The 49th Annual River Road Show has come and gone for 2018… another beautifully successful national exhibit celebrated and prizes awarded. AGL is very proud to have had over 400 entries from across the United States from which the judge, Iain Stewart, chose the final 70 exhibited art works.

Over $4,000 dollars in cash and prizes were awarded to the winning artists at the popular awards reception which was held on September 20, 2018 and was attended by well over 150 artists, patrons and art enthusiasts. To date, five of the exhibiting artists sold their fabulous art pieces featured in the exhibit.

Congratulations to the following award-winning artists!!

1st Place – “Mexican Morning Market,” mixed media by Judi Betts; Baton Rouge, LA
2nd Place – “Yes, They Roared,” oil by William Schneider; Ill
3rd Place – “Nature Worship,” oil by Carlos Setti, New Orleans, LA

Honorable Mentions: “Paige From Life,” pastel by Carol Peebles, New Orleans, LA; “Cotton, Wool and Tin,” watercolor by Cindy Brabec-King, CO; “Bales and Barnes,” oil by Donna Bland, TX; Bonjour Louisiana,” watercolor by Monica Bishara, Baton Rouge, LA

The planning has begun for the 50th Annual River Road Show to be held in August of 2019. Yes, AUGUST 2019, we will be celebrating the Golden Anniversary of the River Road Show. So, mark your calendars and I hope you will all join us again in 2019 to celebrate the benchmark event!!

Ponderings from the President

As I sit placidly staring out the front door, the weatherman is talking about it being the first day of fall….humph I think, Mother Nature hasn’t looked at the calendar for the temperatures are still in the high 90’s. Don’t get me wrong, I find the cold damp days of winter to be insufferable. But, I find solace in the transitional days of fall. For me the fall has a certain crispness in the air and the withered, laziness of the “dog days” of summer gives way to an invigorating inner stirring that makes me want to get out and enjoy the day…morning coffee in porch swing, an afternoon road trip…just because…or an evening walk in the neighborhood.

For artists, it is the perfect temperate time of year (perhaps second only to spring) to pack up your gear and head out for a little plein air painting/sketching, whether it is on your own front porch or backyard, or a drive to a neighboring community or a park with a group of like-minded friends. South Louisiana may be known as the "Sportsman’s Paradise" but it is certainly an “artist’s paradise” as well and as artists we don’t have to go “hunting” for it. Artistic views surround us every day.

I recently spent 3 days in a watercolor workshop with Iain Stewart while he was in Baton Rouge to judge the River Road Show. Iain is an avid plein air painter/sketcher. He quickly tells you there is no need to go to fabulous destinations to create sketch books that can translate to fabulous paintings. He says “The great outdoors will teach you everything you need to know about composition, editing, drawing from memory and the dreaded perspective. I keep a sketchbook in anything I carry, drive or pedal.”

Later in this newsletter you will find information about a couple of local plein air groups that get together on different days of the week. Both are friendly and inviting groups and all you have do to participate with either is just show up. Happy painting!!

“When inspiration doesn’t come, I go halfway to meet it.” ~Freud
**AGL BOARD ELECTION**

As published in the August newsletter, the period for Board nominations for the position of President and Secretary on the AGL Board opened August 1 and closed September 4th. Leah Schwartzman accepted a nomination for a second term as President, and Emily Efferson accepted the nomination for Secretary. In accordance with the AGL Bylaws the Board approved the uncontested nominations as the officers for the upcoming 2019-2020 term. We welcome Emily as a new Board member beginning January 2019 and anticipate adding three new Members at Large to the board in the coming year.

Board Members at Large do not have a specific list of responsibilities. Members at Large may have various responsibilities or projects during their appointed term. They serve at the leisure of the Board to meet the needs of the Board and as a liaison for member interests; therefore, being somewhat flexible and tailored to the appointee. Members at Large are expected to attend monthly Board meetings, currently held on the third Thursday of the month, 1:30—3:30pm. Interested members should contact any of the current Board members.

**ART OPPORTUNITIES**

**1st Annual AGL Art Sale and Krawl  October 13 ... 9:00am – 1:00pm**

AGL members will hold an art trunk/tent sale in the parking lot at the Independence Park Theatre, 7800 Independence Park Boulevard in Baton Rouge, October 13, 2108 from 9:00am—1:00pm.

AGL members who are interested in participating as a vendor can get the details and register at www.artguildlouisiana.org/events/art-trunk-tent-sale. We have had a good response for this event and in order to give members a little more time we decided to take registration right up until October 12. So, get that art work ready and come have some fun with fellow members.

We are working toward also having a food truck on the premises but have not yet confirmed. Come by and check out original art work, priced right for the holidays. Be sure to share the event with your friends, family, neighbors and coworkers.

Just in time for the holidays!! Original art makes great gifts!!
Baton Rouge Urbansketchers

The Baton Rouge Urbansketchers recently received official confirmation of membership from the global organization. This is good news. The Baton Rouge group has successfully navigated all the hurdles to become a regional chapter. Usk Baton Rouge is an “open” group of artists, (anyone can participate) that get together once a month to do plein air painting/sketching around town. An advance schedule of locations is posted on Facebook.

The next event for Usk Baton Rouge is Oct 20th at the Red Stick Farmers Market located at 5th and Main downtown Baton Rouge. The meet up time is 9 am. It should be a good opportunity to sketch a market with vendors and customers plus fruits, vegetables. If you can’t find the group at the Market call Bill at the market or for more information about the group call Bill at (225)590-2778.

Baton Rouge Plein Air

Another local plein air group, facilitated by AGL member and local artist David Gary, is Baton Rouge Plein Air. The group convenes every Thursday morning from 8:00 to 11:00. At 11:00, the group has a friendly critique sessions on the work done that morning, for any of the group who choose to participate. David encourages artists of all mediums and skill levels to participate in their weekly adventures to practice art in the great outdoors...just show up. The group meets every week, rain or shine. On days of inclement weather they meet at an indoors location and sometimes watch a video.

The location for each week is posted by the previous Tuesday on their Facebook page www.facebook.com/batonrougepleinair. For questions or further details about the group and their schedule contact David Gary at (225)252-8384.

Final Thursday Open Studio Session for 2018 --- October 4, 2018

For the past two summers AGL, has taken advantage of the daylight savings hours by offering an additional Open Studio session on Thursdays from 4:00 to 8:00pm. We have had a good response to this extra session which has allowed additional opportunity for members who cannot take advantage of the week day open studio. However, our days are beginning to shorten, so it is with sadness that we will be ending the Thursday evening session for this year. The final Thursday open studio will be this coming Thursday, October 4, 2018. We thank Kay Bailey, who suggested Thursday sessions and has volunteered her time to make them happen. So, till next year.....

MEMBER NEWS

AGL member, Judi Betts, has been a very busy artist over the summer months. She has been traveling about sharing her fabulous art work far and wide. She spent the last two weeks of July in Fairbanks, Alaska where she taught a workshop on watercolor portraits and figures in the landscape at the University of Alaska as part of the Summer Music and Arts Festival. Judi says “It is a huge event with over 100 instructors and participants from all of the 48 states...we attended fabulous concerts.”

And while that was going on in Alaska, her watercolor painting of sailboats, “It’s A Breeze,” was an award winner at the Qingdao Laotian Museum in Qingday, China, also in July.
Another watercolor painting by Judi, “Harbor Town” won the Oregon international Port of Coos Bay Award at the 25th Annual Maritime Art Exhibition in Coos Bay, Oregon this summer.

EXHIBITS

Young Louisiana Artists Exhibit

The Young Louisiana Artists exhibit is open at the Independence Park Theatre Gallery to November 8, 2018. The Young Louisiana Artists are a group of children ages 7 – 8 that recently took classes with artist/instructor Heather Ricard at the Studio in the Park. The exhibit will be open to the public during regular business hours Monday – Friday; 10:00 – 5:00.

A reception and art demonstration will be held on Sunday, October 7, 2018 from 2:00 – 4:00pm. AGL member Bing Zheng will demonstrate his method for creating beautiful, colorful watercolor paintings. Bing often comes by Studio in the Park during open studio and each visit he leaves with a beautiful completed watercolor. This was Bing’s first year to enter the River Road show and his art piece “Colors of Fall” was accepted as one of the final 70 on exhibit. We are excited to have Bing share his technique for producing his wonderful paintings with us.

Recently Bing has been surprising some of the open studio attendees by quietly and secretly painting a watercolor portrait of them as they are working on their own art piece.

Call for Art ----- Winter Judged Show

The Art Guild of Louisiana is calling for art for the Winter Judged Show, to be held at the Independence Park Theater Gallery from November 8, 2018 to January 10, 2019. The show is open to members and nonmembers. The hanging fee is $10 per painting.

This is a non-juried show, however, all artwork must meet the AGL exhibit requirements; available at www.artguildlouisiana.org/winter-judged-show-2018/. Artists must bring entries that meet the AGL exhibit requirements, to the Independence Park Theater on November 8, 2018, between 11:00 am and 1:00pm. The judge for the Winter Judged Show, is Rebecca Kreisler. Rebecca received a Bachelors of Fine Art at University of Georgia and her Masters in Fine Art from LSU in printmaking and is currently an adjunct professor at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

An artist’s award reception will be held at Independence Park Theater on November 25, 2018 from 2:00-4:00pm when AGL will present a total of $400 in cash awards to the winners plus two Honorable Mention ribbons. There will be snacks and refreshments. So, save the date and invite your family and friends!

Exhibiting artists must pick up their art work on January 10, 2019, between 11:00am – 1:00pm. Art work not picked up at that time is subject to a $25.00 storage/transport fee.
**Summer Judged Show Winners**
The AGL Summer Judged Show, was held at the Louisiana State Archives throughout the month of August and the awards reception on August 16, 2018. The show featured 56 pieces of art from 32 artists from Baton Rouge and the surrounding area. It was an excellent exhibit that included a wide array of mediums, subject matter and techniques. The judge Rodneya Hart, selected the following award winning artists and art works:

1st Place – Sydney McGraw for “Parade Ground” – oil, pen & acrylic
2nd Place – Elizabeth (Betty) Gravois – for “Dune Shadows” – watercolor
3rd Place – Bing Zheng – for “Angel” - pastel

Honorable mention: Thienj-Kien Lam for “Aurelia Aurita II” - pochoir
Marge Campane – for “Spent Blooms” - graphite

**RECENT WORKSHOPS**

Iain Stewart — Sketchbook to Studio Watercolor
Iain Stewart, the River Road judge for this year, conducted a 3-day workshop titled “Sketchbook to Studio.” Iain’s relaxed and personal style of teaching immediately put everyone at ease so they could enjoy the painting process. Several talented artists in the class commented to me about several things they learned in the workshop. There was a good balance of demonstration by Iain and a lot of hands on painting for the participants with Iain close at hand to offer guidance. Here is just a few of the tips from Iain:

- the sketchbook is the artist’s most important tool... there is no better way to improve your work than by taking time to observe and record life
- if you aren’t messing up a few paintings you are not challenging yourself
- don’t put pressure on yourself to always perform ... take time to just play...
- a good drawing can carry a poorly executed painting, however, the opposite is rarely ever true...plan...plan...plan through sketches
UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

Robert Loflin – Shape Up! - Watermedia
Mondays, November 5 – November 26; from 9:30am – Noon
Early Bird Registration till October 22: $60 members/ $75 nonmembers
Regular Fee: $70 members/ $90 nonmembers
Workshop Coordinator: Barbara Andrepont, bandrepont@bellsouth.net or 225-773-8020

This class will focus on using basic shapes and values to design an interesting composition and to draw attention to your center of interest. Roberta will present daily demonstrations and personal critiques. Participants should bring personal photographs to work from.

Kathy Stone – Incorporating Gold in Watercolor
Thursday & Friday, November 1-2, from 9:00am – 3:00pm
Early Bird Registration until October 11, 2018 $100 AGL members/ $125 nonmembers
Regular Registration Fee: $125 AGL members/ $150 nonmembers
To register, contact Trish Poynot at grannytrishp@yahoo.com or (225) 756-6635

Don't miss this fun and exciting two day workshop. Using gold leaf, gold watercolor paint or metallic gold gesso can bring added light and dimension to a painting … if it is done well. Kathy has done the research on using this versatile medium and as always, is anxious to share her tips and techniques. Kathy will share tips for painting gold objects using ordinary watercolor, as well as, demonstrate some products like gold gesso and gold watercolor paint. Students will each receive a small 1 oz. sample size of gold gesso to try out, included as part of the tuition. Students may bring in older paintings to embellish or create new designs during the workshop.

Bill Farnsworth – “The Value of Three Values – Oils”
Monday – Wednesday, October 15-17, from 9:00am to 4:00pm
Registration Fee - $325 AGL members / $375 nonmembers **
To register, contact Kay Bailey at baileykay7850@gmail.com or 225-933-6008.
**NOTE: This is a change in registration fee in previous promotions.

“The light is what makes something [paintings] very special or just forgettable.” says Bill Farnsworth. Award winning oil painter Bill Farnsworth brings his 30+ years of experience from Florida to Baton Rouge in a workshop. Value, one of the seven elements of art is what makes us see what we see; the lightness and darkness of a object is what makes it visible… or not. "The Value of 3 Values" addresses this significant element. Bill and workshop participants will paint together as he demonstrates his winning techniques of bringing that "light" and "life" to paintings.
Cheri Fry - “The Atmospheric Touch of Watercolor”
January 25-27, 2019; from 9:00-4:00 on Friday & Saturday and 1:00 – 4:00 on Sunday
(NOTE: The studio will be open 9:00am on Sunday for students who wish to continue work assignments or work on their own.)
Early Bird Fee: Until January 7, 2019: $200 members/ $250 nonmembers
Regular Fee: $250 members/ $300 nonmembers
To register contact Barbara Andrepont, at bandrepont@bellsouth.com or 225.773.8020

Capturing the atmospheric conditions of light and fog, creating a misty air of intrigue will be the focus of this workshop. Cheri will present several techniques for rendering the mist of early morning over water, fields, and cityscapes. Her fun, lively, informative workshops keep artist’s paintbrushes busy throughout the three days. Painting studies of this subject matter provide artists an opportunity to observe and practice techniques; artists are encouraged to bring their own references from which to work.
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 at newsletter@artguildlouisiana.org by the 10th of every other month.

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”.

October 2018