

NEWS from the PALETTE



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December 2016

Message from the President: GIVING THANKS



Dear Guild Members,

As we move into the holiday season and the end of a busy year, I find myself reflecting on my two years as LAAG President. It has been a challenge at times, but more importantly, it has been a rewarding experience thanks to a dedicated and hard working Board of Directors and volunteers. I will continue to be involved on the Board in the area of financial management and the River Road Show Committee.

There are many officers, chairpersons and volunteers that I wish to thank, but especially our Board of Directors who manage a tremendous amount of activity in a 12 month period.

Lane Downs is the person that I have worked with the most because of his involvement in so many areas of the Guild: the timely dissemination of emails (without overwhelming our members!); the production of a newsletter that we can truly be proud of; the maintenance of a website with a wealth of information about our organization, in addition to a gallery of the art of our members. Thank You, Lane, for the many things great and small that you do!

Leah Schwartzman will take the reins as our President in January. Because of her involvement as a Board member, on the Newsletter Committee and as Publicity Chair, she is highly qualified to take on this position. She is a "can do" type of person who has the welfare of the guild as her top priority. I look forward to working with her in this capacity. Thanks to **Barbara Andrepont** who has chaired the Workshop Committee to give us a full slate of varied fun and educational workshops with more to come. Barbara will assume the duties of Membership Committee Chair for next year.

Kay Bailey has served many positions on the Board including President, Treasurer and River Road Show Committee Chair. She will chair the Workshop Committee for 2017. I'm grateful for her desire to take on new responsibilities in different areas and for a fun summer ice cream social! Thanks to **Marilyn Gensler** who has tolerated our sometimes disjointed proceedings and has managed to record an accurate accounting of them. Thank You, **Jim Packard** our Vice President and coordinator of our busiest exhibit venue at Independence Park Theatre, and to **Betty Klenke** and **Suzanne Antoon** our dedicated Members at Large. Thank You, **Jessica Bayham**, for your participation on the Board and all your work as the Iberville Area Representative.

Michele Deshotels will again chair the River Road Show Committee for 2017. It was very rewarding to work with her and the Committee through the rescheduling of this event to September as we learned that we do, in fact, have a very solid following!

A HUGE Thank You, to ALL of our Committee members, individual volunteers, workshop participants and open studio regulars. All of you help make this organization a successful experience.

I challenge each of you to consider joining the volunteers that help to provide so many opportunities for our members.

Wishing you all a Happy and Healthy Holiday season and a prosperous New Year!
Claudia LeJeune, claudiale@aol.com, 225-292-2004

COMING SOON

Art Guild of Louisiana

Join us for a Holiday Celebration!

The Louisiana Art and Artists' Guild requests the honor of your presence at our annual **Christmas Party!**

Sunday, December 11

2:00 - 4:00 pm

Studio in the Park, 2490 Silverest Ave, BR



Refreshments and snacks will be served (any contributions to the table are appreciated).

Please bring an art supply gift of \$10-\$25 to be donated to member flood survivors.

There will be a painting exchange ... to participate please bring an unframed, signed painting, wrapped in plain brown paper.

Guild members and their guests are invited to take part in the fun and festivities.

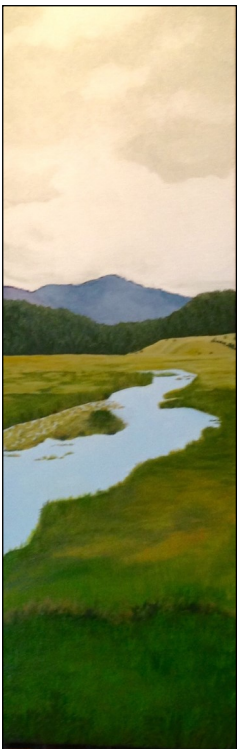
The 46th Annual Acadian Artshow

This exhibition was held in Plaquemine at the Iberville Parish Library during the month of October with an awards reception on October 16. The Curator of the LSU Museum of Art, Courtney P. Taylor, was the Judge for this art show.

The Louisiana Art and Artists' Guild was well represented and we congratulate the following members who had winning artworks in the show:

In the Professional Division: Larry Downs took 3rd Place in watercolors for *A Cool Quiet Place* and 3rd Place in drawing for *Still Life in Black & White* (graphite). Honorable Mentions went to SuEllen Lithgoe - *Une Poire* (oil) and *Forgotten* (oil); Jo McWilliams - *St. Francisville Oaks* (acrylic); Jo Ann Smith - *Pink Peonies* (acrylic).

In the Nonprofessional Division: Leah Schwartzman's watercolor painting *Purple Passion* won Grand Prize in overall non-professional division and 1st Place in watercolors; Leah also took 2nd place in watercolor for her painting *Plaquemine Locks*; Beth McLain won First place for her oil painting *The Creek at the Valle Caldera* and Mary Pinell (Sparkman) took 3rd Place in watercolors for *Underwater*. Honorable mentions went to Karen Coffman for *We Three Kings* (acrylic), Claire Pasqua for *Sunlight Moss* (Oil), and Sue Wang for *Garden Path, Houmas House Plantation* (oil).



Stracener Family Donation

The Louisiana Art and Artists' Guild would like to acknowledge the family of **Bill Stracener**, past LAAG President who passed away in May 2016; and express our appreciation for their donation of art supplies ... tools, paper, frames, easels, etc. and over two dozen art related and instructional books from Bill's collection. In keeping with our usual process, the books are currently being cataloged and will be available shortly in the Guild library. Miscellaneous items will be available to "purchase" for a small donation to the guild.

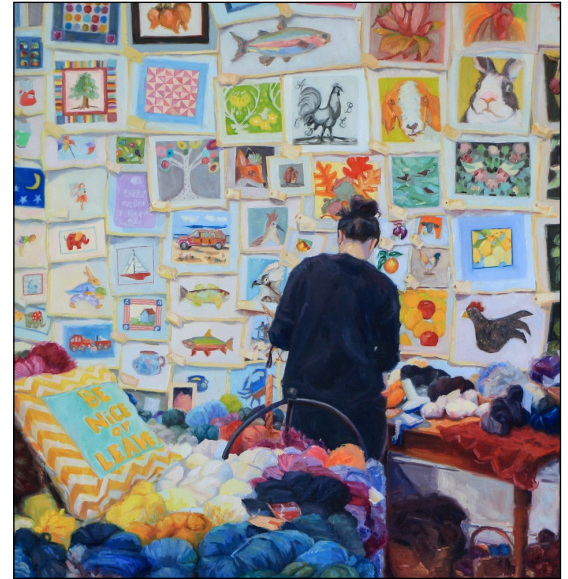
Member News

Nanci Charpentier recently had a solo exhibition of fiber art and oil paintings at FW Gallery. *Be Nice or Leave* is one of her new oil paintings on paper which was featured in this show. Also pictured is one of her fiber art weavings.



Some of Nanci's artwork will show through December 31 in a group exhibition of the FW Gallery's artists. It's a wonderful collaboration of work. If you haven't had a chance to check out the artists represented, check out the [Artists link](#) on their gallery website.

In November, Nanci held a brunch at Boudreaux's at which she made a selection of her paintings and weavings available for viewing and shopping. Then on White Light Night, also in November, she exhibited her artwork at Bistro Byronz along with another artist.



Connie Abboud, Joyce Hensley, and Michele Deshotels, along with Ginnie Bolin and Donald Blanchard, recently taught the fourth "Byzantine Icon Workshop" sponsored by the Burden Horticultural Society. Each participant went home with a completed icon at the end of the five day workshop.

The Icon Workshop, the brainchild of Ginnie Bolin, has under her leadership become a significant fundraiser benefitting the planning, educational, and infrastructure efforts of 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 in January 2017. It is limited to 20 participants and is full. To be placed on a waiting list, call **Connie Abboud** at 225 252-3296 or **Michele Deshotels** at 225 205-2942.



Jo Smith sold her acrylic painting, *Louisiana*, at the current LAAG exhibit hanging in the Mayor's Office Conference Room.



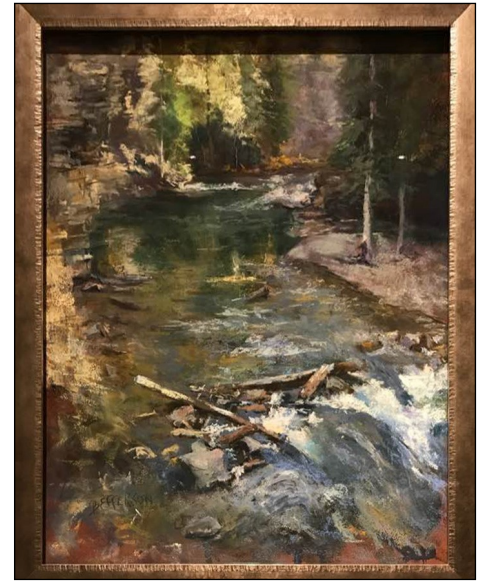
Kay Bailey exhibited twelve paintings throughout the month of November in her one woman exhibition at the Ochsner Clinic off of Bluebonnet Blvd.



Mexico Eighth National Juried Members Show at the Sorrel Sky Gallery, in Santa Fe, NM.



Judi Betts received an Honorable Mention for her watercolor *Good Morning America* at the Triennial Exhibition in Varna, Bulgaria.



Exhibits

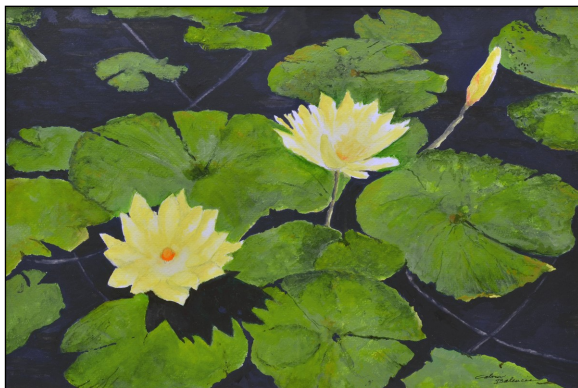
Winter Judged Show

The Winter Judged Show, currently on exhibit at the Independence Park Theatre Gallery, is open to the public free of admission and will be on display until January 12, 2017. The gallery is open from 10 am until 5 pm, Tuesday through Friday. This beautiful array of art is comprised of 36 pieces provided by 21 artists. Their work is a display of acrylics, oils, watercolors and pastels. Stop by and enjoy the show before it's gone!

The Artist's Reception was held November 13 and \$500 in cash awards was presented. The show was judged by local artist/instructor, Steve Shamburger. Steve was in attendance at the reception to present the awards and to give insightful commentary about the winning works of art. Congratulations to the following award winning artists:



1st - Denice Cyrex Ducote, *The Guardian*
2nd - Kathy Stone, *Palmetto*
3rd - Calvin Balencie, *Quiet Pond*
Honorable Mention - Pat Wattam, *The Trainer*
Honorable Mention - Sarah Fergus, *Country Landscape*



UPCOMING EXHIBITS – CALLING ALL MEMBERS!

Winter Members Show

The members only Winter Art Show will be on exhibit at the Independence Park Theatre Gallery, located at 7800 Independence Park Blvd, from January 12 – March 2, 2017. The gallery is open to the public Tuesday – Friday from 10 am - 5 pm with no admission fee.

Artists must bring their entries to the Independence Park Theatre on January 12, 2017, between 11:00 am and 1:00 pm. All art must be picked up on March 2, 2017 between 11:00 am and 1:00 pm. The maximum allowable size of artwork is 48"x48".

There is a \$5 per painting hanging fee for this exhibit. All regular hanging/exhibit requirements apply. Please, follow the Guild hanging requirements on the LAAG website at laag-site.org/exhibits to ensure that your painting will be accepted at the take-in. Any art that is sold during the exhibit must remain in the exhibit until the end of the show.

A People's Choice Ribbon will be awarded at the Artist's Reception on January 29, between 2:00pm-4:00 pm. Invite your friends and family, visit with the artists and enjoy viewing some wonderful works of art!

Start the New Year with a new commitment to YOUR art and YOUR organization. Share the beauty of your art with others!

Goodwood Library Exhibit

The Main Branch of the EBR Parish Library at 7711 Goodwood Boulevard will be hosting a Louisiana Art and Artists' Guild's exhibit throughout the month of December. This display of approximately 35 paintings in a variety of media will go up on December 2 and be taken down on December 30. Take your family and friends on a holiday outing to view these lovely works of Art! You will be glad you did.



Recent Workshops

Suzanna Winton – “Step by Step Watercolor Portraits”

Ms. Winton had a full house attending her outstanding workshop. Participants agreed how pleasant, inspiring and motivating Suzanna was, “gaining more knowledge than was expected, and taking the fear out of portrait painting”. She taught layering techniques, drying between layers and flesh tones. Perhaps we can have her again in the future!

Betty Efferson – “Get Your Soft Pastels Out of the Closet”

How many of us have pastels tucked away and forgotten? Such a beautiful medium that can be unappreciated. Well, thanks to Betty’s encouragement and wonderful examples of their use and application, we can now experience new (old) avenues in our art experiences.



Betty Efferson – “Oil Pastels in Mixed Media”

Betty’s instructions have taken the mystery out of using oil pastels and put the awe back into learning new things. We tend to stay in our comfort zones too long, but here’s another example of how stepping outside the box can be rewarding.

Upcoming Workshops

Roberta Loflin – “Starving Artist: Shiny Objects” – Watermedia

Friday, December 9 from 9:30am to 3:00pm

\$60 LAAG members / \$70 nonmembers

Ages 14 and older.

In this workshop, Roberta will focus on making objects reflect and shine. She’ll use masking and strong value changes to capture the ‘shiny object’ effect.

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

Please invite a friend who may be interested in attending this workshop.

Roberta Loflin – “Start Your Engines” – Basic Watercolor

Saturdays, January 14 - February 11 (skipping January 28) from 9:30am to 12:00pm

Early Bird registration until December 28 - \$80 LAAG members / \$100 nonmembers

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

Ages 14 and older.

Get ready to start your engines, budding artists! Roberta to the rescue. And if you need a kick start to get re-inspired, this workshop is for you, too. Roberta will be demonstrating basic watercolor techniques in this class, so come join us. It will be a treat!

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

Please invite a friend who may be interested in attending this workshop.

Cheri Fry – “Backlit Figure, Foliage, and Fur” – Watercolor

January 26-28, Thursday to Saturday from 9:00am to 4:00pm

Early Bird registration until December 20 - \$200 LAAG members / \$250 nonmembers

Regular Fee - \$250 LAAG members / \$300 nonmembers

To register, contact Linda Pace at lpac588@gmail.com or 225 247-1309.



Cheri is a well established artist and teacher having taught art for over 20 years. She is recognized at the local, regional and national levels for her accomplishments in art. At her upcoming workshop, through instruction and practice she will be teaching 'backlighting' on subject matter using contrasting values. As evidenced through her own art, she captures lighting in dramatic ways, using a variety of painting techniques she'll be sharing with participants during this fun, creative workshop. She'll start the day with warm-up exercises using small watercolor studies, move into discussing color palettes, types of lighting and planning your piece based on composition, values, movement and balance. Getting to the day's main painting, Cheri shares how she plans and executes her paintings based on the value study. Sign up early as Cheri's classes fill very fast. Beginners to advanced artists are welcome to register. Everyone will learn something new and enjoy the fruits of their labor of love. NOTE: The second half of day three, artists are encouraged to bring reference material for future paintings that contain backlighting elements – a round-table discussion will follow. Artists participating in this exercise will learn how to analyze potential compositions, center of interests, crop images, simplify subject matter and create value and color studies.

Ron Thomson – "Luminous Passages II" - Oil or Acrylic

February 7–9, Tuesday to Thursday, 9:00am–4:00pm

Early Bird registration until January 6, 2017: \$325 LAAG members / \$375 nonmembers

Regular Fee - \$375 LAAG members / \$425 nonmembers

To register, contact Linda Pace at lpac588@gmail.com or 225-247-1309, or contact Patti Bailey at pattipaintsplano@gmail.com or 469-644-8148

Ron, born in Spain, now resides in Fairhope, Alabama. His work is described by others as seemingly alive. His pragmatic approach to art as an expressive realist focuses on conveying drama of lights connecting with shadows, using lost edges to create passages that unify and create movement in the composition. He would like to further expand his workshop's focus to include new insight into dramatically developing depth in shadows and creating tactile luminous forms that compel your viewers to believe your illusion. Ron will demonstrate in oils but will allow the participants to choose their preference of oils or acrylics. All levels of expertise from beginner to advanced are welcome. However, students should have a basic understanding of their materials and how to use them. This should prove to be a valuable experience. His works speak for themselves. You can get a glimpse of Ron Thomson's art on his website at www.ronthomson.net.



Roberta Loflin – "Eat Your Vegetables" – Watermedia

Saturdays, March 11 through April 1 from 9:30am to 12:00noon

Early Bird registration until February 24 - \$80 LAAG members / \$100 nonmembers

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

Ages 14 and older

Make a masterpiece! Painting vegetables and fruit using glazing and other techniques to develop the feel and texture of the objects is what Roberta will be showing the participants at this workshop. She will use photos and display models as well.

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