



# DuPage Art League School & Gallery

OCTOBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

## Small Steps, But Successful So Far

Letter from the president, Dan Anderson

Determined efforts by instructors and students have kept the Art League free of the coronavirus as we inch toward resuming our main mission, bringing quality art instruction to our members and other interested parties. Kathy Szeszol, our VP Education, wants to continue with the winning formula through the end of this calendar year to build on our successful track record. We will be offering more classes, while continuing to limit on-site classes to a maximum of six students to allow for social distancing. At the same time, we have moved well along our learning curve with respect to on-line instruction, principally with Zoom offerings. The feedback from students regarding these online classes has been positive, but we plan to do systematic surveys to learn ways to do even better.

Meanwhile, the other important part of our mission, that of giving our members opportunities to exhibit and sell their art while also getting expert advice from judges, is almost back to normal. Of course, the new normal means that we must limit the number of people who can be in our galleries at any one time. This mostly affects our ability to host receptions for members exhibiting in Gallery Two, which is unfortunate. Gallery One has an extensive display of very nice pieces of art. If you haven't been in the Art League lately, you are encouraged to come see, and be inspired by, this display.

We are two or three volunteers short of the number we need to staff the front desk on the old pre-pandemic schedule. If you can spare four hours a week to do something important for the success of our Art League, while also having a surprising amount of fun greeting people and helping them sign up for classes, please drop us an email or phone the Art League to find out more about how you can volunteer. And there are other opportunities for volunteering what with our upcoming Yuletide Treasures exhibit which requires many hands to get set up. We look forward to hearing from you.

## Improving Our Online Ratings

Misty Alvis, VP Publicity & Promotions

We are trying to improve our ratings when people search online for DuPage Art League. If you are willing to give a few minutes of your time, we would like you to go online and give us a good review. While we would like you to keep the reviews honest, we are striving for a 5 star rating. If you cannot give us a 5, please contact a Board member to help us know how we can improve. Some of the places where we need reviews are Google reviews, Yahoo and Facebook. Any questions, feel free to contact Misty Alvis: [misty.alvis@gmail.com](mailto:misty.alvis@gmail.com). Thank you very much!

# Gallery 1 – September – Changing Seasons

Judged by Cynthia Hellyer Heinz

## Best of Show

Janet Kloss, "Spring at Sandy Bluff," Acrylic  
*Resounds with luminosity. Color in the shadows glow with the use of violet and green. Captures the essence of time and sense of light, movement and unique sparkle of an imminent fall.*



## Best of Show:

Janet Kloss, "Spring at Sandy Bluff", Acrylic

## Theme Award

Kathy Manning, "The Window Box," Watercolor  
*Strong entry into a common metaphor for autumn, pumpkins, made unique by editing pulling the viewer into the textures, surfaces and rich color. Great contrast and presence.*



## Theme Award:

Kathy Manning, "The Window Box", Watercolor

## Special Merit Awards

M. Kent Goebel, "Starting Over," Oil  
*Romantic visual statement of a memory the hope in gardening offers. Great use of color and strong depiction of the elements from the shed. The repetition of red is compelling, luscious.*

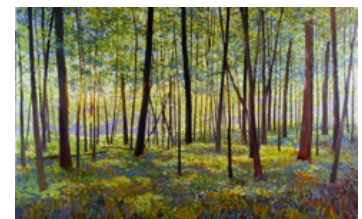
Dale Olsen, "Summer Sunlight 2," Oil  
*Excellent use of depth created by atmospheric perspective. The rhythm of trees, so stable, yet with enough variety that it pulls attention to the dance of the forest. This is the contrast "felt" in the specific season.*

Cathy Raef-Dunnigan, "Schist Window," Color Pencil  
*There is a charming sense of a place, as in a folk tale, an anticipation of the window being opened to reveal a narrative. Excellent use of texture, value. It is believable without being too transparent, leaving the viewer to wonder about this window and its inhabitants.*



## Special Merit:

Cathy Raef-Dunnigan,  
"Schist Window",  
Colored Pencil



## Special Merit:

Dale Olsen, "Summer Light",  
Oil

## Merit Awards

Annette Leiber, "Reflection," Collage  
Diana Mitchell, "Maine Summer," Pastel  
Judith Horsley, "The Crunch of Fallen Leaves,"  
Digital Photography

Marge Hall, "Northside Park," Oil  
Sue Thomas, "Schoodic Peninsula," Pastel  
Marlene Vitek, "Transition," Mixed Media  
Jesse Lee, "Kendall," Watercolor  
Gary Chipman, "Goldenrod Meadow," Acrylic  
Diana Nawrocki, "Hot Hot Summer," Acrylic  
Margaret Bucholz, "Moe," Color Pencil  
Mary Ann Asan, "Late Summer Sun Through the Birches,"  
Acrylic  
Diana Fitzwater, "Orange Flowers," Oil Pastels



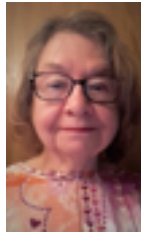
## Special Merit:

M. Kent Goebel,  
"Starting Over", Oil

# Behind the Scenes at the DuPage Art League

Kathy Szeszol, Vice President of Education

I am a retired certified educator in Illinois and have taught at all levels of education from preschool to high school and college. I also have a bachelor's degree in Art along with Master's degrees in English and Education. Since I am both an instructor and a lifelong learner, I feel the DuPage Art League could benefit from the use of technology which I would like to promote as online classes and using video techniques in the classroom.



I enjoy painting with the acrylic media, creating in mixed media, and drawing with graphite, ink and colored pencil.

## Gallery 1 – Call for Art for October 2020

Margaret Bucholz  
Theme: Folklore

Folklore is the theme for our last judged show of 2020. Last month Robert Koch sold a piece in the show due to someone seeing the show online, so we have decided to keep showing it online as well as in the gallery. Barbara Lipkin, judge for this show is the author of the Bella Sarver Mystery series: Painting Lessons, Brush with Death, and Death on the Danube, perfect for judging "Folklore."

Please photograph your piece by iPhone or digital camera and email to Margaret Bucholz at MargBucholz@comcast.net by September 23. If your piece is already framed under glass, you can put on the floor of a room with natural light, and take a photo aiming your camera down on it. This eliminates the glare. The drop off dates are Wednesday and Thursday, September 23 and 24, between 10AM and 2PM. And you can enter online only due to COVID-19, and they will be judged in the same show. Just let me know when you email so we know. Remember to bring a face mask to enter the gallery. Pick-up: October 21-22, 2020.

## Wheaton Art Walk

Saturday and Sunday, Oct 10 & 11 | 10AM-5PM | Front and Main Streets

The Inaugural event features 50 artists. Free admission. Register at wheatonartwalk.com

## Board Notes



- Activities VP Sue Thomas is working on the best way to film videos for the upcoming fall programs. She recently held a trial run with Ellen Rottsolek and one of the tech people at the Wheaton Library who volunteered to help. It looks like all will be well when the season's first program debuts in September.
- The league incurred some additional costs recently for the plexiglass shield at the front desk, a new safe and a new printer. In spite of that, although total cash on hand was down slightly, we are in sound shape.
- We've had trouble with the exhaust fan in the large classroom but Chuck Showalter, VP Building and Grounds, recently discovered the problem and it's now working. He's also in the process of getting bids on some HVAC work.
- Kathy Szeszol, VP Education, recently held a teacher's meeting attended by 18 teachers. A good part of the meeting was devoted to talking about safety and sanitation, a concern for everyone during this pandemic. The Zoom classes have been going well as have the sessions at the art league which are limited to six students at a time and are socially distanced. Kathy has begun work on the winter schedule which will have four sessions of four weeks each with a week off in between each session.
- The league is going to go ahead with our annual Yuletide Treasures show. Yvonne Thompson, our Business Manager, said she received a resounding "yes" from the past participants she contacted to ask whether we should hold it. Suffice it to say, Yvonne has been using all her creative brain cells to come up with ways to make this work. While it will be smaller than usual, she promises it will be "welcoming and inviting."
- The POS system project is still ongoing. Yvonne has put in many hours entering data and says while she won't predict exactly when it will be up and running but it's getting closer. We've determined that we will need a few more staffers at the front desk if we want to expand the hours we're open. Now is a great time to join because everyone will soon be trained on the new system at the same time. According to Yvonne, it will make the job much easier.

## 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).**

# Yuletide Treasures Update and Information

Yvonne Thompson, Yuletide Treasures Chair

If you wish to be in this show and have not contacted me yet, please do so immediately. Barcode labels will need to be ordered by Friday, October 9.

For those of you who have already said you want to be in the show, I have sent you the Criteria packet via email. There are copies at the front desk if you don't have email, or call me and I'll arrange for one to be mailed USPS to you.

If you have not entered the show before and need more information please contact me.

## Yuletide Treasures 2020

**Drop off dates by APPOINTMENT ONLY!**

**Tuesday, October 27-Saturday, October 31 (until 4PM)**

Second drop off date Monday, November 30, 10.30AM-2PM (appointment is needed). Call Yvonne.

Work will be displayed when space becomes available.

Installation is Monday, November 2, 12.30-3.30PM.

**No work will be received this day.**

The show officially opens Wednesday, November 4, 2020.

## Volunteer Opportunity – Alliance of Fine Art (AFA) Liaison

AFA is currently meeting by Zoom the second Tuesday of the month at 6PM. Attending the meetings is one way to take care of your volunteer commitment with DuPage Art League. This is a great way to network with other artists in other leagues to see what they are doing. Seven winners from each league shows at the Best of the Best show.

Each year the delegate would contact local high school art departments to bring two high school art students to take part in the annual scholarship competition to be held in March. AFA presents four annual scholarships to deserving high school students. This liaison could be shared between two people, one to go to the meetings, and another to contact and get student work.

If interested or would like more information, please contact Margaret Bucholz at [MargBucholz@comcast.net](mailto:MargBucholz@comcast.net).

## Help Needed

Misty Alvis, VP Publicity & Promotions

DPAL is now planning fun holiday/Christmas windows for our annual display in November and December, and we need your help! The theme will be 'I Spy', and we are looking for a number of items for the windows. We'd like to borrow your framed, holiday/Christmas themed paintings, for example: winter scenes, Santa, snowmen, Christmas trees, etc. We are also looking for snowglobes, nutcrackers, any holiday collection that you'd like to loan, as well as a large stuffed Santa.

Please contact Misty Alvis at [misty.alvis@gmail.com](mailto:misty.alvis@gmail.com) or 817.692.8070 if you can help. We would like to know what items you may have ASAP and would need them by October 23. Thank you!

## A Little Bit of History...

An excerpt from a newspaper article, April 1958

### Struggling Art League Goes Through Its First Year with Flying Colors

Various art groups are working hard in preparation for the 3rd annual art show sponsored by the Women's Association of the First Presbyterian Church of Wheaton.

One of these groups, most of whose members plan to exhibit, is the DuPage Art League, which celebrated its first anniversary April 1st with a large cake baked by the President, Anne Miller at the regular Monday night meeting. As they say, the first year is the hardest, and for certain the League has had its ups and downs, but through the efforts of some dedicated members, it has survived and there is now every reason to believe that it will be an integral part of the cultural life of DuPage County forever.

## 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: Misty Alvis

President Emeritus: Kay Wahlgren

Yuletide Treasures: Sherry Theilgaard, Liesl Mann,  
Yvonne Thompson

Newsletter: Valerie Lorimer | [vlorimer@yahoo.com](mailto:vlorimer@yahoo.com)

# Monday Night Open Virtual Programs

Well, this will be something new. We will be filming our first Zoom demo at the league in October. Both the August and September demos were done in the artist's studios. We will be filming William's with an iPad. This is new territory for us and we are hopeful that the iPad will successfully capture William at work. The Wheaton Library will still be moderating the demo. We are in good hands with Bari Ericson as host.

William teaches oil painting at DPAL and when things get back to normal, you might just be inspired to take his class. Hope you all will enjoy his demo.

**dupageartleague with the wheaton public library**

**present**

## **Light on Landscape**

**An evening of the magic of landscape oil painting**

**An online Oil Painting demonstration via Zoom**



On **Mon, Oct 19, from 6:30-8:30**, Artist William Worcester will describe his methods to master color and composition while modeling his landscape oil painting technique using palette knives, rags, and brushes. Provided in partnership with the DuPage Art League.

Register for the Zoom webinar invitation:

Here's the registration link:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_dtlqgG0rSK-IdE1s56UUmw](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_dtlqgG0rSK-IdE1s56UUmw)




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Gallery, School & Gift Shop

[www.williamworchester.com](http://www.williamworchester.com)



## Inspiration Photo

"Autumn Landscape" - Image courtesy of Alain Audet | pixabay.com

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