

LAUREL ART GUILD NEWSLETTER



MAY 2020

☹️ CANCELLED, NEXT MEETING, MAY, 2020

President's Message

As we all do our best to navigate these strange times, I want to thank some folks who have found ways (and the time) to keep LAG active. John Cholod, LAG's Webmaster was able to put images of all the paintings from the LAG Open onto LAG's website and to make it possible to buy them there.

Special thanks to Beth Crisman, Sara Morgan and Alan Ernstein, the team at the Montpelier Art Center, who began by extending the LAG Open exhibit and then finding a way to make the images available for sale online. Now they are working with Ofelia Moore and Melissa Price to find a way to return the artworks to their owners.

LAG's tradition of awarding a scholarship to a graduating senior who intends to pursue further study in the visual arts in each of Laurel's two high schools continues. This year, Palloti High School senior Donovan Thomas and Laurel High School senior Alani Koeiman will each receive a \$400.00 scholarship and an honorary one-year membership in LAG. See some of their work further along in this newsletter.

LAG's Board has already begun to plan next year's activities. We'll kick off the program year in September with a critique session given by a local professional artist, followed by Maureen Farrell on abstracting the figure in October and Sandra Davis on "found object" art in November, with more to come.

We Need Your Help

We need to hear from you. We've noticed that many of you have not been coming to meetings and we'd like to understand what's keeping you away. Do you need a different meeting time? Do you want different subject matter? Or something else? We want very much to provide the kind

of activities that will be interesting or helpful to our members, so let us know what you want by sending a note to President@laurelartguild.org

Exhibits/ Member News

Right now, as I am writing this, I am looking at some beautiful azaleas and dogwoods. At least that makes me smile. Many of you had plans to join in various events. And, sadly, this “stay in place” time has cancelled these events, such as the Herbs, Tea, and Arts Festival (one of my favorites) and the Patuxent exhibit. I love painting nature, so I’ll be ready when we get to exhibit again.

A few of our fellow artists sent me some photos of what has been keeping them moving and involved.

Sally Davies has her paintings still hanging at Maryland Hall. One can see them digitally. And I saw her on Zoom talking about her studio and paintings. Good to see you Sally.

And speaking of studios:

Here are photos of Diane Shipley’s newly redone studio. Refinished floors, organized shelves and she’s ready to go. “It will be a mess shortly, I’m sure!!!”



And Sally Davies did a lot of organizing too! But then she had a lot of help. Check out Miss Lucy. FYI to see what is at Maryland Hall go to <https://www.marylandhall.org/exhibitions/vantage-point-paintings-sally-davies>



And Leigh Marget has been actually busy with her paint brush. Check out these beautiful paintings.



Linda Williams has also been spending time most days in her studio. She sent these images to share with you. How beautiful Linda. I love the variety. Thanks for sharing.



Another busy lady. This is Ofelia's latest work;



Carol Leo has signed up to be in the upcoming MAA online show, "Our Stories," <https://montgomeryart.org/events>. The two paintings depicted below as well as three other watercolors will be displayed online beginning May 1.



Plein air painting of St. Barnabas Church, a historic church dating back to the first half of the 19th century. I took a break from Covid 19 indoors to paint outdoors on a recent Sunday.



“Turtle Tableau” Depiction of a turtle visited on a recent walk on the trail.

51st LAG at Montpelier: Melissa and Ofelia will be at Montpelier May 5, from 12-3 pm. They will be coordinating this safely. For those that have paintings there, look-out for more information. Thank you for your patience.

2021 – still looking ahead

New Deal Café – Greenbelt – June

Patuxent Wildlife Refuge – Laurel – August

Laurel Art Guild Scholarship Award – Palloti High School



LAG is pleased to announce that Donovan Thomas is the 2020 Scholarship awardee from Palloti High School. Mr. Thomas has been accepted to Full Sail University, Winter Park, Florida in their Video Game Design/ Art Bachelor of Art Program. Upon completion of his degree in 2022, his plans include working as a Game Designer/Artist in a gaming entertainment studio such as Lizard Entertainment or Respawn Entertainment. Mr. Thomas chose the following examples of his work to show and describe for us.



Tarot 2019, acrylic on canvas “The Major Arcana Tarot cards paint a picture of a journey that all of us have to travel to reach our fullest potential. Each Tarot card depicts a certain kind of milestone or obstacle in our life and how one could move past it. Each Tarot card is given a number from 0 to 21, and each has a meaning behind it from the objects or figures in the picture.”



Tower (exterior) 2019, watercolor on paper



Tower (interior) "Defines idea that people set a goal in life and how others with similar goals are competitive and "climb the tower" to obtain their goal in a very different manner."



Progression_City 2017 acrylic on paper. "The painting explores the idea of how humans naturally progress technologically by creating new environments to live in. Though vastly different from our current existence, humans learn to adapt, grow and develop with our quickly changing environment."

Laurel Art Guild 2020 Scholarship Award – Laurel High School



LAG is pleased to announce that Alani Koeiman is the 2020 Scholarship awardee from Laurel High School. Ms. Koeiman plans to pursue a career in visual arts with a focus on character design in video games and/or animation. After a break, she intends to apply to the University of Maryland, MICA and UCLA. She hopes to someday work with Nintendo. She has selected three of her best pieces to show us, accompanied by her own description of each piece.



Thoughts “This piece is meant to represent the many thoughts that flood my mind and not being able to escape them.”



Blossom “When you think of "becoming a woman" something that may come to mind is blossoming flowers because of the saying "blossoming into a woman." However, in my case I don't identify as woman. That's where the pollen and bees come into play. They represent the discomfort I feel when being referred to as a woman.”



Self-Portrait “Portraits are something I enjoy drawing/painting; however, I rarely make portraits of myself. On this particular day, I felt good about this picture of myself and felt compelled to make a self-portrait.”

Webmaster: John Cholod

There is a new exhibit on display in our on line gallery: Rusty and Crusty. Please take a look and add a work of your own, if you wish. Three other exhibits remain open: Catchy Colors, Warm Colors, and Go With the Flow. Each member can post one image depicting their interpretation of the title. You must use a separate login for each exhibit to ensure the image ends up in the correct exhibit.

You can send a jpeg file to John – If you do, also provide the title, size, and medium. If you want it listed for sale, also provide the price and contact information that you are willing to share online. Contact John for assistance, if needed.

<https://www.laurelartguild.org/ZenXhibit/Online-Exhibit/>

Like the LAG on Facebook!

Did you know the Laurel Art Guild has both a Page and a Public Group on Facebook? Our Page is used to post events, happenings and other LAG news. The LAG Public Group is open to anyone to post items of interest to LAG Members. You can help by joining and adding information about shows, classes, or anything of interest to you as a LAG member!

Public Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1032414543535049/>

Page: <https://www.facebook.com/LaurelArtGuild/>

Many of us have exhibits that would be normally open right now, and many have plans for upcoming exhibits, such as the Herbs, Tea, and Arts Festival which has been already cancelled, and our Patuxent exhibit. As we get new information, we will let you know.
Keep painting and keep looking ahead.

On a sad note:

A long-time member of LAG, Fran Miller, just passed away. Fran had been in a nursing facility in Frederick for some time now, due to Alzheimer's, and contracted "suspected" Covid-19 last week and passed away on April 20, 2020. Fran was a member in the early days of the Laurel Art Guild. They originally had meetings in the basement of a bank. They met with much enthusiasm. Our sympathies go out to her family and friends.

2019 – 2020 EXECUTIVE BOARD

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NEEDED:**

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**Please consider
volunteering for OPEN
POSITIONS!**

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Montpelier Arts Center
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the 10th of the Month