



Laurel Art Guild

Over 50 Years Supporting Local Artists February 2026 Issue

Laurel Art Guild's 57th Art Open Juried

April 18th to May 3 2026
Reception May 3rd
from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM



Laurel Art Guild Present:
Alexandra Treadaway Hoare

Saturday, March 7th, 2026 at 10:00 AM
at Montpelier Art Center

9652 Muirkirk Road
Laurel, MD 20708



Bring your watercolors and materials for an immersive experience
with a professional recognized worldwide watercolorist.

watercolorhoare.com



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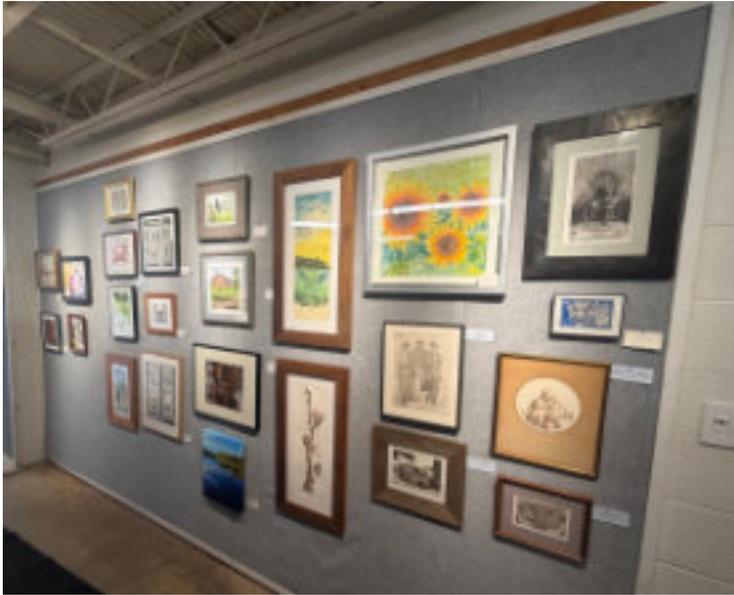
ALEXANDRA
watercolorhoare.com



We are looking for members like you to join the 2026–2027 Laurel Art Guild leadership team. Opportunities are available on the LAG Board, as Chairs, and within our Committees, Groups, and Resource teams. Your ideas, experience, and creativity can make a real difference.

**Contact us to know about
available chairs and positions**

Small works on the wall of Montpelier Art Center



Participating in "Small Works" and other LAG Art Exhibit offers a unique and accessible platform for artists to showcase their artist talents and to test new concepts or techniques and are also vital for community awareness and engagement. Why does participation matter? Beyond the visibility, artists gain several tangible benefits like:

- **Marketability:** Smaller pieces are often more affordable, making them attractive to emerging collectors and increasing the likelihood of sales.
- **Networking:** These shows serve as a hub for local creators to connect, share insights, and strengthen the

regional arts scene.

- **Creative Discipline:** Working within size limitations challenges artists to focus on detail and composition in ways larger scales might not require. LAG members contribute to a vibrant local culture while building professional portfolios so please consider submitting works to our exhibits. For additional details regarding upcoming exhibits or how to get involved, please contact me through my website

www.idomythang.com.

Kobina Ahoto
Exhibits Chairman

President's Salute

March has arrived, and with it comes the renewed joy of stepping beyond our doors and returning to the rhythms of shared life. Nature is awakening—quietly at first, then boldly—preparing to burst into bloom with thousands of colors that invite us to look closer, feel deeper, and create freely. This is the season to take your easel outdoors, check your materials, and allow the beauty unfolding around us to inspire new work. It's time to make art.



Here at the Laurel Art Guild, we are preparing for our most anticipated event of the year: the 57th Art Open Juried Exhibition, to be held at the Montpelier Arts Center. The exhibition will run from April 18 through March 31 in the Center's main hall. I personally invite each of you to submit your artwork and be part of this important celebration of artistic excellence. Please don't wait until the last minute to enter:

<https://laurelartguild.org/open-entry-form/>

We are also thrilled to welcome a truly special experience for our members and friends: a presentation and hands-on watercolor session with internationally recognized artist Alexandra Treadaway Hoare. She will share her remarkable work and offer insight into the techniques behind her expressive watercolor style. Join us on Saturday, March 7th at 10:00 AM at Montpelier—bring your watercolors and materials and enjoy a short but inspiring creative experience.

There is much more ahead on our agenda this year, and your involvement matters deeply. We continue to invite you to consider serving as a Board Member and helping lead the Laurel Art Guild forward. By stepping into leadership, you help preserve and grow this creative legacy for future generations.

Thank you for your passion, your talent, and your continued support. Let's make this spring a season of inspiration and artistic growth.

Laurel Art Guild BOARD MEMBERS

President:
Efrain Martinez

Vice President:
Obed Díaz

Co- Vice President
Josué Martínez

Immediate Past President:
Mary Ellen Simon

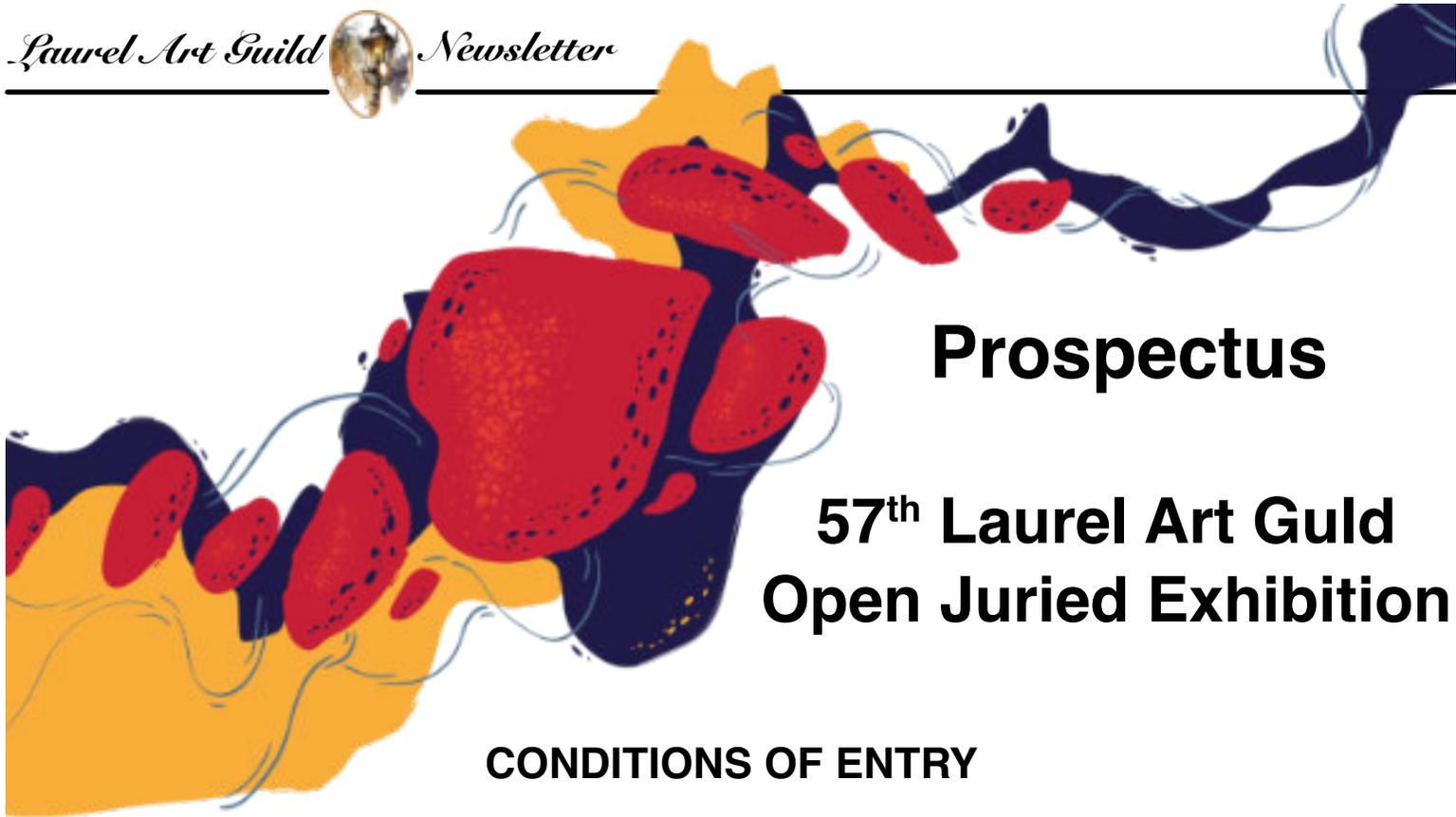
Appointed Officers

Exhibits Chair:
Kobina Ahoto
Plain Air Chair:
Carol Leo

Scholarship Chair:
Margaret Kohn

LAG Liaison
Margaret Panebianco

MAC SMALL WORKS Show
Laurel Art Guild
Showcase your talent



Prospectus

57th Laurel Art Guild Open Juried Exhibition

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

All artwork must be professionally presented and ready for exhibition. Two-dimensional works must be suitably framed unless intentionally designed to be displayed unframed (i.e., the image continues beyond the surface plane). All framed works must be securely wired for hanging. Exposed glass edges, unstable frames, or damaged presentation materials will not be accepted. Matted works must be matted in white or off-white only.

Glass must be clean and free of defects. Wall-mounted sculptures that are fragile or contain breakable materials must be enclosed in a shadow-box frame and must not exceed a total weight of 40 pounds, including the frame.

All submitted artwork must be clearly titled and priced. If a work is not for sale, its insurance value must be listed on the entry form. A standardized label form for the back of accepted artwork will be provided at Montpelier Arts Center on the drop-off date.

All accepted artwork must remain on display for the full duration of the exhibition and may not be removed prior to the official closing date.

The Laurel Art Guild (LAG) reserves the right to refuse any artwork upon delivery if it is deemed improperly presented, unsafe, damaged, inconsistent with submitted images, or does

not meet size or eligibility requirements.

By entering the LAG Open Exhibition, artists grant Laurel Art Guild permission to use their name and images of their artwork for promotional purposes, including the LAG website, social media, and an electronic exhibition catalog.

ELIGIBILITY

Artists must be 18 years of age or older and must reside in Maryland, Virginia, the District of Columbia, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Delaware, or New Jersey. Current Laurel Art Guild members are also eligible regardless of residency.

Each artist may submit up to two entries; however, no more than one work per artist will be selected for exhibition at Montpelier Arts Center.

ARTWORK REQUIREMENTS

All submitted artwork must be original and created by the entrant. Two-dimensional works must be properly framed and securely wired, and may not exceed framed dimensions of 36 inches wide x 48 inches high.

As we approach the beginning of a new program year, you'll want to make sure your membership is current to ensure that you don't miss out on any of the upcoming activities.

Please go to <https://laurelartguild.org/join-contact-us/> and click the "Pay Now" button to renew your membership. We'd also appreciate if you would take a moment to fill out the member interest form by clicking the link just above the Pay Now button.

Thank you! We look forward to seeing you soon.

**RENEW YOUR
MEMBERSHIP**



Wall-mounted three-dimensional works that meet hanging requirements will be considered. Unmounted three-dimensional works will not be accepted.

Artwork must have been created within the past three (3) years and must not have been previously exhibited at Montpelier Arts Center.

FEES & COMMISSIONS

A \$35 hanging fee is due upon delivery of accepted artwork. Checks should be made payable to Laurel Art Guild. Payment may also be made via PayPal.

Laurel Art Guild will retain a 25% commission on any artwork sold during or as a result of the exhibition. Prices set by the artist are considered final.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS

March 30, 2026, at 11:59 PM (EST)

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

All submissions will be juried using digital image files. Images must be submitted in JPG, PNG, TIFF, EPS, PSD, CANVA, or E-PUB format at a minimum resolution of 300 pixels, with a maximum image size of 5" x 7".

High-resolution images are required to allow Laurel Art Guild to promote accepted artwork on its website and social media platforms, providing artists with additional exposure and sales opportunities.

Artists are encouraged to submit a front-facing, full-bleed image with proper lighting and minimal glare. Avoid reflections from glass, flash, or other light sources that may interfere with accurate viewing.

Artwork images that present significant resolution, lighting, or digital quality issues may not be suitable for online or promotional use at the discretion of Laurel Art Guild or its designated digital and marketing contractors.

File Naming Format:

First Name – Middle Initial – Last Name – Medium – Title of Work
Example: Jane A. Richmond – Watercolor – The Seashore

Images and completed entry forms must be submitted online at: <https://laurelartguild.org/open-entry-form/>

Artists will receive confirmation of entry within 7–10 days of submission.

Artists should check the LAG website after April 06, 2026, to view acceptance results. Notifications will be posted exclusively on the LAG website.

DELIVERY & PICK-UP

Accepted artwork must be hand-delivered to the second floor of Montpelier Arts Center on Wednesday, April 16, 2026, from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM.

Artists may use the outside ramp beside the building or the main entrance for convenience.

Artwork must be retrieved on Saturday, June 6, 2026, from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM.

Artwork not picked up during the designated time will incur a storage fee of \$5.00 per day. Artists who are unable to retrieve their work due to reasonable circumstances should notify Laurel Art Guild as soon as possible so accommodations may be discussed.

LIABILITY & INSURANCE

All artwork will be handled with reasonable care. Insurance coverage is limited to \$500 per artwork from delivery through the scheduled pick-up date only.

Laurel Art Guild is not responsible for loss or damage beyond this coverage. Submission of an entry constitutes agreement with all conditions stated herein and affirms that the artwork is original and does not infringe upon any copyright.

JUROR

Jurors for the exhibition will be selected by the Laurel Art Guild Board.

Mr. Chinedu Felix Osuchukwu, MFA - Visual Artist and Educator
- Mayoral Appointee for DC Humanities Council

www.osuchukwu.com

Join the Conversation on Laurel Art Guild Social Media



Spring Light and Color: Painting the Season

Spring arrives not with a single moment, but with a quiet transformation. The light shifts first—softer, longer, more forgiving—then color follows. Buds emerge, shadows grow gentler, and the world seems to inhale before bursting into life. For artists, this season offers an open invitation to see differently and paint with renewed sensitivity.

Unlike the dramatic contrasts of winter or the intense saturation of summer, spring light is subtle and evolving. Morning hues are cool and pearlescent, while afternoons glow with fresh yellows, tender greens, and hints of lavender. This changing light challenges us to observe more carefully and respond with intention. A familiar landscape can feel entirely new when filtered through spring's atmosphere.

Color in spring is not loud—it is alive. Greens lean toward yellow, blues soften, and earth tones warm beneath emerging foliage. Instead of relying on heavy pigments, spring asks for restraint, layering, and transparency. Watercolor, acrylic washes, and light oil glazes excel in capturing this sense of renewal, allowing the white of the surface or underpainting to breathe through the work.

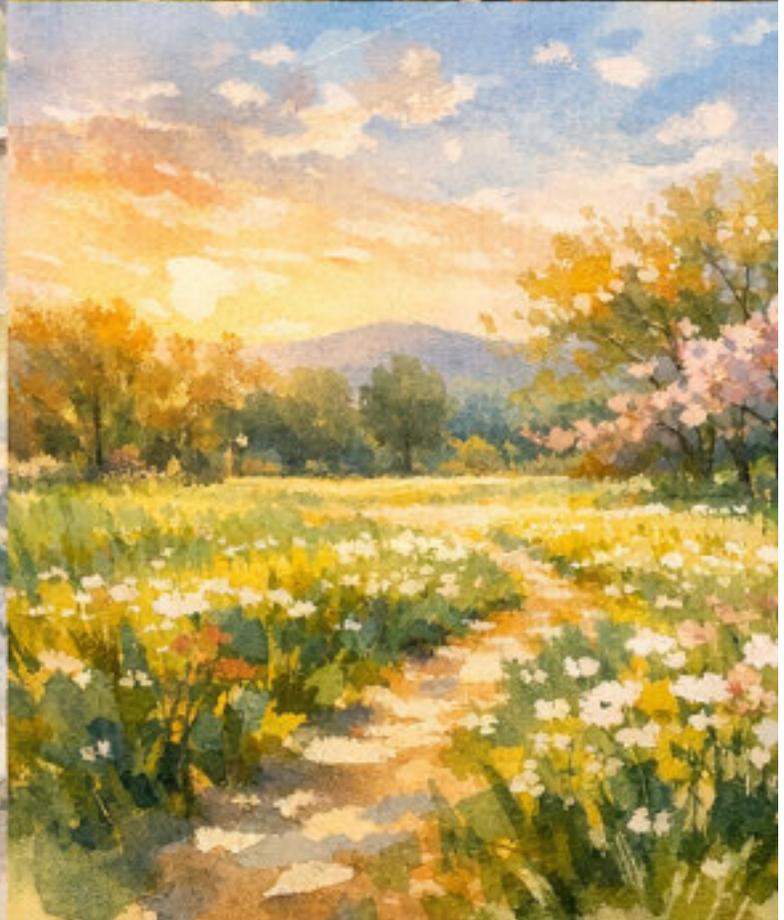
Spring also invites artists outdoors. Painting en plein air during this season sharpens observation and encourages spontaneity. A passing cloud, a sudden breeze, or a brief bloom reminds us that beauty is fleeting—and that gesture and impression can sometimes say more than detail.

Beyond technique, spring carries emotional resonance. It symbolizes beginnings, hope, and growth after stillness. Many artists find themselves experimenting more freely, taking risks, or returning to unfinished ideas with fresh perspective. The season becomes not just a subject, but a mindset—one of openness and possibility.

As you prepare your materials and step into this vibrant time of year, allow spring to guide both your palette and your spirit. Pay attention to the light. Notice the subtle shifts in color. Let the season shape your work—and in doing so, renew your creative practice.

Spring reminds us that art, like nature, is always ready to begin again.

AI





Join Carol Leo—one of Laurel Art Guild’s most experienced artists for an inspiring, hands on sensory art experience you won’t want to miss!

Check the 2026 Plein Air events for LAG's members paintoutdoors@laurelartguild.org or www.laurelartguild.org



The Laurel Art Guild is a nonprofit organization for people interested in the advancement of the fine arts. Membership consists of professional and amateur artists expressing themselves through a wide variety of media. The Guild strives to promote public appreciation for the support of its endeavors through community involvement. The Guild makes scholarship donations to students that are continuing their studies in Fine Arts. Founded in 1967, the Laurel Art Guild is located on the grounds of the historic Montpelier Mansion in Laurel, Maryland.

Membership is open to anyone with an interest in the visual arts. The monthly meetings provide educational presentations to further develop artistic skills and interests. Meetings and workshops are held throughout the year in addition to art shows and other events.

For more information on the Laurel Art Guild, visit the website at www.laurelartguild.org or our social media.

