



NEWSLETTER

Looking Forward to a Winter Season Full of Programs & Exhibits!

Two JRAL Exhibits Open in January

A unique exhibit for the James River Art League, **"Stories of the Greatest Generation,"** will have its opening reception on Thursday, January 25, 6:00-9:00 pm, in the Gumenick Family Gallery at the Cultural Arts Center at Glen Allen. This is the first time that CACGA has invited JRAL to have an exhibition in its prestigious Gumenick Gallery, and the Center will host the reception and provide all refreshments. The exhibit will run through March 19.

Around 40 JRAL artists will exhibit artwork inspired by their personal stories of the generation who grew up during the Great Depression, came together to defend our country and allies both at home and abroad in World War II, and then worked together to build American prosperity during the 50s & 60s. They will accompany the paintings with short written accounts about their inspiration. If you are signed up for the exhibit and have not yet turned in your story, please send it to Exhibit Chair David Cheatham right away!

Our annual exhibit at **Glenmore Yoga** also opens this month, running January 10-March 7. Thanks to new member Dalhia Cavazos for creating this Glenmore Yoga flyer!



Winter Paint-In Is Coming!

The summer Paint-In has been so successful, we've decided to have another one in February! Be on the lookout for more details about the Winter Paint-In, coming soon!

Coming Up in January & February:

JSRCC President To Speak January 19

Dr. Gary L. Rhodes, President of J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College, will be our guest speaker at the January 19th meeting, 11:00 am, at St. Matthew's Church. Dr. Rhodes will discuss the growth of RCC's art program; his visit coincides with the announcement that JRAL's Judged Show will be held at RCC next fall.



Dr. Rhodes is in his 16th year as president of JSRCC, the third largest of 23 colleges in the Virginia Community College System (VCCS) with three campuses and a "soon-to-be" Culinary Arts Institute located in the greater Richmond region. Reynolds serves 17,000 credit students and 10,000 employees in workforce training annually, preparing people for life and careers.

Very passionate about community betterment, Dr. Rhodes says he is an artist at heart: "The community is his canvas and his college is his medium." Several years ago he began his quest to establish a college art collection and has now gone from 30 pieces of art to over 500 in the college collection. In fact, he says that Reynolds now has 5.5 linear football fields of art exhibited on its walls and 39 football fields of walls that are still in need of art. Progress is steady!

Doug Mock to Present Watercolor Demo February 16

Award winning watercolor artist and instructor Doug Mock will present "Painting the Child in Watercolor" as JRAL's February 16th program, 11:00 am, at St. Matthew's Church. He will also provide critiques for any member artist who is looking for guidance with a particular work, in any medium.



In his Artist's Statement, Mock says, "I paint watercolors that awaken memories of our youthful exuberance and happiness.

People in their natural environment, especially children, inspire all that I love as an artist." During his demonstration, Doug will discuss the key differences in painting children and adults, and will discuss the tips and techniques that you must use to render them accurately.

Mock's work can be found in private collections throughout the United States. He is a member of prominent watercolor organizations and is a signature member of the Virginia Watercolor Society. He currently teaches a Wednesday evening class at For Art's Sake Gallery & Studio, and his work can be seen at www.dougmockfineart.com.

Inclement Weather Policy

Please note: In case of inclement weather on days when a JRAL meeting is scheduled at St. Matthew's Church, we follow the guidelines of Henrico County Schools. If classes have been cancelled at Henrico schools, the JRAL meeting will also be cancelled. However, if Henrico schools are opening late, our meeting will go on at its scheduled time. Announcements of cancellations will also be posted on our website and Facebook page (electrical power permitting!)

2017-18 Program Schedule

- *January 19:* Reynolds Community College Arts Program presentation by RCC President Dr. Gary Rhodes
- *February 16:* Watercolor demo, plus critique for struggling members' paintings (all media) by Doug Mock (No business meeting)
- *March 16:* Update on Institute of Contemporary Art's progress by Susan Norkus
- *April 20:* Annual Artist Challenge presentations and guest artist critique by Thomas Bradshaw. Challenge theme is "Love Connection." (No business meeting; see Challenge details in the story below.)
- *May 18:* Focus on the Artists and Art Instructors of JRAL, Annual Meeting to wrap up the year



"Love Connection" the Theme for 2018 Artist Challenge

The theme for JRAL's annual Artist Challenge is "**Love Connection**" and will be presented on April 20th at St. Matthew's Church. The annual Challenge has been moved to April, an "off month" when there is no business meeting, to give our guest critique artist, artist and instructor Thomas Bradshaw, plenty of time to speak to each painting presented for this program and critique.

"Love Connection" is the connection you feel for anyone or anything that brings joy to your life. This is your opportunity to paint your own expression of a heartfelt "Love Connection" ("G" rated only, please!)

Holiday Lunch on December 15 Enjoyed by All!



Exhibit Schedule — Winter-Spring 2018

<p>Glenmore Yoga 10442 Ridgefield Pkwy Henrico 23233 Jan.10-Mar. 7, 2018</p>	<p>Drop Off: Wednesday Jan. 10 1:00-1:30 pm Pick Up: Wednesday Mar. 7 12:30-1:00 pm</p>
<p>Cultural Arts Center-Glen Allen Gumenick Gallery 2880 Mountain Rd. Glen Allen 23060 "Stories of the Greatest Generation" Jan. 25-Mar. 19</p>	<p>Drop Off: Monday Jan. 22 9:30-10:00 am Pick Up: Monday Mar. 19 9:30-10:00 am Reception: Thursday Jan. 25, 6-9 pm</p>
<p>Crossroads Art Center Side Car Gallery 2016 Staples Mill Rd Richmond 23230 Mar. 16-May 17</p>	<p>Drop Off: Thursday Mar. 8 10:00-10:30 am Pick Up: Monday May 7 10:00-10:30 am Reception: Friday, Mar. 15, 6-9 pm</p>
<p>For Art's Sake Gallery & Studio 9770 Gayton Road Henrico 23238 Apr. 2-Apr. 30 Theme: Spring!</p>	<p>Drop Off: Monday Apr. 2 10:00-10:30 am Pick Up: Monday Apr. 30 10:00-10:30 Reception: Friday Apr 13, 5-8 pm</p>
<p>Capital One Private Exhibit-Not Open to Public Dates TBD</p>	<p>Drop Off: TBD Pick Up: TBD</p>
<p>Tuckahoe Area Library 1901 Starling Dr. Henrico 23229 May 1-31 New Members Exhibit</p>	<p>Drop Off: Tuesday May 1 9:30-10:00 Pick Up: Thursday May 31 9:30-10:00</p>
<p>First UU Church 1000 Blanton Avenue Richmond 23221 June 4-July 30 "Peoples Choice" Awards</p>	<p>Drop Off: Monday June 4 9:30-10:00 am Pick Up: Monday July 30 9:30-10:00 am Reception: Sunday June 10, 2-4 pm</p>



Member News

Exhibits:

- **Mary Kent and Anne Negus** will be participating in a “Black Lives Matter” exhibit presented by First UU Church, 1000 Blanton Avenue, January 20-March 17. The show’s reception will be Friday, February 2, 6-8 pm.
- **Terry Atkinson** will be part of the upcoming exhibit “Three Friends Painting” on the Slantwall Gallery at the Cultural Arts Center at Glen Allen. The exhibit opens February 1 and runs through February 28. A reception for the show will be held Sunday, February 18 from 2:30 to 4:30 pm.
- **Jan Priddy** has a solo show at St. Giles Church, 5200 Grove Avenue, from January 3 to February 28.
- Quite a few JRAL members are part of the Holiday Small Works Show at For Art’s Sake Gallery & Studio, including **Terry Atkinson, Carol Baron, Sally Booth, Coakley Brown, Marla Coleman, Jane Cox, Susan French, Harvey Hinson, Susan Hutcheson, Cindy Kinney, Nancy Markwith, Rosemary McKnight, Patty Mochary, Jan Murray, Norma Rupper, Lois Shipley, Nancy Tucker, Harriet Vincent, and Betty Wolfrey**. The exhibit runs through January 28.
- Two mixed media collages by **Kay Roscoe** were juried into Fredericksburg Center for the Creative Arts’ national exhibits. “Dreams of Venice” was in the November show and “Black & White and Red All Over” is in the December/January show.
- **Coakley Brown** has a solo show, “Nature’s Light: A Celebration of Color,” at Reynolds Community College Galley (Workforce Development & Conference Center, Parham Road campus) through January 19; she was also part of the annual Miniatures Show at Gallery Flux in Ashland during December.
- Several JRAL members were part of the MidAtlantic Pastel Society’s Small Works Exhibit at Crossroads Art Center in November-December. Exhibitors included **Terry Atkinson, Carol Cullinan, Elizabeth Hood, and Linda Wolitz**.

Awards & Sales:

- In the Holiday Small Works Show at For Art’s Sake Gallery mentioned above, **Marla Coleman** won Second Prize for her painting “Totopotomoy Creek” and **Betty Wolfrey**, won Third Place for her painting “Lily pads of Brookgreen Garden.”
- **Shirley Harrington** sold her painting “Sandbridge Sunrise” from the JRAL exhibit at Cedarfield.
- **Jane Cox** sold her painting “Flaming Fall” in December from the Small Works Show at For Art’s Sake.
- **Lois Shipley** sold two paintings from the Grand Local Artists Show at the Montpelier Center for Arts & Education, “Three Billy Goats Gruff” and “A Day at the Vineyard.”
- **Mary Pedini** has sold two paintings from the JRAL Gallery at Crossroads: “A Peaceful Moment” and “A Break in the Storm”.
- **Jan Priddy** has had several recent sales, including her “African Kingfisher”, “Foxy Lady”, and “Cardinal Sweethearts” from JRAL’s Gallery at Crossroads, and another wildlife painting from Robert Caldwell’s student booth, also at Crossroads.
- **Dale Berry** recently sold a commissioned painting, “Honey,” as a Christmas present for her client’s husband.

Et Cetera:

- **The Community Outreach Committee**, chaired by **Jane Cox**, delivered boxes and boxes of new art supplies to George Wythe High School’s art department on December 15, all donated by JRAL members who attended our annual Holiday Luncheon. Jane reports that GWHS instructors “were overwhelmed and couldn’t stop thanking us.” GWHS is Richmond’s designated School of the Arts, but they are continually in dire need of basic art supplies for the students. JRAL supports GWHS each year with donated supplies, a student art show, and a “Senior Art Student of the Year” award.
- **Garry-Lou Upton** is seeking volunteers to help organize the Virginia Watercolor Society’s 2020 exhibition in Richmond. Garry-Lou is VWS’s Richmond representative, and hopes to find “many hands to help make a lighter load”! Those interested in being part of VWS’s 2020 exhibition planning process should contact Garry-Lou at 347-4238 days or 379-9330 nights.

Maria Reardon’s Pastel Demo & Members’ Craft Fair Featured at November Meeting



At Left: Pastel artist Maria Reardon shares her love and skill of painting with pastels.



At Right: During the Craft Fair, Lois Shipley & Sally Booth enjoy scarf and hats by Suzanne Spooner-Munch; Susan Hutcheson browses through pins & earrings by Gwen Parker.



FROM THE PRESIDENT...



The Story of Us

As artists, we convey a multitude of concepts – beauty, color, emotion, power – but ultimately, what we do is tell stories. Instead of words, our tools are pictures or shapes or color or line. Our story could be about the majesty of a mountain range, the power of the sea or the serenity of a quiet landscape. It could be about the innocence in a child's face, an emotional connection to another person or the camaraderie of a group of friends. We tell stories about the wonders of the sky, the sweetness of an animal, the stunning color and structure of a flower. The stories we have to tell are virtually endless. To the discerning eye, our art tells the stories about our lives and how we view the world around us.

Our upcoming exhibit at the Cultural Art Center of Glen Allen, "Stories of the Greatest Generation," is one aspect of that storytelling. Through our art, we are sharing our personal experiences or impressions about one of the most exhilarating and terrifying times in the past century, one which our parents or grandparents or even great-grandparents lived through -- the Great Depression, World War II and the economic boom of the 1950s and 60s. That generation lived through great hardship; they helped right horrendous wrongs; they saw rapid technological advances, medical breakthroughs, and engineering marvels; they literally birthed the baby boom; they rebuilt prosperity for our country. And we have stories to tell about them.

I hope all of you will visit the "Stories of the Greatest Generation" exhibit to see the art and read the stories, and join your fellow members at the reception on Thursday, January 25th. In the meantime, go make some art and tell a story!

Elizabeth Hood

Co-Chair Needed for JRAL Gallery at Crossroads

We are looking a member to co-chair the JRAL Gallery at Crossroads Committee with Betty Eddowes, to help lead the committee managing the Gallery's bi-monthly exhibits, signups, and hanging at the Gallery. Several members have already volunteered to help with paperwork, computer tasks, and bi-monthly hanging tasks; the co-chair will provide leadership and oversight for the exhibits. Please contact Elizabeth Hood if you'd like to get involved by volunteering as a co-chair.

As reported in "Member News," we've had great sales from the current JRAL Gallery exhibit! The new January/February exhibit in the JRAL Gallery at Crossroads will feature paintings from Carol Baron, Betty Eddowes, Jean Miller, Diana Robinson, and Karen Witthoefft; opening reception is January 19, 6-9 pm. (Seen at right: "Reflections on Glass," Jean Miller.)



JRAL Group Leaders Needed for May 18 Meeting

JRAL needs your help!

The program for our last meeting of the year, May 18, will be a "**Focus on Our Artists**", with an emphasis on our members who have been art teachers/instructors, current or past.

We would like to have five break-out stations, each one based on a different medium — oil, acrylic, watercolor, pastel, and colored pencil/graphite/charcoal. The selected instructors will set-up a simple demo, share thoughts about their medium and/or techniques, and bring together ideas from the other members in a group discussion. Members will rotate through each group in 15 minute increments.

If you are interested in leading a group discussion/demo in any of these media, please sign-up at the January meeting, or email Gigi (vraniangigi@comcast.net).

JRAL Executive Board 2017-2019

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The James River Art League is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization of more than 100 member artists from throughout Central Virginia whose goal is to encourage the creation and appreciation of the visual arts. The James River Art League Newsletter is published bi-monthly in support of JRAL programs and the activities of its membership. Copyright 2018: The James River Art League — all rights reserved. Editor 2017-2019: Stella Jones, stellaj17@gmail.com