



October 2024

newsletter

President's Letter

Dear Members,

What is Capacity Building?

This was a new concept to me in September of 2022 when I first came across it in my readings about Strategic Planning. It was related to planning, but somehow it seemed bigger than a strategic plan and something too big for me to handle. I was new to the president's role and new to my board of directors, and quite sure I couldn't do it justice. But it intrigues me, and I can't help but think it's worth talking about.

Capacity Building and Nonprofits

Capacity building is whatever is needed to bring a nonprofit to the next level of operational, programmatic, financial, or organizational maturity, so it may more electively and efficiently advance its mission into the future. Capacity building is not a one-time effort to improve short-term effectiveness, but a continuous improvement strategy toward the creation of a sustainable and elective organization.

The DuPage Art League has a defined Purpose, Mission and Vision. Are we operating at the level we need to operate at to be equipped to function in our ever-changing world? Where are we weak? What skills or technology will we need in ten years? In 25 years? Will we make it to our 100th Anniversary in 2057? We need to keep looking at our art league and understand its vulnerabilities, especially since it's a volunteer organization.

Capacity building and Individuals

Personal capacity building is the process of developing skills and abilities to help you succeed and thrive. It involves improving existing skills, acquiring new competencies, and cultivating a mindset that embraces continuous learning.

As individuals, we face this challenge every day of our lives. We build many different capacities as we move through life that can include meaningful relationships, families, education, career potential, spiritual development and infinitely more. Is there a new capacity that you are trying to build? If it's in the realm of creating art, we're very glad you found your way to us.

Does the concept of Capacity Building intrigue you? If a group of people wanted to discuss it sometime, would you like to be included? Send me an email and I'll start a potential list of interested members. **What more can we dream and build?**

Till next month,

Mary Lynn

dpalpresident.mls@gmail.com

Cover Art Contest

We are looking for member art for our 2025 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**. Please submit high resolution PDF, AI, EPS file. Submit by October 5, 2024 to: Lori Tucker: dpalmembershipt@gmail.com
PS: you win recognition



Last year's cover art by
Adele Dunn



In this issue:

Plein Air Schedule	2
September Gallery I	3
Gallery I Exhibit Schedule	3
Gallery II Plein Air	4
Activities and Exhibits	4
Member Marge Hall	5
From The Library	5
September WL Program	6

Board Meeting Notes - September

Treasure's Report: Jennifer Bayer reported that our unrestricted cash increased approximately 4% from the previous month, due to fall session A registrations.

Total income for the period was more than budgeted due to memberships, summer classes, gallery sales, summer classes and interest.

Total expenses for the period were more than budget due to teacher payments (more students than expected), artist payments for gallery sales and chimney repairs.

Reserves the DPAL has 16 months of reserves.

Exhibits: Danielle Crilly said the September Exhibit "Glorious Fall Colors" had 76 entries. October's exhibit's theme will be "Beautiful Still Lives".

Membership: Amy Tran said we currently have 479 members.

Office Manager: Barb Finn reports that the Safety Information is now displayed on the wall between Gallery I and II for all members and staff.

We will be participating in the Downtown Trick or Treat on Saturday, October 26th from 10am to 1pm.

Yuletide Treasures 2024

Barcode requests **MUST** be received via email by Saturday, October 5, 2024

They will be ready for pick up from the front desk on Monday October 14

Email: giftshopandyuletide@gmail.com Or call and leave message: 630-996-9616

Artwork drop off datesby APPOINTMENT ONLY!

Wednesday, October 23, 10:00am – 4:00 pm

Thursday October 24, 1:00pm – 4:00 pm

Friday October 25, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Saturday October 26, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Info packets are available on the website

<https://www.dupageartleague.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Yuletide-info-packet.pdf>

PLEIN AIR WITH DPAL REMAINING SCHEDULE:

Friday mornings 9:30 to 12 noon

Oct 4 St James Farm, Warrenville II. (closing event)

SEE PAGE 4 for Gallery II Show Plein Air Details

Thank you Volunteers!

Still need your volunteer hours for 2024?
Call the DPAL and let us know what you would like to do!

We'll connect you with the person in that area. We need you and your talents! Call now! 630-653-7090

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.

DPAL Board 2024-2025

President: Mary Lynn Sullivan

Secretary: Maeva Cook

Treasurer: Jennifer Bayer

VP Activities: Adele Dunn

VP Building & Grounds: Mark Galli

VP Education: Margaret Bucholz

VP Exhibits: Gallery I: Danielle Crilly

Gallery II: Mary Ann Staroscik

VP Finance: Carol Kincaid

VP Membership: Amy Tran

VP Office Management: Barbara Finn

VP Publicity & Promotions: NEED

VP Safety & Security: Darlene Edwards

Presidents Emeritae: Diana Mitchell and Carol Kincaid

Yuletide Treasures: Yvonne Thompson and Wilda Kemp

Newsletter: Lori Tucker

dpalmembershipt@gmail.com

Gallery I September Show: Glorious Fall Colors

Judged by: Eric Forsberg



Best of Show - Gloria Abrahamian

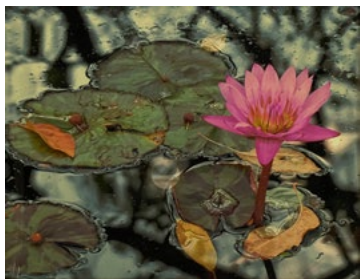
"Prairie Meadow" Pastel

Beautiful piece! Nice handling of edges (lost and found) and composition. Your color values are spot on and play nicely against each other creating a great pastel.

Best Theme - Susan McLean

"Natural Beauty" Photography

Great photo. The composition is spot on. The focal point and layers make this a very interesting photo. The vibrant and contrasting colors are very nice, especially the bits of red.



Special Merit - Joan Kalmanek

"Leaves Falling on Pond"

Photography

Great photo. Great contrast of layers. Your eye moves well within the photo, playing the colors and edges against each other. Color values are very nice as well.



Special Merit - Lynne Kornecki

"Soon to be Soup" Colored Pencil

Very nice composition and drawing. Your eye flows thru the drawing. The shapes make the piece and frame enhances your presentation without taking away from the drawing.



Special Merit - Mary Lynn Sullivan

"Autumn's Glorious Grasses" Pastel

I like your composition and layers within the piece. Like the vibrant yet subtle values playing each other. Also like the way you played the lost and found edges!

MERIT AWARDS

1. Roseanna Gomer – Pumpkin, Teddy & Me – Watercolor
2. Beth Berry – The Meaning of This – Photograph
3. Tom Finn – Autumn in Churchill Woods – Watercolor
4. Mary Dorrell – Clay Pot & Corn – Oil
5. Johanna Rebman – Colors of Fall – Colored Pencil
6. Barb Plichta – Symphony of Orange
7. Tom Beck – Viva Ukraine – Oil
8. Nancy Roberts Himmes – Fisher Lake Cabin – Oil
9. Marlene Vitek – Sumac – Mixed Media
10. Jennifer Hauser – The Garden – Ink & Colored Pencil
11. Beth Berry – Morning Revelation – Gouache
12. Stephanie Dalton – Forever Autumn – Pastel

2024 Gallery I, Exhibit Schedule

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

October 2024 – BEAUTIFUL STILL LIFES

Drop Off: Sept 25-26

Pick up October 23-24

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

November, December 2024 – YULETIDE TREASURES

All Gallery I exhibiting members are expected to volunteer at or for the DPAL for a minimum of four hours per year. Call 630-653-7090. We'll connect you with someone in your area of interest!

Gallery II - October - Plein Air with DPAL

By Maryann Staroscik

October brings an opportunity to view the Plein Air Painters! Yes, the Dupage Art League is always excited to host this group of artists who use their power of observation to create stunning pieces from nature that excites the viewer.



This group meets every Friday from May through October, gathering at different venues around the area to capture their own impressions of landscapes and nature. The enjoyable gathering not only benefits the artists as they enhance their skills, but also allows a fun time with others who share their love of art and the outdoors.

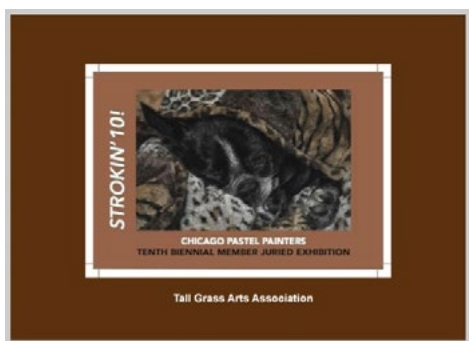
All levels of talent and mediums are invited to join and the criteria is only to have fun. Leave your name and contact information with our wonderful front desk volunteers who can send you next year's schedule when available.



This is a fun and unique show and will run the month of October in Gallery II. Come and see if you recognize the places painted by the artists.



STROKIN' 10! at Tall Grass Gallery



STROKIN' 10!, the Chicago Pastel Painters' Biennial Member Juried Exhibition, will open at Tall Grass Gallery on Saturday, October 5, 2024, with a Reception and Awards Ceremony, from 1-3pm.

Founded in 2004, the Chicago Pastel Painters is a fine arts organization dedicated to the promotion of the medium of soft pastel. It is a society member of the International Association of Pastel Societies (IAPS), run by volunteer members, and engages in the education of individual artists and the public through online newsletters, annual juried exhibitions, workshops, and other events in the Chicagoland area. The group's exhibit at Tall Grass includes 61 highly-honored artists from around the country who have had their works juried

Winter Clothing Drive
Bring your donations to
GALLERY
This month



into this very prestigious show. Paintings include a range of subjects – portraits, still lifes, landscapes, abstractions – and are of the highest quality, technical skill and personal vision.

Artists from DPAL include: Nancy P. Anderson, Diana Mitchell, Maryann Staroscik, Mary Lynn Sullivan.

Curated by Mike Barret Kolasinski, Claudia Craemer and Debbie Craemer, STROKIN' 10! will run through November 9, 2024. All are welcome to attend the Reception on October 5, 1-3pm, and to visit the show during regular Gallery hours: Tuesday – Saturday, 11am-4pm.

www.tallgrassarts.org 708-748-3377

Blooming with Life - Marge Hall

by Barbara McCartney



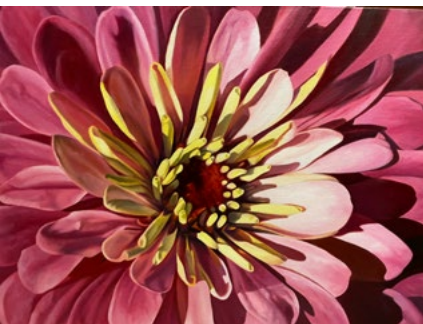
At the DuPage Art League on a Tuesday afternoon, you may hear a lot of laughter coming from Marge Hall's oil painting class. That's because she approaches teaching in the same way she approaches life ~ with a positive attitude and an infectious sense of humor.

"My dad was very creative," Marge said. "He was a prankster and music teacher. My mom was stricter, but also the life of the party. We always had laughter and positive thinking in the family, which was instilled in my soul."

Marge's teaching style combines her extensive knowledge of color and composition with animated facial expressions and funny noises, which her students intuitively understand. "I'm not into all the technical terms," she said. "You can get across a lot with humor."

Since her students are at different levels, Marge starts by asking them what they're interested in. She encourages them to bring in their own photos. The learning evolves as their painting progresses. "I'm more of a coach," she said. "I try to inspire and encourage more than offer a set of instructions."

Marge's students appreciate her teaching style. Marybeth Devine commented, "Marge is an excellent teacher, focusing on the skills each student needs to make their painting better. Beginners to seasoned artists appreciate her ability to know exactly what each painting needs. Her directions are very clear and she encourages the best in all of us. Most



of all she has a fun class with lots of joy and laughter."

Inspiration is abundant in her own artwork. Marge is enowned for her flower paintings, some of which are three feet wide. She creates a realistic

effect by carefully layering the oil paint and building up the color and values. It can take from thirty to sixty hours to create a painting in this manner, with four or five drying at different stages. Marge estimates that she has created over

370 flower paintings. "If you can't see the beauty in God's creation, I don't know what you're looking at, because in nature there's so much beauty," she said. "I just marvel at it all. I never get tired of painting flowers. I can't wait to do the next one."

Her greatest reward is witnessing the impact that her paintings have on other people. "When I see how it affects them, I get paid in my heart," she said.



Marge uses a limited palette of six colors, a warm and cool of each primary color plus white. She will sometimes include black, phthalo green, permanent rose or purple depending on what she's painting.

Her own involvement with painting started in eighth grade with an inspiring mentor. She got a degree in commercial art and then worked at a package design company. But her passion was painting, so she started taking abstract painting classes at the DuPage Art League with Don Digman and Eleanor Himmelfarb. While her paintings got awards, she still preferred realistic painting. She learned a great deal about color theory from Chung Lee, who was an impressionistic colorist. He had her look at a photograph of a barn and asked her to paint cold light and warm shadows. "It made me flop over my brain to think of those colors that I wasn't seeing on the photograph and that I was interpreting with color theory," she said.

Marge's creativity doesn't stop with painting. She plays handbells and marimba at her church and is in the praise band and choir. She also plays piano and percussion instruments. She once directed an entire choral concert when the director had a family emergency. "I have more guts than brains," she remarked. "I got a driver's license after going out to drive only two times."

Marge and her husband Joe were married for 55 years before he succumbed to cancer a few years ago. They raised four sons and have ten grandchildren. She says they were strict, but always had fun. "Your goal as a parent is to make your children independent and self-sufficient," she said. "They are all successful and two of them are self-employed, so I think we've taught them that if you want to do something, then go do it."

continued...

Blooming with Life, Marge Hall, continued

Marge is an honorary life member of the DuPage Art League and has served as president and in various other roles. She has been teaching at the league since 1975. Her husband was a computer geek and helped to get the league computers going. What she likes most about being a member is the camaraderie with other artists.

“Art can be simple and fun, or it can be tedious and frustrating,” she said. “It’s how you approach it.” Her students appreciate that perspective. Elizabeth O’Flynn remarked, “I love Marge for her optimism and her sense of joy. She’s full of life and positive vibes.”



Her advice for people looking to improve their art is to draw something every day. If you keep drawing, you get your eye to hone in on what you see, not how you think it should look. “Learning how to see is the trick.” She also uses a card with a hole punched in it to help students isolate the color of a subject and discern how dark or light it is.

Marge recently celebrated her eightieth birthday with her daughter-in-law Cari, who has the same birthdate. She claims they only had one margarita. When people comment on how much energy she has, she simply says, “I think I have a love of life.”

Activities and Exhibits

New DPAL member, Jan Allen Schrader, cordially invites all art league members and friends to his first solo show opening reception – **PALETTE RIFFS – a fusion of art and jazz--** at If These Walls Could Talk, 32 S. Stolp Avenue in Aurora, on Friday, October 4, 2024 from 7-10 PM. Live music, refreshments, original abstract art and gift wares round out the evening. Come mix & mingle!

Glen Ellyn Historical Society Call for Artists

Submit your proposal for a solo show!
Artists will exhibit for 1-2 months in Stacy's Corner Store
Contact Jeffrey Anderson if interested:
director@gehs.org

From the Library:

Barbara Grabowski
Library Volunteer

Just a reminder! The DPAL Library is available to all members, students, and teachers. It is located on the main floor, next to the kitchen. Books and AV materials may be checked out for a month. Titles recently processed are on the shelf to the left as you enter.

All the books and AV materials have been donated to the Library. If we receive duplicate copies or items too old, they are offered for sale on the book rack near the front door. There is also an ongoing donation program of books for sale. There is a bin for them in the Library. Thanks for your use of the Library and for your donations to it and the ongoing book sale!

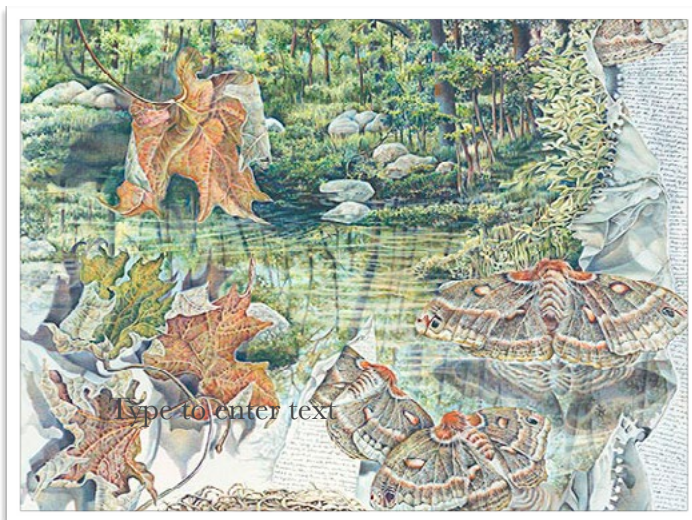
Titles recently added to the Library:

All About Techniques in Oil. (Oil)
Haines. Atmospheric Watercolours; Painting with Freedom, Expression, and Style. (Watercolors)
How to Draw; Course Guidebook and DVD. (AV and Drawing)
How to Paint; Course Guidebook and DVD. (AV and Drawing)
Jennings, Kate F. N.C. Wyeth. (Biography)
Larkin, David, ed. Arthur Rackham. (Biography)
Meglin, Nick. Drawing from Within; Unleashing your Creative Potential. (Drawing)
Painting Still Lifes; a Simple, Enjoyable Method to Get You Started Painting. (Painting)
Thomson and Hewison. How to Draw and Sell Cartoons. (Cartooning)
Wolf, Rachel Rubin. Basic People Painting; Techniques in Watercolor. (Watercolor)

Art Demo: **Cynthia Hellyer Heinz**

Colored Pencils

Monday, Oct.21st ~ 6:30 - 8:30 Live and Virtual



Cynthia will show how she integrates drawing and narrative through layering with colored pencils. Images that emerge from the paper allow the artist to discover patterns, textures, and subtle forms that offer the viewer a new look at a piece of life that carries it's own story. The process allows seeing deeply which translates into a richer experience for both the viewer and creator.



REGISTER AT

wheatonlibrary.org/calendar

or scan



SCAN ME