



Celebrating the Art of Making . . .

April 2025

The Well-Crafted Word

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

DelRayArtisans.org

Synchronous Art Exhibit

April 4 - 26

Opening Reception: Friday, April 4, 7-9pm

The *Synchronous* art exhibit features creative work by Del Ray Artisans' top 100 volunteers. These members help make Del Ray Artisans a thriving organization that fosters community and acceptance, promotes authentic expression, and encourages artistic creations. Come celebrate the dedication of our volunteers and enjoy their artwork.

Join us for the opening reception on Friday, April 4 between 7-9pm to meet curator and Volunteers Director Morgan Parr and the artists.



"Synchronous Humanity" by Morgan Parr



Photo provided by Don Funk

In Memory of Kate Gibney

Del Ray Artisans' Director of Membership Kate Gibney passed away on March 5 from complications due to cancer. She was 49 years old.

Kate was a jewelry artist (owner of LucidArts Jewelry), abstract painter, collager, and excellent baker. She was an active DRA member since 2015 and would often contribute

dozens of delicious savory and sweet homemade treats for the membership meetings. Kate was also the chair of the Web Posting Committee and helped Karen Schmitz with grant writing. She was a generous and kind soul. She is already deeply missed.

Kate is survived by her partner Mark Cuellar, parents James and Dorinda Gibney of New Hampshire, brother Jebb Gibney of Georgia, and her feline fur babies, Mr. Loki & Miss Layla. Please stop by the gallery to sign the condolence cards for her family before April 6. Some of Kate's artwork will be on display during the *Synchronous* art exhibit in her memory and to honor her contributions to our arts organization. Sales of her artwork benefit her family.

Journey well, Kate, with peace and love and cookies.

Welcome New Members

Siobhan Fisher
Karim Garcia

Spring2ACTion 2025

Now through Wednesday, April 9 (Giving Day) our community comes together to support the amazing work of Alexandria nonprofits through Spring2ACTion, hosted by ACT for Alexandria. Show your support for Del Ray Artisans' exhibits, programs, and outreach activities which help members of our community grow as individuals and as artists. Please donate to our nonprofit at DelRayArtisans.org/spring2action and spread the word to friends and family.

Thank you to Nicole Mahoney & Omar Chavez and DRA Board members for providing matching donations during the campaign; thank you to fundraisers Liz Martinez (*In Memory of Chris Martinez*) and Alyssa Pease (*John W. Hiller Photography & Film Scholarship*) for their continued support; and thank you to every single donor of funds and volunteer time!

Two Opportunities to Make Art Inspired by Alma Thomas

Join us at the gallery on First Thursday, April 3, 6:30-8pm for our family-friendly activity to make your own 5x5-inch artwork inspired by Alma Thomas. Want

to make more? Come to the DRA booth at George Mason Elementary School's Dragon Fest on Friday, April 25, 5-8pm for our free STEAM-tastic activity and learn more about this famous abstract artist!



Adopt-a-Park is back!

Spring is finally here and it's time for the 2025 Adopt-a-Park Season! But first, huge congratulations and a world of thanks to our fantastic 2024 Adopt-a-Park DRA member volunteers (in alphabetical order): Lynn Chadwick, Donna Gallo, Rusty Lynn, Joyce Wagner, and Rod Whyte. Thanks to their loyalty and hard work (and that of their family and friend helpers, both two- and four-footed!), DRA is once again on track to earn ALL possible points from the City, which equates to a monetary award benefiting DRA.



If you'd like to improve the appearance of the gallery grounds and adjoining Colasanto Park by picking up litter and get some fresh air, exercise, and volunteer hours, we'd love your help! DRA is now seeking Adopt-a-Park volunteers for the 2025 season, which runs from April through November. Each volunteer shift takes an hour or less on a Sunday — you choose the time! To learn more and sign up, please contact Joyce Wagner at AdoptAPark@DelRayArtisans.org. Thank you!

CALLS FOR ENTRY

Entry forms at DelRayArtisans.org/cfe

Spring Art Market

Open to all area artists

Saturday, May 10, 10am-4pm

Entry Deadline: Sunday, April 6 by Midnight

Join Del Ray Artisans in its tradition of outdoor art markets and sell your original handmade artwork to the local community. This is an outdoor, family-friendly, rain-or-shine event in the Mount Vernon Recreation Center fields, adjoining Del Ray Artisans gallery.



Alcove Gift Shop

Open to Del Ray Artisans members

May 2 - June 29

Entry Deadline: Sunday, April 13 by Midnight

The Alcove Gift Shop showcases jewelry, fiber art, wood craft, ceramics, other smaller 3-D items, and unframed 2-D works (must meet size requirements) by DRA members who apply and are accepted. The work will be displayed for two months, and as pieces are sold they can be replaced with similar work for no additional fee.

Sing Me a Sea Shanty

Open to all area artists

May 30 - June 29

Entry Deadline: Saturday, May 10 by Midnight

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.

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



"Fireweed" by Heidi O Vatanka

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



Girl Scout "Art and Design" Brownie Badge Workshop - Saturday, April 5, 10am-3pm

Brownies will complete all the steps needed to earn their Art and Design badge. All art supplies provided. (The actual badge is not included.) *Instructor: Sandra Alami; \$15/child; Register in advance.*

Unleash Your Creativity: Acrylic Painting Class - Wednesday, April 9, 6-8pm



This class is perfect for beginners and experienced artists alike. You'll learn essential techniques, such as color mixing, brushwork, and layering, while creating your own vibrant masterpiece.

Instructor: Edom Alagaw; \$32 Del Ray Artisans member / \$42 Non-member; participants bring own supplies; Register by April 5.

Playing with Resin - Sunday, April 20, 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 by April 17.

Create an Art Inventory System in Excel - Monday, April 21, 6:30-8:30pm



Designed for those who know the basics of using Excel, this workshop will teach you how to build your art inventory 'system' using an Excel file and a file folder holding your art photos.

Instructor: Tracy Wilkerson; \$40 Del Ray Artisans member / \$50 Non-member; Register by April 18.

Everlasting Paper Blooms Workshop - Thursday, April 24, 6:30-8:30pm



Take a deep breath, tap into your creativity, and rejuvenate your spirit in this hands-on workshop, where you'll learn how to craft stunning, long-lasting paper flowers using simple materials.

Instructor: Jill Welch; \$75 Del Ray Artisans member / \$85 Non-member; plus a \$10 supply fee; Register by April 21.

Neurographic Art Workshop - Saturday, April 26, 10am-12pm



A neuron is a cell that carries messages between the brain and other parts of our body and that is the basic unit of our central nervous system. Graphic is the artistic use of pictures, shapes and words.

This activity helps you to connect with the art making process and allows your mind to relax.

Instructor: Morgan Parr; \$20 Del Ray Artisans member / \$30 Non-member; plus a \$5 supply fee; Register by April 22.

STEAM-tastic: Have a Voice - Poster for the Planet! - Sunday, May 18, 9-10:30am (Ages 6-10), 11am-12:30pm (Ages 11-17)



Celebrating Earth Day, you will create a poster emphasizing an environmental problem and/or solution. Using colored soft pastels, markers, and other drawing materials you will create a poster that you can display in your home or post online for family and friends to see.

Instructor: Ruth Furpabs; \$20/child; Register in advance.

CREATIVE BOOK CLUB

Details at delrayartisans.org/event/book-club-apr-2025/

"Falling Rocket: James Whistler, John Ruskin, and the Battle for Modern Art" by Paul Thomas Murphy

Saturday, April 12, 10am-noon

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

RECURRING PROGRAMS

DelRayArtisans.org/programs

Del Ray Urban Sketchers Sunday, April 13, 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, drop-in program that meets outside at St. Elmo's Coffee Pub, 2300 Mount Vernon Avenue.

Figure Drawing Gesture and Short Pose Tuesdays, April 15 and 22, 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. Drop-in; all skill levels welcome.

Partners in Art (RSVP in Advance)

Wednesday, April 16, 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, April 26, 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.



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 (Closed April 27)

Top row, l. to r.:
"Good morning" - Kimlieu Nguyen;
"Just Livin' Ain't Easy" - Rusty Lynn;
Bottom row, l. to r.:
"Oil Slick"
- Suzan Ok Shumate;
"Assemblage of Me"
- SRD...by hand (Sue Rosenbaum)



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
- **Kara Macek, 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

April 2025

- 3 First Thursday: Make art inspired by Alma Thomas, 6:30-8pm
- 4–26 EXHIBIT: *Synchronous*
Curator: Morgan Parr
- 4 Exhibit Opening Reception, 7–9pm
- 5 Girl Scout Brownie Badge Workshop, 10am-3pm
- 6 Spring Art Market Application Deadline
- 7 Partners in Art (FULL), 2-4pm
- 8 Board Meeting, 7–9pm online
- 9 Unleash Your Creativity: Acrylic Painting Class, 6-8pm
- 12 Creative Book Club: "Falling Rocket: James Whistler, John Ruskin, and the Battle for Modern Art" by Paul Thomas Murphy, 10am-12pm
- 13 Del Ray Urban Sketchers, 1-3pm
- 15 Figure Drawing Session, 7–9pm
- 16 Partners in Art Evening, 7–9pm
- 20 Playing With Resin Workshop, 6-9pm
- 21 Create an Art Inventory System in Excel, 6:30-8:30pm
- 22 Figure Drawing Session, 7–9pm
- 24 Everlasting Paper Blooms Workshop, 6:30-8:30pm
- 25 STEAM-tastic: Make art inspired by Alma Thomas at Dragon Fest, George Mason Elementary, 5-8pm
- 26 Nature Journaling Club, 10am-12pm
- 26 Neurographic Art Workshop, 10am-12pm

More information at: DelRayArtisans.org/calendar

- 26 Courtney LeBlanc's Book Launch, 7-9pm
- 27 Unsold artwork pick up, 10am-1pm

May 2025

- 1 First Thursday Activity, 6:30-8pm
- 2-24 **Alexandria City High School 2025 Titan Student Art Exhibition**
Curator: Sandra Alami and ACHS Teachers
- 2 Exhibit Opening Reception, 7-9pm
- 5 Partners in Art (FULL), 2-4pm
- 6 Figure Drawing Session, 7-9pm
- 10 **Spring Art Market, 10am-4pm**
- 10 *Sing Me a Sea Shanty* Call for Entry Deadline
- 11 Del Ray Urban Sketchers, 1-3pm
- 13 Board Meeting, 7-9pm online
- 17 Introduction to Intuitive Collage Workshop, 10am-12pm
- 18 Member Meeting & Benefit Program, 4-6pm
- 18 STEAM-tastic: Have a Voice - Poster for the Planet!, (Ages 6-10) 9-10:30am, (Ages 11-17) 11am-12:30pm
- 20 Figure Drawing Session, 7-9pm
- 21 Partners in Art Evening, 7-9pm
- 30–June 29 EXHIBIT: *Sing Me a Sea Shanty*
Curators: Tiara Safic-Martin and TJ Feeley
- 31 **Last day of *Tumbling Through the Seasons* exhibit at VCA Old Town**
- 31 Nature Journaling Club, 10am-12pm

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.



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for the **ARTS**
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Celebrating the Art of Making

A 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to promote art for the benefit of artists and the community
2704 Mount Vernon Avenue • Alexandria, VA 22301 • 703-838-4827 • www.DelRayArtisans.org

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)



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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 Litany about ghoulies and ghosties and long-legged beasts, 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 First M.I. Last

Additional Household Members _____

Business/Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

Phone Home _____ Cell _____ Work _____

Email Address(es) _____

List artist media (optional) _____

Referred by (optional) _____

- | | | |
|--|---|--------------------------------|
| Patron | Artist | Supporter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 250 Silver | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 60 Individual | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 40 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 500 Gold | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 90 Dual | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 1,000 Platinum | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 110 Family | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 45 Senior | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ 30 Student | |

Add a Donation

- Del Ray Artisans (DRA) \$ _____
- Ted Eichers Memorial Art Scholarship \$ _____
- Del Ray Artisans Art Camp \$ _____

Indicate committees on which you will serve to meet your 12-hour per year volunteer commitment:

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| <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/

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

Membership Categories and Benefits											
Membership Categories	Cost	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
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