

JULY 2022



July is for celebrations and the 2022 Great Art Heist gives us a good reason to do so! See the article below for details and pictures of our very successful and special night! And, the preparations have begun for the 61st Labor Day Art Show!

This month the RAL Art Center features classes in **plein air painting, fused glass pendant-making and oil and cold wax**. Looking for a fun and art-filled evening? Join us for **PAINT NIGHT**, and paint a still life of ocean treasures led by artist, **Juli Schuszler**.

July's Gallery Windows feature the work of gallery co-op artists **Ralph Higgins** and **Carol Vaughn**. Be sure to check them out!

## Upcoming Events



### 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Great Art Heist – A HUGE Success!

The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Great Art Heist was held on Saturday, June 25<sup>th</sup> and it was tremendous success. RAL's largest annual fundraiser was sold out by June 2<sup>nd</sup>. From the 112 pieces of art generously donated by RAL artists, members and friends, to the incredible Italian-inspired buffet, this year's Heist was an exciting and fun evening.



"This event would never have been possible without the incredible support of the volunteers who gave selflessly of their time," stated Heist Chairperson Christine Mason. "This year's event was fantastic with very few hiccups. I have received so many positive responses from our guests."



Mistress of Ceremonies, Laurie Breakwell, and her sidekick, Pat Mason, were a big hit! Their infectious energy and antics both entertained and kept the program moving along at a steady pace.



"I have come to the Heist since it's very first year. We buy two tickets every year and are surrounded by 32 pieces of beautiful art from the incredibly talented RAL artists," stated Doug Mock, RAL Executive Director. "It is so gratifying to see where the Great Art Heist is today and how our community has embraced RAL and this important event."

Plans are already in the works for 2023!

## The 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Labor Day Art Show

The excitement is building and this year, RAL Art Center hopes to **exhibit 200 original works of art** that most, if not all, have never been seen before!



We will welcome many new, first-time artists to our Labor Day Show and we could not be happier. The talent, originality and ongoing support of every artist represented is superb. We are also pleased to welcome this year's judge, Matt Lively.

If you are a RAL member artist please consider entering this fantastic show. The entry deadline is Saturday, August 13. You can find the prospectus and entry form on the RAL

website at [www.ralartcenter.com](http://www.ralartcenter.com).

The exhibit runs from August 31 through October 1. Join us for First Fridays on September 2 from 5:00–7:00 pm as the winners are unveiled. As one of the longest standing visual art shows in Virginia, we are proud of our 61<sup>st</sup> year and hope that you and your family, neighbors and friends will visit often.

*After the Company* by Wende Szyperski, awarded Best in Show in 2021

## Gallery News



### Chantel Barber Expressive Portrait Workshop: Filled with Students and Encouragement

On April 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup>, RAL Art Center hosted a painting workshop entitled *The Expressive Portrait* by nationally-recognized artist and instructor, Chantel Barber. Ms. Barber is based in the Memphis, Tennessee, area and teaches her approach throughout the United States.

Chantel described to the RAL class that her love of drawing and painting began in early childhood and always focused on portraying people. She developed her technique of loose, painterly brushstrokes in recent years as a way of guarding against her tendency toward tight, perfectionistic renditions of her subjects.

"I think the important thing is to capture the truth of the subject," Chantel told the class. "This means that instead of worrying about precision, we need to pay attention to lost and found edges – so the girl's hat merges into her hair which merges into the shadow of the background." She began each of the three days of the workshop with a demonstration, stopping in stages to allow the eleven students time to study her work and take pictures of its progress.

Workshop attendees varied in their painting experience from three years to over fifty. Known for her gentle teaching style, Chantel circulated and gave kind guidance to each student. Cate Kauffman has already asked Ms. Barber for a return visit within the next two years. Chantel agreed, saying, "I have thoroughly enjoyed myself teaching this workshop. Your facility is beautiful, and everyone has been so welcoming."

### RAL Art Center's Life Drawing Artists on Display

Members of the RAL Art Center Life Drawing Group had work on exhibit at the Lancaster County Public Library during the month of June.

Life drawing, sometimes known as figure or gesture drawing, is a wonderful way for artists to grow. During a life drawing session, there is a model present, either male or female. Models traditionally pose for different lengths of time varying from



session to session. The shorter poses are meant to allow artists to loosen up and capture simple gestures of the figure. Longer sessions give the artist more time to visualize and document a detailed rendering.

Popular art tools used when participating in life drawing classes can be charcoal, graphite, pen and ink, pastel and a wide variety of painting media.

In the picture L-R – Linda Bruner, Karen Kingsley, Johnny Hayes, Kristin Cheyne, Danielle Kuper and Joan Willoughby (not pictured Debbie Bull).



## Open Critique is Back! 3rd Monday of each month at 1 pm in the Pike Studio

Anyone can benefit from constructive criticism as they create a piece of art.

A team of experienced RAL Art Center artists, in a variety of mediums and styles, will be available the third Monday at 1pm to

help you with those nagging problems, make helpful suggestions or just provide a different “set of eyeballs”, perspectives and experiences to help you improve your work.

Bring up to 3 pieces to be critiqued for a fee of \$5 which will go to support RAL. The number of artists will be limited for each critique session, so please make an appointment by emailing Sarah Soderlund [sarhsod911@gmail.com](mailto:sarhsod911@gmail.com).

Critique session attendees pictured above are: Jacquie Colligan, Mel Neale, Sarah Soderlund, Sue Ramsey, and Debbie Bull.

## Paint Night and Art Classes

For more information, including, if applicable, supply lists, go to:

[www.ralartcenter.com/classofferings](http://www.ralartcenter.com/classofferings) or call

804.436.9309



### July Artist Talk: The Trials and Tribulations of Plein Air Painting

Speaker: Linda Hollett-Bazouzi

Date: Friday, July 15

Time: 5 – 6:30pm

Join us for a **fun and free** afternoon with artist, **Linda Hollett-Bazouzi**, as she shares stories from her experiences painting *en plein air* in local and international locations.

From her website: “I have been chased by bumblebees (he won, but then he lost), got caught in the rain, and sat in my car to paint while it snowed . . . and had sand blow so hard that my painting was more sand than paint. The results are always worthwhile.”

Come to laugh and learn and bring a friend! Light refreshments will be served . **It's FREE!**

### Introduction to Plein Air Painting

Instructor: Linda Hollett-Bazouzi

Date: Saturday, July 16

Time: 9am – 3pm

If painting quickly outdoors seems intimidating, have no fear! You will be in good hands with Linda and a group of fellow artists who will also be learning something new.

During this one-day class, participants will paint outdoors and create one or two small paintings based on landscapes in Belle Isle State Park. A picnic pavilion with nearby restrooms is reserved for the class so we can paint – rain or shine.

***A parking fee of \$5.00 is required when entering Belle Isle State Park. Exact change is recommended.***



Materials: Supply list available at <http://www.lindahollett.net/en-plein-air>

**Member fee:** \$120

**Non-member fee:** \$138

### **Class: Fused Glass Pendant Making**

**Instructor:** Laurie Breakwell

**Date:** Tuesday, July 19

**Time:** 6 – 8pm

Make a bauble or two and maybe a pair of earrings while learning the basics of fused glass. A little scoring, snipping, and breaking of glass may be involved in this fun evening of creativity.

**Materials:** All materials provided at no cost by instructor.

Register online at [www.ralartcenter.com](http://www.ralartcenter.com) or by calling 804-436-9309.

**Member fee:** \$40

**Non-member fee:** \$46



### **ADULT PAINT NIGHT ~ Ocean Treasure Chest**

**Artist Instructor:** Juli Schuszler

**Date:** Thursday, July 28

**Time:** 6 – 8pm

Join us on the evening of Thursday, July 28 to paint an ocean-themed still life. Our reference will be a still life arrangement of objects found in a beachcomber's treasure chest.

You will learn how to paint the transparency of the shadows and create the textures of the weathered wood, gritty sand, smooth shells, and the rough starfish.

Canvas and all materials supplied. Register online at [www.ralartcenter.com/paintnight](http://www.ralartcenter.com/paintnight) or by calling 804-436-9309.

**Member fee:** \$35

**Non-member fee:** \$40

### **Class: Oil and Cold Wax Workshop**

**Artist Instructor:** Kathleen Noffsinger

**Date:** Thursday and Friday, August 11 and 12

**Time:** 10am – 3pm each day

**Artist Instructor:** Kathleen Noffsinger

The oil and cold wax workshop is a painting class for artists who would like to “loosen up” and escape the confines of detailed painting and drawing by working with oil paint mixed with cold wax medium. This workshop continues what was covered earlier this year, but it is not a higher-level class than the first. New students and those from previous workshops will find many exciting paths to explore!

Register online at [www.ralartcenter.com](http://www.ralartcenter.com) or by calling 804-436-9309.

**Member fee:** \$225

**Non-member fee:** \$259



## Upcoming Exhibits



### July 2022 ~ Land and Sea

A diverse selection of artwork depicting an artists' love of land and sea will be on display at the the RAL Art Center during the month of July.

From moody skies high above the Chesapeake Bay to calming and serene pools along the banks of our many creeks, from mountains to valleys, from azure blue skies to glorious colors of early morning or the late evening sun, this exhibit promises to be a visual delight.

Art will include of a wide range of art media and subject matter, inspired by our artists love of nature.

**Receiving Date:** Monday, June 27th: 10am to 12pm

**Exhibit Dates:** Tuesday, June 28 – Saturday, July 30

**Reception:** Friday, July 1: 5-7pm

*Low Country Marsh* by Sarah Marshall Elliott



### July 2022 ~ Small Works

One of our most popular exhibits of the year, Small Works, will be held during the month of July. This exhibit presents all of our visitors with the opportunity to purchase fine art as a gift or adornment for those small spaces in their home.

Art in this show will NOT exceed 144 square inches which includes mat and frame. For three-dimensional art, works should be less than 144 square inches when multiplying the two longest sides.

We look forward to your visit and are sure you'll find something you'll love!

**Receiving Date:** Monday, June 27: 10am to 12pm

**Exhibit Dates:** Tuesday, June 28 – Saturday, July 30.

**Reception:** Friday, July 1: 5-7pm

*Geraniums* by Mel Neale

## August 2022 ~ Fins, Feathers & Fur

This month promises to be a spectacular exhibition at the RAL Art Center as we showcase **Fins, Feathers and Fur**. Member artists will exhibit their interpretations of the animal kingdom in a variety of art media to include graphite, paint, fiber, glass, photography, wood and more!

This show will be a feast for the eyes with unique compositions, strong and intense color and let's not forget a bit of whimsy. We know you will find at least one masterpiece to call your very own.

**Receiving Date:** Monday, August 1 from 10am - 12pm

**Exhibit Dates:** Tuesday, August 2 - Saturday, August 27

**Reception:** Friday, August 5 from 5-7pm



*I See You* by CarolAnne Taylor



## September 2022 ~ 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Labor Day Art Show

Can you believe it? Mark your calendars now and start planning AND creating your 2022 Labor Day Art Show entries!

The deadline for entry forms and fees is Saturday, August 13<sup>th</sup>. The deadline for delivery of artwork will be Sunday, August 28<sup>th</sup> and Monday, August 29<sup>th</sup> between 10am and 12pm.

Note: The gallery will be closed on Tuesday, August 30<sup>th</sup> so that the show can be hung and judging can be completed. Our judge for the 2022 show is Richmond artist Matt Lively and his website can be found at [www.mattlively.com](http://www.mattlively.com).

This is one of the longest standing fine art shows in the Commonwealth of Virginia and is open to ALL members of the RAL Art Center. Remember you do NOT have to be a co-operative artist to enter this fantastic exhibit.

Please click [here](#) to download the 2022 Labor Day Art Show Prospectus and Entry Form

*After the Company*, 2021 LDAS Best in Show painting, by Wende Szyperski

## 2022 Upcoming Exhibit Schedule

**August ~ Fins, Feathers & Fur**

**September ~ 61<sup>st</sup> Labor Day Show**

**October ~ Abandoned: What Remains and Farm to Table**

**November ~ Anything Goes and Lancaster High School Art Show**

**December ~ Holiday Shop and Photography Show**

## July Gallery Window Artists

The Windows at RAL Art Center for July celebrate the beauty of the 'waters' in our

area, through the art of two RAL Co-op Artists who work in watercolor. **Ralph Higgins** and **Carol Vaughn** paint their visions of the magic of our rivers, creeks, and bay.

A full article about these artists, written by Ellen Huddy, will appear in the *Rappahannock Record* and on the RAL Art Center website at [www.ralartcenter.com/blog](http://www.ralartcenter.com/blog). Be sure to check it out!



Top right: *Children Fishing* by Ralph Higgins  
Bottom right: *Down the Bay* by Carol Vaughn



## RAL ART CENTER OUTREACH

*Serving our community through art*

### KEEP THE KIDS CREATIVE THIS SUMMER

Pick up a free 'Art 4 Kids' kit at  
RAL Art Center, 19 N. Main St., Kilmarnock  
Tuesday - Saturday, 10:00 - 4:00  
Kits include projects and supplies



### Keep Your Kids Creative This Summer!

**FREE Art4Kids kits** are again available at the RAL Art Center. Kits include several arts/crafts projects, and all needed art supplies that will stimulate the kiddos imagination. Pick up yours during Art Center hours, Tuesday - Saturday, 10am - 4pm.

**Summer Youth Art Camps** at RAL Art Center is Open for Registration!! A full list of the Art Camps is available on [www.ralartcenter.com](http://www.ralartcenter.com)

To volunteer or otherwise support our youth programs, please contact Karen Williams at [larkarfish@gmail.com](mailto:larkarfish@gmail.com), 540-406-1321 or call the gallery at 804-436-9309.



OUR MISSION

The mission of the RAL Art Center is to organize, sponsor and encourage educational and cultural activities in the visual arts and crafts. The RAL Art Center's activities are focused on the lower Northern Neck and Lower Middle Peninsula of Virginia. It is a not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization. The RAL Art Center is a community partner of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts and is partially supported by grants from the Virginia Commission for the Arts, the National

Officers 2022

President: Barbara Kershner, Vice President: Julie Austin,  
Treasurer: Deirdra McLaughlin, Secretary: CarolAnne Taylor



Executive Director: Doug Mock

Gallery Manager: Sharon Stone

ral@ralartcenter.com

www.ralartcenter.com

Tuesday – Saturday 10:00am – 4:00pm

Phone: 804.436.9309

