

# NEWS from the PALETTE

Louisiana Art & Artists' Guild

[www.laag-site.org](http://www.laag-site.org)

926-4657

October Issue

## Larry Downs - Interviewed by Howard Hershberg and Tom Skillern

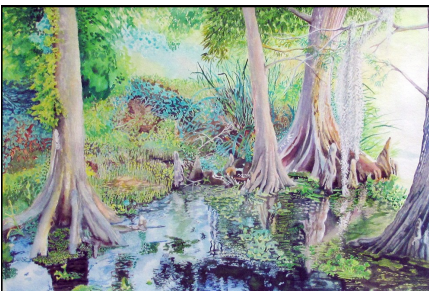
Lifetime LAAG member Larry Downs has been an artist for as long as he can remember. Born in Lake Charles, Larry grew up in Baton Rouge where he became interested in art as early as second grade. Throughout his school years, Larry relished opportunities to learn more about the arts. In high school, he studied architecture as a practical application for his creative ideas. He said he loved the idea that a home could be designed to fit the character of the owner. When he was a senior in high school, he discovered how to paint in three dimensions and began painting portraits. An artist was born!



As is true for most artists, life intervenes: performing military service, establishing a family, earning a living...but through it all, the artist lived and practiced: "Working on a painting gives me direction and purpose." At age 50, Larry took the bold step of becoming a full-time artist. Using primarily acrylics because of their versatility, Larry paints in the morning; he paints at night; he paints in the studio; he paints during TV commercials. His drive for creation never ceases. Larry says, "Good artists create all the time with their minds."

Primarily self-taught, Larry enjoys painting people and landscapes. Larry does attend workshops because he says "...there is always something new to learn." In fact, Larry is proud to admit that he loves trying new techniques and learning to master them. All he has learned helps him to achieve his goal of communicating to his audience "the beauty of the world around us...encouraging them to see wonderful colors, instead of the grey world around them." Larry's work has won several awards, and anyone who attended Larry's painting demonstration last month at the LAAG Show Reception can attest to his use of bold and vibrant colors!

When asked if he ever encounters "painter's block", Larry admits that occasionally he will have to set a project down for a while and start a new project. Later, he is able to return to the original project with a fresh approach. He gives this advice to new artists: "Never give up! Don't stop! When you get tired, take a break, and return refreshed!"



Through the years Larry has taught art classes to adults and children through BREC and LAAG. Currently, Larry is offering classes through the LSU Union Leisure Class series. While he does not teach privately, Larry says he is willing to help his fellow artists with their work upon request. You can find Larry almost every Wednesday afternoon at the LAAG open studio at the Studio in the Park...planning, painting, and discussing art with anyone who wants to chat. Thanks Larry!

You can see more of Larry's artwork in his Artist Gallery on the LAAG website.



## Message from the President



Mother Nature is having a bit of fun with us. The calendar says Fall. We have been teased with a day or two of Fall-like mornings but now it just feels like summer in Louisiana. It's the last quarter of the year with Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas and the River Road Show falling in rapid succession of each other. Don't miss out on the wonderful opportunities they provide for subjects to paint.

As the end of the year approaches it is also the time to take stock of our guild and all that it provides to members. If you are looking for a pleasant place to paint, there are three opportunities each week. Need a place to exhibit your work? We have numerous venues available. Want your artwork photographed? LAAG can do it. Need a workshop to hone your skills. Just checkout our website. We offer something for everyone. All of this comes with a small price. We need you to donate an hour or two a month. Please volunteer to help take in or hang paintings. Can you take telephone messages? Just one hour a week responding to telephone inquiries helps us stay connected to our members. We have many such small tasks that have a big impact on how well we operate. Call soon. We are counting on you. ~Kay Bailey

## Art Email Scam

For artists who have websites featuring their artwork, be aware of emails requesting to purchase your artwork. While it can be exiting to sell a painting, there are unscrupulous people out there trying to take advantage of unsuspecting folks. Communications can start off wanting to buy, then want personal info, or wire transfer, etc - check for incorrect spelling and grammar - Be Careful. Recently, several LAAG members have received emails from a Giorgio Luper asking for prices on their paintings. Google identifies this man as a scam artist with South African connections. Members should ignore emails from this man.



## From the Library

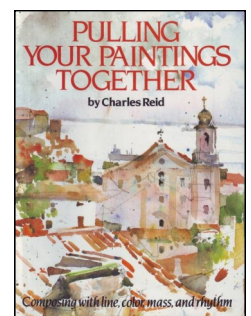
### **Pulling Your Paintings Together** by Charles Reid

Reviewed by Kay Bailey

The author encourages the painter to work with a sketch book and to get in the habit of recording what he sees on a daily basis. He advocates learning to sketch in restaurants, on streets, playgrounds and where ever one finds oneself having to wait. He condenses "the way of seeing" into three essential types. The first is to learn to use outside or silhouette shapes within the objects themselves and between foreground and background. His second way of seeing involves emphasizing rhythm and gesture which has to do with the flow of a line, the soul of the model and the spirit of a landscape. Thirdly he directs the reader to work with mass or broad color – value and shapes being aware of positive and negative shapes. This book is filled with illustrations on seeing shapes and contours and explores his concepts on "seeing".

The chapter on "Tips and Techniques" explains how to finish on-location painting after you return home. He discusses painting thinly with oil and sculpting with color. There are sections on "Spirit Versus Likeness" and "Learning to Simplify" which are very helpful in composing a painting.

This book is for all those who love to paint. Check it out at the LAAG lending library or browse through the other treasures on the shelves.







## Members' Forum

The Members' Forum was held on August 19. At the Forum, Lane Downs gave a talk about tips and best practices for photographing artwork and how LAAG members can get their own gallery on the LAAG web site. Nominations for 2012 Board members were solicited from those attending.

## Slate of 2013 Board Officers

A Nominating Committee has composed a slate of Board Officers for 2013. The slate consists of the following candidates:

President - Barbara Andrepont  
 Vice-President - Don Schifferl  
 Treasurer - Claudia LeJeune  
 Secretary - Lori Dalton

Any LAAG member still has the opportunity to volunteer for or nominate someone for any of the above positions. Please send your suggestions to [laagbr@laag-site.org](mailto:laagbr@laag-site.org) or call 926-4657. Suggestions must be received by October 15.



If all candidates remain unopposed, the new 2013 Board Officers will be announced at the Member Forum on November 11. If a vote is required, ballots will be distributed to members by November 1. Ballots must be returned by November 23. In this case, the new 2013 Board Officers will be announced at the Christmas Party on December 9.

## Workshop Instructor Suggestions



The Workshop Committee is currently scheduling instructors to teach workshops at LAAG next year. A few have already been confirmed and more are in the works. LAAG would like to offer workshops that are of interest to the members, so we are asking for your suggestions of instructors you would like to take a workshop with. Please direct requests/suggestions to Betty Gravois at [elizabethgravois@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethgravois@gmail.com) or 257-4958.

## St. Luke's Arts and Crafts Fair

LAAG rented a booth at the St. Luke's Episcopal Church Fall Arts and Crafts Fair on Saturday, October 6, 9am-5pm. A few Guild members will be displaying their artwork for sale. This is a wonderful opportunity for members to sell their artwork and for people in Baton Rouge to learn about the Guild and all that we have to offer.



## Brush with Burden Exhibit

The Burden Horticulture Society announces a Call for Entries for the 2013 Brush with Burden Art Exhibition. The juried exhibition is open to all artists, 18 years of age and older. All types of art media are eligible, including outdoor sculpture. Artists are encouraged to be inspired by the landscape, structures, flora and fauna of Burden Center in Baton Rouge. This competition includes cash and other awards and will be judged by A.J. Schexnayder of Houston, Texas. After the exhibit, winning works will be displayed at the Shaw Center for the Arts from March 18 to April 15, 2013. **Deadline for entry is November 30, 2012.** For details, contact Ginnie Bolin at [ginniebolin1@cox.net](mailto:ginniebolin1@cox.net) or visit [www.LSUAgCenter.com/Burden](http://www.LSUAgCenter.com/Burden)



## Tablescapes

LAAG members are invited to enter artwork in the Baton Rouge Garden Club's annual "Tablescapes" exhibit. Tablescapes is a unique art show in which each piece of art will be interpreted in a floral arrangement and table settings by members of the Baton Rouge Garden Club. The Tablescapes Show will be held on February 23 and 24th, 2013 at the Baton Rouge Garden Center at Independence Park. Details, deadlines and entry forms can be found on the LAAG website at [www.laag-site.org/tablescapes](http://www.laag-site.org/tablescapes)



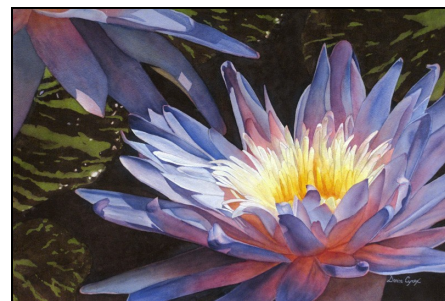
## New Gallery Opens

Louis Deangelo has opened a new gallery at 16645 Highland Road (near French Market Bistro) featuring 14 regional artists including Tony Mose, Denise Greenwood, Carol Creel, Yvette Creel, Margaret Biggs, Sheryl Southwick, Billie Bourgeois and of course the abstracts of local favorite Lou Deangelo. The gallery is open from 10 to 5 Tuesday through Friday and 10 to 3 on Saturday. Stop by and sign the guest book to stay informed about the openings and the arrival of new art. Art enthusiasts will love the painting, sculpture, jewelry and more.



## Member News

**Denice Ducote's** watercolor painting *Tranquility* was accepted into the Miami Watercolor Society Online Exhibition. Visit [www.miamiwatercolor.org](http://www.miamiwatercolor.org) to view the winners and the exhibition.



Artists of the Charter Street Studio in Jackson, Louisiana, are currently showing at Backwoods Gallery in St. Francisville, Louisiana. An artist reception was held on September 6th at the gallery owned by Joe Savell. Studio and Feliciana LAAG members showing their works are Alice Kent, Roger Persons, Kathryn Ward, Dahn Savell, Connie McMillon, Linda Broderick, Frances Durham, Merry Hobgood, Donne Kilbourne, Linda White, Geana Rust, and Martha Singer. The show will run until November 1st.



**Alice Kent** is currently showing work at The Foyer and will begin showing work at the Baton Rouge Main Street Market in October.

**John Labbe** sold two paintings in the last quarter *Barnyard Boss* and *The Lesson*. Both were sold through Pat McKnight at McKnight's in Clinton.

**Anne Thigpen** sold two paintings: *Cherry Bomb* and *Baie St. Paul*





## Interpret This Photo



It's that time of year already! Time for Halloween and Thanksgiving and Christmas. Get into the spirit early by painting this harvest scene.

It's time to bring in your swamp/bayou scenes!!! They will be exhibited through October and November.

**Interpret this Photo** is an ongoing exhibit at the Studio in the Park featuring Members' artwork depicting each artist's interpretation of the same photograph. All LAAG members are invited to create your own interpretation of the above photograph. You can use any format, size, media and any style you wish. Bring your creations into the Studio in the Park on any Open Studio day in November. The deadline to bring your paintings to the Studio is Wednesday, December 5.



The above photograph is also available to download from the website at [laag-site.org/interpret\\_this\\_photo](http://laag-site.org/interpret_this_photo) and on flyers at the Studio in the Park.



## Exhibits

### Independence Park Theatre

#### Summer Judged Show

The Summer Judged Show includes wonderful participation and interesting comments from the judge, Michaelene Walsh. The reception for this show was held on September 9 and featured a Portriat demonstration by Steve Shamburger. Please pick up your art from this show on October 18 between 10:30 am & 2:00pm.

First Place: Don Schifferl, *Iron Man Builders of One City*

Second Place: Calvin Balencie, *Chairs with a View*

Third Place: Larry Downs, *Bayou Backwater*

Honorable Mention

Marge Campana, *Artichokes*

Sue Wang, *Serenity*

Stan Routh, *Fried Green Tomatoes*



#### Winter Judged Show

Winter Judged Show take-in is November 15. A Reception and Awards presentation will be held on November 18 featuring a demonstration by Gerald Ray from Daryl & Sons Custom Framing and Gallery on mat cutting and color of mats, conservation and regular framing. The show will hang until January 12, 2013. If we're lucky, the show will be judged by one of the Bob Ross instructors, Linda Mauer. This show is open to all artists and every medium that can hang on the wall (except for photography).

Note that it's important that your artwork is finished (not wet) and equipped with wire on the back. Also, we are all creative artists and we could probably guess a title for your painting but we would rather leave that joy to you. And, if someone is interested in buying your painting, it would be quite helpful if they could contact you. So, please identify your artwork on the back with your name and contact info, and the painting's title, medium and price (or value if not for sale).

#### Fall Member Show

Fall Member Show take-in is October 18th. The reception for the show will be held on October 28, and the show will hang until November 15.

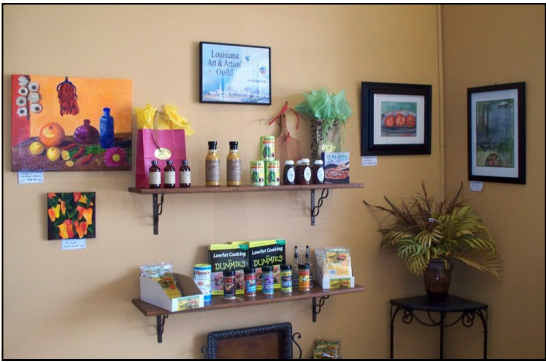
This show is dedicated to kids. The theme is **Who Wants to Play?**

If you wish to participate - these are the themes from which you can choose: Thanksgiving – Christmas – Joy – Hope – Game & Play – Friendship. Think kids (primary through high-school ages).

When the show finishes, we will have 8 spots at the Ochsner Hospital awaiting kids themed artwork. The pieces that best fit the theme will be chosen by committee members to be displayed at the Ochsner Hospital for one month.

## Exhibits

### Red Stick Spice Company



The paintings exhibited at the Red Stick Spice Company will be exchanged at the beginning of each month. Therefore, you can drop off paintings at the Studio in the Park on any Open Studio day.

The owner has requested artwork depicting fruits, vegetables, other foods, flowers or Louisiana-related scenes like a swamp or plantation. Paintings are to be no larger than 16" x 20" but no smaller than approximately 11" x 14". These sizes will allow us to use the available wall space as efficiently as possible.



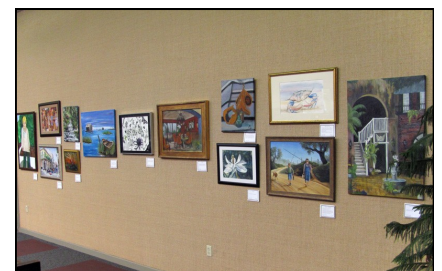
A very nice bonus for participating artists is that the owner is posting pictures of the displayed paintings on her Facebook and Twitter accounts. So we get some extra exposure!



Paintings on canvas must either be framed or gallery-wrapped. To be considered gallery-wrapped, the canvas stretcher must be at least 1-1/2" thick, with the painting continuing all the way around the edges. Canvases on stretchers less than 1-1/2" thick are not considered gallery-wrapped and need to be framed.

### Make a Statement Show at Greenwell Springs Library

During the month of August, the Guild displayed the Make A Statement exhibit at the Greenwell Springs Library. The visiting public was solicited to vote for a People's Choice Award and there was a tie! The two paintings that received the most votes are *Ladies in Waiting* and *Neighbor's Wash*. Both paintings are by Theresa Marchiafava. Congratulations to Theresa and we thank all the participants who contributed such wonderful artwork.





## Exhibits

### **Serop's Express Restaurants**

Presently, Kay Bailey and Anne Thigpen are exhibiting at the Serop's on Jefferson and Highland. On November 10, Vera Judicky will take Kay Bailey's place as exhibiting artist at the Jefferson Location, and Calvin Balencie will take Anne Thigpen's place as exhibiting artist at the Highland location. Be sure to stop by both locations to view the artwork and enjoy the food!

### **Mayor's Office**

The artwork at the Mayor's office will be exchanged on October 26. There are approximately 12 spots available, so bring your big paintings to the Studio in the Park any Tuesday, Wednesday or Sunday this month. Artwork sized 22"x28" and larger is preferred.

### **Ochsner Clinic**

During the month of August, award winning paintings from the Spring Judged Show and the Iberville Chapter Summer Art Show were displayed at the Ochsner Clinic off of Bluebonnet Blvd. Thanks to all the artists who allowed us to show their artwork. We really appreciate your participation.

### **Resignation of the Exhibit Chairperson**

Anne Thigpen has resigned as the Exhibits Chairperson. Anne thanks all who volunteered to help her or to exhibit art for their great collaboration. She really enjoyed giving her time with such wonderful artists.

Mary Heckman has volunteered to hang the exhibits at the Red Stick Spice Company. Sharmaine Claitor has volunteered to hang the exhibits at the Mayor's office. We still need volunteers to help with the Ochsner Clinic, Ochsner Hospital and Baton Rouge Little Theatre. The Guild exhibits in each of these locations only once or twice a year.

If you are interested in filling the Coordinator position or can help with a specific location, please contact Kay Bailey at 343-3265 or [kay.bailey@cox.net](mailto:kay.bailey@cox.net).

## Recent Workshops

### **Roberta Loflin - Abstracts in Watermedia**

Saturdays - August 4 - September 15



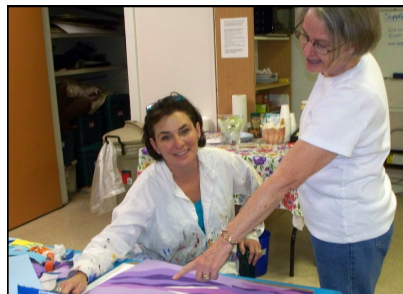
"My objective in taking this class was to expand my watercolor experience. Up to this point I painted only realistic watercolors. Roberta taught me to experiment with different techniques. She also added to my knowledge of composition. I enjoyed her demonstrations and her relaxed method of teaching."

"I found new views of subjects, moving past my literal compositions. Roberta's teaching style is so supportive, I am able to jump in and try new approaches. And the group was fun! Lots of eager anticipation on the "poured" technique. WOW Stuff!"



### **Roberta Loflin - Introduction to Collage**

September 20



### **Steve Shamburger Portraits in Oil**

September 25-27





## Upcoming Workshops

### **Sheryl Southwick - Explorations in Color for Adults - Acrylic**

October 22-24, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Fee: \$150

To register contact Kay Bailey at [kay.bailey@cox.net](mailto:kay.bailey@cox.net) or 225-343-3265

Both beginning and intermediate students will learn the basics of color theory and color mixing. New students will make a color wheel and intermediate students will make color charts using various designs. For a complete workshop description and a supply list visit the LAAG website at [www.laag-site.org/workshops/Southwick](http://www.laag-site.org/workshops/Southwick)



### **Elayne Kuehler - Romantic Realism in the Landscape**

Painting Atmosphere in the Landscape, Understanding Color in Atmosphere

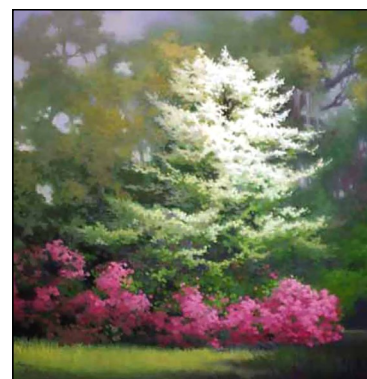
November 6-8, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Fee: \$150

**Registration Deadline is October 6**

To register contact Joel McLain at [jbmclainla@cox.net](mailto:jbmclainla@cox.net) or 225-766-2353

Students will paint from their own photos of landscapes preferably that show a lot of distance and also different weather conditions like fog, rain, sunny, springtime, wintertime. The workshop is for beginning, intermediate and advanced students, but all should have some experience painting. For a complete workshop description and a supply list visit the LAAG website at [www.laag-site.org/workshops/Kuehler](http://www.laag-site.org/workshops/Kuehler)



### **Sheryl Southwick - Mosaics**

January 14, from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

January 15, from 9:00 am to 10:30 am

Fee: \$40, plus \$2 for thinset, payable to Sheryl

**Registration Deadline is December 14**

To register contact Joel McLain at [jbmclainla@cox.net](mailto:jbmclainla@cox.net) or 766-2353

Students of all levels will learn the basics of mosaics: breaking and cutting glass and pottery, applying shards to a wooden surface with adhesives, applying grout. Students will take home a small mosaic intended for indoor use. For more information visit the LAAG website at [www.laag-site.org/workshops/Southwick/workshop\\_info\\_mosaic](http://www.laag-site.org/workshops/Southwick/workshop_info_mosaic)





Louisiana Art and Artists' Guild  
2490 Silverest Avenue  
Baton Rouge, LA 70816

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This newsletter is produced by a Committee consisting of the following members:

Chair: Lane Downs

Art & Design Director: Lane Downs

Information Director: Trish Poynot

Copy Editor: Sue Warnock

Guild News: Lane Downs

Member News: Trish Poynot

Iberville and Feliciana News: Trish Poynot

Exhibits: Anne Thigpen

Workshops: Leah Schwartzman

Interviews: Caroline Derbes, Kay Bailey, Tom Skillern and Howard Hershberg

Any member information to be included in the newsletter should be sent to Trish Poynot at [grannytrishp@yahoo.com](mailto:grannytrishp@yahoo.com) by the first of every other month. The newsletter is then published and mailed on the first of the next month.