



# DuPage Art League School & Gallery

JUNE 2020 NEWSLETTER

## The Difficult Transition Continues

Letter from the president, Dan Anderson

The May 15 edition of the *Chicago Tribune* had a lengthy interview with James Rondeau, president of the Chicago Art Institute, about their efforts to formulate a plan for reopening to the public. It was informative, alarming and comforting all in one. Informative because he went into some detail about what is going into their planning process. Alarming because of the number of unknowns and conundrums they still face this far into the Covid-19 challenge. And comforting to know that greater minds than ours are struggling in much the same way that we are. (One difference is that Mr. Rondeau and his sizable staff are getting paid to do this worrying.)

Predicting when the world will be normal again and we will be able to offer classes in our building is a fool's proposition. We know that the summer sessions have been cancelled. And the fall sessions are a big unknown. But your Art League isn't sitting on its hands waiting for a miracle. We are moving as quickly as a group of dedicated volunteers can move to keep the DuPage Art League relevant and useful to you, our members and students. Here is where things stand:

- By the time you receive this newsletter, our redesigned website should be up and running - or very close to it. Eventually, it will give you the convenience of registering for classes online. But more immediately it will serve as a portal bringing you a variety of art-related information with multiple links to the world of art.
- We are working hard to develop a plan for offering art instruction over the internet, much like what you have come to expect from the classroom experience. Doing this well requires a lot of strategizing, technical expertise, and policy

formulating. We hope to have an action plan ready for review and approval at the June 11 Board meeting.

- Meanwhile, we are moving ahead with the plan to move our monthly gallery shows to the internet, starting with the Volunteers Art Show in June.
- The video filming studio is about ready, complete with dual cameras that can capture both the instructor and the work in progress at the same time. The challenge here is finding volunteers who can edit our videos to produce a professional looking finished product.
- We anticipate putting a large TV screen in the front window where we can loop short videos for people walking by our building. We want to let the world know we are still alive and kicking!
- Preliminary plans are underway for a Kid's Channel on our website where we can serve up information and projects for young artists.

There's more. But some of it is speculative and may not be possible. If you are wondering about anything not mentioned here, send an email with your questions, comments and offers to help to: [staff@dupageartleague.org](mailto:staff@dupageartleague.org)

Meanwhile, stay well - and keep doing art. It's very therapeutic.

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.

# Volunteers Art Show – June 2020 – Invitation Only

The show must go on. With our building closed, we are taking our Gallery 1 exhibit to the internet. The June exhibit will be the annual Volunteers Art Show because our volunteers and all they do make the DuPage Art League what it is. Even though we may not be able to hold a reception in the gallery, we hope to bring the exhibit to an even larger audience by hosting it online. Our volunteers consist of front desk clerks, teachers representative, workshop coordinator, scout program, gift shop, librarian, mailing, beverage purchaser, Plein Aire coordinator, buildings and grounds, finance, office management, education, activities, treasurer, secretary, publicity, newsletter, gallery 1 and 2, workshop coordinator, President, and President Emeritus. Invitations have been sent to those who are eligible. This show is not judged. It will be accessible on our website - [dupageartleague.org](http://dupageartleague.org).

Our Gallery 1 theme for July is "Places You Have Traveled." Because we have been homebound due to COVID-19, your art could reflect places in and around your backyard as well as distant places you have traveled. At this time, we do not know if it will be hung in Gallery 1 or presented online. Either way we will be following all the same guidelines and the work will be judged and prizes will be awarded. Take a picture of your one or two entries and send with title, medium, dimensions, and price to [MargBucholz@comcast.net](mailto:MargBucholz@comcast.net) on June 24 and 25. If you do not have email, call a friend or neighbor and they can take a picture with their digital camera or iPhone to send to Margaret. The advantage of this is if you are out-of-town, you can still be creating art work and photograph your work to have included in the show.

Photographing artwork can be difficult. The new art studio we are creating at the rear of the smaller classroom will provide the perfect place to capture high quality images of your art. During the quarantine this can be done in ways that will maintain proper social distancing and protect your health. It does require making an appointment. Send your request to: [staff@dupageartleague.org](mailto:staff@dupageartleague.org)

## NEWSLETTERS/E-BLAST SUBMITTALS

[vlorimer@yahoo.com](mailto:vlorimer@yahoo.com)

To submit email blast information and newsletter articles, send your information to: [vlorimer@yahoo.com](mailto:vlorimer@yahoo.com) and copy [susanjurkus@att.net](mailto:susanjurkus@att.net) by the 15th of the month.

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).**

## Sad News

From Yvonne Thompson



It is with a heavy heart I have to inform you of the passing of two wonderful DPAL members - Chris Easy and Sarah McGreevy.

Chris' daughter Gillian contacted me with the news of his passing on May 9. Chris was my fellow Brit at DPAL and supplier of all things British! He had a home in Essex and would spend six months of the year here and six months back in the UK.

Many of you painted with Chris, or remember the book he illustrated for Kimberley Thompson, called *Toulouse on the Loose*, which is still available on Amazon. Either way I know many of us remember him so well and like myself are saddened to hear this news.

If anyone wants to reach out to the family, I can send you Gillian's email address.



Sarah McGreevy was one of my longtime, loyal Gift Shop volunteers and a regular help for Suzanne Massion, sorting and cataloging all the history files and clippings. Some of you took classes with her and remember the wonderful book she illustrated and her daughter wrote, *Back to the Manger - A Treasure Hunt for the Nativity*.

Sarah passed May 9th due to complications from COVID-19, a month before her 86th Birthday. There will be a memorial service, if restrictions permit, on August 4. For further information and Sarah's wonderful obituary, visit [hultgrenfh.com/obituary/sarah-mcgreevy](http://hultgrenfh.com/obituary/sarah-mcgreevy)

Rest in Peace Sarah, and go and create beautiful art in Heaven.

## Behind the Scenes at the DuPage Art League

Chuck Showalter, a retired dentist, serves as Vice President of Buildings and Grounds. He oversees the mechanical wellbeing and operation of all parts of the building. In a nutshell, if it's broken, he is the person to see. He claims that he has the easiest job on the Board, but don't believe him! In normal times, Chuck will be taking three or four classes at once in several media. He is perhaps best known for his portraits.



## Membership

by Sue Jurkus, VP

As indicated in this month's article titled "Volunteers Art Show", the DuPage Art League is moving forward with the Volunteers Show and the scheduled monthly judged exhibits.

Just a reminder to those of you who would like to participate in the monthly shows and are not members, you can sign up for a half year (July 1-December 31) individual membership for only \$25 and family membership for \$30.

Margaret Bucholz, our new Gallery Vice-President, has provided a good explanation on how to submit your artwork in the article on page 2.

I hope everyone is staying healthy and safe. I look forward to when we can open and see one another again!

## Food for Thought

*Keep some room in your heart for the unimaginable.*

-Mary Oliver

*There is no innovation and creativity without failure. Period.*

-Brene Brown

*Vision is the art of seeing what is invisible to others.*

-Jonathan Swift

*Be careful that you do not write or paint anything that is not your own, that you don't know in your own soul.*

-Emily Carr

## Board Notes



- The joint board meeting of the incoming and outgoing boards was held via Zoom. We're getting used to Zoom but it does present its challenges.
- Treasurer Pat Thorson reported that all the refunds and contributions resulting from the cancellation of classes have been processed. Students donated almost \$4,300 to the league from refunds they would have received which was wonderful. Pat has done updated projections and our financial situation is certainly a lot better than many organizations. We are fortunate that we own our building and do not have to pay rent or a mortgage.
- Much of our discussion centered around how we can make use of online opportunities to stay in touch with our members and students. A studio has been set up at the league to be used to film demos and classes and a team under new President Dan Anderson will be working on bringing all the ideas to life. There are plans in the works for online exhibits as well. You'll be hearing more about these activities as they get developed.
- The board made the decision to cancel the Summer Session of classes. The Plein Aire group will continue this summer since they meet outdoors. They are not considered a class since there is no charge to be part of the group. It may require some adjustments such as social distancing to make it work but Plein Aire has a long history at the league and it's great that the group will be able to continue.

## DPAL Board 2020-2021

President: Dan Anderson

Secretary: Sally Hines

Treasurer: Patricia Thorson

VP Activities: Sue Thomas

VP Building & Grounds: Chuck Showalter

VP Education: Kathy Szeszol; Workshops - Jen Schwab

VP Exhibits: Margaret Bucholz (gallery 1); Mary Lynn Sullivan (gallery 2)

VP Finance: Carol Kincaid

VP Membership: Sue Jurkus

VP Office Management: Sue Krzyzanowski

VP Publicity & Promotions: Open

President Emeritus: Kay Wahlgren

Yuletide Treasures: Sherry Theilgaard, Liesl Mann, Yvonne Thompson

Newsletter: Valerie Lorimer | vlorimer@yahoo.com

# Call for Artists – Wonderful Opportunity!

The St. Charles Public Library is seeking visual art pieces in a variety of mediums including photography, painting, illustrations and mixed media. The signature art piece will be permanently displayed above the library's fireplace in their newly renovated space.

For details on criteria and the submission process, visit [scpld.org](http://scpld.org)

Go to "Latest News" then click on "Library Foundation Seeks Artists Submissions"



## Inspiration Photo

Since we can't travel far lately, here's an inspiration photo from beautiful Scotland. It would definitely be fun to paint this beauty!

Source: Pixabay.com

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