



News from the Palette

Art Guild of Louisiana

www.artguildlouisiana.org
agl@artguildlouisiana.org

August 2026

Nominations Are Open— August 1—31, 2026

The AGL Board is seeking nominations for two positions whose terms will end December 2026. Nominations for president and secretary are open August 1, 2026 through August 31, 2026. If you care about art in our community and ensuring AGL continues to have a role in it, we invite you to make a difference. Join our family of Board members who will work alongside you to bring your ideas to life. Feeling a little reluctant to “step up” by yourself? Team up, perhaps nominate a friend who shares your vision. Who do you know that is innovative and interested in keeping AGL alive and moving forward? Encourage them to be involved.



Both positions are 2-year terms that will run from January 1, 2027 –December 31, 2028. Board meetings currently convene every two months, usually at the Studio in the Park. We know life is busy and we are flexible; use of zoom, email, and today's phones make most Board tasks easily accomplished from home on a schedule convenient to you.

General responsibilities of the two offices are:

President: responsible for directing and coordinating activities and business of the AGL, including composing a Board agenda for and presiding over Board meetings held every other month which are currently January, March, May, July, September, and November; serving as *ex-officio* member of standing committees; and overseeing Guild activities with the support of committee members and fellow Board members.

Secretary: take minutes at Board meetings held every other month; email draft minutes to the Board for review, sign off on final minutes and file electronically; maintain current contact list for Board members and provide support to the president as needed for meetings; take minutes for member meetings held approximately twice a year.

Nominations may be submitted to any of the following Board members:

David Gary, President - dgary@redstick.com

Marilyn Gensler, Immediate Past President - whelangal2@gmail.com

Leah Schwartzman, Member at Large - jleahschwartz@gmail.com

Claire Pasqua, Vice President - clairepasqua01@gmail.com

Lynn Aldridge, Treasurer - lynnaldridge12@yahoo.com

Anna Hingle, Secretary - anna.hingle@gmail.com

Barbara Andrepont, Member at Large - barbara.andrepont@gmail.com

Judy Campbell, Member at Large - judyc1107@icloud.com

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Members,

June was a busy month at Studio in the Park. In order to complete a much needed refresh, including new paint, new flooring, and several other improvements, we had to close the Studio for most of the month. I know that studio access is an important part of Guild membership, and I sincerely appreciate everyone's patience and understanding while this work was underway. I hope the temporary inconvenience will feel worthwhile now that the Studio has reopened. This is only the beginning. We are continuing to consider future phases of improvement, and your ideas are genuinely welcome. Please share your thoughts about what would make the Studio more useful, inspiring, and enjoyable for our members.



I am also looking forward to one of the highlights of our year: the national River Road Show in August. We are especially fortunate to welcome Oil Painters of America Master Signature Artist Marc Hanson as this year's judge and juror, as well as the instructor for his August 13 to 15 workshop. It promises to be an exciting opportunity for our members and for the wider artistic community.

Finally, nominations are now open for the offices of President and Secretary. With six months remaining in my term, I am focused on continuing the momentum we have built and helping ensure that the Guild is positioned for a strong and confident transition. Serving as President has been a meaningful experience and I am proud of the direction the Guild is moving. As my term comes to a close, I hope to leave the office in capable hands and am pleased that the organization is exceptionally healthy, active, and prepared for an exciting future. Personally, I am looking forward to continuing to serve on the workshop committee, pursuing a new business opportunity, and returning to a more disciplined studio practice.

Thank you for your membership, your patience, and the many ways you help make the Art Guild of Louisiana such a vibrant creative community.

At Your Service,

David Gary

President, Art Guild of Louisiana

1st Annual Studio in the Park Member Exhibit

What a great evening it was on June 11 at Studio in the Park in BREC Cedarcrest Park. AGL Board members are very excited about the success of the first neighborhood member exhibit. We are grateful to the 71 member artists who rallied together and submitted 71 works of art for the event. Our guest sign-in indicates 150-plus attended the wine and cheese reception for an evening of art and conversation. Congratulations to Kevin Calbert whose acrylic painting *Kirk on the Beach* was awarded the People's Choice ribbon.



Thank you to all of the participating members, to David for his vision and to the volunteers who helped pull the event together, especially to Lynn Aldridge, Claire Pasqua, and Anna Hingle who worked tirelessly to empty and prepare the studio for the event. See a live video on the AGL Facebook page.

Also, congratulations to the following two artists whose paintings sold at the studio member show: Patricia Ryan *Southern Beauty* (oil), and and Judy Campbell *Garden Visitor* (acrylic).

New Signage on the Studio in the Park

AGL has “lived” several years at Studio in the Park without any identifying signage for people who show up for workshops and other Guild events. As part of the overall improvements to the Studio in the Park, we have great new AGL signage front and center on the building. Also, take note of the beautiful large rendition of Van Goghs’ *Irises* gracing the front right wall of the studio.

If you have been reading member emails, you are aware that the Studio in the Park was closed for three weeks for building improvements, most notably new floors and a fresh coat of paint on the inside. We also have a new stainless steel sink and countertops in the entry area. You are invited to come by during any open studio session to see our new look still in progress.



We are open for business again; regular programming such as workshops, open studios, and life drawing are in full swing. There are still many things in storage awaiting the next phase of updates, such as new storage cabinets, bookcases, and more.

We have also launched a new “Building Improvements” donation campaign on the AGL website “Donation” page. Visit the campaign at www.artguildlouisiana.org/donations to get an idea of the overall vision. Images on the website are representative and do not reflect the exact items. Some modifications will have to be made as we move forward. Join the dream and make a donation toward your favorite project.

Out and About

SAVE THE DATE! Plein Air Marksville (PAM) will be held this year on September 12, in Marksville. As always, it will be a come one, come all one-day open event that will conclude with a reception with awards and refreshments at the Gallery on the Square at 5 pm. For more information, contact David or Marge Shanks phone 225-287-6623 or dshanks@lsua.edu.

Kathy Miller Stone will be showing watercolor paintings she created to be included in a collection of poems created by Jack Simon, for a poetry book entitled *“What the Fox Knows.”* This is a wonderfully fun and imaginative exhibit and includes the poems that inspired the paintings. Kathy invites you to please join her at the opening reception on August 22 at 1:00 p.m. at the West Baton Rouge Museum, 845 N. Jefferson Avenue, Port Allen, Louisiana. The exhibit will be open to the public until November 11 during regular hours Tuesday – Saturday from 10:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. and Sunday from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.



The members of the **Associated Women in the Arts** invite everyone to view an exhibit at the Art House Gallery in St Francisville. The show will be open to the public through August 2026. The Art House Gallery (formerly the Backwoods Gallery) is currently owned by former AGL member and popular Baton Rouge artist, Cheri Fry and her husband.

The **Denham Springs Library** is hosting a two person art exhibit featuring the work of talented Baton Rouge artists Pat Wattam and Monica Wood. The show is open to the public August through September. If you find yourself in the area stop in and enjoy the art or get a group together and go for lunch and art.

MEMBER NEWS

Kathy Daigle is very happy to be accepted into the Degas Pastel Society show currently on exhibit at the Louisiana State Archives building on Essen Lane.

Cheryl Ann Grace---"My piece, *Big Chief Monk Boudreaux*, has been awarded one of the 3 Juror's Choice Awards in the Maryland Federation of Art exhibit, "America at 250: Be Revolutionary". I'm so honored that my painting was juried into this important national exhibit that opened June 25th in Annapolis, Maryland. This piece is part of my series "The Gospel According to New Orleans" and I painted it to honor Big Chief Monk Boudreaux, a living legend. I'm so happy to share this important part of our culture with a broader audience!"



Kevin Calbert is happy to share that his acrylic painting *False Memory, Colima* was juried into the current exhibit in the Acadiana Center for the Arts in Lafayette. The "Importance of Being Nowhere" is a group exhibition juried and curated by Amy Mackie a curator, educator, pianist, and writer based in New Orleans. The exhibit is open from June 13 through August 22, 2026.

Pat Wattam and **Monica Wood** will be exhibiting artwork in a two person show at the Denham Springs Library beginning August 1, 2026. The exhibit will be open to the public until the end of September during regular operating hours.

Also, Pat sold another of her lovely oil paintings *The Cross* recently to a Tennessee collector. The cross is painted in the same classical style as the *The Flame* previously purchased by the Tennessee collector.



Marge Shanks' multi-media piece entitled *Kingfish Struts* was accepted into the September Show at the Alexandria Museum of Art.

The Frank Bette Center for the Arts, each year invites 40 talented artists to paint in a juried plein air event in Alameda, CA. Marge participated in the event in 2025 and is very excited to be invited again this year to participate in the 21st Frank Bette Plein Air Paint Out. She will spend the week of July 27- August 1, painting across the picturesque Alameda Island in the San Francisco Bay area.

Marge also has work in the current Arts Council Exhibit "Tell A Vision" at the Cary Saurage Center downtown. The exhibit features work set in old television frames and is open to the public until August 14, 2026.



EXHIBITS

Spring Judged Show Winners

Our deep appreciation to Chryl Casso Corizzo from Mandeville for judging the show. Congratulations to the following talented artists who took home awards at the Spring Judged Show:

1st Place – Linda Pace – *Spring in the Aspens* – Oil

2nd Place – Anna Hingle – *Friday Night at the Fair* – Charcoal

3rd Place – Emily Efferson – *Tales of Crustacean Tails* – Watercolor

Honorable Mention – Marilyn Gensler – *Tide Pools* – Oil

Honorable Mention – Donna Kilbourne – *Mule Wagon* – Oil (sold)



Current Exhibit – Workshop Show

Currently on exhibit at the Independence Park Theatre Gallery is the member Workshop Show. Workshop paintings are usually not eligible to be entered in traditional public exhibits. However, this year's AGL annual exhibit will provide artists an opportunity to share those little jewels of art that are created in a classroom/workshop setting while also crediting the workshop instructor.

The exhibit, which features 27 paintings by 12 artists also includes art work that was not created in a workshop/classroom setting. The exhibit is open to the public during regular hours: Tuesday – Friday from 10:00am-5:00pm through September 9, 2026.

An awards reception will be held on Sunday, August 9, 2026, from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. Family and friends are welcome to join the artists for an afternoon of art. In addition to the "People's Choice" ribbon being awarded, one lucky exhibiting artist will win \$25 cash in a random drawing.

Call for Entry – Autumn Judged Show – September 10–November 12, 2026

The exhibit will be open to the public free of charge during regular hours: Tuesday–Friday, 10:00am – 5:00pm at the Independence Park Theatre Gallery, 7800 Independence Blvd, Baton Rouge.

This is a non-juried exhibit; however, all entries must meet the AGL exhibit requirements. To ensure that your artwork will be accepted at the take-in, please read the *"Installation and Originality Requirements"* at www.artguildlouisiana.org/exhibits. The exhibit is open to area artists, 18 years of age and up. All two-dimensional media is eligible except photography, non-original prints, giclées, and computer-generated and/or enhanced artwork.

Entry Fee: AGL members: \$10 per painting; non-members; \$20 per painting. A maximum of five paintings may be entered.

Prizes Awarded: 1st – \$175; 2nd – \$150; and 3rd – \$75. Each place winner will receive cash and a ribbon. Two Honorable Mention ribbons will also be awarded.

Take-in: September 10. Interested artists should bring artwork to the Independence Park Theatre Gallery, 7800 Independence Park Blvd, Baton Rouge, on Thursday, September 10, between 11:00 am – 1:00 pm.

Pick-up: November 12. Artwork must be picked up between 11:00 am – 1:00 pm on November 12. It is the artist's responsibility to keep track of the pick-up date; no further notice will be given. A \$25 transport/storage fee will be assessed to artists whose work is not picked up during the listed hours.

Reception: Sunday, October 11 from 2:00 – 4:00 pm. All receptions are open to the public; please invite friends and family. Exhibiting artists are encouraged to attend the reception and bring a finger food dish for the refreshment table. Cold drinks/coffee are provided.

Artworks sold are subject to a 20% BREC commission fee. All artwork must remain in the exhibit for the duration of the show. Neither BREC, nor the Guild, is liable for damage, loss, or theft.

WORKSHOPS

Larry Downs: Mastering Values in Drawing

August 8 (Saturday), 1:00 - 5:30 pm

Fee: \$65 members / \$80 nonmembers

Workshop Coordinator: Jennifer Cutrer, cutrer@hotmail.com or 214-676-5052

This class is suitable for beginners and intermediate students. It will highlight the foundation aspects of drawing. Students will learn depth and dimension principals. The instructor will teach high contrast values, core principals of light, shadow, and shading. Demonstration shading examples will be presented on the Cone, Cube, Sphere, and Cylinder. The workshop is for beginners and those wanting to improve their skills. Maximum 14 participants.



Marc Hanson: Painting en Plein Air – Acrylics and Oils

August 13-15 (Thursday-Saturday), 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Fee: \$575 members / \$625 nonmembers

Workshop Coordinator: David Gary, dgary@redstick.com or 225-252-8384

This workshop is full. You can add yourself to the waitlist in case someone cancels.

Workshop participants will observe AGL's 2026 national River Road Show juror and judge as Marc performs demonstrations in the morning. Then painting in the afternoon with Marc offering individual guidance to participants. Due to the Louisiana summer heat, this workshop will be a hybrid plein air and studio painting adventure. We may gather plein air studies in the mornings, finishing larger scale final paintings indoors, spending as much time en plein air as weather and heat permit. Exact plein air location(s) to be determined, although it is likely it will be LSU's Burden Museum and Gardens.



Roberta Loflin: Watercolor Basics – Birds of a Feather

September 12, 19, 26, October 3 (Saturdays), 9:30 am - noon

Early Bird fee thru August 29: \$70 members / \$90 nonmembers

Regular fee begins August 30: \$90 members / \$110 nonmembers

Workshop Coordinator: Barbara Andrepont: barbara.andrepont@gmail.com or 225-773-8020

Birds come in incredible variety. You will work with your personal favorite bird photos, including pictures from magazines. Roberta will demonstrate creating "bird-y" compositions, using colors and values to make the painting "sing." She will discuss perspective, lighting, and color as we go. Participants provide their own supplies, and bring their photos and feathers.



Larry Downs: Composition Bootcamp – Level Up Your Art

September 12 (Saturday), 1:00 - 5:30 pm

September 13 (Sunday), 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

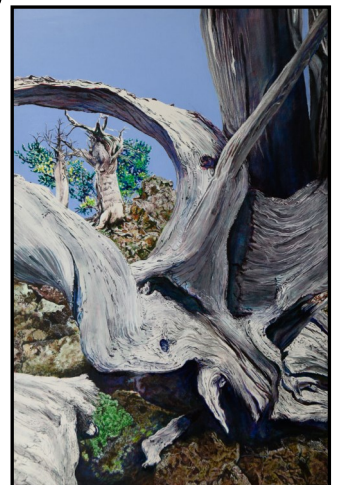
Fee: \$100 members / \$125 nonmembers

Workshop Coordinator: Tiffany Whitehead, librariantiff@gmail.com, or 225-803-6089

This class is suitable for all mediums: acrylic, pastels, oils, or watercolors, and to any artistic style. It will be an intensive hands-on class designed to improve the artist's arrangement and organization of subject matter.

Core learning objectives will be to understand and apply the principals of composition: learn the rules and when to break them including rule of thirds; golden ratio; symmetrical vs. asymmetrical; focal points; leading lines; contrast; hierarchy; deep space; movement and how to direct the viewers eye; and cropping and framing.

The workshop is for beginners and those wanting to improve their skills. Maximum 14 participants.



Kay Bailey: Oyster Shell Collage

September 17 (Thursday), 1:00 – 5:00 pm

Fee: \$65 members, / \$80 nonmembers

Workshop coordinator: Betty Gravois, elizabethgravois@gmail.com, 732-216-1095

This afternoon workshop will teach you how to decoupage an oystershell with paper napkins. All materials are included to allow you to make one trinket shell. Participants will each go home with second shell instructions so that you can make another or teach someone else how to make these fun and decorative trinket shells.



Kay Bailey is an active member of the AGL for over 15 years. She has served on the Board as president and treasurer. She has served on several committees, including Exhibits and the River Road Show Reception, as well as, the Workshop Committee chairperson. Kay continues to be a steadfast volunteer and participant in other Guild programs. She retired from state government with over thirty years of service and holds a Masters Degree in Vocational Education.

Dana Mosby: Interpreting the Landscape in Pastel – Infusing Your Work with Passion

September 27 (Sunday), from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm

Early Bird fee thru August 31: \$100 members / \$125 nonmembers

Regular fee begins September 1: \$125 members / \$150 nonmembers

Workshop Coordinator: Anna Hingle, anna.hingle@gmail.com or 225-572-5975

Pastels...looking at a collection of them is like looking at a candy counter. So many beautiful colors! Where to begin? Pastel is a fascinating medium. It is tactile, instant, and perfect for painting landscapes.

This one-day workshop will provide beginners and experienced pastelists with an opportunity to get down and dirty with this hands-on medium. The participants will leave with a composition depicting a landscape, with an emphasis on mark-making, texture, and use of bold color.



The workshop will begin with a demonstration, after which participants may choose to use provided resources or their own, to paint a 9" x 12" pastel. Maybe even two!

About Dana

Dana Mosby was born and raised in northeast Mississippi, but now considers herself a native of Louisiana. After graduating from the University of Mississippi with a BFA, she began a 36-year career as an art teacher in the public schools. In addition to pursuing her own painting, Dana earned a master's degree in education from LSU, attended workshops, and joined several art organizations. Since retiring, she has become very active in plein air painting groups and events. She currently spends time in both the studio and on location, using both oils and pastels.

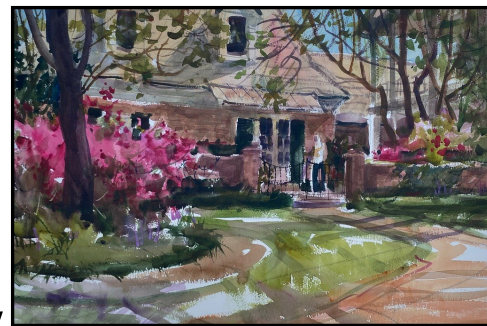
Mary O. Smith: Watercolor with a Southern Accent

September 28-30 (Monday-Wednesday), 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Early Bird fee thru August 10: \$385 members / \$425 nonmembers

Regular fee begins August 11: \$400 members / \$460 nonmembers

Workshop Coordinator: David Gary, dgary@redstick.com or 225-252-8384



A gifted Southern watercolorist is coming home to Baton Rouge and only 13 artists will have the opportunity to study with her. With enrollment limited to just 13 artists, participants will receive a level of personal attention that is increasingly difficult to find in larger workshops.

Each morning, Mary will demonstrate her painting process, pretending we are out on location. Mary paints upright, even in the studio so those willing to try, several easels and tabletop easels will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Students will see how she selects and simplifies a subject, develops a strong composition, organizes values, mixes luminous color, and allows watercolor to remain fresh, expressive, and full of life. The 6-P's of plein air painting will be introduced. Demonstrating that a plan goes a long way to a successful and more confident painting. Confidence leads to loose expressive marks out on location and studio work.

Each afternoon, participants will paint under Mary's guidance. Known as a generous, encouraging, and highly effective teacher, Mary will work individually with students, helping them solve problems, strengthen their technique, and make more confident painting decisions.

Students will not have to struggle with drawing, if that is an issue. Traceable copies can be provided or work from your own images. Mary will share plenty of tips for drawing structures. This workshop is about more than learning a series of watercolor techniques. It is about learning to recognize what makes a subject worth painting and discovering how to communicate its light, atmosphere, character, and sense of place.

For Baton Rouge artists, this is an especially meaningful opportunity: to welcome home an accomplished Southern watercolorist and spend three focused days learning from a teacher who understands both the beauty of our region and the expressive possibilities of watercolor.

Please do not wait too long to register. With such a small class and Mary returning to teach in her hometown, we expect these spaces to be highly sought after.

About Mary

Raised in Louisiana, Mary O. Smith earned a Bachelor of Design from Louisiana State University and began her career as an interior designer and architectural renderer. She developed a passion for watercolor in 1996, studying with noted artists including Tony Van Hasselt, Judi Wagner, Judi Betts, and Roberta Carter Clark.

Mary is known for her loose, expressive style, skillful use of color, and ability to capture light and atmosphere. An award-winning painter in both watercolor and oil, she has been featured twice in Watercolor Magic magazine and holds signature memberships in several watercolor societies. Her work is inspired by plein-air painting, Southern landscapes, historic architecture, marine scenes, and working boats.

Mary teaches workshops in both watercolor and oil, sharing a thoughtful, encouraging approach that helps students plan stronger paintings while preserving freshness and spontaneity.

Sarah Sedwick: Color, Form, and Feeling

October 30, 31, November 1 (Friday-Sunday), 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
Early Bird fee thru September 15: \$500 members / \$550 nonmembers
Regular fee begins September 16: \$525 members / \$575 nonmembers
Workshop Coordinator: Nanci Charpentier, nancicharpentierart@gmail.com or 225-936-7784

In this contemporary still-life workshop, we'll explore how color relationships, strong shapes, and expressive brushwork can bring everyday objects to life. Through guided demos and hands-on painting, you'll learn to simplify what you see, loosen up your style, and create works that feels fresh, personal, and full of energy. All levels are welcome. Working with a limited palette, we'll focus on the fundamentals of color mixing and value relationships to build confident, cohesive paintings. You'll leave with a stronger understanding of how to make bold choices with both color and compositions, and have fun doing it. Instruction is in oils, and acrylic painters are welcome.



Billie Bourgeois: Scribble to Structure: Observation to Abstraction

December 4-6 (Friday-Sunday), 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
Early Bird fee thru November 1: \$450 members / \$525 nonmembers
Regular fee begins November 2: \$500 members / \$575 nonmembers
Workshop Coordinator: Nanci Charpentier, nancicharpentierart@gmail.com or 225-936-7784

Break free from artistic "stuckness" in this energetic, process-driven workshop designed to spark experimentation, intuition, and joy. Beginning with one favorite object, artists will explore how observation can evolve into abstraction through gestural drawing, blind contour, monoprinting, stenciling, collage, mixed media, and expressive color. Working quickly and from multiple points of view, participants will generate dozens of drawings, prints, studies, and paintings—potentially launching as many as 50 new works. The emphasis is not on producing one perfect finished piece, but on building momentum, quieting premature judgment, and discovering unexpected visual possibilities.

Over three days, artists will move from direct observation to increasingly abstract interpretations, ultimately creating mixed-media compositions and memory paintings in which the original object becomes fragmented, transformed, or nearly disappears. Fast-paced, playful, and overwhelmingly fun, Scribble to Structure will help artists loosen familiar habits, expand their creative vocabulary, and leave with a wealth of ideas for future work.





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