



December 2024

newsletter

President's Letter

Dear Members,

Holiday Greens

In your preparation for the Christmas holidays, do you ever wonder about the significance and history of some of our traditional greens?

Holly

Holly's significance as a winter tradition goes back to the Celts, Druids and Romans who would bring evergreens into their homes during winter because of their ability to keep their rich and vivid dark green leaves and bright red berries, even through the darkest of winters. In pagan cultures, this was perceived as a sign of special power.

Ivy

'The Holly and the Ivy' is a classic Christmas carol that harkens back to ivy wreathes and garlands used as winter decoration in pagan cultures. In Ancient Rome, ivy was associated with eternal life and rebirth. The early Christian society rejected ivy inside homes and churches as a sign of abnormality, sin, secrecy, and debauchery. Over time holly and ivy were both accepted by religious authorities and are used widely as symbols of Christmas.

Mistletoe

The pagan root of mistletoe being used in winter rituals goes back to the 1st century A.D. The fact that this plant was blooming all over trees during the harshest of winters, led Celtic Druids living in Ireland and Scotland to use mistletoe as a sign of vivacity and fertility. In Norse culture it was considered a sign of love and peace based on Norse mythology's goddess, Frigg, who lost her son, the god Baldur, to an arrow which was made of mistletoe. She vowed to kiss all those who passed beneath mistletoe to discourage them from using plants to craft weapons but instead to celebrate plants in a more peaceful and loving light.

Today, mistletoe has a more romantic association like the one that's related to the Norse story. In the UK, the idea of kissing under the mistletoe at Christmas developed in the 1700s. It was expanded and made more popular in the Victorian period.

Till the New Year,
Mary Lynn
dpalpresident.mls@gmail.com



Yuletide Treasures is open!
New Items arriving!
Shop for unique, extraordinary
and affordable gifts by local
artists!

Nov. 29 - Dec 23 Hours:
Monday - Saturday 9 am to 5 pm

Free "Thank you" gift
when you make a Yuletide
Treasures purchase
totaling \$75 or more.
*(Does not apply to purchasing
gift certificates, classes or
memberships)*

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



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Nutcrackers and Sugar Plums Party

by Adele Dunn

Thank you to all who helped with the Nutcrackers and Sugar Plums event by way of setting up, providing food, beverages, ice, greeting people, assistance with Yuletide Sales, and not the least of all the assistance with room cleanup!

I barely entered the room on Saturday, and it was transformed by those who could read my mind, setting up tables, chairs, and decorations, etc. And a similar thing happened on Sunday, when within the blink of an eye people were ushered in, entered into the raffle, and all sorts of goodies began to fill the food table.



Yvonne and Marge did a great job of keeping us entertained with trivia, a raffle, and the wine bottle wind instruments rendition of **Name That Christmas Tune**. And before I knew it, the event was over, and the minions were back at it again, cleaning up and putting everything back to normal.

It was a fun way to open the Yuletide Treasures season by enjoying some conversation, good food, and laughs with very creative folks.

And biggest of all thanks to our Sugar Plum Fairy and her sidekick, Wilda.



Thank you all very much. And thank you, too, for raffle donations.



Jim Gamboa Donation... by Ellen Rottsoik

The DuPage Art League gives a heartfelt shout out to Jim Gamboa. A longtime member of the league, Jim has taken years of classes in soft pastels, oil painting and oil pastels. Due to health issues Jim is no longer able to participate in these passions. This past summer he donated his soft pastels to the League.

In October a three-day sale was held and \$4162.05 was raised.

Because of his generosity, a bit of Jim's colorful and bold personality lives on in many of the pastel paintings created at the League.

Thank you, Jim!



Yuletide Treasures

Well, here we are less than 30 days before Christmas and Yuletide has its second receiving of artwork on Dec 2. Appointments are almost filled, but if you have something there maybe time for you squeeze in.....do you have barcodes?

This is our main fundraiser for the year as a not for profit, so we are asking you all to "GET THE WORD OUT". Please tell everyone you know about our fun holiday show and invite them to visit. You can download the flyer [here](#) to share with groups you belong to, neighbors and friends. There is nothing like an artisan hand made gift and ours are reasonably priced. Also remember, everyone gets to pick a free gift when you spend over \$75.

Thank you to everyone who has helped get this show off the ground. From the inventory checkers to the showcase and display shifters, we couldn't have done it without you. Special thanks go to Wilda Kemp, my co chair and my righthand in all this, and to Marge Hall for helping me install the windows (that was a sight to be seen and heard!). Sadly this will be my last year doing the Yuletide windows as my body says "enough!". If any one is interested in doing them next year please contact me.

For those of you in the show, who have yet to do your 8 hours, please contact me about helping on a Saturday with wrapping customers purchases or with the breakdown on Saturday Dec 28th.

Blessings to you all,
Yvonne



DPAL Welcomes New Children's Art Teacher Margaret Bucholz

RACHAEL COREY, the new children's art teacher will be starting her teaching career at DuPage Art League by teaching "Art Without Limits" to children (7-14 years old) on Wednesdays, 5-6:30 pm starting January 8, 2025.

ARTIST STATEMENT: As an artist, my passion manifests on two fronts: in the personal creation of art, and in guiding others to understand themselves and discover their strengths through artistic expression. I am devoted to assisting individuals who are underserved or feel overlooked, empowering them to articulate their worldviews through art. My goal for those I work with is to help them unearth creativity and imagination, while providing a safe space for self-expression without fear of judgment. To me, art is the unveiling of one's inner world—a gateway that allows us to step into another person's realm and witness the landscape of their mind.



See Rachael's Art Portfolio here: [Rachael Corey](#)



Activities and Exhibits



New Workshop

MAKING PAPER CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS

with Kay Wahlgren

Sunday, December 8, 1:00pm-3:00pm

\$25, No discounts

All supplies provided

[CLICK HERE](#) to purchase



**DPAL Members:
Please consider donating paper
towels or toilet paper for DPAL.
Look for a donation box in January!**



**Share your Winter art activities
and exhibits with us. Email
dpalmembershipLT@gmail.com**

Newsletter/E-Blast Submittals

To submit email blast information and newsletter articles, send your information to: dpalmembershipLT@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.