



August 2025

newsletter

Dear Members,

As we round the corner into the second half of summer, I'd like to highlight the wonderful opportunity we have as members of the DuPage Art League to show and sell our work. It is incredibly rewarding as an artist when a viewer connects to our art. A purchase is a wonderful affirmation that a piece has found its home with someone who truly appreciates it. A huge benefit of membership is our large gallery space located right in the heart of vibrant downtown Wheaton. The addition of several new restaurants around the League on Front Street provides a lively lunch and dinner scene, with lots of activity and foot traffic. Our DPAL team works to coordinate with the Downtown Wheaton Association on the myriad happenings around town to increase visibility for our school and gallery.

The themes of each month's show are meant to be a prompt to challenge and stretch us as artists. While entries are not required to adhere to the theme, I encourage you to look ahead at the themes for the coming months and see if one calls to you. I don't know about you, but I find that an assignment with a deadline lights a fire in me to create with more determination. Insider tip: As I work with the judges for each month's show, I have noticed that although they are aware that the submitted work does not have to follow the theme, they do tend to view the art through that particular lens.

Please help our display team by reviewing the criteria in the Membership Guide for size requirements, pricing, and proper wiring for hanging. We don't want to reject any entries! It is important to note the drop off and pick up dates for the shows. We can't guarantee that work dropped off before the published drop off date will be hung in the show. Please be sure to pick up your work on the assigned dates at the end of each show as we have very limited storage space.

As a reminder, members that show work are required to put in four volunteer hours per year. Volunteering is a wonderful way to connect with fellow members and get to know all of the offerings of the Art League. Wondering where you might be able to volunteer? You can contact Diana Mitchell at diamitc4@aol.com for help on finding your spot. Also, I am looking for a team to assist with putting together the holiday display in our windows. This would be a fun opportunity to get those volunteer hours in this year! Please contact me at daniellecrilly@me.com if you would like to help.

I am delighted that participation in our monthly member shows has grown over this past year I have served on the Board. The consistent quality and diversity of the work is continuing to rise and gallery sales are increasing. Bravo to all of our DPAL artists! Keep up the great work!

Danielle Crilly
Vice President, Exhibits

DUPAGE ART LEAGUE Friday Outdoor Sketchers

Friday Mornings
9:30 am to 12

SUMMER PLEIN AIR 2025 SCHEDULE (remaining)

August 1 Wheaton Business District (meet at DPAL)

August 8 Knock Knoll Park
336 Knock Knoll Rd. Naperville

August 15 Ball Seed Gardens
622 Town Rd. West Chicago.
Park in the visitor lot on Town Rd across from Main Office.

August 22 Hurley Gardens
Crescent Drive, Wheaton

August 29 Mayslake Peabody Estate. 1717 31st St. Oak Brook

Sept. 5 Kline Creek Farm,
1N600 County Farm Road West Chicago

Sept. 12 *Cantigny Park 1S 151 Winfield Rd. Wheaton

Sept. 19 McDowell Grove F.P.
4s500 Raymond Dr. Naperville

Sept. 26 *Morton Arboretum, east side, Visitor Center Area, Lisle IL

October 3 St James Farm, Warrenville IL. (closing event)

*fee required to enter location

We have selected the People's Choice Challenge (\$50 Dick Blick gift card award):

PORTRAIT OF A TREE

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 - July

Treasurer's Report: Total expenses for the period were in line with the total budget. We have 17 months of reserves.

Membership Report: We currently have 471 members.

Office Manager Report: We are currently waiting for the final word on downtown Wheaton parking procedure for DPAL students. For many years we have been able to park in most areas using the paper passes available at the front desk. These will soon be invalid. I am waiting to hear back from the parking officer. I will share the information as soon as possible. Meanwhile, it's a good idea to have the Passport app on your phone, especially if you plan to park over 3 hours.



DPAL Board Volunteer Position

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 and 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 ended on April 30, 2025.

Volunteer Needed – Calendar Coordinator

Does being “in the know” about the goings-on of the DuPage Art League appeal to you?

Are you detail-oriented and comfortable with technology? If so, we have a new volunteer opportunity for you!

The DuPage Art League needs an online master events calendar which has all activities, classes, Monday night programs, monthly exhibit schedule, workshops, etc. all in one place and “at a glance”. Having such a calendar will benefit the front desk staffers, the Board, and our publicity and social media team. You will interact with the Board members, other volunteers and the business manager to create and maintain a Google calendar. In addition, you will bring attention to any potential scheduling conflicts (for others to solve!). This is a volunteer role that can be performed at home with occasional meetings at the art league. You will have your own Gmail account to create and manage the calendar and receive/send emails. We do not have an online calendar today so this role will require you to set up the calendar, play with the features, and learn about its functionality.

Interested? Please contact Barb Finn, VP of Office Management, by calling the art league at 630.653.7090 or email Barb at barbfinn505@gmail.com.

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: OPEN

VP Activities: Adele Dunn

VP Building & Grounds: Mark Galli

VP Education: Margaret Bucholz

VP Exhibits: Gallery I: Danielle Crilly

Gallery II: TBD

VP Finance: Carol Kincaid

VP Membership: Mary Ann Staroscik

VP Office Management: Barbara Finn

VP Publicity & Promotions: Patricia Kosar

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 - Water and Waves

Judged by: Ben Calvert



**Best of Show,
Robert Koch, "At
the Shore" Oil.**

"Tension. Rocks vs sand, breaking waves to distant clouds, flat paint to broad brush strokes of varied color. Cold or deep waters and the churn when meeting the shore. I'm glad I'm viewing from the shore."



**Best Theme, Mark Grogan, "Pescadero
Rocks" oil**

"Water and waves, here we are. The dark rocks full of color even in shadows, and fluffy clouds make for a calm day hike. This scene reminds me of my visits to Etretat and the Normandy coast. Calm with wispy waves."



**Special Merit, Barb Plichta "Grace
and Speed, Newport, RI" WC**

"Don't you want to be on that boat? Your color gaze following the edge of the sail up into the clouds. Gliding with a stiff breeze, always observing."



**Special Merit, Tom Finn
"Denizen of the Deep"**

Scratchboard "Close in and get eye to eye. Watch out for the tentacles as they guide you closer. Black and white. Pay attention to the dots."



**Special Merit, Mary Crickmore
"En Gedi" Oil**

"Step back and appreciate the fluttering of leaves and the water/time worn rocks in the background. The colors of an arid climate make one appreciate the spring runoff nurturing growth in this canyon."

Merit Awards

Margaret Bucholz	Surfing Hawaii	acrylic	Joan Kalmanek	Flamingos Dream in Blue	photo
Diane Peterson	Sailing Away	paper collage	Maeva Cook	A Day at the Beach	pastel
Susan McLean	Blossom Time in Kyoto	acrylic	Lizzie Nelson	The Swimming Venus of Lake Michigan	mixed media
Holly Hughes	Flow	photo			
Nancy Staszak	Great Blue Heron	woodcut	Beth Berry	Seagully Morning Dance	watercolor
Laurel Erickson	Herrick Lake Fall	pastel	Kent Kucera	Early Spring	oil
Carol Calihan	Quarry Fishing	pastel			

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!

BEST OF THE BEST 2025 FINE ART EXHIBIT

August 2-26, 2025

Reception: August 10 from 2-4pm

DuPage Art League and Gallery

218 W. Front St. Wheaton, IL 60187



2024 Best in Show, "Time Machine" by Tony Aborreno

BEST OF THE BEST 2025 FINE ART EXHIBIT

August 2 - 26, 2025

Reception: August 10, 2-4 pm

A showcase of award-winning artwork that received
"Best in Show" recognition from local visual arts
organizations:

Addison Art Guild
Artists' Association of Elk Grove Village
Aurora Art League
Downers Grove Artists' Guild
DuPage Art League
Elmhurst Artists' Guild
Lemont Artists Guild
Midwest Collage Society
Naperville Art League
Oak Brook Art League
Town and Country Art League
Yellow House Artists

Hosted by the DuPage Art League
218 W. Front Street, Wheaton, IL 60187
Gallery Hours: M-F 9am- 5pm, Sat. 9am-2pm
(630) 653-7090 www.dupageartleague.org



Activities and Exhibits and More

From the Library:

The following titles have been added to the DPAL Library. You will find them on the New Books shelf:

Brown. Learn to Draw Horses.	Drawing
Fairley. Drawing and Painting Hands and Feet.	Drawing
Hamilton. Complete Sketching Book.	Drawing
Hendershot. Texture Techniques for Winning Watercolor.	Watercolor
Kessler. Color Harmony in your Paintings.	Painting
Leveille. Painting Expressive Portraits in Oil.	Oil
Raymes. Drawing the Figure.	Drawing
Saper. Painting Beautiful Skin Tones.	Painting
Seligman. Painting the Effects of Weather.	Painting
Tilton. Drawing and Painting Animals.	Drawing

Enjoy!

Barbara Grabowski, Library Volunteer

Plein Air artists enhance Voyage en France at Cantigny

On Sunday, July 20th, a group of our talented Plein Air painters graced the gardens at Cantigny during their annual Voyage en France. People were able to see our artists in action at various locations throughout the park, plus the first ever art show of their work was on display in the Visitors Center Lounge.



Art Fair Tent for Sale

Very sturdy art fair tent for sale. Comes with heavy weights. Used but still in good shape. \$150 for tent and weights. Contact Valerie Lorimer at: vlorimer@yahoo.com if interested.

Westbridge Seniors Love Our Galleries

A group of residents and staff from Westbridge Assisted Living in Wheaton visited DPAL on Wednesday, July 16th for a tour of our galleries and classrooms. They were all amazed at the talent displayed in the galleries and were very interested in our long history. A tour and short presentations were given by Carol Kincaid, Darlene Edwards and Barb Finn. They were also excited to be able to see a pastel class in progress!



Safety Seconds

A few seconds can make a big difference!

Darlene Edwards, VP Safety and Security

A few safety tips for hanging wall art. Part 1

Using the right tools and techniques ensures long-term stability, prevents accidents, and enhances overall presentation.

1. Choose the Right Mounting Hardware

Different materials and wall types require specific anchors, hooks, or brackets to support the weight of an art piece. Choosing the wrong hardware risks damaging both the wall and the artwork. Heavy-duty wall anchors provide better security than simple nails, especially for drywall or plaster surfaces. Stud-mounted cleats or rail systems work best for large or heavy installations.



2. Use Proper Cables and Chains for Stability

Using the correct cables or chains is another important tip for securing hanging art installations. Not all hanging systems provide the same level of support, and weaker materials wear down over time. Choosing durable, high-quality hanging materials promotes stability.

