

NEWS from the PALETTE



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April 2017

Kim Santini - Interviewed by Trish Poynot

Sometimes, the best place to begin is *the end rather than the beginning*. Such is the case here.... It would be Kim's response to my (almost) last question, "Is there anything else that you'd like to add?" Kim answered that if anyone is interested in a workshop and thinking about taking it, then they should talk to someone who has taken a workshop under that instructor-artist, ask questions about the instructor-artist, how he or she teaches, what they learned or got out of the workshop—and *I would add*—if they'd take another workshop by that artist. Kim says she prides herself on being approachable, articulate and able to make everyone comfortable enough to ask for help or to ask any questions or whatever. She loves to teach, and strives to bring all workshop attendees closer to their personal artistic goals. (*I don't know about you, but I could surely enjoy studying and learning under such a teacher/instructor!*)

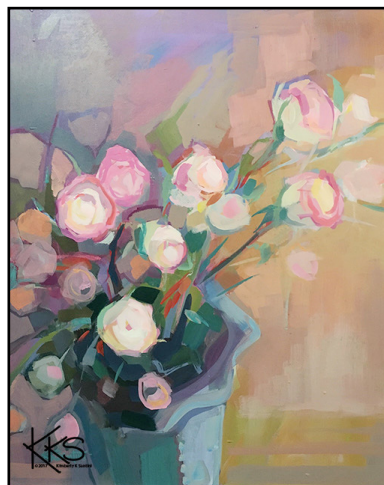


Kim did her undergraduate studies at Michigan State University, and pursued an MFA at Cal State in Los Angeles. It is of interest to note that Kim wrote and published a children's book about color, titled A Dog Named Blue along with several other titles chronicling her ongoing journey as a daily painter. Kim blogs (www.paintingadogaday.com) with a feed and posts additional information, including in-process jpgs and related info, on her studio Facebook page (Kimberly Kelly Santini).

I had to laugh when I learned that Kim's first "real job" was writing owner's manuals for cars! Can you imagine? Her next job, though, was working at a fine art auction house as an administrator, doing appraisals, taking care of consignments and doing auctions—the great thing about this job was spending all day, every day around beautiful objects! A dream come true!

From a child, Kim knew that she loved art and expected to be an artist when she grew up. She simply didn't take the most direct path, working conventional jobs in the real world for a dozen years first. There was serious reflection upon the birth of their third child, and with the support of her husband, Kim quit her job to be a full time parent. She began painting again during children's naps, working at the kitchen table. Before long Kim had gallery representative and was well on her way to her professional art career! I said "wow" to her progress, to which she responded that she'd been in the right place at the right time with people who helped!

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Kim Santini Interview Continued

Now a full-time artist who paints faithfully every day, Kim also loves to teach those who aspire to create art. Her favorite medium is acrylics and she does a bit of mixed media in her journals. Her favorite artist currently—it changes depending upon what technique or subject she is pursuing—is John Singer Sargent, mainly due to her fascination with his brushwork, and the difference between what his paintings look like at a distance and up close. Kim loves studying the Old Masters, but would be hard-put to name a favorite, or one in particular who inspired her above the others. She just loves a whole “army” of artists!

Kim’s go-to subjects to paint (right now) are florals and animals, with some figurative and a few commissions. Her commissioned work in particular results from partnerships or collaborations with her clients. She has no one particular color favorite, but tends to utilize one color more than another for a while—at which time she purposely changes to another color. One of Kim’s goals in creating art is that people see or get joy from it. Her success as an artist has come from “showing-up every day” to paint, no excuses; studying other artists, reading and educating herself; treating her studio as a business from the beginning, and asking for help whenever it was needed. She paints every day, about ten hours every week day, and six to eight hours on weekends. And that is her best advice for aspiring artists: show up, be dedicated and willing to do the work; hone professional business skills and create a market for your work, and be fair in pricing your artwork. Kim loves to share bits of advice and helpful tips with her students and others.



If Kim goes on vacation, when she gets home, she really appreciates slowing down, relaxing spending time with her kids, and taking personal time before starting back in to painting. She doesn’t do TV at all or movies very often, so she didn’t have a favorite movie, but prefers either to read or write or listen to music. However, recently Kim did see *The Woman in Gold*, and said it was excellent. She has no one favorite spot at home in Lake Orion, but loves the outdoors (when it’s not winter!), hiking nearby trails, going fishing, swimming or camping—which they did lots and lots when the kids were young.

Kim’s biggest problem about where she lives and about life in general is: TIME—not enough of it!

Ponderings from the President

Ahhhhh ... Spring is upon us! I love the spring! Everything seems so much brighter and more colorful...the skies seem bluer and the clouds fluffier. In spite of the pollen woes it brings to the thousands of us allergy-sufferers, I love to see everything coming to life after the winter—what little of it we’ve had this this year.

During this time of new beginnings, the Louisiana Art & Artists’ Guild looks forward to a new beginning, a new chapter of hopes, creativity and enthusiasm as the “Art Guild of Louisiana”. We have established our new identity, completed the design of a new logo and are working fervently on our new website. The new logo was unveiled, a sort of “sneak peek”, at the recent Member Meeting on March 5. We hope to transition over to the new look of the Art Guild of Louisiana fully in the next couple of months.

Among the many blooming flowers and bright sunny days giving forth life anew after the somber winter months, there is also sadness here as we grieve the passing of two of our fellow member artists.

Our condolences to the family of Denice Ducote who recently lost her battle with cancer. A friend and smiling

face that will be missed by all of the members who knew her from the Guild as well as many, many, more friends everywhere. Denice never met a stranger—she made friends wherever she went. She was a talented painter and although she has left us, she now has the most beautiful landscapes of all to paint—and you do know that she is up there painting, right?! We want to thank her family for the art supplies and art book donations they made to the Guild on Denice's behalf.

We also extend condolences to the family of Carol Davis, who was a close personal friend. She always smiled and had a good word to say to everyone. She was enthusiastic about life. I introduced Carol to the Guild 3-4 years ago, and although her illness kept her from getting out much, she always said how lucky she was to have found the Guild. She especially enjoyed our Christmas parties. Our thanks also to Carol's spouse who generously donated her art supplies and art instruction books to the Guild.

So now, with the wind at our backs and the sunshine warming our faces ... go out and paint, paint, paint! Creating provides fun, relaxation, healing and appreciation for the beauty in this world. I do hope I have a chance to meet each and every one of you at some of our many Guild activities and open studios.

Share Your Joy - Show Your Art!

Leah Schwartzman
LAAG President

Members Meeting

The Board extends a heartfelt appreciation to those members who braved the weather on March 5 to attend the first Members Meeting of 2017. We certainly tried to make it worth their trip!

We had an array of snacks and beverages, news to share and ample time to visit with fellow artists and establish some new relationships. Cheers! Go to Jeanette Eckert, Suzanne Antoon and Karen Coffman—they were the three lucky winners of door prizes.

There was a very nice selection of new and used art supplies donated by Guild members: oils, watercolors, brushes, canvases, storage bins, instruction books—and much more to choose from—for our members who were affected by the flood. Cheryl Hoyt was one of those who received supplies ... in a very nice Thank You note, Cheryl wrote, *"Thank you for all the help you give me and for all the donated art supplies. I am very blessed to have support and friends like all of you."* Cheryl, we are more than happy to have you painting with us!

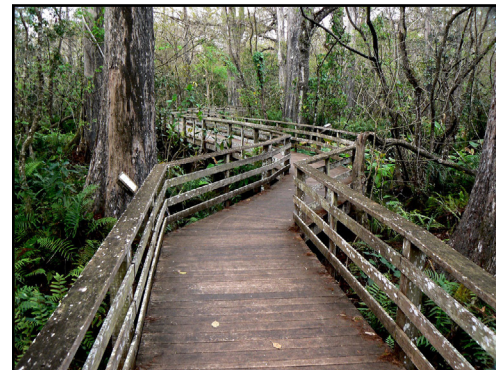
The highlight of the meeting was the unveiling of the organization's new logo and name: *Art Guild of Louisiana*. The final phase of transitioning to our new identity as the Art Guild of Louisiana is the completion of constructing the

new website. Work has been ongoing, and if all goes well, we hope to have it completed in the next couple of months.



Artists' Field Days at Bluebonnet Swamp

Bluebonnet Swamp is sponsoring two Field Days and is inviting interested artists to come out to their site for a day of plein air painting! These Field Days are meant to encourage artists and photographers to participate in any of the Swamp Art Shows. Artists are invited to come out and visit the Swamp free of charge for a day of inspiration.



The first Field Day is the 8th of April from 9:00am – 5:00pm. There will be a second one later in the year on the 18th of November. Thus, a unique seasonal perspective of the Swamp can be had by artists and photographers looking to paint on site, come shoot photography, or walk to look for a motivational connection. Please note you must bring all of your own supplies. These days are regular business days for the Swamp and will be open to the public. So of course, there will be folks walking about the site to view all the different “art-in-progress”.

Several Guild members are already making plans to meet in the lobby at Bluebonnet Swamp around 10:00am. If you would like to meet up with our group before heading out into the swamp to create art, please contact Leah Schwartzman at jleahschwartz@gmail.com.

A New Open Studio Opportunity

Beginning April 13, the Louisiana Art & Artists' Guild will host an additional Open Studio opportunity for members who would like to network and/or paint with other members. The new Open Studio hours will be on Thursdays from 4:00pm – 8:00pm.



This new Open Studio is being offered in response to comments from members who are not able to participate in the current Open Studio times. The longevity of the additional Open Studio will depend upon the response/participation.

Kay Bailey will be the primary coordinator for the Thursday evening Open Studios and may be contacted at baileykay7850@gmail.com.

Art Supplies – Available Immediately

All of the remaining art supply items on the tables at the Studio in the Park are available for “purchase” during any Open Studio time ... see something you want!? Make an \$\$ offer ... all reasonable offers will be accepted. Supplies include paints, sketch pads, markers, brushes, storage bins, mats, frames, reuseable canvases, pencil colors, and more.



Arts In Medicine – Presentation/Tour

The Baton Rouge General “Arts in Medicine” Program has invited members of Louisiana Art & Artists’ Guild to participate in a presentation about the Arts in Medicine Program, and tour of the Arts Café. The Arts Café is an exhibit of 50+ pieces of art exhibited in the cafeteria at Baton Rouge General. The exhibit is open to anyone in the community and is a juried exhibit. After the presentation and tour of the Art Café we will return to the conference room where we will have a complimentary lunch provided by the Baton Rouge General Foundation. After lunch there will be a “behind the scenes” tour of the hospital and a peek into the services they provide.

Don’t miss out on this fun and informative program! The date of the presentation/tour is May 8 with seating limited to 20 participants. The deadline date to reserve your seat to participate in this informative and interesting program is April 28. To register, contact Leah Schwartzman at jleahschwartz@gmail.com.

Arts In Medicine – Baton Rouge General

Louisiana Art & Artists’ Guild members Patrice Brewer and Patti Bailey are very actively involved with the Arts in Medicine Program at the Baton Rouge General Hospital – Bluebonnet, and the coordination of the art exhibit in the Arts Café Gallery located in the hospital cafeteria. They have asked us to share their 2nd Call for Art with our members:

[Call for Art!](#)

Arts in Medicine is pleased to announce the second “Call for Art” for the Baton Rouge General Café Gallery, an art exhibit and gallery located in the cafeteria on the Bluebonnet campus. With guidance and direction from the Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge, the Louisiana Art & Artists’ Guild, and Associated Women in the Arts, Baton Rouge General’s Arts in Medicine seeks artwork that demonstrates the theme: Show Us Louisiana! Food, culture, music, sports, landscape, etc.

[Dates:](#) Entries accepted March 1-April 15. Selections and notifications to be made by April 21. Art must be brought to the Arts in Medicine office (Entrance 3) April 24-28, to be hung May 1-5. If you are currently displaying with us and would like to continue, please let us know. A reception for the second exhibit will be announced soon.

[Medium:](#) Original or giclée; oil, acrylic, watercolor, pastels, charcoal, collage, ink, photography. All work must be 2-dimensional.

[Size:](#) Ranging from 5”x 5” to 48”x 48”

[Framing/mounting:](#) Gallery wrap or simple wooden frame, not to exceed 1-1/2 inches in thickness. Mats must be neutral in color. For any work exceeding 25 inches and requiring glass, plexiglass is recommended. All pieces must be able to receive a locking system for installation. NO hooks and wires please. They will be removed and discarded.

[How to submit:](#) Email artsinmedicine@brgeneral.org with name, address, phone number, title, medium, size of piece (unframed and framed), and attach a 300 dpi jpg of the piece.

[Additional details:](#) Each selected artist must sign our Artist Agreement and read and acknowledge BRG’s art policy. You must provide an artist bio and description of your piece for publicity and price. *(We suggest all pricing be fair and appropriate. We would like for your art to sell! The clientele who rotate through this space will range from every imaginable walk of life and income bracket.)* BRG AIM will retain 30% of all art sales, with all proceeds going directly back into the program.

Invitation To Paint Out – St. Joseph Abbey (Degas Pastel Society)

Betty Efferson, Louisiana Art & Artists' Guild member, is also an active member in the Degas Pastel Society. She would like to share the following information about an upcoming Paint Out opportunity, open to pastel artists and non-pastel artists:

Friday, April 21, 2017

St. Joseph Abbey

75376 River Rd., Saint Benedict, LA 70457

9:00am – Meet & Greet at Abbey Art Works

On the grounds of St. Joseph Abbey

Mary Monk Plein Air Demo starts at 10 AM

Free Admission – Bring a friend and future DPS Member

St. Joseph Abbey is located just a few miles north of Covington, LA. For directions, call Abbey Art Works at 985-789-6889 or go to www.paintpaletteandbrush.com.

Mary Monk has been an award winning professional artist for over twenty years. Her primary medium is pastel and she is mostly known for her country/urban landscapes. No matter the subject, mood and light are always the true focus of her paintings. Her choices of color and subject matter are heavily influenced by growing up in the city and moving to the country to raise her family. The transition of urban to country sparked an infinite pool of inspiration for the artist. The majority of her paintings are done en plein air. Monk is represented by LeMieux Gallery in New Orleans, Louisiana, Rita Durio & Associates in New Iberia, Louisiana and Merchiston Hall Gallery in Biloxi, Mississippi.

Coffee and pastries will be served at the Meet & Greet.

Lunch will be available to order from Springs of Life Café.

After the demo, participants can paint on the beautiful grounds of the St. Joseph Abbey. For those interested, a monk will give a tour of the Abby Church and Monks Refectory including the murals for which the Abbey is famous.

Brush With Burden

The annual Brush with Burden Art Exhibition opened on March 11 and hung through March 19 at the Ione Burden Conference Center and Steele Burden Memorial Orangerie. The exhibition included three-dimensional as well as two-dimensional pieces ... ceramics, cast bronze, soft sculpture, paintings of various media and photography. We want to congratulate the members of the Guild who were juried into the exhibit, many of whom sold the art pieces they had in the exhibit.

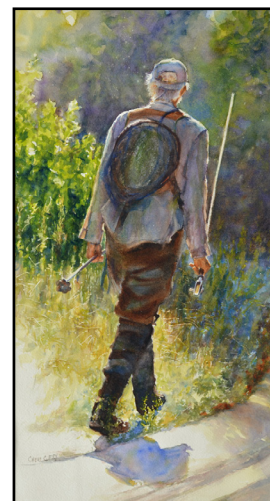
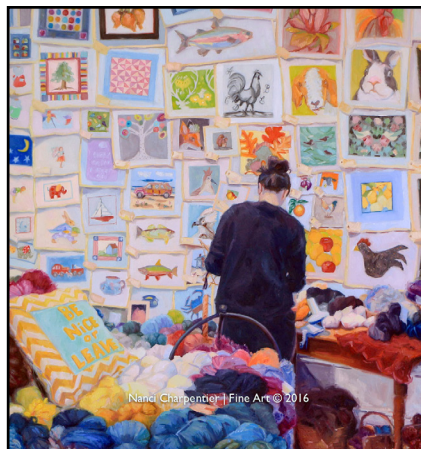
Congratulations to our Guild members who won awards as follows:

2nd Place – Nanci Charpentier – *Be Nice or Leave*

Merit Award – Cheri Fry – *Gone Fishing*

Honorable Mention – Cheri Fry – *Geranium Spiral*

If you missed the exhibit at the Burden Center, you can view all of the award-winning artworks during the month of April at the Shaw Center for the Arts.



Spring Judged Show

The Spring Judged Show at Independence Park Theatre was installed on March 2. There are 19 paintings of various mediums in the show. We were honored to have Louisiana artist Carol Hallock to be the judge for this exhibit.

The exhibit is open to the public, free of admission, Tuesday thru Friday, from 10:00 – 5:00pm until May 11, at the Independence Park Gallery, located at 7800 Independence Blvd in Baton Rouge.

Congratulations to the following artists whose painting were selected for awards by Carol Hallock:

- 1st Place – Cheri Fry – *Festival Shopper*
- 2nd Place – Larry Downs – *Family Outing*
- 3rd Place – Jo McWilliams – *Chiquepin 2*

Honorable Mentions:

Sarah Fergus – *Lake Martin Fisherman*

Louise Hansen – *Beaver Dam at Indian Creek*

Margaret Blades – *Sunny Path*



President's Challenge - Call For Art - Member Exhibit - Independence Park Theatre Gallery

Leah Schwartzman, LAAG President, hereby issues the following challenge to all Guild members! Create! Paint! Draw! Then bring your art creation to the Independence Park Theatre Gallery on May 11 to be entered in the Spring Member Show.

The challenge ... Paint Baton Rouge! What does Baton Rouge bring to mind for you? Do you have a favorite location in Baton Rouge? ... a park, a landmark, a building, a landscape, a personality? Get your paints, pencils and chucks out and create a beautiful piece of art to share with your community by entering it in the Spring Member Show. Remember this is a non-juried/judged show ... so all art will be accepted. We are here to share art with our community. Installation guidelines can be found under "exhibits" on the website at laag-site.org.

The entry fee is \$5.00 per painting. The exhibit will be on display and open to the public until July 20, during regular business hours of Independence Park Theatre, at 7800 Independence Blvd, Tuesday-Friday, 10:00am – 5:00pm. Paintings must be picked up at the end of the show – July 20 – between 11:00am – 1:00pm.

The artists' reception will be held on location, Sunday, June 4, 2:00pm-4:00pm and a \$50 People's Choice Award will be presented. Artists are encouraged to bring their friends and family for refreshments and visiting with fellow member artists. Any contributions to the refreshment/snack table are welcome and appreciated.

This Is Your Organization—Be A Part Of It! Take The Challenge!

In February, the following Guild artists attended Paul Jackson's workshop "Painting the Night": **Suzanne Antoon, Milam Brassett, Madeline Breidenbach, Betty Falgout, Betty Gravois, Cherie Gravois, Brenda Legendre, Claudia LeJeune** and **Patricia Ryan**. Paul Jackson is a great teacher, the workshop was very interesting and helpful, and he taught how to use light in night scenes. Participants sampled his newly created da Vinci color line—they are wonderful!

Nanci Charpentier had four paintings juried into the Brush with Burden Exhibit. The painting category was juried by Elayne Kuehler and judged by Marc Chatov, one of the top portrait painters in America. Nanci's *Be Nice or Leave* received 2nd Place in the painting category. Her other three paintings accepted were: *Plant Entrance on the Left*, *Hwy. 190, Heading West*, and *Railway Trestle*.

Nanci Charpentier attended a talk by Marc Chatov, the judge for the paintings for Brush with Burden, on Saturday, March 11 at the Burden Conference Center where he talked about his art, his family's arts lineage which included his father, Roman Chatov, and his uncle, Constantin Chatov. It was a fascinating talk. He took questions from those in attendance as well. A book has been published about the Chatovs. He stayed and signed books for us.

Nanci Charpentier is currently in a 6-month workshop with Antrese Wood of the Savvy Painter website and podcast titled "First Things First" which deals with working issues such as Clarity and Focus, Values, and more, designed for artists. (www.savvypainter.com) Good luck and enjoy your workshop!



Connie Abboud, Michele Deshotels, and Joyce Hensley, along with Ginnie Bolin, recently provided instruction for the fifth Byzantine Icon Workshop sponsored by the Burden Horticultural Society. Participants went home with a completed icon of Holy Silence. Through the generosity of these volunteer instructors and the support of committee members, the Byzantine Icon Workshop has become a significant fundraiser benefitting the planning, educational, and infrastructure efforts of the LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens at Burden Museum and Gardens. Projects funded by Burden Horticultural Society include Trees and Trails and the William Bartram Trail historic marker. William Bartram is widely considered our nation's first naturalist artist.



The next icon workshop will be the last week of June 2017. This five day workshop is an intermediate level workshop and previous experience is recommended. Workshop participants may need to do advance work at home in order to complete this icon. Participation is limited and the workshop is almost full. For more information call Ginnie Bolin at (225) 343-2225, **Connie Abboud** at (225) 252-3296 or **Michele Deshotels** at (225) 295-2942.

Kathy Daigle was one of only 29 artists juried into the Shadows on the Tech plein air event the week of March 11-17. John Lasater was this year's judge; he also did a demo on Thursday at the Shadows visitor center which was open to the public. There was a whole week of painting, with a public paint-out on Friday. Way to go Kathy!

Kathy Daigle, SuEllen Lithgoe, Trish Poynot and Laure Williamson (AWA member) are each exhibiting several paintings at the Beauregard Gallery & Bistro during the month of April. Kudos to each of these ladies! Why don't you stop by, enjoy lunch and view the artwork!

Kay Bailey sold her watercolor painting, *Not Just Another Magnolia*, while it was on exhibit at the Theatre Baton Rouge. Congratulations, Kay!

Leah Schwartzman sold her watercolor painting *Hanging in the Balance* as a result of it being seen on the LAAG website's artists' gallery. Yay! Leah.



Life Drawing Sessions

Would you like to have the opportunity to do gesture drawing, with a different live model every week for a fraction of the cost of hiring a private model?

The Louisiana Art & Artists' Guild hosts open studio style life drawing sessions with a live model every Wednesday evening from 6:00 – 9:00pm. The life drawing sessions are open to non-members as well as members for a fee of \$10.00 per session, payable at the door before each session. So if you have artist friends/family interested in gesture drawing share the information—or bring them with you. There is no preregistration. Just show up at the Studio in the Park located at 2490 Silverest Ave in Baton Rouge. (just off Old Hammond Highway at the BREC Cedarcrest Park).



Steve Shamburger is the coordinator for the life drawing sessions and may be contacted at steve@steveshamburger.com.

Upcoming Workshops

Roberta Loflin – “Looking Up: Skies in Watermedia”

Saturdays, May 6-27 from 9:30am to 12:00pm

Early Bird registration until April 11 - \$80 LAAG members / \$100 nonmembers

Regular Fee - \$100 LAAG members / \$120 nonmembers

To register or for more information, contact Roberta Loflin at rloflin@gmail.com or 225-803-6785.

Roberta will teach how to paint different types of skies at different times of the day and year. Workshop participants will learn how these differences affect the creation of the rest of the painting. Join Roberta and learn to paint skies at different times of the day and in different seasons of the year.

Kim Santini – “Getting Fresh with Color and Brushwork “ – acrylics

May 17-20, Wednesday to Saturday from 9:00am - 4:00pm

Early Bird registration until April 1 - \$275 LAAG members / \$325 nonmembers

Regular Fee - \$325 LAAG members / \$375 nonmembers

To register contact Betty Klenke at bjklenke@gmail.com or 225-907-4902.

Kim Santini is well versed in the world of art, and claims to have been “*born an artist*”. After having worn many hats, she came to the conclusion that being creative was her forte; so, hence, Art. How fortunate we are to have Kim instruct a workshop for the Guild once again! She usually packs the house and is back with us by popular demand! Therefore, let’s give her a nice warm welcome and join her and other participants at her upcoming acrylics workshop in May. You will definitely gain a wealth of artistic knowledge in the most friendly and nurturing atmosphere with Kim Santini as your instructor!



Roberta Loflin – “Starving Artist: Colors in Action” – watermedia

Saturday, June 3 from 9:30am to 3:00pm

Early Bird registration until May 18 - \$50 LAAG members / \$60 nonmembers

Regular Fee - \$60 LAAG members / \$70 nonmembers

To register or for more information, contact Roberta Loflin at rloflin@gmail.com or 225-803-6785.

In order to stir the senses, Roberta will teach using various color combinations to create different moods and elicit a variety of emotions in your paintings.

Maureen Killaby – “Drawing Realism: How to Draw Stone/Statue in Graphite”

June 14-17, Wednesday to Saturday from 9:00am – 4:00pm

Early Bird registration until May 12 - \$425 LAAG members / \$475 nonmembers

Regular Fee - \$475 LAAG members / \$525 nonmembers

To register, contact Betty Gravois at elizabethgravois@gmail.com or 732-216-1095.

Maureen Killaby has been an award-winning artist in every River Road Show between 2010 and 2014! She is a professional artist from Lindale, Texas, having spent countless hours studying art history and the old masters’ work. Currently she teaches graphite, oil painting and colored pencil classes at Tyler Junior College School of Continuing Studies. Her passion for art began years ago with oil glaze paintings. Recently, Maureen’s interest grew to include pencil art, which has been richly rewarding for her.



If increasing your drawing skills and taking them up a notch is your passion, then this would be the workshop for you! We all talk about wanting to improve our drawing skills—this workshop will help you do just that. Don’t let this unique opportunity slip through your fingers—sign up *today* at the Early Bird rate!

