

LAUREL ART GUILD NEWSLETTER



SEPTEMBER 2024

President's Message

Hello to all Laurel Art Guild members and friends, art enthusiasts, and professional artists! It is my pleasure to extend a warm and meaningful greeting as we continue our journey of creativity and communication through art. Together, we share not only hope and inspiration but also constructive critique in every painting, drawing, and form of artistic expression. Our goal is to help create a better society, nurture better individuals, and cultivate responsible citizens.

As the newly appointed president, I am dedicated to carrying forward and enhancing the Laurel Art Guild's remarkable legacy. I am committed to opening new opportunities, exploring new areas of artistic expression, and welcoming fresh talent into our organization. All of this will be done with a deep sense of care and commitment to the quality of education in the arts.

I look forward to getting to know each of you and to exploring with you. Please feel free to reach out to me with ideas and suggestion for enhancing our Laurel Art Guild experiences.



September Program

LAG programs are free and open to everyone.

On Monday, September 9, 2024 at 7:00 pm David Lawton will conduct a critique of members' artwork. All members in good standing are invited to bring one or two – no more than two! – pieces that you would like David to comment on. The goal of this session is to help you solve whatever problem you're having with your piece. David's comments are always insightful and helpful, so this should be a great session. Even if you don't have something you want to bring, come and learn by observation.

David Lawton is a well-known regional artist and beloved teacher. He currently focuses on oils and soft pastels, particularly enjoying the immediate gratification of pastels and the richness that can be achieved with oils. David believes that portraits, still life, and plein air painting each offer a unique challenge which enhances his growth as an artist.

David's work has been featured in several magazines such as the American Artist, The Pastel Journal and The Artist Magazine. He is currently president of the Maryland Society of Portrait Painters and past president of the Maryland Pastel Society. He is a member of several organizations such as the Mid-Atlantic Plein Air Painters Association and The Pastel Society of America. He continues to exhibit his work in national competitions where he has received numerous awards.

David currently teaches both privately and for Anne Arundel Community College. His work is represented by the McBride Gallery in Annapolis, Maryland. You can see his work at davidlawtonfineart.com.

Exhibits

June – WSSC Main Headquarters in Laurel. Currently ongoing, the show will run through September 3, 2024.

September 3-30 – Kensington Park Library – LAG and the Montgomery Art Association are collaborating with the Kensington Park Library (4201 Knowles Avenue, Kensington, MD) on a joint art exhibit at the library. The theme of the show is plein air/landscape. We expect 30-40 pieces of art to be on display.

Ongoing - Small Works at MAC. We hung a new show on July 22 which will run through October 18. Start thinking about what you want to have in the next show.

Member News

Pam Bozzi

Pam recently completed two watercolor paintings of farm animals which were accepted into the juried shows for Labor Day weekend at the Glen Echo Yellow Barn and in the Ballroom. She also completed a watercolor painting of a display of fiddles and one of her neighbor's lovely iris. She says, "I guess I was busy during the hot dog days of July and August when I stayed inside the airconditioned house."



Billy the Bull



Hello World



Fiddles on Display



Iris

Margaret Panebianco

Margaret was one of 47 Artists selected to exhibit her art at the 2024 Overlea Arts Fest, with the theme of “Kaleidoscope”. Her mixed media collage titled *Recycled Jeans — Recycled Memories* is part of their art exhibition. The venue is the Holt Park & Center for the Arts in Baltimore County.

She is also excited to announce that she won Third Place in the “colorful fish made from fabric” category as part of the 2024 Coral Reef Encounter at Jeffers Hill swimming pool in Columbia, Maryland. The juror was artist Michael Beard, a well-known painter in Naples, Florida.

Now in its fourth year, this event continues to be a beautiful, immersive art and science experience. 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. Each year Coral Reef Encounter has drawn more than 1,000 people into the reef over two days—adults and children. The Coral Reef Encounter is a fun, family friendly public event that simulates the amazing experience of snorkeling in a tropical coral reef, all while swimming in a safe, local pool. It’s an educational event helping to raise awareness about the importance of coral reefs.

Diane Shipley

Diane has her greeting cards for sale at the gift shop in Brookside Gardens, 1800 Glenallan Avenue, Silver Spring, MD.

Mary Ellen Simon

Mary Ellen will have three paintings on view at Montgomery Art Association's "Paint the Town" exhibit on Labor Day weekend at the Armory Building, 3710 Mitchel St. Kensington, MD.



One for Work and One for Play

Rebecca Rothey

Rebecca's photograph *Men Moving Mirror* was awarded Best in Show in the "Fleeting Moments" exhibition at The Athenaeum in Alexandria, Virginia.



The juror, photographer [Jennifer Packard](#), said of the image:

To me, a compelling street photograph captures a bit of irony, causing one to stop and look deeper at the image. It asks a question, sometimes many questions. And within the frame, there is a story – albeit 1/60th of a second of a story – left to the viewer to fill in the blanks. Additionally, strong compositional elements and technical proficiency are extremely important.

Men Moving Mirror achieves all these criteria. In my delivery during the opening reception, I explained to the attendees the specific elements I found compelling within your image that merited the award. Elements discussed included:

- At first glance, are there two or three men?
- The reflection plays with perspective, offering diagonal lines which make the eye travel throughout the image.
- The mirror creates a frame within a frame. Upon further view, I discovered a third frame: the poster on a building in the reflection is the third.
- The image has a lot of tension. One man points at the other. Pointing at another conjures a perceived power imbalance. Is he being aggressive? Accusatory? The reflection shows a disembodied pointer finger reinforcing the tension of the moment.
- The other man's hand is bandaged, which begs a degree of empathy for him, and an inquiry of what happened.

Plein Air Summary, August 2024 submitted by Carol Leo



Our August Paint-Out was touched by beautiful sunshine and blue skies that caused the iconic natural venues of Brookside to sparkle even more than usual. The six LAG members who attended each selected a unique subject and in two to three hours produced lovely works that reflected their individual styles from watercolor sketch to



completed oil masterwork.

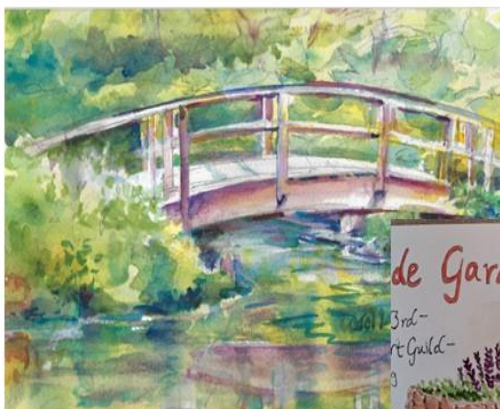


From Pam: *A5 Hahnemule watercolor paper sketchbook. Watercolor. And some final ink lines. What a gorgeous day to be there. Thanks for organizing.*
From Mary: *Thank you all so much for organizing. It was fun!*

From Jill and Doug: *We enjoyed the gardens!*

From Linda: *What a wonderful day we had at Brookside Gardens... thank you!*

Be watching your email for an announcement of the September Plein Air Event!



*****Special Annual Plein Air Event*****

For interested plein air enthusiasts, **MAA (Montgomery Art Association)** is having its annual plein air event in conjunction with **"Paint the Town"** in Kensington, MD on the Labor Day Weekend. To sign up for the plein air event, bring blank canvasses to be stamped at the Armory Building at 3710 Mitchell St, Kensington, MD either Friday, Aug 30, 4-7pm or Saturday, Aug 31, 7-11am. All blank canvasses (or papers) must be stamped to qualify for the competition. Completed works must be returned by 3:00pm on Saturday August 31 to be judged. The period for the Plein Air Event has been extended this year to include Friday evening to allow artists to paint an evening scene in Kensington. The fee for non-MAA members is \$10.

2023-24 EXECUTIVE BOARD

Elected Officers

President: Efrain Martinez
president@laurelartguild.org

Vice President: Anita Carrington
lagopen@laurelartguild.org

Treasurer: Eva Zang Tkatch
treasurer@laurelartguild.org

Secretary: Jill Bartos
secretary@laurelartguild.org

Immediate Past President:
Mary Ellen Simon
IPP@laurelartguild.org

Appointed Officers

Membership Chair: Eva Zang Tkatch
membership@laurelartguild.org

Exhibits Chair: Diane Shipley
Co-Chair: Linda Botts Butler
exhibits@laurelartguild.org

Webmaster: John Cholod
webmaster@laurelartguild.org

Plein Air Chair: Carol Leo
paintoutdoors@laurelartguild.org

Program Chair: Mary Ellen Simon
program@laurelartguild.org

LAG Open Chair: Anita Carrington
Assistant Chair: Fiori Tesfamariam
lagopen@laurelartguild.org

Scholarship Chair:
Margaret Kohn
scholarship@laurelartguild.org

Newsletter Editor:
Rebecca Rothey
newsletter@laurelartguild.org

Laurel Arts Council Liaison:
Angela O'Neal
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***