



NEWSLETTER

Dues Are Due! | First Events of the New Season | "The Many Faces of JRAL"



JRAL to Visit VCU School of the Arts in October

Virginia Commonwealth University's School of the Arts will welcome JRAL members with a special guided tour on October 16th.

VCUarts is ranked the #1 public university arts and design program in the country (US News & World Report); this special tour will give JRAL members a unique opportunity to learn more about this exciting educational facility.

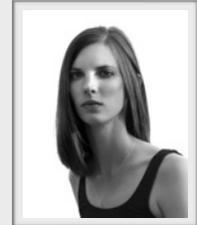
The event is free — they're even treating us to lunch on campus! — but interested members will need to pre-register with Alice Goode. The tour is limited to 50 people, so don't delay to sign up if you're interested in participating.

The tour will begin at 9:30 am (free parking will be available), and end at noon, followed by lunch. It will first take us to the Fine Arts Building, where we'll visit the departments of Sculpture, Painting & Print-Making, and Crafts & Material Studies.

Then we'll walk to the historic, renovated train "Depot" to visit the school's newest gallery space. We'll end our visit with lunch at the Shafer Court Dining Hall.

Lorelle Rau will be Guest Speaker September 18th

Artist, Curator and Art Consultant Lorelle Rau will be the first guest speaker of JRAL's new season at the September 18th meeting at St. Matthew's Church. She will discuss the challenges of "Proper Presentation: How to Correctly Frame Your Paintings for an Exhibition."



Rau recently graduated from the Savannah College of Art and Design with an MA in Arts Administration; she previously received a BS in Art Management and BA in Studio Art from Appalachian State University. Rau began her career as Curator of the Looking Glass Gallery and later worked in the College Exhibitions Department at the Corcoran Gallery of Art/College of Art & Design.

A collage and mixed-media artist, Rau displays her work in galleries throughout the southeast. She currently resides in Richmond, working for The Anderson Art Group, a corporate art consulting firm. In addition, she installs artwork for various clients (she is the professional who hung the JRAL Judged Show in June) and helps emerging artists develop their artistic careers.

Other features of the September meeting agenda will include:

Time to Smile! See story on page two.

Special Joint Exhibition in November! JRAL's Community Outreach Committee is coordinating "Color Spectrum" — a judged student exhibition with art students from George Wythe High School, to be staged at First UU Church Nov. 5-Dec. 14. The awards reception will be November 14. Learn more about this exhibit and how you can participate at the September meeting. (President Rosemary McKnight discusses this and other GWHS projects in "From the President" on page four.)

JRAL Dues are Due! Please note that your annual dues should be paid by September 30. Still \$30, quite a bargain! Make your check payable to the James River Art League, and give/mail it to Treasurer Terry Atkinson.

Fall Program Schedule

- **September 18** — Artist & Art Consultant Lorelle Rau, “Proper Presentation: How to Correctly Frame Your Paintings for an Exhibition.”
- **October 16** — Field trip to VCU’s School of the Arts, lunch included, no fee, sign-up required.
- **November 20** — Artist & Educator William Johnson.
- **December 11** — Holiday Luncheon at Hanover Tavern

Exhibits Update

Elizabeth Hood, Exhibits Chair

Signup for the *One James Center* exhibit will be closing soon, but we still have a few spots left, so let me know quickly if you’d like to sign up. The *Cedarfield Art Gallery* show is full, so additional signup requests will go on a wait list. Both these exhibits have size restrictions, as shown on the schedule to the right; please contact me with any questions.

In February, we will be showing at the *Cultural Arts Center of Glen Allen* for the first time in several years, so be sure to sign up for this new opportunity. We have two themed exhibits planned in the spring: at *Crossroads* it will be “Spring in Virginia” and at *For Art’s Sake* it will be “Journey Along the James,” so start working on those paintings now to be ready for these March and April shows.

We have several other shows on the schedule as well (see the website for full details), all of which have plenty of spots open now, but will fill up quickly. So be sure to sign up at the next meeting, or email or call me with your signup request.

It’s Time to Put on Your Best Smile!

How many times have you seen a colleague at a meeting and said to yourself, “I don’t think I know that member...who is that?” Or we see a name in the Newsletter, and we can’t put a face to that name. Be honest...these recognition failures have happened to all of us.

JRAL has had quite a growth spurt in the last few years, and we all have trouble keeping up. Well, we can fix that!



A subcommittee of the Executive Board is developing “The Many Faces of JRAL”...a photo album with pictures of every member, so we can get to know each other better. Mary Kent is heading up this project, assisted by Arlene DeConti, Gigi Vranian, & Stella Jones. Some candid photos of members have already been collected from past Newsletters and various JRAL events. But we need more!

So bring your smiles to the next few meetings, and be prepared to have your picture snapped! Or if you already have a favorite “head shot” or “selfie,” give a print or email a jpeg to Stella (stellaj17@gmail.com).

When completed, the album will be posted on the JRAL website (in the Members Only section) where it will be available for members to view, download or print, as desired. Paper copies will also be made available at cost.

Exhibit Schedule — Fall 2015

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| ONE JAMES CENTER LOBBY 901 East Cary Street Richmond, VA 23219 <i>Size Restriction: FRAMED H-37”, W-34”</i> | October 3 - 24, 2015 Drop off Saturday, Oct. 3, 9:30-10:00 am Pick up Saturday, Oct. 24, 9:30-10:00 am |
| CEDARFIELD ART GALLERY 2300 Cedarfield Parkway Henrico, VA 23233 <i>Size Restriction: UNFRAMED 16”x20” (call if larger)</i> | Oct. 29 - Dec. 3, 2015 Drop off Thursday, Oct. 29, 9:30-10:00 am Pick up Thursday, Dec. 3, 9:30-10:00 am |
| TUCKAHOE AREA LIBRARY 1901 Starling Drive Henrico, VA 23229 | December 1 - 30, 2015 Drop off Tuesday, Dec. 1, 9:30-10:00 am Pick up Wednesday, Dec. 30, 9:30-10:00 am |



Member News

Exhibits:

- **Nancy Foley** had an exhibition during the summer entitled “Something Familiar” at Urbanna Harbor Gallery, with over 30 watercolor paintings depicting flowers, still lifes, water scenes, and sites in Urbanna and Richmond. The exhibit was featured in a Richmond Times-Dispatch article in late July.
- **Helen Sanders** was the guest artist at Uptown Gallery in July and August, showing six paintings of Nova Scotia representing her work in a Christopher Wynn/For Art’s Sake workshop last summer.
- **Sally Booth, Mary Kent, Stella Jones and Helen Sanders** will have their work shown in the 50th Anniversary of *Gallery at First UU*, the annual fine arts and crafts show and sale, September 23-27.

Sales:

- **Betsy Taylor** sold five oil paintings at June’s *Rassawek Vineyard Spring Jubilee* event in Goochland.
- **Nancy Foley** sold several paintings from her exhibition at Urbanna Harbor Gallery in July & August.
- **Paula Makielski** sold three paintings over the summer - one in July & two in August.

Art Trips:

- **Carol Matuschek** participated in two summer workshops in Germany, one on portrait painting in Hohenaschau, and the other on Lake Constance, with the artist instructor Volker Altrichter, where she painted the acrylic painting of two turtles on rafts (at right). Carol said that she and the other workshop participants also enjoyed some plein air painting “in the very picturesque town of Wasserburg.”
- In August, **Arlene DeConti** and four intrepid art friends rose at 4:15 a.m. to catch the train to Philadelphia for a “joyful, whirlwind” day-trip to see the special exhibit “Discovering The Impressionists, Paul Durand-Ruel and The New Painting” at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Arlene reports that “the fabulous exhibit was extensive, well presented, and the colorful paintings were, of course, beautiful and a great inspiration.”
- **Suzanne Spooner-Munch** and her husband, Paul, travelled through Germany in May and June, visiting two of the three “Pinakotek” art museums in Munich — the Neue and the Moderne. They then drove through Bavaria to the charming and picturesque villages of Garmisch-Partenkirchen and Oberammergau, where they discovered buildings with “delightfully painted facades reflecting the businesses within,” such as the one pictured.



Upcoming Classes & Workshops:

- **Donna Campbell Allen** will be teaching a class “Fall Into Watercolor” at the University of Richmond’s School of Professional & Continuing Studies, October 7 through November 11.
- **Diana Robinson’s** For Art’s Sake Gallery & Studio is offering several upcoming workshops with Jos Biviano (“Painting the Hudson River School Style,” Sept. 19), Andre Lucero (“Plein Air Workshop,” Oct. 31), Claire Hill (“An Exploration of Drawing & Perspective,” Nov. 7), and a week-long Artist Workshop with Christopher Wynn in Monterey Bay, CA, Oct. 11-16. Contact Diana at For Art’s Sake for full details.

Prospective new JRAL members will be juried at the November 6th Board meeting. If you plan to sponsor a prospective new member, applications are available on the website’s Membership page; send them to Gigi Vranian, or contact her with any questions. Completed applications must be received by Friday, October 23 to be juried on November 6. New JRAL members are elected twice each fiscal year, in November and March.

FROM THE PRESIDENT...

I am so honored to be serving as the President of the James River Art League. We are a wonderful group of talented and creative artists who come together to support and learn from each other and to give back to our community.



It's the "giving back" that I want to talk with you about today.

Over the next few months, we have an excellent opportunity to work with the students at George Wythe High School through our Community Outreach program. We are working to have some of our artists spend a day demonstrating their art at George Wythe High School in September, and plans are underway for a judged student show at the First Unitarian Universalist Church to be held in November. These are new undertakings for our League, and I would like to see all of you come together to support these efforts.

Towards the end of the 2015-16 school year, we will also be seeking a student to receive an award towards the continuation of their college studies. It is my hope that over the next few years, we can turn this into a significant scholarship program. Even if you're not serving on the Community Outreach Committee, your suggestions and ideas are welcome. We are a large, powerful group of people and there is nothing we can't do if we try.

In the past our Art League has given scholarships, donations and student awards, but we have not made these things a real priority. In the future, I would like to see us bolster our efforts to seek new opportunities to give even more to this community we all love.

September's here again. Let's get to work and have fun doing it.

Art Links

- From **Jan Murray**, here are three websites online that are especially instructional for artists:
 - *The Painter's Keys* website discussing how to set up lighting in your art studio <<http://painterskeys.com/let-there-be-light/>>.
 - *How to Draw People* has lots of helpful instruction (disclaimer: this is an artistic website & it contains nudity) <<http://www.figuredrawingonline.com/index.html>>.
 - Interesting blog pamphlet on *Developing a Watercolor Palette* <<http://channeling-winslow-homer.com>>.
- *All Things Watercolor* — Almost everything you ever wanted to know about painting with watercolors can be found on <<http://www.handprint.com/HP/WCL/water.html>>.

Officers & Committee Chairs for 2015-2017

Officers

President: Rosemary McKnight

1st VP & Program Chair: Alice Goode

2nd VP: Collin Hoskins

Secretary: Debbie Pompano

Treasurer: Terry Atkinson

Committee Chairs

Membership: Arlene DeConti & Gigi Vranian

Exhibits: Elizabeth Hood

Gallery: Mary Kent & Tom Burns

Hospitality: Jean Younkin & Kay Roscoe

Publicity: Susan Fisher

Communications: Diana Robinson

Community Outreach: Jane Cox

Newsletter: Stella Jones

Archivist: Stella Jones

Help needed in Communications!
If you would like to serve on the Communications Committee, contact Rosemary McKnight.

*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 2015: The James River Art League — all rights reserved.
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