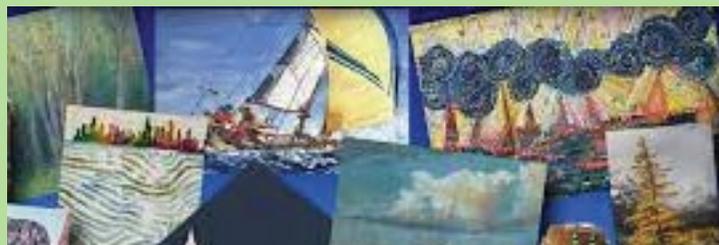


Newsletter



The Dupage Art League • March 2026

Dear Members,

I can't believe it's been four years since I began my term as VP of Office Management. Time really does fly, and I've had so many new experiences during that period, more than I can count! They were both challenging and enlightening, but each of them was a valuable learning tool for me.

Our goal is always to create a friendly and welcoming environment for all who walk through our doors. It's often a challenge to keep up with the many opportunities we offer, but our staffers do their best to be helpful and informative, always with a smile. And speaking of our front desk staffers, 10 new volunteers were trained and added to our roster in this 4-year period. We currently have 21 amazing staffers who volunteer their time and talent so that we can keep our doors open each day.

Over these last few years, we have also seen many improvements made to enhance the safety and security of our members, students and staff. Automatic door locks and an alarm system are just two of the many features that were added, plus mandatory safety training for teachers and staff alike. We also added new furniture and a fresh coat of paint to refresh and brighten our gallery. Currently, we are discussing ways to update and improve our registration and sales process, which will hopefully make things work more smoothly and efficiently. Stay tuned!

Lastly, thank you to all of you who give me pointers, answer my questions, fill in at the last minute, and put up with my frequent email updates. There are too many of you to name, but know that I feel so lucky and grateful to have you in my corner!

Barb Finn
VP Office Management

*Barb Finn's Women's
History Month Art*



Spring Forward those clocks on March 8 at 3 am!

The Top 5 Most Iconic Clocks in the World

Big Ben, London: The world-famous clock tower, officially named the Elizabeth Tower, houses the Great Bell, known as Big Ben.

Prague Astronomical Clock, Prague: Dating back to 1410, this medieval masterpiece is the third-oldest astronomical clock in the world and the oldest still in operation.

The Clock of the Long Now, Texas: Also known as the 10,000-Year Clock, this ambitious project aims to create a clock that will keep time for the next ten millennia.

The Peace Tower Clock, Ottawa: Peace Tower Clock was completed in 1927 as a tribute to the country's commitment to peace.

The Zytglogge, Bern: This medieval clock tower in Switzerland's capital city.

From Hermleclock.com

In this issue:

Board Notes	2
2026 Gallery I Schedule	2
Calendar	2
Gallery I Awards	3
Gallery II Anderson	4
Board Elections/Volunteering	5
Abbey Tour	6
Art Demo March 16	8
Safety	9

Board Meeting Notes - February

Treasurer's Report:

Jennifer Bayer said we continue to do well.

Total Income was over budget due to artists' sales classes, workshops, membership, donations, gallery sales. Total expenses were more than budget due workshop instructors, artist payments, credit card fees and office supplies. These were offset by the less than budget areas: POS/ Website maintenance, free art classes, teacher pay, art supplies, gas and electric expenses.

Membership:

Amy Tran reports we have 393 members of which are 11 additional new members to the League.

Maryann Staroscik reported that the New Members' Tea was a very nice event providing tours of the galleries and information about all that the art league offers.

Education:

Margaret Bucholz reports we have 24 Adult classes and four Children's classes on the schedule for Winter Session B that will begin on February 23rd .

DPAL Calendar

- Mar 8** Daylight Savings Time begins
- Mar 8** Alice Matthew reception at DPAL Gallery II, 2-4 pm
- Mar 16** Demo: Pamela Hamilton, Floral Pastels
See page 8
- Mar 25-26** Pick Up Women's History art
- Mar 25-26** Drop Off April art, Patterns
- Apr 5** **Easter**
- Apr 29-30** Pick up Patterns
Drop off May art: Seasons of Life



2026 Gallery I Exhibit Schedule

April - PATTERNS

Entry: March 25-26 Pick-up: April 29, 30
Where do you see patterns, lines, rhythms?

May - SEASONS OF LIFE

Entry: April 29-30 Pick-up: May 27-28
Beginnings, growth, rest, maturity - cycles & transitions in people and nature.

June - VOLUNTEER SHOW, SOUNDTRACK

Entry: May 27-28 Pick-up: June 24-25
Celebrating work by our League volunteers. Let music, voices, city noise, sounds of nature inspire you. *Entry by invitation only.*

July - COLOR OUTSIDE THE LINES

Entry: June 24-25 Pick-up: July 29-30
Abstraction, unexpected color choices, unique subject matter — what calls to you?

August - BEST OF THE BEST

Entry: July 30 Pick-up Aug 26-27
Show representing winning artworks from art leagues/guilds from around the suburbs. *Entry by invitation only.*

September - NEGATIVE SPACE

Entry: Aug 26-27 Pick-up: Sept 23-24
Description: Show off your skill in utilizing negative space in your work.

October - THE SKY'S THE LIMIT

Entry: Sept 23-24 Pick-up: Oct 26-27
(note Monday, Tuesday pick-up).
Explore your ideas of expansiveness, verticality, horizons.

The Activity Guides are in!

Pick up your copy at the front desk.



DPAL Board 2026

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: TBD
Newsletter: Lori Tucker
dpalmembership1t@gmail.com

Gallery I - Gritty and Raw FEBRUARY WINNERS



**Best of Show, Chad Wooters,
Horizontal Setdown Space, oil**

"I absolutely love the way you achieved so many different textures on such a small space. It absolutely captures the theme of grit. I also love all of the tones within the flat background."



BEST THEME

Kathleen Sheers, His Home by Day, Homeless by Night, pastel

"Wow. This is so raw and beautiful. Absolutely captures the theme. The softness of the pastel with the harsh subject matter really blew me away."



Diane Peterson, Street Scene, paper
"Wow. The way you were able to have such fine detail with just cut paper is incredible. I really enjoyed the layering of the buildings and textures of paper used. Very cool."



Robert Yurgaitis, Chicago Steel, oil
"I really enjoyed the experience of viewing this piece both near and far. The way you achieved the lighting on the bridge is really lovely."



Sue Krzyzanowski, Closed for the Season, pastel
"When I first looked I was shocked that this was not a photo. The sharpness and detail you were able to create with pastel is lovely while maintaining such softness. I really loved the way this reflected the theme."

MERIT AWARDS

Sue Thomas	Big Mack	pastel	Pallavi Jain	Medusa Rising	watercolor
Jan Kloss	Busy Street	acrylic	Fran Puglise	Phantom Memory	oil
Jim Hisson	What the Dog Saw	Before I Fell acrylic	Malini Kumari	Chicago Bean	acrylic
Duncan Cory	Did He Jump?	acrylic	Joan Kalmanek	Lower East Side Graffiti	photo
Nicky Metz	Under the El	watercolor	Natalya Rowland	View from City Cafe	oil
Adele Dunn	Big City Blues	acrylic	Gary DeClute	Insurmountable	photo

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.

Bonding with Nature...The of Alice Matthew

March Gallery II Exhibit

Gallery II is honored to be hosting the art of another of its talented members, Alice Matthews.

"My art has a strong bond with nature. I use ancient techniques such as grinding lipsticks on inkstone, mixing my own ingredients from herbs and minerals while working with traditional animal hairbrushes. Subject matter is land and sea scapes, animals, flowers and portraits.

I was taught traditional calligraphy when I was five. In my youth I studied ancient brush painting on rice paper and later silk. As an adult, I learned western watercolor and oil painting, later picking up oil pastel. I enjoy the challenge of mastering different mediums and styles. By blending techniques and crossing mediums my art is unique and different. Rooted in traditional Asian painting techniques through brush breath and space, I explore the dialogue between the natural and inner self."

Come and see the breathtaking and unique art of Alice Matthew's in Gallery II. This exciting exhibit will be on display throughout the month of March. Meet the artist in person at her reception held 2:00-4:00 Sunday, March 8th at the DuPage Art League.

Maryann Staroscik, Gallery II
Becky Schobel, Gallery II



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.

DPAL Always Needs New People to Volunteer!

New exhibits chair for **Gallery II**. NEEDED

Two or three volunteers are needed to help set up and clean up **League receptions and get togethers**.

The **front desk** can use more trained staff to fill in as needed

Our Building and grounds person needs a back up for **snow removal**.

We need an experienced CPA to replace our **treasurer**.

Our VP of Education would appreciate a **scheduling assistant**.

Diana Mitchell will help any new volunteer to get in touch with the appropriate officer or member.

Contact her at diamitc4@aol.com

Please volunteer

"Don't ever question the value of volunteers. Noah's Ark was built by volunteers; the Titanic was built by professionals." D G Coleman, Professional Services

DPAL Holds New Member Tea

by Maryann Staroscik

A nice affair yesterday for those new to the art league, made more special by the hospitality of Board Members who went the extra mile and have my sincere gratitude:

Adele
Margaret
Darlene
MaryLynn
Maeva
Jennifer
Barb

and staff members:

Sue McLean
Dan Danielson

Margaret and Dan talked about the depth of the gallery in the variety of teachers and class offerings available and the wonderful, varied artistic talents of its members.

2026 DPAL Board Elections

DuPage Art League Board Officers are elected in April of each year and assume duties at the May board meeting. Per DPAL Bylaws, the president emeritus chairs a nominating committee consisting of one other board member who is not running for office and two non-board members. This year the nominating committee is Diana Mitchell, Maeva Cook, Ellen Rottsoik and Nancy Anderson. The slate of officers was announced to all current members in the February 2026 Newsletter. Note that part of the board is elected in even years and the rest in odd numbered years. A member is elected for a two-year term and may succeed him/herself one time in the same position.

The slate of candidates for this year is as follows:

President: Barbara Finn
VP of Education: Margaret Bucholz
VP of Exhibits: Danielle Crilly
VP of Community Involvement: Carol Kincaid
VP of Office Management: TBA
VP of Safety & Security: Darlene Edwards

Your official ballot for voting will be sent to you in late March using Constant Contact. **Voting deadline will be Friday, April 10th.** Please print your ballot and give to the **front desk staffer by Friday, April 10th or mail** to the Art League. Ballots will also be available at the front desk beginning in mid-March. You must be a current member to vote.

Thank you in advance for voting for your new board.
Diana Mitchell
President Emeritus



Women's History Month

Walter Frederick Osborne (1859-1903), Mary Guinness and her Daughter Margaret, 1898

Heritage Gift, 2023. National Gallery of Ireland Collection.



A Unique Opportunity

Architecture Tour of Local Abbey

By Barbara McCartney

On Saturday, February 7th, DPAL board members and guests were treated to a fascinating tour of the public areas of St. Procopius Abbey in Lisle, IL. DPAL Safety Chair Greg Munie led the tour of the Abbey, which sits on eighty acres of suburban wilderness. The monastic community was first established in Chicago 1885, later moving to Lisle in the earlier twentieth century.

The current building was designed by award-winning architect Edward Dart (best known for Water Tower Place). Originally intended to accommodate over ninety monks, it is currently home to fifteen. Considered Dart's master work, the Abbey features Chicago common brick, stunning indirect lighting, avoidance of right angles and thoughtful flow of movement through irregular spaces.



Designed in 1967 and completed in 1970, the building remains a place of peace and spiritual focus. Dart lived with the monks for a brief period of time and based his design on the Catholic Benedictine tradition and lifestyle. The architecture of the Abbey centers on the Christian celebration of the Easter Resurrection. Starting at the entrance to the Abbey, a fire called "the new fire" is kindled on Easter Eve to represent God's life-giving spirit.

Walking into the Abbey, one finds one's self in a representation of the tomb of Jesus. Here the congregation awaits in darkness. But now the symbolic light of God enters the tomb and one by one the individual candles of the congregation are lit and the warmth and light of life fills the tomb. This parade of light moves into the soaring space of the church itself, with indirect lighting from a clearstory.



The Church was designed based on two themes: listening to the Word of God (the Bible) and participation in the Mass. Hence there are no kneelers: sit and listen, stand and participate. Following one of Dart's signature design touches, the main church is linked to the Eucharistic chapel where provisions for both meditation and kneeling prayer are provided, again illuminated by indirect lighting. Exiting from the Eucharistic chapel, one finds oneself back at the entrance. Unlike traditional Benedictine abbeys with a linear structure, this circular theme is another of Dart's design touches.



Across the lobby is the Lady's Chapel. Five times a day the monks gather here for the "Opus Dei" or "Work of God", communal prayer from the Psalms of the Bible. The seating here is the traditional chancel configuration with choir stalls facing each other across a narrow aisle, but still Dart's indirect lighting reigns.



Other areas explored on the tour were the guest rooms (similar to the monastic quarters), the dining areas, the chapter room where monks discuss and vote on pertinent community issues, the novitiate house, the monastery courtyard and finally, back through a circular route to the entrance. Perhaps the best way to appreciate the monastery is to attend the Saturday eve service before Easter Sunday and be part of the "Design for Easter" that Dart created.

In addition to the building itself, the Abbey grounds include a vineyard, apple orchard, gardens, and plenty of wildlife including deer and coyote.

If touring the Abbey would be of interest to you, send a note to dpalpresident.mls@gmail.com and we will let you know when a future tour is scheduled.

For architecture buffs, a tour of the Schweikher House in Schaumburg is highly recommended. Dart studied under Paul Schweikher and many similarities can be found between the two structures.

To learn more:

Abbey website: <https://www.procopius.org/>

Edward Dart background: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edward_D._Dart

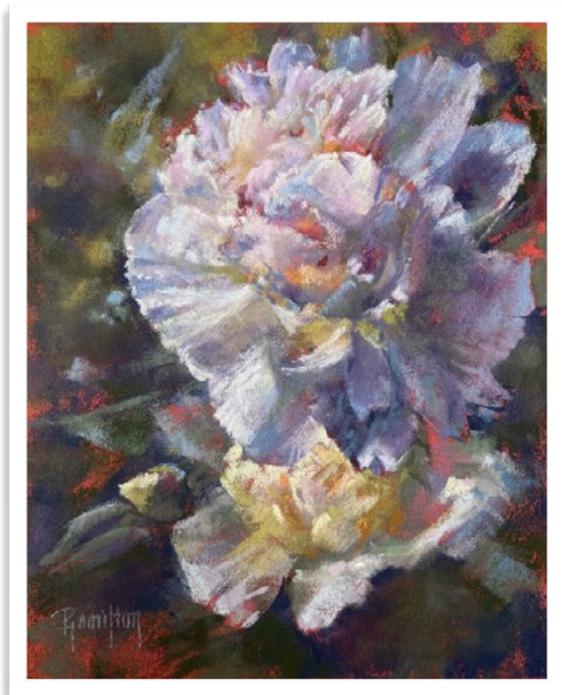
The Schweikher House: <https://www.schweikherhouse.org/>



Art Demo: “Painting Spring Blooms with Pastels”

Monday March 16th - 6:30 In-Person & Virtual

Join pastel artist **Pamela Hamilton** for a 2-hour presentation featuring a live demonstration as she paints a spring flower with soft pastels. Learn techniques for underpainting, layering, and bringing floral subjects to life



Register to attend in-person or via Zoom:

<https://www.wheatonlibrary.org/event/art-demo-pastel-spring-blooms-128829>

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

Safety Seconds

A few seconds can make a big difference!

Darlene Edwards, VP Safety and Security



Be Ready for Spring Hazards

1. Severe Weather

Spring often brings heavy rains, hail, strong winds, and thunderstorms. These weather conditions can develop quickly, posing threats to safety both outdoors and while traveling. Stay alert to weather forecasts and be prepared to seek shelter if conditions worsen.

2. Dangerous Driving Conditions

Rain and mud frequently result in slushy and slippery road surfaces during spring. To minimize risk while driving, remember the following safety tips:

- Turn off cruise control in wet conditions to prevent losing control of your vehicle.
- Use defrosters and headlights to maintain visibility.
- Keep plenty of windshield wiper fluid on hand for clear vision.
- Regularly check tire pressure and tread to ensure safe traction.

3. Animal Encounters

In spring, animals emerge from hibernation in search of food and water. This increases the likelihood of encountering wildlife while working outdoors or driving. Stay alert and cautious to avoid accidents or injuries related to animal activity.

4. Insects and Vegetation

Ticks, which may carry Lyme disease, are particularly prevalent during spring. When working near long grass or forested areas, it is important to protect yourself by:

- Wearing gloves and long sleeves.
- Using insect repellent.

By staying informed about these seasonal hazards and taking appropriate precautions, you can enjoy a safer spring.