

# LAUREL ART GUILD NEWSLETTER



**JUNE 2024**

## President's Message

This is your last issue before the Newsletter goes on vacation. It will return in late August to give you all the scoop on upcoming activities for the 2024-25 program year. In the meantime, keep an eye on your email and LAG's website for possible pop-up activities such as a plein air outing.

I am pleased to report the results of the 2024-25 Officers election which was held at LAG's last meeting on May 13, 2024. They are:

President: Efrain Montanez  
Vice-President: Anita Carrington  
Treasurer: Eva Zang Tkatch  
Secretary: Jill Bartos

They will take office on July 1, 2024. Please welcome them and give them your active support. As a small organization, LAG really does punch above its weight and that is because of your active participation. We can only accomplish as much as we do because all of you pitch in when asked and do the necessary work to make good things happen.

As I step down as President, I want to thank all of the officers and committee chairs who have served with me. You have been a wonderful, creative, and energetic group to work with – it's been a pleasure. Thank you.

## June Program

**On June 15, 2024, at 12:30 pm we will hold LAG's traditional New Members Luncheon at the Olive Garden restaurant, 14650 Baltimore Avenue (Route 1), Laurel MD 20707.**

Entrance to the parking lot is behind the Olive Garden. From Route 1, go west on Cherry Lane, next left onto Laurel Place, then left again into the parking lot.

If you joined LAG after July 1, 2023, you are a New Member and are invited to be LAG's guest for lunch. We hope you will bring one or two pieces of your artwork (no more than two!) to share.

If you are a continuing member, you will be responsible for your own lunch.

You **MUST** RSVP for this luncheon so that the Olive Garden will know how many places to set. So please let Stacy Andrews at [stacy.voccia@gmail.com](mailto:stacy.voccia@gmail.com) or 630-270-9908 know **by 5 pm Wednesday June 12**, that you're planning to attend.

This is a great opportunity for both new and continuing members to get to know each other. I hope you will all join us.

## Exhibits

**June** – WSSC Main Headquarters in Laurel. The show will run from June 3 through September 3, 2024.

**September** – Kensington Park Library – more information will follow closer to the exhibit.

**Ongoing** - Small Works at MAC. We hung a new show on April 20 which will run through July 29, 2024.

## LAG Open

### **The 55th LAG Open Juried Exhibition Officially Closes**

Our annual show has come to a successful conclusion. On Tuesday, May 28, participants picked up their works. Congratulations to Perveen Khan, Carol Leo, and Diane Shipley for their sales!

I hope each of you will continue to hone your craft this summer, as I will be on the lookout for entries for the 56th Open. You will all be prime candidates! The search for new entries begins in late December.

Thank you once again for your wonderful submissions. Enjoy your summer—it will pass more quickly than we think. I hope to see everyone at the annual new member luncheon. Please consider attending and volunteering for a position within the Guild.

All the best and happy summer!

Anita Henley Carrington, Vice-President, LAG

## Article About Artomatic 25 by Linda Botts Butler

Artomatic 25 – the non-juried, multimedia arts event returned to Washington DC this spring (March 8-April 28, 2024) after a 15-year hiatus. The event was located on seven floors of a temporarily vacant office building at 2100 M Street, N.W.

Approximately 800 hundred artists from the United States and abroad displayed a vast array of creative, thought-provoking, and highly skilled artwork including paintings (watercolor, acrylic, oil, mixed media), mosaic and collage, textiles, photography, sculpture, wood working, metal working, and various digital and electronic art forms. In addition to providing a venue for artists to display and sell their artwork, the event hosted individual and group artists receptions during the evenings.

Visiting Artomatic 25 one Friday afternoon, I observed a steady flow of visitors and a sizable number of “red dots” indicating “sold” artwork. While viewing the exhibits, I met several artists and learned the following:

- Artomatic events are held periodically rather than annually.
- Artist entry fee for Artomatic 25 was \$150.
- Day-to-day operations of the event were largely handled by volunteers, including participating artists who were asked to perform six hours of volunteer work during the seven-week event.
- The art display areas (open floor space or small offices) were assigned based on artist’s request, on a first come/first served basis. Once assigned, the artists were allowed to customize their exhibit space — paint walls, set up display boards and track lighting, and arrange area rugs and furniture — all of which helped to showcase their art and to invite visitors.

For additional information about Artomatic 25 and future events, please visit [Artomatic – By Artist, for Everyone](#).

## Member News

### **Elle Brande:**

I'm a member of LAG. I live in Laurel and recently opened an art studio in Beltsville. We have studio spaces, classes, workshops, and are trying to get more involved in our direct community through some public art projects etc. Our website is below with information about an upcoming ceramics workshop. Other classes will be announced soon. Let me know if you're interested in visiting or collaborating!

Elle Brande, Founder, Moonlight Studios

301.204.0721

[@MoonlightStudios2023](#)

[Website](#)

### **Margaret Panebianco:**

Margaret Panebianco is an artist who loves to get in the flow, with mixed media, collage, and art journaling. Margaret's favorite themes are memory lane, flowers, (almost) empty nest, self-care, and coffee/chocolate. She joined LAG in March of 2023.

Margaret Panebianco's painting "Waterway of Joy" was juried into the exhibit Water, Water Everywhere, at the Bowie (Maryland) City Hall. This art exhibit is sponsored by the City of Bowie Arts Committee. It continues through September 21. Her abstract acrylic painting represents the joy and gratitude we have for having water in our lives. Water provides us with nourishment, life, and care. This painting also shows the strength and resilience, we have. Water is able to forge a new path. It's able to push ahead. We, as humans, are able to persevere and to try a new path.

Two of Margaret's mixed media collages were also juried into their previous exhibit. The theme for that art exhibit was Inspired By The Masters. Her collage "Frida, You Have Inspired Me" is inspired by Frida Kahlo, the famous Mexican painter. Margaret's art collage "Coffee" Pop is inspired, of course, by the Pop Art Movement, as well as her love of drinking dark roast coffee.

Margaret has two of her mixed media artworks hanging as part of the Art Is Ageless exhibit, at the Benjamin Gaither Center in Montgomery County. The titles are: "Jeans 50+" and "Age Is". The goal of this art exhibition is to celebrate aging, to raise awareness of ageism in society, and promote positive age beliefs. This exhibit will end on June 30, 2024.

Margaret also entered "fabric artwork" into the 2024 Coral Critters art contest. She created five colorful, three-dimensional fish using recycled fabrics, ribbons, and lace. Her fabric had previous lives as a sundress, a pillowcase, and a children's summer top, to name but a few. She is waiting to hear back if they've been awarded a prize. The Coral Reef Encounter event seeks to raise awareness about the plight of coral reefs. This June's event is held in Columbia, MD. According to their website, it is the first and only time anywhere that a swimming pool has been turned into an artful, simulated reef filled with handmade, fanciful coral and fish!

**Rebecca Rothery:**

Rebecca's painting "Hiram Rock" was juried into the Rhode Island Watercolor Society's 2024 National Watermedia Show.



**Plein Air for May and June**

*submitted by Carol Leo*

Our May plein air outing at the Kensington Park Library that had been scheduled for May 18 was canceled due to rain that day. The librarian who is arranging this event is attempting to find another date that is acceptable to both MAA and LAG. An email will be sent when the date has been decided. Since it will most likely be in June, we will hold off on scheduling another plein air event for June until further notice.

We also hope to have plein air excursions during the summer months of July and August, weather permitting. Hope to see you at some wonderful art events this summer!

## 2023-24 EXECUTIVE BOARD

### Elected Officers

**President:** Mary Ellen Simon  
[president@laurelartguild.org](mailto:president@laurelartguild.org)

**Vice President:** Anita Carrington  
[lagopen@laurelartguild.org](mailto:lagopen@laurelartguild.org)

**Treasurer:** Eva Zang Tkatch  
[treasurer@laurelartguild.org](mailto:treasurer@laurelartguild.org)

**Secretary:** Jill Bartos  
[secretary@laurelartguild.org](mailto:secretary@laurelartguild.org)

**Immediate Past President:**  
Carol Leo  
[IPP@laurelartguild.org](mailto:IPP@laurelartguild.org)

### Appointed Officers

**Membership Chair:** Eva Zang Tkatch  
[membership@laurelartguild.org](mailto:membership@laurelartguild.org)

**Exhibits Chair:** Diane Shipley  
**Co-Chair:** Linda Botts Butler  
[exhibits@laurelartguild.org](mailto:exhibits@laurelartguild.org)

**Webmaster:** John Cholod  
[webmaster@laurelartguild.org](mailto:webmaster@laurelartguild.org)

**Plein Air Chair:** Carol Leo  
[paintoutdoors@laurelartguild.org](mailto:paintoutdoors@laurelartguild.org)

**Program Chair:** OPEN

**LAG Open Chair:** Anita Carrington  
**Assistant Chair:** Fiori Tesfamariam  
[lagopen@laurelartguild.org](mailto:lagopen@laurelartguild.org)

**Scholarship Chair:**  
Margaret Kohn  
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**Newsletter Editor:**  
Rebecca Rothey  
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**Laurel Arts Council Liaison:**  
Angela O'Neal  
[ArtsCouncilLiaison@laurelartguild.org](mailto:ArtsCouncilLiaison@laurelartguild.org)

**Workshops:** OPEN

**Historian:** OPEN

**Publicity:** OPEN

**Festival Activities:** OPEN

**PLEASE CONSIDER  
VOLUNTEERING FOR OPEN  
POSITIONS!**

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

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