

LAUREL ART GUILD NEWSLETTER



December 2022

President's Message

These past few days, I have been watching leaves fall like snow outside my window. The beech trees, as well as a few oaks, still have their leaves. The beeches especially have put on a lovely show – first bright yellow, then orange which has already begun to fade to a pale pinky-beige before finally giving up their hold. It's been a reminder that there is still plenty to paint outdoors while the weather remains accommodating.

By the time you read this, Thanksgiving will have come and gone. I hope you all enjoyed the holiday. Now, we are looking forward to the December holidays and New Year celebrations. No matter how you celebrate, I wish you good times as well as continued good health and happiness for you and yours.

LAG has several exhibits yet to come this year, in addition to the LAG Open. That means there will be room for lots of artwork. Look for details later in this issue.

Do you have a painting that you feel isn't quite right yet? Then LAG's January meeting is just what you need. Abigail McBride will critique members' paintings. This is in time for you to make any desired changes well before the LAG Open entry deadline. Look for details in the next newsletter.

Important Reminder: If you have not renewed your membership, this will be your last issue of the newsletter.

December Program

On **Saturday, December 10, 2022, from 1 – 3 pm at the Montpelier Arts Center LAG will hold its Holiday gathering.** We'll have finger food, a White Elephant sale, and a few other distractions in addition to catching up with one another.

All members are invited to bring finger food or soft drinks to share. Diane Osburn is coordinating to help ensure that we have a nice balance of sweet and savory items. **Please RSVP to her at DOSBURN5@gmail.com** no later than Wednesday, December 7.

Carol Leo will be creating a video featuring an image of all members artwork for us to view and see if we can identify the artist by their style. Carol will contact you to arrange for you to submit an image. You do not have to attend the party to contribute to the video.

The White Elephant Sale is a December tradition which contributes nicely to LAG's Scholarship Fund. A White Elephant (supposedly a rare animal) is any art making item you've accumulated that you realize you no longer use or need. Please bring any gently used art supplies, books, and other art-related items that you no longer want for the sale. Remember, one person's unneeded item is often another person's treasure. Please fill out a bid sheet for each item you are donating. You can show the original price (if you still know it) and set a minimum bid for item – this is usually 50% of the original price, rounded to the nearest dollar. No item should have a minimum bid of less than \$2. Even if you're not donating, you can participate by buying. There are often some good bargains and interesting items at this event. Already, several very nice, brand new painting supplies have been donated.

Later in this newsletter you will find a full-page auction form which you can print out and fill out in advance. There will be additional forms available at the meeting.

We hope to see all of you there on the 10th.

Current Exhibit

If you haven't had the opportunity to do so, be sure to visit the LAG member Brookside Garden show. It is beautiful! Please share your appreciation with Diane Shipley for her hard work organizing and staging this exhibit.



Upcoming Exhibits

2023

We already have a busy year ahead of us in 2023 so start thinking about what you want to paint for the coming year.

- April – Patuxent Wildlife Refuge, Laurel
- May – Ranazul Restaurant, Maple Lawn
- August 14 – September 18 - another show at Brookside Gardens, Wheaton

Plus, the two ongoing exhibits at Morningside House of Laurel (Melodye Mitchell is the featured artist through January 7) and the Small Works Exhibit at the Montpelier Arts Center lobby. Congratulations to Carol Leo who sold one of her paintings from the Small Works Exhibit.

LAG Open

The LAG Open is now accepting entries. Good luck!



CALL FOR ENTRIES
Deadline: March 20, 2023

Sally JK Davies
"Fractured Truth"
First Prize, 53rd LAG Open 2022

LAUREL ART GUILD
Montpelier Arts Center
Laurel, Maryland
54th Annual Open Juried Exhibition
May 6-June 4, 2023

Six prizes to be awarded:
1st prize: \$300
2nd prize: \$250
3rd prize: \$200
Three merit awards of \$50 each

Open to adult residents of MD, VA, DC, PA, DE, NJ

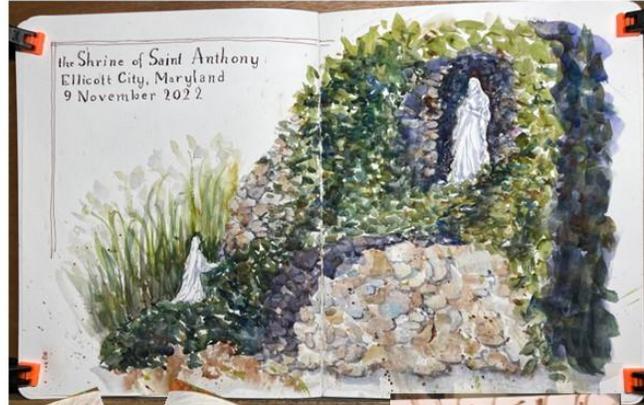
Inquiries:
lagopen@laurelartguild.org

Apply online:
www.laurelartguild.org

Juror: Lindsay McCulloch

LAG November Paint-Out Report

Our Plein Air Outing on Wednesday, November 9 had all the makings of an ideal setup, with bright autumn weather, vibrant lights and shadows and many inspiring scenes from which to choose on the grounds of the Shrine of St. Anthony. Four LAG Artists (Pam, Diane O., Suzanne, and Carol) participated, and were inspired to produce a wide variety of sketches, paintings, and photos featured at left and below.



From Diane O.: *Great day out yesterday and a huge thank you for organizing the outing. I loved meeting and exploring the grounds with you. I enjoyed the location and was inspired by the many views and subjects to choose from. The experience was relaxing and peaceful and I'd go back again. Attached are the two colored pencil drawings I did. The first is the west side of Carrollton Hall through the trees. The second is a slightly abstracted bird house. Thank you again for a fun outing.*



Although our plein air painting may be over for the season, we hope to continue with painting from life indoors in the winter months. Stay tuned for announcements in your emails.

Member Article

The Winter wonderland of ART in Motion

by Angie O'Neal, www.artistangelo.com

Sleigh bells ring
Are you listening
In the lane Snow is glistening
A beautiful sight
We're happy tonight
Walking in a winter wonderland

Gone away is the bluebird
Here to stay is a new bird
He sings a love song
As we go along
Walking in a winter wonderland

In the Nutcracker, after their magical journey through the snow forest, they come to their destination in the Land of the Sweets. Clara can't believe her eyes; ladyfinger mountains topped with whipped cream whiter than snow, sweetly glazed flowers and butter-cream frosting everywhere she looks. Upon their arrival, they are greeted by the Sugar Plum Fairy. When people think of the term "Art," images of great masterworks by Leonardo da Vinci, Monet, Rembrandt, or Georges Seurat come to mind. Canvases adorning the walls of the hushed hallowed halls of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, Le Louvre in France, or the Berlinische Galerie in Germany may be on the bucket list of things to see and do.

BUT...Art is so much more than canvases, paints, and techniques. Art is designed to be experienced in a variety of forms. It is expression waiting to communicate and spark conversation. The effect of the art on the audience can elicit a variety of responses including but not limited to: applause; audible "oos and ahhs;" patronage or a sustained membership of the arts; advocacy for expanded arts programs for those in disadvantaged communities; crowd-funding for arts scholarships, etc. The Arts can make you laugh, cry, dance, sing, sculpt, paint, or heal a hurting heart. On a personal note, when I am working on a new project or finishing a piece, music is often in the backdrop as Alexa has learned to sense that I am in create mode. For me, the arts are in motion and that is not confined to my fingers moving brush strokes across a canvas.

Art is Magical... Art is Magnetic...

Even if you do not understand the storyline well, a great piece of Art moves you to lean forward to experience the wonder of the scenery. If you have ever seen "Swan Lake," the "Nutcracker," or watched skaters performing their routines in front of a worldwide audience, you may have

been awed by the precision and skill of the moving artists. Every pirouette, pas de deux, leap, or triple axel caused you to press into the scene as a participant. Their moves were choreographed to music to convey life themes. Dance is art in motion that has often bridged the divide between time periods and cultures.

Art is Medicine...

Medical science and behavioral psychologists have written about the use of the arts in education and medicine for decades. The arts have been used as part of a multi-disciplinary approach to treat persons struggling with depression, cognitive disorders, or addictions; those in rehabilitation therapies after surgery; and, in long term care facilities to provide a creative "breath of fresh air" with limited mobility. Patients who were thought to be unreachable through traditional therapies often responded positively when painting, music, dance, or videos were introduced.

Art is Memorable and Monumental...

The arts provide a soundtrack and montage documenting the passage of time (the Roaring 20's, the Great Depression, The Civil Rights Movement, Free Love 70's, etc.) Sometimes the arts are like an anthem which chronicles the hope and lasting texture of relationships forged in the cauldron of change. Bette Midler's music, in particular "Wind beneath my wings," causes you to scan through the Kodak moments of your life. Art that is in motion through our emotions provides a language to express our deepest feelings in an audible manner. You cannot help but feel the emotions of the song in its lyrics and the voice style of the artist.

I hope that this article has expanded your thinking about what art is and sparked your desire to support the Arts. Your voice is a crucial tool for advocating and advancing the reach of the Arts in our communities. As you move about in your day humming a special tune, admiring the colorful landscape, or viewing a classical piece of artwork, remember that you are experiencing what that artist had in mind when he/she/they created it: a special canvas that moves you to live life more fully.

Member News

Carol Leo

Carol recently participated in the annual Patuxent Wildlife Holiday Bazaar. Sales of paintings, prints and cards were very good, and it was fun to reconnect with previous customers from pre-Covid years. She has also received some follow-up orders for cards.

On Thursday December 1, Carol will participate in the Annual Howard County Art Center Makers Mart with the sale of paintings, prints, and cards.

Carol sold one painting, "Farm in Brookville" at recent Small Works Show at MAC.

Rebecca Rothey

Rebecca is excited that her painting "Dolomite View" was juried into the Maryland Federation of Art's Small Works show. It is the first time one of her watercolor paintings has been selected for a juried show.

Diane Shipley

I can't believe 2022 is almost gone. I have had a very busy year and the final two exhibits are for my miniature paintings (paintings are less than 4" x 6").

November 19 - January 7 - The Miniature Painters, Sculptors & Gravers Society of Washington, DC's 89th Annual International Exhibition of Fine Art in Miniature. I had three paintings juried into this fantastic exhibit of over 700 artists from all over the world. The show will be held at The Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda, MD. **If you can't make the trip, you can view the exhibit on-line at www.mpsgs.org**

November 13 - December 30 - I have five paintings on display at The Cider Painters of America miniature exhibit in Dallas, Pennsylvania. **This show can also be viewed on-line at www.ciderpainters.com**

October 29 - January 21 - The Meeting House Gallery 10th Anniversary Invitational Art Exhibit, 5885 Robert Oliver Place, Columbia, MD. I was one of eight artists invited to be part of their 10th Anniversary exhibit. I have 8 paintings in that show.

October 5 - January 9 - I had one of my paintings chosen to be displayed at the Windridge Vineyard, 15700 Darnestown Road, Darnestown, MD. Twenty-one paintings were selected from over 150 entries.

December 1 - 5:30 - 8:00 pm. I will be at the Howard County Art Council's Holiday Open House, 8510 High Ridge Road, Ellicott City. I will have a table set up with small paintings, prints, and greeting cards for purchase.

2022-23 EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Programs: **OPEN**
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Festival Activities: **OPEN**
Workshops: **OPEN**

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**PLEASE CONSIDER
VOLUNTEERING FOR OPEN
POSITIONS!**

White Elephant Sale Form

Item: _____

Donor: _____

Original Price: _____

Bids	Bidder's name
Minimum Bid: _____	---

**Laurel Art Guild Newsletter
Montpelier Arts Center
9652 Muirkirk Rd.
Laurel, MD 20708**

**Newsletter Input Due on
the 15th of the Month**