program administrator Dennis Crolley said of her paintings, "There is a connection with the subject which shines through and provokes response. A spiritual quality is present and the theological possibilities abound."

The show advisors, VCU painting teachers John Figura, chair of Catholic University's art department, and Sally Bowring from VCU's main Richmond campus, commented on the quality of the exhibit space at DRA's Nicholas A. Colasanto Center and the beauty of the DRA gardens cultivated by garden curator Jordan Wright. Sadly, the opening party would be one of the last performances of talented Bobwhites guitarist Jonathan Gorrie. Del Ray Artisans expresses its deep condolences to Jonathan's family and friends.