



News from the Palette

Art Guild of Louisiana

www.artguidlouisiana.org
agl@artguidlouisiana.org

June 2025

Be In the Know About AGL

As the Art Guild of Louisiana extends a hearty welcome to our 42 (as of the writing of this newsletter) new AGL members, we also thank our renewing members who have been a part of our past and we look forward to you all continuing to be part of our future. As some things change over the years, we invite all members to become familiar with all the tools/opportunities available to them as members of the AGL. The mission of the AGL:

To promote visual art and artists and to increase public appreciation and awareness by providing education and exhibition opportunities to artists of all proficiency levels.

With that mission in mind, as an all-volunteer organization, there are always opportunities to become involved in the AGL programs and events that continue to make us a thriving organization. We invite your active participation in making this organization a vibrant and exciting organization that you are proud to be involved in. Being actively involved increases the richness of membership in any organization.

The newsletter, *News from the Palette*, member emails, and the website www.artguidlouisiana.org are the heartbeat of all things AGL. Those are the communications that keep you updated on the latest happenings and what is upcoming, as well as schedule changes. Bi-monthly newsletter and weekly member emails keep upcoming events in your line of vision; member emails keep you informed of what is just ahead as well as alerting you to scheduling changes.

The AGL website is the place to go to find up-to-date detailed information and insight about the Guild program schedule: exhibits, workshops, open studios, and more. Below is a brief summary of each tab to help you find what you are looking for.

Calendar – You will find a complete guide to open studio dates/times/cancellations, specialized open studios like pastel and life drawing, workshop opportunities, upcoming exhibit dates/award receptions, and more. If you click on the blue text on any date, you can see more details about that event. It'

Newsletter – Is home to archived newsletters, making the latest published newsletter accessible to you as well as all past newsletters dating back to 2009.

Members – Is a list of all current members to date. Member names highlight in blue indicate the member has a website and if you click on the link it will take you directly to their website. What fun to explore fellow member's websites!

Contact – Allows anyone who visits the website to comment or ask a question about the Guild or any of our activities. An appropriate board member will respond directly to the person who contacted us. Use this opportunity to let us know whether or not the organization is meeting your expectations or needs, and to make suggestions for improvement.

Join and Benefits – is pretty self-explanatory. Join or renew AGL membership. Benefits is where you can find a brief explanation about each member benefits.

Workshops – Here you will find detailed information on all of the upcoming workshops that have been contracted at any given time; dates, times, and cost for each workshop along with the instructor, a description of the workshop, a materials list, and a contact person for each workshop.

Exhibits – For your convenience in planning paintings, we give you a list of scheduled exhibits for an entire year, including take-in/take-down times and dates and the award reception dates. By clicking on the blue exhibit titles or “more info” you can see the exhibit requirements and entry fees for that specific exhibit.

Galleries houses individual artist galleries for Guild members who choose to do so. The Guild provides a monthly photograph session for members. Once a member has had five paintings photographed by the volunteer Guild photographer a member gallery will be set up (unless the member chooses not to). A member can also submit their own photographs to set up a gallery, if the photograph meets specified standards.

River Road has the most current information related to the Guild’s only juried and judged annual national exhibit held every August-September, the River Road Show. Once each exhibit is over the winning artists and paintings are posted until the next years call for entry is announced.

By becoming a member of the Art Guild of Louisiana, you are investing in the legacy and the future of one of the oldest art organizations in the Baton Rouge area; providing support and artistic development for artists like yourself in our community since 1953. Be in the know! Explore the AGL website regularly to keep up with the most current updates.

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Thank you to everyone who submitted entries for our prestigious 55th Annual River Road Show. The response has been tremendous, and we will soon be receiving the acceptance list from juror Calvin Liang. I look forward to seeing his selections and meeting this living master at his August workshop. There are three spots left, so if you intend to register, don’t wait, it will fill up.

Thank you to everyone who entered our recent local exhibitions, and congratulations to all the winners! Our Exhibits Committee has been working hard to make these shows happen on a regular basis, and I would love to see more members submitting work in the future. Please consider sharing your art in these wonderful opportunities to showcase your talents.

I've been enjoying teaching some of our new Saturday workshops and facilitating others. We're receiving excellent feedback about both the morning and afternoon time slots, making art education more accessible to our members. If you're interested in teaching or have specific topics you'd like to learn, please let me know. We're committed to providing the art education our members want most.

Last, I'm excited to announce a new regular feature in our newsletter. The "President's Pick" section will highlight a stellar title from our Art Guild Art Library each month, offering insights into valuable resources available to members. We would also like to start recognizing our generous donors and the titles they contribute to our growing collection. If you drop off books, please leave your name with your contribution so we can recognize you and tell members of the new titles. These newsletter additions reflect our commitment to acknowledging both the resources and people that strengthen our artistic community.

- David Gary

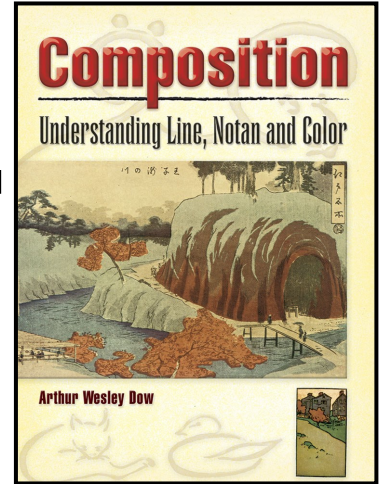


The AGL has an extensive art reference library housed at the Studio in the Park, covering a variety of painting and drawing media and subject matter. Books in the AGL library are available for members to check out and bring home temporarily. Or hang out during open studio thumbing through books of interest. Come see what treasures you can find!

President's Pick - Hidden Jewels in Our Guild Library

Composition: Understanding Line, Notan, and Color by Arthur Wesley Dow is now available in our Guild library— and I can't recommend it enough! Originally recommended to me by Lori Putnam, this book has been a game-changer for many in thinking about how we build our artwork from the ground up. Dow breaks composition down into three simple yet powerful elements—line, notan (light and dark), and color—and shows how each can be used to create more expressive and harmonious work.

What I love most is how approachable and timeless his ideas are. Originally published in 1920, this book is a deep-dive, not a picture flip book. Its content will help beginners and experienced artists alike as it is full of great exercises. I encourage you all to check it out next time you're at the studio. This one's an academic gem!



Take Time to Make Time: Thursdays – 10:00 am until noon

Have you taken Larry Downs' or some other instructor's workshop and still have unfinished color charts, practice sheets, and/or workshop paintings that you keep "planning" to work on, but just cannot seem to make time to do it?

Have you practiced brush strokes and worked at other important exercises commonly recommended by art instructor/art books? No? You are not alone! Karri Oakes faces the same challenges, but recently decided that it was time to "make time." And just like with physical exercise, partnering with like-minded people would strengthen her commitment.

So Karri is facilitating a small group of fellow members who are "making time" to meet at the Studio in the Park to hone their artistic skills. Karri invites other Guild members to bring your favorite morning beverage and join in.

The group will focus on a specific fundamental exercise or component of art development each month. The focus for the month of June is creating acrylic color charts. There is no preregistration and no fee to participate. Just show up with your materials: acrylic colors you want to chart, 9 x12 acrylic paper, plenty of white paint, a ruler, pencil, and brushes (a 1-inch flat works great for charting), a couple of palette knives, a mixing surface and lots of paper towels.

For information or questions contact: Karri Oaks 225-405-3988 (call or text) or karrilouwho@gmail.com

OUT AND ABOUT

Local award-winning artist Cheri Fry is known to many artists in and around Baton Rouge. She has been a member of AGL for many years and has taught several workshops as well as complimentary demonstrations in support of the Guild. We are happy to share that she and husband Chris Fry have built a lovely home in St. Francisville and recently became the proud owners of Saint Francisville Art House. Located at 11932 Ferdinand, previously known as the Backwoods Gallery, Art House is in the heart of historic St. Francisville. It is easily accessible and is within walking distance to shopping and dining.



The Saint Francisville Art House is a gallery, a teaching studio, a framing shop and will host paint parties and ongoing classes. Future plans include rotating exhibitions of regional and local artists. Exhibiting artists will be asked to offer a demonstration, a talk, or a workshop. They also plan to periodically offer wine and cheese events, along with listening room music.

Art House welcomes artists, art lovers, or anyone who needs a bit of art in their life. Although the website is still being developed, you can find them now on Facebook at Saint Francisville Art House, or email Cheri Fry for more information cherifry2222@gmail.com

MEMBER NEWS

Internationally acclaimed watercolor artist, long-time AGL member and past president **Judi Betts** was greatly honored to be selected this year as one of Louisiana Public Broadcasting's "Louisiana Legends" honorees.

The Baton Rouge Art League (BRAL) held their 71st Annual Art exhibit May 3-4, 2025 at the Rural Life Museum on the grounds of Burden Plantation. **Tracy Hebert's** colorful painting *Blue Crab* was selected for the BRAL Purchase Award during an evening of socializing and art appreciation. The highly anticipated annual exhibit/reception featured the art work (most of which was available for purchase) of 120 local and regional artists.



Emily Efferson, Norma Young, Tad Hardy, Leah Schwartzman, Anna Hingle all sold their paintings that were on exhibit at the very popular BRAL event.

Ann Warner is the guest artist at An Evening of Art, Journey, and Legacy, the summer show of the Kate Freeman Clark Art Gallery in Holly Springs, MS. Opening reception is on June 14, begins at 7:00 pm.

The Louisiana Watercolor Society's (LWS) 55 International Exhibit was open for public viewing at Place St. Charles in New Orleans from May 5-23, 2025. LWS welcomed internationally acclaimed watercolor artist David R. Smith AWS, NWS as juror and judge for the show. Congratulations to several AGL members who were accepted in the 2025 International: **Emily Efferson, Melanie Long, Kathy Stone, Tracy Hebert, Betty Gravois, Chryl Casso Corizzo, Harriet Mayeaux, Donna McGee, and Ellen Jenkins.**

Special congratulations go to **Tracy Hebert** whose painting *Gumball Kaleidoscope* won the Larry Casso Memorial Award and **Chryl Casso Corizzo** who won the Weimer Congemi Memorial Award with her painting *Tranquil Retreat*.



Note: We aspire to promote our members and acknowledge member accomplishments. It is not our intention to overlook the accomplishments of any member. If your name is not listed in our member news, it is because we have not been notified. We invite any member who would like to share good news about their artistic endeavors and accomplishments to email info to Leah Schwartzman at newsletter@artguildlouisiana.org.

EXHIBITS

Congratulations to **Sheri Blanchard** whose very fun acrylic painting *Eric* won the "People's Choice" Award at the Ode to Andy Warhol Exhibit.



Current Exhibit - Spring Judged Show

The Spring Judged Show opened to the public and Independence Park Theatre Gallery on May 8, 2025. The exhibit will be available for public viewing during regular business hours from Tuesday-Friday from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. through July 9, 2025.

Please join us for the presentation of \$325 in cash and ribbons at an awards reception Sunday, June 8, 2025 from 4:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. This is an open reception, so please invite your friends and family for an afternoon of art.

We will have a special program before awards are presented. Roberta Loflin, a long-time member and past president of AGL, has been teaching watercolor and acrylics in the Baton Rouge area for over 20 years. She will be giving a presentation on her experience and what she's learned about illustrating children's books. Roberta has illustrated two published children's books: *Red Beans and Rice* and *Alligator Stew*, both authored by Jeanette Weiland. She will have books available for participants to look at and see her illustration style/technique.

Exhibiting artists are encouraged to attend the reception and bring a finger food dish for the refreshment table.

Call for Entry - Member Workshop Show - July 10 - September 11

Ordinarily artwork completed in or during a workshop is not eligible to be entered into public exhibits. AGL prioritizes art education and believes it is important to provide artists the opportunity to showcase those fabulous workshop pieces of art also. We encourage artists to take advantage of this annual opportunity. Workshop pieces must comply with all general exhibit requirements except originality.

Artists are also invited to enter pieces that are not completed in a workshop/classroom setting. This is a non-juried exhibit and all non-workshop entries must meet all AGL exhibit requirements found at www.artguildlouisiana.org/exhibits.

The entry fee is \$10 for the first entry and \$5 for each additional entry. A "People's Choice" ribbon will be awarded, and a \$25 cash award will go to some lucky exhibiting artist in a random drawing. Exhibiting artists receive one "chance" in the random drawing for each painting entered; more paintings entered, more chances to win.

All art must be delivered to the Independence Park Theatre Gallery, 7800 Independence Park Boulevard, Baton Rouge, on July 10, 2025 between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. and must be picked up at the end of the show on September 11, 2025 between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. If you cannot pickup your art work on that date, please make prior arrangements for someone to pick it up.

Artists whose work is not picked up at the specified date/time at the end of the exhibit will be assessed a \$25 administrative/storage fee. A 20% commission goes to BREC on all sales.

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

Larry Downs: Drawing 3 - Putting It All Together

June 5, 12, 19, 26 (Thursdays), 3:00-6:00pm

\$75 members / \$90 nonmembers

Workshop Coordinator: Karri Oaks: karrilouwho@gmail.com or 225-405-3988

"Drawing 3" will pick up where "Drawing 2" left off. During the break between classes, students had the time to hone the skills they previously learned. Larry will build on those skills and give you the confidence to move forward. This class will work on producing works suitable for entering into shows. You do not have to have taken Drawing 1 and 2 but you do need to be proficient in drawing.



Roberta Loflin: Watercolor Basics - Focus on Perspective with City Scenes

June 7, 14, 21, 28 (Saturdays), 9:30am - noon

\$75 members / \$90 nonmembers

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

In this class, you will work on city scenes of your choice, finding the focal point and ensuring that everything comes together. You'll need to bring photos of your favorite city scenes. Come spend Saturday mornings with Roberta, working on your watercolor skills. This class welcomes beginners!

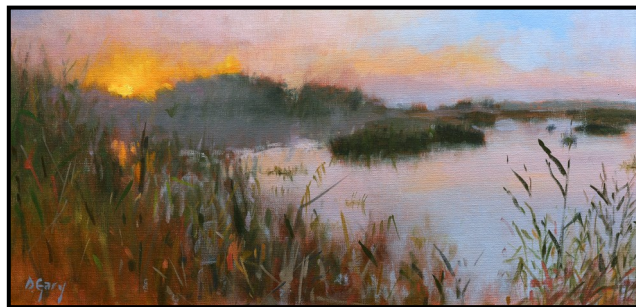


David Gary – Oil Painting: Beyond the Basics

July 12 (Saturday), 1:00–5:30 pm

\$65 members / \$75 nonmembers

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



Join instructor David Gary as you delve into what “makes a good painting a good painting” and learn to put these tenets into practice in your own painting. Students will watch a demo/presentation and then follow along, painting a shared photo subject. We will be provided with a “Big 5 Cheatsheet” and keep ourselves on track with the “Big 5” as we progress through our painting, constantly making sure we maintain these elements of success from start to finish. Participants will learn to implement strong fundamentals and incorporate these more advanced thoughts to build a quality composition and take home strong guidance for implementing into their own work.

Roberta Loflin: Watercolor Basics – Focus on Waterscapes

July 12, 19, 26, Aug 2 (Saturdays), 9:30am - noon

Early Bird fee thru June 26: \$60 members / \$75 nonmembers

Regular fee begins June 27: \$75 members / \$90 nonmembers

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



Everyone loves to paint a water scene! Come learn to paint cool scenes of water with watercolor, in the midst of summer's heat. Bring photos of your favorite wet places. This class welcomes beginners!

Nanci Charpentier and David Gary – Introduction to Gouache Painting

August 9 (Saturday), 1:00–5:30 pm

\$65 members / \$75 nonmembers

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

Join Art Guild of Louisiana artists, Nanci Charpentier and David Gary, for a demo and “paint along,” leaving this workshop with your finished painting. This class is ideal for anyone curious and wanting to learn to paint with gouache and create colorful, fun, contemporary still life and landscape paintings.

Gouache is an often-misunderstood painting medium, with qualities like both watercolor and acrylic. Its quick-drying nature allows for layering, making it perfect for both precise detailing and expressive brushwork as well as resulting in beautiful flat and matte-like tones that are characteristic only to gouache.

With our small class size and expert guidance, you'll be taken step-by-step through the gouache painting process.



Calvin Liang: Brushwork and Design – From Photo to Fantastic Finish – Oil/Acrylic

August 14 – 16 (Thursday – Saturday), 9:00am – 4:00pm

Early Bird fee thru June 23: \$575 members / \$600 nonmembers

Regular fee begins June 24: \$600 members / \$625 nonmembers

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

Skill Level: Intermediate to Advanced. **Only 4 seats still available.**

We are excited that Master artist Calvin Liang is the juror/judge for the 55th River Road show, a national art competition sponsored by AGL in August and September 2025. In conjunction with the River Road Show, Calvin will be presenting a 3-day workshop at the Studio in the Park, 2490 Silverest, Baton Rouge. World-class art instruction at your doorstep!



Born in Canton, China, Calvin currently is a resident of Corona, CA. After leaving his animation career with Disney in 2001 to become a full-time fine artist, Calvin went on to win many prestigious awards. He is a Master member of the Oil Painters of America and the American Impressionist Society. Calvin also holds signature membership in California Art Club, Laguna Plein Air Painters Association, and the American Society of Marine Artists.

The time will be spent working on a single studio painting based on photos you have taken on location. Calvin will begin with a slideshow to show how he uses the photo as a reference for the painting, then a demo followed by spending individual time with each student as they work on their own painting. The lessons focused on in the workshop will include: planning an effective composition; use of warm/cool colors in landscapes; creating space with hard/soft edges; why use different paint textures/brushstrokes; and getting good results in a short time.

Roberta Loflin: Watercolor Basics – Focus on Composition

September 6, 13, 20, 27 (Saturdays), 9:30am – noon

Early Bird fee thru August 20: \$60 members / \$75 nonmembers

Regular fee begins August 21: \$75 members / \$90 nonmembers

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

When creating paintings from photos, you shouldn't try to paint everything. In this class, Roberta will teach you to focus on the qualities, simple shapes and contrasts that will create a pleasing composition. You will learn how to take the information from a ho-hum snapshot and transform it into an impressive work of art. This class welcomes beginners!



Claudine Diamond: Abstract Composition and Grid Journaling Workshop

October 4 (Saturday), 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Early Bird fee thru September 12: \$75 members / \$85 nonmembers

Regular fee begins September 13: \$100 members / \$110 nonmembers

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

Have you ever wondered how in the world artists come up with successful abstract paintings? When Claudine started painting abstract, she sure did. She found good instruction online that helped her out and she would like to bring some of that knowledge to you. You will learn about and practice the 12 different abstract compositions using a limited palette of paint that you choose: four colors plus black and white. Grid Journaling is a way for you to practice so many different things such as color studies, composition studies and to find out what marks you like to use best. Claudine has used her Grid Journals to help her abstract commission clients tell her what they like so that when she starts on their project, she has those elements in her head and can make something her collector truly loves. Grid Journaling is a valuable practice for all artists!



Roberta Loflin: Watercolor Basics – Focus on Painting the Time of Day

October 11, 18, 25, Nov 1 (Saturdays), 9:30am – noon

Early Bird fee thru September 24: \$60 members / \$75 nonmembers

Regular fee begins September 25: \$75 members / \$90 nonmembers

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

With subtle changes of color and values we can create the illusion of different times of day. Come learn how to paint the time of day in watercolors with Roberta! This class welcomes beginners.



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