



SPRINGFIELD ART GUILD (SAG)



A place for a creative experience

December 2015 Newsletter

Meeting Schedule

Wed. Dec. 9, 2015, 6-9pm

Richard Byrd Library
7250 Commerce Street
Springfield, VA 22150

5:30 pm – Doors Open
5:30-6:00 pm – Set up
6:00-9:00pm – Holiday Potluck
9:00pm – Clean up

www.springfieldartguild.org

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SAG'S HOLIDAY PARTY

DEC. 9th

5:30pm-9pm

Potluck Dinner and Gift Exchanges!

All the details on the next page



SET UP:

Set up starts at 5:30pm. As people arrive we will enlist you to help with setting up tables for food, gifts, dining, etc. Feel free to bring a few decorative end-of-year seasonal decorations in order to take the edge off the brick walls for a few hours. Will also enlist help to set up both the **GIFT EXCHANGE** table and the **ART EXCHANGE** table. Easy.



BRING FOOD:

Bring a salad (pasta salad, potato salad, fruit salad, tossed salad etc.) or dessert, or if you feel generous, one of each! Since there are few electrical outlets to access near the food tables...it might be better if whatever you bring, does not need to be kept warm. Anything in a crockpot that can exist with its own residual heat is welcome though!



For anyone who would like to participate in a gift exchange we will have 2 kinds: Artwork exchange AND Art-type Product exchange. Each person can participate in one, none, OR both types.

YOUR CHOICE TO BRING:



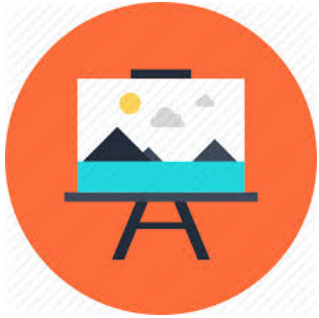
- 1) **ART for EXCHANGING:** A piece of your art, wrapped festively ... Yes, sign your actual artwork, but don't sign the outside wrapping. No size restriction, or media, but suggest you keep it rather small, maybe under 16"x 20"
- 2) **ART-TYPE PRODUCT for EXCHANGING:** Bring a gently used art book, or brushes you bought but then decided you did not need, mixing trays, or duplicates of things you have, or purchase a new item if desired. Suggest you keep it under \$10.00. You get the idea! Wrap the item(s) but do not put your name on it.
- 3) **SEASONAL ART WORK:** This will be used to decorate the chalk ledge on the white board we use. If you have artwork of a winter scene, or other seasonal piece you want to share with us and decorate the meeting space...please bring it. No requirement here....all voluntary. Not for exchange - just for décor in order to make the room more festive during our party.



PROGRAM:

- Business Meeting and Announcements/short-and-fast
- Dinner and chatting
- Dessert and GIFT and ART Exchanging
- Chatting and coffee, artist comments on the art they brought in if the artist wants to share that info
- Clean up...done as we always do

A Chance to Make SAG Shine – Join Us!



The Springfield Civic Association (SCA) has extended an invitation to host SAG at their January 19th general membership meeting.

Where: Crestwood Elementary School 6010 Hanover Ave, Springfield, VA 22150,

(Just around the corner from the Richard Byrd library)

When: Tue. January 19th; 7:30pm to 9:00pm.

Lydia Jechorek will prepare a PowerPoint presentation, but we'd love to have a number of SAG members come to the event to interact with the SCA members and [exhibit your work](#).

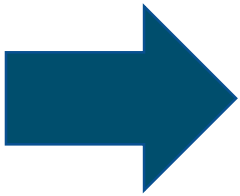
SAG members who attend are asked to bring 2-3 of your paintings. Let's use this opportunity to show the local community our artwork and potentially find artists who live nearby who might like to join SAG.

SAG's January Meeting is Our Annual "Works in Progress" Critique

Every year at our January meeting SAG hires a professional artist to provide a review/critique to any member who brings in an unfinished piece of art they are working on. This is not a judging of a final piece of artwork. This critique is meant to assist each artist in completing their artwork through helpful constructive comments. Many times while we are creating our "master pieces" we get stuck and are not sure how to complete it. We work and rework

our artwork but still can't get it the way we want.

Critiques from fellow artists can be very helpful and offer a huge insight and learning tool. This year we have Debra Conn, a professional artist, to critique our unfinished artwork and help us get "unstuck". We are asking any member who would like to participate to bring in one piece of unfinished artwork to be professionally critiqued. The January meeting is Wednesday Jan.13th.



If you have something you would like to put in the SAG newsletter please send it to teresatindlebrunson@gmail.com . We are always in need of news about art shows, your personal accomplishments, awards, informative articles etc. Please send your articles or information to me by the 15th of each month.

Art Opportunity for SAG Members -- The 2016 Franconia Government Center Art Show

Who: Open to all SAG members (1-5 artworks each, not juried)

What: The 2016 Franconia Government Center Art Show

When: Show: January 16 to March 12; Reception date: January 30

Where: 6121 Franconia Road, Alexandria, VA 22310

Why: Service to community, exposure of our artwork, Peoples' Choice Awards

How to Enter

Submittal: The following information must be submitted for each artwork via email to Lynn Martin not later than **January 2, 2016**.

Email Address = singleymartin@cox.net

Subject Line = "SAG Franconia Show Entries + your name"

- Your Name: (first and last)
- Artwork Title:
- Medium:
- Dimensions: (overall width and height in inches, including frame)
- Telephone: (this is for the contact list only, it will not go on the art label).
- Your Email:
- Do you want your email address on your art label – Y or N
- Price: (if for sale, otherwise indicate NFS)

[A label will be printed with the above information for each artwork; substitutions and changes will not be permitted; SAG is not allowed to include price on labels, but a price list will be available from the office staff.]

THANK YOU TO VICTOR MONACHOVA WHO HAS VOLUNTEERED TO DO OUR LABELS FOR THIS SHOW!!!

Acceptance: At least one artwork per member will be accepted (if entered on or before Jan 2th); all artwork will be accepted and hung as space allows; assume all of your entries will be hung unless you hear from us prior to the delivery date.

Delivery: All accepted artwork must be delivered, ready to be hung (framed and wired), to the Franconia Government Center on Saturday, Jan 16 between 10:00 and 10:30am; all entrants are expected to assist with hanging (approx. 10:30 until noon); 3D artist are required to arrange their own work in the show cases.

Pick Up: All entrants must pick up their artwork on March 12th, between 10:00 and 10:30am.

Raffle Donations: Donations of small artwork are needed from SAG members for the free raffle to be held during the reception on (Saturday, January 30th). Please donate what you can: Contact Lydia Jechorek via email (raylyd@verizon.net) to indicate what donation(s) you intend to bring when artwork is delivered on January 16th. Donations can be small works, cards, prints or other art.

Community Service: SAG is honored once again to hold this art show at the invitation of Lee District Supervisor, Jeff McKay. Supervisor McKay, a longtime supporter and friend of SAG.



Photos of the set up and reception from last year's Franconia Government Center Art Show



Amazing Micro Sculptures from Pencil Lead by Salavat Fidai

By Lydia Jechorek

I am often amazed at the talents of artists, but even more so when one does something so unique like these wonderful teeny-tiny detailed sculptures. [Salavat Fidai](#) lives in Ufa, Russia. He was born in a family of artists and continues the family tradition. What is even more amazing when you look at his work is he made his first graphite sculptures this year! He says he finds inspiration in comics and movies.

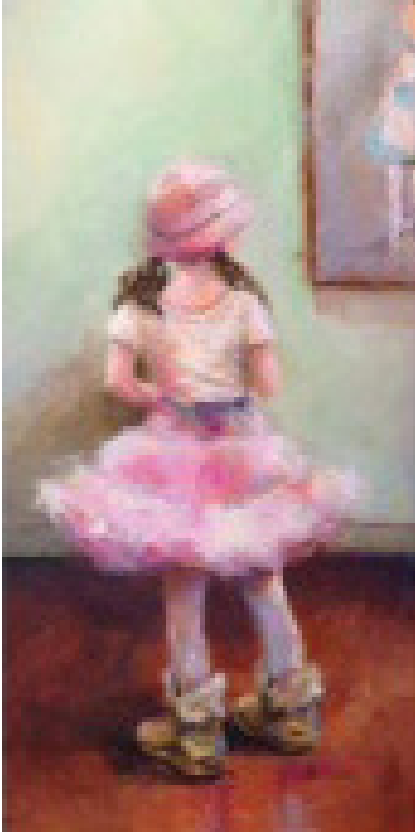
Click [HERE](#) to enjoy a video of Fidai carving a guitar

**WELCOME NEW SAG
MEMBER!**

Rebekah Keener



Lydia Jechorek, a member of SAG, is honored and excited to be in the November issue of ÉLAN MAGAZINE. To view the Elan November magazine online in its entirety click [HERE](#). Lydia's story starts on page 40 or we have cut and pasted the story below.



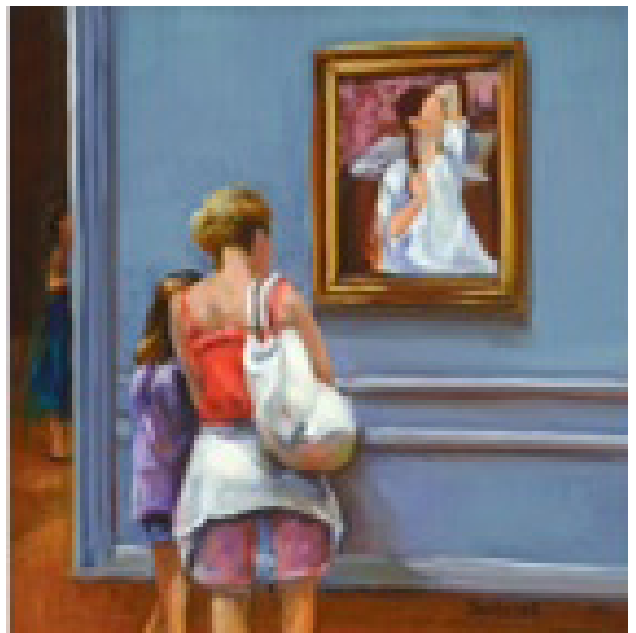
The Social Painter

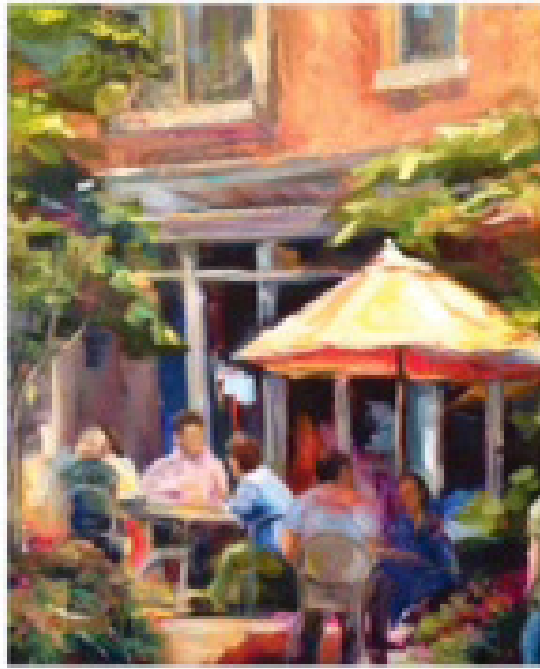
Building Her Own Art Community

By Kathryn McCay

"Art led Lydia Jechorek to a career as an agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Twenty- five years later, her work as an agent influences her approach to art. The Burke painter couldn't have predicted that her skills as an artist and her work as an FBI agent would click together, but they did. Growing up in southern Michigan, Lydia got her first exposure to law enforcement through her father who was a detective. One night when he needed a drawing of a suspect, he reached out to the closest artist he knew: his daughter. The second time her dad needed help, Lydia drew a composite of a murder suspect. The murderer was caught and Lydia started drawing for local police departments. Although law enforcement intrigued Lydia, she pursued art. In college, she was attracted to architectural drawing, but she abandoned the notion of pursuing it as a career because there were so few women in the field. A few years after graduating from Eastern Michigan University, however, Lydia became one of just over one hundred female agents in a force of 9,000 FBI

agents. Her background in art proved valuable. When Lydia was assigned work on the bank robbery squad, she gained her coworkers' respect through her art. "I had a skill they needed," she explains. "I could draw." For most of her career, Lydia worked espionage cases. Even though she was an investigator, Lydia's artistic skills came in handy from time to time. "I wasn't able to draw a lot, but just enough to have fun," she says. By the end of her career, Lydia was a supervisor and working 10-hour days, which didn't allow any time for art—on or off the job. In 2003, Lydia retired from the FBI and picked up her paintbrush. But the former FBI agent wasn't the same person she had been in her 20s. She had spent 25 years in a field where teamwork ruled. "In the FBI, there is no 'I,'" says Lydia. "There is only 'we.'" Luckily she found a way to marry that mentality with her painting. Lydia, who considers herself a "social painter," takes classes, serves as vice president of the 100-member Springfield Art League, and exhibits at The Loft, a cooperative gallery in Okcoquan that requires its artists to volunteer. She fills





her home with work by other local artists. “They inspire me and make me smile,” she says. “I wish I was one of those painters who could paint from what’s in my head, but I’m not. I start with a black-and white photo or put the photo away after I start a painting. It’s nice that I’ve grown as a painter so that I don’t need the photograph from beginning to end.” –Lydia Jechorek Every Tuesday, local painters meet in her home studio to work and critique each other’s work. “We don’t shy away from the word ‘critique.’ We’re always learning,” she says. Some of the things she learns get

posted on her blog. “Once you know something, it’s not fun keeping it to yourself,” she says. “Artists are pretty friendly people and interested in sharing.” Initially after retiring, Lydia looked to others for learning and inspiration. She took classes at the Torpedo Factory Art Center until, she says, “the 20-minute ride into Alexandria became a two-hour commute home.” Thankfully, the “social painter” had built her own community. Whether she’s walking in her own neighborhood or traveling, Lydia carries a camera. She’s constantly ready to snap a photo of whatever “strikes her fancy.” Her husband has learned that when Lydia yells for him to stop the car, she is serious. Although Lydia works from photographs, she has grown less dependent on the images. “I wish I was one of those painters who could paint from what’s in my head, but I’m not,” she says. “I start with a black-and white photo or put the photo away after I start a painting. It’s nice that I’ve grown as a painter so that I don’t need the photograph from beginning to end.” Whether she is painting people and landscapes or shoes and old cars, the one constant in Lydia’s paintings is the bright colors. Although she does not have a favorite color, she confesses to being into turquoise. Over time, Lydia’s work has become softer. By using larger brushes, she’s become more spontaneous and her pictures are less detailed, but she’s still particular when it comes to naming her work. She often asks her husband, friends or other artists for suggestions. Her image of a person looking at a painting of President John F. Kennedy at the National Portrait Gallery became “You Don’t Know Jack.” A painting of a little girl in a tutu and boots became “Uggs and Kisses.” Her 2014 show at The Loft Gallery, which featured paintings of brightly colored cars, was called August Hot Wheels. “I couldn’t have come up with that name on my own,” says Lydia.

ARE DISTRACTIONS SLOWING YOU DOWN WHEN YOU PAINT? FEAR OF PAINTING?

Robert Burridge's Tips to Help You Create Better Art

[Robert Burridge](#) is a mixed media artist and instructor.

We are so lucky to be living in a time where art and art tips are at our fingertips. There are many good art newsletters online. One of my favorites is [Bob Burridge's](#) "ArtsyFartsy newsletters, which always include great tips. He also send out engaging videos he calls "BobBlasts." To view his achieved newsletters Click [HERE](#) I also recommend checking out his [YouTube videos](#).

"Action Overcomes Fear"...just show up. Bob says if you have any fear at the beginning of a painting you've already started to set yourself up for failure. He recommends stating your goals before you get started. "What do I hope to accomplish?" It doesn't have to be profound, just a starting point to get you into your studio/art space.

"BobBlast" #68 suggests you organize your studio *before* you start painting. Click [HERE](#) to view #68's short video



*"Preparation is a big deal for me. Before I start a painting, I assemble everything I am going to need. First of all, I make a decision - Paper or canvas. Then, I get out only the tubes of color and the **few** brushes that I need for that painting, and I put everything else away. I keep a water bucket, spray bottle for isopropyl alcohol and paper towels close by - within arm's reach. The only other thing I keep on my painting table is my sketchbook with my written goals and ideas for this painting."*

Bob Burridge

ART Opportunities

WinterFest Holiday Celebration

Lorton Workhouse Arts Center
9518 Workhouse Way Lorton, VA 22079
December 12 @ 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

The Workhouse Arts Center will partner with Occoquan River Communities during Occoquan's WinterFest holiday celebration on Saturday, December 12 as part of the Workhouse's monthly 2nd Saturday Art Walk from 6–9pm. A free shuttle service between Occoquan and the Workhouse will be provided by Occoquan Transportation Company. The 2nd Saturday Art Walk at the Workhouse showcases the diverse work of more than 100 visual artists in a unique historic venue, creating an atmosphere that encourages visitors to immerse themselves in the richness of this creative community.

Guests can tour seven unique studio buildings, mix and mingle with artists, buy original works of art, experience ever-changing exhibitions and meet featured artists, all while enjoying light refreshments and music. In the spirit of the WinterFest holiday celebrations, this month's *2nd Saturday Art Walk* will feature fire pits and sing-along caroling.

December Featured Artists include:

Cindy Silas – *Let it Snow* (Gallery 5)
Joan Hutten – *Explorations in Space and Time* (Gallery 6)
Group glass exhibition (Gallery 7)
Group Exhibition (Gallery 8)

 **Karen Chin (Gallery 9)**

Fall Church Arts

Third Tuesday of each month – Art Critiques

Falls Church Arts monthly CriTique sessions are held on the third Tuesday of every month. At the CriTique, artists share observations, comments, suggestions about each other's artwork (paintings, photographs, sculpture, poetry, stories, performance...). The sessions are free - no reservations required.

The Art CriTique session are now open to art lovers and collectors who are interested in the creative process. Feel free to attend to watch, listen, and see how art is done, discussed, debated, and transformed. Please join us and add your voice to the debate! Sessions are held at: ArtSpace 410 S. Maple avenue Falls Church, VA 22046 Another new feature in 2014 - I

open cash bar for the session - wine and sodas will be available. Gallery will be open to see the current Falls Church Arts Exhibit so come a little early!

February 10 thru March 8, 2016

www.fallschurcharts.org

ALL TO PIECES – COLLAGE ART SHOW

ArtSpace Falls Church, 410 South Maple Avenue, Falls Church, VA 22046

This show open to all artists, will be juried for creative use of collage materials in the composition, design, and quality of overall work. Collage, French for pasting, is derived from *colle*, paste; from classical Greek *kola*, glue.

January 25, 11:--pm – Digital Entry Form Due (See www.fallschurcharts.org for show entry info)

February 10, 7:30 to 10:00 pm – Meet the Artist Reception

Del Ray Artisans

2704 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria, VA 22301

<http://www.thedelrayartisans.org/shows/calls/>

[True Colors: Like a Rainbow \(DRA Members Only\)](#)

Digital entries due Wednesday, December 23, 2015

Del Ray Artisans (DRA) invites member artists to use three or more colors of the rainbow in their artwork. The colors can be bold and bright or just a whisper on the canvas. Use other colors, color blends, black and white. The only rule is that the rainbow colors must be visible. Artwork depicting rainbows is acceptable, but must be portrayed artistically and in an unusual fashion.

[Partnerships at VCA Alexandria Animal Hospital \(DRA Members Only\)](#)

Digital entries due Sunday, January 17, 2016

Del Ray Artisans (DRA) invites member artists to submit 2D artworks expressing the theme "Partnerships" to be displayed on the walls of the VCA Animal Hospital from January 31 through May 15, 2016 through Del Ray Artisans' Gallery Without Walls program. When artwork sells, artists are asked to make a 20% donation split evenly between Del Ray Artisans and VCA Alexandria Animal Hospital's charity of choice: Veteran's Moving Forward.

[Around the Next Corner at the Vola Lawson Animal Shelter \(DRA Members Only\)](#)

Digital entries due Sunday, January 17, 2016

Del Ray Artisans (DRA) invites member artists to submit 2D artworks expressing the theme "Around the Next Corner" to be displayed on the walls of the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria's (AWLA) Vola Lawson Animal Shelter from January 31 through May 15, 2016. This is a fundraising exhibit (40% donation split evenly between AWLA and DRA) through Del Ray Artisans' Gallery Without Walls program

