

DuPage Art League School & Gallery

March 2021

Say Hello to our New Website (almost)

Letter from the president, Dan Anderson

Too many times I have promised in this column that the Art League's new website and point of sale system is just around the corner. But things are looking very positive now. Yvonne Thompson is in the process of arranging training for front desk volunteers on how to use the new point of sale system and she provided a colorful demonstration of the system at our last Board of Directors' meeting. So, there is good reason to assume that the end truly is in sight.

One of the most exciting aspects of this technological breakthrough is that our website should allow people to register for classes online. Yes, one could argue that we should have been there several years ago, but a volunteer-driven organization doesn't always move at the fastest pace. We're still struggling with how to handle gift certificates purchased at the Art League, but we may put that offering on the back burner for another month or two while we move ahead with the rest of it. However, since there is a lot of lead time needed in setting up class schedules, the online registration option may not be available until we are offering summer classes.

And speaking of classes, it appears that government stipulated COVID restrictions are going to be relaxed in the near future. At the Art League we intend to continue being vigilant and conservative in our own approach, but we do anticipate being able to offer somewhat larger classes and more classes very soon. Meanwhile, please do your part to hasten our progress and help keep the Art League as safe as possible by getting vaccinated at your first opportunity.

Art Walk

Misty Alvis | VP Publicity & Promotions

DuPage Art League is working with the Wheaton Community Relations team to create an Art Walk for March's Women's History month. The work of nine DPAL women artists, who live in Wheaton, will be featured in the windows of women-owned businesses. Currently, the participating businesses include: The Perfect Thing, Jeans and A Cute Top, Kimmers, Sogno, Dry City Brewery, Suzette's, Frocks & Frill, & Natalie's Gluten Free Bakery. Artwork and businesses are being finalized this week. The program is scheduled to run from March 1-31.



Member News

Out of nearly 2000 entries, **Mary Lynn Sullivan** had two paintings accepted into the *Pastel Journal's* 22nd Annual Pastel 100 Competition as seen in their April 2021 issue. The Pastel Journal is the only fine art magazine devoted solely to the pastel medium featuring art and articles about today's best pastel artists. Her painting, "At the Atwood," won the Second Place prize in the *Landscape & Interior* category. Her painting, "Red Water Tower," took Honorable Mention in the same category.

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 I – Winter Wonderland

Judged by Carmelo Schifano

Best of Show

Susan Wilson, "Storm Rolling In," Oil

It moves fauistic, hot to cold colors. Great diagonal with horizon. Black cloud centered, filled with echoing colors.

Theme Award

Robert Koch, "Sunset on Green Bay," Oil

Framed big horizontal so you can see it. Limited palette, salmon pink and blue. You can tell the artist wanted this award.

Special Merit Awards

Gary Chipman, "Twilight Hunter," Watercolor

Child-like primitive. Limited color bottom - ochre. Rainbow color on top. You look into the painting and the owl looks back at you. Three major elements: earth, sky, and trees.

Annette Lieber, "Purple Majesty," Collage

Different, limited palette. Highly textured. Horizontal and mysterious. It wraps around the edge.

Joan Kalmanek, "Sky Above, Sky Below," Photography

Look at the value in the sky, light dark grey. She gives us twice the amount. Building compliments the vast sky. Dark area mysterious. Infinite perspective.

Merit Awards

Liesl Mann, *Look Nora!*, Colored Pencil

Natalie Brinley, *Angels in the Sky*, Acrylic

Diana Nawrocki, *Cruising*, Watercolor

Wilda Kemp, *Angels on High*, Polymer Clay Necklace

Sue Thomas, *Whiskey Sunset*, Pastel

Marge Hall, *Open Yellow Tulip*, Oil

Lori Tucker, *Metal to Sky*, Oil

Susan McLean, *Communa 13*, Medicin, Acrylic

Kenneth Kloss, *Sky on Sunday*, Acrylic

Yvonne Thompson, *Up into the Sky*, Jasper and Copper Necklace

Benjamin Calvert, *All Day Get Away*, Woodblock Relief



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"Twilight Hunter," Watercolor



Special Merit:
Annette Lieber
"Purple Majesty," Oil



Special Merit: Joan Kalmanek
"Sky Above, Sky Below,"
Photography

NEWSLETTERS/E-BLAST SUBMITTALS

vlorimer@yahoo.com

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

Behind the Scenes at the DuPage Art League

Mary Lynn Sullivan, VP Exhibits (Gallery II)



My duties include arranging for member exhibits in Gallery II and working with the artists to ensure a successful exhibit and reception.

I especially enjoy pastel art, developing my own skills and learning more about other amazing artists in this fast-growing field.

It's a joy for me to have the opportunity to work on my art with the other wonderful artists who teach and take classes at the DPAL. Retirement is busier than I expected, partly because my children and grandchildren (all 11 of them) live quite close to me and my husband. It's lively, but my children are my biggest fans and the grandkids love to come to gallery exhibitions.

Gallery I – March 2021: Flowers on the Wall

Margaret Bucholz, VP Exhibits

Entry: February 24-25 | Pick-up: March 24-25

Flowers on the Wall should inspire you to create art that will bring spring into your step. Remember, it doesn't have to be a wall hanging. It can include fused glass, sculpture, ceramics, jewelry, textile and fiber art, wallpaper design, etc. This exhibit will be judged by Tony Armendariz. Please drop off at DuPage Art League on Tuesday and Wednesday, between 9AM and 5PM. If you are able, take a picture of your piece and email it to Margaret Bucholz at Margbucholz@comcast.net by February 24. They will be put into a virtual slide presentation for posting on the website. Virtual as well as in-house, has brought customers into the gallery to shop and buy art.

If any of you are still feeling uncomfortable coming into the art league to drop off your artwork due to COVID-19, you can email me a digital of your entries with title, media, size, and price and I can print and mat your entry to put on a section of a wall reserved for online entries only.

Each member artist may exhibit two pieces per month free of charge. A non-member pays \$10. The second piece must be priced at \$125 or less and not exceed 25" inside frame dimensions (11x14). If a piece of artwork is sold, the member donates 25 percent of the sale price back to the league. Sales tax is the responsibility of the artists.

Board Notes

February 11, 2021



- Treasurer Pat Thorson reported that our income from classes for the fiscal year through the end of January was approximately 43% of what we would normally see for the six sessions that the league has been open during the coronavirus pandemic. We are also lagging somewhat in membership renewals and gallery sales.
- Sue Thomas reported that the online programs are going well. Last month 116 people signed up for the program and 138 actually attended. There continue to be challenges with the online videos but overall we are reaching a lot of people.
- Kathy Szeszol, VP of Education, is already working on a summer schedule. This is a challenging time because we don't know when we will be able to get back to full capacity. We have been releasing one session at a time because we have not been sure that we wouldn't have to close based on the spike in cases. Now that the numbers are going down, hopefully that's behind us. We will continue to offer some Zoom classes even after we are completely open.
- Misty Alvis, our VP of Publicity and Promotion is working on several different promotions including the City of Wheaton's Women's Walking Tour and the month long celebration the city is holding with during the month of June dedicated to artist Frida Kahlo. The Art League will participate in both.
- Mary Lynn Sullivan who is in charge of Gallery II has put together a very thorough and helpful information piece for artists who exhibit in the gallery. The handout gives all kind of detailed information on hanging the show and holding a reception. It covers everything an exhibitor needs to know..
- Sue Jurkus, Membership VP, said that renewals are down but it's still early in the year. Reminders will go out to people who have not renewed at the end of the month.
- Business Manager Yvonne Thompson is working to make the new computer system "staffer friendly" so it is easy to use. She showed the board screenshots of the pages and the board gave it very good reviews.

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

March 2021 | Gallery II Exhibit

Mary Lynn Sullivan, VP Exhibits

The Art League will welcome Christopher Hughes as the Gallery II artist for the month of March. Chris likes to paint with acrylics, oils and pastels. He was a fine art major at Utah State University before changing to a business major at Boston University. His experience living abroad and traveling brings inspiration to his work. Some of his paintings have traveled to special exhibits in China and Russia as part of a fine arts cultural program.

Chris has earned recognition and awards in competitions in Texas and Illinois including Best of the Best nominations here at the Art League. He is part of a weekly art critique group and serves as co-leader responsible for organizing and mailing newsletters for Artist-Show n Tell. Website: hughespaintings.com; Email: chris@hughespaintings.com



Obama Legacy Initiative

Nancy Turner



A group of DuPage Art League members participated in a community project for the Obama Legacy Initiative at the Art League on February 11 and 12. Nancy

Turner, Judy MacLeod, Danielle Crilly, Cathy Dunnigan, and Marilyn Karim painted one side of eight raised garden beds in a patriotic theme to commemorate Gold Star Families.

Flanked by red and white stripes, a gold star sits in the middle of a purple circle. A bronze plaque with a fallen soldier's name will be placed in the middle of the star. One bed, with the name of PFC Gunnar Hotchkin and planted with a dwarf cherry tree, will serve as a reminder for residents of DuPage County of the sacrifice made by the Hotchin family. This bed will be unveiled on Memorial Day at Woodridge Village Hall and will be streamed and on Zoom for the public to view. The Home Depot and Obama Legacy Initiative are hosting this event.

The other seven beds will be painted by local artists to illustrate the theme of orchards and will be displayed at Naper Settlement. The garden beds will be purchased and donated to local organizations that honor and recognize Gold Star families. I greatly appreciated the use of the classroom space at the Art League to accommodate the painting of the Gold Star part of this project.

A Little Bit of History...

An article from the Daily Journal dated Tuesday, Jan. 21, 1968

In keeping with the miniature theme of the "Mini-Show" which opened Sunday, Jan. 12, at the Gallery of the DuPage Art League, 107 W. Roosevelt Road, in Wheaton, a mini-exhibit of mini-ceramic sculptures by little Jennifer Henderson, age 7, is a charming addition to a change of pace art show. Winning a "Special Award of Merit," Miss Henderson's diminutive acrylic-painted sculptures represent a variety of interesting creatures imaginatively entitled, "Lunchtime on a Sailboat," "It's the Singer, Not the Song," and "On a Picnic." The mini-exhibit was invitational. Miss Henderson is the daughter of Eselean Henderson, a well-known ceramist of Lombard, and Mr. Charles Henderson.



Testimonial

Misty Alvis | VP Publicity & Promotions

I am very pleased that DPAL has Carolyn's "Methods in Creativity" class on offer. It has been so helpful in waking up my art muscles. My recent drawings, artist trading cards, and graphic designs are much stronger thanks to this class. Carolyn is very good at planting seeds for ideas, as well as providing resources to explore.

Carolyn has so many different media that I have wanted to explore, but had not due as I thought the commitment would be too much. I now have so many ways to make my own stamps and printing plates.

I like that I have been given tools, rather than a project to complete. It's been a wonderful class, and I am signing up for the March session.

Regards,
Denise K.

Our Loss is Heaven's Gain

from Yvonne Thompson



It is with much sadness that we have learned of the passing of long time life member Alice Elizabeth (Fulsom) Phillips.

Alice joined the Dupage Art League in its infancy in the 1960's. When not meeting her DPAL friends or enjoying art, Alice was a lobbyist in Springfield. Her political and social contacts brought recognition and financial support to the Art League. One of the many things she orchestrated was a 4th of July Parade. See the photo below of Kathy Young, Alice and the then President Debbie Ebetsch and family.

Alice was the 1996 Speaker of the

Illinois Third House, the association of registered lobbyists, and is the only woman to serve in that capacity for over 60 years. Alice served on the Board of Directors of the DuPage Children's Museum and was a Director of Chicago Area Public Affairs Group. She was founder and past president of the Illinois Lincoln Excellence in Public Service Series, a leadership-training program for Republican women. Even up to a few weeks



before she died she was making phone calls reminding people to vote. I remember Alice telling me once that women had to fight for the right to vote in this country and so we should never take that for granted. When I told her I was becoming a US citizen for just that reason she told me " Good from you! I don't even care who you vote for, just VOTE! Women who choose not to vote are slapping the faces of all those who women before us who never had that luxury!"

When Alice retired in 2009 she settled in Nomokis, Florida where she acquired a bachelors in fine arts at Ringling College of Art & Design and practiced her love of photography.

We have set up a memorial fund for anyone who wishes to remember Alice in a special way.

Our condolences go out to all her friends and family. You are missed Alice, but I know one star in Heaven will be shining brighter now.

Sad News

We are so very saddened to hear that George Bruce's wife Susan passed away unexpectedly on Monday January 25. Our hearts go out to George and their family. I'm sure notes or cards to our longtime friend and teacher would be appreciated.
(George Bruce, 990 Collingwood Dr., Naperville 60540)

It's That Time of Year

Kay Wahlgren, President Emeritus

It's that time of year again when we must select a slate of officers for the Art League board. We are a unique not-for-profit organization in that board members actually perform the duties of their offices rather than assign them to paid staff. Many positions can be shared between two people or duties assigned to a committee or committees so the entire job does not rest solely on one person. It is a committed way to help the league, especially in these times when meetings and classes are remote, limited or six feet apart.

This year we have an additional space to fill. Our President, Dan Anderson, is resigning for personal reasons to better care for his wife. He has been a good friend of the League and helped negotiate a much needed change in our computer systems. We will miss him.

The President should have at least one year serving on the board, presides over the meetings, acts officially for the League and is its official spokesperson.

If you have an interest in this position, please let Kay Wahlgren know at 630.858.2892.

We are also looking for a Treasurer. Our current treasurer, Pat Thorsen, has done a splendid job keeping the books and accounting in this time when so many businesses and other art leagues are suffering financially. We are in good shape. It helps to have some business, office management or accounting experience but there are many computer programs to help simplify and accurately keep track of finances. Anyone with interest can again call Kay Wahlgren at 630.858.2892.

Now may be your chance to give back to the League for all you have enjoyed in the past. We welcome your participation.

DPAL Board Positions Open Effective May 1

President and Treasurer as mentioned in Kay Wahlgren's article.

- VP of Activities
- VP of Membership
- VP of Office Management

For information regarding these open positions, please contact Kay Wahlgren at 630.858.2892.



Inspiration Photo

Image courtesy of Photos-Hast | pixabay.com

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