



NEWSLETTER

Bill Nelson, Election of Officers on May 17 | Adele Castillo to Judge Annual Show

JRAL's Annual Judged Show Closes Out the 2018-2019 Season

The James River Art League Annual Judged Show for 2019 will be at the First Unitarian Universalist Church, 1000 Blanton Avenue, Richmond 23221, from May 28-July 29. The reception and awards ceremony will be Sunday, June 9, 2-4 pm.

The judge for this show will be artist and instructor Adele Castillo. First, Second, Third, and Honorable Mention awards will be presented in each of four media categories: Acrylic, Oil, Watercolor, and Other Media. There will also be a Best in Show and People's Choice award.



Adele is well known to JRAL members. She previously was the juror for our 2014 Annual Judged Show, and was the guest critiquer of the 2015 Artist Challenge. In her own art, Adele uses a colorful, contemporary style to create memorable animal portraits. She also teaches acrylic painting along with color theory to adult students at Crossroads Art Center.

All artists participating in the exhibit are asked to bring some hors d'oeuvres or soft drinks for the refreshments table at the June 9th reception (alcoholic beverages will not be served). Remember, First UU is a nut-free environment; please don't bring food items that contain any kind of nuts.

Musical entertainment at our reception is being generously donated by guitarist Bill Porch. Be sure to thank Bill when you see him!

Coming Up in May

May 17: Bill Nelson

We are excited to welcome **Bill Nelson**, the renown illustrator, figurative artist, and sculptor, to our May 17th meeting, 11:00 am, St. Matthew's Church. Bill will show and discuss a sample of illustrations from his long career.

Bill's illustrations have been featured on the covers of many magazines, including The New Yorker, Time, TV Guide, and Newsweek. He illustrated a series of U.S. Postage stamps, has been featured in the Norman Rockwell Museum, and has received over 900 awards and recognitions of various kinds.

In addition to his illustration career, Bill is an internationally recognized sculptor and ventriloquist figure maker, and is listed in "Who's Who in America."

Before his global career, Bill grew up in Richmond, graduated from John Marshall High School and RPI/VCU, and worked for the Richmond Times-Dispatch and the Richmond Mercury before starting out on a freelance career. You can find out more about Bill at his website at billnelsonstudios.com.



Bill Nelson (photo by Bob Brown)

Election of JRAL Officers

May 17th is also JRAL's Annual Meeting and election of executive officers for 2019-2021. The Nominating Committee has tapped these members as its slate of nominees:

- President: **Terry Atkinson**
- Vice President: **Carole Morck**
- Secretary: **Dianne Smith**
- Treasurer: **Elizabeth Hood**

Nominations can also be received from the floor; anyone whose name is entered as a nominee must give prior approval.

In the weeks following election to office, the new President will announce the appointment of Chairs for the various JRAL Standing Committees. Together, the Officers and Chairs form the Executive Board and will lead JRAL for the coming two years, starting July 1, 2019.

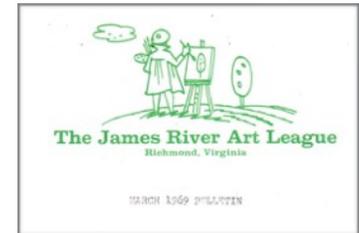
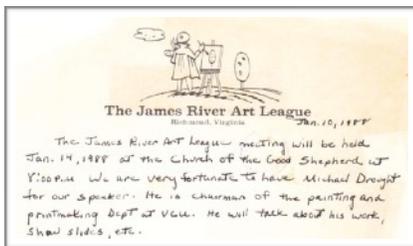
Important Note: We still need volunteers to Chair the Social Media Committee (which includes website management), and the Publicity Committee (which creates and distributes exhibit notices to external media). If you would like to Chair one of these committees, please let your new President know!

Bimonthly “JRAL Newsletter” Retires

This is the final issue of the bimonthly “JRAL Newsletter.” The weekly E-Newsletter “Art News” has already become a more timely and more convenient newsletter to keep members informed about Art League events, as well as to share items of interest to JRAL artists. “Art News” is emailed each Sunday evening (less often during the summer), so please be sure that we have your correct email address!

In addition to the emailed “Art News,” a short, printed “News Brief” will be sent bimonthly to the dozen or so members still without internet access. Copies of “News Brief” also will be posted on the JRAL website for reference.

“Art News” is the latest incarnation of newsletters that have been serving JRAL members for more than 50 years. The earliest copy we have in our Archives is a one page typed “James River Art League Bulletin” from March 1966. It announced our show and sale at Southside Plaza, our participation in “Thalhimer’s Focus on Art,” and the winner of the letterhead contest; William Youngblood’s design was adopted as the Art League’s official letterhead and logo. Seen at the right atop the March 1969 Bulletin, Youngblood’s design remained our logo until 2011, when we held a new contest to update the look of our logo; the winner was a design by Anne Negus. The new logo was first used in the May 2011 JRAL Newsletter.



The names, styles, and distribution frequency of our newsletters have evolved over the years. Mimeographed monthly “Bulletins” on JRAL stationary morphed into xeroxed bimonthly “Newsletters.” Usually they were typed, but sometimes a handwritten note would get information to members...a genuine “letter” to share the news!

Gigi Vranian was the first to transform the JRAL Newsletter into a polished publication in the fall of 2005. She, with the help of Nancy Foley, used graphics, photos, and feature stories to entertain as well as to inform. A local printer replaced the copy machine, full color replaced black and white, and the modern era of our newsletter began. Mary Kent followed Gigi as editor, and Mary was the first to employ email as a way to distribute newsletters to members. Subsequent editors Mike Steele and Elizabeth Hood perfected the newsletter’s professional style, and transitioned its distribution to the practice of posting the bimonthly issues on the JRAL website (launched in January 2009).



Mike was one of the first editors to suggest that perhaps it was time to think about using the internet and an online “email blast” service to create and distribute our newsletters. And eventually, it came to pass.



The E-Newsletter “Art News” was born a couple of years ago. Lois Shipley was its first editor, while Stella Jones continued publishing the bimonthly Newsletter; in September 2018, Stella took on both roles. It didn’t take long for us to realize that JRAL simply didn’t need two

newsletters, and that “Art News” was the more practical and versatile format. So, while we will continue to provide a short, printed “News Brief” to those members without internet access, we are retiring the bimonthly Newsletter to join its predecessors in the Archives as a further example of JRAL’s evolution.

The purpose of the JRAL Newsletter has always been to keep our members informed about League events, about individual member successes, and about arts opportunities in the greater community. We plan that “Art News” will continue this mission, and will continue to give our artists the information they need to enjoy their membership in the James River Art League.





Member News Review

Awards

- **Coakley Brown** won Second Place-2D in "Art Speaks on the Bay" Juried Exhibition 2019 for her oil painting "Quarter Point on the York River." Sponsored by the Bay Community Arts Center, the exhibit runs at the Center in Mathews through May 27.
- **Bonnie Jordan** won Third Place for her oil painting "Fleeting Moments" in the March Juried All-Media Show at Crossroads Art Center.
- **Dahlia Cavazos** won Honorable Mention for her water media painting "Nesting" in the March Juried All-Media Show at Crossroads Art Center.
- **Bev Bley** won an Honorable Mention from the International Society of Experimental Artists for her painting "On Cloud Nine" in their Digital Member Exhibit. Bev also had a solo show February through April in the Rappahannock Room of the Fredericksburg Country Club.

Exhibits

- **David Cheatham** is having a solo exhibition at Covenant Woods in Mechanicsville, April 1 through June 1.
- **Mike Haubenstein** is showing his *Reflection on Fashion* series in the lobby of the Firehouse Theater (1609 West Broad). He also has an upcoming show in the lobby of Health Brigade (1010 N. Thompson); reception will be on May 16 at 5:30 pm.
- Paintings by **Terry Atkinson, Coakley Brown, and Jean Miller** were selected by Juror Janly Jaggard to be part of "Art Speaks on the Bay" Juried Exhibition 2019. The show opened at the Bay School Community Arts Center in Mathews on April 27 and runs through May 27.
- **Jan Murray** had two paintings accepted by the Richmond Symphony Orchestra League to be in their exhibition "The Art of Music" at Crossroads Art Center and online at BuyRVAart.com, March 15-May 5.
- Seven JRAL artists are among those accepted into the first "In the Garden" exhibition sponsored by BuyRVAart.com. Work by these artists are a part of the online exhibition March 29-June 19. Their paintings are also featured in concurrent live shows at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden and other area venues. The JRAL artists selected are **Dale Berry, Bev Bley, Coakley Brown, Dahlia Cavazos, Elizabeth Hood, Susan Hutcheson, and Bonnie Jordan.**
- **Coakley Brown, Mike Haubenstein, Gwen Parker, Jan Priddy, and Lois Shipley** had paintings selected to be part of the South-Atlantic Juried Exhibition at Montpelier Center for Arts and Education, April 27-June 24.
- **Carol Cullinan, Larry Edwards, Elizabeth Hood, Nancy Tucker and Linda Wolitz** are part of the MidAtlantic Pastel Society's show at Verena at the Glen, April 1-May 30.
- **Dani Ashbridge** painted a colorful egg as part of Stony Point Fashion Park's "Artistic Eggspression Display." Dani is one of seven area artists whose painted eggs were positioned through the center. The eggs were on display through April 30.

Sales

- Two members reported sales at the winter JRAL exhibit at Glenmore Yoga. **Les Camphuysen** sold his acrylic painting "Masked Bandit" and **Beverly Lockwood** sold her watercolor painting "Harvest."
- Strong sales continue at the JRAL Gallery at Crossroads! During the March-April exhibit, **Celie Gehring** sold "Green Vase with Lilies" and "Celebration", and **Dale Berry** sold "Springtime in Virginia #1" and "Springtime in Virginia #2."
- **Kay Hansell** sold "Chesapeake Blue Crab" and **Pat Trgina** sold "Village Pond" at an April exhibit at Glenmore Yoga and Wellness Center.
- **Gay Plack** sold her untitled mixed media painting of an angel, and **Gigi Vranian** sold her watercolor painting "Memory of Venice" at the JRAL exhibit at For Art's Sake Gallery in April.
- **Mary Pedini** sold "Shining Through" at JRAL's "A Splash of Color" exhibit at Crossroads Art Center. She also sold three paintings at the Independence Golf Course during the "Fore Children" benefit.
- **Deanna Williford** sold her painting of the restaurant, "Petit Louis Bistro", to a lady who had her first date with her "husband-to-be" there, to be their anniversary gift! Deanna had created this painting during Columbia, Maryland's first plein air event to celebrate the city's 50th year anniversary.
- **Mike Haubenstein** sold two oil paintings from his March-April solo show at Montpelier Center For The Arts: "Fall Reflections" and "Couture Consignment."
- **Lois Shipley** and **Renee Gleason** had a successful duo-exhibit "Inside Out/Outside In" at For Art's Sake Gallery in March. Lois sold her paintings "American Gypsies" and "Rappahannock Awaits" and **Renee Gleason** sold her painting "Cafe de Pellegrino" from this show.

FROM THE PRESIDENT...



“Thanks for the Memories”

As my term as President comes to a close, I’ve been reflecting on my time in office. It’s been an honor to have been chosen by you to help guide our League for the past two years. I’d like to thank all the members of our Executive Board for contributing their time and talents to our leadership. I’d also like to thank each and every member for your interest in art, eagerness to learn, positive attitude and collegial mindset.

One of the recurring themes I’ve addressed in my President’s Messages is volunteerism. First, thank you to those who have contributed in recent years in positions of leadership, on committees, or on special projects. I’d like to urge those who haven’t yet volunteered, or perhaps haven’t for a while, to please consider getting actively involved. Our League is run and managed strictly by our member volunteers, and our activities are dependent on those volunteers. For example, if we don’t have an Exhibit or Gallery Chair, then we won’t have any exhibits; the same goes for every leadership role on our Board. I have personally found it both rewarding and beneficial to my art and myself to be engaged. There is so much for both you and JRAL to gain with your involvement.

For the next Board term, we are still searching for Chairs for the Publicity Committee and the Social Media Committee. In both cases, we have members who have volunteered to do some of the committee work but are not in a position to take on the Chair role. Our Board roles are structured to spread the work out so no one Board member is too overburdened. If we don’t have a Publicity Chair, then we will not have any publicity for our exhibits, meaning no ads and no flyers. If we don’t have a Social Media Chair, we may not be able to consistently maintain our website. So please, contact Terry Atkinson, our Nominating Committee Chair, if you can consider taking on one of these roles. JRAL needs you!

In closing, my thanks to all of you for making the last two years rewarding and enjoyable for me – it’s been both a pleasure and an honor to be JRAL’s President. As Bob Hope sang, “Thanks for the memories!”

Elizabeth Hood

Exhibit Schedule — Spring-Summer 2019

<p>Tuckahoe Area Library 1901 Starling Dr. Henrico 23229 May 1-May 31 Featuring New Members</p>	<p>Pick Up: Friday, May 31 9:30-10:00 am</p>
<p>First UU Church 1000 Blanton Avenue Richmond, VA 23221 May 28-July 29 JRAL Annual Judged Show Judge: Adele Castillo</p>	<p>Drop Off: Tuesday, May 28 9:30-10:00 am Pick Up: Monday, July 29 9:30-10:00 am Reception: Sunday, June 9, 2-4 pm</p>
<p>Capital One Private Exhibition July 15-November 11</p>	<p>Drop Off TBA</p>

Notes from May 2nd Executive Board Meeting...

The JRAL Executive Board met on May 2nd in the St. Matthew’s Church library. Among the business discussed:

- We have had another year of responsible spending, so there will be no JRAL dues increase for the coming year.
- The Community Outreach Committee will be judging the GWHS student art show and awarding prizes on May 6; and the *Jane Neal Cox Award* for the Outstanding Senior Art Student at George Wythe High School will be presented at their awards ceremony on May 24.
- Members will be able to sign up for the September exhibit at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden and other Fall exhibits at the May 17th meeting; online after July 1; or by emailing David Cheatham anytime at dschtm@gmail.com.
- Members who have not fulfilled their two-exhibits per year requirement will be moved to Associate Member status on July 1.
- Half the members scheduled for the spring show at Tuckahoe Library were no-shows! Members are reminded that if you cannot hang in a show for which you’ve signed up, you must cancel your commitment by contacting the Gallery Chair!
- A summer paint-in will be planned for sometime in July.

JRAL Executive Board 2017-2019

Officers

President: Elizabeth Hood
1st VP & Program Chair: Les Camphuysen
2nd VP: Maryanne Evans
Secretary: Dianne Smith
Treasurer: Terry Atkinson

Committee Chairs

Program Co-Chair: Gigi Vranian
Membership: Carol Baron
Exhibits: David Cheatham
Gallery: Mike Haubenstock & Rosemary McKnight
Hospitality: Bonnie Shelor & Suzanne Spooner-Munch
Publicity: Dale Berry
Communications: Elizabeth Hood
Website: Elizabeth Hood
Facebook: Dalhia Cavazos
Newsletter & Art News: Stella Jones
Community Outreach: Connie deBordenave
Archivist: Cathy Kresan
Ad Hoc-Gallery at Crossroads: Lois Shipley