



April 2025

newsletter

Comments from our 2025

Board of Directors

Dear Members,

April is a time for new beginnings! It's when I go out each morning and poke around in my garden looking for new green sprouts – promises of beautiful blooms in the coming months. It's when the weather turns balmy and (hopefully) winter coats and boots go to the back of the closet. It's also when we welcome new members into our Board of Directors, so please remember to cast your ballot for these exceptional volunteers. Without these individuals who so generously give their time and talent to our Art League, we would not be able to keep our doors open.

When I was asked to join the Board three years ago, I was already a front desk staffer, always learning about the many details that make our Art League function. It definitely “takes a village”, made up of many talented individuals with diverse abilities and ideas. Becoming VP of Office Management allowed me to expand on what I had learned and oversee the many aspects of our office operation.

One of my favorite things about this position is the interaction with so many people who pass through our doors. Whether it be fellow members, teachers, new students or visitors, it is the job of the front desk staffer to be helpful, informative and welcoming. I can't say enough about the group of amazing volunteers who do this job, week after week, taking on each new challenge and always with a smile. Some have been doing this job for many years and others are new, but we are all happy to be “the face of DuPage Art League”.

Office Management is not a one-person job, and I am so lucky to have a great group of individuals who handle some of the many important tasks. We would love to have you join our team!

All my best,
Barbara Finn
VP Office Management

Celebrate

DPAL's 55th Anniversary in Downtown Wheaton

at the art league on
Sunday, April 13th,
2-3:30p!

Be sure to come by and
visit with friends and
meet Wheaton's Mayor,
Phil Suess, who'll be
joining us!

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Board Meeting Notes - March

Jennifer Bayer reports we are doing well.

Resources: Unrestricted cash increased by less than 1% from the previous month.

Financial Activity: Total income for the period was more than budget by due to higher than budget in membership, gallery sales, summer classes, open studio, donations and interest from government securities. This difference is net of lower than budget artists' sales, class revenue for fall sessions A and B, winter session B and workshop revenue. Total expenses for the period less than budget due to lower than budget in artists' payments, workshop instructors, and supplies. This difference is net of higher than budget repair and maintenance expense.

Reserves: Based on the annual budgeted expenses, DPAL has 18 months of reserves (no change from January 2025) based on its unrestricted cash.

Membership: **Amy Tran** Reports we currently have 390 members.

Exhibits: **Danielle Crilly** reported: our member show theme for March was "Women's History Month" to coincide with the Downtown Wheaton Association's "We are Women" Art Walk. Our member participation is continuing to be impressive, with almost 90 entries again this month. Mary Dorrell had her wonderful show in Gallery II.

Community Outreach: **Carol Kincaid** reported that the Art League had 3 requests for donations of our donated artwork: The DuPage County Historical Foundation Museum, We Grow Dreams, and the Wheaton Junior Women's Club. In addition I conducted a tour of the league for the Glenbard Transitional Program. About 20 young adults and their helpers, toured the gallery and saw several of our artists at work in February. I also held a 1 hour hands-on-art program for AID on March 6th. AID is a program for special needs adults whom live in group homes in Aurora.

The DPAL Used Art Book Sales 2025

As you walk into our gallery space, you'll notice a shelf with donated art books for sale to members and gallery visitors. Those books represent a modest opportunity to support the DPAL to the tune of several hundred dollars a year. They come from your home as you sort, redecorate and simplify your life. But this enterprise is totally dependent on books which YOU have donated. Please consider sharing books on techniques of watercolor, pastel, oil, acrylic, or colored pencil; books on composition, drawing the human figure; books on art exhibits and shows; books featuring artist and theories of art. If it's about ART, there will be grateful buyer. This is recycling at its best! Your book donation will bring joy to a fellow league member or browsing customer.

Please leave your donation in the DPAL library. There is a bin on top of the south side shelves for your books or magazines. They will be priced and placed on the for-sale shelf so that others can enjoy them.

Please contact me, Ewa Bacon, at baconew@lewisu.edu if you have questions. Many, many thanks to all of you for sharing and supporting this venture.

Dr. Ewa Bacon

2025 DPAL Board Elections

Watch your email (Constant Contact) early April. The email will have a ballot and instructions for voting. Ballots must be returned to a front staff staffer between April 4 and April 11.

The slate of candidates for this year is as follows:

Secretary	Maeva Cook
Treasurer	
VP of Activities	Adele Dunn
VP of Membership	Maryann Staroszik
VP of Building & Grounds	Mark Galli
VP of Media & PR	Patricia Kosar

Please print your ballot and give to the front desk staffer by April 11th or mail to the Art League. Ballots will also be available at the front desk. You must be a current member to vote.

Thank you in advance for voting for your new board.

Diana Mitchell
President Emeritus

Newsletter/E-Blast Submittals

To submit email blast information and newsletter articles, send your information to: dpalmembershiplt@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 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 Media: Mary Kate Venturini
VP Membership: Amy Tran
VP Office Management: Barbara Finn
VP Publicity & Promotions: OPEN
VP Safety & Security: Darlene Edwards
Presidents Emeritae: Diana Mitchell and
Carol Kincaid
Yuletide Treasures: Yvonne Thompson and
Wilda Kemp
Newsletter: Lori Tucker
dpalmembershiplt@gmail.com

Gallery I March -- Women's History Month

Judged by: Marcia Whitney-Schenk



Best of Show - Alice Matthews; "Fall in Love with Art"; Chinese brush

Comments: Alice created an exquisite, sensitive portrait of an artist in motion. She caught the exact moment when the artist, deep in thought, is about to execute another calligraphic stroke. The details are done with concentration and skill — the Chinese letters, the floral pattern in the kimono the twists of the hair.

Best Theme - Barb Finn, "Great Grandma Belle" Pastel.

Comments: Barb presents us an unforgettable portrait of her great-grandmother in a beautiful dress lovingly rendered in shades of blue, gray, and white. Belle's face is marvelous — Here's a woman of determination.



Special Merit - Danielle Crilly "Three Greaces" pastel

Comments: I loved the arrested movement of three friends, sharing a light moment. And what a delightful title - allusion to the three Greek graces. The house in the background is perfect for this slice of life.



Special Merit - Kathleen Sheers, "She Speaks without Moving Her Lips," mixed media.

Comments: Delightful background of "cloth patches" is the stage for two mysterious masks and a berry sprig. Totally engaging!



Special Merit - Joan Kalmanek "Feathers, Floras, Frida" Photo collage

Comments: An energetic flourish of color and images that does not overwhelm Frida but adds to the story — perfectly reflecting Frida's personality.

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!

MERIT AWARDS

Eleanor Diane Peterson "Eleanor"
Bobbie Hald "The First Disciple"
Lori Tucker "Flamenco Dancer"
Margaret Bucholz "Self Portrait"
Mary Karr "Ivy"
Pat Armbruster "Adoration"

paper collage
watercolor
scratchboard
colored pencil
watercolor
oil

MERIT AWARDS

Fran Puglise
Yvonne Thompson
Adele Dunn
Jim Waters
Johanna Rebman
Evelyn Holy

"Girl Power" pastel
"The Emergence of Eve" clay
"Mom" pastel
"Red Raincoat" digital photo
"Babushka Lady" colored pencil
"Someone's Grandma" acrylic

Gallery II April Solo Exhibit

“Quite Contrary” A show of the artworks of Mary Kate Fahrenbach Venturini

by: Maryann Staroscik

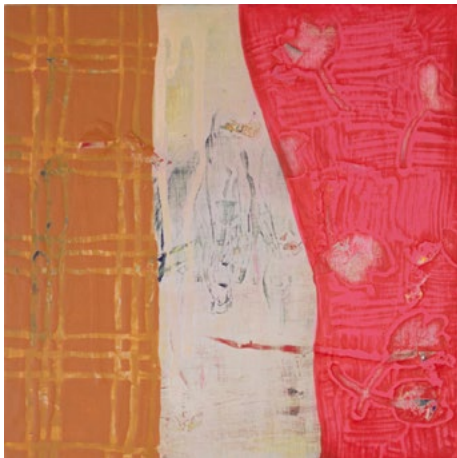
Mary Kate's work explores the push and pull between two opposing forces - chaos and control-through painting. She is especially interested in humanity's infatuation with plants and our many attempts to control what we, by definition cannot: wilderness.

In her words:

"I long for wilderness. And in the frozen dark of winter, houseplants and conservatories are the closest I can get. But sticking nature in a pot feels like subjugation rather than wilderness. What does it mean to cultivate the wild? How do these acts of nurturing and control impact us? How does it impact the plants, both individually and globally?"

Mary Kate Fahrenbach Venturini is a visual artist based in Wheaton, IL. She received a bachelor's degree in The Program of Liberal Studies and Graphic Design from the University of Notre Dame and has taken continuing education courses in visual art at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and drawing and painting at the DuPage Art League.

She has worked in graphic design and communications before shifting to focus on visual art. Mary Kate's immersion in the day-to-day experience of parenting twins provides the best and constant examples of clash between chaos and control.



She attended the South Porch Artists Residency in South Carolina in the fall of 2024. Her work is also on display from March 8 - April 26, 2025 at "No Ordinary Light", a group show at DANK Haus in Chicago.

Recent:

LAMINATOR Vol. 1 a zine published by Artists on the Lam

"You Are Invited" a group show in Chicago

Please come and meet Mary Kate in person at her reception on April 27, 2:00-4:00 PM at the DuPage Art League.

Gallery I Exhibits for 2025

April: Tell Me a Story. Art that tells a story inspired by favorite book or movie. Drop off Mar. 26-27.

May: Blossoming. Capture the abundance of spring blooms and summer's bounty. Drop off April 30-May 1

June: Volunteer Show -- The Art of Everyday
Entry by Invitation Only. Drop off May 28-29

July: Water and Waves; Be inspired by the art of Hokusai and Japanese art, on view this summer at the Cleve Carney Museum. Drop off June 25-26.

August: Best of the Best. Winnings artworks from art leagues in the area.

September: Windows of the Soul. Express yourself with the idea of a self-portrait. Drop off August 27-28.

October: Chasing the Light. As days shorten, shows lengthen and fall colors shine.

Activities and Exhibits and More

New Member Meeting

On Sunday afternoon, March 2nd, over 40 members gathered at DPAL for some unique and informative entertainment. An original puppet show was presented as a fun way to familiarize new members with the workings of the Art League, along with lots of socializing and great refreshments. This presentation was due to the creative genius of Adele Dunn and Sue Thomas, with able assistance from Yvonne Thompson and Parker Johnson.

Thanks to all who pitched in to help in so many ways!



Remembering former DPAL member

Sadly, we recently learned that Judith Deshone Hall passed away on February 12, 2025, In Corpus Christi.

Judith had a Masters in Art from Northern Illinois University. She taught art, designed Hallmark cards, explored many art mediums, and always spread her love of art when and wherever she was.

Help Wanted – A Job You'll Treasure!

Have a desire to support the arts and art education? All while being part of an active Board of Directors? If interested, please contact Jennifer Bayer at dpaltreasurer@gmail.com. The DuPage Art League is seeking a Treasurer. The ideal candidate will have accounting and finance experience and a working, basic knowledge of QuickBooks and Excel. An understanding of nonprofit accounting is helpful, but not necessary. This person must hold honesty and integrity in high esteem and be committed to accuracy, transparency and timeliness.

Responsibilities include recommending financial policies, supervising the bookkeeper, monitoring credit card transactions, processing credit card refunds, overseeing the insurance policies, presenting preparing monthly financial reports, reconciling bank accounts, executing ACH (direct deposit payments), preparing positive pay bank uploads, downloading sales information, and working with third-party accounting firm to prepare Form 990 (this arrangement will be completed after April 15). Qualifications include strong communication and interpersonal skills, working knowledge of Microsoft applications such as Excel, Word and PowerPoint, attention to detail and accuracy, and business acumen and ability to identify and communicate operating risk. The time commitment is approximately 4-6 hours per week. The current Treasurer's term ends on April 30, 2025.



and

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to all who helped with the New Member event by way of setting up, providing flowers, food, beverages, ice, greeting people, assistance with sales, and not least of all assistance with room cleanup afterwards!

Yvonne, and Tommy and Sally (puppets) did a great job of keeping people entertained while providing valuable information about the workings of the Art League. It was a fun way to get acquainted with some of our newest members while enjoying some conversation, good food, and laughs with very friendly people.

Mark your calendars for June 22 - the Annual Member Meeting. It would be fun to have some of the new faces helping out with this event.

Thank you,
Adele Dunn
VP Activities – dpalactivities@gmail.com

Maker Fest at Glen Ellyn Public Library

The Maker Fest was held Saturday, March 8, from 11am-3pm. It was a great success with 500 people in attendance. DuPage Art League was one of 11 exhibitors throughout the library which included: Illinois Prairie Weavers Guild, Chicago

Area Origami Society (CHAOS), Hive Center for the Book Arts, Build-A-Blinkie, Make a Button, The Workshop, Glen Ellyn Historical Society, Ten Thousand Villages, Crochet with Jana Osmani, and Local Glass Studio. At our tables we had 3"x3" mini canvases that people painted with acrylics and cotton swabs. Darlene Edwards, Dixie Lee, Janice Zeuch, and Margaret Bucholz assisted the painters. We had brochures of our classes and workshop available at the literature table.



DPAL Teachers will have their art displayed at the Gallery Wall upstairs at Glen Ellyn Public Library for the month of April.

Senior Artists

Seniors at Westbridge Assisted Living in Wheaton were treated to a hands-on art project on March 13th, thanks to members Darlene Edwards and her mother, Dixie Lee Hadley. Darlene gave a presentation on our Art League and how art makes our lives so much richer, followed by a lesson in pointillism for a large group of residents conducted by Dixie Lee. Residents left with finished artwork to display and share with friends, plus lots of smiles. Plans are in the works for a future visit to our galleries!



Safety Seconds

A few seconds can make a big difference!

Darlene Edwards, VP Safety and Security

Art Material Safety – Part Two

Toxic Ingredients in art supplies including paint

Art supplies, including paints, often contain chemicals that can be toxic if used improperly or in excessive amounts. Take a few seconds to become aware of these chemicals and their potential health risks.



Heavy Metals. Lead is better regulated than it used to be, but cadmium is still widely used in art supplies and paints, especially in super bright colors like yellow, red, and orange.

Cadmium is a natural element found in tiny amounts in air, water, soil, and food. Avoid inhaling dust and skin exposure.

VOCs. Volatile Organic Compounds (aka VOCs) include a huge variety of chemicals, and they can cause a variety of health issues, from eye, nose, and throat irritation to nervous system damage. Certain types of paint may contain acetone, xylene, ethyl acetate, ethylene glycol, formaldehyde or formaldehyde-releasers, benzene, among other VOCs.

Always wear the recommended personal protective equipment and

Create Safely!



dupageartleague
Gallery, School & Gift Shop

Art Demo: **Christopher Hughes**

Alla Prima Acrylics

MONDAY APRIL 21st - 6:30 to 8:30 IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL

Christopher Hughes will demonstrate how to capture the essence of a subject with spontaneity without being reckless. Christopher will walk through decision points and adjustments to best capture the essence of a landscape.



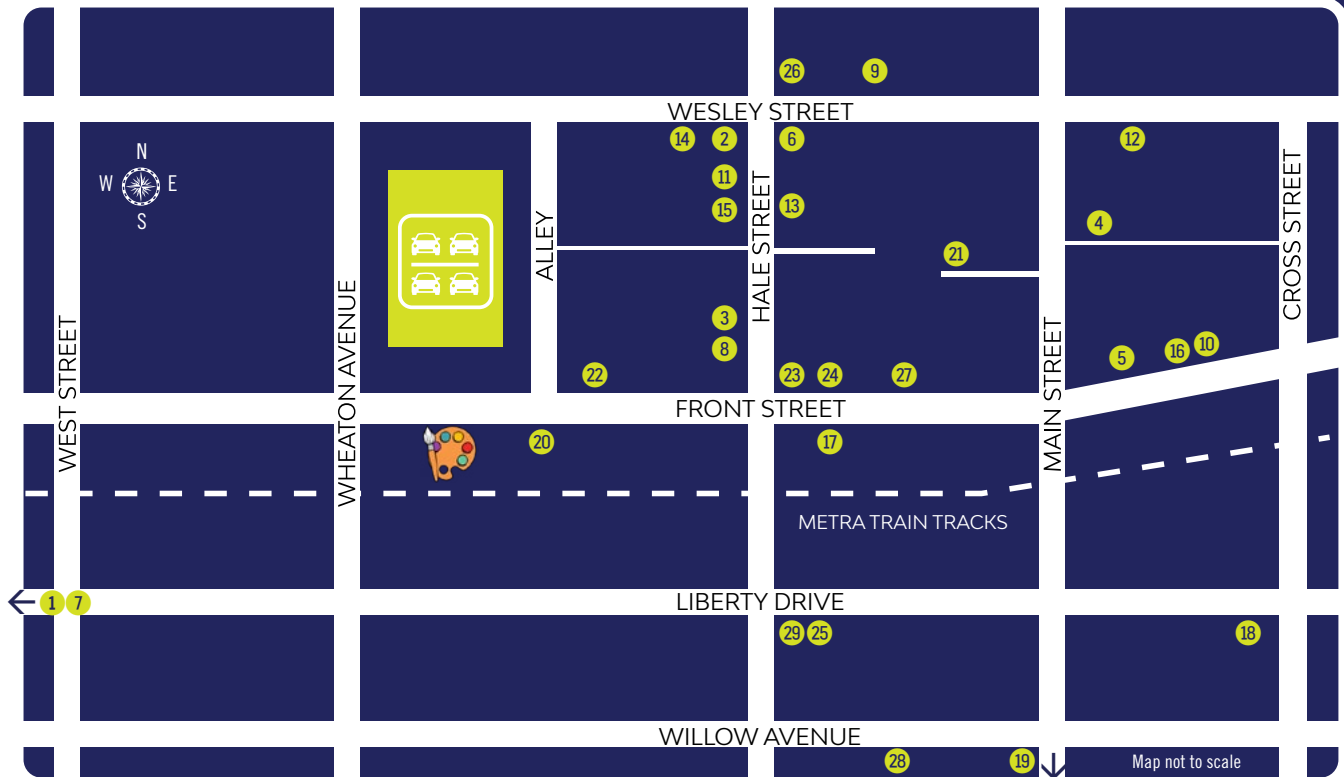
Register to attend in-person or via Zoom:

<https://www.wheatonlibrary.org/event/art-demo-alla-prima-acrylics-93932>

Provided by Wheaton
Public Library in partnership
with DuPage Art League.
225 N. Cross St., Wheaton
Meeting Room A



WALK DOWNTOWN WHEATON DURING THE MONTH
OF MARCH AND VISIT THESE WOMEN-OWNED OR
-MANAGED BUSINESSES, FEATURING ARTWORK BY
WHEATON LOCALS!



ENJOY ARTWORK BY WOMEN ARTISTS FROM WHEATON NORTH HS, WHEATON WARRENVILLE SOUTH HS,
STARS FAMILY SERVICES, AND THE DUPAGE ART LEAGUE

1. **Adelle's Modern Kitchen + Bar**
Sol Antunez (WN)
535 W. Liberty Drive
2. **Altiro Latin Fusion**
Eli McLaughlin (WWS)
312 N. Hale Street
3. **Amante Marketplace**
Anna Anthony (WN) & Mylene Choi (WWS)
102 N. Hale Street
4. **BABAM**
Lizzie Birks & Lauren Chase (SFS)
125 N. Main Street
5. **Billy Bricks**
Vicki Jensen (SFS)
103 E. Front Street
6. **Egg'lectic Café**
Cassie Tomara (SFS)
145 N. Hale Street
7. **Hive Hair Collective**
Logan Walker (WWS)
549 W. Liberty Drive
8. **Images Med Spa**
Emily Masiulis (WN)
104 N. Hale Street
9. **Jeans and a Cute Top Shop**
Rosalie White (DPAL)
123 W. Wesley Street
10. **Kimmer's Ice Cream**
Sandy Winter (DPAL)
109 E. Front Street
11. **London Skye**
Jennifer Hauser (DPAL)
126 N. Hale Street
12. **Lori Mesa Antiques & Fine Jewelry**
Christie Kosiog (SFS)
108 E. Wesley Street
13. **M&Co. Salon**
Olivia Maldre & Grey Wilson (WN)
135 N. Hale Street
14. **MION Artisan Soap Co.**
Laurel Erickson (DPAL)
204 W. Wesley Street
15. **Miroballi Shoes**
Sally Sharp (DPAL)
124 N. Hale Street
16. **MOORE Toys & Gadgets**
DPAL Student Artist
107 E. Front Street
17. **Naperville Running Co.**
Ellie Postma (WN)
102 W. Front Street
18. **NEXT yoga**
Page Bradley (WN)
120 E. Liberty Drive
19. **Notable Notes Music Academy**
Izabella Morales (WWS)
406 S. Main Street
20. **Proof no. 5**
Darlene Edwards (DPAL)
214 W. Front Street
21. **Rise Fitness + Wellness**
Genessa Shankman (WN)
406 S. Main Street
22. **Suzette's Creperie**
Gloria Abrahamian (DPAL)
211 W. Front Street
23. **Sweetchilango**
Ashley Seagren & Maria Gristsonis (SFS)
133 W. Front Street
24. **Tasting deVine**
Sharon Peters (DPAL)
127 W. Front Street
25. **The Babe Bodega**
Anna Yu (WWS)
132 W. Liberty Drive
26. **The Cottage**
Diane Kehoe (DPAL)
131 W. Wesley Street
27. **The Protein Spot**
DPAL Student Artist
111 W. Front Street
28. **Wheaton Orthodontic Center**
DPAL Student Artist
116 W. Willow Avenue
29. **Wildflower Mercantile**
Jackie Maurer & Katie Klein (SFS)
134 W. Liberty Drive



dupageartleague



Dupage Art League
Women's History Theme
80+ Pieces Displayed
218 W. Front Street

#WEAREWOMENARTEXHIBIT VisitDowntownWheaton.org