

MARCH 2023



Oil painting by Susan S. Barmon

It's your lucky month at the RAL Art Center!

In March we have two wonderful exhibits, *Weather or Not* and *Down Memory Lane* and our **Gallery Windows** will feature artists Sarah Haddox, Kathleen Noffsinger and Sue Broadway. This month RAL will host both Try It Tuesday AND Paint Night.

March classes feature something for everyone...**acrylics, watercolors, drawing, iPhone photography, collage-making, plus oil and cold wax.** You'll also want to sign up now for April's landscape painting workshop with acclaimed artist, **Kyle Buckland!**

Plan a visit to the gallery and be sure to register for your favorite classes or try something new!

Gallery News



February Exhibit Winners Announced

February was all about love at the RAL Art Center. One hundred and eleven pieces of art were entered by member artists in "I Love" and "A Touch of Red." Sandy Manning, former LHS Visual and Graphic Arts instructor grades 9-12, and Northern Neck artist/instructor since 1989, presented comments and awards for the two exhibits at February's First Friday reception.

I Love Exhibit Winners

Sandy chose *Please Don't, My Love*, a pastel by **Mel Neale**, for first place in the "I Love" exhibit. The love of a parent is evident in the tender words in the title. Second place went to *Grandma's Hugs are Best*, an oil painting by **Cate Kauffman**. Third place was awarded to **Cindy Kinney** for her oil, *The Vigil*.

A Touch of Red Winners

Manning chose *Remember*, an oil by **Juli Schuszler**, for first place in the "A Touch of Red" exhibit. This painting of clear blue sky and bright red poppies brings back the memory of Memorial Day and Veteran's Day when veterans have been remembered with poppy flowers. Second place was awarded to *Line Dancer*, a watercolor by **Doug Mock**, and third place went to *Waiting for Your Letter*, an acrylic by **Mary Ellis**. Honorable mentions were awarded to *Red Drum Rodeo*, stained glass by **Patricia Curlin**; *Lover Boy*, sculpture by **Ron Taylor**; *Cannoneers on*

Veteran's Day, oil by Cate Kauffman; *Red Cattleya*, watercolor by Cindy Kinney; and *Peaches in a Steel Bowl*, oil by Sarah Marshall Elliott.

Creative Still Life Winners

Doug Mock, RAL board member, and watercolor artist, served as the judge for January's exhibit, "Creative Still Life." Doug selected *Right-Yes, Left-No*, a multimedia creation by **Barbara Brecher**, as the first-place winner. Her framed piece included watercolor, paper, fabric and digitally produced text that together illustrated and explained the Victorian custom of using flowers to respond to difficult personal questions. Second place went to *Apples in Wonderland*, a pastel by **Mel Neale**; **Debbie Gwaltney's** photograph, *Anticipating Spring*, received third place. Honorable mentions went to **Annie Barsky** for her photograph, *Masquerade*, and to **Harold Burnley** for his photograph, *Zinnias*.

Pictured from left to right: *Please Don't, My Love* by Mel Neale, *Remember* by Juli Schuszler, *Right-Yes, Left-No*, by Barbara Brecher.



Volunteers Needed!

RAL truly runs on volunteer power! If you are interested in spending time at the Art Center with other members making a difference, please consider volunteering for one of the following roles that we currently need:

- Data entry: work with Excel spreadsheets and our member database
- Inventory cataloging: type product information into our new Point of Sale system
- Docents: spend a morning or afternoon greeting visitors to the gallery

Questions? Please contact Charles Breakwell (assistantdirector@ralartcenter.com) or Sharon Stone (executivedirector@ralartcenter.com). Many thanks!

Paint Night, Try It Tuesday and Classes

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

www.ralartcenter.com or call

804.436.9309

CLASS: Oil and Cold Wax Workshop

Instructor: Kathleen Noffsinger

Date: Saturday, March 4

Time: 10am-3pm

Class limited to 10 students

This creativity class is being offered as a one-day workshop 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.

The focus of instruction will be to create expressive impressionist and somewhat "abstracted" paintings. New students and those from previous workshops will find many exciting paths to explore!



Member fee: \$120



MARCH's Try It Tuesday: Alcohol Ink

Instructor: Carol Muratore

Date: March 14

Time: 10am - 12pm

Cost: Members \$35; Non-members \$40

Come explore the fascinating world of painting with alcohol ink! Artist Carol Muratore will help you create two small works of art on porcelain tile and Yupo (paper). The effects you can achieve with very little previous practice are truly amazing. **Note that the meeting time is during the day, 10 am to 12 noon.** Participants should bring at least one pair of nitrile or latex gloves. We hope to see you there!

CLASS: Watercolor Painting for Better Beginners

Instructor: Doug Mock

Dates: Fridays, March 17 through June 2

Time: 10am to 12:30pm

Cost: Register for a minimum of 6 classes; \$42/class for members; \$48/class for non-members



This class is intended for anyone who has completed a basic/beginning watercolor class and would like to continue their journey. Join Doug as he focuses on beginner techniques and starts to introduce you to more advanced techniques that will make your work shine. You can work on any painting subject that you'd like.

This class will run for 12 weeks and you are asked to sign up for AT LEAST 6 classes that work best for your busy schedule. You can sign up for more if you'd like and you can also add classes after you have fulfilled your first 6 if you wish to continue.

CLASS: Drawing by Learning to See

Instructor: Gloria Clifford

Day/Date: Six Wednesdays - March 22 & 29 and April 5, 12, 19 & 26

Time: 1:30-4PM



This is a six-week course for beginners or for anyone who may wish to better develop their drawing skills. In this class, you will learn how to see as an artist must see to draw accurately. After understanding how the human brain works in the creative process you will then be taught proper drawing skills to capture any subject you desire to draw.

Member fee: \$240

Non-member fee: \$276

CLASS: Spring Acrylic Painting for Beginners

Instructor: Gloria Clifford

Day/Date: Six Wednesdays - March 22 & 29 and April 5, 12, 19 & 26

Time: 10am-12:30pm

Acrylics are one of the best painting mediums for a beginner



because it's more "forgiving", and mistakes can be painted over quite easily.

In this class, you will learn how to mix colors by creating color charts to truly understand how to get the color you want. After understanding color mixing, students will bring in simple pictures of subjects of interest to use for their very own "canvas" creations. Come ready to have fun and create your very own works of art that you'll be proud of!

Member fee: \$240

Non-member fee: \$276

CLASS: March Paint Night

Instructor: Doug Mock

Date: Thursday, March 23

Time: 6–8pm

We know Dale Chihuly for his elaborate glass, but did you know he is also an accomplished painter? In this class we are going to change it up a bit and draw a creative and one-of-a-kind abstract floral design inspired by Chihuly's paintings. We will then use alcohol markers to bring them to life. You will use simple contour lines for the outer edges of our flowers and then you will use your creative energy to bring each flower to life and make it your own.



Bring your friends, your neighbors, and/or your family, and have a great time. Participants are free to bring any snacks and adult beverages they would like.

Member fee; \$35

Non-member fee: \$40

Class: iPhone Photography

Instructor: Caroline Maryan

Date: Sunday, March 26, 2023

Time: 1pm – 4pm

Limited to 20 students

Join us for a hands-on iPhone photography workshop with Williamsburg-based travel photographer, Caroline Maryan. Working with the Camera app that comes with the iPhone, we'll start with the basics, learning what the various camera buttons, dials, and settings control.



Throughout the workshop, you'll pick up tips and tricks to improve your iPhone photography. You'll leave feeling inspired to use your mobile phone for more than a messaging device. You'll also receive a handout with suggestions for practice that will keep your learning on track.

Member fee: \$50

Non-member fee: \$58

April's Try It Tuesday

Instructor: Doug Mock

Date: Tuesday, April 11, 2023

Time: 6 –8pm

Cost: \$35 for RAL members; \$40 for non-members



Collage is created when you build an assemblage of items to include, but not be limited to, paper, ribbon, fabric, paint, gems, objects, etc. Artists use a wide array of items to create a brand-new image. Join Doug Mock in this Try it Tuesday class and dive-in!

You will create a large seascape or landscape (your choice). Doug will provide a variety of items and objects that you will use to build your masterpiece. This is a fun class that will challenge and stretch your creativity.

Member fee: \$35

Non-member fee: \$40



CLASS: Landscape Painting Workshop

Instructor: Kyle Buckland

Dates: Thursday, Friday, & Saturday – April 20–22

Time: All day, approximately 9:30am to 3pm

Supplies: See the website or flyer for this information

Come join visiting instructor Kyle Buckland in this fun and informative workshop for artists of all skill levels. Kyle will teach you the importance of value, design and color mixing as well as equip you with the tools and techniques you need to paint successful landscape paintings. We will be working indoors from photos so you can learn how Kyle

translates reference photos into beautifully believable landscape paintings.

Kyle explains, "You have to know how the eye works; then you can learn what colors to look for in a landscape and how to compose those colors to get the most out of your paintings." Kyle will do a demonstration each morning with opportunities for one-on-one instruction in the afternoon.

Member fee: \$390

Non-member fee: \$430

Upcoming Exhibits



March 2023 ~ Weather or Not

This is an opportunity to celebrate all forms of weather – or not. In other words, submit works that depict the stormy, blustery, and rainy or the calm, sunny, softer side of Mother Nature. But if weather is not in your wheel-house, show us something else altogether.

Receiving: February 27, 10AM – 12PM

Exhibit Dates: March 1 through April 1

Reception: Friday, March 3, 5–7PM

TreeWalker by Ron Granstra

March 2023 ~ Down Memory Lane

We all have memories that inspire us – some shared and others all our own. Work in this exhibit could depict iconic cultural images from days gone by such as classic cars, buildings, or

fashion. Or, you could submit pieces showing those special places, people, and events that are meaningful to you personally.

Receiving: February 27, 10AM – 12PM

Exhibit Dates: March 1 through April 1

Reception: Friday, March 3, 5–7PM

Soda Fountain by Patty Mochary



April 2023 ~ Spring Is in the Air

Ah, the budding leaves, the growing grass, the patches of yellow and white on trees and in our flowerbeds – these are the signs of spring! Celebrate the season with art depicting whatever suggests the life, the growth, and the promise of spring.

Receiving: April 3, 10AM – 12PM

Exhibit Dates: April 5 through April 29

Reception: Friday, April 14, 5–7PM (moved from April 7th)

Leaving the Beach by Brenda Sylvia

April 2023 ~ All About Flowers

From micro to macro, flowers offer beauty to capture with any medium. This exhibit showcases flowers, flowers, and more flowers. Pair flowers with pollinators, birds, people, or wildlife – but make the flower the star of the show!

Receiving: April 3, 10AM – 12PM

Exhibit Dates: April 5 through April 29

Reception: Friday, April 14, 5–7PM (moved from April 7th)

Finale by Jacquie Colligan



Annual Art and Flowers Collaborative Exhibit

Once again, we are partnering with local floral designers who have been inspired by art in our gallery. The floral arrangements will be on display on Friday and Saturday, April 14th and 15th, with a special reception on Friday evening, 5–7 pm. Cast your vote for your favorite floral arrangement any time during the day on Friday. The winner of Viewer's Choice will be announced at the evening reception.

Participating floral designers need not be members of a local garden club. If you would like more information or are interested in participating, please contact Cathie Elliott, exhibit coordinator, at cjelliott411@yahoo.com.

May 2023 ~ The Bay Transit and RAL Art in Transit Exhibit

How would you like to see your art on the side of a bus? The 2023 Art in Transit exhibit could make that happen for you! Entry forms are now available online and at the RAL Art Center for the third year of this popular competition.

**art in
transit**

This year, a few notable changes have been set into place. For example, any subject matter is

allowed and so is the medium of photography. The aspect ratio for submitted works will be 15" wide by 10" high; multiples of this ratio are allowed (such as doubled or 1.5 times the stated ratio, etc.). Only two-dimensional art will be considered, and all entries must be ready to hang with wire and D-rings. Any questions about requirements can be answered by RAL staff and volunteers; they are also prescribed on the entry form.

Receiving dates are Sunday, April 30th, and Monday, May 1st, from 10am to 12pm on both days. The entry fee is \$20 per piece with a limit of two entries per artist. All art must be for sale and proceeds from sales will be split with 70% going to the artist and 30% going to RAL and Bay Transit.

An awards ceremony will be held on Friday, May 19 from 5–7pm.

May 2023 ~ Sky's the Limit

This exhibit focuses on the sky in every mood imaginable!

We want to see skies of all descriptions: wide, empty expanses or those filled with clouds, or birds, or stars; vivid colors or moody gray; nothing but sky or sky in context with land and sea. And don't forget, skies with airplanes or rockets or cityscapes. You decide – and show us what the sky has shown to you!

Receiving: May 1, 10AM – 12PM
Exhibit Dates: May 3 to May 27
Reception: Friday, May 5, 5–7PM

King Tide by Johanna Carrington



2023 Exhibits & Special Events

April *Spring is in the Air* and *All About Flowers*
(Annual Art and Flowers Collaborative Exhibit April 14–15)

May *Art in Transit* and *Sky's the Limit*
(Art in Transit Special Reception May 19)

June *Great Art Heist* (June 24)

July *Coastal Living* and *Small Works*

August *Wild Things* and *Visiting Artist Cindy Kinney*

September *62nd Annual Labor Day Art Show*

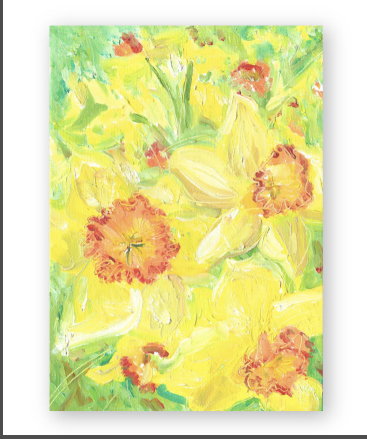
October *Color My World* and *Fall is Here*
Jewelry Show (Oct. 6–7)

November *Express Yourself* and *Visiting Artists Suzanne Quel & Jorie Wiley*

December *Holiday Shop* and *Photography Show*
Holiday Party (Dec. 1)



March Gallery Windows



March brings the first hint of spring, and the RAL Art Center windows will comply with a splash of color and a glimpse of the perennial white heron. Our artists, Sarah Haddox, Kathleen Noffsinger, and Sue Broadway will bring you into a 'Spring State of Mind!'

Every February for the last seven years, Sarah has embarked on making a painting each day in the effort to fight the winter blues and to fuel her creative dreams. You can see the fruit of her "28 days of delight" exhibited in the Gallery Windows, an explosion of yellow daffodils spilling off the canvas, painted in a delightfully impressionistic way – a delightful sight on a dreary winter day!

Kathleen Noffsinger's painting, *Marsh Walker, Heron*, is painted with many layers of oil paint mixed with cold wax medium: bees' wax mixed with an odorless solvent. This gives the painting a fabulous texture with many layers. Eye-catching colors reflect Kathleen's love of these birds, saying, "They are always a joy to watch and a bit of a surprise when they lift off with unexpected grace!"

Sue Broadway has a history in the arts starting when she studied fashion design in London. Each of Sue's handmade pieces are one-of-a-kind ranging from casual to formal designs to special, commissioned bridal designs. By using a variety of materials such as paper, leather, glass, paint, textiles, and assorted wires (brass, copper, silver bronze etc.) she makes bold and delicate statement pieces.

Read the full articles by Ellen Huddy and Christine Mason posted on the RAL Art Center blog.

From left to right: paintings by Sarah Haddox and Kathleen Noffsinger; jewelry by Sue Broadway

In Memoriam

We are sad to announce the passing of several of our member artists in 2022. They are:

Maggie Gilman
B. J. McMillan
Joan Robinson

Molly Wroth

As has been our practice, we will establish Memorial Awards at this year's Labor Day Art Show for each of these artists, or any other deceased member, through donations made in their names. If you would like to donate, please be sure to indicate in whose name the gift is given.



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 Endowment for the Arts, and the River Counties Community Foundation.

Officers 2023

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



Executive Director: Sharon Stone

ral@ralartcenter.com

www.ralartcenter.com

OUR HOURS ARE:

WEDNESDAY – Saturday 10:00am – 4:00pm

Phone: 804.436.9309



RAL Art Center | 19 North Main Street, Kilmarnock, VA 22482-8501

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