



The Well Crafted Word

Del Ray Artisans
.....since 1992

www.thedelrayartisans.org

April 2006

Instructors needed for Art Camp

The DRA Art Camp (July 24-28) will feature an exciting multicultural element this year. The Multi-Cultural Art Camp Odyssey is for kids ages 9-15 and will present a probable curriculum of the following classes:

- Art dolls
- Jewelry making
- Mono-printing
- Painting (Aboriginal)
- Percussion workshop (international)
- Textile project(s)

Scholarships for campers are also available.

Volunteers are needed to assist teachers and students. Fun will be had by all during this week-long art adventure! This is a rewarding, educational opportunity for DRA members to fulfill their yearly volunteer hours (10) requirement while learning and giving at the same time. Lunch and swimming with the campers is an added benefit.

For more information, contact **Linda Silk** 703.533.7689 or lsilk@worldnet.att.net

Framing workshop

Whether you make photographs, collages or paintings, your work isn't complete until it's properly framed and ready to hang. As artists we all have the challenge of presenting our work to its best advantage, and there's no denying that a great framing choice can make your artwork really sing. Sadly, this skill is often overlooked, and framing can easily feel overwhelming when we're faced with all the options!

Fellow DRA members **Thilys Araujo** and **Stephany Wright**, owners of Del Ray's custom framing gallery Artifacts, Inc., will lead a 2-hour workshop Sunday, April 9, 11-1:00 PM, demystifying everything an artist should know about matting and framing.

They will discuss ways to cut costs, review examples of good and bad framing choices and the aesthetic consequences of each.



Rites of Spring All Member Show opens

Birds, bees, flowers and ...the hoppin' bunny all on a bed of the freshest green grass grace the "Rites of Spring" All Member Show postcard designed by co-curators **Karen Schmitz** and **Susan Slattery** with graphic designer **Brian Marquis**. From March 31 to April 23 the gallery will burst with our members' talents. The show opening will be Friday, March 31 (7-10 pm).

A poetry reading by M. Magnus will be presented at the reception. This will be a stimulating preview of the citywide Yockadot Poetics Theater Festival which is M organizing for Spring of 2007. DRA will be involved in the Festival, so stay tuned for more details.

April ends with an exciting Master's thesis show by **Leslie Rousseau**. Her "From the Edge" exhibit will be on display April 28-30, with an opening reception Friday, April 28 (7-10pm).

Leslie earned a BFA from the University of Michigan. Her thesis exhibition is part of her work for a Masters Degree from Virginia Commonwealth. Currently she teaches art at her alma mater, T.C. Williams High School.

Rousseau is an abstract painter who says of her work, "It is how I connect to what is too large, too vague, or too personally meaningful to express in any other way." Space and its transformation by light and color, with an emphasis upon spatial ambiguity, are central to her images.

Her art is the place where "I acknowledge the cracks in the ice and where I try to keep from falling through when the ground opens up. Shifting planes are where I try to keep my balance while peeking through the cracks and over the edge."

Contributors this month include: **Kathryn Brown, Joan Ulrich, Rob Rudick, Karen Schmitz, Susan Slattery** and **Dave Nicholson**.

Many thanks to our monthly sponsor: **Royce Flowers** for the lovely arrangements seen at every opening

Thanks to the **Alexandria Commission for the Arts** for their continuing support.

Edited by: **Dave Nicholson**
Submission deadline-20th of month preceding (4/20 for May)
email to: t8photog@yahoo.com

Website: www.thedelrayartisans.org

Still Life sessions & Life Drawing Studio



It's true that we can all set up a still life at home and paint on our own. But it's much more fun to get together, combining items to create different set-ups.

A small but intrepid group of DRA artists did just that during one week in February. The gallery was turned into Still Life Central. While artists painted, ideas and energy flowed, advice was given and taken.

If you are interested in helping to arrange regular nights of still life painting at the gallery, email **Joan Ulrich** at ulrichclay@aol.com.

Over President's Day weekend, DRA hosted a life drawing marathon at the gallery. Each day six models sat from 10 am until 8 pm giving artists ample opportunity to create drawings, paintings, and even a small clay model or two.

A great mix of participants attended: ages ranged from high school students to seniors, including both members and non-members. **Michele Reday Cook** and **Joan Ulrich**, who organized the weekend, promise to find a way to continue to offer life drawing on a regular basis at the DRA gallery. Stay tuned!

Mi Casa was truly Su Casa

Everyone felt right at home at the 2006 DRA and Springwater Fiber's collaborative show, *Mi Casa, Su Casa*. Artists from both groups converted the gallery into a warm and welcoming place. Artists (58!) from every media displayed over 100 works, inspiring everyone on how art makes a house a home. The highlight of the opening reception was the "Apprentice – Weaving Style" competition. 50 artists competed on Del Ray Artisans' and Springwater Fiber's teams to produce two unique art pieces, which collectively raised several hundred dollars in a silent auction that ran through the end of the end of the show. Proceeds will benefit Red Cross Katrina Relief efforts.

Ultimately, Springwater won the weaving competition "by the tiniest margin," with DRA slated to provide the refreshments at SFW's next board meeting. However, say Mi Casa's curators, SFW will "forgo the feast." They have requested that DRA add the cost of the treats to the Katrina Relief fund!

Co-curators **Randy Scheessele** and **Maybelle Taylor Bennett** would like to thank **Karen Schmitz, Susan Slattery, Linda Silk, Marlin Lord, Kathryn Brown, Theresa Kulstad, Linda Hurt, Sylvia DeMar, Ann Liddle, and Yvette Thomas** for all of their help with this show.

Spring Sale reminder

If you haven't done so already, mark your calendars for the Del Ray Artisans Spring Sale, which is being held on Saturday, May 6th, from 10 am to 4pm. The sale will feature your fellow Del Ray Artisans selling an array of painting, photography, jewelry, pottery, embroidery, stained glass, and

wearable sculpture. The Sale will take place in Colasanto Park, adjoining the gallery.

There are a couple of slots still available, if you'd like to participate. Contact **Rob Rudick**, robrudick@yahoo.com, 301.270.2323 for information.

First Thursday themes announced

First Thursdays are held the first Thursday of each month, 6-9:00 PM, May-September, along Mt. Vernon Avenue in the Del Ray neighborhood. Businesses and community groups feature free entertainment and other activities. Don't miss these mini-street festivals! If you would like to help with First Thursdays, contact 703.836.2176 or mail@AlexandriaVolunteers.com

Coming up May 4th: Munchkins on the Avenue: Focus on Kids!

- June 1: Luau on the Avenue: A Tropical Summer Celebration
- July 6: Red, White, and Blue on the Avenue: An All-American Festival
- August 3: Fashionistas on the Avenue: Beauty and Fashion will Abound!
- Sept. 7: Chew on the Avenue: Enjoy foods of the neighborhood



Need camera repair?

Newberry's Camera Repair Shop, on Lee Highway in Arlington, 703.527.6935, one of the last "old dependable" camera repair shops in the area, is planning to close their doors by the end of April! So if you have a camera on the fritz you figured you would get repaired "some day"....now might just be the time!

Art & Poetry inspired by the Andes

DRA members **Chela Sanabria** and **Edith Graciela Sanabria** will have an exhibit of their work at the Martin Luther King Library, April 4-26. The opening reception is Tuesday, April 4th from 6-8:00 PM. The library is located at 901 G Street, NW in Washington, DC. For more information, please call 703.329.3379.

2006 Calendar of Events

Mar. 31-April 23	<i>Rites of Spring</i> - Spring All Member Show – curators Schmitz & Slattery
April 9	<i>Presentation Possibilities</i> framing overview(11 AM-1 PM)
April 11	Board Meeting (7:00 PM)
April 15	<i>Farmer's Market</i> opens
April 21	CANCELLED <i>Rites of Spring Toga Party & Dance</i>
April 28-30	<i>From the Edge</i> - Master's thesis exhibit - Leslie Rousseau
May 4	1 st Thursday (6-9 PM) – Munchkins on the Avenue theme
May 6	<i>Spring Art Sale</i> (10 AM-4 PM)/ organizer Rob Rudick 301.270.2323.
May 9	Board Meeting (7:00 PM)
May 12-28	<i>Student Art Show</i> / organizer Linda Silk
May 16	DRA General Meeting (7:30 PM)
June 1	1 st Thursday (6-9 PM) – Luau on the Avenue theme
June 9–July 16	<i>Abstract Art / Juried</i> exhibit
June 13	Board Meeting (7:00 PM)
July 6	1 st Thursday (6-9 PM) – Red, White & Blue theme
July 11	Board Meeting (7:00 PM)
July 24–28	<i>Art Camp</i> / K. Schmitz & L. Silk
August 3	1 st Thursday (6-9 PM) - Fashionistas theme
August 4 -27	<i>3 Artists</i> – Lukacs, Kulstad & Silk
August 8	Board Meeting (7:00 PM)
August 15	<i>DRA Annual Pool Party</i> (6:00 PM), General Meeting & Pie Baking contest
September 7	1 st Thursday (6-9 PM) - Chew on the Avenue theme
Sept. 8–Oct. 1	<i>Fall All Member Show</i>
September 9-10	<i>Alexandria Festival of the Arts</i>
Sept. 12	Board Meeting (7:00 PM)
October 6-22	<i>Bead II / Juried</i> exhibit / Barbara Brecher 703.548.2878
October 7	<i>Art on the Avenue</i> (10 AM-6 PM)- Dance & art activities in the gallery
October 10	Board Meeting (7:00 PM)
October 17	DRA Annual Meeting & Elections (7:30 PM)
October 27-Nov. 4	<i>Dia de los Muertos</i> workshops / event / exhibit
October 29	<i>Del Ray Halloween Parade</i> (2 PM)
November 10–26	<i>DR Dozen</i> invitational photography exhibit/ curator Rob Rudick 301.270.2323
November 14	Board Meeting (7:00 PM)
November	Photography workshop
December 1-3	<i>Fine Art & Fine Crafts Holiday Market / Juried</i>
December 2	Holiday on the Avenue - Tree Lighting & Luminaria Display (6:00 PM)
December 12	Board Meeting (7:00 PM)
December	Cookie Swap / Ornament workshop



Executive Board

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Volunteers - OPEN

Community Representative - OPEN

Opportunities for artists

Sunday, April 30 -Titan Expo 2006's Art on the Green (12-5 pm) – pmiller1806@comcast.net or 703.683.2570. Held behind Chinquapin Park Recreation Center.

Saturday & Sunday, May 13 & 14 -26th Annual Old Town Fine Art & Crafts Fair sponsored by the Alexandria Volunteer Bureau, 75+ artists,

live music & food at Market Square in the heart of Old Town, mail@AlexandriaVolunteers.com or 703.836.2176.

Saturday, June 10 - Arts in the Alley, Purcellville, VA (10-5 pm); \$25 fee for judging 3 works-digital photos only. Questions: artists@artsinthealley.org

Join DRA as an artist or supporter

MEMBERSHIP FORM		Renewal <input type="checkbox"/>	New Member <input type="checkbox"/>
Title _____	Name(s) _____		
Corporation Name _____			
Address _____			
Home Phone _____		Work Phone _____	Email _____
Artist <input type="checkbox"/>	Media <input type="checkbox"/>	_____	
<p>Unless contributing as a Corporate entity or Friend of DRA, I understand that as a DRA member I will contribute a minimum of 10 volunteer hours annually. These are hours non-related to the requirements of an exhibiting artist in a DRA show, as all exhibit participants are required to gallery sit or assist with other aspects of an exhibit in which they participate. Please indicate below your areas of interest:</p> <p>COMMUNICATIONS: Mailings __ Newsletter __ Public Relations __; FACILITY: Gallery Maintenance __ Gardening __; FINANCE: Grants __; FUNDRAISING: Solicitation __ Special Events __;</p> <p>GALLERY COORDINATOR: Curating/Co-curating __ Hanging Shows __;</p> <p>HISTORIAN/ARCHIVIST: Photograph Albums/Scrapbooks __; MEMBERSHIP: Data Input __ Sponsor/Corporate Solicitation __; OUTREACH: Community Events/Activities __;</p> <p>PROGRAMS: Art Camp __ Class Instructor __; Member Events __; VOLUNTEER: Telephoning __;</p> <p>JUST ABOUT ANYTHING __</p>			
Signature _____		Date _____	
<p>Dues: Gold Corporate \$500 __; Silver Corporate \$250 __; Friend of DRA \$35 __; Individual \$35 __; Household \$50 __; Student/Senior/Disabled \$10 __. Dues payable to DEL RAY ARTISANS and mail with this form to Del Ray Artisans, Attn.: Membership, 2704 Mt. Vernon Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22301.</p>			

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