

OffBeat Auction

Planning Meeting Scheduled for Early 2001

Can you believe it? With the year 2001 here, it's time to start planning for DRA's biannual fund-raiser, the 5th OffBeat Auction and Gala. For those of you new to this Del Ray phenomenon, proceeds from the OffBeat Auction, an event normally held the first weekend of December, ensures that we can continue to provide community art outreach programs and a venue for the exposure and expression of our artisan members. To get ready for Offbeat, we collect, rehab, and "dress up" pieces of furniture to be sold during a live auction at the gala. Member artists "adopt-a-piece" of furniture and let their imaginations run wild. The result is an exciting and diverse collection of functional art that makes for lively and competitive bidding. The event features fabulous food and drink along with some swingin' live music.

OffBeat is always an exciting event, but like most things in life, it involves planning and hard work. The good news is that it's a lot of fun and we have a core group of OffBeat committee chair veterans who can lend their guidance and support –perhaps some of them may even consent to reprising their valiant roles from 1999's successful production (hint hint)!! But new blood is needed. So it is in that vein that **all** members are encouraged to attend to a very crucial OffBeat planning meeting on **Sunday, January 14, 2001 at 1:00PM** at the Colasanto Center. Food and beverage will be provided. Only 6" of snow or a blizzard will cancel this one!!

OffBeat is not just a great party where you can pick up some funky furniture and eat holiday fare, it's a chance for you to give of your time and talent to benefit our group. Everything from chairing, co-chairing or being part of a committee, to donating a piece of your art work, to preparing furniture, to bringing a fabulous appetizer or dessert specialty to the event, to giving an hour of your time on the "night of" will be needed.

Come to this "kick-off" meeting prepared with your ideas and suggestions on the following topics:

—**Finding a new venue for the event.**

Current suggestions include moving it to a far more spacious location than previous times - Embassy Suites at the edge of Old Town, the Birchmere, and the Masonic Temple.

—**Changing the event date from early December to the Spring.**

—**Having the event catered.**

This would entail asking several area restaurants / caterers to donate their services.

—**Streamlining the furniture preparation process.**

This involves the repair of and distribution to artists of the live auction items. Historically, this committee needs many, many hands. Luckily all skill levels are needed. Those who prep the furniture (wash/sand/prime) are just as essential as the decorative artists who transform the pieces. If you're in it for the camaraderie, this committee's for you.

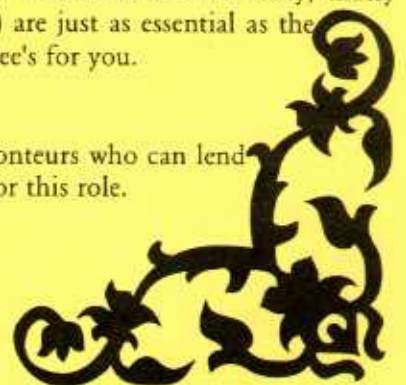
—**Teaching or suggesting art classes that focus on some aspect of applying art to furniture.**

—**Recruiting a live auctioneer / MC.**

This is the person who "runs" the show during the event. Local celebrities, politicians, raconteurs who can lend spice (and PR) to the night, but still stay on-schedule and move the show along are sought for this role.

—**Your role as a DRA member dedicated to DRA's mission to bring art to the community.**

Lots of other areas need your input! Hope to see you there.



Self-Portrait Show

Now is a chance to show the world the real you. The Del Ray Artisans' Self Portrait show will feature all media, two- and three-dimensional, expressing artists' personal visions of themselves. Up to three (3) entries will be accepted Saturday, January 6, 2001 from 12NOON to 4PM at the DRA gallery in the Colasanto Center. There is a \$15 entry fee for non-members.

The show will open Friday, January 12 from 7PM to 10PM. The exhibit runs through January 28 and is free and open to the public. Gallery hours are Saturdays, 10AM to 4PM and Sundays, 12NOON to 4PM.

For more information, please contact curator Deborah Tynan at 703.519.3682 / lafncoyote@home.com

A Word from One of Our Member Artists

The diversity of a community gallery is very refreshing and refueling, and there are many levels of creativity and spirit in the membership. With these thoughts in mind, and in keeping with the spirit of Del Ray Artisans, as an artist and a professional picture framer I would like to offer my assistance to members who may need some help with the framing of their art work and its presentation in a gallery setting. Proper framing can make art work shine and sparkle at many levels! It can dazzle the viewer and raise the quality of DRA shows across the board.

Often all it takes is a simple, neutral mat, frame and glass along with the proper screws and wire to frame your art. Hanging the latest show in the DRA gallery made it very clear that reliable hardware for hanging pieces securely is a must for all artists participating in DRA shows and/or sales.

Please contact Karen Schmitz with your framing questions 703.836.0035 or schmitzk@yahoo.com



Become a Member, Join Del Ray Artisans
(or renew your membership)



Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Telephone(s): _____

E-mail: _____

I am an artist (medium): _____

I am a supporter of the arts

Is this a membership renewal? Yes No

I am interested in volunteering. Yes No

I can liaison for Del Ray Artisans at a local civic group. Yes No

Membership Categories for One (1) Year: Individual: \$35,
Household: \$50, Corporate: \$100, Student/Senior/Disadvantaged: \$10

Please make check payable to Del Ray Artisans.

Mail check and membership form to Del Ray Artisans,

Attn: Membership, 2210 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria, VA 22301.

Call for Entries

(list of exhibits/ competitions for artists—
brief descriptions)

Film Biz Monthly Networking Event

The Film Biz is a monthly, charitable networking event for local film, video, and media professionals. They meet the 2nd Tuesday of each month, 6:30PM-9PM, at the Jury's Washington Hotel, 1500 New Hampshire Ave., NW. Contact: www.filmbiz.org or e-mail allison090@aol.com for info and local charity of the month!

Online Gallery

www.findmeanartist.com offers an online gallery without fees or commissions. Instructions on Web site. Contact: Donna Howe dhowe@findmeanartist.com or 1-877-WE FIND ART.

Opportunities on Capitol Hill for Artists and Craftspeople

Market 5 Gallery: (www.market5gallery.org) located in the Eastern Market area on Capitol Hill (along 7th St. between Penn. and North Carolina Ave. SE, near the Eastern Market Subway Station at 7th & Penn. Ave.) offers a broad range of program choices to provide both performers and audiences with a wide range of art, educational, and cultural experience.

Jan. 16, 2001

Fund for US Artists at International Festivals and Exhibitions. Awards grants to US artists and groups invited to perform at festivals overseas. 2001 Application deadlines are Jan. 16, May 2, Sept. 5. Information: Arts International, 251 Park Ave. S., NY, NY 10010; phone 212.674.9744; or www.artsinternational.org

Jan. 19, 2001

11th Annual New Images Exhibition. Juried Competition - A Juried Photo Competition for artists residing in the Mid-Atlantic States of DE, ME, NJ, NY, PA, VA, WVA, and Wash., DC. Photography must be a primary medium—B/W photography, color photography, xerography, digital imaging, alternative processes, photo-based printmaking, and mixed media. The work must have been completed within the past 2 years and may not exceed 40" in any direction. Entry Fee: \$6 fee per slide. 3 entries max. Juror: Paul Roth, Assistant Curator of Photography and Media Arts, Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, DC. Exhibition Dates and Space: March 26 - April 27, 2001. New Image Gallery, School of Art and Art History, James Madison University. Located in Zirkle House, 983 South, Main St., Harrisonburg, VA. For information contact: James Madison Univ., MSC 7101, Harrisonburg, VA 22807, 540.568.6485; FAX: 540.568.6598

Jan. 19, 2001

"Japonisme: Asian Inspirations." Juror: Stephen Phillips, Associate Curator, Phillips Collection, Wash., DC. Open to all artists in all Media. \$500 Best in show Award. Exhibition Dates: March 28-May 6, 2001. Submission Fee: \$25 for 3 slides. For Prospectus, send SASE to: Target Gallery at the Torpedo Factory Art Ctr., 105 N. Union St., Alexandria, VA 22314, or 703.549.6877 ext. 4.

Feb. 1, 2001

Bonsai Pots Competition. New, high-fire bonsai pots made by North American artists. Up to 6 entries per artist. For a prospectus contact: Felix Laughlin, The National Bonsai Foundation, 1775 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Wash., DC 20006 or e-mail slaughlin@deweyballantine.com

February 7, 2001

The Fraser Gallery announces the 5th Annual Georgetown International Fine Arts Jusied Competition. Over \$1,500 in prizes plus a one month solo show award. For information call 202.298.6450.

February 28, 2001

The Arts Club of Washington announces a Call for Entries for 2001-2002 Monthly Exhibitions. Juror: Dr. Kimberly A. Jones, Asst. Curator of French Paintings at the National Gallery of Art. For information, call 202.331.7282.

ARTIST TO ARTIST

Don't let the winter doldrums stifle your creative energy. Sign-up now for inspiring classes offered by fellow artists.

Mirror, Mirror on the Wall

Create your own mixed media collage mirror. In this exciting class you will take ordinary and unusual objects found in and around the house and learn how to combine them to create a one of a kind, 8 x 10 mirror that reflects your personality. So, gather up those old pictures, odd game pieces, buttons, beads stamps, and stuff and join in the fun. If you come empty handed, a small baggie of goodies will be available for \$9.95. Mirror and other supplies will be provided in class. Fee: \$55. Instructor: **Robin Robinson**. To register send your name, address, and phone number along with a check payable to Robin's Nest Creations at P.O. Box 2965, Arlington, VA 22202
Sunday, Feb. 18, 1PM-3:30PM, Mount Vernon Recreation Center

Creative Writing

Would you like to journal your adventures, write poetry, prepare a memoir, or start the great American novel? This workshop can help you get your creative juices flowing! The class will incorporate free writing techniques to help you clear your mind from the clutter of the day and let your inspirations pour into words on the page. Whether you're a seasoned writer or just starting to pick up a pen, these exercises will provide fodder for your writing. Bring paper or journal & a pen. Fee: \$20 for 4 sessions. Instructor: **Renee Niver**. If you have questions contact Renee at mig2me@juno.com. To register send your name, address, and telephone number along with a check payable to Renee Niver at 6621 Wakefield Dr., #218, Alexandria, VA 22307

Wednesdays, 7PM-8:30PM, Feb. 7, 21, 28, and March 7, Mount Vernon Recreation Center

The Good Gourd

Bring excitement to the winter doldrums by participating in a Gourd Art Workshop. Make it a fun family activity. Gourds are a universal craft material, spanning oceans and continents. Class projects include: birdhouses, clocks, lights, musical instruments, jewelry, purses, and sculpture. Learn a variety of finishing techniques including staining, painting, decoupage, and wood burning. Fee: \$40, includes cutting and cleaning tools as well as treatment materials. Gourds range from \$1 for tiny gourd to \$6 for a large gourd. Other supplies may include paintbrushes, acrylic or oil paints. To register name, address and telephone number along with a check payable to **Bridget Belkacemi** at 1415 North Carolina Ave., NE #2 Wash., DC 20002.

Sundays, 1PM-4PM, Jan. 21, 28, and Feb. 4, 11

Beadweaving Technique Class: Beginning Peyote (Gourd) stitch

Always wanted to make an amulet bag but didn't know where to start? Learn how to work Peyote (Gourd) stitch, the most popular beadweaving stitch used today. This is a technique class for beginners, so you will not be working on a project. You will learn even-count peyote, how to start a project, how to choose the right beads for a pattern and how to read a pattern. Class is not suitable for children under 16. Instructor: **Quinn McDonald**. Fee: \$50. Materials: List provided at registration. Bring your own or purchase starter kit from instructor. Instructor takes checks, cash, Visa, MC. To register: Class limited to first 8 students. Contact *Bead Seeds*, 703.519.8323 or Beadseeds@hotmail.com

Sunday, Feb. 25, 1PM-3PM, Nicholas A. Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue

Free-Form Peyote Bracelet

If you've ever seen the fabulous free-form peyote bracelets and necklaces, you've wanted to make one for yourself. Now you can

learn how. This is a project class, and knowledge of basic peyote stitch is a must. You will learn how to construct the base of the bracelet, embellish it with beads and bridges, choose and attach a clasp. Most students will want to continue work on their own at home; this class allows for that. Class is not suitable for children under 16. Instructor: **Quinn McDonald**. Fee: \$50. Materials: List provided at registration. Bring your own or purchase starter kit from instructor. Instructor takes checks, cash, Visa, MC. To register: Class limited to first 8 students. Contact *Bead Seeds*, 703.519.8323 or Beadseeds@hotmail.com

Sunday, March 4, 1PM-3PM, Nicholas A. Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue

Beadweaving: 2 Pretty Bracelets

Bracelets are popular gifts and these two are fun to make. Make the "Hugs and Kisses" bracelet for a Valentine gift! The "Captured Bead" bracelet looks hard to make, but isn't. Both are made with a two-needle beadweaving technique. No previous knowledge of beadweaving is necessary, but some patience is required in the beginning. Class is not suitable for children under 16. Instructor: **Quinn McDonald**. Fee: \$50. Materials: List provided at registration. Bring your own or purchase starter kit from instructor. Instructor takes checks, cash, Visa, MC. To register: Class limited to first 8 students. Contact *Bead Seeds*, 703.519.8323 or Beadseeds@hotmail.com

Sunday, March 11, 1PM-3PM, Nicholas A. Colasanto Center, 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue

Instructor Biographies

Bridget Belkacemi is an active member of the Del Ray Artisans. She participates in local festivals, exhibited at the Arlington Arts Center, and can be seen from time to time at Eastern Market. Raised on a farm in Iowa, the gourd harvest was a springtime event for her family. Bridget enjoys sharing her craft with kids at summer arts programs.

Quinn McDonald, active DRA member and owner of *Bead Seeds*. Quinn sells her hand-made jewelry at area craft shows and has been teaching craft classes for 10 years.

Renee Niver, is an active member of the Del Ray Artisans and the founder of the Women's Art Collaborative.

Robin Robinson, owner of Robins Nest Creations, has been a local jewelry and decorative arts designer for the past 12 years. She has sold her unique pieces through a number of venues and most recently through her studio located in Arlington, VA. Robin's love to create was sparked by early craft projects that her grandmother designed. An experienced teacher, she is always excited to have an opportunity to share her love of creating with other people. Robin is a member of Del Ray Artisans, Arlington Arts Center, and Northern Virginia Handcrafters Guild.



Many thanks to the
**Sheila Whiting and
Mount Vernon
Recreation Center for working
with DRA and providing space
for our classes.**



Del Ray Artisans
 Mail: 2210 Mount Vernon Avenue
 Alexandria, Virginia 22301
 703.838.4827
www.radiodelray.com/artisans

Thanks to the Alexandria Commission for the Arts, the Virginia Commission for the Arts, and the City of Alexandria

Next General Member Meeting

Tuesday, January 9, 7PM
 at DRA Gallery Space
 Nicholas A. Colasanto Center
 2704 Mount Vernon Avenue

**DRA Meetings are held on the
 2nd Tuesday of every month.**

DRA Calendar

2001

- January Opening: **Self-Portrait Show Reception, Friday, January 12, 7-10PM**, DRA Center, contact Deborah Tynan, 703.519.3682, or lafncoyote@home.com
- Self-Portrait Show**, January 12-28, Curator Deborah Tynan, 703.519.3682, or lafncoyote@home.com
- 1:00PM, January 14**, Sunday, OffBeat Auction planning meeting at the Colasanto Center, food and drink will be provided.
- 5pm, January 19**, Deadline for submission of February 2001 newsletter articles, please submit all articles, formatted in Word or e-mail text, to Susan Slattery, Newsletter Editor, at devisu@erols.com
- February **Springwater Fiber / DRA Wearable Art Collaboration**, February 9-25, Springwater Co-Curator Ann Liddle, 703.548.1962, liddle@dgs.dgsys.com, DRA Co-Curator Theresa Esterlund, 703.379.2533, esterlund@nmah.si.edu
- March **Water Show**, March 9-25, Curator Leo Pfeiffer, 703.222.9124
- April **Spring Member Show**, April 6-22, Curator Paula Lantz 703.836.0866
- May **5th Annual Student Show**, May 11-27, Curator Linda Silk 703.533.7689, LMSilk@aol.com
- June **Dun-Lo Senior Show (55+)**, June 8-24, Curator Rhoda Seligmann 703.751.7924
- July on... **The Offbeat Auction** preparation

Elected Officers: President Martin Angebrannt 703.683.3738, Vice-President Reneé Niver 703.721.1937, Treasurer Marlin Lord 703.683.1112, Asst. Treasurer Kathryn Brown 703.549.5227, Secretary Linda Silk 703.533.7689. **Elected Board Members:** (in no particular order) PR Chairperson/Director Vacant, Graphics Chairperson/Director Terry Atkin, Gallery Coordinator/Director Liz Martinez 703.683.1969, Mail List Coordinator/Director Bryan Leister 703.683.1544, Director Susan Downs Slattery 703.922.7290, Director Vivienne Lukacs 703.979.8996, Director Eleanor Baker 703.683.1252, Director Larisa Sjoerds 202.483.2079, Director David Talmage 703.768.0709, Director Barbara Robinson 703.683.6951, Director Beth Wrightson 703.683.0222, Director Theresa Esterlund 703.379.2533.

Newsletter Editors: Susan Slattery and Terry Atkin; **Contributing Editors this issue:** Barbara Robinson, Mart Larson, Liz Martinez, Rene Niver; **Production and Distribution Diva:** Mart Larson.

Arts Resource Foundation is a 501(c)(3) public membership organization formed to create and support community-based arts organizations and promote the arts as a resource for community development. **Del Ray Artisans** is a community arts group featuring two- and three-dimensional works of decorative and functional art and fine crafts through exhibits, lectures, and instructional classes in the community. **Del Ray Artisans** is funded, managed, and operated by **Arts Resource Foundation**.

ACA Seeks Panel Members

The Alexandria Commission for the Arts seek interested individuals to serve on resource panels for dance, literature, music, theater, and visual arts. Panel members will review grant applications made to the commission in FY 2001-2002, and typically serve for three-year terms. An application procedure and approval vote by the commission is required for appointments. Call the ACA office at 703.838.6348 for application forms.