

# Celebrating the Art of Making . . .

February 2025

# The Well-Crafted Word

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

DelRayArtisans.org

# MeWOW: Fabulous Felines Art Exhibit February 7 - March I

Opening Reception: Friday, February 7, 7-9pm

Local artists let their creative cat out of the bag in a diverse array of mediums for the purr-fectly paw-some *MeWOW: Fabulous Felines* exhibit at Del Ray Artisans gallery. Come see the exhibit to marvel at the power and fascination of cat imagery in art. These furry, mysterious, independent, beautiful felines have inundated history, mythology, literature, advertising, cinema, pop culture and pet owners for centuries.

Come see artwork celebrating the slinky beauty and mysterious world of cats. Join us for the opening reception on Friday, February 7 between 7-9pm to meet the curators Karen Schmitz and Dan Witmeyer.



"Birthday Happys" by Guy Jones



Volunteers hanging an exhibit

### **Volunteer Today!**

Are you looking for a great way to fill in those member volunteer hours but aren't really sure what to volunteer for? Go to delrayartisans.org/volunteer and fill out the Volunteer Interest Survey so our Volunteer Director can pair you with the best event or activity.

Are you experienced with fundraising or finances? Are you organized and a wiz with a spreadsheet? Join Del Ray Artisans Board of Directors or a director's subcommittee. Contact Morgan Parr at volunteers@delrayartisans.org.

Are you interested in helping to draft critical new policies regarding conduct, protected expression, and curatorial standards? Please join our policy writing committee! Email Dawn Wyse Hurto at president@delrayartisans.org.

Join our Curating Support Team! Help curators with various tasks on a one-time basis or recurring with each new exhibit. The different roles include: postcard design, navigating and editing Google Drive files, gallery hosting procedures, exhibition hanging, and more! Contact Amy Kitchin Hower at curating@delrayartisans.org.

Do you love helping children learn to use new art mediums? We're searching for STEAM-tastic and summer art camp instructors and assistants. Come share your science, tech, engineering, art or math related knowledge and joy with us and our community. Help us inspire a generation! Email Sandra Alami at youth@delrayartisans.org.

# Member Meeting & Art Supplies Swap February 23, 4-6pm

Save the date for the first member meeting of 2025. Bring the art supplies you no longer need and be ready to find treasure in other's discards. We'll begin with a short meeting, and then select "new to you" art supplies.



# Welcome New Members (October 2024 - January 2025)

Denise Allen, Lauren, Spencer & Sydney Lara Alley Donna Bogatin Laura R Drain Walter Gordon Dani Keating John Kramer Haddy Kreie Daniel McGarvey Anthony Murray Wayne Payton Doris Pérez Elizabeth Pruitt Raven Troupe

Patrick & Rebecca Zickler

#### **CALLS FOR ENTRY**

Entry forms at DelRayArtisans.org/cfe

#### Fairy Tales Around the World

Open to all area artists March 7 – 29

Entry Deadline: Monday, February 10 by Midnight

Faraway lands, perilous journeys with magical characters and amazing creatures? Celebrate the stories that shaped us, from local legends to mythical beasts, from heroes to villains, and everyone in between.



"Tiny Travels" by Courtney Pippin-Mathur

#### Alcove Gift Shop

Open to Del Ray Artisans members March 7 – April 26

Entry Deadline: Monday, February 17 by Midnight

Del Ray Artisans' Alcove is a gift shop within the gallery, where members (who apply and are accepted) display and sell their work. Seeking jewelry, fiber art, wood craft, ceramics, other smaller 3-D items, and unframed 2-D works that meet size requirements to fit in bins. The work will be displayed for two months, and as pieces are sold they can be replaced with similar work for no additional fee.

#### Synchronous: Volunteer Appreciation Exhibit

Only open by invitation to outstanding volunteers April 4–26

Entry deadline: Monday, March 10 by Midnight Invited Artists Alphabetized by first name:

Aaron Fletchersmith	Danielle Chan
Alexandra Schmeling	Dawn Wyse H
Alyssa Pease	Diana Papazian
Amanda Fletchersmith	Dina Wise
Fletchersmith Amy Castine Amy Kitchin Hower Ann Cameron Siegal Annemarie Kuhns Ariane D'Souza Barbara Cooper Barbara Smith Betsy Lederer Bhavani Arabandi Bill Cabrera Brando Gould Bridget Anthony- Hlioui Brooke Johnson Camille Kouyoumdjian Christian Melgar Chuck Dervarics	Ditas Katague Donna Gallo Ellen Kozicki Ellen Rosentha Erica Hughes Gale Goldfarb Gordon Thoma Frank Guy Jones Jana Bertucci Jenny Nicholso Joan Bickelhau Joshua Oliveira Martin Joyce Wagner Karen Feeley Karen Schmitz Kate Gibney Katherine Rang
Courtney Pippin- Mathur	Kathryn Brown
Cynthia Schoeppel Dale Spivey Dan Witmeyer	Kazuko Fuller KC Hodge Kellie Sansone

Danielle Chan Kelly MacConomy Kelly Postula se Hurto Kelly Snyder azian Kevin Sherlock Kitty Russell gue llo Kurt Peterson cki Lesley Hall Linda Elliff nthal hes Liz Martinez Liz Vance farb Lori Fredricks nomas Lori Welch Brown Lynn Chadwick cci Margaret Slipek nolson Maria Hart lhaupt Marshall Carolus veira-Mary Pike Maxine ner Cholmondeley ey Meredith D'Amore mitz Michele Reday Cook ey Mila Mateu Rand Morgan Parr rown Nancy Flores ıller Nancy Galib Nicole Mahoney

Pamela Day

Peter Michaels Pinar Artuk-Boegel Rita Cohen Rita Schooley Robin Hunter Reid Robin Ludt Robyn Seaton McGarry Rod Whyte Ron Reel Rusty Lynn Sandra Alami Scott MacConomy Sean Crumley Stephanie Darlene Greenwald Stephen Lally Sue Shumate Sue Stone-Walls Susan Fitter Harris Suzan Ok Shumate Suzanne Tillman Thom Lowther Tiara Safic-Martin TJ Feeley Tracy Wilkerson

#### **GALLERY WITHOUT WALLS**

Details at DelRayArtisans.org/gww Come see Del Ray Artisans art exhibits hosted outside our gallery.

#### Tumbling Through the Seasons at VCA Old Town Animal Hospital October 28, 2024 – May 31, 2025

The Tumbling
Through the Seasons
exhibit features
2D artwork by
Del Ray Artisans
members at VCA
Old Town Animal
Hospital. This
exhibit features
artwork celebrating
the seasons, from



"Fireweed" by Heidi O Vatanka

April Showers Bring May Flowers to a Winter Wonderland and everything in between.

VCA Old Town Animal Hospital is located at 425 N Henry Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. There is a parking lot behind VCA Old Town accessible from Princess Street. The animal hospital is open Monday-Friday 7:30am-7pm, Saturday 8am-3pm. Visitors must let the front desk know they are there to view the art exhibit.

# Artists Favorites at VCA Alexandria Animal Hospital December 2, 2024 – September 6, 2025



"Recharge" by Liz Martinez

The Artists Favorites exhibit features 2D artwork in a variety of mediums by Del Ray Artisans members at VCA Alexandria Animal Hospital (2660 Duke Street.

Alexandria, VA 22314). The animal hospital is open Monday-Friday 8am-7pm, Saturday 8am-6pm. Due to client needs, some areas may not be available for immediate viewing. Visitors must let the front desk know they are there to view the art exhibit.

#### **CREATIVE WORKSHOPS**

Register at DelRayArtisans.org/workshops



#### STEAM-tastic: Pop Art Cats Workshop (Ages 6 - 12) Saturday, February 8, 10am-noon

Andy Warhol loved cats. In fact, he owned 25 cats and all but one called Sam! He believed that art is everywhere and that even the things we see everyday make a perfect subject to add to a painting, like cats. You will learn color theory while making a series of cats on a colorful painted background. This

fun technique allows you to keep creating as many cats as you'd like, each with their own personality to create a work of art inspired by Andy Warhol. All the supplies are provided.

Instructor: Morgan Parr; \$25/child; Register in advance.



#### Playing with Resin - Monday, February 10, 6-9pm

Learn the ins and outs of prepping for and mixing resin, and how to use it as an adhesive, a covering, or the main medium. Instructor: Tracy Wilkerson; \$40 Del Ray Artisans member / \$50 Non-member; plus a \$10 supply fee; Register in advance.



#### STEAM-tastic: Mandalas and Meows Sunday, February 16, 9-10:30am (Ages 6 - 10), 10:30am-noon (Ages 10-15)

Students will learn about the science and culture of mindfulness, as well as how creating mandalas can help support being mindful. In addition, they will explore how our pets keep us grounded in the present moment. For the hands-

on portion, students also practice drawing geometric shapes to create their own cat-themed mandala.

Instructor: Suzan Ok Shumate; \$10/child; Register in advance; drop-ins allowed, space permitting.



#### Intro to Mindful Photography Saturday, February 22, 1-5pm

This program focuses on teaching the fundamentals of mindfulness through fun and creative means. It utilizes photography as a tool to explore present moment awareness, curiosity, non-judgment and gratitude while viewing the world from a new perspective. This program does not focus

on technical photography skills, so participants only need a smartphone, though all photography equipment is welcome.

Instructor: Rainbow-Wolf Sabin; \$70 Del Ray Artisans member / \$80 Non-member; Register by midnight February 19.



# STEAM-tastic: Fairy Home in the Forest Workshop (Ages 6-12) - Saturday, March 8, 10am-noon

Draw your own fairy home using markers and paint to capture even the tiniest of details.

Young artists will use picture books, drawings, and their creativity to create a 2D home for their imaginary fairies that includes variations on fairy homes, mushrooms, leaves,

flowers, insects and more. All supplies included.

Instructor: Morgan Parr; \$25/child; Register by midnight March 5.

#### **RECURRING PROGRAMS**

DelRayArtisans.org/programs

#### Creative Book Club Saturday, February 1, 10am-noon

#### Book: "Paris in Ruins: Love, War, and the Birth of Impressionism" by Sebastian Smee

The club is free and open to all who are interested in keeping their creative muse flowing and connecting with other creative people.

#### Del Ray Urban Sketchers Sunday, February 9, 1-3pm

Bring your supplies and join Joan Bickelhaupt outside to produce still life, figure, or architecture subjects in your sketchbook. This is a free, dropin program that meets outside at St. Elmo's Coffee Pub, 2300 Mount Vernon Avenue.

#### Figure Drawing Gesture and Short Pose Tuesdays, February 18 and 25, 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. Dropin; all skill levels welcome.

#### Partners in Art (RSVP in Advance) Wednesday, February 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

#### Nature Journaling Club Saturday, February 22, 10am-noon

Nature journaling refines our powers of observation, appreciation for nature, drawing skills, and mindful presence. Open to all experience levels as we meet to sketch, connect, and learn together! Meet at 10am in front of 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 KC Hodge, Newsletter Editor Newsletter@DelRayArtisans.org

#### **Gallery Hours:**

Thursday 12–6pm Friday 12–9pm Saturday 12–6pm Sunday 12–6pm Top row, l. to r.:
"The Bicycle" - Cheryl Audet-Lavoie;
"'Sunflowers with Globe Amaranth"
- Ellen Frances Rosenthal;
Bottom row, r.:
"Ischia di Castro Sunset"
- Barbara Smith;
"Gilbert Long Arms"
- Dawn Wyse Hurto



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

#### 2025 Board of Directors

- Dawn Wyse Hurto, President President@DelRayArtisans.org
- Lesley Hall, Vice President VP@DelRayArtisans.org
- Rita Schooley, Treasurer
  Treasurer@DelRayArtisans.org
- Stephen Lally, Assistant Treasurer ATTR@DelRayArtisans.org
- Margaret Slipek, Secretary Secretary@DelRayArtisans.org

#### Directors

- Kathryn Brown, Archives Archives@DelRayArtisans.org
- Christian Melgar, Communications
   Communications@DelRayArtisans.org
- Amy Kitchin Hower, Curating Curating@DelRayArtisans.org
- Ellen Kozicki, Facilities Facilities@DelRayArtisans.org
- (Vacant), Fundraising Events Fundraising@DelRayArtisans.org
- Kate Gibney, Membership Membership@DelRayArtisans.org
- Kelly M. MacConomy, Outreach Outreach@DelRayArtisans.org
- Tracy Wilkerson, Programs
  Programs@DelRayArtisans.org
- Dina Wise, Technology
  Technology@DelRayArtisans.org
- Morgan Parr, Volunteers Volunteers@DelRayArtisans.org
- Sandra Alami, Youth Programs Youth@DelRayArtisans.org

#### Calendar

#### February 2025

- Creative Book Club "Paris in Ruins: Love, War, and the Birth of Impressionism" by Sebastian Smee, 10am-12pm
- 2 Unsold artwork pick up and accepted artwork drop off, 12–6pm
- **7–Mar 1 EXHIBIT**: *MeWOW: Fabulous Felines*Curators: Karen Schmitz & Dan Witmeyer
- 7 Exhibit Opening Reception, 7–9pm
- 8 STEAM-tastic: Pop Art Cats Workshop (Ages 6-12), 10am-12pm
- 9 Board Orientation, 9am-12pm
- 9 Del Ray Urban Sketchers, 1–3pm at St. Elmo's
- 10 Partners in Art (FULL), 2-4pm
- 10 Playing with Resin Workshop, 6-9pm
- 10 Fairy Tales Around the World entry deadline
- 11 Board Meeting, 7–9pm online
- 16 STEAM-tastic: Mandalas and Meows, 9-10:30am (ages 6-10), 10:30am-12pm (ages 10-15)
- 17 Alcove Gift Shop application deadline
- 18 Figure Drawing Session, 7–9pm
- 19 Partners in Art Evening, 7–9pm
- 22 Nature Journaling Club, 10am-12pm
- 22 Intro to Mindful Photography Workshop, 1-5pm
- 23 Member Meeting/Art Supplies Swap, 4–6pm
- 25 Figure Drawing Session, 7–9pm

#### More information at: DelRayArtisans.org/calendar

#### March 2025

- 2 Unsold artwork pick up and accepted artwork drop off, 12–6pm
- **7–29 EXHIBIT:** *Fairy Tales Around the World*Curator: Courtney Pippin-Mathur
- 7 Exhibit Opening Reception, 7–9pm
- 8 STEAM-tastic: Fairy Home in the Forest Workshop (Ages 6-12), 10am-12pm
- 9 Del Ray Urban Sketchers, 1–3pm at St. Elmo's
- 10 Partners in Art (FULL), 2-4pm
- 10 Synchronous entry deadline
- 11 Board Meeting, 7–9pm online
- 14 3-D Paper Mache Fairy Tale Character Workshop (teens 16+ and adults), 6-9pm
- 18 Figure Drawing Session, 7–9pm
- 19 Partners in Art Evening, 7–9pm
- 21 3-D Paper Mache Fairy Tale Character Workshop (Class 2 of 2), 6-9pm
- 22 STEAM-tastic: 2-D Paper Mache Room Decoration (Ages 9-15)
- 25 Figure Drawing Session, 7–9pm
- 29 Nature Journaling Club, 10am-12pm
- 29 STEAM-tastic: 2-D Paper Mache Room Decoration (Class 2 of 2), 10am-1pm
- 30 Unsold artwork pick up and accepted artwork drop off, 12-6pm

# 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.











# 2025 Exhibit Schedule

#### Call for Entry details (once available) are at DelRayArtisans.org/cfe

Updated 10/16/2024. Dates subject to change. Check the calendar for updates: DelRayArtisans.org/calendar

# Visual Humor (January 3–February 1, 2025)

Entry deadline Sunday, December 15, 2024; Receiving Sunday, December 29 by appointment **Curator: Erica Hughes** 

Open to all area artists. Explore not only how ideas or objects are comical, but also what properties of a joke give it wings....perhaps literally.

## MeWOW: Fabulous Felines (February 7–March 1, 2025)

Entry deadline Sunday, January 12, 2025; Receiving Sunday, February 2 by appointment

**Curator: Karen Schmitz** 

Open to all area artists. Celebrate the slinky beauty and mysterious world of cats. Explore felines in pop culture, advertising, pet ownership, and encourages artists to interpret their cat-like creativity. Even creatures and objects with cat-like attributes could be considered.

## Fairy Tales Around the World (March 7–29, 2025)

Entry deadline Monday, February 10; Receiving Sunday, March 2 by appointment

**Curator: Courtney Pippin-Mathur** 

Open to all area artists. Faraway lands, perilous journeys with magical characters and amazing creatures? Celebrate the stories that shaped us, from local legends to mythical beasts, from heroes to villains, and everyone in between.

# Synchronous: Volunteer Appreciation Exhibit (April 4–26, 2025)

Entry deadline Monday, March 10; Receiving Sunday, March 30 by appointment

**Curator: Volunteers Director** 

Only open by invitation to outstanding Del Ray Artisans member volunteers to honor those who have made exceptional time contributions to support our nonprofit. Open theme.

# ACHS Student Show (May 2–24, 2025)

Receiving Sunday, April 27 by appointment

**Curators: ACHS Teachers and Youth Programs Director** 

Only open to Alexandria City High School art, photography, and graphics students. Details TBD.

Spring Art Market (Outdoors - Saturday, May 10, 10am-4pm)



# 2025 Exhibit Schedule

#### Call for Entry details (once available) are at DelRayArtisans.org/cfe

Updated 10/16/2024. Dates subject to change. Check the calendar for updates: DelRayArtisans.org/calendar

# Sing Me a Sea Shanty (May 30-June 29, 2025)

Entry deadline Saturday, May 10; Receiving Sunday, May 25; Reception Friday, June 6, 7-9pm **Curators: Tiara Safic-Martin and TJ Feeley** 

Open to all area artists. The sea is awe-inspiring and man's relationship with it has been tumultuous. For centuries the sea has inspired stories, lore, myth, legends, and songs. Explore all things nautical.

## **Summer Art Market** (Indoors - July 12–13, 10am-4pm both days)

# Lovely As a Tree (August 1–30, 2025)

Entry deadline Thursday, July 10; Receiving Sunday, July 27 by appointment

**Curator: Robyn Seaton McGarry** 

Only open to Del Ray Artisans members. Trees: environmentally crucial, providers of shade, shelter, habitat, food, and beauty. Celebrate trees and their fascinating parts through painting, photography, wood sculptures/decorative items, assemblages, ceramics, and more.

# **Second Time Around** (September 5–27, 2025)

Entry deadline Sunday, August 10; Receiving Sunday, August 31 by appointment

**Curators: Leslie Nicholls and Tracy Wilkerson** 

Open to all area artists. Seeking art that focuses on sustainable creativity and enhancing the artistic environmental ethos.

# HalloWEIRD Art Market (Outdoors - Saturday, Sept 20, 10am-4pm)

## Bump in the Night (October 3 – November 1, 2025)

Entry deadline Wednesday, September 10; Receiving Sunday, September 28 by appointment **Curator: Morgan Parr** 

Open to all area artists. Drawing inspiration from Spike Milligan's poem "Bump" and the old Cornish Litary about ghoulies and ghosties and long-leggedy beasties, reveal the source of frightening, unexplainable noises heard at night and the experiences behind "things that go bump in the night."

# The Mini World: Small Works of Art (November 7–30, 2025)

Entry deadline Friday, October 10; Receiving Sunday, November 2 by appointment

Curators: Betsy Jones, Kellie Sansone, and Mallory Henig

Only open to Del Ray Artisans members. Celebrating small works of art (8x10" and smaller).

30th Annual Holiday Market (Indoors - December 5–21, 2025)



# **Membership Form**

☐ Renewal ☐ New Member

Name							
Title	е	First	M.I.		L	ast	
Additional Ho	usehold Me	embers					
Business/Orga	anization						
City			State			Zip code	
Phone Home		Ce	II		W	ork	
Email Address	s(es)						
List artist med	dia (optiona	al)					
Referred by (c	optional)						
	Silver Gold Platinum		Artist  □ \$ 60 □ \$ 90 □ \$ 110 □ \$ 45 □ \$ 30	. ,		Supporter  □ \$40	
Add a Dona  ☐ Del Ray Ar		Δ) \$					
-	,	ıl Art Scholarship (	\$				
□ Del Ray Ar	tisans Art	Camp \$					
Indicate con	nmittees o	on which you will	serve to m	eet your 12-h	our per	year volunteer comm	itment:
☐ Adminis☐ Archives☐ Commu☐ Facilities☐ Financia☐ Fundrais	s nications s	0	Gardening Grants Newsletter Outreach Programs Publicity			Shows Volunteers Website Anything DRA needs Other, special talents:	<u> </u>
Signature						Date/	/
	Ray Artisa	Ray Artisans ns, Membership, IRayArtisans.org/			ie, Alexa	ndria, VA 22301	

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

	Mem	bersh	nip Ca	atego	ries	and B	Senef	its			
		12-hour Volunteer requirement	Member-only programs and events	Reduced workshop, classes and program fees	Monthly online "The Well-Crafted Word" newsletter	Inclusion in 2 member shows annually	Reduced entry fees, inc. free Gallery Without Walls	No charge for entry into Members-only shows	No charge for entry into all shows (excl. markets)	Recognition in the Gallery	Appreciation Gift and Event
Membership Categories	Cost		Membership Benefits								
Artist											
Individual	\$ 60	•	•	•	•	•	•				
Dual (2 adults, same address)	\$ 90	•	•	•	•	•	•				
Family (2 adults, 4 children, same address)	\$ 110	•		•	•	•	•				
Senior (Age 62 and over)	\$ 45	•	•	•	•	•	•				
Student (Full-time status)	\$ 30	•	•	•	•	•	•				
Supporter											
Supporter	\$ 40		•	•	•						
Patron (Includes family membership)											
Silver (\$ 140 tax-deductible)	\$ 250		•	•	•	•	•			•	•
Gold (\$ 390 tax-deductible)	\$ 500		•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•
Platinum (\$ 890 tax-deductible)	\$ 1,000		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

Additional member benefits listed online