



November 2024

# newsletter

## President's Letter

Dear Members,

**WOW! WHAT AN EXPERIENCE!**

As president of the art league, I have written 30 President Newsletters. They required some thought and some work, but they did come together and were acceptable to me. This month, nothing came to mind. Nothing! As of today, I am five days past sending my copy to Lori for the November newsletter.

Lying in bed this morning I was still thinking. What is the essence of November that I could speak to? Then a very different thought occurred to me, AI—that chat thing people talk about. Maybe that could give me some ideas about November. Where would I find it? What was it called?

Well, I now know it's called ChatBox AI or ChatBox GPT and it's an APP that you download to your phone (or computer, I suppose). I don't understand the ins and outs of it, but I gingerly typed in my request.

"I would like to write a 300-400 word newsletter to adult art students about the essence of November." I pressed the button and within one second, the newsletter started spilling out onto my phone screen. Incredible! And the text said all the nice things I might have wanted to say to you about November if I could have thought of them. It even came up with the headline: **"Embracing November: A Month of Reflection and Inspiration."** You can read the very nice copy from ChatBox GPT further along in the newsletter, and I think it is well worth reading.

I wouldn't be comfortable taking credit for it. I only signed up for the free first three days of ChatBox because it costs money every month and I don't know what else I would use it for. BUT I tried something new and found it fascinating. AI is an incredible tool that can be extremely helpful in many different arenas. Some of my children use it regularly in their jobs. My brother-in-law uses it to create stories for his little granddaughter with all her favorite elements included. I've heard it can be used for note taking at meetings and will organize and categorize discussions. The uses will be endless.

Perhaps Chat GPT will figure into other areas of our art league, or even of our art itself. But brace yourselves for the future and try it yourself sometime when you are feeling curious.

Till next month,  
Mary Lynn

[dpalpresident.mls@gmail.com](mailto:dpalpresident.mls@gmail.com)

PS: I've just learned that there is a free version of AI online at Chatgpt.com.



## You're Invited NUTCRACKERS AND SUGAR PLUMS!

Mark your calendars ....  
Sunday November 3, 2024, 2:00 – 4:00pm

What a great way to start the holiday season with a festive afternoon at DPAL!

**Yuletide Treasures** will be open too, so you can start some holiday shopping!

There will be a whole Santa's sack full of fun, snacks, sips, and prizes to win!

Come and meet your fellow DPAL artists and Board members.

**RSVP at front Desk  
or email**

**[DPALActivities@gmail.com](mailto:DPALActivities@gmail.com)**

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## Board Meeting Notes - October

**Treasurer's Report:** Jennifer Bayer briefly went over her report. Total Income for the period was more than budget due to higher gallery sales, summer classes and interest from government securities, offset by lower than budget fall session A registrations. Total expenses for the period were more than budget due to more students than expected/teacher payments and chimney repairs. Reserves, the DPAL has 16 months in reserves.

**Education Report:** Margaret Bucholz reported the Fall Session B will begin October 12. There are 19 adult classes and 7 children's classes.

**Membership:** Amy Tran reported we currently have 493 members

**Activities:** Adele Dunn reported that the "Nutcrackers and Sugar Plums" event to celebrate the opening of Yuletide Treasures will take place on November 2, 2024, at 2:00 PM

**Office Manager Report:** Barb Finn reported DPAL will participate in the Wheaton's Annual Clothing Drive, and we will participate in the Downtown Trick or Treat.



**dupageartleague**  
218 W. Front Street, Wheaton, IL 60187  
630-653-7090 [www.dupageartleague.org](http://www.dupageartleague.org)

# Yuletide Treasures

Shop for unique  
extraordinary affordable  
gifts, by local artists.

**Oct. 30th - Nov. 27th**

Mon.-Fri. 9:00-5:00pm

Sat. 9:00-2:00pm

**Nov. 29th - Dec. 24th**

Mon.-Sat. 9:00-5:00pm

**FREE "Thank you" gift**  
when you make a  
Yuletide Treasures purchase  
totaling \$75 or more  
*(this offer does not apply to purchasing  
gift certificates, classes or memberships)*

Free parking on Front Street or in  
the parking garage across the street.

**Winter Clothing Drive**  
**Bring your donations to**  
**GALLERY**  
**This is the LAST WEEK**  
**(to Nov. 2nd)**

### Newsletter/E-Blast Submittals

To submit email blast information and newsletter articles, send your information to: [dpalmembershipt@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:dpalmembershipt@gmail.com)



# Gallery I October Show: The Beautiful Still Life

Judged by: Rachael Corey



## Best of Show - Sue Krzyzanowski "Urns"

Pastel

The color usage here is so well executed. The layers of work do a lot to create such a realistic composition technically, but also makes it very dreamy and other-worldly. The hatch lines in the urn (right side) are the most captivating part for me.

## Best Theme - Fran Puglise

"Still Life in a Box" Pastel

This is such a fun, unique and beautifully executed take on the theme. What stands out to me is the light and shadow and how this was so well-rendered through the use of color. There is so much fine detail work, also achieved by utilizing color. Love the glorification of the still life we see every day!



## Special Merit - Mary Dorrell "Winter's Bone" Oil

This is a perfect title for this work. The presentation, including the rustic frame, makes me feel very sucked in to the painting. I can visualize the room and even the house where this still life sits. Light and shadow are the defining elements here. (Very Dutch!)



## Special Merit - Jeff Zawada "Yellow Tree Root" Mixed Media

This work is very captivating for me. I am drawn to the pen work in the dead tree — it is mad for line work. The intentionality of the marks in the grass, especially in the foreground, is a huge key to the success of the composition as a whole.

## Special Merit - Benita Brewer

"Peppermint, Anyone?" Watercolor

Incredible use of the theme - and quite the undertaking! I really love how whimsical this is, but when you put it in a still life setting like this, it feels a bit solemn and serious Fun combo. The shadows are very well executed here, which I feel is its strongest point.



**WATCH FOR THE 2025 GALLERY I THEMES! COMING SOON!!!**

## MERIT AWARDS

1. Misty Alvis, Bounty of Reds, pastel
2. Diane Kehoe, Life is Just..., clay
3. Tom Finn, Fragrant Trio, scratchboard
4. Joan Kalmanek, Blue Bottles, photo
5. Myriam Villata-Elijah, Bodegones, oil
6. Barb Plichta, Blue Bottle Memories, watercolor
7. Gillian Vodnik, Blue Floral, acrylic
8. Christina Nicholson, Year of the Dragon, watercolor
9. Stephanie Dalton, Sunday Afternoon, colored pencil
10. Gloria Abrahamian, Still Life with Pears, pastel
11. Diane Kulat, Autumn Has Arrived, pen, ink, watercolor
12. Nancy Anderson, Daffodils, pastel

# Yuletide Treasures

## Nutcrackers and Circus Seals!

By the Circus Ringmaster aka Yvonne Thompson

By the time this newsletter hits your mailbox Yuletide Treasures will be embracing the art league once again and I could not have done it this year without so many helpers, thank you all!! As you may or may not know, I was hit hard with COVID in June and I now am suffering from long COVID.....yes, the after effects have turned my life into a Circus. So I thought, "Why not reflect this in the windows"!

Big thanks to my trusty magician, Kay Wahlgren, she created "Sybil and Cyril the Christmas Circus Seals" (say that fast 6 times!) for the windows. They are balancing spinning glitter balls on their noses, creating exciting flashes of of light to entice, the passing public for a closer look and hopefully make them come in to look around and buy.

Please tell all your friends and family about the wonderful unique items we have this year and ask them to visit us, to support our League and artists.



## TRICK OR TREAT AT DPAL

by Barb Finn

Hundreds of children in costume, along with their parents (some also dressed up!), crowded the streets of downtown Wheaton on Saturday, October 26th to trick or treat at local businesses. Barb Finn and Danielle Crilly enjoyed handing out candy to all of them, plus shared information on our kids' classes with many parents. A fun time was had by all!





# Activities and Exhibits

## PLEIN AIR RECEPTION

A lovely time for the Plein Air artists. The general public voted on favorite “door” and the winners are: Ellen won the “Doorways” challenge and Myriam came in 2nd.



## BOURBON & BUBBLY Art & Music Trail

Fifteen of our DPAL members will display their art in Downtown Wheaton Association's 1st ever Bourbon & Bubbly Art & Music Trail! Come out and see their art in downtown Wheaton on Friday, November 8- Sunday, November 10.

For more info about the event info, click here:  
<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/dwa/1322121>



## 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](mailto:director@gehs.org)

## ChatBox:

**Greetings! Curious about what I can do? I can tackle your questions, extract text from images, summarize content from web links and PDFs, create visuals, and more! So, how can I assist you today?**

Me:

I would like to write a 300-400 word newsletter to adult art students about the essence of November.

ChatBox:

Subject: Embracing November: A Month of Reflection and Inspiration

Dear Art Students,

As we step into November, we find ourselves in a season of transformation. The vibrant colors of autumn are beginning to fade, making way for the subdued tones of winter. This month offers us a unique opportunity to reflect on our artistic journeys and the world around us.

November is often associated with themes of gratitude and introspection. As the days grow shorter and the air turns crisp, it invites us to slow down and observe the subtle shifts in nature. Take a moment to appreciate the beauty in the bare branches, the texture of fallen leaves, and the quietude that envelops the landscape. These elements can serve as powerful sources of inspiration for your work. Consider how the changing environment can influence your color palettes, forms, and overall aesthetic.



This month also marks the beginning of the holiday season, a time for gathering and sharing. As artists, we have the unique ability to connect with others through our creations. Whether through a collaborative project, an art show, or simply sharing your work with friends and family, November encourages us to foster community and celebrate creativity. Perhaps you can dedicate some time to create pieces that capture the essence of togetherness and gratitude, reflecting on what you are thankful for in your artistic practice.

Additionally, November is a great time to revisit your artistic goals. As we approach the end of the year, take stock of your progress. What have you learned? What challenges have you overcome? Use this reflective period to set intentions for the upcoming months. Explore new techniques, experiment with different mediums, or even revisit past projects with fresh eyes. Remember, each brushstroke or pencil line is a step towards growth.

Lastly, don't forget to take care of your mental health as the season changes. Embrace the cozy moments that come with the colder weather—curl up with a good book on art, enjoy a warm beverage while sketching, or simply take a walk to clear your mind. The creative process thrives when we nurture our well-being.

As we embrace the essence of November, let us move forward with gratitude, creativity, and a renewed sense of purpose.

Wishing you all a month filled with inspiration and reflection.

Warm regards,  
[Your Name]  
[Your Art School]  
[Contact Information]



# Wood Art Demo

with Jill Stevens



Exploring tools and  
techniques to create wood art

Monday, November 18  
at 6:30pm

Wheaton Library

225 N. Cross St. Wheaton IL 60187



*This is a virtual and in-person demo.*  
Register at [wheatonlibrary.org/calendar](https://wheatonlibrary.org/calendar) or scan

