



The Well Crafted Word

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

www.thedelrayartisans.org

Board Walk: An Art and Technology Journey Opens August 8 with an Interactive Exhibition

Come take an interactive walk with us for a DRA first and one-of-a-kind event, as art and technology merge at the August show – Board Walk: An Art and Technology Journey. This show's preview is during Del Ray's First Thursday activities, from 6-9 p.m. on August 7, with the official opening and reception from 7-10 p.m., on Friday, August 8.

Featuring the talents and artwork of David A. Kosar, Rob Rudick, Jamee Telford, Monica Wise, and Roy Wright (three board members and two extraordinary DRA volunteers), this exhibition covers painting, photography, and technology, ranging from realism to abstract to technological innovation.

A highlight of the show, thanks to the technological wizardry of Roy Wright, is sure to be The Exquisite Box, a live, video production in which you, the visitor, are the actor. If you have a flair for the theatrical, you definitely won't want to miss this opportunity to perform during the show's four-weekend run.

The show is open on weekends from August 8-31 and includes an artwork silent auction. Extended summer hours in the gallery continue in August (Fridays: noon- 9 p.m.; Saturdays: 10 a.m.-4 p.m., and Sundays: noon-4 p.m.).

Annual Pool Party and Pie Contest

Calling all bakers! It wouldn't be summer without pie, cookouts and swimming pools. Join us on Sunday, Aug 17th, 4-6:30pm for our annual pool party and pie contest.

This has been one of our most well-attended events so you won't want to miss the fun and festivities. Significant Others and children welcome. We'll be grilling up your favorite picnic foods and catching up on DRA happenings and opportunities.



Pull out your rolling pins and favorite pie recipe and submit an entry into the pie contest. Enter your homemade pastry artistry, be it a cream pie, fruit pie, frozen pie, pot pie, meat pie, fried pie, meringue pie, custard pie, ice cream pie -all are welcome!

Entries will be judged upon a variety of criteria including overall appearance, flavor, crust quality (if applicable)

and, of course, CREATIVITY! YOU could be selected to be one of three judges of this Contest! So don't be shy, here's a chance to taste some pies - come and help pick a winning entry. Please deliver your entries to the DRA gallery by 5:00 PM (during the Pool Party).

DRA Official Slogan

The slogan which has been used informally over the years has now officially been adopted by the Board of Directors: *Celebrating the Art of Making*

Don't forget! October's Woodworks show submission deadline is August 15th! See page 3 for more info, or the online at <http://www.thedelrayartisans.org/>

Picture Me!

Drawn, painted, or sculpted... self-portraits have been artistic expressions of self for centuries. Today, new media allows artists to redefine the self-portrait digitally in e-mail, IMs or Facebook. The self-portrait can be a likeness of your physical characteristics, an exaggeration of who you'd like to be, or an expression of those traits you keep heavily guarded.

Whatever your direction, the September All-Member Show titled PICTURE ME! The Artistic Self-Portrait in the 21st Century is your opportunity to portray yourself as you truly are, wish you were, or pray that you are not. Be a part of this redefining exhibition of the self-portrait.

All are invited to submit works in any style or medium. Don't have a self-portrait? Join co-curator, Tina Richardson for the Picture Me! Workshop; see page 3 for more information. For more information contact: Daniel at danielrwise@yahoo.com or Tina at christina@figaroconsulting.com.

Announcement

The DRA Gallery will be closed the weekend of August 2 and 3, as there is no exhibit scheduled for then. At the end of Art Camp on Friday, August 1 at 4 pm, the Gallery will close and remain closed on Saturday and Sunday, August 2 and 3.

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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

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 • mglia@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 • jdrivera7@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 Tift

703.960.3873 • jltift@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 • barbx@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, the Virginia Commission for the Arts, and the National Endowment for the Arts for their continued support.

Featured

Top 5 Ways to Beat the August Dog Days :

1. Raspberry Rhubarb? Green Tea Kiwi? Try a new pie recipe and enter your creation in the Pie Contest at the DRA all member meeting on Sunday, August 17. Get ideas at www.epicurious.com or hit your cookbook library.
2. Attempt a double spiral rope: get ready for the Bead it! 3 Show in November; check out projects in the Beadwork magazines or take a class at Bead Obsessions (www.beadobsessions.com).
3. Lounge with some good beach reading. Try these titles with art themes: The Light Possessed by Alan Cheuse tells the mythologized life of Georgia O'Keefe and A Deceptive Clarity by Aaron Elkins is a story of a young museum curator turned amateur sleuth in this mystery set in the art world.
4. Vacation locally. Take the train to Baltimore and check out the American Visionary Art Museum's exhibit: "All Faiths Beautiful" (www.avam.org) and then hit the Walters for the exhibit "Loose Strands, Tight Knots", works by Sonya Clark (www.thewalters.org).
5. Take a look in the mirror and create a self-portrait for "Picture Me", the Fall DRA All Members show.

Nominating Committee Needs You to Say "YES"

It's again time for the Nominating Committee to seek enthusiastic and idea-filled members who are willing to serve on the Board of Directors for 2009. When called upon, do your patriotic duty and be willing to serve. DRA depends on volunteers, and the more we have, the easier it is for everyone! If you cannot commit to being on the Board, then let the Nominating Committee know which committee or area to which you will devote some time.

If you are interested in getting involved in the organization, meeting and working with a great group of artistic minded individuals, and strengthening your resume, contact Nominating Committee Chair Tara Hardiman (thardiman@prodigy.net or 703-684-3297), Amoret Bunn (703-683-1836), or Pat Oliver (poliver4@verizon.net or 703-750-1175).

THINK Green! was Great!

The plates were made from sugarcane fiber. The cups & spoons were made from corn starch. Bonus is all these products were used at the THINK Green! opening reception June 6th and they are 100% compostable & biodegradable (www.worldcentric.org). How perfect for the 33 green thinking artists juried by Eco-artist and environmental activist Alison Sigethy. "Greenie" Awards were given to Deb Cerie, Kathleen Tyler Conklin, Eileen O'Brien, Karen Schmitz and Julia Riley.

"I've never received so many positive "great show comments" before says Co-curator Karen Schmitz.

"I also feel like I was given a gift at the June 26 artist talk as I watched Alison speak with such enthusiasm about her July-Sept Arctic kayaking expedition. She is such a brave and amazing person".

THINK Green! gives a "tree hug" to: Sharon "girlie" Reilly, Linda Elliff, Roy Wright, David Kosar Vivienne Lukas, Jesse Maines from City of Alexandria's Office of Environmental Quality, Theresa Kulstad, Richard Wyvill, Brett Chappell, Carrie & Fred Schilling, Nora Partlow, Tara Hardiman, Pat Oliver.

Save the Date

Mark your calendars now! Save Sunday, October 19, for a collaborative fundraiser for DRA and the Lee-Fendall House in Old Town. This historic house will be the setting for an Art Sale and Octoberfest. More details will be announced soon.

Join DRA as an Artist or Supporter

☐ Renewal

☐ New Member

Title _____ Name _____
First Middle Initial Last

Additional Name _____

Organization/Corporation Name _____

Address _____
Street City State Zip

Phone _____
Home (____) _____ Cell (____) _____ Work (____) _____

e-mail _____

Artist ☐ Media ☐

Membership Levels

Patron

- ☐ \$1,000 Platinum
- ☐ \$500 Gold
- ☐ \$250 Silver

Patrons are considered Active Members and have exhibition privileges. Volunteer hours are not expected.

Active Member

- ☐ \$75 Household
- ☐ \$50 Individual
- ☐ \$25 Senior (62 and over)/Student/Disabled (circle one)

All Active Members enjoy privileges of exhibiting in shows and are expected to contribute a minimum of 10 volunteer hours per year. This does not include volunteer commitments for exhibiting in shows.

Friend

- ☐ \$35 Friend of Del Ray Artisans

Friends may participate in workshops, classes, and programs as members. Friends do not have exhibition privileges. Volunteer hours are not expected.

All membership levels above receive DRA mailings, including the newsletter.

I would like to receive DRA mailings: ☐ electronically ☐ via regular mail ☐ both ways

I would like to make an additional donation to Del Ray Artisans in the amount of \$ _____.

I would like to make an additional donation to the Del Ray Artisans Ted Eichers Memorial Art Scholarship in the amount of \$ _____.

Please indicate committees you are willing to serve on, to meet your 10 hour volunteer commitment:

- ☐ Communications; ☐ Newsletter; ☐ Website; ☐ Publicity; ☐ Archives; ☐ Administrative; ☐ Financial;
☐ Fundraising; ☐ Grants; ☐ Facilities; ☐ Gardening; ☐ Volunteers; ☐ Outreach; ☐ Shows; ☐ Programs;
☐ anything DRA needs.

Signature _____ Date ____/____/____

Checks payable to: DEL RAY ARTISANS. Mail to: Del Ray Artisans, Membership, 2704 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria, VA 22301 or pay online at www.thedelrayartisans.org

PICTURE ME! WORKSHOP

Instructor: Tina Richardson

Date: Saturday, August 16th, 1 p.m.-4 p.m.

Fee: \$45 DRA Members; \$50 Non-members

Maximum class size; 10



Description: The September show, Picture Me! is all about who you are. Self-portraits have been an artistic expression of self since the first scratchings on cave walls. Are you submitting a self-portrait? If not, what obstacles are in your way?

This workshop, Who Do I Show I Am? will help you see yourself as you truly are and learn how to transfer that self-realization to all your art. If you believe that you are your art, and you are not submitting an entry for the Picture Me! show, this is the workshop for you.

Supplies: We will supply all that you need.

Location: Del Ray Artisans Gallery at the Colasanto Center

Welcome New Members

• **Deb Crierie and Kay Rzasa**
Artists

• **Mollie Cross-Cole**
Artist

• **Patricia A. Smith**
photography

• **Robert W. Smith and Liz Boswell**
woodworking, photography

Show Proposal Reminder

If you have a clever idea for an exhibit at DRA, or if you have been wishing for an opportunity to participate in a certain type or themed exhibit, then this is your opportunity to make it a reality!

There are only a few days left, to submit your idea to the 2009 DRA Show Proposal Committee. On the website, you will find the Show Proposal Form among the other Calls for Entries.

Curators' Corner

The end of June saw the close of the artistic and thoughtful exhibit on environmental awareness, "Think Green," and the successful opening of the July figure show, "As We Are: The Enduring Nude." Opening coincided with events and activities on Mt Vernon Avenue for 1st Thursday and drew quite a crowd. The show closes with a reception featuring an art auction on the 26th. August and September shows are featured in their own articles in this issue.

Those of you planning to submit 2D artwork for the October Woodworks show need to remember that photographs, CDs, etc, of your **submissions are due August 15** by mail, according to the information posted on our website. Get more details at our DRA website.

Plan to attend the next peer critique session on August 10th at 5 p.m.



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

703.838.4827 | www.TheDelRayArtisans.org

August Extended Summer Hours

1st Thursday: Noon - 9 p.m.

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

Saturday: 10 a.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, Tracy Wilkerson, Karen Schmitz, Daniel Wise, David Kosar, Barbara Boehm, Christina Richardson, LeAnn Pittman, Kathryn Brown, Michele Reday Cook, Lynn Wyvill, Ron Blank

Submission Deadline: 5th of the month
preceding publication.

Editor: DRAeditor@gmail.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUGUST 2008

7	6 p.m. - 9 p.m.	First Thursday Del Ray
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
16	1 p.m. - 4 p.m.	Picture Me! Workshop
17	4 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	General Member Meeting, Pie Contest & Pool Party
27	7 p.m. - 10 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, curators

SEPTEMBER 2008 CONTINUED

12	7 p.m. - 10 p.m.	Opening Reception Picture Me!
21	12 p.m. - 4 p.m.	Card Party
24	7 p.m. - 10 p.m.	Life Drawing Session

OCTOBER 2008

1	7 p.m. - 10 p.m.	Life Drawing Session
4	10 a.m. - 6 p.m.	Art on the Avenue
Oct 10 - Nov 2		From our Trees, a collaborative show with Washington Woodworkers' Guild, Ron Blank, curator
10	7 p.m. - 10 p.m.	Opening Reception From our Trees
14	7 p.m.	DRA Board Meeting
19		DRA Fundraiser with Lee-Fendall House
21	7:30 p.m.	DRA General Member Meeting & Election

NOVEMBER 2008

7-30		Bead it! 3
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Do You Know....Emery Lewis?

DRA Artist Profile by Lynn Wyvill

Type of Art/ Medium: Abstract - Mixed Media

When I'm looking for artistic inspiration: I look wherever I can and anytime I can. I really don't have to look very far. I used to think that "inspiration" was a very specific thing, but it is all around us. The Good Lord through nature gives us constant inspiration and unlimited compositions to imitate.

My favorite artists are: Picasso, de Kooning, and Henry Moore.

The coolest thing I've ever done with my art is to paint "Crown of Thorns" to suggest Jesus Christ's suffering by using a rag to apply paint to the surface.

The next thing that I would like to try with my art is to use oil paint. All these years, I've painted in acrylics. Now, I want to be able to blend, so I'll try oil even though it dries more slowly.

What I really enjoy the most about being an artist is the ability to move other people emotionally (hopefully positively) by what I paint. It's good to receive income yes, but it's an equal or greater thrill to think that someone has my painting hanging in their home. Wow! What a rush!

If you'd like to see more of my work, I'll be updating my website in the future to restrict the range of the type of paintings that I am now showing. Nonetheless, my website is www.emerylewis.com