



DuPage Art League School & Gallery

April 2021

What a Year It Has Been – and Goodbye

Letter from the president, Dan Anderson

We all have our coronavirus pandemic stories to tell. The DuPage Art League is no exception. As you know, our basic mission focuses on art instruction and appreciation...a mission that was put on hold totally last March and is still partially true now. But we have survived and are on the cusp of thriving once again. (We may end up proving that old adage: what doesn't kill you makes you stronger.)

On a personal level, my pandemic story is that it now has been more than a year since I was able to be with my wife, Midge, the person who introduced me to the Art League years ago and who has been the real artist in the family. Midge has been quarantined at a senior care facility since mid-March of 2020. I have used this year of separation and frustration in part to focus on the Art League and the challenges it has been facing, with varying degrees of success. But with the prospect of being able to get reacquainted with my bride, and hoping that she will remember me, I have decided to step down as president to spend as much time as I can with her. (With a little luck, when I walk into the room she won't call me by the name of that guy she was dating when she and I met back in 1965!)

The DPAL Board has been very gracious in accepting this decision. It puts them in the difficult position of having to find a replacement halfway through my two-year term. But, as been the case on numerous occasions, they have come up with a creative solution: Diana Mitchell, who has served as president in the past, and Carol Kincaid, who has served in multiple positions on the Board, have volunteered to serve as co-presidents for the balance of my term. You folks are the greatest!

Frida Kahlo Celebration

Misty Alvis | VP Publicity & Promotions

A Frida Kahlo Celebration* is coming to the city of Wheaton... yes, DuPage Art League too! We are planning to have our front windows, as well as Gallery I & II, filled with Frida Kahlo 'Latin Fling' inspired art in June. June is also our volunteer show so please, start creating! Visit the following link to see many of Frida Kahlo's works and learn more about her life: fridakahlo.org/ We hope you will be inspired!

*In support of the COD Frida Kahlo: *Timeless Exhibit*
atthemac.org/events/cleve-carney-frida-kahlo/

Plein Aire 2021

Mary Kent Goebel

It has been a long, challenging year, but **spring is coming**, and it is once again time for the outdoor, plein aire season. This is your chance to come outdoors, with some fellow artists, and draw, paint or pastel the beauty and light that nature has to offer. Our meet-ups are **free** and depend on weather conditions. Come early, come late – stop by and see what we are up to!

All our locations are safe, public spaces with parking and facilities. The schedule and a directory of our locations will be available at the front desk of the Art League and will also be available in PDF form through the front desk.

Here are the dates and locations for May:

May 7 – Danada Equestrian Center, Naperville

May 14 – Kline Creek Farm, Winfield

May 21 – Glen Ellyn Park District, Churchill Nature Preserve

May 28 – Northside Park (Shelter Area), Wheaton

Gallery I – Flowers on the Wall

Judged by Tony Armendariz

Best of Show

Mary Lynn Sullivan, *Arboretum Lake*, Pastel
Beautiful composition. Great contrasts and great handling of greens. Great handling of medium on a small scale. Nicely matted and framed.

Theme Award

Marge Hall, *White Peony*, Oil
Great composition of lights and darks, great edge control. Nice placement and balance of shadows. Nice study of how to paint white.

Special Merit Awards

Don Ryan, *Andromeda's Pain*, Pastel
Nice drawing and composition. Nice movement of figure. Frame is okay but would've preferred a neutral mat.

Diana Nawrocki, *Wall Flower*, Textile
Beautiful arrangement of colors and color choice. Nicely framed. Cools support the warms very well.

Julia Skoda, *Fallen Magnolia*, Pastel
Great composition and handling of shadows. Each flower is unique. Nice study of greens and reds.

Merit Awards

Peg Sindelar, *Rhapsody in Blue*, Acrylic
Tom Mahaday, *Pan Ah See Ya*, Oil
Robert Koch, *Apples and Flowers*, Oil
Marlene Vitek, *Study – Queen Anne's Lace*, Pen and colored pencil
Benjamin Calvert, *What? Where? Whoot?*, Wood block relief
Kay Wahlgren, *Tree Peonies*, Watercolor
Gregory Stall, *Finally Spring*, Colored Pencil
Stephanie Dalton, *Spring Prism*, Graphite pencil/charcoal
Kathy Szeszol, *Field of Flowers*, Acrylics
Valerie Lorimer, *And Then Spring Arrived*, Mixed media
Misty Alvis, *Paper Bag Flowers*, Mixed media
Barbara Holmes, *Pink Lilies*, Oil pastel



Best of Show: Mary Lynn Sullivan
Arboretum Lake, Pastel



Theme Award: Marge Hall
White Peony, Oil



Special Merit:
Don Ryan
Andromeda's Pain, Pastel



Special Merit:
Diana Nawrocki
Wall Flower, Textile



Special Merit: Julie Skoda
Fallen Magnolia, Pastel

NEWSLETTERS/E-BLAST SUBMITTALS

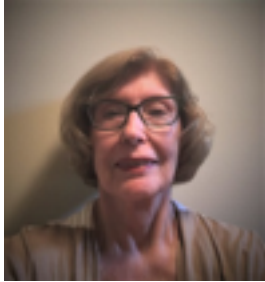
vlorimer@yahoo.com

To submit email blast information and newsletter articles, send your information to: **vlorimer@yahoo.com** and **[copy susanjurkus@att.net](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).**

Behind the Scenes at the DuPage Art League

Sally Hines, Secretary



As secretary for the DPAL Board my primary assignment is to record the minutes of our monthly meetings and summarize the activities of the Board for our newsletter. I also serve currently on the nominating committee. With my many years both on the Board and as an active member, I can bring a lot of historical perspective to Board deliberations. My former employment

in several areas of personnel management and human resources also can be helpful in Board discussions, especially during the last year as we have had to deal with the coronavirus.

Showing Art in the Window

Margaret Bucholz | VP Exhibits

March was my month to display student work, one window with Colored Pencil adult student work, and the other from Colored Pencil, Splash Watercolor, and Acrylics kids. These were printed from photos of student work rather than originals because of concern that colored pencil work fades in bright sunlight and collecting and returning student artwork.

Someone was walking his dog one Wednesday morning when my colored pencil class was going on and came in to inquire about buying a bird picture. Nancy DeWitt was able to sell her original artwork. And on the first day of Monday Evening class, one student saw the window and came in to sign up for my class. And on Saturday, February 27, just after I put up my downtown pictures of Wheaton for the *We Are Women Art Exhibit* at DuPage Art League, someone inquired about Meet Me at Muldoon's and Popcorn Store and purchased them. Misty Alvis, Publicity, convinced me to paint more, so I painted the Courthouse and Wheaton Theater.

Did You Know?

Misty Alvis | VP Publicity & Promotions

Did you know that on our website we display our current Gallery I show? You can look at each entry at your own pace. We also include the judge's comments of the top five winners.

dupageartleague.org/about-our-gallery-i/

Board Notes

March 11, 2021



- Much of the discussion at this board meeting centered around two things. The first was when we would be increasing the size of classes, holding in-person meetings and have in-person workshops. And the second was filling the open positions on the board.
- We are discussing the possibility of expanding class sizes since more and more people are getting vaccinated and things are opening up some. Since many people on the board have had their first shots and some have had both we discussed meeting in person. We have a pastel artist interested in doing a workshop and we're looking into when it might fit into the schedule. It looks like we're slowly going to be getting back to normal.
- Several of our open board positions have been filled but there are still some openings. All of us on the board agree that serving on the board is a great opportunity to do something important for the organization, to learn about the inner workings of one of the area's most successful non-profit organizations and to get to know a terrific bunch of people. If you'd like to learn more about how you can help please call Kay Wahlgren at 630.858.2892.
- Our financial situation is stable. For the fiscal year through the end of February we received \$35,746.85 in income from classes. This is approximately 41% of what we would normally see for the six sessions that the league has been open through the Coronavirus. Membership, donations and gallery sales are still down from last year. However gallery sales improved during the month of February and year-to-date sales were just short of last year.
- In addition there were a few other highlights:
 - Misty Alvis reported that four paintings have been sold from the show honoring women artists in Wheaton.
 - Sue Thomas reported that last month 168 people registered for Brian Sauerland's program and 121 attended.
 - The online shows on our website have been really well received and have helped with gallery sales. The artists seem to like them as well.



Join us and become part of the DPAL Team

If you care about the art league and are willing to give some of your time and talent to support it, there are some opportunities on the board we would love to have you consider. It's not all work. It's a great opportunity to be part of a really dedicated team of people that laugh as much as they get down to business. Many board members have served more than one term in several capacities over the years which says something about the experience.

Below are the positions that are open:

- VP of Activities involves scheduling artists for Monday night programs at the Wheaton Library for six months of the year (Jan, Feb., March, April, Sept., and Oct). The library takes care of the set up. You work with the person at the library who handles programs. A carefully compiled list of the details spells out everything step-by-step.
- VP of Office Management involves scheduling our team of staffers and buying office supplies many of which are ordered online. The training of new staffers is handled by a couple of the more experienced staffers.
- VP of Building and Grounds involves overseeing repair people when they're needed, managing the cleaning company, dealing with the fire department when there are inspections and maintaining an inventory of supplies.
- Treasurer requires someone with a knack for accounting and finance. The job involves preparing monthly reports and presenting them at board meetings, reconciling bank accounts, writing checks and paying invoices and other related duties.

If you would like to learn more about the possibilities, email Kay Wahlgren at kbwahlgren@gmail.com or call her at 630.858.2892 or email Diana Mitchell at diamitc4@aol.com.

Monday Night Program

Sue Thomas | VP Activities

Our Monday Night Zoom Programs will conclude for the summer with a demo by Michael Ireland on April 19 at 6:30PM. We will resume our programs on September 20 with artist Don Yang, who will demonstrate Portrait Sketching in Oil.

We are happy to bring these programs into your homes during these trying times. It's been an experience for both the demonstrating artists, most of whom have never Zoomed before, as well as for us, Ellen Rottsolk, and myself (Sue Thomas), who never filmed programs before.

Thank you for your patience with some of our technical difficulties. We hope you have enjoyed watching these programs and don't forget that even if you can't watch in real time, register anyway and you will be sent the link to view at your leisure.

Also, a big thank you to Bari Ericson at the Wheaton Library, who has been a pleasure to work with. So, tune into the April program and have a safe enjoyable summer. Maybe by next fall we all will be able to appreciate the little things that we all took for granted before the pandemic.

For those of you that watched last month's pastel demo by Brian Sauerland, he provided us his final painting.





Art Demonstration: The Value of Sketches

Monday, April 19 • 6:30 pm



ireland

www.irelandwatercolors.com

Knowing where you are going with that first stroke is the single most important step in a successful painting. The sketch is like a map to your wildest journey. Large format watercolor artist Michael Ireland will stress the importance of drawing and how it sets the stage for multiple passes of glazes and color washes. Provided in partnership with the DuPage Art League.

Register for the Zoom webinar invitation:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_OdkWTYVbSVWYFONvE10gjA

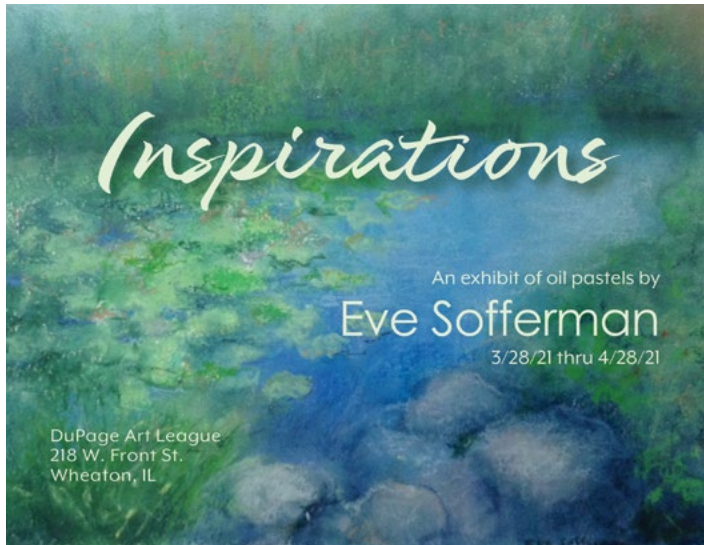
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Gallery, School & Gift Shop



Gallery II Exhibit: Eve Sofferman

Mary Lynn Sullivan | VP Gallery II Exhibits

Our April Gallery II Exhibitor, Eve Sofferman, talks about her love of art.



I have always enjoyed drawing and painting. I have tried various media, but since discovering oil pastels in classes with George Shipperley, I have worked exclusively in that medium. I love creating visions of sunset and ocean scenes. My favorite subjects are Door County harbors and Sarasota ocean scenes.

I am originally from St. Louis Missouri where I attended Washington University School of Fine Arts. I have studied at the DuPage Art League in Wheaton as well as the Fine Line Creative Arts Center in St. Charles, IL. I am a member of the Yellow House Artists, a group of artists who work in oil pastels and oil sticks, and promote that medium and participate in gallery shows. I am a member of the DuPage Art League as well as the Wayne Art League.

My art has been exhibited at the DuPage Art League, The Fine Line Arts Center, Art in Your Eye art fair in Batavia, Bartlett Public Library, Peck Farm Gallery, the Geneva History Museum, Norris Gallery in St. Charles, the Elmhurst Art Museum, Mayslake Mansion in Oakbrook, and the Palette and Chisel in Chicago.

Contact Information: 630.372.3385; msoffer1@comcast.net

We Are Women Art Exhibit

Misty Alvis | VP Publicity & Promotions

Monday, March 1-Wednesday, March 31

Presented by the Wheaton Community Relations Commission, Downtown Wheaton Association and Dupage Art League as part of the celebration of Women's History Month

The exhibit features artwork from some of our DuPage Art League's talented female artists, who live in Wheaton. Their artwork is featured in the storefronts of Wheaton's female-owned businesses. Check out our website at dupageartleague.org/ for a map, a suggested itinerary, as well as prices of the artwork.

Participating businesses/artists include:

- Dry City Brew Works - Carol Kincaid
- Dupage Art League - Margaret Bucholz
- Frocks and Frills Vintage - Peg Sindelar
- Jeans and a Cute Top Shop - Danielle Crilly
- Kimmer's Ice Cream - Liesl Mann
- Sweet Natalie's Gluten Free Bakery - Carol Kincaid
- Suzette's Creperie - Diana Mitchell
- The Perfect Thing - Ellen Rottsolk & Susan McLean
- Wyckwood House - Maeva Cook

We hope you will walk around Wheaton and see all of the great art!

Gallery 1 – April 2021: Animals

Margaret Bucholz | VP Exhibits

Entry: March 24-25, 2021; Pick-up: April 28-29, 2021

"Animals," we all love animals, be they our pets, animals in the wild, or those at the zoo. They inspire us with their beauty and nature and make us become better people and artists. This exhibit will be judged by Ken Call, watercolorist. If you are able, take a picture of your piece and email it to Margaret Bucholz at Margbucholz@comcast.net by March 24. It will save me time in putting together the online version of our gallery show. 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.

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.



From the Library

Barbara Grabowski | Library Volunteer

Your library volunteers have been busy organizing and straightening up the library area which was shutdown during the first ten months of Covid. Big thank yous go to Suzanne Massion and Susan McLean for their help in sorting through heaps of donated books, magazines, art supplies and equipment. Some books and magazines were kept and cataloged for the library. Others were offered for sale and to date most have been sold. Yvonne Thompson priced the donated supplies, equipment, and frames, and those also have been sold. Thanks, Yvonne.

The following titles have recently been added to the Library. You will find them on the "New Books" shelf and are welcome to check them out when the all-clear signal has been given to open the library and kitchen areas again. In the meantime, if you want any of them, I think the desk volunteers would be glad to get them for you.

New Titles:

- Art of Colored Pencil Drawing. (Colored Pencil)
- Artist's Handbook: Pastels, Materials, Techniques, Color and Composition, Style and Subject. (Pastels)
- Cogniat, Raymond. Bonnard. (Biography)
- Descharnes & Neret. Salvador Dali. Vol. I, 1904-1946; Vol. II, 1946-1989. (Biography)
- Fletcher. Watercolorist's A-Z of Trees and Foliage (added copy) (Watercolor)
- Franks, Gene. The Art of Pencil Drawing. (Drawing)
- Harrison, Hazel. Watercolor School; a Practical Guide to Painting with Watercolor (added copy) (Watercolor)
- Kunz. Painting Watercolor Florals that Glow. (Watercolor)
- Martin. Encyclopedia of Pastel Techniques (added copy) (Pastels)
- Nicholas, Banjie. Silver Linings; Introduction to Silverpoint Drawing. (Drawing)
- Ross, Al. Cartooning Fundamentals. (Cartooning)
- Ross, David. Freehand Figure Drawing for Illustrators. (Drawing)
- Willenbrink, Mark & Mary. Drawing for the Absolute Beginner. (Drawing)

Enjoy!

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 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



"I don't think it's a metaphor for anything. I think it's a bowl of fruit."



April 2021 Newsletter | Join us on Facebook

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