



DuPage Art League School & Gallery

JUNE 2019 NEWSLETTER

Training the Artist's Eye

By Patricia Armbruster

The more you study any subject, the more complicated you realize that it is. This phenomenon became evident to me while watching a demonstration by portrait artist, Joseph Flynn, 30 years ago! The wonderful and unexpected result was that I am still learning and growing as a portrait artist. Each model is a new challenge, and each completed portrait informs my knowledge of the next portrait. It has never grown old for me!

True, we are told to **not** restrict our subjects to only faces, in order to improve as a painter. I agree totally with that. In fact, attempting a landscape or still life challenges me to mix new color combinations and revise how I begin the painting. The plein air group at the DuPage Art League is a wonderful group of artists who go out to paint on location each Friday of the summer. I love seeing the results of others work at the end of the 3-hour session.

I have also benefited greatly by going to workshops in other venues. The enthusiasm of like-minded artists results in a lot of sharing about materials and processes. If you can't travel, there are great DVD's and podcasts to improve the way you approach or think about painting. In the last 30 years, I have caught how to critique my own work and patiently revise it until it captures the person's essence. Most of all, I enjoy having the "eyes" to see beauty or a story in everyday happenings. Following artists who's work I love on instagram is a perk of this age of technology. Training one's eye and mind is a worthy goal. Have fun doing it!

Annual Meeting

The DuPage Art League annual meeting will be held at the League on June 9, 2019 at 1PM. It is always a good time with food and conversation.

This year, everyone attending will receive a free raffle ticket for a chance to win a gift certificate that can be used to buy a class or something wonderful from our gift shop or galleries. You must be present to win so come and enjoy the company of fellow artists and hear a very brief official report on the the state of our finances, activities and plans for the future.

Food for Thought

The artist never entirely knows – We guess. We may be wrong, but we take leap after leap in the dark.

- Agnes de Mille

The main thing is to be moved, to love, to hope, to tremble, to live.

- Auguste Rodin

Great things are done by a series of small things brought together.

- Vincent Van Gogh

The DuPage Art League does not discriminate nor tolerates harassment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, disability, marital status, citizenship, national origin, genetic information, or any other characteristic.

Gallery 1 April Awards

Best of Show

Kris Davis, "Matron", Pencil

Best Theme

Diana Nawrocki, "Textures of India", Fabric, String, Beads

Special Merit Awards

Carolyn Pennor, "Sheep", Acrylic

Natalie T. Brinley, "Mt. Masada Overlookers", Acrylic

Khrystyna Kozyuk, "Reflects Collection", Oil on Canvas

Merit Awards

C. R. Showalter, "Lady with a Red Umbrella", Oil

Nancy Staszak, "Parasaurolophus", Acrylic

Susan McLean, "Pyrenees Forest", Acrylic

Peter Young, "Painted Lady", Photography

Robert Koch, "Hillside", Watercolor

Peg Sindelar, "The Couple", Acrylic

Benjamin Calvert, "Le Zebre", Woodblock

Judith Horsley, "After the Rain", Photography

Robert Flynn, "Moon/Africa", Watercolor

Sue Thomas, "Smokey Mountains", Pastel

Mary Dorrell, "Quagga Dazzle", Oil

David Tigue, "Half Dome", Oil



Kris Davis, "Matron"



Carolyn Pennor, "Sheep"



Natalie T. Brinley, "Mt. Masada Overlookers"



Diana Nawrocki, "Textures of India"



Khrystyna Kozyuk, "Reflects Collection"

Gallery 1 News

Sue Jurkus | VP Exhibits

The Volunteer Show, which was by invitation only, will be held in Galleries 1 and 2 for the month of June. The pick-up dates for your May artwork and the drop-off dates for the June exhibit is May 29 and 30. A reception for the Volunteer Show will be held on June 9 from 2-4PM and will include our Annual Member Meeting. **All members are welcome to attend!**

As previously mentioned in the May newsletter, a volunteer is one who consistently contributes their time in excess of the 4 hour requirement as an exhibiting artist. All invitations for the Volunteer Show were based upon last year's volunteer service. A special thank you to all who have contributed their time to the Art League.

Volunteers Wanted

Each month when the exhibit in Gallery 1 changes, volunteers are always welcome to help out. If you are interested, please leave your name and number at the front desk or email me at dpalfrontdesk@gmail.com. I will get back to you as soon as possible to answer any questions you might have.

From the Library

Barbara Grabowski | Library Volunteer



The following titles have been added to the Library. They may be found on the "New Titles" shelf.

- Civardi. *Giovanni Civardi's Complete Guide to Drawing*. (Drawing)
- Gaunt. *Turner*. (Biography)
- Hart. *How to Draw Cartoons for Comic Strips*. (Cartooning)
- Katchen. *Creative Painting with Pastel*. (Added copy) (Pastel)
- Liu. *The Manner of Chinese Flower Painting; Its Spirit and Technique*. (Painting)
- Lynch. *Fun with Watercolor*. (Watercolor)
- MacKenzie. *The Watercolorist's Essential Notebook; Landscapes*. (Watercolor)
- Martin & Thurston. *Botanical Illustration Course: with the Eden Project*. (Drawing)
- Mowry. *Landscape Meditations*. (Painting)
- Neret. *Caravaggio 1571-1610*. (Biography)
- Reid. *Pulling Your Paintings Together; Composing with Line, Color, Mass, and Rhythm*. (Added copy) (Painting)
- Wissman. *The Big Fat Book of Watercolor Basics*. (Watercolor)

Note! The MacKenzie book is the 1000th title added to the Library since 2006 when I started cataloging! Woohoo library!

Yvonne Moves on...But Not Out Board Notes

Yvonne Thompson

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I've handed over my VP of Membership duties into the new and very competent hands of Nancy Nolan. Please direct all membership and newsletter queries to her at: nennew@comcast.net or phone, 678.644.8836.

No, I'm **not** leaving DPAL! I'm still Business Manager, Gift Shop chair and part of the Yuletide Treasures committee, but I'm just stepping down from being a board member. If you ever want to consider being a board member, I can highly recommend it as it is so rewarding to help with the decisions and running of DPAL. I want to thank all my fellow board members for "putting up" with this crazy woman for 9 years! You have inspired and encouraged me and I will miss seeing you all once a month.

Artisan Afternoons are on hold for the moment until I know when a classroom will be free at 218 W. Front Street. The last one about mat cutting was so popular I will repeat it and do Part II. Also, I am planning to do a mini-workshop on "How to make Gift Bags", so watch for that in up coming newsletters.

Hope to see you all soon!

Members in the News

Maggie Capettini is exhibiting 20 new knife paintings that explore the 1:2 format at La Grange Art League Gallery during the month of June. Titled "land : sky", this program is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council Agency. An opening reception is scheduled for June 1 from 3-5PM.

NEWSLETTERS/E-BLAST SUBMITTALS

vlorimer@yahoo.com

To submit email blast information and newsletter articles, send your information to: **vlorimer@yahoo.com**

Acceptable formats for submissions include Word documents or PDF files for text and 300dpi JPG for images). Please proof/verify your information before submitting. **Use minimal formatting; send photos, flyers, images as attachments to your email (not as part of the email body).**

Submissions are due by the 15th of the month.



- Our preliminary balance sheet shows we are in a good financial position with a solid cash on hand position and income exceeding expenses by more than \$70,000 year to date. Kay Wahlgren, DPAL president, sold 8 pieces during her show in Gallery II so perhaps she deserves some of the credit in more ways than one. Membership is inching toward 400 with 372 members as of 5/9 and \$17,100 in sales.
- There is a challenge this summer with one of the summer camps for children. The Wheaton school district added two days to the school schedule based on weather closings and those two days coincide with one of the camps. VP Nancy Anderson is working on a solution.
- The last Artisan Afternoon was a success with 13 people in attendance. Another one is in the process of being scheduled and will include information on how to make the back of your painting look as professional as the front.
- Repairs will begin on the front door and the front of the building as soon as weather permits. In addition, there are going to be some shelves added near the front desk along with a new vertical hand rail at the top of the stairs to the upstairs office.
- There is going to be a raffle for a \$100 DPAL gift certificate at the annual meeting which will be held on June 9 from 2-4PM. Board members are going to provide food and there is a rumor that a bottle or two of wine will be on hand as well. The reception for the annual Volunteer Show in Gallery II will take place at the same time. Over the last few years we've shortened the business reports so there will be plenty of time for socializing and enjoying the art.
- The team working on a new Computer/POS system and website is working hard to nail down details so they can make a presentation to the board soon.

DPAL Board 2019-2020

President: Kay Wahlgren

Secretary: Sally Hines

Treasurer: Patricia Thorson

VP Activities: Sue Thomas

VP Building & Grounds: Chuck Showalter

VP Education: Nancy Anderson,

Workshops - Jen Schwab

VP Exhibits: Sue Jurkus/Marguerite Paris

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VP Publicity & Promotions: Mary Dorrell

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Yuletide Treasures: Sherry Theilgaard, Liesl Mann,
Yvonne Thompson

Newsletter: Valerie Lorimer | vlorimer@yahoo.com

Muse with a View

Why do you make art? Or, why do you paint, draw, sculpt, weave, pour, weld, sew, build and so much more?

By Mary Dorrell



I was asked this question in art school. At that time, it was not something I had given much consideration. I mean, I was just compelled; I made art and just couldn't keep myself from making something. However, as

I have learned, this is an extremely worthy question. It's one of those; right questions, if you will. The ones that make you think. So, let's take a journey of asking this right question!

Why do I paint? Why do I take classes? What do I want to do with this? Beyond the "why;" "what" do I want out of it? What do I want to move towards? What do I want to become? What do I want to say? Do I want to say anything? What do I want to show the world? Who do I want to show it to? Where do I want my art seen?

Beyond my first answer of; "I just do it because I can't **not** do it," options include but are not limited to: **fun; recognition; communication; social engagement; income.** So, let's consider those for a bit.

FUN: it's a hobby, it's entertainment. I waited for retirement and it keeps me going. I always dabble a bit and I like the respite I get from playing with materials. It is fun. It gives me something to do.

RECOGNITION: prizes, press articles (magazines, newspapers etc.), prestigious organizations, esteemed museums and galleries, a following. I want my art seen in museums. I want to be remembered. I want to be recognized. I want status. I want my art seen in exhibitions and galleries. I want to be recognized. I want to sell my work. I want to win contests: I want recognition. I want prizes. I want awards.

COMMUNICATION: advertising, commercial art, public art, political art, political and public art. I want my art seen; I don't need to make money I just want it seen. I want to make a political statement. I want to make a social statement. I want my art to be relevant. I like images that reach people. I like to create big. Advertising and commercial art: I like art that is relevant. I like images that reach people. I like to be given a project and then create the material. I want an income. I like doing advertising. I like setting up catchy things.

SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT: attending classes, teaching classes, docent, gallery owner, DPAL volunteer. I have a gift for working with people. I love sharing what I know. I love helping people. I like being around other artists.

INCOME: Sell my art. Sell my skills. Sell my knowledge. This could be anything from teaching, to entering contests for prizes, to selling original artwork, selling advertising material, selling social interest designs, patterns, instructions, books and so much more.

Keep these questions handy; store them in the back of your mind. Take the time to explore the idea of outcomes, to discover what you want most or even what you want to avoid. Ask if you aspire for something grand but have not admitted it or stepped out to give it a shot.

There are no right or wrong answers. There are simply answers, and the answers today may not be the answers tomorrow. Simply keep asking the right questions! Have you settled for not knowing the: who, what, where and why?

It is the muse's wish that in the process you become ridiculously successful.

20 Creative Ideas for Art Inspiration

- Examine your culture.
- Reminisce about early childhood.
- Consistently use an artist sketchbook.
- Create numerous artworks simultaneously.
- Look at the art of other artists online and at art galleries.
- Try out a new artistic medium.
- Listen to music
- Take lots of photographs
- Carry a camera wherever you go and take lots of pictures.
- Read a book
- Take a hike, boat ride, etc.
- Get outdoors, and go for a walk along a trail or beach, or for a boat ride, and clear your mind.
- Being physically fit, eating healthy, and getting plenty of sleep have direct affect on inspiration.
- Listen to dreams
- Consider doing a collaborative project or artwork with other artists.
- Do not always focus on good ideas
- Look at child art
- Talk to senior citizens
- Create at the time of day you feel most inspired.
- Think about your hobbies and pass-times.
- Create for the sake of creating.
- Communicate more

Source: artpromotivate.com

Gallery II July Show features Jacqueline France

"Life is a Beach" Original Oil Paintings
July 1-30 | Reception Sunday, July 21, 2-4PM

Come in, meet the artist and enjoy some wine and cheese! Jacque and her husband live in Indian Head Park and have been summer residents in York Harbor, Maine for many years. As a lifelong painter she spends much of her time depicting the charm of York and its ocean environment on canvas.

Jacque's sketchbook and camera are always at the ready to record painting encounters like her current "Life Is A Beach" exhibit. Her goal was to capture people relaxing in candid



situations, and the color of fun in the sun at the beach. The paintings began as plein air pencil sketches together with reference photos and notes. These became compositions for the finished paintings that were completed in her studio.

Jacque received her BFA from the School Of The Art Institute of Chicago and after graduation taught art to children as an occupational therapist while continuing to pursue her passion for painting. Since then she has had several successful Chicago gallery shows and exhibits with Best Of Show, First Place and Honorable Mention awards. Besides the York Art Association she is an exhibiting member at several Chicago area art associations and guilds where she teaches and conducts demonstrations and critiques.

Jacque and her husband regularly attend workshops in the U.S. and Europe where she has expanded her repertoire. Her paintings appear on the Tuscany workshop website and in their publications. Her work hangs in private collections in Chicago, throughout the midwest and Italy.

An Excellent Watercolor Opportunity

We are lucky to have nationally acclaimed watercolor artist Ken Call as our July 13-14 workshop instructor. Ken will do several demonstrations of his loose, overlaying techniques with the first day's instruction focused on any subject students care to paint (flowers etc) and the second day on portraiture.

Please contact the front desk for Ken's own summary of what he'll teach, a supply list, and payment. Hours are 9AM-4PM. Fee is \$200.

Don't miss this chance to learn from a master!



Test Your Knowledge

Can you name all these works of art and the artists who made them? Stay tuned for answers next month!



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