



News from the Palette

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artguildlouisiana.org facebook.com/ArtGuildofLouisiana

April 2019

HAVE YOU MET SANDRA ZAID ...

If you have, you'd know her smile lights up a room. Her energy and enthusiasm for making art is contagious. Sandra took her first painting class when she was eleven years old and has been in love with oils and canvases ever since. Growing up in Guatemala City, she went with her older cousin to weekly painting classes with a Spaniard instructor who taught only from direct observation. Her path to professional artist was not a direct one. She tells us that she was raised in a household of entrepreneurs, and founded her own business when she was 21 years old. She owned an atelier and two stores. She designed women's garments and then sold them in the stores. The business was almost an instant success and she found herself a college dropout with a business lasting fifteen years. Ten years ago Sandra earned a bachelor's degree in fine arts with a minor in art history from Kutztown U of PA. Between her teen years and later pursuit of a formal education in art, she painted for different periods of time. She exhibited photographs and paintings in solo and group exhibitions in Philadelphia, where she lived for 18 years. Art School was pivotal in her practice. For four years she was learning and taking criticism from talented faculty who were solid working artists and exchanging feedback with younger gifted classmates.



Painter's block can be a common setback for an artist. Her most enjoyable and inspirational way to deal with it is through the use of photography. She takes photos of nature, people, and dogs or of light and shadows. She then views them on her computer and prints those she deems aesthetically telling. Another activity that helps her is making gestural compositions with black India ink on mixed media paper without a designated purpose. It's a positive distraction inside her art studio and one that she doesn't approach with any final intentions or constraint.

Artists also deal with frustration when painting. When that occurs with a painting, Sandra puts it aside for some time. Later she can revisit the painting with fresh eyes. She can then make a decision to continue to work on it or to cover it with white paint. After a painting is covered with white paint the marks underneath the white from the previous painting are a history that leads to the way for a fresh new painting. With years of painting behind her, she is more demanding of herself and therefore must not forget to have fun with art. When asked if she has made any significant changes in the way she paints she said yes. She started painting representational subject matters with oils and transitioned into acrylics. Then, with the use of photography, which also fascinates her, she learned how to make compositions through the viewfinder. She then draws them as large gestural sketches by simplifying the shapes of the original photo. This leads to the process of creating both abstract paintings and mixed media pieces of art.



When asked what advice would she give to beginning artists, Sandra's words are food for thought for all of us. "We all learn by experiencing life and art. To beginning artists, I would tell them to sketch like you depend on

it; drawing is it. Observe and draw. Take photographs; make paper your friend by creating collages with it. Do not be afraid of a blank paper or canvas. When painting from observation or from your own photographs, make several studies of your painting before you hit the canvas.” She says to develop your own language by learning from accomplished artists and instructors with different styles. Learn from them but pursue your own path. Once you develop your own language and find your own voice in painting, learn to trust your instinct. You don’t need to reach a point of public validation to trust your instinct.



PONDERINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT



Happy Mardi Gras! Happy St. Patrick’s Day and Happy Easter! Wow, we have had a whirlwind of celebrations! That is one thing we as humans know how to do “celebrate life”. And the Art Guild of Louisiana has been celebrating art and artists since 1953. I personally am celebrating the recent completion of the AGL member artists’ galleries on the new AGL website. All member artists who take advantage of having their art work photographed at the studio and posted on the website, can now see their gallery at artguildlouisiana.org. I hope that you will find the new artist galleries more colorful, more vibrant and a place that you will proudly refer friends and family to, to view your art.

Our previous LAAG website is no longer being updated and will soon be “shut down”. We work very hard at keeping the AGL website information up to date so that members can consider it a reliable source of information. At the beginning of the year we post entire 2019 exhibit schedule to help you plan your painting activities. We also post an annual schedule for workshops...however, the workshops section is continually changing. We update the website should there be any workshop cancellations or changes and we update it with additional workshop opportunities as contracts are signed.

By utilizing the website “Calendar” you can keep up with the 2019 upcoming Picture Days, and Board meetings and the Christmas party which this year is December 8. Also, Open Studio closures due to workshops or receptions and more are at your fingertips. We are working to keep you -- our members -- informed. Please let us know how you like the new website or if you have suggestions for improvement ... agl@artguildlouisiana.org.

Leah Schwartzman, President

“Practicing an art, no matter how well or badly, is a way to make your soul grow”
...Kurt Vonnegut

RIVER ROAD SHOW

ENTRY DEADLINE -- MAY 15, 2019
Judge/Juror—William Schneider

We particularly encourage AGL members to participate in celebrating the Golden Anniversary of the River Road Show. For 50 continuous years the Art Guild of Louisiana has been bringing the National River Road Show to the capitol city. We have had amazing participation, regularly receiving over 400 entries from several states across the nation.

We encourage entrants to READ the prospectus, READ the requirements. We have been somewhat lenient in past years in regard to some of the requirements; however, helping artists bring non-compliant entries into compliance has become a time consuming endeavor. And one artist we called even said "Oh I don't read all that stuff". One of the AGL goals is education...and we want artists to realize that requirements must be followed to achieve acceptance in exhibitions. Some of the common problem requirements have been:

- ... no "saw tooth" hangers ... D-rings/wire type hanging system only
- ... "no ornate frames" ... frames should be plain with clean lines, no decorative painting or heavy carvings
- ... mats and frames should be clean and in good condition
- ... maximum frame width is 3" ... (3 ¼" is not 3")

In a few specific instances we have permitted entrants to take a painting to be reframed and then returned the next day/installation day. That practice has become disruptive to the hanging process. **Take-in is AUGUST 1...** if a painting does not meet the requirements on the day of take-in it will not be accepted.

We invite all participating artists to get involved celebrating the River Road Show's "Golden" Anniversary exhibit by submitting artwork that utilizes "gold" paint in any of its many forms; metallic gold, gold gesso, gold leaf or other gold media or depiction of a gold object in the your art piece. Use of "gold" in the art work is NOT a requirement for entry... just a fun suggestion. We look forward to seeing all your entries and wish each of you good luck. Question regarding meeting the requirements may be directed to Claudia LeJeune 225-223-0048.

A FRESH LOOK FOR THE AGL LIBRARY

Studio in the Park has, for many years, maintained an art instruction/reference library for the benefit of its members. Over the years we have received many book/magazine donations and we were bursting at the seams. But thanks to an ambitious group of member volunteers we have an updated, and reorganized reference library.

Many of the older, worn books have been purged and replaced by several boxes of new books acquired through donations from members past and present. Library books are available to be "checked out" by members. The books span across a variety of media. Come by on any open studio day and see what is available.

A special thanks and note of appreciation to the group of members who took on this task: Betty Gravois, Kay Bailey, Betty Klenke, Beverly Heil, & Marilyn Gensler. Thank you all for your time and work.

REMINDER TO ALL MEMBERS... IT IS TIME TO PAY DUES FOR 2019 TO CONTINUE RECEIVING THE NEWS-LETTER IN YOUR E-MAIL BOX , MEMBER EMAIL ALERTS and BE INCLUDED IN THE MEMBER DIRECTORY .

NEW!!! AGL ART OPPORTUNITIES

Thursday Evening Open Studio

It's here ... it's that time of year ...Thursday evening Open Studio !!! Each year for the past couple of years Kay Bailey has volunteered her time during the daylight savings time season, so that AGL could offer its members additional open studio time.

The first Thursday evening open studio will be **April 4, 2019** from 4:00 pm -7:30pm. Pack your art supplies in the car and stop by after work. It is a great time to get some painting in while waiting for the 5:00 traffic jam to clear out.

New !!! Pastel Open Studio

The success of recent pastel workshops has inspired AGL member, Betty Gravois to volunteer her time to facilitate a monthly Pastel Open Studio. The Pastel open studio will be held once a month on Thursdays from 11:00am to 4:00pm ; **April 25, May 23, June 27, and July 25**. Continuation of the monthly Pastel Open Studio will be depend on participation over those 4 months

ABOUT TOWN ART OPPORTUNITIES

USk Baton Rouge – Plein Air Sketching — monthly

USk Baton Rouge is an “open” plein air sketch group; all you have to do is show up at the correct location/ time. Artists interested in participating in the USk Baton Rouge “plein air” sketching can stay up to date with when and where the group will be sketching by getting on their email list. The group is coordinated by AGL member artist Bill Buck. Bill encourages artists to meet up with this fun, friendly group on their monthly painting ventures. Upcoming ventures are:

April 20 — 10:00am at LSU Hilltop Arboreteum in Baton Rouge

May 18 will be a sketch crawl at LSU ... time and exact location will be posted at a later date

For questions and further details or to get on the email list contact Bill Buck at (225) 590-2778 or by email at wdbuck@yahoo.com; interested parties may also visit the FB group page ... USk Baton Rouge.

Baton Rouge Plein Air — weekly

Baton Rouge Plein Air, a local group, facilitated by AGL member and local artist David Gary convenes weekly on Thursdays from 9:00am-noon with a friendly critique following. David encourages artists of all mediums and skill levels to participate... you just need to show up at the designated time/location. The location for each week is posted by the previous Tuesday on their Facebook page. **Be sure to check for last minute updates and changes at Facebook.com/batonrougepleinair**. For questions or further details contact David Gary at (225)252-8384. Below is the current schedule through May 2019.

Apr 4: Afton Villa, Lunch following at Magnolia Cafe

Apr 11: Afton Villa. Lunch following at The Francis

Apr 18: Butler Greenwood, Lunch following at Magnolia Cafe

Apr 25: Butler Greenwood. Lunch following at The Francis

May 2: Magnolia Mound - Lunch following at Pastime

May 9: Cohn Arboretum

May 16: Cohn Arboretum

May 23: James Grace House (Plaquemine)

May 30: James Grace House (Plaquemine)



Congratulations to AGL members who won awards in the Louisiana Watercolor Society's Spring Member exhibit, held at the Louisiana State Archives Building throughout March 2019.

Tracy Hebert was awarded First Place for her watercolor portrait, "War".

Emily Efferson's watercolor portrait, "Poker Face" won an Honorable Mention Award.



Louise Hansen was presented a Merit Award for her watercolor, "Pirate's Alley – New Orleans".

Congratulations also go to the following Guild members who each had a painting juried into the Louisiana Watercolor Society's International Show: **Carol Creel, Louise Hansen, Tracy Hebert and Betty Porche**. The exhibit will be open from May 4 thru May 24 at Place St. Charles in New Orleans. The judge/juror for the show is Michael Holter NWS, TWSA. An award presentation/reception will be held May 11 from 2:00-4:00.

EXHIBITS

Call for Entry Members Only — AGL Spring Member Show

Art Guild of Louisiana is calling for art for the Spring Member Show to be held at the Independence Park Theatre Gallery from May 2, 2019 to July 11, 2019. This exhibit is open to AGL members only. Now is the time to show up and take an active part in the Guild's mission of sharing art with the public. The exhibit is open to the public during regular business hours, Tuesday thru Friday from 10:00am—5:00pm.

This is a non-juried show, however, art work must meet the AGL exhibit requirements. Artists who want to participate must bring artwork to the Independence Park Theatre Gallery on May 2, 2019 between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. For detailed exhibit requirements go to www.artguildlouisiana.org/spring-member-show-2019. The entry fee is \$5.00 per art piece. All art must remain on exhibit until the end of the show. The artist retains 80% on sales ; BREC retains a 20% commission.

A People's Choice ribbon will be awarded at an artists' reception on Sunday, June 2, 2019 from 2:00–4:00pm. Exhibiting members are encouraged to attend the reception and to bring a finger food to contribute to the refreshment table.

SUPPORT YOUR ORGANIZATION — SHOW YOUR ART — INSPIRE SOMEONE ELSE

RECENT PAST WORKSHOPS

Roberta Loflin - Birds

Recent requests for beginning level water media workshops inspired Roberta to offer an additional beginning level workshop and participants were ready. Everyone in the workshop had a fun time learning special techniques to create paintings of our feathered friends. Local artist /instructor Roberta Loflin offers regular beginning to intermediate water media workshops at Studio in the Park. So, if you have an inner desire to try your hand at art, this is a great place to start.



Adrian Deckbar – Making Your Pastels Pop

Adrian was very complimentary of our studio space and reminded us how fortunate we are to have such a great space. We hope that our great space continues to inspire artists from all over to come teach at Studio in the Park. The workshop was filled with lots of great new tips, ideas and techniques. In addition to having the opportunity to create art under Adrian's guidance, participant camaraderie made it a fun filled 3 day workshop.

Participants in Adrian's workshop were very excited about their accomplishments during the workshop and the fabulous critique session on the last day. Each participant worked on the subject of their choice and ended the workshop with 2-3 great little pieces either completed or near completion. And all participants finished the workshop inspired and looking forward to their next pastel adventure.



UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

Roberta Loflin - Sky's the Limit – Water Media Workshop (Acrylic or Watercolor)

Mondays - April 29, May 6, 13, and 20, 2019 from 9:30 AM to NOON

Early Bird Registration thru April 14, 2018 - \$60 members, \$75 nonmembers

Regular Registration Beginning April 15 : \$75 members, \$90 nonmembers

DEADLINE TO REGISTER: April 28, 2019

Workshop Coordinator: Barbara Andrepont, 225.773.8020, bandrepont@bellsouth.net



Roberta Loflin – Every Day's A Holiday (Note cards) - Multimedia

Thursday, May 9, 2019 from 9:30 AM to 3:00pm

Early Bird Registration thru April 18, 2018 - \$30 members, \$40 nonmembers

Regular Registration Beginning April 19: \$40 members, \$50 nonmembers

DEADLINE TO REGISTER: May 8, 2019

Workshop Coordinator: Barbara Andrepont, 225.773.8020, bandrepont@bellsouth.net

Cards are EXPENSIVE. Let's make our own. In this one day workshop we'll make note cards from our old paintings, and even create original compositions. We'll find pleasing compositions. And explore "running sketches" for use on our cards. You can choose to focus on holidays or everyday greeting cards.



Ann Warner – Creative Still Life: Painting what You Love – Oils

June 11-13, 2019; Tues-Thurs ; daily demonstrations 8:00-9:00; Class 9:00 – 3:00

Early Bird Registration thru May 6, 2019; \$250 members/ \$300 nonmembers

Regular Registration beginning May 7, 2019; \$300 members/\$350 nonmembers

Workshop Coordinator: Betty Gravois at elizabethgravois@gmail.com or (732)216-1095

Ann Warner is an award-winning oil painter and a native of Franklinton, Louisiana. She has exhibited in regional and national shows, museums and galleries, and her work can be found in corporate and private collections across the United States.

Ann concentrates her work in the landscape, still life, and portraiture. Inspired by her travels from Maine to Santa Fe, the Bahamas to the United Kingdom, France, Ireland, and Italy, each trip affords her "the opportunity to vary, stretch, and grow" her work.

Ann has a Bachelor of Science degree from LSU, and was mentored by the late Carl Thorp, a noted oil colorist, and many other noted artists. Favorite painters who have influenced Ann's work are Sorolla, Cezanne, Van Gogh, Monet, and N. Fechin.

Participants are sure to gain much insight into Ann's particular way of beginning paintings using gesture drawing of her subject matter, her tips for composition and capturing just the right lights. See through the eyes of this talented artist as she guides you through her artistic process.



NOTE: To secure a seat in the workshops of your choice go to www.artguildlouisiana.org/workshops, select the workshop of your choice, click on "more information" and register and pay via credit card. Or pay by check and mail to Art Guild of Louisiana, P O Box 41115, Baton Rouge, LA 70816. If you pay by check be sure your contact information and name of the workshop is on the check. If you have questions about a workshop contact the person listed as Workshop Coordinator for that specific workshop.



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If you would like to help with any aspect of producing the newsletter please contact Leah Schwartzman at newsletter@artguildlouisiana.org.

Please send member information for the newsletter to newsletter@artguildlouisiana.org by the 10th of every other month : January, March, May, July, September, November.



Do You use FACEBOOK? Friends? Family?

Calling ALL MEMBERS who use FACEBOOK ... Be sure to visit the Art Guild of Louisiana's Facebook page and "Like" us. "Share" AGL with your friends and family and ask them to do the same. Let's get the word out about YOUR organization ... we want Louisiana and surrounding artists to know what great opportunities we have to offer and we want friends and family who are not artists to know what we are doing ... to visit our exhibits and support our artists. We want to "connect art and people".