



Celebrating the Art of Making . . .

April 2026

The Well-Crafted Word

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

DelRayArtisans.org

Fast and Fabulous Art Exhibit April 3-25

Exhibit Reception: Friday, April 3, 7-9pm

From the first blueprints for the Model T to Warhol and Dali to the Ferrari 250, legally a work of art in Italy, cars have inspired and embodied art. The *Fast and the Fabulous* exhibit features artwork exploring cars and car culture. Be it Fords, Ferraris, or flying cars, Del Ray Artisans' interpretations of cars as well as motorcycles, trucks, and other fast/fabulous forms of transportation will impress, amuse, and delight. Visitors of driving age and those visitors still dreaming of their first time behind the wheel will love this exhibit.

Join us for the opening reception on Friday, April 3 between 7-9pm to meet curators Kelly MacConomy and Scott MacConomy and the artists. Plus get a sneak peek of the exhibit and have fun with our free, family-friendly, photo scavenger hunt on Thursday, April 2, 6:30-8pm. The exhibit runs April 3-25, 2026 at Del Ray Artisans gallery.

From April 1 through May 5, our is also hosting the display of two artful chairs which are a part of the "Take a Seat for Alexandria Library" community art project. The chairs are by Del Ray Artisans member Joyce Wagner and local artist Mal Jones. The chairs are featured in an online auction (April 1-May 17) to benefit the Alexandria Library Foundation.



"Fast and Fabulous" by Scott MacConomy

Spring2ACTion 2026

From Wednesday, April 8 through Wednesday, April 22 (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 for their philanthropic gift of \$1,000 in memory of Donna Gallo; thank you to DRA Board members for offering a generous matching donation; 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!

Adopt-a-Park Volunteers

Spring is finally here! If you'd like to improve the appearance of the gallery grounds and adjoining green spaces by picking up litter (plus get some fresh air and exercise), we'd love your help! DRA is now seeking Adopt-a-Park volunteers for the 2026 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.

Creative Book Club: "How Painting Happens; and Why It Matters" by Martin Gayford

Saturday, April 11, 10am-12pm

The book, "How Painting Happens; and Why It Matters" by Martin Gayford, is filled with interviews with artists. The club is open to all who are interested in keeping their creative muse flowing and connecting with other creative people. This is a free event; donations are appreciated.

Welcome New Members

Zoe Foster
Trisha Karsadi

Kamadrin Kirby
Michele Lee

Holly Summers

CALLS FOR ENTRY

Entry forms at DelRayArtisans.org/cfe

Pictures at an Alexandria Exhibition

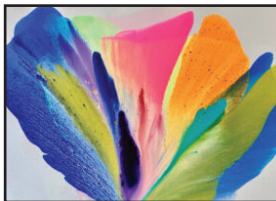
Open to Area Artists

Online Auction: May 4-31

Entry Deadline: Sunday, April 4, by Midnight

Del Ray Artisans, the Symphony Orchestra League of Alexandria, and the Symphony Orchestra of Northern Virginia present *Pictures at an Alexandria Exhibition*, an online art auction fundraising event and concert performance.

Artists are asked to draw inspiration from four select pieces of music for their creativity. You may submit one to four pieces of art and must identify which one of the musical selections is your muse for each artwork submitted.



"Classical Aire" by Barbara Januszkiewicz

Spring Art Market

Open to Area Artists

Saturday, May 9 from 9am-3pm

Application Deadline: Sunday, April 5 by Midnight

Join Del Ray Artisans in its tradition of outdoor art markets! This is an outdoor, family-friendly, rain-or-shine event in the Mount Vernon Recreation Center fields adjoining Del Ray Artisans gallery.

Call for entry for the new exhibit at VCA Old Town Animal Hospital coming soon!

USA at 250

Open to Area Artists

June 5-28

Entry Deadline: Sunday, May 10 by Midnight

Capture the spirit of our nation: its past, present, and its promise for the future.

Creative Card Swap (Ongoing)

Open to All Artists with a U.S. Domestic (or Equivalent) Mailing Address

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.

Originally established in April 2020 as a platform for artists to share their creative expression during the pandemic months when we could not gather in person, the Creative Card Swap became a popular activity for both Del Ray Artisans members and non-members.

Live From Your Studio

Sunday, April 19, 2-3:30pm

Live From Your Studio is a free, members-only, virtual gathering where Del Ray Artisans members can connect from their art-making space. This virtual event will take place monthly on the third Sunday of the month over Zoom. Artists are encouraged (but not required) to join from their studios and make art during the session. These events will allow members to paint and create art together, and forge deeper connections to other members. Register at least a week before the gathering at delrayartisans.org/event/live-from-your-studio-2026.

GALLERY WITHOUT WALLS

Details at DelRayArtisans.org/gww

Come see Del Ray Artisans art exhibits hosted outside our gallery.

Energy of the Season at VCA Old Town Animal Hospital

Come see 2D artwork by Del Ray Artisans members exemplifying the spirit, passion, exuberance, and pizzazz of each season in the lobby and hallway at VCA Old Town



"Grand Canyon" by Emily Atkinson

Animal Hospital (425 N Henry Street, Alexandria, VA 22314). The animal hospital is open Monday-Friday 7:30am-7pm, and Saturday 8am-3pm. Visitors must let the front desk know they are there to view the art exhibit. The exhibit runs through May 30, 2026.

Flora, Fauna, Fantastica at VCA Alexandria Animal Hospital



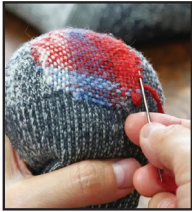
"First Catch" by Monjari Gillian

Del Ray Artisans' 28th art exhibit, *Flora, Fauna, Fantastica*, at VCA Alexandria Animal Hospital

(2660 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA 22314) opened on September 22, 2025 and runs through September 5, 2026. The exhibit features 2D artwork in a variety of media and styles, from the traditional to the surreal, showcasing nature by Del Ray Artisans members. 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



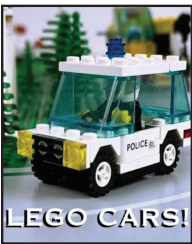
Darn It! Mending Clothes with Darning - Saturday, April 4, 10:30am-12pm

Learn how to mend holes or weak spots in your clothes with the heirloom art of darning! This workshop will help participants take clothes that have been well-loved and put them back into rotation *Instructor: Syd Grossman; \$20 Del Ray Artisans member / \$30 Non-member; Register ASAP.*



STEAM-tastic: Supercars (Ages 10 to Adult) - Sunday, April 19, 10am-12pm

This workshop focuses on using contour lines to draw iconic cars of their choice from observation and then creating an arcade-like background to create a sense of space. *Instructor: Morgan Parr; \$10 per child / \$20 Del Ray Artisans member / \$30 Non-member; plus a \$8 Supply Fee; Register by April 15.*



STEAM-tastic: Lego Cars (Ages 8-18 & Adults) - Sunday, April 19, 6-8pm

BUILD AND TAKE HOME YOUR OWN CAR! We will talk about design changes and the complexity of the parts available over the years. But most importantly, you get to build and take home your own Lego race car! *Instructor: Aaron Fletchersmith; \$10 per child / \$20 Del Ray Artisans member / \$30 Non-member; plus a \$7 Supply Fee; Register by April 15.*

Card Making Evening in Memory of Donna Gallo and Rusty Lynn

All are welcome to the ARTFUL Card Making evening on Saturday, April 4 from 6-9pm. This free event will honor the memory of two longtime DRA members and "Cardies" Donna Lee Gallo and Rusty Lynn who both passed away in February.



Come and enjoy the camaraderie and share stories about Donna and Rusty. Hostess Karen Schmitz encourages all levels of "cardie" enthusiasts to drop-in (no registration required). Plenty of art making materials will be on hand through generous donations from Donna's husband Bill and artists Theresa Kulstad and Becky Rife. Snacks to share always appreciated.

Donated all-occasion cards are needed to freshen gallery card display (selling for \$4 to \$10 to benefit our nonprofit) and also to spread joy through the Sunshine Committee (Sunshine@DelRayArtisans.org) for members and friends who could use a little "shine" to brighten their day.

Card Making Parties are FUN:

- Learn and share new art techniques/mini-demos
- DRA members can count this time toward their required volunteer hours
- Donations appreciated for making cards you are taking home
- See the *Fast and Fabulous* exhibit!

Volunteers needed to help with event and clean-up; please contact Karen at kschmitzart@gmail.com.

RECURRING PROGRAMS

DelRayArtisans.org/programs

Partners in Art (RSVP in Advance) Monday, April 6, 2-4pm & Tuesday, April 21, 7-9pm

Calling fellow artists, beginners to professionals, you are invited to join our art-support group, to share artistic goals, techniques, and one or two artworks, any medium, in any stage, for advice and feedback

Life Drawing Gesture and Short Pose Tuesday, April 7 & Thursday, April 23, 7-9pm

Bring your supplies and join us at the gallery to draw or paint our nude model. Traditional drawing media, pastels, watercolor and ink are permissible. Do not bring acrylics or oil paints. Drop-in; all skill levels welcome.

Del Ray Urban Sketchers Sunday, April 12, 1-3pm & Thursday, April 16, 7-9pm

Bring your supplies and join us outside to produce still life, figure, or architecture subjects in your sketchbook. Meet outside at St. Elmo's (2300 Mt Vernon Ave) on April 12 and at Del Ray Pizzeria (2218 Mt Vernon Ave) on April 16.

Radical Sewing Club - ALX Saturday, April 18, 10am-noon

Learn about clothing repair, hand and machine sewing, or bring your own project to work on with the community. This club is a space to reimagine craft outside of capitalism, to resist exploitation and oppression, and to stitch together a world based on care and solidarity.

Nature Journaling Club Saturday, April 25, 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

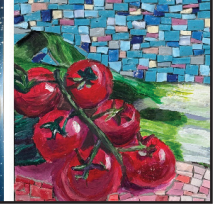
Submission Deadline:

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 26-29

Top row, l. to r.:
"Harbinger of Shortened Days"
Etching - Amy Kitchin Hower;
Detail of "Colorful Bouquet" - Lesley
Hall-Runner;
Bottom row, r.:
"Recycle, Renew, Reimagine" -
Nicole Gauwin;
"Tomatoes and Leeks" - Nancy Kline



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

2026 Board of Directors

- **Dawn Wyse Hurto, President**
President@DelRayArtisans.org
- **Sean Crumley, 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
- **Kurt Peterson, Facilities**
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- **(Vacant), Fundraising Events**
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- **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
- **Victoria Walchak, Youth Programs**
Youth@DelRayArtisans.org

Calendar

April 2026

- 2 First Thursday: Photo Scavenger Hunt, 6:30-8pm
- 3–25 EXHIBIT: *Fast and Fabulous*
curators: Kelly MacConomy and Scott MacConomy
- 3 *Fast and Fabulous* Exhibit Opening Reception, 7-9pm
- 4 Darn It! Mending Clothes with Darning Workshop, 10:30am-12pm
- 4 Card making in memory of Donna Gallo and Rusty Lynn, 6-9pm
- 4 *Pictures at an Alexandria Exhibition* Call for Entry Deadline
- 5 Spring Art Market Application Deadline
- 6 Partners in Art (RSVP in Advance), 2-4pm
- 7 Life Drawing, 7-9pm
- 8 Reserved for Alexandria Film Festival (Internal Meeting), 6-9pm
- 11 Creative Book Club, 10am-12pm
- 12 Del Ray Urban Sketchers, 1-3pm at St. Elmo's
- 14 Board of Directors, online, 7-9pm
- 16 Del Ray Urban Sketchers, 7-9pm at Del Ray Pizzeria
- 18 Radical Sewing Club - ALX, 10am-12pm
- 19 STEAM-tastic: Supercars, 10am-12pm
- 19 Live From Your Studio, 2-3:30pm
- 19 STEAM-tastic: Lego Cars, 6-8pm
- 21 Partners in Art Evening (RSVP in Advance), 7-9pm
- 23 Life Drawing, 7-9pm

More information at: DelRayArtisans.org/calendar

- 25 Nature Journaling Club, 10am-12pm
- 26 Gallery closed to the Public, Artist Appointments Only

May 2026

- 1–23 EXHIBIT: *Alexandria City High School 2026 Titan Student Art Exhibit*
curator: Victoria Walchak & ACHS Teachers
- 1 *Alexandria City High School 2026 Titan Student Art Exhibit* Opening Reception, 7-9pm
- 2 Neurographic Art Workshop - Teen Edition!, 10am-12pm
- 2 Sewing Machine 101 (BYO Sewing Machine Workshop), 6-7:30pm
- 3 Mindful Acrylic Pour Workshop, 10am-12pm
- 3 DIY Ukulele Workshop, 6-8pm
- 4 Partners in Art (RSVP in Advance), 2-4pm
- 4 Playing with Resin Workshop, 6-9pm
- 5 Life Drawing, 7-9pm
- 6 STEAM-tastic: Shrinky Dink Charms, 6-8pm
- 7 First Thursday: Creative Activity, 6:30-8pm
- 9 **Spring Art Market, 9am-3pm**
- 10 Del Ray Urban Sketchers, 1-3pm at St. Elmo's
- 10 *USA at 250* Call for Entry Deadline
- 12 Board of Directors, online, 7-9pm
- 14 Life Drawing, 7-9pm
- 16 Radical Sewing Club - ALX, 10am-12pm
- 17 Applique for Mending and Decoration Workshop, 10am-12pm
- 17 Live From Your Studio, 2-3:30pm

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.





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

2026 Exhibit Schedule

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

Updated 1/6/2026. Dates subject to change. Check the calendar for updates: DelRayArtisans.org/calendar

Toy Stories (January 2–31, 2026)

Entry deadline Sunday, December 14, 2025; Receiving Sunday, December 28 by appointment

Curator: Gordon Thomas Frank

Open to all area artists. Rejoice in the toys you cherished as a child or the ones you always wished for, through artistic expressions that capture the playful, nostalgic spirit of toys.

Lunar New Year: Year of the Horse (February 6–28, 2026)

Entry deadline Saturday, January 10, 2026; Receiving Sunday, February 1 by appointment

Curators: Morgan Parr and Annemarie Kuhns

Open to all area artists. Celebrate the Lunar New Year with a special focus on the Year of the Horse, through contemporary, traditional, symbolic, and personal interpretations that explore horse imagery, zodiac mythologies, and cultural rituals.

Assembly: Together We Grow (March 6–28, 2026)

Entry deadline Tuesday, February 10; Receiving Sunday, March 1 by appointment

Curator: Haddy Kreie

Only open to Del Ray Artisans members. Submit works that explore the fundamental human act of gathering as a catalyst for growth and belonging, whether expressed through ritual, resistance, celebration, community, ecology, cultural tradition, or something else entirely.

Fast and Fabulous (April 3–25, 2026)

Entry deadline Tuesday, March 10; Receiving Sunday, March 29 by appointment

Curators: Kelly MacConomy and Scott MacConomy

Open to all area artists. Motor enthusiasts unite!—whether you're a grease monkey, gear head, motorhead, or simply a lover of transportation, this show invites you to share the vehicles that bring you joy, from dream machines to your very first car.

ACHS 2026 Titan Student Art Exhibition (May 1–23, 2026)

Receiving Sunday, April 26 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 9, 9am-3pm)



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Updated 1/6/2026. Dates subject to change. Check the calendar for updates: DelRayArtisans.org/calendar

USA at 250 (June 5–28, 2026)

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

Curators: TJ Feeley and Karen Feeley

Open to all area artists. Capture the spirit of our nation: its past, present, and its promise for the future.

Summer Art Market (Indoors - July 11–12, 10am-4pm both days)

ChronoScape: Artistic Explorations of Time Travel (August 7–29)

Entry deadline Friday, July 10; Receiving Sunday, August 2 by appointment

Curators: Suzan Ok Shumate and Sue Shumate

Open to all area artists. *ChronoScape* is a curated visual arts exhibition inviting artists to explore the human fascination with time travel—real or imagined—through works that traverse ancient civilizations, speculative futures, science fiction, memory, mythology, and the unknown.

Celebrating Hispanic Heritage: Voices Through Visuals (Sept 4-26)

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

Curator: Laura Ramirez Drain

Open to all area artists. In celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15–October 15), honor the rich culture, traditions, resilience, and artistic contributions of Hispanic and Latino communities through a diverse collection of works by emerging and established artists across various mediums.

HalloWEIRD Art Market (Outdoors - Saturday, Sept 19, 9am-2pm)

Carnival of Curiosities (October 2–31, 2026)

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

Curators: Tiara Safic-Martin and Morgan Parr

Open to all area artists. Step right up and enter a carnival of curiosities where all manner of carnival-themed art – silly or dark, from food and lights to games, rides, music, costumes, and more - is welcome to dazzle, delight, and maybe even bite!

\$125 and Under (November 6–29, 2026)

Entry deadline Saturday, October 10; Receiving Sunday, November 1 by appointment

Curators: Dale Spivey and Liz Martinez

Only open to Del Ray Artisans members. Open thematically, but all artwork is priced at \$125 or less.

31st Annual Holiday Market (Indoors - December 4–20, 2026)



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 \$ _____ John W. Hiller Photography & Film Scholarship \$ _____
- Youth Programs Including 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