



SPRINGFIELD ART

A place for a creative experience

May 2023 Newsletter

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Meeting Schedule

May 10, 2023 at Grace Presbyterian Church auditorium

7434 Bath St. Springfield, VA 22150
(there is a side door on the church to the auditorium at the parking lot)

6:30 – 7:00pm Networking, set up

7:00 – 7:20pm Business meeting

7:30 – 9:00pm Visiting Artist Presentation

(times are approximate)

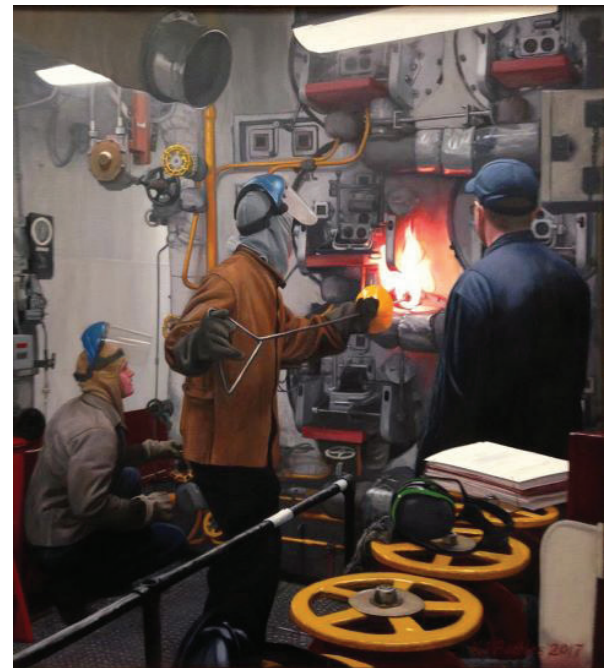


Marine Corps Artist in Residence, Kris Battles Presents at SAG May Meeting

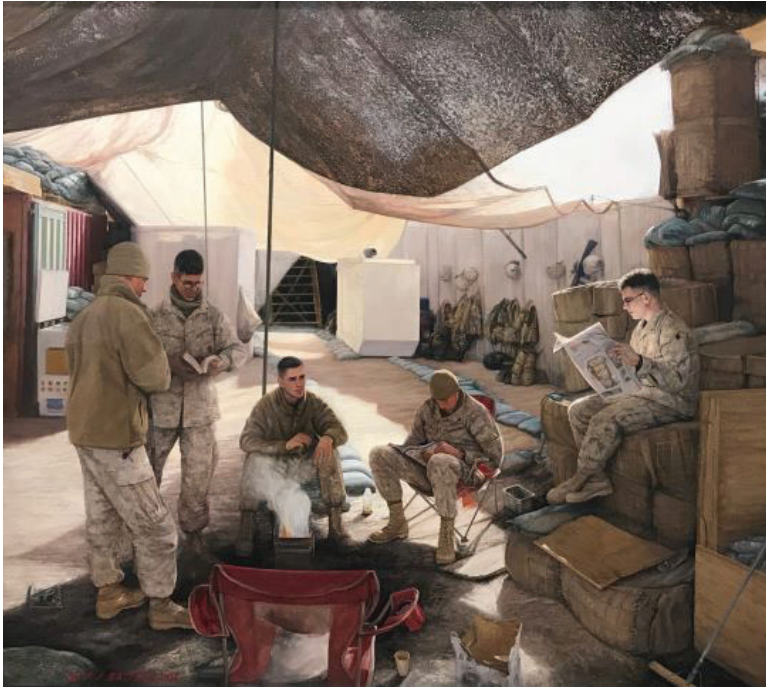
Kristopher Battles is a contemporary fine artist creating artworks in a variety of media which honor the highest traditions of representational art.

Battles graduated with a BFA in Painting from Northeast Missouri State University (now Truman State University) in December 1991, and earned his MFA in Illustration from the University of Hartford in September 2013.

Originally serving as a Marine Reservist from 1986 until 1996, Battles became a Marine combat artist after reenlisting in 2006, and deployed to Overseas Contingency Operations several times to create art for the United States Marine Corps, serving in that billet until 2014. From 2014 until 2019, Battles served as a civilian combat artist for the Naval History and Heritage Command at the Navy Yard in Washington, DC. Battles is currently the Marine Corps Artist in Residence, on staff at the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Quantico, VA.

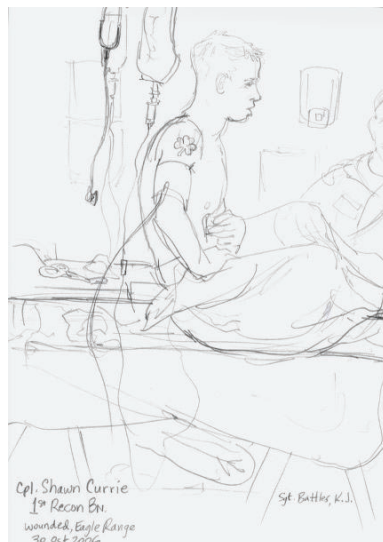


His work has been featured in publications and art venues across the country, including the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C. as a part of the art show "Fly Marines! The Centennial of Marine Corps Aviation 1912-2012" from January 2012 through January 2013.



Battles is a 2008 and 2010 recipient of the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation's John W. Thomason Award for excellence in combat art, and the 2010 and 2011 recipient of the Marine Corps Combat Correspondence Association's Merit Award for Combat Art.

Battles was featured in ABC's "Persons of the Week: Combat Artists" with Charlie Gibson, September 2007, along with fellow combat artist and Hartford MFA alumnus Michael Fay, and combat artists Charles Grow and Col Charles Waterhouse.



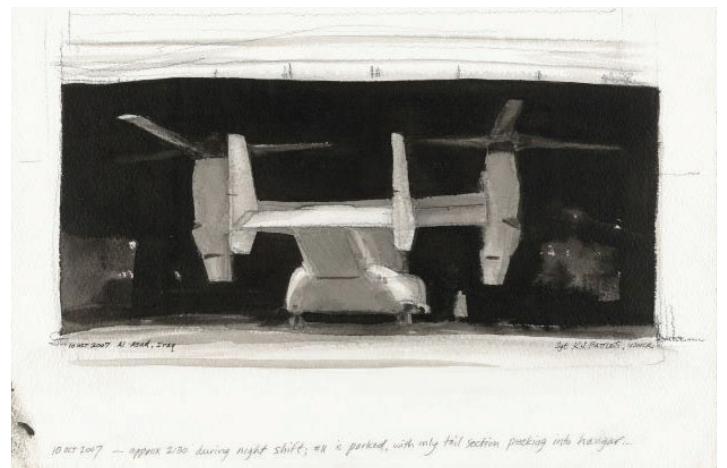
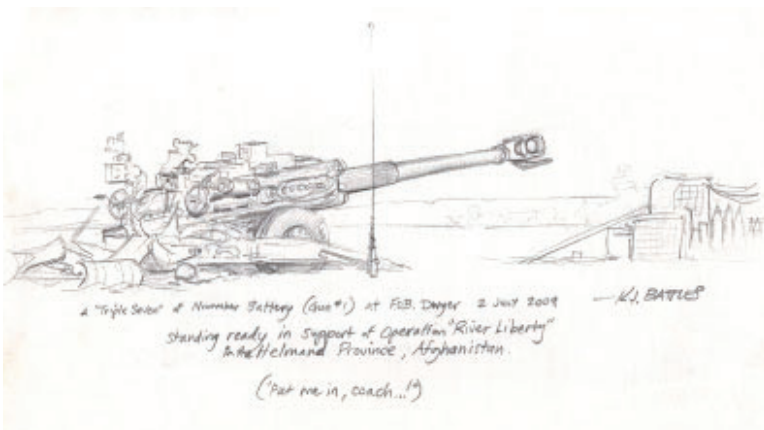


Battles' work was featured on the cover of Leatherneck magazine, March 2008, December 2009, August 2020 and February 2022. His illustrations for the "Sharing the Courage" series were featured in Marines magazine, Oct/Nov/Dec 2009, and in a Marine Corps Times article "Heroics illustrated, comic-book style" by James K Sanborn, March 22nd, 2010.

Battles was featured in the New York Times Arts & Leisure section on July 18th, 2010, in an article by Carol Kino entitled, "With Sketchpads and Guns, Semper Fi".



Battles has been invited to be a guest speaker and artist for many events and organizations. He was featured at USS Constitution Museum, Boston, MA during Marine Week in May, 2010, and his work was also on display May 5th 2010 in the John F. Kennedy School of Government for Harvard University. Battles was also guest speaker at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, January 28th 2011, and was forum speaker at The Army and The Navy Club in Washington, DC March 2nd, 2011.



SAG's COVID Precautions and Steps for Safety

The Board is excited to welcome back the SAG members to in-person meetings at Grace Church starting on September 14, 2022 after 2 years of alternative methods which we are grateful for as well as your patience and participation. Our first meeting is a critique which most of us are happy to receive help on a stuck, not quite finished painting.

That being said, we know that some members may be hesitant to come back to in person meetings. We have discussed at the last Board meeting what will be done to protect the Guild members as much as possible. Here are the things we are going to do and ask of you.

- 1 - Hand Sanitizer will be available to use. (You may use your own)
- 2 - Wearing masks is optional (We know not everyone can or is willing to wear one & this virus mutates frequently) Use your judgement.
- 3 - We will space the chairs further apart than pre-COVID. (feel free to move yours further apart)
- 4 - Name Tags will be handed out by Cynthia Schoeppel. These will not be collected at the end of the meeting. They will then become your responsibility to take home and bring back to each monthly meeting. Paper sticky backed name tags will be provided for those who are Guests.
- 5 - There will be no Hospitality food or drink available by the Guild. (You may bring your own food and drink if you wish and the church auditorium does have a soda machine)
- 6 - We will not have Books or DVD Library for now but that may change later
- 7 - Chairs, microphone, etc. will be wiped down.

Meet SAG's 2022-2023 Board Members

Springfield Art Guild Board welcomes new Board members: *Marshall Carolus, Deidre Pistochini, and Courtney Clark*

The SAG President schedule will rotate and the schedule will be published in the newsletter. If you have questions, please contact any SAG board member.

SAG is looking forward to another great year with our Guest Speaker's Series, members' shows and other activities throughout the year. Everyone is encouraged to invite friends to join us for our meetings

Advisors:



Teresa Brunson
Newsletter Editor & Website
Former President



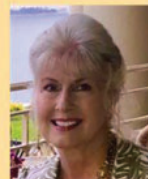
Elaine Sevy
Natural Journaling
Coordinator



Alice Merritt
Librarian
Former Board Member



Joanne Stanford
Treasurer



Deidre Pistochini
Secretary



Danica Arehart



Donnalynne Lefever
Vice President



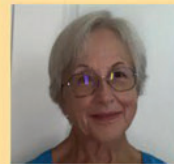
Pat Hafkemeyer



Gladys Berly



Marshall Carolus



Courtney Clark



Lydia Jechorek
Membership

2022-2023	Acting President	Member Mtg	Board Mtg	Assistant
September	Danica	14	19	Lydia
October	Courtney	12	17	Danica
November	Pat	9	14	Marshall
December/Holiday Party	Marshall	14	19	Gladys
January	Danica	11	16	Lydia
February	Gladys	8	13	Lydia
March	Courtney	8	13	Pat
April	Marshall	12	17	Gladys
May	Pat	10	15	Courtney
June	Donnalyne	14	19	Lydia

Contact Information for Board Members and Advisors

First Name	Last Name	Email	Role	Month as Acting President
Danica	Arehart	danica.bodytalk@gmail.com	Website assistant, Asst Treasurer, JotForm, Facebook admin.	September, January; backup: Oct
Gladys	Berly	Gberly@verizon.net	Publicity	February; backup: Dec, April
Marshall	Carolus	marshallcarolus@aol.com	Grace Church Contact, gmail coordinator	December, April; backup: Nov
Courtney	Clark	swiftclark@icloud.com	Publicity	October, March; backup: May
Pat	Hafkemeyer	Pat.Hafkemeyer@cox.net	Membership, Green Spring Gardens show chair	November, May; backup: March
Lydia	Jechorek	raylyd@verizon.net	Membership, Guest Speaker/zoom coach	Backup: Sept, Jan, Feb, June
Donnalyne	Lefever	magickaldl@gmail.com	Vice President, Board Meetings	June
Deidre	Pistochini	pistofam@msn.com	Secretary, Nature Journaling	
Joanna	Satford	joanna.stafford@verizon.net	Treasurer	
Teresa	Brunson	teresatindlebrunson@gmail.com	Newsletter, Website	
Alice	Merritt	amerritt5@verizon.net	Books & thumb drives	
Elaine	Sevy	yorkiemum.sevy95@gmail.com	Nature journaling, Facebook admin.	

SAG's Featured Speaker List for Our 2022-2023 Season

All meetings will be in-person except January and February

2022-23	Guest Speaker	Art Topic
Sep 14	Stacy Slaten	Art Professor at NVCC - Will critique members' artwork in progress
Oct 12	Elizabeth Floyd	Oil Painter
Nov 9	Bob Bierdrzycki	Ink Drawing
Dec 14	No Speaker	Holiday Party
Jan 11	Sissy Cutchen (<u>zoom</u>)	Paints on glass and frames
Feb 8	Diana Garrison (<u>zoom</u>)	Gelli Plate Art
Mar 8	Jenny Nordstrom	Photographer
Apr 12	Sally Cooney Anderson	Fiber Artist
May 10	Kristopher Battles	Oil Painter – artist at National Museum of the Marine Corp
Jun 14	Stacy Slayten	Art Professor to give a art critique to artworks in progress



Instagram

SAG is on Instagram! Follow us there. You can find us at [springfieldartguild](https://www.instagram.com/springfieldartguild)



SAG's Featured Artist is Paula Roman-Leon!!

Take a look at the SAG website and read all about one of our own talented members.

Scroll to the bottom of our home page to see the beginning of Paula's information and artwork.

<https://www.springfieldartguild.org/>

Calling all members!



Our SAG Instagram has been up and running well and we'd like to add a new opportunity for members to create and have their work posted. Starting this April, and periodically throughout the year, we will advertise an art "theme." For April, that theme will be **EARTH**.

If you already have an artwork, or want to create something new, just send your JPEG image to the following email:

sagartinstagram@gmail.com

- In the subject line put: April Theme: Earth
- Please include the title of your artwork, as well as the artist name in the body of the email.

Have fun!



Instagram

SAG is on Instagram! Follow us there. You can find us at [springfieldartguild](https://www.instagram.com/sagartinstagram)

NOVA Nature Journal Club

By Elaine Sevy

The NOVA Nature Journal Club is managed by SAG Member Elaine Sevy. Our group is a diverse community of artists and naturalists, of all levels, who meet together to connect to nature through art. Though centered in Northern Virginia, it is open to anyone with a passion for exploring nature with a journal.



LIKE “The NOVA Nature Journal Club,” on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/544583139673338>

The NOVA Nature Journal Club, a Facebook group administered by SAG Member Elaine Sevy, offers a steady flow of lovely illustrations and journal pages, as well as links to register for a variety of online and in-person classes.

SUMMER IS ALMOST HERE!

Get Inspired! Get Creative! Get Outside!

Connect with Nature!

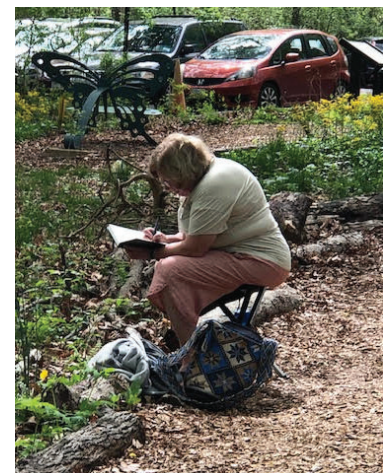
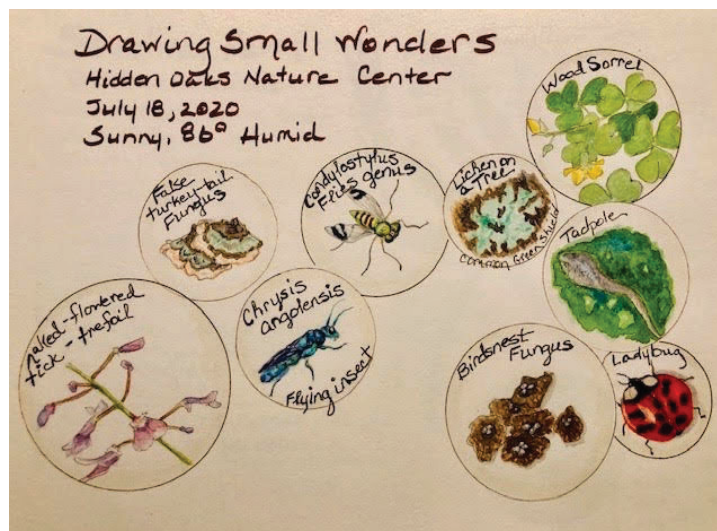
Registration began April 25 for **Fairfax County Park Authority’s Summer 2023 Classes (Parktakes)**, and there’s some great sketch hikes and nature journaling programs being offered.

Margaret Wohler at Huntley Meadows Park is teaching **Ancient Plants** and **Signs of the Beaver Sketch Hikes**. She’s teaching Meadow, Butterflies and Wading Birds Sketch Hikes that are full, but you can get on a waiting list. Click on the Link and scroll down to each class to register:

<https://fairfax.usdirect.com/.../ACTIVITIES/Search.aspx...>

Avery Gunther at Hidden Oaks Nature Center has openings for **Drawing and Learning about Fossils**, **Drawing and Investigating Owls**, and **Drawing Small Wonders**. Click on the Link and scroll down to each class to register:

https://fairfax.usdirect.com/FairfaxFCPAWeb/ACTIVITIES/Search.aspx?place_id=7881



JOAN BAEZ: HOW I FOUND REFUGE IN DRAWING

In a new book, 'Am I Pretty When I Fly?,'
the singer-songwriter explains her attraction to visual art
— and shares some of her recent works

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/books/2023/03/30/joan-baez-drawings-book/>

By Joan Baez

March 30, 2023 at 7:00 a.m. EDT

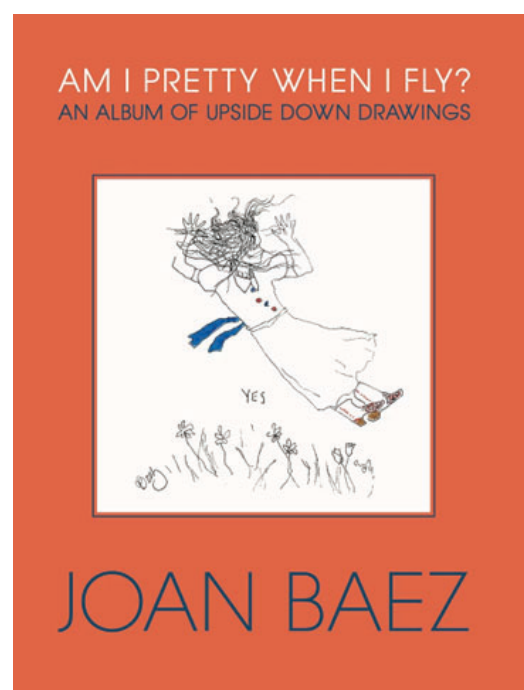
I hated school and was an outsider — different, brown, odd. Long before I picked up the ukulele and found refuge in music, I picked up the pencil and found refuge in drawing. I drew my way through the torture known as middle school, and then on through high school. First it was five dollars apiece for portraits of Jimmy Dean (my last entrepreneurial venture), then portraits of Albert Einstein and Jawaharlal Nehru for my mom. I even drew every class project my teachers would allow me to: the study of human hair, how I imagined God to look.

Decades later, as an adult, I dabbled more with color. I worked with chalk, crayons, charcoal, pastels, watercolors, markers and colored ink, and I used brushes, fingers, hands, all in my own deliciously undisciplined fashion.

When I was in my 70s, I had a burgeoning — soon to be overwhelming — desire to use “real” paints. I assumed that would mean oils. But a local artist introduced me to acrylics, with which, at the time of this writing, I’ve now had a ten-year affair. I began with collages and worked in my kitchen on heavy, all-purpose art paper until the table was no more than a makeshift studio with no place left to put so much as a coffee mug. I moved myself and my paints into what until then had been an uninsulated pool house. One day, I decided to paint a portrait. Assuming a portrait would take months to master, I trepidatiously put brush to canvas and found to my delight that the results weren’t half bad. I went on to paint portraits of people who had made social change through nonviolence — Gandhi as a college student, the Dalai Lama as a boy, Martin Luther King Jr., John Lewis, Greta Thunberg, and many more. I’ve since had two successful exhibits. Decades ago, I don’t remember exactly when, I started making drawings upside down.

I arrived at the upside-down drawings by chance. Somewhere in my teenage years, probably out of boredom, I taught myself how to write backward, starting with EINA0JZEAB, my new name. I worked my way through the Greek alphabet: AHPLA ATEB, AMMAG, ATLED, and so on.

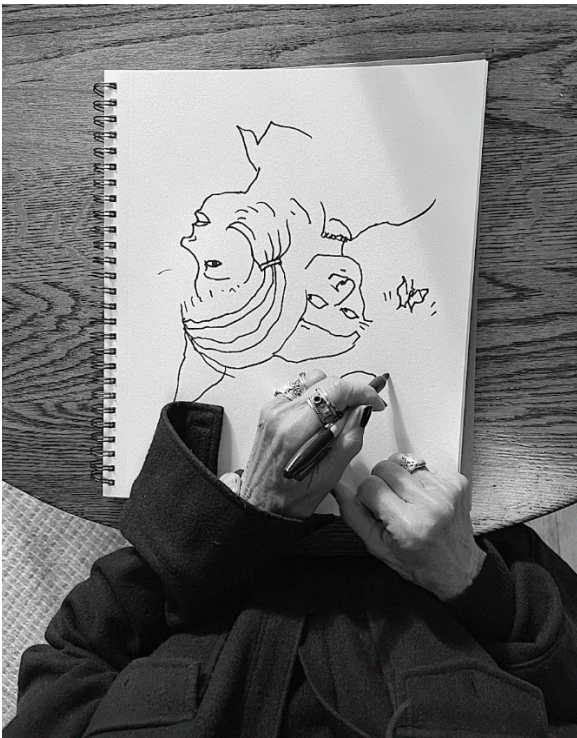
I repertoire, and “Day-O” was his best-known hit. The little elf that was supposed to be dancing turns out to be kicking the girl, and the words “Oh don’t mind him, he’s just my side kick” spring up, and there and then the entire progression happens before I even realize what I’m doing. I know perfectly well there is a neurological explanation for this whole upside-down method. I’m just not interested. Someone could likely explain why I’m keen on drawing this way, what’s happening during the process, and why the finished piece ends up the way it does. Also not interested. We don’t need an explanation for every damn thing. There’s a lot to be said for letting go and doing something simply because it feels right.



I still write backward as a form of therapy when I need to get to the root of a blockage or calm the buzzing heat of a panic attack. It's as though the appropriate wires cross in my brain when I write backward, which allows information otherwise unavailable to surface. Later, I began drawing with my left hand instead of my right. Like writing backward, using my nondominant hand opened a different compartment in my brain. I discovered that the results were less restrained and more fluid, and therefore more interesting to me. They didn't look like the objects I was drawing, but it didn't matter.

The same went for contour drawing, where you're supposed to keep your eyes on the subject you're drawing, not what your pencil is doing, checking the results only occasionally — the process has something of a tightrope-walk thrill about it and is fun, so you accept the lopsidedness of the final product.

After years of writing backward and drawing with my left hand, drawing upside down seemed a natural progression. Here is the process that developed: I start moving my pen or pencil around upside down on the paper — napkin, tablecloth, scrap — as though the drawing is being made for someone sitting opposite me at the table. Sometimes I have an idea of what I want to draw, but often I just let the pen or pencil start swooping around the page. Once I start to see what's developing, I begin embellishing, often adding randomly the human form, a floating fish, a flower.



Eventually, I turn the drawing right-side-up and see if it needs anything to make it feel complete, in which case I reverse it again and add bits and pieces. Back right-side-up again and the real magic happens: I listen for what the drawing says to me. When a phrase (usually a pun) comes to my mind and resonates, I turn the paper one more time and write the phrase upside down. For instance, one of my drawings shows an upside-down girl with flowers in a basket. When righted, the images turn out to look more like palm trees. “Day-o, day-ay-ay-o, Daylight come and me wan’ go home” emerges from some other pocket of my brain: By the time I was 15, I had memorized all of Harry Belafonte’s repertoire, and “Day-O” was his best-known hit. The little elf that was supposed to be dancing turns out to be kicking the girl, and the words “Oh don’t mind him, he’s just my side kick” spring up, and there and then the entire progression happens before I even realize what I’m doing.

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We don’t need an explanation for every damn thing. There’s a lot to be said for letting go and doing something simply because it feels right.



SAG Spring Juried Virtual Show

April 22 – July 1, 2023

Theme: “My Perspective: How I See the World”



This show is open to all Guild members and will be shown exclusively on the Springfield Art Guild website. This show will be juried. Artwork will be selected by the Juror and prizes awarded. In addition to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place awards, other awards may be granted by the juror. Cash prizes to be awarded.

The theme for this show is **My Perspective: How I See the World**. This is a chance to show your personal perspective of the World, your style. Almost anything goes for this theme because you are individual. Each artist is unique and is drawn to different topics, visions, colors, textures, medium, and scale. Maybe you see images in your head or you love trying to replicate to world exactly like you see it. What you choose to paint, feel and create could be a daily whim or a fined toned perspective. This is a chance to show what makes you create as an artist.

Our juror for this show is **Gwendolyn Bragg**. Below is a little bit about our juror. She will be jurying our show online, so make sure your photos are of good quality, well cropped and in jpeg format. Our juror will pick all the artwork for this show and give out awards.

Gwendolyn Bragg NWS, SW, WSA, BWS, VWS

Artist Bio

Gwen Bragg is an artist, workshop leader and an art instructor who lives in Alexandria VA. Holding a BS in Art Education and an MFA in Painting and Drawing from James Madison University, she currently teaches watercolor at the Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton, VA where she has her studio. In addition to an annual workshop in Orkney Springs Virginia almost every year she leads an international painting workshop to “someplace with interesting architecture, artifacts and rocks”. Past destinations have included Croatia, Greece, Italy, Spain, France, Mexico and Peru. She holds signature membership in the National, Southern, Baltimore and Virginia Watercolor Societies and is the past president of both the Potomac Valley Watercolorists and State President of the Virginia Watercolor Society. Her work is included in the collections of the National Institutes of Health, the Carrier Library of James Madison University, Philip Morris, American Bank and The Petersburg Area Art League. Website – www.gwenbragg.com. Gwendolyn Bragg, Workhouse Art Center - Studio 610

Schedule for submissions and entries:

April 16, 2023 – Members will be notified of art work acceptance by email by this date.

April, 22 – July 1, 2023 - Virtual exhibit on SAG’s website

May 7, 2023 - Zoom Reception/talk and Award Announcements starting at 3PM.

OPEN STUDIO

Join us on Wednesdays!

We heard SAG members say they were having trouble getting motivated to paint at home and the idea of having a virtual open studio was born. Most of us are also looking for ways to increase our social activities safely these days, this is a two for one! This is a zoom session where we can get together, chat, do our art, and ask for input on our work! Those who have participated have enjoyed the companionship and added incentive to get back to their art. There is no size limit to this group, if we get too big for one chat, we can just add another “room” and have too smaller groups!



When: Wednesdays from 1- 2:30pm

Where: On Zoom - SAG members meet on Weds to work on any art project of their choosing. The zoom link is always the same and is sent weekly to all members by email

What's is all about??

It's a virtual get-together giving everyone a chance to work on their personal art in a group setting for inspiration, encouragement and to just have fun chatting, and painting or drawing again.

Come join us you'll be glad you did!



EXCITING MEMBER NEWS!

SAG member, Teresa Brunson, has 19 pastel paintings displayed along the ramp area of the Horticultural Center at Green Spring Gardens. Stop by and take a peek!

Nature's Beauty
April 4 – May 29

Green Spring Gardens Fairfax County Park
4603 Green Spring Road
Alexandria, VA 22312





EXCITING MEMBER NEWS!

Nature's Delights

Courtney Clark's Watercolors on Yupo

SAG member, Courtney Clark is having a solo show of her watercolors on Yupo at the

Historic House

at Green Spring Gardens Fairfax County Park
4603 Green Spring Rd, Alexandria, VA 22312

May 31st - July 23rd

Show reception is June 4th, 1-3

The show takes place in the Historic House which is open Wednesday - Sunday, noon to 4:30pm.

You have to call ahead to make sure it's open: 703-642-5173





SAG member, Teresa Brunson is honored to be part of this talented group of artists who have been showing and selling their art for over 25 years.

FREE and Open to the Public
April 28, 29, 30, 2023 - 10 am to 6 pm
The Historic Vale School House
3124 Fox Mill Rd
Oakton, VA 22124
(intersection of Fox Mill and Vale Roads)

More than 150 original works by 10 local artists!

Andrea Cybyk (Oak Hill), Cathleen Lawless (Vienna), Diana Eichler (Reston) Jenna Klimchak (Oakton),
Lorrie Herman (Chantilly), Linda Bullen (Oakton), Laura Barringer (Alexandria),
Kim T. Richards (South Riding), Melanie Stanley (Herndon), Teresa Brunson (Alexandria)

Need Help Finding us?

For Directions from Google Maps click [HERE](#),
or follow these directions below:

From 66W: Merge onto US-50W via Exit 57B. Merge onto West Ox Rd. North. Turn right onto Vale Rd. Turn left into Vale School House parking lot at intersection of Fox Mill Rd.

From Toll Rd (267): Exit 12, Reston Pkwy. South towards Fairfax. Go 2 miles and turn left at Lawyers Rd. Turn right onto Fox Mill Rd. and follow to the intersection with Vale Rd. Turn right to enter School House Parking lot.

From Braddock Rd (620W): Turn Right on Shirley Gate Rd. Stay straight to continue onto Waples Mill Rd. Turn right on Fox Mill Rd. Follow to the intersection with Vale Rd. Turn left to enter the Vale School House parking lot.

***Handicap accessible parking located at top of the hill closest to the school house.

For more information about ValeArts, the Artists and future shows please visit: www.ValeArts.com

ANNOUNCEMENT!



Every organization needs committed board members to have a strong and effective organization. In addition to the standard roles and responsibilities of a board member, our board members are active advocates and ambassadors helping make SAG a great organization.

SAG board is comprised of 9 volunteer members who are committed to bringing our members great programs and art opportunities.

SAG is making its formal announcement of 2-board member vacancies and a 2nd term for one of our board members which will be voted on in our June 14, 2023 Membership Meeting in compliance with our By-laws.

Joanna Stanford, SAG Treasurer will have completed her term and Lydia Jechorek filling-in for board member Heather Cronin for her last year.

SAG is excited to announce 2 members have volunteered for those vacancies. New SAG members **Ying Zhang** and **Susan Fay**. Current board member Danica Arehart is running for a 2nd term.



As always, SAG board meetings are open to all members. They are held via Zoom the Monday after the Members' Meetings. If you'd like to attend a meeting, contact any board member for more details.



ART Opportunities

This section of the newsletter is for SAG members to let us know about art opportunities in our area. Tell us about any art classes, workshops, exhibits, upcoming art shows to enter, and any other art opportunity you can think of. Please send any art opportunities to teresatindlebrunson@gmail.com by the 20th of each month.

Any SAG member can be a featured artist on the home page of our website. Please check below to find out what you need to do.



Be a Featured Artist on Our Website

This is a great opportunity for SAG members to show your artwork and tell a little about yourself and your art journey. Go to our website (<http://www.springfieldartguild.org/>) and scroll down a little and you will see the section for SAG's monthly "Featured Artist". Any member can be a featured artist. We would like to have a different SAG artist each month. If you are interested please contact Teresa Brunson at teresatindlebrunson@gmail.com. Below are the questions we would like each featured artist to answer so we can put the text along with pictures of your artwork.

Featured Artist Questions - Springfield Art Guild

We are excited to have you as our next Springfield Art Guild Featured Artist! As part of your feature, we post a write-up about you and your work on our website. We would like you to use the following questions as prompts. Have fun with it!

Please submit an image of yourself, and 6-10 images of your favorite pieces that you would like included in your feature.

Featured Artist Questions to Answer and Provide to Teresa Brunson (email listed in above paragraph):

1. Your Name:
 2. Business/Studio Name:
 3. Website:
 4. Facebook:
 5. Instagram:
 6. Preferred Medium:
-
1. What is your personal artistic motto or mission in a sentence or two?
 2. What are three words that describe your style?
 3. Where are you coming from and how did you start your artistic journey?
 4. What inspires you to create? What holds you back?
 5. What is your favorite piece you have created or favorite art experience, and why?
 6. Tell us something positive that has happened to you in the last month?