

# LAUREL ART GUILD NEWSLETTER



May 2021

**LAG programs are free and open to everyone. Just email [president@laurelartguild.org](mailto:president@laurelartguild.org) for the link to our next program.**

## President's Message

Things are looking up. People are getting vaccinated, some arts venues have begun a gradual reopening and the weather is making plein air painting possible again. Right now, plein air seems like the way to go – we can be outside, maintaining our social distance, and still be together. The minimalist can bring nothing more than a sketchbook or camera to collect source material for painting while the more ambitious can bring as much equipment as they care to carry. Keep an eye out for emails from Carol Leo, our plein air chair, on opportunities to paint outdoors.

Meanwhile LAG plans to continue meeting virtually through June to make attendance possible for the largest number of people.

Plans for LAG's 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Juried Open Exhibit are coming along nicely, thanks to Ofelia Moore's organizational and troubleshooting skills. See more later in this issue.

## May Program

**Stacy Cantrell** will discuss the fiber arts on **May 10, 2021, from 7-9 pm**, via Zoom. Watch for your Zoom invitation a few days before the meeting.

Stacy is a multi-talented, entrepreneurial artist who creates large three dimensional sculptures in crochet. She shows and sells her work professionally throughout the metro area and participates in large community fiber arts projects. She has curated

exhibits for the Arlington Art Center, the Torpedo Factory, the By the People Festival and NPR's Network Operations Center. In addition to her LAG membership, Stacy is a member of the Crochet Guild of America, the Center for Knit and Crochet and the Potomac Fiber Arts Guild where she is currently President.

Stacy has an eclectic educational and work background. She holds a BA in Music/Art with an emphasis in flute. She also has a BA in Information Technology, an MBA and an MA in History of Decorative Arts. Stacy has worked in IT, ran her own successful mural painting business and, following a move to this area, worked for National Public Radio and for the National Science Foundation. Right now, she's working part time at a house rabbit rescue in Columbia and reviews grant proposals for the National Science Foundation.

Stacy says of her work: "I learned to crochet when I was four years old, and handed down to me was the traditional training of generations where I perfected formal techniques and patterns. Rebellious and playful to the core, I use my accustomed skills to make unconventional creations. I find it fun and fascinating to crochet three-dimensional objects, especially when they portray a sense of humor and ironies. My work is whimsical with elements of realism. I make items with a fun, artistic point of view yet still hold true to be physically and/or historically accurate. I do research on my intended objects and really enjoy learning more about them."



Sonoran Guardian, Crochet, 2013



Octoclock, Crochet, Takoma Park, MD, 2019

**This program is free and open to the public. Non-members can attend by writing to [president@laurelartguild.org](mailto:president@laurelartguild.org) to ask for the Zoom link.**

## Exhibits

**LAG Open** – Over 100 artists entered so our juror, David Lawton, had more than 200 works to choose from. Congratulations to the 11 LAG members whose work is included among his selections: **Anita Carrington, John Cholod, Sally Davies, Keri Anne Fuller, Perveen Khan, Carol Leo, Ofelia Moore, Lydia Peters, Diane Shipley, Mary Ellen Simon and Helen Wood.**

Montpelier Art Center is now open (by appointment and with reduced hours) so that we will have a physical show available for visitors to see. However, it is likely that the May 15 reception will be a virtual affair.

Important dates: Drop off paintings on May 4 from 12 – 4 pm.  
Pick up paintings on May 31 from 12 – 4 pm.

We can still use volunteers to help with both drop-off and pick-up. Please contact Ofelia Moore at [lagopen@laureartguild.org](mailto:lagopen@laureartguild.org) or 301-725-4978 if you can lend a hand.

## Other Activities

**Plein air is back!** Weather forced cancellation of Carol Leo's well laid plans for an April session on the grounds at Montpelier. She's now working to find a May venue for another session and we're all hoping for a sunny day.

Keri Anne Fuller, LAG's **Laurel Arts Council** Liaison reports that the Council is ramping up committees for:

- Public Art - Murals
- Outreach - Publicity
- Research - Grants and Proposals
- Visual Arts - Education

Those that are interested in volunteering are welcomed to join the open meetings. The next meeting is: Tuesday May 11th at 6pm. For more info, contact Keri directly at [lucid@lucidartgallery.co](mailto:lucid@lucidartgallery.co). LAG is strong in executing exhibits and scheduling professionals to conduct workshops. This is in alignment with the Councils Visual Arts vision (find venues, find teachers, organize art exhibits, recognizing students and artists). Keri would love to have the Guild leverage their abilities. Let her know if you'd like her to formally introduce you to the chair.

## Member News

LAG welcomes two new members this month. **Eva Zang Tkatch** recently retired

from the US Capitol Visitor Center and is enjoying being a full time artist. Her work features happy, colorful abstract paintings from abstract faces to expressive florals to impressionist landscapes. As a mixed media artist, her primary mediums are acrylics and alcohol inks. She also works with encaustic wax, watercolor, and India inks.



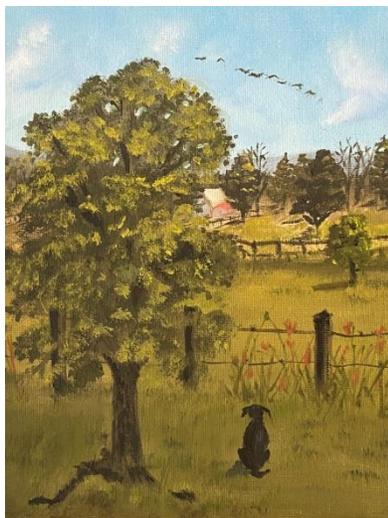
Striped Bouquet, 16x16, acrylic



The Road Less Traveled, 5x7, acrylic

Eva can be reached at 301-922-9514 and [zdesignsfineart@gmail.com](mailto:zdesignsfineart@gmail.com).

**Melodye Mitchell** is new to the art community. Her passion for painting developed after she retired from the federal government when she finally had the time to focus on improving her technique and application of color theory. Her paintings reflect something personal. She is drawn to landscapes, people, objects and flowers with a tendency toward realism. She also has a passion for teaching and inspiring others to find their inner self through art.



Untitled



Untitled

Melodye can be reached at [sanango1@aol.com](mailto:sanango1@aol.com).

**Diane Shipley, Nar Steel and Helen Wood** have work in the Women's Club of Chevy Chase annual show which continues online through May 16. Their paintings can be seen at [www.wcccmaryland.org](http://www.wcccmaryland.org).

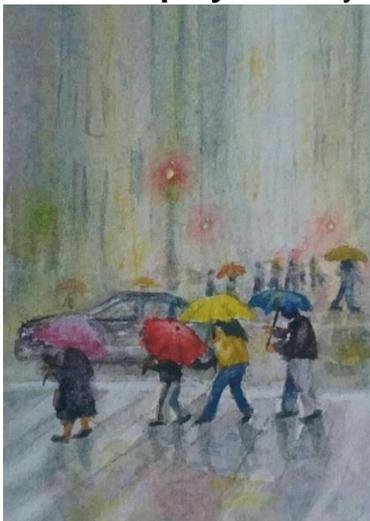
**Sally Davies'** time-lapse film, *Labyrinth of Life* was awarded a **Rose Video Award** by Greenbelt Access Television. It was also juried into the Delaplaine Arts Center's **National Juried Exhibit**, Frederick, MD (May 1 – July 11, 2021). Sally's canvas painting, "Hope: Thank you Stacey Abrams" was awarded Honorable Mention at The Art League's Line by Line Juried Exhibit, Torpedo Factory (Mar 11 - Apr 4, 2021).



*Labyrinth of Life*

**Leigh Marget** is working on an exhibit for the window of the Maryland Women's Heritage Center in Baltimore which is a historic landmark newly purposed to educate, celebrate and facilitate the many & great contributions of Maryland's women. The building has been recently renovated and is being prepared for its grand opening to the public.

**Diane Shipley** recently sold two paintings:



*Rainy Day in NYC*



*Fireball*

## 2020 – 2021 EXECUTIVE BOARD

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**HISTORIAN:** **OPEN**

**PUBLICITY:** **OPEN**

**FESTIVAL ACTIVITIES:** **OPEN**

**PLEASE CONSIDER  
VOLUNTEERING FOR OPEN  
POSITIONS!**

**Laurel Art Guild Newsletter  
Montpelier Arts Center  
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**Newsletter Input Due on  
the 10th of the Month**