



Celebrating the Art of Making . . .

May 2021

# The Well-Crafted Word

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

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

## The Art of Nature runs May 7-29



*"Magnolia Blossom at Dusk"*  
by Cynthia Schoeppel

For centuries, nature has been an influential factor in the creation of artwork by artists. As more discussion has centered around environmental concerns, *The Art of Nature* is an art exhibit that reminds us of the gift Mother Earth has given us, the beauty of nature. Artists in this exhibition share their interpretations of the natural world around us, whether it be on the animals who make their homes in nature, water that brings life to riverbeds or beaches and the vegetation, plants and trees that add color to our world.

Reserve a ticket at [the-art-of-nature.eventbrite.com](https://the-art-of-nature.eventbrite.com) for a half-hour viewing during extended hours on opening day: Friday, May 7 between 12-8pm. Opening day tickets are not required, but ticket holders have priority entry. The gallery capacity is limited to 10 people at any one time in order to facilitate social distancing. Details at [DelRayArtisans.org/event/the-art-of-nature](https://DelRayArtisans.org/event/the-art-of-nature).

Regular gallery hours are Thursdays and Fridays 12-6pm, and Saturdays 12-4pm. For more information, contact the curator Cynthia Schoeppel at [schoeppc@hotmail.com](mailto:schoeppc@hotmail.com).

## Welcome, New Members

- Bridget Anthony-Hlioui
- Jane McElvany-Coonce
- Kate Trygstad

## Student Membership Promotion

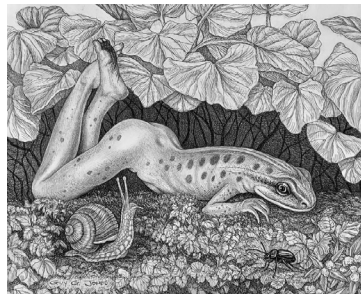
Are you a student or know a student who would enjoy Del Ray Artisans membership benefits? During 2021, Del Ray Artisans has a Membership Scholarship Program for high school and full-time college students that offers FREE one-year memberships to those who apply and qualify. For details, contact [Membership@DelRayArtisans.org](mailto:Membership@DelRayArtisans.org).

## Give Me Shelter Donation Drive Update

Thank you to all of our artists and supporters who contributed to the success of the *Give Me Shelter* show and the donation drive for Alexandria's Carpenter's Shelter. Curators Pam Day and Theresa Kulstad were pleased at the response of our theme. In addition to an interesting, successful exhibit, we raised \$205 and took in a load of in-kind donations providing much needed goods to the Carpenter's Shelter, Alexandria's largest shelter supporting entire families. They were so happy and grateful to receive these generous donations.

## The Naked and the Newt: Humans and Herpetons Runs June 4-26 Call for Entry Deadline: Monday, May 10

What is it like to be in a body? Can you sing the texture of a frog's skin? Explore the experience of embodied humanity, your engagement with reptiles and amphibians, or even the intersection of the two! This exhibition investigates conceptions of anatomy, texture, and conservation with our partners, the Virginia Herpetological Society.



*"Sunbaaaathing"* by Guy Jones

Entry details at [DelRayArtisans.org/2021/04/naked-and-newt-cfe](https://DelRayArtisans.org/2021/04/naked-and-newt-cfe).

## May Membership Meeting



The online member meeting and benefit program is on Thursday, May 20 at 7pm. Nina Tisara and her son, Steven Halperson, will tell us about their work creating portraits for Living Legends of Alexandria, an organization that identifies, honors and chronicles the lives of individuals who have contributed to the community.

After 30+ years as a professional photographer, Nina Tisara's current media is mosaics. Nina founded Living Legends of Alexandria and considers it her most important legacy, besides, of course, her children.

Steven Halperson manages and is the primary photographer for Tisara Photography in Old Town Alexandria. His portraits of Alexandria's current Living Legends are on permanent display in the Market Square Lobby of Alexandria City Hall. Steven continues to develop the creative aspects of his work and experiments with various forms of expression, copper etching and circuit boards, as well as photography.

Register at [DelRayArtisans.org/event/spring-meeting-2021](https://DelRayArtisans.org/event/spring-meeting-2021).

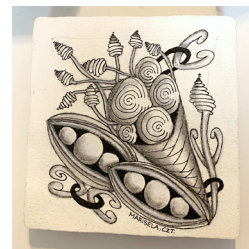
For tips and tricks on photographing your artwork, check out this video: [youtube.com/watch?v=ijGvQzFBXWE](https://youtube.com/watch?v=ijGvQzFBXWE).

## Upcoming Workshops

In person, please wear a mask and give fellow participants six feet of personal space. Register in advance. **Register for workshops at [DelRayArtisans.org/workshops](https://DelRayArtisans.org/workshops).**

### Online: Zentangle and the Art of Nature Sunday, May 9, 1-3pm

The Zentangle Method is an easy-to-learn, relaxing, and fun way to create beautiful images by drawing structured patterns. It increases focus, creativity, self-confidence and well-being. Marisela Rumberg is a Certified Zentangle Teacher and will guide you through this creative process. No previous experience in drawing or art is required. Register by May 2.



### Online: Oriental Brush Painting Nature Workshop Tuesday, May 11, 7-9pm

Learn to paint a few basic strokes using ink and color on rice paper to create beautiful roses. In this oriental art technique you will load your brush in layers of color. When you put your brush to the paper the colors come out in the reverse order on the paper. This art form is "food for the soul"—it is active meditation that teaches you to use your chi (energy) to produce a freestyle, beautiful piece of art. Register by May 5.



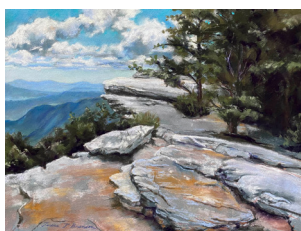
### Online: Watercolor Painting Dewy Leaves Workshop Friday, May 14, 6-8pm

Learn to use watercolor techniques such as wet in wet, salt texture, lifting, and scratching to paint beautiful leaves. After painting leaves you will add realistic dew drops. They are so fun and easy you will soon be adding dew drops to all of your paintings! Demonstration and hands-on activity, suitable for high school age and adults. Register by May 11.



### Pastel Painting Nature Workshop Sunday, May 16, 12:30-3:30pm

Have fun learning pastel painting! Pastels are a fun and forgiving medium to use. Through demonstrations and hands-on activities you will learn pastel painting techniques such as layering, blending, and mark-making to create beautiful nature scenes. Register by May 13.





## Free Fun Activities



### Partners in Art Evening Tuesday, May 25 via Email

Need support reaching your art-related goals? Join this collegial group of artists to share your goals and get feedback on artwork. During the pandemic the Tuesday program is exchanging feedback via email; contact Michele Reday Cook ([mredaycook@gmail.com](mailto:mredaycook@gmail.com)) for information. Details at [DelRayArtisans.org/partners-in-art](http://DelRayArtisans.org/partners-in-art).

### Urban Sketchbooking Sunday, May 16, 1-3pm

Bring your supplies and join us outside to produce still life, figure, or architecture subjects in your sketchbook. This is a drop-in program outside at St. Elmo's Coffee Pub (2300 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria, VA). Please wear a face mask and maintain six feet of personal space. Details at [DelRayArtisans.org/sketchbooking](http://DelRayArtisans.org/sketchbooking).



## Spring Art Market Coming in May

Our Spring Art Market is a one-day, outdoor event that gives you the chance to purchase original handcrafted artwork from talented local artists. This market showcases artwork in a wide range of media including ceramics, fiber, glass, jewelry, mixed media, paper, photography, and more. Shop original work from local artists—perfect for gifts or to treat yourself!



The Spring Art Market will be on Saturday, May 8 from 10am-4pm in Colasanto Park, adjoining Del Ray Artisans gallery at 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria, VA (at the corner of Commonwealth Avenue and Mount Vernon Avenue). The event is held RAIN or SHINE, and is free and open to the public. Details at [DelRayArtisans.org/event/spring-art-market-2021](http://DelRayArtisans.org/event/spring-art-market-2021).

The artists' tents are socially distanced; please wear a face mask and respect personal space.

## Meet DRA's Board and Staff

Kathleen Connor works as Del Ray Artisans' Assistant Office Manager. She staffs the Del Ray Artisans gallery on Thursdays and Fridays. She was born and raised in Alexandria. She's a 2020 graduate of James Madison University, and graduated with a degree in English and minors in French and Art History. In her spare time, Kathleen likes reading, writing, and baking. She has worked as a customer support specialist for King Arthur Flour, a Chick-Fil-A cashier, a hostess, and an ice cream scooper at Pop's Ice Cream. She is also an intern at the literary agency Creative Media Agency.



## Unfinished/Finished: Acknowledgements

Many thanks to the artists and volunteers who made the *Unfinished/Finished* show such a fun one! Forty-four artists either started or finished a piece for the show, including 14 brave souls who agreed to be randomly paired with another artist (often times a complete stranger)! Viewers said they appreciated the different approaches artists took, with some adding simple brushstrokes or touches to a piece and others completely reimagining the artwork.

The curator, Eileen M. O'Brien, would like to send special thanks to Liz Martinez and Gordon Frank for receiving help; Maria Frescas, Maria Hart, and Thom Lowther who helped hang the show; and Margaret Wohler and Nancy Ramsey for hosting excellent workshops during the show. An additional feature of the show was the Speed Painting fundraiser, and kudos go to Kitty Russell, Audrey Dervarics and Linda Mierke for setting up/managing the Speed Painting event and also for joining in with the other painters that day, who included Betsy Jones, Max Jones, Theresa Kulstad, Erica Hughes and Cristin Guinan-Wiley. Proceeds from the sale of artwork from that event support Del Ray Artisans and community outreach efforts.



Nicholas A. Colasanto Center  
2704 Mount Vernon Avenue  
Alexandria, VA 22301-1124  
703.838.4827 DelRayArtisans.org

#### Gallery Hours:

Thursday 12-6pm  
Friday 12-6pm  
Saturday 12-4pm

**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.

## 2021 Board of Directors

- **Dale Spivey, President**  
President@DelRayArtisans.org
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- **Vacant, Fundraising Events**  
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Programs@DelRayArtisans.org
- **Dawn Wyse Hurto, Technology**  
Technology@DelRayArtisans.org
- **Amy Kitchin, Volunteers**  
Volunteers@DelRayArtisans.org
- **Suzan Ok, Youth Programs**  
Youth@DelRayArtisans.org

## Calendar

### May 2021

- 1 *Unfinished/Finished* artwork pick up by appointment
- 2 *The Art of Nature* artwork drop off by appointment
- 6 First Thursday, sneak peek, 12-6pm
- 7-29 EXHIBIT: *The Art of Nature*  
curator: Cynthia Schoeppel
- 7 Exhibit Opening Day, 12-8pm
- 8 Spring Art Market, 10am-4pm outside at Colasanto Park
- 9 Workshop: Zentangle and the Art of Nature, 1-3pm online
- 10 *The Naked and the Newt* entry deadline
- 10 Partners in Art, 2-4pm online
- 11 Board meeting, 7-9pm online
- 11 Workshop: Oriental Brush Painting, 7-9pm online
- 14 Workshop: Watercolor Painting Dewy Leaves, 6-8pm online
- 16 Workshop: Pastel Painting Nature, 12:30-3:30pm
- 16 Urban Sketchbooking, 1-3pm meeting outside at St. Elmo's Coffee & Pub
- 20 Member Meeting and Benefit Program, 7-9pm online

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

### May 2021, continued

- 25 Partners in Art Evening, 7-9pm via email
- 29 *The Art of Nature* artwork pick up by appointment
- 30 *The Naked and the Newt* artwork drop off by appointment

### June 2021

- 3 First Thursday, sneak peek, 12-6pm
- 4-26 EXHIBIT: *The Naked and the Newt*  
curator: Erica Hughes
- 4 Exhibit Opening Day, 12-8pm
- 7 Partners in Art, 2-4pm online
- 8 Board meeting, 7-9pm online
- 10 Workshop: Our National Symbol – an evidence based argument for why salamanders should replace the bald eagle, 6:30-7:30pm online
- 12 Workshop: Live Animal Drawing: Texture, 11am-5pm
- 13 Urban Sketchbooking, 1-3pm meeting outside at St. Elmo's Coffee & Pub
- 13 Workshop: Playing with Resin: Focus on Texture, 6-9pm
- 19 Workshop: Crochet for Beginners, 1-3pm online
- 20 Workshop: Draw the Human Figure, 1-3pm online

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

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

## Other Key Contacts

- **Anna Sherlock, Office Manager**  
Gallery@DelRayArtisans.org
- **Kelly Postula, GWW Curator**  
GWW@DelRayArtisans.org
- **Laura Rush, Newsletter Editor**  
Newsletter@DelRayArtisans.org
- **Sunshine Committee**  
Sunshine@DelRayArtisans.org

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.





Name			
Title	First	M.I.	Last

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone		
Home	Cell	Work

Email Address(es) \_\_\_\_\_

List artist media (optional)

Referred by (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

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

☐ \$ 60 Individual  
☐ \$ 90 Dual  
☐ \$ 110 Family  
☐ \$ 45 Senior  
☐ \$ 30 Student

☐ \$ 40

☐ Del Ray Artisans (DRA) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Ted Eichers Memorial Art Scholarship \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Del Ray Artisans Art Camp \$ \_\_\_\_\_

<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative	<input type="checkbox"/> Gardening	<input type="checkbox"/> Shows
<input type="checkbox"/> Archives	<input type="checkbox"/> Grants	<input type="checkbox"/> Volunteers
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter	<input type="checkbox"/> Website
<input type="checkbox"/> Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/> Outreach	<input type="checkbox"/> Anything DRA needs
<input type="checkbox"/> Financial	<input type="checkbox"/> Programs	<input type="checkbox"/> Other, special talents:
<input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising	<input type="checkbox"/> Publicity	

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

Checks payable to: Del Ray Artisans

Mail to: Del Ray Artisans, Membership, 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22301

Or join online: [www.DelRayArtisans.org/membership/](http://www.DelRayArtisans.org/membership/)

If you have any questions, please email the Membership Director at: [Membership@DelRayArtisans.org](mailto:Membership@DelRayArtisans.org)

## Membership Categories and Benefits

Additional member benefits listed online