



January 2024

newsletter

President's Letter

Dear Members,

Always we begin again.

I heard these words in a sermon on New Year's Day in Hartford, Connecticut fifteen years ago. I had attended a wedding there the evening before and these words greeted the slightly sleepy, partied-out bodies the next morning. But the words have stuck with me ever since.

Written by St. Benedict, a 6th century monk, the words were part of the Rule he had created to guide his fellow monks in living a virtuous life. He closed that particular lesson saying, "...even when we fail, always we begin again."

What a wonderful and empowering admonition. We are always invited to begin again with whatever endeavor is before us, even if it doesn't work out quite as we hoped the first, or fifth time...we can begin again, and again.

Let's all consider this kindly advice in this new year of 2024. Let's give ourselves permission always to begin again. Been away from your art too long? Begin again. Artistic experiment turn out poorly? Begin again. The new year is famous for new beginnings and new resolutions, but every day is an opportunity to begin again with a new idea, a new attitude, a new commitment.

Happy New Year!

Till next month,

Mary Lynn Sullivan
dpalpresident.mls@gmail.com

Happy New Year!

Have information, items to sell and/or celebrations for the DPAL Newsletter? Please send by the 15th of the month to:

dpalmembershipLT@gmail.com
Send pictures separately as .JPGs or .PDFs

GALLERY/OFFICE CLOSED TO JANUARY 3RD, 9AM

See page 6 for Yultide Pick Up info.

DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

You may renew online or at the front desk

THE 2024 ACTIVITY GUIDES ARE IN!

You may pick one up at the front desk

GALLERY I EXHIBIT JANUARY: HAPPY NEW YEAR

Drop Off January 3-4

JANUARY 15 MONDAY NIGHT PROGRAM: DAN DANIELSON Page 3

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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 - December

Treasurer's Report: Jennifer Bayer reported that income for the period was more than budget primarily due to membership, gallery sales, artist sales, workshops and classes. Expenses for the period were less than budget due to office expense, repair and maintenance and business management less than budget. The DuPage Art League is in good shape and has 15 months of reserves.

Publicity: Mary Kate Venturini said the DuPage Art League apparel sale went very well and the orders came in quickly. We plan to do another apparel order in the spring with lighter colors and a few more options.

Membership: Amy Ip Tran reported the 2024 memberships opened early to accommodate the December 3rd class registration for Winter Session A. We currently have 514 members!

Activities: Sandy Winter reports that Dan Danielson will be our featured artist for the January 15th, Monday Night Program at the Wheaton Public Library. "Watercolor Fur, Feathers and Flippers" This will be a hybrid program.



Are you interested in serving The DuPage Art League as a board member?

Or are you simply curious about what goes on in a board meeting? If your answer is yes to either of the questions, then you will have a chance to find out more information by attending a monthly board meeting as a member and observer. Due to the size of the room, we have to limit the number of observers to five. The board meets on the second Thursday of the month from 9:15 to 11:15 am. If you are interested, simply send an email to **Amy Ip Tran** at amytrandpalmembership@gmail.com. no later than the day prior to the meeting. So for the next meeting which is scheduled for January 11, please send the email by January 10. We hope to see you in our next meeting!

Newsletter/E-Blast Submittals

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.



Mayslake Exhibit: Nature All Around Us

January 9 to February 17

For all! Public Reception: January 17th, 6pm-8pm

Our January Mayslake exhibit sign up is now full.

Artists' dates:

Drop Off: January 8th, 10a-noon at Mayslake

Art Pickup: February 19th, 9a-5p

If you have any questions contact:
Misty Alvis misty.alvis@gmail.com.

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

Monday Night Programming Returns

January 15, 2024

Fur, Feathers, and Flippers

Learn to SEE and PAINT Nature's Wonderful Models in WATERCOLOR



Dan Danielson will present a live demonstration on how to discover and paint animals, birds, insects and other world wonders. We share life on earth with amazing creations, and need to take the time to appreciate and paint what we see. Dan's loose watercolor technique and spontaneous style is fun to watch and tempting to try. Live demo at library or on Zoom.



6:30 to 8:30pm; In Person on via Zoom

Register here:

<https://wheatonlibrary.org/event/art-demo-watercolor-fur-feathers-and-flippers-54230>



Birds In Art International Show

The feather forecast is always fly with "Birds in Art." The Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum selects 60 pieces of art from its annual "Birds in Art" Exhibition to embark on a national tour, and the Forest Preserve District of Will County is excited to be the first stop for selected pieces from the 2023 "Birds in Art" show, now on the road for the 2024 touring collection. An international cast of artists has interpreted bird themes and habitats in diverse styles and mediums. Art and bird lovers alike will find something to crow about.



Courtesy of the Leigh Yawkey Art Museum

The show will be at the Plum Creek Nature Center 27064 S. Dutton Rd., Crete Township, from January 2 through February 25.

Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays and noon to 4 p.m. Sundays.

Vicki Liszewski attended the show in Wausau and highly recommends it. This was the 48th annual show with artists from around the world. She'd be glad to show you the catalog from the show. vliszewski@comcast.net

https://www.lywam.org/exhibition/birds-in-art-2023/Leigh_Yawkey_Woodson_Museum

https://www.reconnectwithnature.org/preserves-trails/visitor-centers/plum-creek-nature-center/Plum_Creek_Nature_Center

2024 Gallery I, Exhibit Schedule

Have fun with the themes, but remember that your artwork does not need to reflect the theme.

January 2024 – HAPPY NEW YEAR! Drop off: Jan 3-4

Description: Resolutions, celebrations, renewal, etc.

February 2024 – BEST OF THE BEST Drop off: Jan 31-Feb 1

Description: Show representing winning artworks from a dozen art leagues/guilds from around the suburbs.

March 2024 – MARCH MADNESS Drop Off: Feb 28-29

Description: Sports, races, St. Patrick's Day

April 2024 – CREATURES AND PETS Drop Off: Mar 27-28

Description: Animals are such fascinating creatures.

May 2024 – CREATE A FRAGRANT BOUQUET

Drop Off: Apr 24-25

Description: Bouquets, gardens, landscapes

June 2024 – Music in Motion– VOLUNTEER SHOW

Drop Off: May 29-30

Description: Depicting the dynamic energy and movement of music..

July 2024 – ABSTRACT ART Drop Off: June 26-27

Description: Let your inner Picasso stretch you to try a looser, more abstract way to create art.

August 2024 – MASTERS AND FABULOUS FAKES

Drop Off: July 31-Aug 1

Description: Learn from the masters by imitating their style and techniques.

September 2024 – GLORIOUS FALL COLORS

Drop Off: Aug 28-29

Description: Be captivated by the red and golden colors of the fall leaves.

October 2024 – BEAUTIFUL STILL LIFES

Drop Off: Sept 25-26

Description: Beautiful centerpieces, window displays, fruit bowl, you get the idea.

November, December 2024 – YULETIDE TREASURES

January Gallery I Exhibit Judge: Thomas Mahady

Thomas Mahady is our judge for the January 2024 show, "Happy New Year." He painted a 12-foot mural for St. Charles Town Hall and a 14-foot mural for West Chicago Library. Both are in oil on canvas inside.

He earned a BFA at Southampton College and MFA from Hunter College. BFA final internship with Pop artist Roy Lichtenstein and went to de Kooning studio in Springs several times.

Thomas currently has a show at the Society 57 Coffee Shop across from the Aurora Library at 20 River Street.



DU PAGE art league

OUR MISSION IS TO PROMOTE THE VISUAL ARTS THROUGH EDUCATION, EXHIBITS, AND OUTREACH.

EVERY DONATION HELPS ACHIEVE OUR MISSION. YOUR SUPPORT OF OUR 501C3 ORGANIZATION IS APPRECIATED!

DONATE NOW Scan this QR code with a smart phone camera to go to a website where you can donate.

Are you "of an age?"

You are if you are 72 or older and must take **RMDs** from your IRA.

We're talking, of course, about IRS **Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs)**. The positive side of that coin is that you can use part of your **RMDs** to make **QCDs**!

Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs) are a direct transfer of funds from your IRA custodian to a qualified charity. This transfer allows you to exclude the amount donated to a qualified charity from your taxable income – saving you a little money, and making a qualified charity a little happier.

A tax advisor can help you determine if both your IRA and charity qualify for QCDs. But, it's a great feeling to donate to a charity and feel like you're getting a little "kick-back." You should also be happy to know that the **DuPage Art League**, as a 501(c)(3) organization, is a qualified charity.

During this upcoming season of giving, remember this formula:
(RMD-QCD=\$DPAL)

(RMD minus QCD equals money for DPAL.)

Thank you for your generosity!

CALL FOR ARTISTS:

The Protein Spot and The DuPage Art League invite proposals for a Wheaton-inspired mural competition!

All artists are invited to submit their proposal for a full-sized, indoor painted wall mural at the **Protein Spot**, 111 W Front Street, Wheaton, IL. The chosen artist will receive a \$300 stipend to complete the mural, the option to sign their name on the mural, a \$50 Dick Blick gift card, and a \$50 gift card to the **Protein Spot**.



The subject of the mural should be a celebration of Wheaton and the local community. The artist must be available and willing to paint the mural on-site (within a 6ft H x 10ft W wall) at the Protein Spot during mutually agreed-upon hours in March/April 2024. Local artists encouraged to apply. (Travel and lodging reimbursement not available.)



Proposals can be in the 2D visual format that best represents your idea: drawings, paintings, sketches etc. Each artist can submit up to three different proposals. Artist should also include a brief bio.

To submit your work, attach an image of your proposed mural (5MB or smaller) along with your bio and send to moralesjahaira0@gmail.com with the subject line: MURAL PROPOSAL.

IMPORTANT DATES in 2024: All proposals must be emailed by midnight on **February 9, 2023**. February 16: Winner Announced; March - April: Winner Paints Mural (dates/times to be determined w/ Protein Spot); May: Unveiling Ceremony & Anniversary of The Protein Spot. If you have any questions contact: Misty Alvis misty.alvis@gmail.com.



Missing the Gallery while it's closed for the holidays?

(December 24-January 3rd)

Check out tthe DPAL on these social media platforms.



Yuletide Treasures - Yvonne Thompson

I am happy to inform you all that Yuletide Treasures was an even greater success this year! We took over \$14,000 this year which is \$2,000 more than last year!

Thank you everyone who helped in both great and small ways. Firstly without my trusty sidekick and right hand woman Wilda Kemp, this show never would have got off the ground....for those of you at the Festive Fun and Holiday Shenanigans, she was the snowman! Wilda and her sister Theodora headed up the check in crew this year and they will be there to help check everything out and pack up.

Thanks to Kay for doing the window display in the west window and for all the help I had doing my "Art is Larger than life" window, which included Janice Zeuch and our President, MaryLynn Sullivan who took on the task of ironing ALL the back drops (I hate ironing!). Thanks also to Chris Nicholson and Carol Frueh who helped me make a herd of reindeer candy canes for our customers in December, and of course thanks to you all who supplied the candy canes.

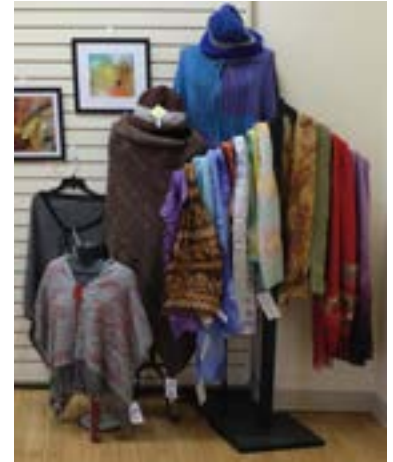
This show is a huge amount of work, which is why I ask you all to do an extra 4 hours to help. So no matter what you did, I thank you from the bottom of my heart and just hope you had as much fun as I did!

The "Free Gift with \$75 purchase" was a HUGE success and will be repeated next year. Thank you for all your contributions. Start putting aside small items you make/draw/paint for next year's show. Any leftovers will be saved for next year's show.

You may collect your unsold stock from Gallery 2 when we open on Wednesday January 3, 2024. Everything will be boxed up for you to "grab'n'go" and this is the same date as drop off for the first Gallery 1 show off the year, "Happy New Year". You will receive your checks for sold items around the middle of January.

Until next year,

Yvonne



dupageartleague

Strategic Plan

2023-2026

More than the letterhead on a page, more than an address at the post office, the **DuPage Art League** is a living, breathing organization stretching back to 1957, when a small group of women began to share their common interest in art and founded this vibrant organization.

Over the years they most certainly implemented fresh ideas and needed changes to accommodate their growing membership. At some point they articulated their intentions for the organization and preserved them as a guiding light for future members. It's these principles that our current Board of Directors turned to as they worked to develop a Strategic Plan for the next few years of the League's operation.

We invite you to read about the DuPage Art League's purpose, mission and vision, and how we will endeavor to support those intentions with our 2023 - 2026 Strategic Plan.

Our Purpose

The League is a not-for-profit art school and gallery dedicated to promoting the visual arts through classes, workshops, gallery exhibits, student scholarship, free art programs open to the public and other similar activities which further the purpose of encouraging, promoting, advancing and assisting art education and instruction, and the advancement of and development of the arts.

Our Mission

Dedicated to promoting the visual arts through education, exhibits and outreach.

Our Vision

To provide a lively, vibrant gathering place where people of all ages come to develop their artistic skills and share the joy of creating.

1. GROW MEMBERSHIP

Objective 1: Establish an Annual Membership Drive to grow membership.

Objective 2: Focus on member retention to stabilize membership.

2. INCREASE REVENUE

Objective 1: Expand and communicate the DuPage Art League's many art classes to both League members and the local community with the goal to increase enrollment.

Objective 2: Increase the DuPage Art League's visibility in the community through a timely and vibrant Instagram account.

Objective 3: Create events to attract the downtown Wheaton crowd to our galleries and gift shop.

3. IMPROVE EFFICIENCY

Objective 1: Develop monthly measurement and reporting protocols.

Objective 2: Identify potential business problems and issues with current POS/website and plan for future development.

Objective 3: Invest in and maintain functioning and up-to-date software and hardware supporting DuPage Art League operations.

Objective 4: Review and address building safety and maintenance to mitigate any risk to students, staffers and guests, and to preserve DPAL assets.

Objective 5: Review and streamline class registration process to best serve our students.

Objective 6: Encourage succession planning and job share arrangements to ensure business continuity.

4. INCREASE MEMBER INVOLVEMENT

Objective 1: Inform members of the many social and volunteer opportunities available at the DuPage Art League.

5. COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Objective 1: Identify, maintain, grow and publicize DuPage Art League outreach to the local community.