



NEWSLETTER

JRAL Welcomes 11 New Members ★ Pastel Demo Headlines Next Meeting

New Artists Join JRAL

The Executive Board juried 11 new exhibiting artists into the James River Art League at the Board meeting on November 3.

In addition, Kate Burns, who joined in 2016 as an Associate member, was juried to become an Exhibiting artist.

Please welcome the following Exhibiting members to JRAL!

- **Coakley Brown**, from Henrico: oil
- **Kate Burns**, from N. Chesterfield: watercolor
- **Dahlia Cavazos**, from Midlothian: mixed media (watercolor, ink, paper & gouache)
- **Carol Cullinan**, from Glen Allen: pastel, oil, watercolor
- **Sylvia deShazo**, from Henrico: acrylic, watercolor
- **Jack deTreville**, from N. Chesterfield: oil, acrylic
- **Linda Hultgren**, from Mechanicsville: watercolor
- **Barbara Mitchell**, from Glen Allen: watercolor
- **Lynn Mitchell**, from Glen Allen: watercolor
- **Susan Paavola**, from Richmond: oil
- **Gwen Parker**, from N. Chesterfield: oil, watercolor, oil pastel, encaustic
- **Tami Topalu**, from Glen Allen: watercolor

Coming Up in November & December:

Pastel Artist Maria Reardon & Holiday Craft Fair on November 17

Maria Reardon, pastel artist and instructor, will present a **pastel demonstration** at JRAL's November 17th meeting, 11:00 am, at St. Matthew's Church. She will create a still life painting, discussing the techniques she employs and how she is drawn to relationships of form and color.



Reardon paints the world around her. Working primarily in pastels, she is intrigued by the unexpected combinations of light and color which characterize her work. Maria is a Virginia native, earned a BFA in Illustration from VCU, and has studied with Daniel Greene, Albert Handell, Lorenzo Chavez, and other nationally known artists. Her work has been exhibited throughout Virginia and is part of many private collections. She is currently an artist and instructor at For Art's Sake Gallery & Studio in the Gayton Crossing Shopping Center, Henrico. Visit www.mariareardon.com to learn more about Maria's work.

Following Reardon's presentation, we will have our second annual **Holiday Craft Fair** during the lunch break. JRAL artists who "moonlight" in a variety of artisan crafts will show and sell their work. Members are invited to bring their cash or checkbooks (all sales transactions will be handled by the individual artists) and do a little holiday shopping!



Holiday Luncheon at Westwood Club on December 15

This year's **Holiday Luncheon** will once again be at the Westwood Club, 6200 West Club Lane, Henrico 23226, on Friday, December 15, 12 noon. The menu will feature the crab soup, two kinds of salad, roasted Atlantic salmon and buttermilk fried chicken, grilled asparagus, herb potatoes, and three different desserts. You may sign up for the luncheon at the November 17th meeting, or by contacting Gigi Vranian. The price is \$30 (which includes non-alcoholic beverages and gratuities; wine available at additional cost); make your check payable to JRAL, and give or mail it to Treasurer Terry Atkinson by December 6. Members may invite a guest (for an additional \$30).

Sue Agee of Glenmore Yoga will be a special guest at the luncheon, and will present a short program.

Attendees are asked to bring a **new, unwrapped art supply** to the luncheon; these donated supplies will be given to the art students at George Wythe High School. Their list of urgent needs includes sharpies, markers, micro pens, color pencils, 11 x 14 and 18 x 24 sheets of paper (all types - especially mixed media and drawing). They also need Large, XL and XXL tee shirts in both plain white and plain black for tie dye, bleaching and print projects. Continuing needs include acrylic and watercolor paints and brushes, and Mod Podge, glues and fixers.

2017-18 Program Schedule

- *November 17:* Pastel Demo by Maria Reardon; Members' Holiday Craft Fair during lunch
- *December 15:* Holiday Luncheon at Westwood Club; bring new, unwrapped art supply for GWHS
- *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 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, 2018. The annual Challenge has been moved to April, an "off month" when there is no business meeting, to give our guest critique artist plenty of time to speak to each painting presented for this program and critique.

"Love Connection" is the connection that one person has for another person, for an animal, flower, book, or for anything that brings joy to your life. As you interpret the theme, please don't get too carried away... remember that the church offers a family friendly environment! (And this is not related to the TV dating game.) Just paint your own expression of your heartfelt "Love Connection."

Our guest critique artist will be Thomas Bradshaw. Bradshaw is a nationally renowned impressionist artist and teaches a mixed media class at For Art's Sake. He has opened his own Gallery in Blackstone, VA. <thomasbradshaw.net>

Ashland Galleries Visited in October

Around 30 JRAL members visited Flippo Gallery at Randolph Macon College and Gallery Flux in Ashland on Friday, October 13. We were especially fortunate to meet the exhibiting artist at Flippo Gallery, Richard Crozier, who gave us a guided tour through his paintings.

Coupled with a delicious lunch at the Iron Horse Restaurant, it was a wonderful day. Thanks to Gigi Vranian and Les Camphuysen for putting it together!



Submit Your "Story" for the Glen Allen Exhibit

"Stories of the Greatest Generation," our early 2018 exhibit at CAC-GA, will include your 1-2 paragraph story about the inspiration for your piece — why you selected it for the show. This story about the people, places, things, histories, or emotions related to your painting/drawing will be printed and displayed with your art.

You have several options for submitting your story (needed by January 11, 2018). Your choices (listed from the most tech-savvy to the least) are:

- Send a Word document of your story to David Cheatham (dschtm@gmail.com). Name the file with your name and the title of your painting. Example: david_cheatham_1939_county_fair.docx
- Send David a PDF file with the same file name setup as shown above.
- Handwrite your story; mail it to David Cheatham, 7652 Comanche Dr. Richmond, VA 23225.
- Contact Stella Jones or Elizabeth Hood to dictate your story for them to compose. They will help you get your story down on paper, if you need it.

If you haven't yet signed up for the "Stories of the Greatest Generation" exhibit, do so at the November meeting, or contact David Cheatham, Exhibit Chair.

Exhibit Schedule — Winter 2017

<p>Cedarfield Art Gallery 2300 Cedarfield Parkway Richmond 23233 Nov. 16, 2017-Jan. 3, 2018 Note: Not Open to General Public</p>	<p>Drop Off: Thursday Nov. 16 9:30-10:00</p> <p>Pick Up: Wednesday Jan 3 9:30-10:00</p>
<p>Tuckahoe Area Library 1901 Starling Drive Henrico 23229 Dec. 1-Dec. 30, 2017</p>	<p>Drop Off: Friday Dec. 1 9:30-10:00</p> <p>Pick Up: Saturday Dec. 30 9:30-10:00</p>
<p>Glenmore Yoga 10442 Ridgefield Pkwy Henrico 23233 Jan.10-Mar. 7, 2018</p>	<p>Drop Off: Wednesday Jan. 10 1:00-1:30</p> <p>Pick Up: Wednesday Mar. 7 12:30-1:00</p>
<p>Cultural Arts Center-Glen Allen Gumenick Gallery 2880 Mountain Rd. Glen Allen 23060 "Stories of the Greatest Generation" Jan. 25-Mar. 19, 2018</p>	<p>Drop Off: Monday Jan. 22 9:30-10:00</p> <p>Pick Up: Monday Mar. 19 9:30-10:00</p> <p>Reception: Thursday Jan. 25, 6-9</p>



Member News

Exhibits:

- Congratulations to **Bill Campbell** and **Nancy Foley** whose paintings “Ms Cool” and “Wine Selections” (respectively) were juried into the Virginia Watercolor Society’s 2017 exhibition, running through January 7, 2018 at the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley in Winchester, VA.
- **Dani Ashbridge** will have a solo exhibit at the Virginia Eye Institute, Huguenot Bridge, for the month of December.
- **Rhonda Edwards** and **Irene Taylor** are part of “Artétudes Third Annual,” an exhibit and sale of work in multiple genre by students of Elizabeth Eubanks at Uptown Gallery, where Elizabeth is the teacher-in-residence. The show opened in October, and runs through November 25; Uptown is an artists co-op gallery located at 1305 West Main Street.
- **Betty Eddowes** has several paintings featured in the window of the newly updated gallery of the Rappahannock Art League during the month of November. The RAL Art Center is at 19 N. Main Street, Kilmarnock.
- **Diana Robinson** is part of the exhibit “Collective Influence”, a show featuring work by the resident artists, teachers, and staff of For Art’s Sake Gallery & Studio, running through November 27 at FAS in the Gayton Crossing Shopping Center, Henrico.
- **Pat Trgina** was part of the Wednesday Night Painting Group’s exhibit at Crossroads Art Center during September and October.
- **Jan Priddy** continues to be active in BuyRVAart’s online exhibitions, having paintings juried into their September/October and November/December online shows, as well as the companion exhibits at Crossroads Art Center. Jan also had a solo exhibit at Ten Thousand Villages in Carytown, and was juried into the “Trip Advisor” art show at RL Caldwell Studio & Gallery; both exhibits were in October.
- **Beverly Furillo Madison** had a solo exhibit of ten paintings at Glenmore Yoga during September and October.

Awards & Sales:

- **Maria Pilar York** won Second Place with her painting “Bolivia Fruit Market” in the “Trip Advisor” exhibit sponsored by RL Caldwell Gallery & Studio in October (seen at right). The juror was Terry Miller, well-known graphite and wildlife artist.
- **Jan Priddy** has sold several paintings and giclees from the art gallery at Wild Horse Adventure Tours in Corolla, NC, two paintings from her Facebook page, and a total of three giclees from her website and Four Seasons restaurant in Powhatan.
- The JRAL Gallery at Crossroads continues to be a successful sales venue for participating artists! From the September/October exhibit, **Dale Berry** sold her watercolor “Early Snow” and **Arlene DeConti** sold one of her large oil landscape paintings.



Et Cetera:

- Congratulations to **Anne Negus**, who won the raffle for two tickets to the *Art for the Journey Gala* on October 26. JRAL had purchased the two tickets for the fundraising benefit, and raffled them off at the September meeting. Annie reports that “the Gala was wonderful, in a beautiful setting, with great food, music, and art.” Annie’s donated painting sold at the art auction; five other JRAL artists also donated paintings — 50% of the proceeds will assist Art for the Journey in their activities, and 50% went to the artists. The five additional JRAL donors were **Betty Eddowes, Cathy Kresan, Elizabeth Hood, Rosemary McKnight, and Lois Shipley**.
- Powhatan artist Gloria Callahan taught a two-day workshop in October, demonstrating the art of colored pencils. “It was two days of inspiring, intense instruction” reports **Jane Cox**; “It was also a lot of fun. Gloria is an excellent teacher.” Jane attended the workshop along with **Terry Atkinson, Mary Kent, and Karen Witthoefft**.
- **Dani Ashbridge, Diana Robinson, Suzanne Spooner-Munch, and Harriet Vincent** travelled to Arundel, England in early October for touring and a weeklong painting workshop, sponsored by For Art’s Sake, and taught by Christopher Wynn. (At right, Christopher Wynn’s demo of Arundel Castle.)
- **Betty Eddowes, Jan Murray, and Garry-Lou Upton** attended the five-day Virginia Watercolor Society workshop in October, conducted by Santa Cruz, CA, artist Mike Bailey, who was the juror for the 38th annual VWS exhibition in Winchester, VA.
- In September, **Mike Haubenstock** attended a four day workshop in Raleigh, NC with Colley Whisson, a self-described “modern impressionist” from Australia. Mike says he loves Colley’s work and enjoyed the days of side by side painting, learning about directing the eye, increasing contrast, creating focal points, and varying edges.



FROM THE PRESIDENT...

Growth Is Life



I spent fifteen years working for Capital One, from its birth as part of a now defunct bank, to its spinoff as a separate credit card company and through its growth to a top-tier financial services company. As we went through the excitement and turmoil of those years, our CEO and Chairman delivered a consistent message to us: "Growth is life." In other words, if we weren't growing as a company, we would be stagnating and/or dying.

JRAL has been going through a lot of growth too these past few years. We've grown in number of members, in our widened focus on outreach and community efforts, in our exhibition exposure in the art community, just to name a few new directions. Growth comes with both opportunities and challenges. Our new members bring new ideas, fresh energy and different creative directions to our membership ranks. Our outreach projects give us a sense of gratification and a strengthened commitment. The League and its members get validation and satisfaction by sharing our art with the local community.

We also face challenges with growth. Do we have enough exhibits for our members? Is our meeting space big enough? How do we all get to know one another? How do we retain the friendliness and fun of prior years? Do we have enough funds to do our outreach projects? Do we have enough volunteers to help in our committees and on our projects?

I believe that the benefits of growth far outweigh the challenges. Challenges can be overcome with planning and some work, with the participation of our members. Without our recent growth, there are so many new friends we would not have met, so much art we would not have seen, so much gratification and validation we would not have gotten. So please, jump in and volunteer or help when you can, introduce yourself to a new member, embrace the new opportunities our growth is bringing. It will be worth it!

Elizabeth Hood

HELP WANTED: JRAL Group Leaders for May 18 Meeting

The JRAL Program for the last meeting of the year, May 18, 2018 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 available where 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 as they rotate into each group. The presentations / discussions should last about 15 minutes per group break out session.

The five groups will feature the following mediums: Oil, acrylic, watercolor, pastel, and colored pencil/graphite/charcoal. If you are interested in leading the group discussion/demo in any of these mediums, please put your name and medium on the sign-up sheet which will be available at both the November and January meetings; or email Gigi (vraniangigi@comcast.net).

Latest Exhibit of JRAL Gallery at Crossroads To Have Opening on November 17

The new exhibit at the *JRAL Gallery at Crossroads* in the Crossroads Art Center will be part of their opening reception on Friday, November 17, 6-9 pm. The featured



artists in this JRAL exhibit are Dorothy Kuffler, Rosemary McKnight, Mary Pedini, Jan Priddy, and Lois Shipley. (Pictured: "Until Tomorrow", Mary Pedini, oil) This exhibit will be up through January 2, 2018.

Exhibitors are needed for January/February. If you would like to exhibit in the Crossroads Gallery then or during any future two-month period, please contact Garry-Lou Upton at glhupton@netscape.net for full details.

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 2017: The James River Art League — all rights reserved. Editor 2017-2019: Stella Jones, stellaj17@gmail.com