



# The Well Crafted Word

a monthly publication of the **Del Ray Artisans...** since 1992

[www.thedelrayartisans.org](http://www.thedelrayartisans.org)

## That “Can Do” Spirit!

Anyone walking into the Del Ray Artisans gallery these days is going to notice a big change, starting from the ground up. Yes, we have a beautiful new floor that warms up the space and provides a polished stage for the amazing array of art we showcase monthly! This feat not only took months (some would say years) of discussing, planning, investigating, and fundraising, but also (and most importantly) it took a work crew of volunteers willing to roll up their sleeves and spend over a hundred hours on their knees laying the new floor. Thank you go to Marc Sviland, Kurt Peterson, Rusty Lynn, Randy Scheessele, Alan Becker, Linda Silk Sviland, and Marlin Lord (this would not have happened without you). Thank you also to Bob Larson for loaning the chop saw and table saw, and to our landlord, the City of Alexandria, for giving us permission to do this.

The finished floor is a gleaming expanse of super high quality engineered bamboo that is easy to clean and easy on the eyes. Lumber Liquidators generously upgraded our order so that we could have the durable commercial grade for the lower residential price, which was a savings of several hundreds of dollars.

Recently someone referred to DRA as scrappy, and that’s true, we are a scrappy organization as defined by “having determination and energetic pursuit of [our] ends.” It is this scrappiness, this Can Do Spirit, which is the hallmark of DRA. Our genesis was a group of neighbors who volunteered their money, energy, and time to fill a gap in the community and created a place for art. And now, volunteers have just taken this place for art to the next level by making it a more inviting place.



## New Work for a New Year Show

Del Ray Artisans (DRA) is pleased to announce the January 2010 show, *New Work for a New Year*. This exhibit, for both DRA members and non-members, provides local artists a platform to show recent work, which has not been previously exhibited.

The show will be at the Del Ray Artisans gallery from January 8 - 24, 2010. The opening reception is Friday, January 8, 7-9:30 pm

## Get Your Bags Packed for April

Are your bags packed for April’s show? All bags on board for the *What’s Your Bag?* show coming in April.

Photos, drawings, paintings, ceramics, mixed media, jewelry, fiber arts and of course bags, satchels, suitcases, backpacks, handbags. Look deep into the sack and make some bags that make us “purse” our lips and say “Mama & Papa’s got a brand new bag!”

Super sachel curators are Theresa Kulstad at [tkulstad@verizon.net](mailto:tkulstad@verizon.net) and Karen Schmitz schmityk@yahoo.com 703-232-4526. Get making now and look for the Call for Entries on our website and in the February newsletter.

## FUNday - Sunday January 31st is for Cardmaking and ATCs

Yes! We will have a FUN-derful combo day on Sunday, 1/31 from 12-4. Join us in making handmade cards and working on ATCs which are cool artist trading cards.

Themes for Cardmaking could be love, lust and all occasion. Cards can be donated to DRA or, with a small donation, you can take them home. Theme for ATCs (Artist Trading Cards) is what’s IN and what’s OUT for the new year of 2010! These small 2.5” x 3.5” cards are an easy make.

All are welcome to come and have an art play day.

Need more info? Contact: Theresa at [tkulstad@verizon.net](mailto:tkulstad@verizon.net) or Karen at [schmityk@yahoo.com](mailto:schmityk@yahoo.com) or 703-232-4526.

**Come to the gallery for the  
New Works show, opening  
January 8th – and see the new  
exhibit *and* the new floor**

## Open Life Drawing

Open life drawing sessions will continue from 2-5 pm on selected Wednesdays at the DRA gallery. These three-hour afternoon sessions will start with some short warm-up poses and progressively move into longer poses (10-45 minutes). These sessions provide a great opportunity to hone your drawing and observation skills.

For the months of January and February we are adding gesture drawing sessions from 11-1 prior to each of our regular sessions. These two-hour sessions will be comprised primarily of a series of dynamic 1-5 minute poses. Favorite poses may be revisited for slightly longer at the end of each session. Come to these sessions to loosen up and participate in a fun, fast-paced drawing experience.

Sessions are drop-in so no registration is required. You may come to one or both sessions on a given day. Bring your supplies and join us.

Jan 13:	11-1 gesture	2-5 short/long pose
Jan 27:	11-1 gesture	2-5 short/long pose
Feb 10:	11-1 gesture	2-5 short/long pose
Feb 24:	11-1 gesture	2-5 short/long pose

The fee for each three-hour open life session is \$8 for DRA members and \$10 for non-members. The two-hour sessions are \$6 for members and \$8 for non-members.

If you have any questions, please contact Katherine Rand at 703.836.1468 or [katherine@katherinerand.com](mailto:katherine@katherinerand.com).

## Curator's Corner

Happy New Year to all our artists. We hope to see you submitting your art for our monthly shows. There are eight shows in 2010 for which you can submit work. We especially welcome our new members to bring in your work.

Check our newsletter, website or sign up for our email updates to be alerted to upcoming calls for entry and the dates for receiving. Participating in a show is a great way to become involved and to meet fellow DRA artists. Even if you don't have anything ready for a show, curators always can use an extra pair of hands for a variety of needs. Check our calendar and then give us a call. Come to our opening receptions, usually held on the first Friday of the month and meet the artists and fellow DRA members. We also have many interesting workshops throughout the year, many of which are associated with the shows. Join us!

Our all-member shows this year are in June and November; in each of those shows, DRA members are guaranteed to have one piece displayed, a member benefit. Don't be discouraged if your work isn't accepted for one of our other shows. This year, curators will be experimenting with new gallery design

## Thank You DRA Members for Making the Holiday Market A Success!

DRA's Holiday Market was a great success! Thank you everyone for braving it through the timing challenges with the tree lighting on Friday night and rain and snow mix on Saturday! Thank you to all those who contributed, baked for AND shopped at the Holiday Market. Nearly \$200 was raised to benefit Food for Others ([www.foodforothers.org](http://www.foodforothers.org)).

We had a great group of exhibitors this year (Jen Athanas, Kimberly Bush, Charles Farmer, Gail Goriesky, Kay Graf, Jewell Lewis-Terry, Genevieve Lynn, Betsy Mead, Stacy Rausch, Tangela Roe, Leah Sturgis, Ron Tickerhoff, West Landscaping, Joyce Wagner, Tamara Wilkerson and Tracy Wilkerson) and some very dedicated helpers (Seana Gallagher, Nora Partlow, Margaret Slipek, Dawn Wyse Hurto, Becky Rife, Vivienne Luckas, and Eric Bautista). West Landscaping provided beautiful poinsettias for sale throughout the weekend and they look forward to providing this service during future Holiday Markets.

A special thank you goes out to Sapore D'Italia Ristorante (1310 Mt. Vernon Avenue) for the YUMMY food prepared for us at Friday night's Opening Reception!! We are sorry that the food didn't last long enough for late-comers to enjoy; so stop by Sapore for some great Italian food.

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**Vicki St. Germain**  
*Oil painting*

**Gloria Vestal**  
*Watercolor; Oil painting, Print*

**Carol Freeman**  
*Ceramics, Photography*

**Mary Wang**

**Barbara Dill**  
*Friend*

**Fiona A. Schneider**  
*Pastels*

**Rob Lockard**

**Rebecca Haemmerlein**

**Cavan N. Fleming**  
*Oil Painting*

ideas, and for some shows, we want to see a little more space between artworks--to let them "breathe." This means, of course, that fewer works would be displayed. Keep trying! You're sure to get in.

Curators will be paying close attention to presentation standards and requirements. That means that 2D works MUST be attached with wire and screw eyes. No sawtooth hangers or clips. Works on paper should be under glass or plexi. Unframed works on canvas must have sides finished artistically and appropriately. 3D works should arrive with base, or stand, and/or mounting equipment and instructions! Read the Call for Entry form carefully, as specific show requirements will be listed there. The show curator can answer any questions you have about submissions, so do call or email ahead of time.

Your curator advisory team: Theresa Kulstad, Dawn Wyse Hurto, Tina Richardson, Karen Schmitz, Jeanne Tiff, Tracy Wilkerson.

Curator Coordinator: Michele Reday Cook ([mredaycook@gmail.com](mailto:mredaycook@gmail.com))





Nicholas A. Colasanto Center  
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Gallery Hours:  
Thurs: noon-4 pm  
Fri: noon-9 pm  
Sat: 10 am-9 pm  
Sun: noon-6 pm  
The gallery is open during all events and performances

Submission Deadline : 5th of the month  
Editor: DRA.Newsletter@gmail.com

## Membership Notice: Please check your newsletter label to see if your membership has expired. Renew today.

### 2010 Calendar

<b>January</b>			
<b>8 - 24</b>	<b>New Works for a New Year: State of the Art in Del Ray</b> <i>Richard Wylvill curator</i> richard@rfwylvill.com	19	<b>Workshop</b> Self Marketing, 7pm
12	Board Meeting, 7pm	23	<b>Workshop</b> Introduction to Figure Drawing 2 – 5pm
13	Life Drawing / Gestures, 11 am – 1pm	24	Life Drawing / Gestures, 11 am – 1pm
13	Life Drawing / Poses 2 – 5pm	24	Life Drawing / Poses 2 – 5 pm
17	<b>Workshop</b> Messing Around with Creativity, 1 – 3pm	28	Art Swap/General Meeting
27	Life Drawing / Gestures, 11am – 1pm		
27	Life Drawing / Poses 2 – 5pm		
31	Card Making and ATC Party		
<b>February</b>			
<b>5 - 21</b>	<b>Artioms: Idioms, cliches and word phrases expressed in art</b> <i>Tracy Wilkerson curator</i> tlwideas@comcast.net	<b>March</b>	
9	Board Meeting, 7pm	<b>5 - 21</b>	<b>Women in Art: Body of Work</b> <i>Ellyn Ferguson curator</i> elferguson@netzero.net with <i>Vivienne Lukacs and Beverly Hansen</i>
10	Life Drawing / Gestures, 11am – 1pm		
10	Life Drawing / Poses 2 – 5pm		
10	Life Drawing / Long Pose 6pm	9	Board Meeting, 7pm
12	Prose Reading for Artioms Show, 7pm	10	Life Drawing, 2 – 5pm
		24	Life Drawing, 2 – 5pm
		<b>April</b>	
		<b>2 - 25</b>	<b>What's Your Bag?</b> <i>Theresa Kulstad, Karen Schmitz, curators, tkulstad@verizon.net, schmityk@yahoo.com</i>
		13	Board Meeting, 7pm
		21	Life Drawing, 2 – 5pm

### 2010 Board of Directors

<b>President</b> <b>Linda Silk</b> DRA.President@gmail.com	<b>Facilities</b> <b>Marlin G. Lord</b> mglaiia@aol.com
<b>Vice President</b> <b>Kurt Peterson</b> kfpeterson@gmail.com	<b>Curator Coordinator</b> <b>Michele Reday Cook</b> mredaycook@gmail.com
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<b>Historian/Archivist</b> <b>John Hiller</b> jw2hiller@verizon.net	
<b>Volunteers</b> <b>Lesley Hall</b> lesley.ruthless@gmail.com	

### Thank You

Special thanks to the Alexandria Commission for the Arts, the Virginia Commission for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts and the City of Alexandria for their continued support of Del Ray Artisans, a 501(c)(3) organization

Many thanks to Royce Flowers for providing such spectacular arrangements for our opening receptions.

