



# News from the Palette

**Art Guild of Louisiana**

[www.artguildlouisiana.org](http://www.artguildlouisiana.org)

[agl@artguildlouisiana.org](mailto:agl@artguildlouisiana.org)

[facebook.com/ArtGuildofLouisiana](https://facebook.com/ArtGuildofLouisiana)

**DECEMBER 2021**

## Meet Cheryl Caro ... by Jennifer Cutrer

Cheryl Caro became a member of the Guild in 2017 and first exhibited that year in the Summer Judged Show. Her colored pencil entry, *Kindred Spirit*, won first place. She then went on to be accepted into the River Road Show that same year and was awarded 3<sup>rd</sup> Place for *Living The Big Easy*. Since then, Cheryl has continued to hone her skills and has become a well respected and recognized artist in the colored pencil world. She has also won awards for her acrylic work. Here is Cheryl's story in her own words:



When I was a child, I would always draw the cartoon characters from the comic strips in the Sunday paper. I think my parents realized I had talent before I did. To me it just came naturally. I thought everyone could draw. By the time I became a young teenager my drawings had improved so much my parents enrolled me into a private oil painting class with a very talented New Orleans artist. Four years of private oil painting lessons and my art classes in high school were my foundation for four years of college art where I received a BA in Fine Arts at LSU.

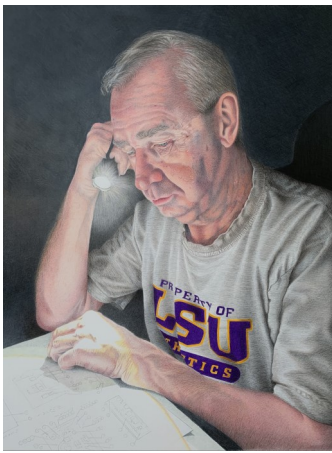
My art was put to the side for many years until in 2016 when I wanted to do portraits of my basset hounds. I wanted a clean, easy, portable medium and something I didn't have to spend too much money on buying all the supplies, so I bought a tablet and a tin of colored pencils. So today I choose colored pencil as my medium of choice. It is so very portable, clean, and very challenging layering one color on top of another color to create another color. Recently, I have painted a few acrylic paintings because the artist in me is always wanting to come out in another medium, so I picked up pen and ink and began doodling around with Zentangle.



One thing colored pencil has taught me, is to slow down and take my time. In my youth I would paint an oil painting in hours. Today I take days painting my acrylic paintings. I actually use the same process to paint my acrylic paintings as my colored pencil drawings with a layering technique.

Asked if I am a self-taught artist the answer would be a yes and no. Yes, I taught myself how to draw as a child but no when it comes to learning how to sharpen my skills as a colored pencil artist. Although I knew the basic core of colored pencils, I have learned so much more by taking numerous workshops with other talented colored pencil artist.

As a child my love of drawing animals resulted in me and my husband spending many hours at the New Orleans Zoo taking photos of all kinds of animals so I could paint them. After all, it was my dogs that got me back into my art, but today I am drawn to people and their natural expressions. I have definitely become a people watcher. I love the challenge of drawing people and capturing that one moment in time.



I am not a full-time artist nor is it my occupation. However, when I joined The Colored Pencil Society of America, I told myself that I was going to take on colored pencil with all my worth and try to be the best I could be. I hope to one day win an award in their yearly art show. So, I try and work at least 2 hours a day on my drawings. I normally make time at night while watching and listening to TV. I never really get painter's block because I am always looking for and watching people. The world is full of interesting people.

As for my advice to new artists: "don't let anyone tell you what you do is not considered fine art or that your art is worthless. And join social media art groups for support, advice, and encouragement." Asked what

I would like others to see or get out of my work. Nothing deep. All I hope is that I get them to smile or perhaps to think as to what my subject is looking at or thinking about. Most of all, I hope they enjoy my work as much as I enjoy drawing them.



## PONDERINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Ahh, another season comes to South Louisiana—the Holiday season! Ours is a culture always ready to celebrate, with food and music and fun. Late fall and winter here bring cooler weather and a change in atmosphere. No, we don't get too much of the brilliantly colored leaves—but as artists our palettes can load up on oranges and yellows, and later the complements red and green take center stage there.

Like everything, holidays can be seen from two sides. There's gift giving/overspending, travelling to see loved ones/traffic or airport nightmares, excitement/stress, feasting/fattening, laughing children/grouchy spouses. I guess there's a little of all of it throughout the season.



And then there's gifts. I love giving and I love receiving. Although I believe in Santa Clause, sometimes I buy myself something. (If you do the same, may I suggest a book by Bridget Quinn: "Broad Strokes, 15 Women Who Made Art and Made History (In That Order)"—a really good read.)

And there are parties. An opportunity to decorate and show off your favorite cookie recipes. I'm happy to say that AGL has decided to resume the Christmas Party Member Meeting this year after skipping 2020. Always a fun event, with games, a painting exchange and door prizes!

But the best thing about the season is that people seem to put aside the right/left, liberal/conservative, and all the other divisive labels and come together with one mind: for peace on earth, and goodwill towards all. So Merry Christmas, Jolly Holidays and see you at the party!

..... Marilyn Gensler

# AGL Christmas Party



**December 12, 2021**

**2:00 - 4:00 pm**

**Studio in the Park, 2490 Silverest Avenue**

**Baton Rouge, LA**

Please join your fellow artists in celebrating this Holiday Season at the annual AGL Christmas Party. A fun gift exchange game and a "secret" painting exchange always provides plenty of light hearted entertainment.

- 1) To participate in the gift exchange, each person must bring a \$10 gift ... wrapped and unlabeled.
- 2) To participate in the secret painting exchange, each participating person must bring one of their original paintings - UNFRAMED and wrapped in PLAIN BROWN PAPER. It should not be identifiable...that ruins the secret.

Guild members and their guests are invited to take part in the fun and festivities. Refreshments and snacks will be served. We invite you to bring a finger food to share. All contributions to the snack table are appreciated.

**COME JOIN THE FUN!!!**

## Picture Day and Sunday Open Studio Resume in 2022

A brand new year with new hopes and new plans is just around the corner. AGL is planning to resume Sunday afternoon open studio sessions from 1:00–4:00pm. We thank those Guild members who want to paint on Sunday afternoons and have volunteered to open the studio on a rotating basis.

Also, we will resume our regular Picture Day schedule, which is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month during open studio hours from 1:00–4:00pm. The maximum number of paintings per artist still is at three (3). There is to be no artwork behind glass photographed and works on paper must be attached to some sort of support/mat to ensure that it does not buckle while being photographed.

Sometimes workshop schedules, receptions or holidays may be in conflict with Picture Day. When this happens Picture Day will be rescheduled either a week earlier or later. You can keep up with the latest Guild schedules on the website Calendar at [www.artguildlouisiana.org/calendar](http://www.artguildlouisiana.org/calendar).



## Did You Know?

**The Guild Studio in the Park** is available as a rental workshop space to both private artists and art organizations. There are several rental options available. There is a special workshop model available to AGL members called the 80/20 contract. Instead of paying the flat per day rental fee, the member instructor receives 80% of the total registration fees received and the Guild receives 20% of the total. The Guild manages registration and promotion of the workshop, prepares an invoice and cuts a check to the member instructor for their appropriate share. In fact several member artists have recently held 1-2 day workshops using this type of agreement and donated their 80% to the Guild. "Donating" a workshop is a great way to support the organization and give back to AGL.

**AGL Board meetings** are open to all members. We encourage you to attend and see what the Board is working on for the organization. We invite members to bring ideas to share with the Board. However, if you want to present an idea to the Board you should notify the Guild in advance so that we can include you on the agenda for you. You can do that via the website [www.artguildlouisiana.org](http://www.artguildlouisiana.org) and click on the "Contact" tab. Board meetings are generally scheduled for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday every other month at the Studio in the Park from 11:00a.m. to 1:00p.m. Those months currently are January, March, May, July, September and November.

## AGL Members Donate Hand Painted Pumpkins to Family Road Project

In early October the Board sent an email to members, requesting volunteers to paint pumpkins to donate to the Family Road Pak n' Play project. Family Road is a non-profit that gives the decorated pumpkins to donors of a certain dollar amount that will go toward purchase of cribs that will be distributed to families who can't afford to provide safe sleeping accommodations for newborns.

Several members of the Guild got together over 3 weeks during open studio hours, painted pumpkins for the project. The Guild donated a total of 14 painted/decorated pumpkins to Family Road. Thank you to the volunteers painters and pumpkin donors Kay Baily, Marilyn Gensler, Jennifer Cutrer, Jo McWilliams, Kathy Redmond, Sandra Zaid, Leah Schwartzman.



If you painted/donated a pumpkin we want to know. Please contact and send a pic to Leah Schwartzman at [jleahschwartz@gmail.com](mailto:jleahschwartz@gmail.com)

## ART OPPORTUNITIES ABOUT TOWN

**USkBR (Urban Sketchers Baton Rouge)** is an official regional chapter of Urban Sketchers, an international nonprofit dedicated to fostering a global community of artists who practice on-location drawing. **USkBR** is facilitated by Guild member Bill Buck. The sketching sojourns are open to all interested artists. They meet once a month on Saturday at various locations in Baton Rouge and the surrounding area. For more information and location updates or to get on the email list contact Bill at (225)916-8406 or by email at [wdbuck@yahoo.com](mailto:wdbuck@yahoo.com) or the FB group page ... **USk Baton Rouge**. To find out more about the international group visit [UrbanSketchers.org](http://UrbanSketchers.org).

**Dec 11<sup>th</sup>** - USkBR Christmas Party. (COVID Permitting)

**Baton Rouge Plein Air**, 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. Follow them on Facebook for weekly updates, specifics and changes: [facebook.com/batonrougepleinair](https://facebook.com/batonrougepleinair). Contact David at 225-252-8384 for questions or further details.

Dec. 2: D's Garden Center (Christmas Trees)

Dec 9: Denham Springs Antique Village

Dec 16: Magnolia Mound

Dec 23: Burden Plantation

Dec 30: No paint-out unless we reschedule an earlier venue due to rain or inclement weather

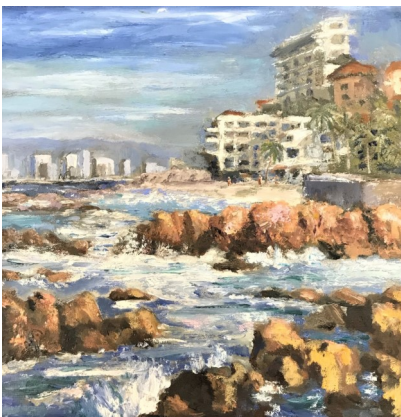
## EXHIBITS

The AGL expresses their appreciation to Denyce Celantano, for being the judge for the **Autumn Show**. Denyce is an associate professor of drawing and painting at the LSU Art Department. And the winners are.....

**1<sup>st</sup> Place:** Marilyn Gensler – Oil - *Mexican Resort Beach*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place:** Calvin Balencie – Watercolor - *Dressed for Fall*

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place:** Jo McWilliams - Acrylic - *Bonnie's Pond*





## Honorable Mention:

Cheryl Caro – Colored Pencil – *Forest Mother*

Lisa Sanchez – Acrylic – *Lunch Time*



## Call for Entry – Winter Member Show

The first AGL exhibit for 2022 is scheduled for Independence Park Theatre from January 13, 2022, until March 10, 2022.

This is a non-juried show, however, all artwork must meet the AGL exhibit requirements. Artists who want to participate must bring artwork for the Winter Member Show to the Independence Park Theatre on January 13, 2022, between 11:00am and 1:00pm. The exhibit will be open to the public, free of charge, during their regular business hours, Tuesday-Friday, 10:00am – 5:00pm.

Exhibit requirements can be found at [www.artuillouisiana.org/exhibits](http://www.artuillouisiana.org/exhibits)

The entry fee is \$5.00 per art piece. All art must remain in on display until the end of the exhibit. An award reception is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, February 6, 2022, to award the People's Choice ribbon.

Exhibiting members are encouraged to attend the reception and to bring a finger food to contribute to the refreshment table.

## HEADS UP!!! “INTERPRET THIS PHOTO” CHALLENGE RETURNS IN 2022!!!

Here's how it works. “Interpret This Photo” (photo right) - don't copy it! It is all about using your artistic license to create an art piece in any two dimensional medium, any style or technique that you choose. You don't even need to use the entire photo; choose a portion of the photo to focus on.

On **March 10, 2022**, we will hang the “Interpret This Photo” Show. The exhibit is restricted to AGL members only. There will be an entry fee of \$5 per entry and a People's Choice Ribbon will be awarded. You may enter up to five versions/interpretations of the photo.

Entries are not required to be related to the “Interpret This” photo, but we really are hoping that you will take the challenge, to “interpret this photo”...



## UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

### **Larry Downs - Color Your Life (Beginning Acrylics)**

Jan 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2022 (Thursdays) from 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Early Bird fee until Dec 22, 2021 - member \$60/nonmember \$75

Regular fee begins Dec 23, 2021 - member \$75/nonmember \$90

Workshop Coordinator: Barbara Andrepont – contact at 225.773.8020 or [bandrepont@bellsouth.net](mailto:bandrepont@bellsouth.net)

Larry's class will get you into using acrylics from the beginning in four 3-hour sessions – a lovely way to start 2022.

Larry takes you step by step through the tools and concept and application of basic acrylic painting. Learn and practice the various ways that acrylic can be used like watercolor, oils or abstract acrylic. He will also cover geometric shapes, values and use of additives to create textures. You will learn first by observing Larry doing demonstrations and then by hands on practice. Participants will end up with at least one completed painting.



### **Larry Downs - Creating Starts Here (Beginning Drawing)**

Feb 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2022 (Thursdays) from 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Early Bird fee thru Jan 19 - member \$60/nonmember \$75

Regular fee Jan 20 to Feb 2 - member \$75/nonmember \$90

Workshop Coordinator: Barbara Andrepont – contact at 225.773.8020 or [bandrepont@bellsouth.net](mailto:bandrepont@bellsouth.net)

Drawing provides shape for a good painting. A good drawing is a map, a plan, the cornerstone for a strong composition. In this class, you can hone your drawing skills regardless of your current skill level. Larry is a local artist/instructor who has conducted workshops at LSU in the Lagniappe program. He will cover the hows and whys of drawing, first through demonstrations, followed by hands on exercises and personal guidance. You will work from still life set ups arranged by Larry using direct lighting.



WE WISH YOU A

MERRY CHRISTMAS

&

A HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!



**Art Guild of Louisiana**  
PO Box 41115  
Baton Rouge, LA 70835



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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](mailto:newsletter@artguildlouisiana.org).

Send member information for the newsletter to [newsletter@artguildlouisiana.org](mailto:newsletter@artguildlouisiana.org) by the 10<sup>th</sup> of every other month : January, March, May, July, September, November.



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**"connect art and people"**