Election Time is Here

The nomination period is from Tuesday, August 1 through Tuesday, September 5. If you would like to be an active participant and continue the legacy of art development and artist education as a Guild Board member, or if you know someone who is ... please contact one of the Nominating Committee members to talk about the details. But of course, other Board members will be glad to answer any questions you might have.

**Nominating Committee Members** are:
Claudia LeJeune ... claudiale@aol.com
Kay Bailey ... baileykay7850@gmail.com
Suzanne Antoon ... suzs12@cox.net
Betty Klenke ... bjklenke@gmail.com
Barbara Andrepont ... bandrepont@bellsouth.net

The two positions up for election are: Vice President and Treasurer. For the sake of brevity and space, only the general description for each of the positions is shown here:

**Vice President** ... to support the President, to serve as chair at Board meetings in the absence of the President, to be informed of the policies and operations of the organization, and random other responsibilities to be determined by the projects in progress.

**Treasurer** ... to maintain financial records and preparation/presentation of financial reports at monthly Board meetings and oversight of a team of 2-3 volunteers each of whom perform specific financial functions that support the Treasurer.

**GENERAL BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES:**
Board members are expected to attend a minimum of 9 of the 12 monthly Board meetings which usually last about two hours each. Board members are expected to attend as many Guild activities as possible, to be interested in, and committed to supporting the mission of the organization.

The current President says “Being on the Board isn’t as difficult as it may sound. It is actually lots of fun to help plan and be involved in the direction of the Guild, and the Board truly functions as a team ... supporting each other for the good of the whole. Two to four hours a month is not a lot of time invested for the results achieved. The ‘devil is not in the details ... it’s in the not knowing the details’ ... catch the excitement of being part of the gears that perpetuate and encourage art in others.”

Art THRIVES when we work together!
SCHEDULE OF ELECTION EVENTS

August 1  Nominations open
September 5  All nominations due to the nomination committee by 12:00 midnight
September 11  Slate of nominees submitted to the Board. Additional nominees will be accepted at that
meeting. If slate is uncontested, the Board will approve. New officers will be published to
membership in October if the slate of nominees is contested.
October 27  Deadline for all votes/ballots to be submitted by 12:00 midnight
November 15  Election will be completed and new officers will be published.
January 1, 2018  Newly elected Board members will begin their term at the 2018 Planning Retreat

Ponderings from the President

First in order, my personal CONGRATULATIONS! to the 70 artists whose art works were selected by Lian Quan Zhen to grace the walls of the State Archives building, as we celebrate the 48th National River Road Show. I thank all of the artists from across the U.S. and Louisiana who submitted 306 stunning works of art. To those who didn’t make it in this year ... that would include myself ... I say, chin up, get painting, next year’s call for the 49th River Road Show will be here before we know it!

Next up ... HOORAY! for Mo’s Art Supply! Baton Rouge has its very own full-fledged art supply store, again. After Co-Op closed its doors we all heard the rumor that another art supply store was coming. Well, it’s true, and it is finally here and ready for business. Mó’s also has stores in Covington and in New Orleans.

I happened to stop by their location (the same shopping center as Brew HaHa and Monjuni’s) one day to check on the progress ... was it really going to happen? It just so happens, the owner, Simone Burke, and the Baton Rouge manager, Alaina Polander were in the store and working hard getting everything set up for opening day. They were so friendly and invited me right in to chat a bit. Right away Simone was very enthusiastic about building local art relationships, about how they can help to promote local workshops, stock the supplies required by the workshops, provide demos of new products. She agreed to continue Co-Op’s tradition; they will give Guild members a 10% discount (on supplies that aren’t already discounted). Simply let the cashier know before you check out that you are a LAAG member.

They stock a full line of art supplies and accessories ... everything you would expect to find in an art supply store and more, including children’s art activities and other fun things. There is a whole room dedicated to Sennelier products. You just have to go by and see all “the goodies” for yourself. So here it is guys ... I encourage you to say hello to Alaina, be sure to let her know you are a member of LAAG.

MO’s Art Supply, 711 Jefferson Highway Ste. 1a, Baton Rouge
Open: from 10:00am – 6:00pm – Mon-Sat – Closed Sunday
225-831-4870            mosartsupply.com

“Don’t think about making art, just get it done. Let everyone else decide if it is good or bad, whether they love it or hate it. While they are deciding, make even more art.” ... Andy Warhol

Leah Schwartzman, LAAG President
Members Meeting - July

Yaaay! What a great turn out of members for our July 9 Members Meeting! I want to thank each and every one of the approximately 40 members who showed up. For those of you who were not able to attend, you really missed a great time ... hope you can make it next time! Here is a quick recap. The President talked about the upcoming River Road Show. In addition to the fabulous art and refreshments, there will be a couple of additional special events surrounding this year’s exhibit.

This year’s River Road Show will be dedicated to the memory of Denice Cyrex Ducote; we will present a Denice Ducote Memorial Award. Denice, a longtime member of the Guild, passed away early this year. She was a pillar of the River Road Show Committee since 2008, and is credited with the development and expansion of our extensive social media marketing network for the show.

Our second big event ... because of the large public presence we enjoy at the River Road Show, we decided it is the perfect venue to publicly launch the new name, Art Guild of Louisiana, and new logo and website. So this year’s River Road Show will certainly be an event not to miss!

Attendees of the Members Meeting on July 9 also enjoyed a variety of refreshments, and several door prizes were awarded. Additional entertainment was an interesting and informative demonstration, provided by local artist/instructor, Kathy Miller Stone. Kathy had lots of tips to share and information as a preview to the workshop that was held the following week. She also had some of her special artists’ brushes for sale, which several lucky attendees scooped up.

Other topics discussed are Baton Rouge’s new art supply store, Mo’s; it is time for elections; and the success of the new Thursday evening open studio opportunity.

Members Meeting - October

SAVE THE DATE NOW!
You won’t want to miss the next Members Meeting scheduled for October 8, 2017 at the Studio in the Park. We will be welcoming and are looking forward to meeting the Golden Paint representative. He will demonstrate a number of Golden’s Products and I hear tell that he usually has some sample “goodies” to share with the audience. SEE YOU THERE!

Members News

Pat Wattam had two paintings juried into the National Oil and Acrylic Painters Society’s Fall Showcase, held at the RS Hanna Gallery, September 1 through December 31, 2017, in Fredericksburg, TX. The two paintings are Wild Thing and The Trainer.
Congratulations **Jo Smith**! Jo, who is also a member of the Pond Society, sold two of her paintings: *Rooster* (acrylic) and *Morning on the Bayou* (acrylic) while tending the Pond Society booth at the spring Garden Show held annually at the Parker Coliseum.

Two of **Mary Heckman**'s paintings were accepted in the Baton Rouge General Café Gallery Exhibit. The reception was June 27. The paintings will hang until January 2018. Also, Mary recently changed her exhibit at Serop’s Express at 18169 Highland Rd. This exhibit of six new paintings is titled “Doves and Egrets”.

**Jade Brady** is super excited about being accepted into Baton Rouge’s Art Melt this year. There were over 350 pieces submitted by 150 artists and about 65 pieces were chosen. Jade has been applying to this show since 2013 and she finally got in. Congratulations! The piece accepted is called *Breaking Dawn*.

We want to congratulate **Beverly Heil** who sold her watercolor painting, *Slowpoke* at the Baton Rouge Art League’s Show at the Rural Life Museum.

And we want to recognize member, **Cheryl Hoyt**, whose acrylic painting *Cat* also sold at the Baton Rouge Art League’s Show. Way to go Cheryl!

We depend upon our members to let us know about their news. If you have some “GOOD NEWS” to share: about an art show you were accepted in, or a fun art venture you’ve been involved in, or painting you have sold, PLEASE SHARE IT by responding to the email sent out every other month requesting member news for the next newsletter. Please know that your news is someone else’s inspiration!
Exhibits

Spring Member Show
The Spring Member Show, “It’s All About Baton Rouge”, was on exhibit at the Independence Park Theatre Gallery from May 11 – July 20. The 27 paintings on exhibit encompassed a wide variety of mediums. Congratulations to Leah Schwartzman, who took home the People’s Choice Award for her watercolor titled Purple Passion, a beautiful Iris from a local garden.

The recipient of the People’s Choice awards was determined by counting a combination of votes from people who visited the Independence Park Theatre between May 11 – June 4 and attendees at the June 4 artists’ reception. Office staff at the Independence Park Theatre tells us that they and their visitors often enjoy looking at the exhibits.

Summer Judged Show
The Summer Judged Show is up and ready for visitors! The exhibit showcases 49 beautiful works of art submitted by 25 artists. The show encompasses a wide variety of media, techniques and individual styles. The exhibit can be viewed, free of admission, during regular office hours at the Independence Park Theatre Gallery; Tuesday – Friday from 10:00am till 5:00pm.

Awards totaling $500 in cash will be presented to three talented artists at an artists’ reception on August 6. We are honored to have local business woman, Liz Walker, owner of the Elizabethan Gallery as Judge, to select the winners of this exhibit. This will be a particularly exciting reception as we will be showing a “sneak peek” of the fabulous art that has been selected to be on exhibit in the upcoming National River Road Show at the State Archives building on Essen Lane in Baton Rouge. You won’t want to miss it! Refreshments and snacks will be served. Contributions to the refreshment table from members are welcome and appreciated.

Workshop Show
Next up on the exhibit schedule is the Workshop Show. This is a members only exhibit and there is no entry fee. Take-in for the exhibit is September 14, 2017, from 11:00am – 1:00pm, at the Independence Park Theatre Gallery, 7800 Independence Park Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA. The exhibit will be open for viewing until November 2 during regular business hours Tuesday – Friday from 10:00am – 5:00pm.

This exhibit gives everyone an opportunity to showcase their fantastic workshop experiences. Entries are not required to have been done in a workshop, but they can be. We encourage you to take this opportunity to show workshop pieces.

Paintings must adhere to all the regular hanging requirements and are subject to disqualification if not in compliance. Complete hanging/installation requirements can be found on the website at www.laag-site.org/exhibits.

A People’s Choice award will be presented at the artists’ reception, on October 1. Snacks and refreshments will be served. Bring your friends and family for a relaxing afternoon, visiting with the artists.
**River Road Show**

Congratulations to all you artists whose art was juried into the River Road Show ... we can now all breathe a sigh of relief.

Lian Quan Zen had a difficult time selecting only 75 works of art from the 306 entries submitted from across the United States. Twenty-five of our very own Louisiana Art and Artists’ Guild members made it into the show.

To view the list of accepted artists, check the website www.artguildlouisiana.org/river-road-show.

The awards presentation and artists’ reception will be held at the Louisiana State Archives building on September 21, 2017 from 5:30pm till 7:30pm. Please be sure to show up ... bring family and friends. It will be a very special evening with this year’s River Road Show being dedicated to LAAG member, Denice Cyrex Ducote. Denice was a pillar on the River Road Show committee since 2008 and was instrumental in expanding our social media audience for the show. LAAG will soon have a new look. We will also be launching the new name, logo and website at the reception. Don’t miss this exciting evening with friends, family and art!

**Recent Workshop**

**Kathy Miller Stone – “Help Is on the Way: Critique, Composition and Problem Paintings”**

Anytime you attend a workshop given by Kathy, you know you’ll receive much information, as Kathy is nonstop in teaching and sharing what she knows on the subject she’s covering. This workshop was no exception. Three days were full of demonstrations and sharing knowledge her 50 years of experience has afforded. Whether it’s composition, style, color, or subject matter, Kathy is ready to walk you through every aspect in choosing the right direction to go, from start to finish.

**Upcoming Workshops**

**Claudia LeJeune – “Exhibiting Your Artwork”**

Saturday, August 19 from 9:00am to 4:00pm  
Registration available until August 11, only $15 including a light lunch  
Limit 20 students (so register soon)  
To register, contact Nikki Spencer at nspence@lsu.edu or 225 955-4282

This will be a very informative time to learn the how to’s of entering and presenting your art pieces in local and international art shows. Claudia has much expertise in this area and has offered to share her knowledge on how to accomplish these steps. Not only will she cover the different types of shows LAAG presents, she will also cover costs, prospectuses, what judges look for, and why you should be entering. Her goal is to help you become confident in entering these shows. All you need to bring is a notepad and pen. There will be plenty handouts to take home.
Lian Quan Zhen – Watercolor Journey with Lian Zhen
September 7-9, Thursday through Saturday, from 8:00am to 4:00pm
THIS CLASS IS FULL. A waiting list has been started.
Fee - $400 LAAG members / $450 nonmembers
To register (waiting list), contact Betty Gravois at elizabethgravois@gmail.com or 732 216-1095

Lian, as most already know, is a very popular and sought after watercolor and Chinese painting artist/instructor here and abroad. He also is one of the most popular authors of North Light Books. Those who have followed his second career as an artist (his first being a family physician in Canton Province, China), are aware of how broad his talents have taken him, from schooling in America to showing internationally. He’s been featured in magazines such as Watercolor 94 Spring, Splash 4, Collectors (Hong Kong) and other books of Landscape on Watercolor (UK), Finding Your Visual Voice and Painter’s Quick Reference books by North Light Books: Flowers and Blooms, Dogs and Cats, Birds and Butterflies, Landscapes and Drawing, and Painting Animals – the Essential Guide.


Roberta Loflin – “Draped Illusions – Fabrics in Watercolor”
Saturday, September 23 from 9:30am to 3:00pm
Early Bird registration until September 9 - $50 LAAG members / $60 nonmembers
Regular Fee - $60 LAAG members / $70 nonmembers
To register, contact Roberta Loflin at rloflin@gmail.com