



Celebrating the Art of Making . . .

September 2023

The Well-Crafted Word

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

DelRayArtisans.org

Farther Afield **September 1–30, 2023**

Opening Reception on Friday, September 1, 7–9pm

Art allows the viewer to travel and experience new sights without leaving home. The *Farther Afield* art exhibit takes this more literally by celebrating artwork that takes us outside of our day-to-day lives to locations far and wide. Whether depicting a scene from a day trip or from halfway across the world, these artworks transport the viewer away from Alexandria to new cities, states, countries, and continents. Join us for the opening reception on Friday, September 1 between 7-9pm to meet curator Alexandra Schmeling and the artists.



"Jardin des Plantes, Paris"
by Alexandra Schmeling

Welcome New Members

- Annike Caldwell
- Ed Colahan
- Alexandra Drone
- Dian J. McDonald
- Rachel Storey-Chase
- Christina Wise

Celebration at VCA Alexandria runs through September 9

This Gallery Without Walls exhibit at VCA Alexandria Animal Hospital (2660 Duke St, Alexandria VA) features art in the lobby and side hallways exploring the theme of celebration. View online or in person during business hours (Monday-Friday 10am-6pm, Saturday 12pm-6pm) and notify the front desk you are there to see the exhibit.

Details at DelRayArtisans.org/gww

First Thursday - September 7, 6-8pm **Star Wars Day in a Neighborhood Far, Far Away** **Gallery Hours 12-9pm**

Del Ray celebrates First Thursday, a Del Ray community event along Mount Vernon Avenue on the first Thursday of the month between April-September. Join us from 6-8pm for our outdoor activity.

HalloWEIRD Art Market 2023 in Colasanto Park **(RAIN or SHINE) September 23, 10am-4pm**



Browse Halloween-inspired creations that are spooky, creepy, crawly, and goth-like. Or, maybe you like art that focuses on the upbeat, fun side of the season (e.g., costumes, hot cider, hay rides, autumn colors). You can see that too! The market offers diverse, original handcrafted artwork from talented local artists in a wide range of media including ceramics, fiber, jewelry, mixed media, paper, photography, and more. There is something for everyone!

Special Performances:

Del Ray Artisans and Monarca in Flight present Human Spiders during HalloWEIRD! Monarca in Flight is Northern Virginia's first studio devoted primarily to aerials and aerials education.



*"Flowers Partying
(who put vodka in the water?)"*
by M. Reday Cook

Calls for Entry

Entry forms at DelRayArtisans.org/cfe

DRA 2024 Wall Calendar

Open to Del Ray Artisans members

Digital Entry Deadline:
Sunday, September 3 by midnight

Members: Submit your best work to the 11th annual Del Ray Artisans' wall calendar! All entries are to be received digitally, and no physical pieces of art will be collected. There is no entry fee and open theme. Your Del Ray Artisans membership must be up-to-date.



Recurring Programs

DelRayArtisans.org/programs

Life Drawing

Gesture and Short Pose
Tuesday, September 5, 7-9pm



Bring your supplies and join us at the gallery to draw or paint our nude model. Traditional drawing media (such as pencils, pens, and charcoal) are welcome; pastels, watercolor and ink are permissible. Do not bring acrylics or oil paints. We don't supply easels, but you are welcome to bring your own. Drop-in; all skill levels welcome.

Curses! Foiled Again! The Art of Swords and Sorcery

October 6–28

Open to Area Artists

Digital Entry Deadline: Sunday, September 10 by midnight



"Snarler" by Erica Hughes

From the daring swordswoman with her bevy of mythical beasts to the haggard bog witch, all expressions of the fantastic are invited! Whether you are inspired by the texture of a dragon's skin, the swirling cloak of a sorceress, the shriek of a hydra, or a technical manual of swordplay, share your vision of SWORDS and SORCERY!

All media are welcome. The exhibit is open to all area artists. Del Ray Artisans members pay a discounted entry fee.

Partners in Art Evening

Tuesday, September 19, 7-9pm

Calling fellow artists, beginners to professionals, you are invited to join our art-support group, to share artistic goals, techniques, and the local art scene. Participants may show one or two artworks, any medium, in any stage, for advice and feedback. RSVP in advance.

Nature Journaling Club

Sunday, September 30, 10am-noon



Practiced by artists and naturalists alike, nature journaling is a centuries-old exercise in refining our powers of observation, appreciation for nature, drawing skills, and mindful presence. This group is open to all experience levels as we meet to sketch, connect, and learn together!

Meet at 10am in front of Del Ray Artisans on the final Saturday morning of every month.

Suggested supplies: sketchbook, pens, pencils, colored pencils, watercolor pencils, or other portable media, and a water bottle since we will be outdoors, folding chair or blanket.

Coordinators: *Stephanie Darlene Greenwald and Meredith D'Amore*
Free! Donations appreciated.

Del Ray Artisans' 28th Annual Holiday Market

Dec 1-23

Open to Local Artists

Digital Entry Deadline: Sunday, September 10 by midnight

Applications for exhibitors in Del Ray Artisans' 28th annual Holiday Market are now open. Different artists from a variety of media categories will be selected for each

weekend. Preference is given to Del Ray Artisans members. The market will be the first three weekends of December (1-3, 8-10, and 15-17; Friday night and Saturday and Sunday days) as usual, plus this year we will have a special fourth weekend that will run December 22-23 (Friday and Saturday only) for last minute shoppers. This fourth weekend is only available for Del Ray Artisans members who are artists that participated in one of the first three weekends.



Creative Fall Workshops

Register at DelRayArtisans.org/workshops

Beaded Lanyard Thingies Workshop

Saturday, September 9, 9am-noon

Join instructor Amy Castine for a great introduction to off loom bead weaving as you learn to make your own lanyard/glasses keeper. This versatile beaded rope is a useful and beautiful way to hold some of the necessities of life while adding your personal style to any outfit. You will also have a chance to do a little beginner wire wrapping and make a lovely pendant to transform your lanyard into a necklace. Sign up today as space is limited! The supply fee includes all the materials to make a similar piece—but not identical—to the photo.

Instructor: Amy Castine; \$60 DRA member / \$80 Non-member; plus a \$10 Supply fee; Register by midnight on September 4.



Stretchy Bracelets with Healing Properties Workshop

Saturday, September 16, 6pm-9pm

Design and make two stretchy bracelets out of a selection of semi-precious stones, crystals, and accent beads. Plus learn the secret to tying a knot using elastic, as well as the healing properties of the stones. Instructor: Y'vonne Page-Magnus.

Instructor: Y'vonne Page-Magnus; \$45 DRA member / \$55 Non-member; includes Supply fee; Register by midnight on September 11.



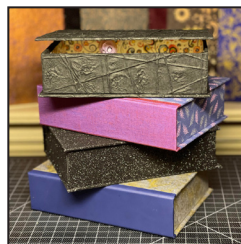
What's In The Box? A 2-day Box Making Workshop

Wednesday, October 11 and Thursday, October 12, 6pm-9pm

In this two-day novice level workshop you will create your own hinged lid box using book board, book cloth, decorative papers, and PVA (archival glue). There will be a myriad of combinations of papers and cloths to choose from to create your own distinctive box.

The supply fee includes all materials for the finished box. The tools will be provided for use during the workshop and, if desired, are available for purchase for \$30 (payable directly to the instructor) following the workshop.

Instructor: Cristin Guinan-Wiley; \$95 DRA member / \$110 Non-member; plus a \$15 Supply fee; Register by midnight on October 8.



Create your own Imaginary Creature

Saturday, October 14, 9am-noon

Build and design your own 3D/mixed media imaginary creatures inspired by Pedro Linares Lopez. Lopez, a Mexican cartonera artisan, created Papier-mâché figurines that he coined alebrijes after imagining them in a fever dream. We will explore the cultural importance of Linares' Alebrijes and how they have become a tradition in Mexico.

Instructor: Kelsey Joyce; \$50 Del Ray Artisans member / \$60 Non-member; plus a \$15 Supply fee; Register by midnight on October 10..

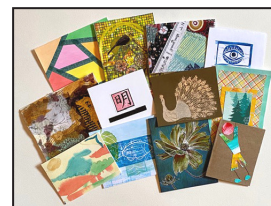


Kids Just Wanna Have Fun

Youth Art Camp lived up to its theme Kids Just Wanna Have Fun with a full house of campers (ages 7 to 11) immersed in exploring an array of artmaking and FUN activities in July.

Camp projects included instructors: Amanda Fletchersmith (Foam Core Creatures), Debbie Mezzetta (Paper Flower Power), Guy Jones (Creative Drawing & Cherokee Song), Suzan Ok Shumate (Soapmaking), Erica Hughes (Mixed Medium Molds & Vivid Painting), and Karen Schmitz (Aboriginal Inspiration, Gelli Prints & Fabric Collage Bowls).

Volunteer appreciations to: Susan Harris, Jahed Nazari, Olivia Goddard, Peter Devine, Brooke Johnson, Edith Graciela Sanabria, Liz Martinez, Dale Spivey and a HUGE clean-up thanks to Kurt Peterson.



Creative Card Swap (Free) Rolling deadlines

This is a handcrafted, artful card swap between artists. A swap group is formed each time 4 artists enter, then swapping begins immediately for that group. Open to all artists with a U.S. domestic (or equivalent) address. Details at DelRayArtisans.org/card-swap-cfe/

DEL RAY ARTISANS

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

703.838.4827 DelRayArtisans.org

Submission Deadline: 15th of the month
Jenny Nicholson, Newsletter Editor
Newsletter@DelRayArtisans.org

Gallery Hours:

Thursday 12–6pm
Friday 12–9pm
Saturday 12–6pm
Sunday 12–6pm

Top row, l. to r.:
"Wild Orchid" - Kelly MacConomy;
"Twins" - Kathryn A Brown;
Bottom row, l. to r.:
"Capybara & Friend" - Amy Kitchin Hower;
"Life Across the Tracks" - Sue Shumate



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

2023 Board of Directors

- Dale Spivey, President**
President@DelRayArtisans.org
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- Stephen Lally, Assistant Treasurer**
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Outreach@DelRayArtisans.org
- Erica Hughes, Programs**
Programs@DelRayArtisans.org
- Dawn Wyse Hurto, Technology**
Technology@DelRayArtisans.org
- Joshua Oliveira, Volunteers**
Volunteers@DelRayArtisans.org
- Vacant, Youth Programs**
Youth@DelRayArtisans.org

Calendar

More information at: DelRayArtisans.org/calendar

September 2023

- 1–30 EXHIBIT: *Farther Afield***
curator: Alexandra Schmeling
- 1 Exhibit Opening Reception, 7–9pm
 - 3 2024 Wall Calendar Call for Entry Deadline
 - 5 Life Drawing Session, 7–9pm
 - 7 First Thursday, 12–9pm gallery open & 6–8pm outdoor activity
 - 9 GWW EXHIBIT: *Celebration***
at VCA Alexandria ends
 - 9 Beaded Lanyard Thingsies Workshop 9am–noon
 - 10 Holiday Market 2023 Call for Artists Deadline
 - 10 *Curses! Foiled Again! The Art of Swords and Sorcery* Call for Entry Deadline
 - 11 Partners in Art, 2–4pm
 - 12 Board Meeting, 7–9pm online
 - 16 Stretchy Bracelets with Healing Properties Workshop, 6–9pm
 - 18 GWW EXHIBIT: *12 Elements of Nature***
at VCA Alexandria begins
 - 19 Partners in Art Evening, 7–9pm
 - 23 HalloWEIRD Art Market, 10am–4pm (outside, rain or shine)
 - 30 Nature Journaling Club 10am–noon

October 2023

- 6–28 EXHIBIT: *Curses! Foiled Again! The Art of Swords and Sorcery***
curator: Erica Hughes
- 6 Exhibit Opening Reception, 7–9pm
 - 7 Art on the Avenue, 10am–6pm
 - 8 Del Ray Urban Sketchers, 1pm–3pm
 - 9 Partners in Art, 2–4pm
 - 10 2024 Wall Calendar Pre-Order Deadline
 - 10 Board Meeting, 7–9pm online
 - 10 *Housemates* Call for Entry Deadline
 - 11 & 12 What's in The Box? 6–9pm
 - 14 Magical Creatures Workshop, 9am–noon
 - 17 Life Drawing Session, 7–9pm
 - 19 Annual Member Meeting with Elections, 7–9pm
 - 21 & 28 Here There Be Dragons Workshop, 9am - noon
 - 21 Reading & Meet the Author Nina Tisara, 5–7pm
 - 22 Witches' Brew Workshop, 10am–2pm
 - 24 Partners in Art Evening, 7–9pm
 - 26 Soapy Sorcery Workshop, 6–9pm
 - 28 Nature Journaling Club 10am–noon
- Check our website for more, upcoming events:
DelRayArtisans.org/calendar

Join or renew your Del Ray Artisans membership today!

Visit DelRayArtisans.org/membership for details.

Other Key Contacts

- Anna Sherlock, Office Manager**
Gallery@DelRayArtisans.org
- Liz Martinez, GWW Curator**
GWW@DelRayArtisans.org
- Gardens Committee**
Gardens@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

Referred by (optional) _____

☐ \$ 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	

If you have any questions, please email the Membership Director at: Membership@DelRayArtisans.org

Membership Categories and Benefits

Additional member benefits listed online