



August 2023

newsletter

President's Letter

Dear Members.

Unleashing your creative power

August can be considered the height of summer when all the trees and vegetation are full-blown and bursting with the earth's energy. Hildegard of Bingen, the famous 12th century mystic, coined the term *viriditas* to describe the creative power of life, conflating greenness and growth with freshness and vitality. Have the green leaves of summer provided you with space you need to unleash your creative power? Ideally, yes, but perhaps not as much as you would have liked.

Author, Jan Phillips, writes extensively about creativity and spirituality. You may have seen her popular Artist's Creed as a poster in an art classroom or gift shop. One of her popular books is *Marry Your Muse: Making a Lasting Commitment to Your Creativity*. Perhaps this creed can encourage you in your art.

Artist's Creed

I believe I am worth the time it takes to create whatever I feel called to create.

I believe that my work is worthy of its own space which is worthy of the name, Sacred.

I believe that when I enter this space, I have the right to work in silence, uninterrupted, for as long as I choose.

I believe that the moment I open myself to the gifts of the Muse
I open myself to the Source of All Creation and become One with the Mother of Life Itself.

I believe that my work is joyful, useful and constantly changing,
flowing through me like a river with no beginning and no end.

I believe that what it is I am called to do
will make itself known when I have made myself ready.

I believe that the time I spend creating my art
is as precious as the time I spend giving to others.

I believe that what truly matters in the making of art is not what the final piece looks like or sounds like, not what it is worth or not worth, but what newness gets added to the universe in the process of the piece itself becoming.

I believe that I am not alone in my attempts to create,
and that once I begin the work, settle into the strangeness, the words will take shape, the form find life, and the spirit take flight.

I believe that as the Muse gives to me, so does she deserve from me:
faith, mindfulness, and enduring commitment.

© 1994 Jan Phillips

Till next month,
Mary Lynn Sullivan
dpalpresident.mls@gmail.com

Get Outside with DPAL's Plein Air Group!

The DPAL's group of Plein Air artists have been "growing" strong for over 10 years.

One of its founding artists, Ellen Rottsolk, says that they meet at a variety of locations. The most popular places like Cantigny and Morton Arboretum may be visited more than once in a season. Artists choose their own medium, bring all their own supplies to paint or sketch.

In October, Gallery II is dedicated to the "Air Show"!

Upcoming Friday Locations:

July 28- Wilder Park
Conservatory, Elmhurst
August 4- Ball Seed Gardens
9:30-12 noon



Group At Cantigny July 14
admiring each others' work.

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

Board Meeting Notes - July

Treasurer's Report:

Jennifer Bayer went over the financial activity for the period. The income for the period was less than budgeted, and the expenses were also less than budgeted. The Cats Named Sam project has generated \$595 for the animal shelter.

Education: Kathy Szeszol reported that the "Try Me Art" program, that was funded by a grant from the DuPage Community Foundation, are finishing up. There are two more children's workshops to present in August.

Membership:

Amy Tran reported we currently have 424 members.

Publicity: Mary Kate Venturini has been working with the Wheaton Business Association for the "Christmas in July" and the "Dinos are Coming to Wheaton" events.

Member Updates

Marge Hall will be having a One Person Show at Gallery 200 in West Chicago for the month of August. The reception will be Fri. Aug 4th from 6:00pm until 9:00pm. Please come and enjoy "The Beauty Around Us" exhibit.

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Out of Africa
photographs by
Joan Kalmanek
Gallery 777
Lisle Library
777 Front Street
Lisle, IL
July 1 - August 31, 2023
opening reception
Friday, July 14
7 PM



*Tribespeople of the
Omo River Valley
Ethiopia*

Wildlife of Namibia



In Memoriam

We were saddened to hear of the recent passing of Linn Eldred, long time member of DuPage Art League. Linn had recently moved to Colorado, but spent most of her life in Illinois, much of it at the Morton Arboretum where she enjoyed creating art from nature. Many of you

knew her as an avid member of the Nature Artists Guild, but she also taught ballroom and swing dance lessons for many years. Linn will be missed, but her beautiful work celebrating nature's beauty lives on.

Cover Art Contest

We are looking for member art for our 2024 Activity Guide. We're giving you lots of time to create a drawing or painting for the cover. Although you may submit a full color file, it will be printed on the cover in one color. submit by Sept. 30, 2023 to: Lori Tucker: dpalmembershipt@gmail.com
PS: you win recognition!



**2023
Activity Guide**

dupageartleague
Gallery, School & Art Shop
630-653-7090

...we're in the heart of Wheaton!
Cover art by Barb Plichta
Coming Home, Watercolor

Last year's cover art by Barb Plichta

DPAL Board 2023-2024

President: Mary Lynn Sullivan
Secretary: Maeva Cook
Treasurer: Jennifer Bayer
VP Activities: Sandra Winter
VP Building & Grounds: Kay Wahlgren
VP Education: Kathy Szeszol
VP Exhibits: Gallery I: Margaret Bucholz
Gallery II: Mary Ann Staroscik
VP Finance: Sally Hines
VP Membership: Amy Tran
VP Office Management: Barbara Finn
VP Publicity & Promotions: Mary Kate Venturini
Presidents Emeritae: Diana Mitchell and
Carol Kincaid
Yuletide Treasures: Yvonne Thompson and
Wilda Kemp
Newsletter: Lori Tucker
dpalmembershipt@gmail.com

Newsletter/E-Blast Submittals dpalmembershipt@gmail.com

To submit email blast information and newsletter articles, send your information to: dpalmembershipt@gmail.com by the the 15th of the month.

Acceptable formats include Word documents or PDF files for text and 300dpi .JPG form images. Please proof and verify your copy before submitting. Send photos, flyers and other images as **attachments** to email.

Gallery | Exotic Places Winning Art - Judged by David R. Becker



(Left) The mood and professional handling of the medium in this painting caught my attention and hit me with the “wow” factor that I look for when I walk around for the first time looking to see which pieces “wow” me. This piece wowed me.

Best of Show: Alice Solinski

Steffy Discovers the Wonders of Morton Arboretum, Pastel



Special Merit: Kelly Sebold

Mohegan Island, Pastel

This painting (above) looks like it should hang in the Art Institute Museum. Simply a stunning piece of art!



Special Merit: Jan Kloss

Exotic Place, Watercolor

Watercolor and figures are extremely hard to paint. This watercolor shows the professional experience of the artist. Simply beautifully done!



Best of Theme: Nancy Roberts Himmes

Botanical Garden, St. Croix, Oil

(Above) Some paintings cry out as looking like a master’s work. This piece cried out to me and reminded me of Edward Hopper and Winslow Homer. This is a stunning piece.



Special Merit: Julie Keating

View from Keating Harbor, Watercolor

Getting soft edges and mood in watercolor is something that takes experience and this painting has that mood. Done in a professional experienced way. Wonderful mood.

Merit Awards:

1. Ralph Furmanski, 16 Cypress Point, Watercolor
2. C.C. Arnett, Rome, Italy, Watercolor
3. Natalie Brinley, Moldovan Monastery, Acrylic
4. Marge Hall, St. Thomas, Oil
5. Barb Plichta, What a Morning, Watercolor
6. Joan Kalmanek, Omo Valley Women, Photo
7. Sue Thomas, Safely Home, Pastel
8. Cynthia Cockriel, Amnabel on Platte Rock Pastel
9. Laurel Erickson, Wheaton Twilight, Pastel
10. David Reichert, Desert Tapestry, Acrylic
11. Nancy Anderson, Morning Light Grenada, Pastel
12. Adele Dunn, Driftless, Acrylic

Gallery II Honors Theresa Ratterman

by Maryann Staroscik

The DuPage Art League proudly honors the memory and beautiful art of Theresa Ratterman, one of our long time members and one of our longest serving volunteers, until she passed away at the lovely age of 95 in 2021.



Theresa began painting with oils in 1955 and joined the Art League shortly thereafter. This was the beginning of her love of the arts. She staffed the front desk for over 20 years and participated in the League's rotating shows; exhibiting at banks, libraries, and other public buildings along with the monthly exhibits at the League itself.

Theresa worked in many mediums over the years; oil, acrylic, pastels, pen and ink, and pencil. Most of her work was of the natural world; landscapes, flowers, the environment. Theresa studied with many teachers at the Art League and all enjoyed helping her hone her skills. She also painted weekly with her dear friend and mentor, Grace Magill for many years. All her

teachers were a major influence and inspiration on her journey to becoming an accomplished artist.

Theresa's words: "The DuPage Art League has been an important part of my life, giving me the chance to express my love of art and gather with like-minded people."



Please come and enjoy the art show and share in our heartfelt tribute to a dedicated volunteer, artist and friend.

This lovely show will run the month of August. **The Closing Reception will be August 27th, 1 - 3 pm.**

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Gallery I August Show, Masters and Fabulous Fakes Judged by Joan Bredendick

I rely on the transparent nature of watercolor paint using multi-layered glazes to achieve depth of color, often creating texture by incising into the surface of the paper, breaking up the surface with texture to add visual interest. Strong compositional design moves the viewer's eye through the painting keeping them actively engaged.

My subject matter includes a variety of animals, such as lambs, cats, and dogs, frequently in combination with the female figure. The figures are exaggerated for expression.

I consider myself to be a narrative painter. Story and fantasy evolve the themes in my work. I love to play with the unexpected element. So often, we assume we know what we are seeing in art... life... but is what we think we are seeing, what is really going on?

I have always been fascinated by cats. The "cat" series began as drawings using Prismacolor pencils. Watercolors emerged into paintings with scratched surfaces creating a degree of abstraction in the images. My idea is to express the nature of cats going beyond what a cat looks like. You know what I mean if you have ever been owned by a cat!



Her Feline Nature 25 x 25, Watercolor

Joan holds a MFA from Northern Illinois University. Joan has received many awards over the years throughout the country. Most recently recognized at the Illinois Watercolor Society, Women in Art, Women Celebrating Women.

Activities and More

Windows into Warhol

Have you spotted DPAL member art in local Wheaton businesses yet? Our artists' work will be on display through September 10 - grab a map from the front desk, take a stroll through Downtown Wheaton, and check it out!

This "Windows into Warhol" exhibit, in partnership with the Downtown Wheaton Association, celebrates Andy Warhol Portfolios: A Life in Pop on display this summer at the Cleve Carney Museum of Art.

COMING: Holiday Mug Contest!

Showcase your artistry this season in the DPAL Holiday Mug Art Contest! The winner's art will be featured on our 2023 holiday season mug. Look for details in the coming weeks.

Art heists have already taken place at our art league in June & July! If you'd like to take part in the fun in August, go to the following link.

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/dwa/898162/r/website>

See right ►

the **Missing Piece:**
AN ART HEIST MYSTERY

**Unravel the Mystery of
Warhol's Missing Painting!**

**August 24 | 5:30 PM
\$60**

Famous Art Collector Reginald Sturmfley has decided to unveil the mysterious (and never before seen) Progresso Minestrone Soup Can painting. But before the public showing, the painting disappears!

Meet eccentric art collectors and flamboyant detectives as your group journeys to several Downtown Wheaton businesses, collecting clues as you encounter the suspects. After you connect the clues to this whodunnit, gather at Westside Improv to find out who stole The Missing Piece!

SCAN HERE FOR TICKETS & INFO:

Yuletide Treasures.. It's only 3 months away!

Yvonne Thompson and Wilda Kemp

Wilda and I have been working on the Criteria packet for Yuletide. To assist you all we shall have photos this year to show you where to place the barcode on every item. Both the instructions and inventory sheets will be available online this year, on the website. We also will have a fillable .pdf version of the inventory sheets that you can do on your computer as well as the old ones that you can print and fill in by hand. Which ever you choose you will have to print out a copy of your sheets when you drop off your work for the show.

All these will be ready by the end of September at the latest. Receiving will be October 25th-28th and once again we will be setting appointments for your drop off times.

That being said, it is not too early to start making items in preparation! Egg nog anyone?
Yvonne

2023 EXHIBIT SCHEDULE - GALLERY I

MONTH	TITLE	ENTRY	PICK UP DATES
August	MASTERS, FABULOUS FAKES	Jul 26-27	Aug 30
September	GOLDEN HARVEST	Aug 30-31	Sept 27-28
October	FEAST FOR THE EYES	Sept 27-28	Oct. 25-26
November/December	YULETIDE TREASURES	Oct. 25-28	Jan. 2, 2024