



February 2024

newsletter

President's Letter

Dear Members,

What do you love most about the art league?

When I told my husband that I didn't know what to write for my February newsletter article to the members, he said, "It's February! You write about love!" Really? Well, here I go.

Love is a wonderful topic and if I could, I would send each of you a red construction paper heart surrounded by a white doily edging and tell you how dear you are to this organization of artists and art lovers.

It must have been a great love for art and for each other that encouraged five women to found the DuPage Art League in 1957. All these years later, the love still holds. We meet to do our art, gather to learn about art, mingle with fellow artists at exhibits, receptions, workshops, demos, business and social meetings. We keep the love alive.

What do you love most about the art league? It matters to us, and it should matter to you. Is it the teachers or the other students? Is it the galleries that display our artwork? Is it the opportunity to sell your art locally or to enter it into national and international competitions and exhibits? Intentionality is a powerful driver in our lives. Why do you find it worthwhile to pay your membership dues each year?

For my part, membership in the DPAL enriches my life. I am a different and better person by being a part of this organization. My mind is enlivened by my interactions with teachers and fellow students. My soul is fed by my engagement in making art. My sense of community is strengthened by my volunteer work at the art league. The stated goals of the art league inspire me to recognize that even my small efforts matter. Recently, the following words came across in my reading. I share them here with you.

*We must add one stitch,
No matter how small it be,
To the magnificent tapestry of life.**

Till next month,

Mary Lynn
dpalpresident.mls@gmail.com

**Teilhard De Chardin*

Exhibits of Interest:

Gallery I at the DPAL
Best of the Best - Starts Feb 2.

I Am An Artist - Jeffrey Zawada
Works in pen & ink & watercolor
Gallery 777, Lisle Library, 777 Front Street, Lisle. **NEW DATE: Artist's Reception, Friday, February 2, 7-8 pm.**

DPAL at MAYSLAKE (Peabody Est.)
Nature All Around Us.
Now to February 17.

Birds in Art International Show
Plum Creek Nature Center,
27064 S. Dutton Rd. Crete Township.
Now to February 25. Tuesday to Saturday 10 to 4 pm and noon to 4 on Sundays.



Members, if you are exhibiting locally in the coming months, let us know!

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FEBRUARY 19 MONDAY NIGHT
DEMO: KWAME ABORAMPA

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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 - January

Treasurer: Jennifer Bayer said we are doing well. The unrestricted cash flow has increased by 5%. Based on the annual budgeted expenses, DPAL has 16 months of reserves. Income was over budget and the expenses were less than budgeted.

Education: Kathy Szeszol reports that she will build up the Workshop offerings this year. She would like to expand the various medium offerings. Kathy is hoping to set the first workshop in April or May.

Exhibits: Margaret Bucholz reports that the January Exhibit in Gallery I had 45 entries from 35 participants. Margaret has been preparing for the "Best of the Best." exhibit in February.

Membership: Amy Tran reports we have 310 members, 17 new members and 33 members renewed.

Yuletide Treasures: Yvonne Thompson reported that we broke all past records! We had a few new crafters this year and they have become members, and they will have a place in the gift shop

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. (Travel and lodging reimbursement not available.)

Proposals can be in the 2D visual format that best represents your idea. 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](mailto:MistyAlvis.misty.alvis@gmail.com).



Mayslake Exhibit: Nature All Around Us

January 9 to February 17
Art Pickup: February 19th, 9a-5p

DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

You may renew online or at the front desk

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

To submit email blast information and newsletter articles, send your information to: dpalmembershipt@gmail.com by 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 I January Exhibit - Happy New Year!

Judged by Thomas Mahady



Best of Show: Marge Hall
Colorful Succulent, Oil

Comments: First, she did it big—thick stretches for all to paint around (side). Marge covered the full color range (opalescent). From big thick leaves to details of waterdrops (note one on bottom about to fall). Black background. It's a big eye looking upward!



Theme Award: Yvonne Thompson
Ol' Lang Stein, Sculpture
Comments: It's the only sculpture—at least four things say New Year—drinking, Santa hat, time clock, and title. It's funny—plays around! Small, but gives a lot. Color unity, nice text texture, no eyes to see the future.



Special Merit: Cynthia Cockriel
Blushing Beauty & Her Lady in Waiting, Pastel
Great frame with this work—browns, pink and green, a limited palette makes it strong and unified. The whole work is tough, but the pink is so feminine and delicate (such contrasts) and the two stems hold it all up to the unseen sunlight!



Special Merit: Cindy Mugnani
Purple Rose, Acrylic
It's a good size, framed interestingly, monochromatic. Hits you from across the room. Nice smile but deep black spooky eyes. Mystery—it's a big statement! Note tonal range! Light out of darkness.



Special Merit: Kathy Manning
Joy of Play, Watercolor
Cats create a big T. Black horizontal with vertical all the way to bottom. Bold composition—organic (furry) against geometric floor and walls. Very adventurous colors, lime green eyes and upper left.

MERIT AWARDS:

1. Nancy Turner, David Byrne's Beautiful House, Charcoal, pastel
2. Margaret Bucholz, Happy New Year Chicago! Acrylic
3. Jan Kloss, Dawn of a New Year, Acrylic
4. Sally Carter, New Friend, Pastel
5. Robert Koch, At the Temple Wall, Watercolor

6. Lynette Hoy, New Mexico Snow, Oil
7. Ralph Furmanski, Camping and Grilling, Watercolor
8. Alice Sulinski, Please Mom, May I Keep Her? Pastel
9. Renee Anne Bercher, Happy New Year! Oil/Wax
10. Alice Matthews, Swan Lake, Chinese Brush
11. Sandy Mazurek, Hope, Pen and Ink
12. Kenneth Kucera, Tree of Life, Oil

2024 Gallery I, Exhibit Schedule

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

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

Best of the Best Judge: Teresa Marrandino

Judging the “Best of the Best” will be Teresa Marrandino, owner of the Art Stop Gallery for 48 years. Art Stop Gallery originated in Riverside, Illinois and has been in LaGrange, Illinois for the past 23 years. She has served as an art buyer for private individuals as well as corporations and hospitals.

Teresa remarks that she’s been involved in art pretty much since birth! She’s judged and juried many art shows including Riverside, LaGrange, Lake View and Geneva art league shows, as well as a student show at the Art Institute of Chicago. When judging, her main focus is never the subject matter, but the technical aspects of the artwork. Subject matter is a matter of preference. She looks for the artist’s command of the medium, the overall quality of the work and presentation.

**Best of the
Best
Show
February
2-27
Gallery I**



**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!

2024 Best of the Best Press Release

The DuPage Art League is excited to bring back “Best of the Best,” the renowned gallery exhibition featuring award-winning artists from 12 participating suburban art organizations.

The exhibit of more than 50 award-winning artworks will be available to view from Feb. 3 - 27, 2024 at DuPage Art League, 218 W. Front Street, Wheaton.

An awards ceremony and artists reception will be held Sunday, Feb. 4, from 2 - 4 pm. Ribbons and cash prizes will be awarded to the “best” pieces. The exhibit can also be viewed during gallery hours, Mon. - Fri. from 9 am - 5 pm, and Saturdays from 9 am - 2 pm. For more information, visit www.dupageartleague.org or call (630) 653-7090.

This year’s participating organizations are: Addison Art Guild, Artists’ Association of Elk Grove Village, Aurora Art League, Downers Grove Art League, DuPage Art League, Elmhurst Artists’ Guild, La Grange Art Guild, Lemont Artists Guild, Midwest Collage Society, Naperville Art League, Oak Brook Art League, and Yellow House Artists.

Best of the Best, last held in 2021 has been absent from the arts scene since the dissolution of The Alliance of Fine Art in 2022. The Alliance was established in 1962 as a non-profit professional association of art organizations that joined together to advance education and appreciation for fine art in the community, provide opportunities for fellowship and support, share information and resources, contribute to knowledge and create a greater voice for local artists.

DuPage Art League members who won Best of Show in the past two years that will be exhibited are Joanna Aslanian, Margaret Bucholz, Dan Danielson, Diana Nawrocki, Christena Nicholson, Mary Lynn Sullivan, and Sue Thomas. Each league is limited in showing up to 7 pieces.



2021 Best of Show “Nurses in Pandemic Times” by Karla Wong

Yuletide Treasures

Yvonne Thompson

Everyone who sold items in Yuletide Treasures should now have their checks. 43 artists sold items in Yuletide and 3 of our “outside Crafters have become 2024 members of the art league. They now have items in our gift shop. We welcome, John Riss and his fabulous wood designs, Steven Shaikh of San Martin Designs, precious metal and gemstone jewelry, and Linda Thevenot, metal jewelry and fabulous wire wrapped semi precious stones.

The top ten sellers, listed alphabetically were:

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Sue DIX | John RISS* |
| Margie FAZIO | Steven SHAIKH* |
| Barbara HOLLOW* | Linda THEVENOT* |
| Wilda KEMP | Yvonne THOMPSON |
| Nancy MATSON* | Debbie YOUNG* |
- (* Denotes outside crafter)

I’m slowly getting the Gift Shop back in order, I am low on cards and gift items like pottery. Please contact Yvonne if you have an item you would like to exhibit there. Please refer to your Activity Guide for sizes and limits.

Snowed in ?

Check out the DPAL on these social media platforms.



Winter Art Demos

WATERCOLOR FUR, FEATHERS AND FLIPPERS
 Monday, Jan. 15 • 6:30 pm
 In-Person & Virtual

Dan Danielson teaches how to discover, appreciate, and paint animals, birds, insects, and other amazing creatures. Dan's loose watercolor technique and spontaneous style is fun to watch and tempting to try.

ART DEMO: INSPIRED ACRYLICS
 Monday, Feb. 19 • 6:30 pm
 In-Person & Virtual

Local artist Kwame Aborampa's distinctive style combines nature and street scenes, often inspired by his native Ghana. The characters portrayed and the stories told become an elaborate narrative.

For more information or to register visit wheatonlibrary.org/calendar or scan below.

Provided in partnership with the DuPage Art League.

dupageartleague
 Gallery, School & Club Space

WHEATON PUBLIC LIBRARY
 225 N. Cross St.
 Wheaton, IL 60187
 (630) 668-1374

**Great Demo!
 Thanks Dan!**

**UPCOMING
 February 19th**

Mayslake "Nature All Around Us" -- Open Now to Feb. 27

We had a great turnout for our Mayslake show reception. Many artists and guests enjoyed the non-alcoholic cocktail bar, socializing and of course, the art!

